



# Agrifood West Africa Newsletter

March 2021

## Welcome back to our newsletter

After a long absence we want to engage through our newsletter once again. In these challenging times it is more important than ever to stay in touch and share ideas, and networks. We do that on twitter and on the website AgroBerichtenBuitenland (Ghana, Nigeria and Cote d'Ivoire) but please also reach out to us with other suggestions or requests.

It goes without saying that 2020 was an eventful year. Also for our team! While the world is still battling the COVID 19 crisis it became equally apparent that our global food system requires continued (if not increased) attention. That is what we are committed to in West Africa and that is what we want to cooperate on with you.

On behalf of the whole AgriFood team in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria,

*Bram Wits*

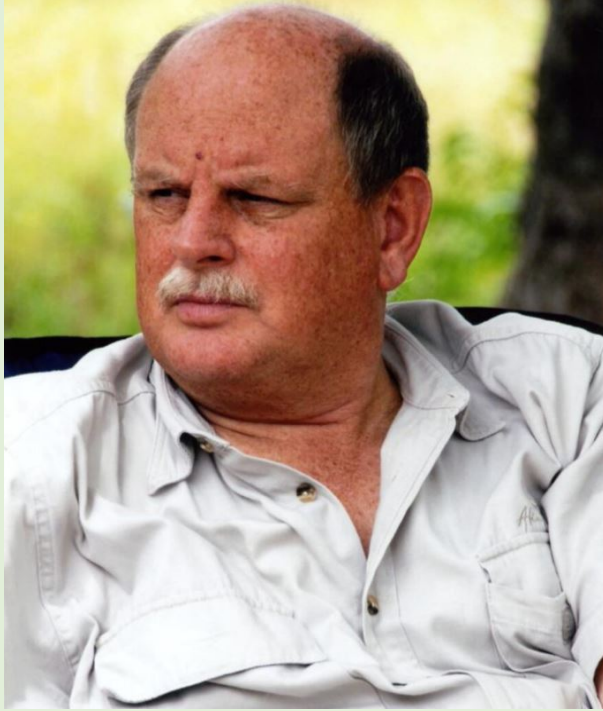
## In this edition we will:

- Pay homage to Henri Wientjes;
- Introduce some exciting project in our 3 countries;
- Give some suggestion on who to follow on Social media.

### **Special Tribute to Henri Wientjes**

It was with great sadness we received the news of the demise of Mr Henri Wientjes on January 6<sup>th</sup> 2021. A successful businessman, Henri initiated and supported many businesses and organizations in both Ghana and The Netherlands. He left an indelible mark in the lives of many.

Henri was always generous in his willingness to share his ideas and his network. *"We all have the right in life to ask for what we need, but we also have a duty to give what we can to others. Making a profit is always connected with giving back."* Mr Henri Wientjes



In our very first newsletter, we covered a special on the story of Mr Henri Wientjes, where he shared his inspiring story. You can follow this [link](#) to read more on this interview.

*The late Mr Henri Wientjes*

## **Projects in the Spotlight**

### **Projects in the spotlight**

*Even during the challenging year 2020, our team contributed to some great projects. In Nigeria for example we were able to leverage on earlier projects, studies and missions to come to a more integrated Nigerian Netherlands Seed Partnership. Follow our channels for more information on that soon. Together with our colleagues at RVO we also try to work with both Dutch and local private sector players, knowledge institutes and/or NGO's to formulate impactful activities that can be co-financed by the Dutch governments. That can be in the form of so-called Impact Clusters or SDGP proposals. Over the last year we have developed these kind of activities in all our 3 countries. Here we list just some of them. We will regularly update our page at AgroBerichtenBuitenland. For a more extensive overview, follow this [LINK](#). In the meantime, we hope that these examples will inspire or otherwise give food for thought. We mainly want to underline that we are very much open to discuss potential project with anyone interested.*

**Insect 4 Feed Impact Cluster -Nigeria**

If we could exchange fish oil or other animal protein in feed for insects that would be a major game changer for the global food system. Therefore we support the [Insect 4 Feed Impact Cluster](#) in Nigeria. It is a four-year project, funded by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency and starting in 2021 with a focus on the development of insect protein for the feed industry in Nigeria. The project connects Dutch expertise to the Nigerian thriving animal protein industry, infusing and catalyzing environmentally sustainable approaches to the agri-food industry as a whole.

Key partners involved are, NGN-pro, Feed Calculator, IITA-BIP, University of Ibadan, QIFFAN, Heineken ( Nigerian Breweries).

#### **Accessible Soils And Sustainable Environments -Ghana**

Land tenure is an enormously important theme throughout Africa. The Accessible Soils And Sustainable Environments ([ASASE](#)) project is a four-year project in the Ghanaian cocoa landscape. It is co-funded by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) as part of the Sustainable Development Goals Partnership (SDGP). Driven by a belief that a thriving, climate-smart cocoa sector is possible, this project will work with 5,000 farmers across Ghana's cocoa producing areas. Using a landscape approach, the ASASE project intervenes on 3 levels: working together with cocoa farmers, their rural communities and in local forest remnants. Among other interventions and for the first time in Ghana, cocoa farmers receive access to subsidized land tenure and tree tenure documentation at large scale to improve their security in their farmland.

#### **Hortivoire Impact Cluster -Côte d'Ivoire**

For Côte d'Ivoire to become more food secure it is important to grow more healthy and accessible food in the country. The Hortivoire Project is a four-year project being implemented since 2020 in Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa. The total cost of the project is € 940,000 with a total requested grant amount of € 450,000 and granted by RVO. The Project objective is to train farmers in better and more sustainable practices of producing local vegetables 'hors sol' via the integrated INNOFER model (greenhouse substrate horticulture). The Dutch partners AGRIFER, Rijk Zwaan (specialized in hybrid seeds) and Van Iperen (specialized in fertilizers) are active in this Impact Cluster under the name Hortivoire. The project is coordinated by Resilience BV and supported by the Dutch embassy in Abidjan, RVO and the regional office of the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality in Accra (Ghana). Click on [Hortivoire](#) to read more.



## Social Media

### **Follow on Twitter!**

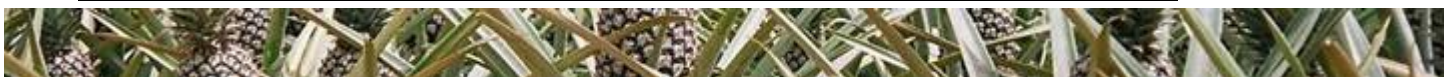
In this section, we let you in on some of the best content creators on Twitter! After you follow us at [@Agri\\_WestAfrica](#), please to check out our fave:

[@AgroBerichten](#)

[@Agricultureissexy](#)

[@2Scale](#)

[@rutgergroot](#)



*We will be happy to hear from you with suggestions or enquiries. Send us an e-mail: [acc-lnv@minbuza.nl](mailto:acc-lnv@minbuza.nl)  
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