

Biodata speakers at the SKOV Seminar of 13 April 2022:

## **How will agricultural sustainability policies in the West impact on the rural poor in Africa? Challenges and efforts for solutions.**

### **Introductions by:**

**Dr ir Niek Koning.** Niek Koning is an associate at the Centre for Sustainable Development and Food Security, and emeritus assistant professor of the Agricultural and Rural Policy Group, Wageningen University, the Netherlands. He is the author of *Food Security, Agricultural Policies and Economic Growth: Long-Term Dynamics in the Past, Present and Future* (Routledge 2017). He is still active on international farm policy issues and published a.o. about the need for boosting development in Sub-Saharan Africa.

**Stefan Schüller, MA** Stefan Schüller is working as a policy officer on sustainable land use at the Dutch human rights and environmental organisation Both ENDS. In close cooperation with local civil society organisations, he coordinates several projects on agroecology, landscape restoration and inclusive land governance, particularly on the African continent. After obtaining his Bachelors in International Land and Water Management at the Wageningen University, he graduated with a Masters in Agrarian, Food and Environmental Studies from the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) in The Hague. Having worked and lived with farmers in different parts of the world, Stefan has seen the struggles that many of them face due to external threats like climate change, population growth, trade liberalization and the corporatization of agriculture. In spite of frightening experiences, he was left with a positive feeling seeing the dedication and passion that these farmers have for becoming their own agents of change.

**Dr ir Ellen Mangnus.** Ellen Mangnus is journalist and philosopher on development. With a good portion of practical experience, she writes about poverty and inequality, about development and about power in food chains and agriculture. Her stories are inspired by a great number of missions she had as an advisor at the Royal Tropical Institute. Ellen studied development economics and did a PhD research on traders in Mali at Wageningen University. In her Postdoc position at Utrecht University, she has conducted research into the effects of Dutch companies on local food security in Ghana, Kenya and Ethiopia. Presently Ellen is working as a lecturer (Department of Sociology) at the Wageningen University & Research.

