

YEARBOOK
2010



FACING GLOBAL CHALLENGES

THE ROUND TABLE FOR
PEOPLE AND THE PLANET

world connectors



INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



FOOD SECURITY



FINANCIAL SYSTEMS



SUSTAINABLE WORLD CITIZENSHIP



From the co-chairs

A VOICE BEYOND BORDERS

Looking back, 2010 was a year of ups and downs. The world united around the soccer World Cup with South-Africa as its global centre. The slow recovery from the financial crisis showed the banks behaving as if nothing had happened, with their high bonus driven culture. Whilst the economic fall out is continuing to affect millions: particularly people in informal jobs such as women and migrants. The billions of dollars used to save the banks and corporates are now the reason for cut backs in public spending in most countries around the world: education and health services are reduced most. The international community discussed strategies to tackle climate change issues and to further the efforts to reaching the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. The challenge is how to get agreements and promises from paper to reality. The earthquakes in Haiti and the floods in Pakistan were the worst of many disasters. The combination of unpredictable climate conditions, biofuel and speculation has left food prices soaring. Now more than a billion people, mostly women and their children, sick and elderly, are trying to survive in a state of chronic hunger. In the Gulf of Mexico 4,9 million barrels of oil were spilled. In Belarus unfair elections led to protests which were violently repressed. In the Netherlands, elections lead to the first minority government – and grave concern about the increasing polarisation and xenophobia in our society.

These events confirm the need to address global issues and combat feelings of mistrust on both global and local levels. It is the Worldconnectors' view that we are seeing the end of a societal model. The industrial and competitive model of the 20th century is not solving the challenges of the 21st century: how to preserve our 'global commons' such as the environment, how to create more democratic and economic opportunity for all. Many people are worried about the future and afraid to lose what they have gained. We need introspection and transformation, on both personal and societal levels. Only then can we reach an in-depth understanding of current developments and search for new solutions. The Worldconnectors' aim is to act as a constructive force by connecting different generations and stakeholders, by stimulating dialogue, innovative thinking and voice: across and beyond borders. The future of the Netherlands is intrinsically connected to the global ups and downs of climate change

and economic as well as democratic development elsewhere in the world.

Global issues such as poverty, climate change and inequality, need urgent action: not only in the South. Local issues like healthcare, education, safety and employment need our attention. There is an enormous potential within communities to contribute to positive global change: a new sustainable and social economic model can be developed. For example, in various places in the world citizens are setting up Transition Towns as a local self-led answer to climate change and scarcities, whilst other individuals start online viral campaigns to raise awareness for human rights. As Worldconnectors, our aim is to hear ideas from many sides, show the broader picture and help find new solutions. These are times in which the efforts of individuals, governments, business and media together are needed to build bridges, both locally and globally. Our challenge is to develop the ability to hear the voices, also of the excluded, and to create the energy to connect, cross bridges, transform and find our common human voice and future: to build a world that is just, peaceful and sustainable for all.

Sylvia Borren and Herman Wijffels

English or Dutch?

A large part of the Worldconnectors' communication is in English, as is this Yearbook. As the name Worldconnectors implies, our goal is to connect different worlds and to connect the Netherlands with the rest of the world. Communicating in English makes the ideas and activities of the Worldconnectors accessible to everyone. It also gives non-Dutch speakers the opportunity to participate and ensures that information can be shared with international colleagues and guest speakers. Media communication directed at a Dutch audience is, however, always formulated in Dutch.

CONTENT

- 3** Introduction to the Worldconnectors
- 4** Events in 2010
- 6** Media coverage in 2010
- 8** **THEME** Financial Systems
- 9** **THEME** Sustainable World Citizenship
- 10** Meet the Worldconnectors
- 12** **THEME** The future of International Cooperation
- 14** **THEME** Food Security
- 16** Youth & Young Professional Worldconnectors
- 17** Worldconnectors taking action
- 18** In Memoriam Hans Dijkstal
- 19** Behind the scenes
- 20** Looking forward to 2011

ABOUT THE WORLDCONNECTORS

How it started

The initiative for the Worldconnectors was taken in 2006 by Ruud Lubbers, SID NL, NCDO and DPRN. They believed that the Netherlands needed to play a more positive and active role in international cooperation and global sustainable development. To this end they brought together a group of women and men in influential positions, who were from different age groups and sectors of society. They created a dynamic network: the Worldconnectors Round Table for People and the Planet.

Who we are

The Worldconnectors are opinion leaders in the public, business, policy, civil society and political arena. Inspired by the UN Millennium Declaration and the Earth Charter, we all share the ambition to build a sustainable and peaceful global society. We critically analyse current trends and introduce new and innovative views to tackle global challenges. We emphasise global interdependence: the connections between all members of local, national and global society.

Our mission

The mission of the Worldconnectors Round Table is to encourage and enhance the role of the Netherlands - in all dimensions of society - as a key player in the global community of nations and peoples, with the urgent aim of working towards a just, sustainable, inclusive and peaceful world. The Round Table will be both a catalyst and an actor for an open, tolerant, optimistic and pro-active Netherlands that, in all its diversity, is 'a global actor in the world'.

Millennium development goals

In 2015...



The Worldconnectors are inspired by the UN Millennium Declaration. They feel that the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDG's) are a crucial collective programme in the global fight against poverty, hunger and disease.

What we do

The Worldconnectors meet four times a year at a Round Table Meeting to engage in cross-sector dialogue on relevant themes. We speak out within our own networks and in public on matters related to international solidarity, global sustainable development and universal responsibility. We put effort into inspiring a global perspective in the political agenda and the policy debate in the Netherlands. We also aim to reinforce a global mindset amongst the Dutch public.

