



**WAGENINGEN UR**  
*For quality of life*



# Centre for Development Innovation

**Creating Capacities for Change**



Linking globally, crossing disciplines, integrating theory and practice,  
brokering knowledge, partnering for innovation and change

# OUR FOCUS



## Innovation for sustainable and equitable development

At CDI we focus on the global challenges of secure and healthy food, sustainable markets, adaptive agriculture and ecosystem governance. We link cutting-edge processes of innovation and learning with Wageningen UR's world-leading scientific and technical expertise.

Our work fosters collaboration between citizens, governments, businesses, NGOs and the scientific community. Our worldwide network of partners and clients links with us to help facilitate innovation, create capacities for change and broker knowledge.

## A crossroads – people, planet, profit

The coming decades will be a crossroads in human development. We have only one earth and our demands on the environment are simply too high. At the same time billions of our fellow humans have a right to escape poverty and improve their wellbeing. New ways are needed to manage climate change, ensure enough healthy food for all, tackle poverty and preserve vital ecosystems. This will demand dramatic changes in how the global agri-food system works and in how land, water, forestry and fishery resources are used. We will need to rethink the ways we consume and produce, and reshape markets to create the right incentives for sustainable and equitable development.

CDI is committed to working with organisations and individuals who seek inspiration and opportunity on the road of innovation and change. By linking research and practice, we help to create new models of business, new forms of governance and policy, and new partnerships for change that balance the needs of people, planet and profit.

## Beyond simple solutions – coping with a complex world

We understand that our partners and clients have to cope with an increasingly complex and unpredictable world. We support them to develop the capacities, leadership qualities and learning processes needed to be creative, adaptive and responsive in such a rapidly changing world. We specialise in processes that link technological opportunities with social, economic and political understanding to create holistic ways of tackling complex problems.

## Our work in practice



### Restoring forest landscapes: a global learning network

As part of the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration, a CDI team facilitates an active practitioners' network, which informs and involves policymakers on forest landscape restoration. Partners include IUCN, ITTO, Tropenbos International and Wageningen University.

### Revitalising farm-based economies in Africa

Producer organisations are key to economic development in poor rural areas. The Dutch Agri-ProFocus consortium is helping to catalyze agricultural entrepreneurship in seven African countries, for example developing onion trade hubs in Niger. Together with others in Wageningen UR (University & Research centre), CDI is guiding the action research and stakeholder learning processes.

### EU standards and habitat management in Ukraine

Natural resource conservation and habitat management is more effective if it covers a large area. European policy affects non-EU countries such as Ukraine. We work closely with government and NGOs, giving technical training to experts and advice on how the introduction of European standards will affect Ukrainian organisations and institutions.

### Monitoring progress in the Kenya agriculture sector

Assessing the overall performance of the agriculture sector has become a priority as Kenya puts more emphasis on its economic potential. In partnership with the International Food Policy Research Institute, CDI is working with Kenya's Agriculture Sector Coordinating Unit to develop a practical framework for improved monitoring and evaluation.

# OUR PROGRAMMES

We organise our work around five interlinked programmes.



## Innovation & Change

Creating the processes and capacities for learning, conflict transformation, dealing with changing power relations, innovation and shared decision-making that underpin sustainable and equitable development. This is our core expertise and is embedded in our other four programmes.



## Secure & Healthy Food

Enhancing food security and reducing hunger amidst the global challenges of achieving sustainable and healthy food for all.



## Sustainable Markets

Creating the enabling environment, value-chain linkages and entrepreneurial capacity for pro-poor and environmentally friendly agri-food business development.



## Adaptive Agriculture

Rethinking and redesigning agricultural systems in response to growing food demand, declining natural resources and climate change.



## Ecosystems Governance

Reforming the way decisions are made about the sustainable use, sharing and management of natural resources.

## Our work in practice



### Putting nutrition back on the international agenda

CDI is a founding member of the Netherlands Working Group on International Nutrition. This coalition of Dutch development organisations, industry and knowledge institutes collaborates with policy-makers to increase awareness about the importance of international food and nutrition security.

### Wise use of wetlands: working with Ramsar

Wetlands help to purify water and replenish groundwater, they are critical to ecosystem health. Working with the Ramsar Secretariat and national focal points, CDI is helping to develop the knowledge and skills needed for stakeholders such as water companies, fishermen, and governments to work together on developing and implementing wetland management plans.

### Initiating the Africa Agribusiness Academy

Strengthening entrepreneurship is one key element in enabling agriculture to be a driver of pro-poor development. Supported by a network of Dutch agri-food companies, Sokoine University in Tanzania and Wageningen UR are working with small and medium scale entrepreneurs to establish the AA Academy. CDI is facilitating the process including business planning and coordination of activities.

### Getting players around the table: global palm oil strategy

The palm-oil business is under critical scrutiny from environmental groups and civil society organisations. CDI facilitated a global multi-stakeholder consultation process for the World Bank Group, leading to a framework to guide sustainable and equitable investments.

# OUR SERVICES



We offer a range of services, all of which are designed to help our partners and clients make progress towards sustainable and equitable development.

- **Innovation and multi-stakeholder processes:**  
we design & facilitate
- **Policy change:**  
we support & advise
- **Knowledge & information:**  
we generate locally & share globally
- **Monitoring & evaluation:**  
we promote managing for impact
- **Action research:**  
we pave the way for informed change
- **Dialogue & debate:**  
we foster critical thinking on key issues
- **Capacity development:**  
we offer learning trajectories, courses & coaching

## Our work in practice



### Indonesian - Netherlands partnership to control Avian Flu

Indonesian and Dutch specialists are working together to reduce the spread of the H5N1 virus among poultry. CDI is managing a 6-year partnership programme with activities that strengthen the policy making and operational capacities of poultry sector stakeholders, including Indonesian government institutions.

