Tuesday, August 29th 2017 - preliminary programme

Excursion day, with various options. Most of the excursions will leave around 08.30 at the Hof van Wageningen and return around 17.30 hrs; transport, coffee/tea, packed lunch and refreshments are included.
The excursions will be guided by scientists and most of the excursions have a scientific character; some are combined with a cultural treat.

**All our excursions include shorter or longer walking trips in the open air, so we advise you to bring watertight easy walking or hiking shoes and rain clothes with you. The average temperature in August is 19-21 degrees Celsius, with a fair possibility of rainfall.**

1. **A combined excursion in Wageningen: ISRIC-World Soil Museum, NIOO-KNAW and WEPAL.**
   *Excursion leader: Titia Mulder, Wageningen UR, Section Soil Geography and Landscape*

   The first excursion point will be **ISRIC-World Soil Information**. Since 1966 this institute is serving the international community as custodian of world soil data and information. During a guided tour through the ISRIC World Soil Museum you will be able to explore the largest soil monolith collection in the world, and learn how soils are connected to global challenges. Please visit isric.org for more information.

   After this visit, we will have a short walk to the **The Netherlands Institute of Ecology, (NIOO-KNAW)**, where we will have a coffee break, a film and a guided tour. The NIOO-KNAW studies the effect of nature in all its many forms. It is, therefore, only fitting that ecological processes and the dynamics of nature themselves influenced the design and construction of their new premises. The NIOO-KNAW has been based in Wageningen since early 2011. For the construction, the Wageningen University (WUR) provided over four acres of land near the campus and in the heart of the Wageningen green knowledge center. The complex of the NIOO comprises a main building with laboratories and offices and various outbuildings such as greenhouses.

   At **WEPAL** (Wageningen Evaluating Programmes for Analytical Laboratories) we will enjoy lunch, an introduction and a tour showing the premises and the preparation of the samples used in proficiency testing schemes. Wepal is a world-leading organiser of proficiency testing (PT) programs in the fields plants, soil, sediments and organic waste. We are organising this for over 50 years and currently have over 500 participants in these PT schemes in countries all over the world. A wide variety of samples from the PT programs are also available as reference material.

   This trip will leave at the Hof van Wageningen on 08.30 hrs and return at the Hof van Wageningen around 15.00 hours.

2. **Excursion to the National Park Hoge Veluwe** *(http://www.hogeveluwe.nl/en)*
   *Excursion leader: Roel Dijksma, Wageningen UR, Section Hydrology and Quantitative Water Management*

   National Park Hoge Veluwe is a relic from glaciers that covered the Netherlands during Saalien (2 104 – 1.2 104 years ago). It is a large complex of ice-pushed ridges with an elevation up to 110 m+NAP. Excess rainwater can infiltrate in the sandy soil and feeds the underlying aquifer. This groundwater rises to the surface in springs and brooks in the surrounding area. In this excursion the geology and related water management of the region will be shown. The excursion will start on top of an ice-pushed ridge with an overview to the adjacent river landscape. Then we will visit an old mill-brook, which is fed by Veluwe water, and some of the upper branches of this brook (manmade springs).
This field trip is followed by a visit in the afternoon to the National Park Hoge Veluwe and the Kröller Muller Museum which hosts many famous paintings of Dutch masters such as Van Gogh. De Hoge Veluwe National Park is the largest actively managed conservation area in private hands in the Netherlands. The Park covers 5,400 hectares of woodland, heathland, peat bogs and drift sand. It enjoys a wide variety of plants and animals and provides habitats to extremely rare Red List species. You have the possibility to bike or walk in the park or enjoy a visit to the Kröller-Müller museum on your own. This trip will leave by bus at the Hof van Wageningen on 08.30 hrs and return around 17.30 hours.

3. An excursion about 200,000 years of landscape formation in the surroundings of Wageningen: consequences for current day use.

The Saalien ice age has set the scene for today’s landscape around Wageningen: the cover ice reached the area and deep depressions and pushed moraines were formed. Since then, the landscape was further shaped by a combination of climate change, geomorphological processes, soil formation, vegetation dynamics, and human influence. This excursion tells the fascinating story of this dynamic landscape and discusses the consequences for current day use. This trip will leave by bus at 8:30 from the ‘Hof van Wageningen’ and returns at ca. 17.30 (there will be relatively little ‘bus time’ but we will be most of the time in the field). Amongst the places we visit are: the Wageningse Berg, Rhenen/Veenendaal (Grift waterway), Doorwerth, Bennekom, the Floodplains of Wageningen.

Disclaimer:

The Wageningen Soil Conference-excursions are subject to availability and will be offered to participants of the Conference who have registered and paid the separate fee for an excursion. All best endeavours will be made to present the tour programme as published. However, the Wageningen Soil Conference reserves the right to alter or cancel without prior notice, any of the arrangements, timetables, plans or other items relating directly or indirectly to the tour programme for any reason beyond its reasonable control. Wageningen UR is not liable for any loss or inconvenience caused as a result of such alteration.

Please be aware that participants take part at their own risk. Wageningen UR will not be responsible for personal injury or loss or damage of property.