



## **YEP AGROFOOD POSITION VDS ACAMPO**

*Country: Rwanda*

*Title of project: Improved horticulture Rwanda*

*Duration: 2 years*

### **Background**

The aim of the project is to realize affordable and adaptable horticulture technology and expertise for farmers in Africa. To achieve this, the Rwandan based company VDS ACAMPO/Holland Green Tech (HGT) set up a consortium of Bosman van Zaal (Greenhouse), Hoogendoorn (Climate and water-management), RijkZwaan (Seeds) and Koppert (Biological Pest Control). All are Dutch leading horticulture companies and knowledge institutions.

Sustainable development of the horticultural sector is important to realize food security, reduce poverty and protect the environment. Current bottlenecks are low productivity, suboptimal functioning supply chains, and market inefficiencies at trade and retail level. Most farmers lack necessary recourses and have difficulties to produce enough yields and maintain quality while handling and storing their produce. The Dutch horticulture sector can contribute to food security by introducing technologies, inputs and expertise that are adapted to local circumstances. The challenge is offering technologies and practices that fit the local growing conditions. The consortium will realize pilot ventures to test and operate solutions. These launching partners are committed to share technologies within their value chains and beyond. Long-term partnership agreements will ensure this role. HGT connects the needs and opportunities of the private sector in Rwanda with the knowledge and technology of the Dutch consortium. HGT focuses on the development of horticulture and food supply chains. Efficient use of inputs, water and energy are key to developing the horticultural sector sustainably. HGT acts as an agent of RijkZwaan, Hoogendoorn and Bosman van Zaal in Rwanda.

### **Task and activities Young Expert**

- Develop Cooperation with knowledge institutes in the Netherlands and TopTeam Tuinbouw. Topteam Tuinbouw developed an agenda for the development of the African Greenhouse. This Rwandan case will be adapted as a pilot by Topteam Tuinbouw
- Develop analyses of available best practices regarding greenhouses (investment < 10 EU square meter)
- Identify improvements regarding price and quality compared to current best practices
- Involve seed companies in the development process
- Analyze local possibilities to source material for the African Rwandan Greenhouse
- Develop the specifications of the Greenhouse in Rwanda
- Further develop the business case for the production of the African Greenhouse in Rwanda
- Further develop the business case for the growers to develop a business with the African Greenhouse



### **Job requirements of the Dutch Young Expert**

The Young Expert must be able to:

- Develop active collaboration with knowledge institutes in the Netherlands and Rwanda on the development of an affordable greenhouse for small growers
- Analyse current best practices in the region
- Develop a new greenhouse concept, adapted to economic and climatic conditions in Rwanda
- Initiate a pilot for the foreseen redesign project
- Involve seed companies in the redesign project

And has:

- A relevant Bachelor or Master's degree in Horticulture and Agribusiness (i.e. Wageningen University) or a technical degree (i.e. Industrial Design, Delft University of Technology)
- Excellent writing and oral communication skills (English)
- Good knowledge of the French language (this is an advantage)