How we do it

In preparation for each Round Table Meeting, a group of Worldconnectors and a number of external experts with a special interest in a particular theme collaborate in a Working Group. We generally draft a central Statement or discussion document, which explains our vision on a specific theme, what the added value of the Worldconnectors could be and how this vision could appeal to a wider public. The Statement incorporates the perspectives of different stakeholders, including those in developing countries.

Some Working Groups choose other means of stimulating the debate, such as organising public outreach activities or initiating direct dialogue with politicians, journalists and other opinion leaders. Others might do both. Most of us participate in public events or media activities to raise attention for the themes. Furthermore, our website is used as a platform for dialogue with people interested in Worldconnectors and their issues. In order to also exchange ideas with people from developing countries a discussion forum has been set up in collaboration with VoiceOver 2015, a network of people from all over the world who aim to contribute to the Dutch debate on development cooperation. Statements are published and are a subject of discussion on the online forum. We also present our activities and comment on news in weblogs. This yearbook 2010 gives an overview of the Worldconnectors' activities in 2010.

The Earth Charter

The Earth Charter is an important source of inspiration for the Worldconnectors. It is a declaration of fundamental principles for building a just, sustainable and peaceful global society for the 21st century. The Earth Charter was created by global civil society and has been endorsed by thousands of organisations and institutions. The Charter is not only a call to action, but a motivating source inspiring change in the world. See what you can do on www.earthcharter.nl or www.earthcharterinaction.org.



ROUND TABLE THEMES

2006

First Round Table Meeting on New Leadership on Global Governance

2007

1. Migration and Development
2. Global Human Security
3. Millennium Development Goals
4. Policy Coherence on Aid, Trade & Investments

2008

1. Sustainable Development & Climate Change
2. Connection of Civilisations
3. New Scarcities

2009

1. Europe in the World
2. Sustainable World Citizenship
3. Gender and Diversity
4. Financial Systems

2010

1. The Future of International Cooperation
2. Ten Years Earth Charter
3. Political Developments & the National Budget for International Cooperation
4. Food Security

WORLDCONNECTORS AT A GLANCE

To engage the wider public, Worldconnectors organise public events and media activities. In addition to these events, Worldconnectors are often invited to participate in events arranged by other organisations in order to share their thoughts. This year the Worldconnectors had many thematic discussions with experts, but they also connected to people at festivals and conferences, during informal dinners and through networking events.

“ RINDERT DE GROOT

“Whether you’re able to change the world for the better does not depend on whether or not you are organised, want to make profit or possess formal power. It’s all about being knowledgeable about actions and the consequences they have in the long run; and about the flexibility with which you can relate to others and their interests.”

Keep an eye on the agenda on www.worldconnectors.nl for information about upcoming events in 2011

Would you like to invite a Worldconnector to your event, email us at roundtable@worldconnectors.nl

- ★ Public events organised by Worldconnectors and closed Round Table Meetings
- ◆ Co-production public activities
- + Public events organised by external organisations in which Worldconnectors participated



27/1
◆ Worldconnectors speak at IFFR during the festival programme 'Where is Africa' (27 jan - 7 feb)

10/2
◆ Public debate on the future of International cooperation



12/2
◆ Mind Our Business! Meeting on the Earth Charter for young people

16/2
★ Round Table Meeting on the WRR report

23/2
★ Worldconnectors Financial Systems event with young bankers in Rotterdam



06/3
◆ Tipping Point Table Sessions on Gender and Diversity at WOMEN Inc. festival



08/5
+ Mother's Night

12/5
◆ Co-creation event Sustainable World Citizenship 'Tee up for the future!' with Lester Brown



26/5 - 28/5
◆ GRI Global Conference



27/5
★ Round Table Meeting on 10 years Earth Charter



29/6

+ 10 Years Earth Charter event in Peace Palace, The Hague

“ SYLVIA BORREN

“We can and will increase our local-to-global citizens’ movement, working in partnership with responsible business and political leaders in order to transform our economic and social landscape from ‘winner takes all’ to ‘justice for all’.”



17/9

◆ 1% Event with Worldconnectors speed-date session

27/9

◆ Diner Pensant with women listed in ‘Sustainable 100’ and WOMEN Inc. Talkshow



30/9

◆ SID Senate Conference ‘Common Goods in a Divided World’

“ NANNO KLEITERP

“One thing is clear: funding for development cooperation will be scarce in the coming years. We need to use this scarcity to focus on quality and a more efficient use of funds. In order to view development from a business standpoint, another mindset is needed.”



04/10

★ Round Table Meeting on Political Developments & National Budget for International Cooperation

04/10

★ Inspiration at the dining table - Worldconnectors meet with young refugees



24/10

+ UN&me, International United Nations Day in The Hague

28/10

★ Inspiration at the dining table - Worldconnectors meet with young entrepreneurs

“ ERIK THIJS WEDERSHOVEN

“It is up to us to hold our leaders accountable for their promises - particularly in times of crisis and elections, looking the other way is not an option.”



01/12

+ Karen Oudenhoven-van der Zee presents her book ‘Grenze(n)loos Vertrouwen’ at the Royal Tropical Institute

“ DIRK ELSEN

“With the new political reality just around the corner, it’s more crucial than ever to fan the flames of meaningful debate, learn lessons and, for a change, not put the interest of one’s own organisation and support base first.”