### Linking businesses for the Ethiopian seed sector

Ethiopian farmers need good quality seed for food production. Together with local producer organisations and researchers, CDI facilitated the setting up of five local teams to help improve seed quality, encourage seed business development and support farmer organisations.

### Trade and investment policies for agricultural development in India

There is much debate about the advantages and disadvantages of international trade and foreign investment for local economies, farmers and agri-food businesses. As part of the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality policy support programme, CDI is supporting a partnership initiative that engages with the national debate in India.

### Action research and policy dialogue for sustainable forestry in Ghana

International trade agreements have an impact on the livelihoods of communities living in and near forests in Ghana. To help understand the consequences, CDI has supported action research and plays a catalyst role in translating the results into policy advice. Clients are the EU, the Dutch Government and Ghanaian stakeholders.

# JOIN ONE OF OUR LEADING-EDGE COURSES



## Knowledge, skill and attitude – capacity development that makes change possible

We offer a diverse range of training and leadership development options, from our international course programme through to tailor-made learning trajectories for organisations. We specialise in interactive learning and training methods that build on existing experience and enable new ideas and methods to be put into practice.

For us capacity development is much more than just training. We recognise that effective capacity development requires integrated processes of learning and change across individuals, organisations, networks and social institutions.

We offer an international programme of over 40 different courses attended by participants from all parts of the world. Join one to expand your horizons, share with others working in similar fields, update yourself on current ideas and practices and become part of our 20,000 strong alumni network.



## What our course participants say...

*"CDI's course gave me the background to understand the human dynamics of multi-stakeholder processes and I gained a rich repertoire of practical tools I can immediately apply."*

*"The course goes into what it means for processes to be genuinely participatory."*

*"By being able to apply what I learned in the market access course, the Mutoko horticultural farmers in Zimbabwe became the biggest beneficiaries of my time in Wageningen."*

*"I had a marvellous time. This was a training that I found truly practical and useful, with information and insights that help you to see things in whole new ways."*

*"I learned how to delve into those opposing interests causing conflict and I have acquired new skills to better work with different stakeholders."*

*"Looking at monitoring and evaluation in an integrated way to achieve managing for impact was a refreshing approach."*



## Our work in practice



### Enhancing capacities for organisational change

The Dutch development organisation ICCO has embarked on fundamental reorganisation involving decentralisation and putting more emphasis on alliances and collaboration between its partner organisations to bring about effective social change. CDI is running a learning trajectory for staff on multi-stakeholder change processes, in the Netherlands and the new regional offices of Africa and Asia.

### Sustainable fishing and food safety in Indonesia

One of the biggest fishing nations in the world, Indonesia is working hard to strengthen the contribution of its fisheries sector to the national economy. CDI's Value Capture project is strengthening university and regional training centres' capacities and supporting managers at six selected ports to ensure good practices in sustainable fishing, handling, food safety standards and marketing.

### Capacities for climate change adaptation in East Africa

Knowing how to adapt agriculture and natural resource policy and practice to climate change is a key challenge for countries in Eastern Africa. In partnership with IUCN, ASARECA and RUFORUM, CDI and others in Wageningen UR have initiated regional training courses on Climate Change Adaptation. These are part of a larger support programme to develop the capacities needed to cope with climate change.

### Partners and clients

CDI works with a wide range of partners and clients in more than 60 countries all over the world. These include for example:

- **International agencies:** World Bank, EU, IFAD, FAO
- **National governments** in countries with developing and transitional economies
- **Dutch ministries** of Foreign Affairs and Agriculture, Nature & Food Quality
- **National & international NGOs:** IUCN, Plan International, RECOFTC, Wetlands International
- **Dutch NGOs:** ICCO, HIVOS, SNV, Cordaid
- **Education and research institutes:** universities and colleges in Benin, Tanzania, South Africa, Ghana and Indonesia
- **Producer organisations:** Rwanda
- **Agri-business:** local entrepreneurs, small and medium scale businesses, international agri-food corporations, banks

### Publications and portals

Our services are backed up by a wealth of easily accessible resources. Our reports and guides can be downloaded from our website. Our web portals and learning platforms are interactive forums for learning, sharing experiences and meeting fellow practitioners.

### CDI – a part of Wageningen UR

The Centre for Development Innovation is a part of the Social Sciences Group of Wageningen UR.

Wageningen UR has established the Centre because of the importance it places on linking research and education activities with wider processes of innovation, change and capacity development in society.

### The Wageningen approach

Wageningen UR comprises specialised research institutes, Wageningen University, and Van Hall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences. Its strength lies in the combined efforts of the various fields of natural and social sciences. This union of expertise leads to scientific breakthroughs that can be put into practice quickly and incorporated into education.

A staff of 6,500 and 10,000 students from over 100 countries work around the world in the domains of healthy food and living environment.

### Staff

CDI has 60 professional and support staff who work closely with researchers and faculty staff across Wageningen UR.

Our professional staff are international development and change process specialists. They combine technical knowledge and expertise (in one or more of our programme areas) with excellent process management skills: facilitation, interactive training, policy development and organisational change.

We work in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Dutch. We match our skills to the specific requirements of clients and partners, putting together teams with the right mix of technical, process facilitation and project management expertise.

### Contact

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