

<Preliminary Program>

**PARALLEL SESSION WUR SDG CONFERENCE - ZERO HUNGER: PARTNERSHIP FOR IMPACT**

**Capturing innovation in smallholder service delivery**

Theme: Evidence  
Date: 30 August 2018  
Time: 16.00-17.30h  
Organisers: WUR, Solidaridad, IDH Sustainable Trade Initiative, KIT Royal Tropical Institute

*Introduction*

To meet the objective of zero hunger, a transformation is needed which allows the world's 500 million small-scale farmers to invest in their farms. By providing them access to low-cost inputs, and access to credit farmers are more likely to increase farm profitability and escape poverty.

However, access to good-quality services has been a bottleneck in much of smallholder agriculture. On average, USD 8.4 billion per year, or USD 18 per farmer, is spent to assist smallholder farmers in improving their productivity, profitability, and resilience. Yet, millions of smallholder farmers continue to struggle to live above the poverty line and lack opportunities to invest in better livelihoods.

In this session, three experts on sustainable value chains reflect on key bottlenecks and promising innovations in smallholder service delivery. In a panel discussion, experts and audience reflect on key lessons learned from recent experience in providing services to smallholders.

*Objectives*

1. To capture key bottlenecks in service delivery to smallholders.
2. To reflect on promising innovations in providing services to smallholders.
3. To discuss key lessons learned from recent experience in smallholder service delivery.

*Programme*

16.00 - 16.15	Welcome; Introduction to the theme of smallholder service delivery, including a short overview of WUR's engagement with the theme.
16.15 – 16.30	<b>Iris van der Velden (IDH Sustainable Trade)</b> <i>Trends in service delivery and finance for smallholders; key insights from IDH's work with Service Delivery Models.</i>
16.30 – 16.45	<b>Arjen Mulder (Solidaridad)</b> <i>Business models for investing in service provision; lessons learned from providing access to finance for service providers in palm oil and cocoa.</i>
16.45 – 17.00	<b>Anna Laven (KIT Royal Tropical Institute):</b> <i>Putting the farmer central in service delivery: practical examples from the cocoa sector in West-Africa.</i>
17.00 – 17.30	Panel discussion with the experts and the audience on key lessons learned from recent experience in providing services to smallholders.