06/12

★ Round Table Meeting on Food Security



06/12

◆ Jerome Roos wins Food Essay Contest on Food Security (sponsored by Rabobank Foundation)

10/12

◆ Belarus Connection, an event about the role of the Netherlands with regard to democracy and development in Belarus.

IN THE MEDIA

In 2010 Worldconnectors spoke out in order to raise awareness on several issues by means of opinion articles, interviews and radio shows. These activities were all seized upon as opportunities to stimulate dialogue and to draw the wider public into the debate on global issues. The Worldconnectors were particularly active in the written media, but also on radio and television and through social media. With these efforts they reached almost 1 million people in the Netherlands!

Worldconnectors on radio and television

- On June 27th, Teresa Fogelberg spoke about the 10 year anniversary of the Earth Charter in the radio show Atlas (Radio 1).
- On December 22nd, Nederland 2 broadcast the documentary 'Profiel: Herman Wijffels' on Herman Wijffels' devotion to sustainability. Worldconnectors' co-chair Sylvia Borren also contributed to the documentary.
- On December 25th, Hans Eenhoorn informed the listeners of EO radio about the recommendations that Worldconnectors made to the government on the issue of food security and agriculture.

Worldconnectors in the newspapers

In addition to the publications related to the themes of 2010, the Worldconnectors were interviewed and wrote opinion articles about other topics as well. Below an overview of some of these publications.

- In the first half of 2010 Herman Wijffels and Annick de Wit shared their views with each other in the monthly 'groene blaadjes' correspondence in IS magazine.
- 'Grijp nu de kans om duurzamer te bankieren', an article by Ruud Lubbers and Paul van Seters in Trouw, 29 January 2010.
- 'What makes Millennials tick?', interview with Sayida Vanenburg in Sybille Student Magazine.
- 'Ontwikkelingswerkers als ondernemers' an opinion article by Dirk Elsen, 11 March 2010.
- 'De Millenniumdoelen zijn beter dan niets', interview with Sylvia Borren about the MDGs in Vice Versa Magazine, April 2010.
- 'Geef president ECB stem bij begrotingsbeleid lidstaten', opinion article by Ruud Lubbers and Paul van Seters in Financiële Dagblad, 28 May 2010.
- '10 aanbevelingen voor een herstel van financieel vertrouwen', article by Herman Mulder in Gewoon Doen! magazine, June 2010.
- 'Wat voor mens wil je zijn', interview with Anna Chojnacka in NRC Next, 29 July 2010.
- 'Als de wereld verandert, moet ontwikkelingssamenwerking ook anders', opinion article by Sandra van Beest, Karien van Gennip, Herman Wijffels and Rene Grotenhuis in Trouw, 18 August 2010.
- 'De schande van mondiale loze beloften', opinion article by Hans Eenhoorn, Sylvia Borren and Anna Chojnacka in Nederlands Dagblad, 22 September 2010.
- 'Er wordt zoveel hulp versnipperd', interview with Anna Chojnacka in Trouw, 14 December 2010.

KARI POSTMA Communication advisor NCDO

"The media are often only interested in publication when the Worldconnectors handle a topical issue from a different and innovative perspective. Fortunately this has been the case on many occasions!"

Worldconnectors in the ranking lists

- For the second year in a row Herman Wijffels headed the list, put together by the newspaper Trouw, of the 100 most influential sustainable Dutch men and women. Worldconnectors Ruud Lubbers (21), Johan van de Gronden (49), Sylvia Borren (77) and Teresa Fogelberg (95) also appeared on the list again. New to the list in 2010 are Anna Chojnacka (29) and Carin Ten Hage (75).
- The Dutch women's magazine Viva published a list of the 400 most successful young women in the Netherlands. Lynn Zebeda, the newest Young Professional Worldconnector, was named as 'upcoming talent'.

Worldconnectors on the internet

Besides the activity of Worldconnectors on the Worldconnectors website through weblogs and news-items, Worldconnectors also shared their views and ideas through social media.

- On Youtube Worldconnectors have their own 'channel' with over 30 videos.
- Worldconnectors wrote more than 20 weblogs on the website.
- Worldconnectors are active on Twitter, with 611 followers, and on the 1%CLUB website.
- 119 people registered on the Worldconnectors website to become a 'Worldconnection'
- 79 people joined the Worldconnectors - Sustainable World Citizenship Facebook page.



Althoosn heeft veel te danken aan links multi-... We leven in een obsessieve afsluistercultuur... Schijfrolt kraag 132.650 klachten van de burelen

nrc.next woensdag 24 juli 2010 www.nrc.nl prijs 1,10 euro

Wat voor mens wil je zijn
Anna Chojnacka is de oprichter van de 13CLUB, een marktplaats op internet voor ontwikkelingshulp. Ze wil mensen helpen, en ze doet het ook.

Nederland De pataties zijn die jaar korter
Internationaal Gelekte info tegenslag VS
Nederland Training politie Uruguan succes
Sport Nog geen coach voor voetbalsters

Morgen bij nrc.next: de Lowlands-krant met programma!

NRC Next

4 Vandaag woensdag 24 juli 2010

Samen kun je meer dan alleen
Anna Chojnacka wil armoede bestrijden

Armoede bestrijden is een wereldwijde uitdaging. Het is niet alleen een kwestie van geld, maar ook van kennis, vaardigheden en netwerken. Anna Chojnacka, oprichter van de 13CLUB, is een voorbeeld van iemand die samenwerkingsverbanden opzet om deze uitdaging aan te pakken.

