

Community of Practice meeting

Supporting transitions towards market-based agriculture in fragile settings

Date: Monday May 6, 2019
Time: 15:00 – 18:00 (including networking drinks)
Location: New Babylon Meeting Center, Anna van Buerenplein 29, The Hague (meeting room 3.4)

What is the meeting about?

Global trends predict that in the future extreme poverty and hunger will increasingly be concentrated in fragile and conflict-affected settings. The Dutch policy shift towards fragile and unstable regions surrounding Europe anticipates this change with a focus on preventative action, as described in the Policy Note "[Investing in Global Prospects](#)". What does this mean for current and future development practice? The need exists to identify development approaches that are effective in these settings, to learn from and build on them, to clarify to what extent it is possible to promote long-term economic development amid different types of fragility, and to find ways in which market-based agricultural and food security interventions can better link up with humanitarian, rehabilitation and resilience programming.

Objective

This meeting will bring together 20 practitioners, policymakers and researchers in a small setting to jointly identify what approaches practitioners currently take to promote (transitions towards) market-based agricultural development in fragile settings. Guided by case presentations, the participants will identify challenges faced and opportunities found in doing this, and will discuss how these types of activities can be further promoted. The workshop will result in a number of concrete recommendations that can be taken on board by practitioners and policymakers, as well as learning questions to develop future activities with the Community of Practice.

Programme

15:00 – 15:15 Welcome & introduction by Rojan Bolling

Rojan Bolling will introduce the Food & Business Knowledge Platform (F&BKP) learning trajectory and the Community of Practice.

15:15 – 15:25 Presentation to set the scene by Professor Thea Hilhorst

Prof. dr. ir. Thea Hilhorst is Professor of humanitarian aid and reconstruction at the Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University. She will talk about current trends in aid to stimulate resilience and economic development in the context of the humanitarian-development nexus, also looking at opportunities and challenges for developing value chains in fragile settings.

15:25 – 15:35 Case presentation ZOA by Dr. David Betge

Dr. David Betge is Sector Specialist Land Rights at ZOA International. He will talk about ZOA's experience with the Maji Ya Amani programme in South Kivu, DRC. The programme aims to re-establish an irrigation system, improve agricultural practices, production and market integration and foster peaceful coexistence and cooperation. In particular the case will focus on the opportunities and risks of integrating this programme with a new World Bank programme in the region that promotes agricultural growth. Potential integration provides many opportunities to ensure long-term impact but can also have disruptive effects.

15:35 – 15:45 Case presentation SPARK by Nikolaos Koufos and Johan te Velde

Nikolaos Koufos is Monitoring, Reporting and Quality Coordinator at SPARK, Johan te Velde is senior consultant at Double Loop. Nikolaos will present SPARK's experience with agribusiness promotion in South Sudan and Burundi. Key lessons from the Agri Business Creation programme on the promotion of agricultural income, employment, production and processing for human and food security will be shared. Johan te Velde will add his insights from action research within the same programme on the relevance and effectiveness of its value chain development approach.

15.45 – 16.00 Questions and discussion with presenters and participants

16.00 – 16.15 Break

16.15 – 16.50 Group work

Participants will split up into two groups:

Group 1: How can humanitarian, recovery and resilience programming more effectively work towards integration with long-term (agricultural) development programming?

Group 2: How are agribusiness and agricultural value chain interventions effectively implemented in fragile settings?

Based on the experience of participants, both groups will look towards the future to identify one key action for policymakers, one for practitioners, and one key learning question that can help improve their work.

16.50 – 17.00 Reporting back to plenary & closing

17.00 – 18.00 Networking drinks