

International course

# (Seed) potato sector development for emerging markets



## Exploiting the potential of potatoes as both a food and cash crop

Emmeloord, The Netherlands, 11 June – 22 June 2018

The potato crop is a major part of world's food supply. Currently the world's fourth most important food crop, potatoes still have the potential to feed more people. However, apart from being a key staple, potatoes are also gaining traction as a crop that offers opportunities for food processors and agribusinesses. A prominent example of this multifaceted character is the Netherlands. Over the years, the country has become a world's top producer and internationally renowned for its practical approaches and applications in the (seed) potato industry. Cooperation between public and private sectors has resulted in innovative developments in breeding and variety development, seed production, storage, seed certification and marketing. The insights gained, coupled with worldwide partnerships, provide new opportunities for the sustainable development of (seed) potato value chains in developing countries or countries with an economy in transition. Furthermore, thanks to its strong market position, the seed potato sector in Netherlands contributes importantly to the Dutch economy.



Fee:	3,500 Euro
Fee includes:	Flight ticket, tuition fee, accommodation
Deadline subscription:	7 May 2018

### Driving sector growth

Many lessons have been drawn from the development of the potato sector in Netherlands as well as those from other countries that have made use of the expertise and technological solutions generated in the NL. Adequate variety selection, use of clean and healthy seed, seed certification, modern production practices, storage, value addition activities, viable market channels and a conducive enabling environment are crucial factors for successful potato value chains. Also, collaboration between the government and industry can create significant opportunities to boost productivity, employment, and skills.

### Make a difference as a professional

We invite practitioners, policymakers, researchers, and programme / project managers who want to develop the potato industry in their home countries to join the course. Participants should be proficient in English, and have at least a BSc degree or an equivalent academic qualification and three years of work experience in potatoes or a related field.

### Implementation in practice

This course covers the complete (seed) potato chain. It addresses the role of public and private organisations – and partnerships between them – in breeding, variety development, seed production, agribusiness and marketing. Furthermore, this course gives access to the latest insights of the world's leading Dutch knowledge organisations and private companies around the potato sector.

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As a participant, you will get an extensive course, mixing, theory with practice. The programme specifically addresses the following aspects:

- In-depth knowledge on seed potato production systems and their application in different agro ecological conditions in the world.
- Broad expertise on potato varieties, breeding and variety testing (DUS and VCU). Quality aspects of seed potatoes.
- Insights on main diseases and pests (and their management) in potato, with a focus on seed and soil borne diseases.
- A look into the main agronomic practices( planting, fertilizer use, irrigation).
- Understanding the importance of crop rotation in emerging economies
- Attention to the legal aspects of seed potatoes (PBR, phytosanitary regulations)
- The importance of harvest, storage and grading methods and pre-planting tuber treatment.
- An introduction to potato value chains & the business of potatoes along the value chain
- The role of public and private sector in the sector development.
- Various practical demonstrations
- Various visits to Dutch service providers along the value chain.



Course activities will comprise lectures, discussions, group work, case studies, excursions and field trips. Each of the components of the course has been specially designed to give you sufficient insight in potato value chains. And more importantly, this course creates a unique opportunity to learn from your peers around the world and share experiences with other potato enthusiasts.



### Further practical information

- **Participants are eligible for a reduced fee of EUR 3.500,00 and includes participant's flight to the NL, accommodation in Emmeloord (full board and lodging), and health insurance. This reduced fee is 50% lower than the applicable fee.**
- The tuition fee is sponsored by the Centre for Development of the Potato Industry in Tanzania (CD-PIT) to stimulate a common learning process on supporting a robust and vibrant potato value chain.
- Limited places available. First come, first serve.
- Reduced fee includes all course related costs, logistics, excursions and administration.
- Registration at [WCDI website](http://www.wcdi.nl). After reviewing your application, you will receive more information within 1 week.
- WCDI is unable to assist you in obtaining financial support, nor are there OKP (NFP) fellowships available.
- **WCDI is unable to assist you in obtaining your VISA.**
- Participants will be awarded with a **Certificate** of attendance. The programme of the course might be changed to incorporate new insights.