Meer online goede doelen

De 13CLUB is een online marktplaats waar mensen hun kennis en vaardigheden kunnen inzetten voor goede doelen. Dit is een innovatieve manier om armoede te bestrijden en mensen te helpen om hun levensomstandigheden te verbeteren.

Door de val van de

De val van de dollar heeft grote gevolgen gehad voor de wereldwijde economie. Dit heeft geleid tot een toename van armoede en ongelijkheid. Het is belangrijk om te kijken naar manieren om deze problemen op te lossen.

Vertrouwen is de sleutel tot succes

Vertrouwen is een essentieel onderdeel van succesvolle samenwerkingen. Het is belangrijk om te investeren in het opbouwen van vertrouwen tussen individuen en organisaties.

NRC Next

Evolutie

Beste Annick
Deze brief komt uit Nieuw-Zeeland, waar mijn vrouw en ik een paar maanden verblijven bij onze oudste zoon en onze kleinkinderen. Hier heb ik ook gelegenheid om (bij) te lezen. Zo heb ik net twee totaal verschillende auteurs kunnen lezen over een belangrijk onderwerp: empathie. De Britse religiewetenschapper Karen Armstrong beargumenteert dat de kern van elk tijdperk neerkomt op het ontwikkelen van ideeën en methoden om onderlinge menselijke betrokkenheid en mededogen te verankeren in de cultuur. Zij heeft daartoe religieuze en niet-religieuze levensbeschouwingen bestudeerd vanaf de steentijd tot heden. Op basis van de gemeenschappelijke elementen die zij aantroft in al die levenswijzen, ontwikkelde zij haar nu bekende Charter for Compassion. De Nederlandse primatoloog Frans de Waal - werkzaam in de VS - betoogt dat empathie zelfs ingebakken zit in het evolutionaire proces. Hij toont aan dat empathie en zorg in de dierenwereld op uitgebreide schaal voorkomen. De idee van evolutie als 'overleving van de sterkste' berust volgens hem dan ook op een misvatting. Dit geldt dus ook voor het sociaal darwinisme, dat een belangrijke drijfveer bleek voor de ontwikkeling van onze huidige wettelijke concurrentie-economie. Mijn conclusie is dat we er evolutionair gezien aan toe zijn om empathie opnieuw en nu op mondiaal niveau, in onze cultuur te verankeren. A call to bring the world together, zeg maar. Alleen op die manier kunnen we een duurzame mondiale samenleving realiseren. Een essentiële opdracht voor iedereen als we het leven op een goede manier willen doorgeven aan volgende generaties. Ook voor een opa en oma met kleinkinderen in Nieuw-Zeeland.

Herman Wijffels (2012) was onder meer voorzitter van Rabobank en de VSB en bewaarde bij de Wereldbank. Nu is hij co-voorzitter van de Worldconnectors.

Dag Herman,
Heb je het nieuwe boek van Jeremy Rifkin dan ook al gelezen? *The Empathic Civilization. The race to global consciousness in a world in crisis* onderbouwt namelijk precies jouw stelling. Rifkin schrijft een geschiedenis van een zich steeds verder uitbreidend vermogen om je als mens in een ander in te leven en de pijn en het geluk van een ander te ervaren als van jezelf. Eerst beperkte die empathie zich tot mensen binnen de eigen stam, vervolgens binnen de eigen religie, streek en met de opkomst van de natiesstaat, tot mensen in het eigen land. Nu verruimt het zich geleidelijk naar mensen aan de andere kant van de planeet, en gaat het zelfs voorbij de eigen soort om al het leven te omvatten: de dieren, planten, de aarde zelf. Deze verschuiving wordt mede mogelijk gemaakt door de internetrevolutie, aldus Rifkin. Communicatievolledigheids bieden het centrale zenuwstelsel van individuen en maatschappijen uit, zodat compassie kan rijpen en bewustzijn kan groeien. Als ik naar mijn eigen leven kijk, zie ik dat heel duidelijk: via internet kom ik steeds vaker in contact met nieuwe ideeën en nieuwe werelden, waardoor mijn bewustzijn wordt opgeknapt en mijn hart uitgedaagd zich steeds meer van het leven te verbinden. Daarnaast valt de internetrevolutie samen met de opkomst van hernieuwbare energie, en dat maakt het ontstaan van een duurzame, mondiale verbonden en lokaal beheerde, post-CO2-economie mogelijk - met je laptopje op zonne-energie 'in touch' met de hele wereld - wow! En daar begint ons grote groene hart te kloppen, zich bewust van het feit dat elke dagelijkse handeling - ons gebruik van grondstoffen, energie, onze afvalproductie - uiteindelijk al het andere leven op aarde beïnvloedt. Hartelijke groeten, Annick

Annick de Wit (2018) doet aan de Vrije Universiteit promotie-onderzoek naar de relatie tussen wereldwijde en duurzame ontwikkeling.

Hartelijke groeten, Annick

De kloof tussen arm en rijk en tussen nu en een duurzame toekomst is ondanks crises te overbruggen.

Eerlijke toekomst gaat wat kosten

Herman Wijffels e.a. hoogleraar duurzaamheid en maatschappelijke verandering

Wij zijn als mensheid uit balans. De stress verslechtert de relatie tussen mannen en vrouwen; huiselijk geweld, vrouwenhandel en kinderprostitutie nemen toe. Een half miljoen vrouwen sterft jaarlijks onnodig rond hun bevalling en twintig keer zoveel kinderen sterven aan onnodige ziektes.

