

## Agricultural Innovation Seminar

### Innovation Thinking for Food System Transformation



<b>Date:</b>	Wednesday April 17, 2019
<b>Time:</b>	13:00-15:30 (lunch included)
<b>Location:</b>	New Babylon Meeting Center The Hague (room 2.1)
<b>Organizers:</b>	Food & Business Knowledge Platform (F&BKP), Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation

In the upcoming policy note on food security, the Dutch government strives to connect Dutch expertise with local knowledge and innovation to enhance food security, and the need for food system transformation is emphasized. Although the role of innovation in sustainable food systems is increasingly acknowledged, less attention has been given to the question of what innovation actually entails and how innovation thinking can help to make food system approaches more effective. This seminar aims to bring a large existing Dutch body of practice and -theory on agricultural innovation together and explore how new insights can be put to use for global food security. During this seminar, policy-makers, researchers, and private sector representatives and other practitioners will collaboratively explore the questions below.

#### Key questions are:

- What is the role of innovation thinking in food system approaches? Why does it matter?
- How can innovation thinking be adopted in practice? What are challenges and successes?
- How can policy-makers use and support innovation thinking in their policies and programmes?

Through four practical cases we will identify how innovation thinking can be applied in practice, what barriers can be encountered and what the successes are. Attention will also be given to what works and doesn't work in scaling these successes, and how these lessons learned can inspire the implementation of Dutch ambitions for food security. Join this interactive session and share your expertise to integrate agricultural innovation in the food security agenda.

**Please RSVP by signing up through this [form](#).** Note that there is limited seating. For more information, please contact Lotte Roosendaal ([lotte.roosendaal@wur.nl](mailto:lotte.roosendaal@wur.nl)).

**Organizing team:** Geert Westenbrink, Cees Leeuwis (KTI-WUR), Krijn Poppe (WEcR), Irene Koomen, Herman Brouwer, Lotte Roosendaal (WCDI)

## Programme

**13:00 Lunch**

**13:30 Welcome & introduction**

*By Herman Brouwer (WCDI) and Geert Westenbrink*

**13:35 Setting the scene**

Making the case for innovation thinking in food system approaches

*By Cees Leeuwis (KTI-WUR)*

**14:00 Case pitches**

- Irene Koomen (WCDI)
- Rutger Groot (East-West Seed)
- Errol van Groenewoud (Omnivent)
- Peter Jens (Koppert)

**14:15 Four parallel break-out session**

- Linking the case to innovation thinking
- In-depth discussion

**15:00 Plenary discussion**

Harvesting insights for practice and policy

*By Herman Brouwer (WCDI)*

**15:20 Wrap-up**

Reflections and next steps

*By Melle Leenstra (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Inclusive Green Growth), Krijn Poppe (WEcR) and Cees Leeuwis (KTI-WUR)*

**15:30 End**

## Further reading for inspiration

- A study by Gregory Sixt and Krijn Poppe (WEcR) analyses the seven functions of the Agricultural Innovation and Knowledge System in Jordan. Read the report [here](#).
- Previous work on agricultural innovation at the F&BKP website: A series of [working papers](#) on agricultural innovation systems (AIS), and the [Fit-to-purpose programme](#) for Dutch companies.