Wie het vandaag de dag over 'de crisis' heeft, mag niet vergeten dat het mondiale klimaat en armoede in ontwikkelingslanden onlosmakelijk verbonden zijn aan onze economie. We zijn als mensheid onderling verbonden en gezamenlijk verantwoordelijk. Dit is in lijn met de Earth Charter. De verschillende crises zijn alleen vanuit dit perspectief en in samenhang met elkaar oplosbaar.

Dat afgelopen jaar werd maar 3 miljard dollar besteed aan de bestrijding van de voedselcrisis en 18 miljard miljard dollar voor de ondersteuning van banken en bedrijven. Al met één procent van dit enorme bedrag (18 miljard) komen de in 2000 geformuleerde millenniumdoelen en het klimaat een heel eind op weg. Dat bewijst dat de kloof tussen rijk en arm en tussen nu en een duurzame toekomst zijn te overbruggen.

Grootscheepse investeringen in armoede en klimaat zijn urgent. Op de klimaatop in Kopenhagen in december moeten harde en heldere afspraken gemaakt worden. In lijn met de millenniumdoelen. Ook zullen we in 2010 binnen de Wereldhandelsorganisatie (WTO) tegen een onderdak naar protectionisme tijdens de financiële crisis. Arme en ontwikkelingslanden vermoeden dat de pompen- of overvloedige maatregelen van rijk landen hun eigen banken en bedrijven boeien met kosten van buitenlandse. Dit is tegen de WTO-afspraken, en dat willen arme landen nader onderzoeken. 'Vergoet het maar', zeggen de rijk landen, 'de WTO gaat helemaal niets onderzoeken'.

Wat een klimaatcrisis, kun je denken. Westerse bedrijven dreigen kopje onder te gaan en nu zeuren arme landen dat minister Wouter Bos of president Barack Obama om reddingsboei toe te wippen. Zijn ze jaloez? Of houden ontwikkelingslanden geen gezin dat ING Bank of General Motors failliet gingen, zodat zij meer kansen hebben?

Wellicht. Toch is er meer dan genoeg reden om te vermoeden dat arme landen last hebben van de westerse steunpolitiek. Nemen alleen al de steun van banken. Ministers van Financiën redde met miljarden aan belastinggeld de met pek- en-ven besmeerde bankiers en kregen tegelijkertijd boze e-mails van hun kiezers dat zij nog steeds geen leningen konden krijgen. Het is haast ondenkbaar dat de ministers niet tegen de bankiers hebben gezegd: 'Leon in eigen land meer geld uit, demooed ten koste van je buitenlandse klanten. In ieder geval uite WTO-chef Pascal Lamy deze vrees vorig jaar al. Belangrijker is dat het verzet van de rijk landen het vertrouwen in de WTO ondermijnt. Internationale handel en kredietstromen behoren tot de belangrijkste motoren achter ontwikkeling - veel belangrijker dan hulp, zoals de Wetenschappelijke Raad voor Regeringsbeleid ook constateerde in haar grondbetrouwde rapport. Elke regeringpleidde bezover tijdens de crisis dat protectionisme uit den boze was. Maar nu de economische storm wat lijkt te gaan liggen, is onderdak onoplosbaar. Dan. Want zonder vertrouwen in handel onmogelijk, en dat betekent geen en nemen. Waarom zouden arme landen nog geloven in de Doha Ontwikkelingsprode, die vrije wereldhandel mogelijk moet maken?

WORLDCONNECTORS 2010

21 Trouw

Ruud Lubbers

Oud-premier (1939)
De oud-premier is geklonnen in de lijst. Ruud Lubbers was dan ook veel in het nieuws, als informateur van het kabinet Rutte. De CIA-prominent maakte er geen geheim van dat zijn voorkeur uitging naar een 'groene variant' van VVD samen met CIA, GroenLinks en D66. Duurzaamheid heeft Lubbers' aandacht sinds hij in 2005 zijn post als Hoge Commissaris voor de Vluchtelingen van de Verenigde Naties (UNHCR) verliet. Hij richtte bij thuiskomst de Worldconnectors op, ontwikkeld mensen die voor binding moeten zorgen in de samenleving. Herman Wijffels (1) heeft zijn voorzitterschap overgenomen. Lubbers is voor kernenergie als vervanging voor fossiele brandstoffen. Wel vindt hij dat het kabinet nu eerst moet investeren in wind-, zonne- en bio-energie.

95 Trouw

Teresa Fogelberg

Deputy chief executive Global Reporting Initiative (1956)
Teresa Fogelberg is directeur bij het Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), dat bedrijven, ngo's en investeerders op één lijn brengt over inhoud en criteria van duurzame verslaggeving. Het GRI is inmiddels uitgegroeid tot de wereldstandaard voor het rapporteren over duurzaamheid. Ze zet zich al haar hele leven in voor duurzaamheid, onder andere als antropoloog in de strijd tegen honger in Afrika en voor vrouwenrechten wereldwijd. Ze leidde de Nederlandse delegatie tijdens de klimaatop in Kyoto. Momenteel is Fogelberg ook lid van Worldconnectors, een club van zo'n twintig invloedrijke Nederlanders die creatief en open denken wil bevorderen. Ruud Lubbers (21) was initiatiefnemer.

We kunnen het tij nog ten goede keren

De mensheid toont zich een slecht rentmeester van Gods aarde. Deze tijd vraagt meer respect voor zijn schepping en mededogen voor de medemens.

Jezus vat in Mattheüs 22 de tien geboden samen: „God liefhebben met heel uw hart, met heel uw ziel en met heel uw verstand en heb uw naaste lief als uzelf!“. Ondanks de theorieën van Friedrich Nietzsche en Stephen Hawking, die God dood verklaard hebben, mogen wij blijven geloven dat God hemel en aarde geschapen heeft en dat wij die aarde mogen beheren als rentmeesters.

We hebben ons slechte rentmeesters getoond. Klimaatverandering, milieuverval, uitputting van niet-vernieuwbare grondstoffen en afbraak van de biodiversiteit zorgen voor ongekende problemen, en bedreigen Gods schepping.

Jezus heeft ons ook geleerd dat we ieder mens als onze naaste dienen te beschouwen. Als we ons realiseren dat er een miljard mensen op onze aarde leven die gebrek hebben aan alles, licht het dat we ook het tweede gebod niet erg goed begrepen hebben. Ik vind het onaanvaardbaar dat zoveel mensen chronisch gebrek aan voedsel hebben, terwijl evenveel mensen door een teveel aan voedsel kampen met waaftaatsziekten, zoals obesitas en hart- en vaatziekten.

Een dergelijke wereld is een instabiele en niet-duurzame wereld. Het is er genoeg bewijs dat politieke instabiliteit en honger en armoede hand in hand gaan.

In 2008 werd de wereld opgeschrikt door een voedsel- en energiecrisis, waarbij prijzen voor voedsel en brandstof met tientallen procenten toenamen, met voedselrellen in meer dan dertig landen tot gevolg. De klimaat- en milieucrisis was al langer een punt van zorg, evenals het wereldwijd terrein en gewapende conflicten. De financiële crisis kwam daar nog eens overheen en houdt ons zo bezig dat we al die andere crises lijken te vergeten. En dat terwijl die crisis de komende jaren opgelost zal worden, terwijl de voedselcrisis vanwege de hardnekkigheid van de onderliggende oorzaken, nog voor grote problemen zal zorgen.

De wereldbevolking zal van de huidige 6,7 miljard mensen groeien naar ongeveer 9 miljard in 2050. De Verenigde Naties schatten dat de productie van voedsel wereldwijd minstens met 70 procent moet toenemen om aan de vraag in 2050 te voldoen.

Economische groei in ontwikkelingslanden zorgt voor hogere inkomens voor honderden miljoenen mensen, hetgeen tot gevolg heeft dat zij meer gaan eten en ook hun diët veranderen en meer vlees consumeren. Dit proces is al aan de gang in opkomende economieën als China en India. Voedingsgewoonten waarbij meer vlees wordt geconsumeerd, zullen de vraag naar granen

De schande van loze mondiale beloften

De schande van loze mondiale beloften is een terugkerend thema in de wereldwijde media. Het gaat om de beloften die zijn gemaakt tijdens internationale conferenties, maar die vaak niet worden nagevolgd. Dit is een groot probleem voor de wereldwijde gemeenschap, omdat het leidt tot ongelijkheid en armoede.

Worldconnections

95 Trouw

Nederlands Dagblad

Preek Hans Eenhoorn

Worldconnections

Nederlands Dagblad



IMPROVING THE DUTCH BANKING SECTOR

The Worldconnectors have set up a special Working Group Financial Systems in order to formulate recommendations for more comprehensive and future-oriented commercial and risk management policies for the Dutch banking sector. In carrying out this task the Working Group has limited itself to those issues which have to date received little attention in the public debate on reforming the financial sector: corporate social responsibility and sustainability. The Worldconnectors acknowledge that Dutch banks have taken important initiatives in this area, but the crisis of confidence in the banking sector, as well as the urgency of addressing “public goods” and the role of business therein, require more priority and urgency.

The financial crisis, which began in the United States and then spread to Europe, has now become global. The crisis itself stems, mainly, from poorly regulated financial markets in rich countries, which allowed risky and complex financial products to develop, skewing financial flows and creating unsustainable global imbalances. With world trade plummeting and industrial production falling drastically, the economic crisis has affected developing countries through declining trade, private financial flows and remittances. As the banking sector has played an important role in the aggravation of the financial crisis, the Worldconnectors feel that banks need to change their policies in an ethical and sustainable way. The full recommendations of the Working Group can be read in the statement ‘Financial Systems’ that is an annex to this Worldconnectors Yearbook.

“ **RUUD LUBBERS**
working group member

“It is great that the financial crisis in the Netherlands is being investigated so thoroughly. However, the two commissions that are carrying out the investigation are paying too much attention to the national situation, which is not the measure for avoiding the next global crisis. To realise a genuine reform of the global financial system, banks need to become permeated with a true sense of sustainability.”

“ **HERMAN WIJFFELS**
working group chair

“The largest gain in recent times, is the return of ethics in economy. The biggest threat, on the other hand, is that we will return to ‘business as usual’, once the crisis is over.”

Public Outreach

In January 2010, the Working Group met with the ‘Commissie de Wit’, a commission set up by the government to investigate the underlying causes of the financial crisis and the need to reform the Dutch financial system. During this closed meeting the Worldconnectors pointed out that not enough attention is being given to issues concerning corporate social responsibility. Furthermore, they made recommendations for specific reforms in the banking sector which were well received by the commission.

The members of the financial systems working group have been working together with FIER, a community of young bankers who want financial institutions to increase their sense of responsibility. FIER and the Worldconnectors co-organised a debate for young bankers in cooperation with the Rabobank. Ruud Lubbers and Tineke Lambooy took part in a panel led by fellow working group member Leontien Peeters and exchanged ideas with over fifty young professionals from the Dutch banking sector. In 2011 the cooperation between Worldconnectors and FIER will be continued.

Ruud Lubbers and Paul van Seters raised awareness on the need to change the banking sector by publishing several opinion articles, amongst others in the newspaper Trouw.

The Working Group

Worldconnectors:

Herman Wijffels, Ruud Lubbers, Herman Mulder, Nanno Kleiterp, Tineke Lambooy, Adrian de Groot Ruiz and Leontien Peeters.

Advisor:

Paul van Seters.

Supporters:

Alide Roerink, Iem Roos, Roeland Muskens and Gabi Spitz.



IT STARTS WITH ONE

In 2010 the Working Group Sustainable World Citizenship continued the work that they started in 2009. This Working Group was set up to investigate how to mobilise and activate citizens to contribute to a more sustainable world. The globalisation problems that the world faces, such as the large economic differences between the North and the South, the climate crisis and the scarcities of natural resources cannot be tackled by governments alone. In the opinion of the Working Group, individuals can and must make a difference by applying a sustainable lifestyle to all levels of their daily life, rather than just at home or at work. The Worldconnectors are therefore inspired by the slogan of Ten Years Earth Charter 'It starts with one'.

The Working Group was involved in researching ways to strengthen the online network of the Worldconnectors, which led to the development of an online pilot platform for dialogue. Through technical developments, people around the world can now communicate more easily and stand up for what they feel is important. Sharing knowledge and developing solutions in an inclusive way can lead to innovative and effective strategies for solving global problems. In this regard, the commitment and leadership of individual citizens becomes crucial. The Working Group developed a special statement 'It Starts With One' that served as input for the celebration of 10

Years Earth Charter in the Peace Palace in The Hague last June. In order to further elaborate on ways to stimulate sustainable world citizenship and to strengthen the Worldconnectors role as a catalyst for change, the Working Group is currently working on a plan of action.

“ ANNA CHOJNACKA working group member

“A group of individuals can do more than a single member of a group on their own. In order to make real changes, you have to set aside your ego and that's a hard thing to do.”

“ AWRAHAM SOETENDORP working group member

“In the global village, a personal story can become the talk of the day in a blink of an eye. Sharing perspective and hope can open hearts and amplify the whisper of truth. And when that happens, nothing is impossible!”

Public Outreach

In May 2010 the Working Group cooperated with the Centre for Global Human Emergence in the organisation of the conference 'Tee up for the Future' with Lester Brown, providing follow-up to the Worldconnectors boat trip for young sustainable leaders that took place in 2009. During the conference a working method called Meshwork was used to structure the activities. According to Herman Wijffels “Meshworking is one of the most hopeful innovations I have seen for dealing with the complex global challenges humanity is facing today. The combination of face-to-face collaboration processes with leading-edge online technology enables stakeholders to self-organise across sectors rapidly and effectively for large scale impact.”

Earlier last year, in January, the Worldconnectors co-organised the youth network event Mind Our Business, in collaboration with the Earth Charter Youth Network, Move Your World, VU University and Plan Netherlands. The aim of the meeting was to bring together different young leaders who contribute to their communities and to the planet, in order to exchange lessons and experiences using the Earth Charter as a starting point. Masooma Yousufzai asked the participants about their experiences, creating common tipping points for change. Many young leaders said that using creative methods and the arts helps to get people on board, as well as identifying 'global commons', to which everyone can connect. Emphasising that there is a personal connection to global issues is probably the most important part of 'making a difference'. The participants suggested simulation games and a more intensive integration of the EC-Netherlands into the world community.



The Working Group

Worldconnectors:

Ineke Bakker, Sandra van Beest, Louk de la Rive Box, Anna Chojnacka, Rindert de Groot (co-chair), Carin ten Hage, Herman Mulder (co-chair), Michel Scholte and Awraham Soetendorp.

Advisors:

Tom van de Beek (MGMC) and Willemijn Kemp (Vital Interest).

Supporters:

Koen Kusters, Ellen Lammers, Alide Roerink, Iem Roos and Gabi Spitz.

MEET THE WORLDCONNECTORS

The Worldconnectors inspire and connect, both with each other and with third parties to build a just, sustainable and peaceful global society. Every year a number of Worldconnectors give way to new members with fresh views and different networks. Meet this group of inspiring people on www.worldconnectors.nl.

Steering group



SYLVIA BORREN
Co-chair of the Worldconnectors and, amongst other functions, co-chair of GCAP (the Global Call to Action against Poverty) and its Dutch chapter EEN, member of the Advisory Council on International Affairs (IAV) for the Dutch government. As of February 2011 Executive Director of Greenpeace Netherlands.



HERMAN WIJFFELS
Co-chair of the Worldconnectors and Professor Sustainability and Social Change at the University of Utrecht. Previous functions include head of the Rabobank, Dutch Representative at the World Bank and leader of the negotiations for the Dutch cabinet formation in 2007.

Prominent political persons



KATHALIJNE BUITENWEG
Former member of the European parliament for GroenLinks.



RUUD LUBBERS
One of the initiators and first chair of the Worldconnectors, an active member of the Earth Charter Commission, former Prime Minister of the Netherlands and former UN Commissioner for Refugees.



AD MELKERT
UN Envoy in Iraq and former Minister of Social Affairs and Employment.



JAN PRONK
Professor Theory and Practice of International Development at the Institute of Social Studies in the Hague and former Minister of Development Cooperation and the Environment. He is chair of SID International.



JORIS VOORHOEVE
Professor of International Organisations at Leiden University, Professor of International Security at the Netherlands Defence Academy and member of the Council of State. He is a former Minister of Defence.

Youth and Young Professionals



ALPHA BARRY
International Aid / Cooperation Officer at EuropeAid, European Commission

Business community actors



HANS EENHOORN
Former top manager at UNILEVER, former member of the UN Task Force on Hunger and Associate Professor of Food Security and Entrepreneurship at Wageningen University. He is initiator and chair of the School Feeding Initiative Ghana - The Netherlands, SIGN.



KARIEN VAN GENNIP
Director of European and International Affairs at ING and former State Secretary of Economic Affairs.



CARIN TEN HAGE
Programme Director Planet Me at TNT.



NANNO KLEITERP
Chairman of the Management Board of the Netherlands Development Finance Company (FMO).



TINEKE LAMBOOY
Lawyer and University Lecturer/Researcher at Nyenrode Business University and Utrecht University, with a focus on corporate social responsibility.



CHARLOTTE LEMMENS
Charlotte Lemmens is director of the Keukenhof Castle and Estate in Lisse and member of the Social Council of Immigration and Integration of the IND.



SAYIDA VANENBURG
Consultant Operational Excellence at Cap Gemini and former Youth Representative of the Netherlands at the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.

Religious leadership



INEKE BAKKER
Director of development organisation Oikos and former General Secretary of the Council of Churches in the Netherlands.



AWRAHAM SOETENDORP
The former Rabbi of the Reform Jewish Community, chair of the Jacob Soetendorp Institute on Human Values and Earth Charter Commissioner.

Knowledge and advisory centres



HANS VAN GINKEL
Chair of the Supervisory Board of the Institute for Social Studies, The Hague and of the Zentrum für Entwicklungs Forschung, Bonn and an honorary professor in Human Geography and Planning at Utrecht University. He is former Rector of the United Nations University, Tokyo.



HALLEH GHORASHI
Professor of Management and Diversity at the Vrije Universiteit (VU) in Amsterdam.



PAUL HOEBINK
Associate Professor of Development Issues at the University of Nijmegen.



KAREN VAN OUDEN-HOVEN - VAN DER ZEE
Professor of Organisational Psychology, Cultural Diversity and Integration at the University of Groningen and director of the Institute for Integration and Social Efficacy.

(New) media



KEES BROERE
Kees Broere is the Africa correspondent for the Dutch newspaper de Volkskrant and for the NOS, the Dutch broadcasting corporation. He is based in Nairobi, Kenya.



PIETER BROERTJES
Former Editor in Chief of de Volkskrant, a national newspaper.



ANNA CHOJNACKA
Director of the 1%CLUB and former Youth Representative of the Netherlands to the General Assembly of the United Nations.



RINDERT DE GROOT
Editor, moderator and writer for Empowerplant.



NAEMA TAHIR
Writer and an expert in human rights law.

Non Governmental Organisations



DIRK ELSSEN
Chief Executive at SNV Netherlands Development Organisation.



WILLEMIJN AERDTS
Researcher with an LL.M. degree in International Public Law and a MA degree in International Relations from Utrecht University. She is former Youth representative to the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Children.



JAN BERDELING
Former Ambassador of the Netherlands to the FAO and board member of SID Netherlands.



FRANS VAN DEN BOOM
Executive director of NCDO.



TON DIETZ
Taskforce member of DPRN, one of the initiators of the Worldconnectors, Professor of Human Geography and Director of the Africa Study Centre.



JOS VAN GENNIP
President of SID Netherlands (until May 17th 2010) and NCDO and Vice-President of SID International. He is one of the initiators of the Worldconnectors and a former Member of the Senate.



RENÉ GROTENHUIS
Director of the international development organisation Cordaid and President of SID Netherlands (from May 17th 2010).



HERMAN MULDER
NCDO board member, independent advisor and former Senior Executive Vice-President Group Risk Management of the ABN AMRO Bank.



SANDRA VAN BEEST
Student European and International Law at the Radboud University Nijmegen and former official Youth Representative of the Netherlands to the General Assembly of the United Nations.



ADRIAN DE GROOT RUIZ
PhD candidate in Economics at the Centre for Experimental Economics and Political Decision Making at the University of Amsterdam.



ZITA SCHELLEKENS
Former Political Advisor to the Minister of International Trade.



MICHEL SCHOLTE
Michel Scholte is founder of Noen and research master student in Sociology at the VU University of Amsterdam.



MASOOMA YOUSUFZAI
History student at Groningen Royal University and former Youth Representative to UNESCO.



ERIK THIJS WEDER-SHOVEN
Master of Public Affairs Candidate at Sciences Po Paris, the University of Tokyo and London School of Economics and Political Science and board member of the WPE. He is former UN Youth Representative to the UN General Assembly.



LYNN ZEBEDA
Lynn Zebeda works as a consultant in the field of leadership development/ social entrepreneurship and is involved in the Night of the Tips (Nacht van de Fooi).



ANDRÉ VENEMAN
André Veneman is corporate director sustainability at AkzoNobel and chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Dutch Institute for Sustainable Trade (IDH)

(Inter)national governmental actors



JOAN BOER
Inspector at the Inspection and Evaluation Unit of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands. Former Ambassador of the Netherlands to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).



JOKE BRANDT
Director-General of the Department of International Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



RUUD TREFFERS
Ruud Treffers is the Executive Director at the World Bank. Until October 2008 he was Director-General of International Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



ROEL VAN DER VEEN
Academic Advisor at the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



ROB VISSER
Anthropologist and former Chief Scientist at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



RUDY RABBINGE
Roelof (Rudy) Rabbinge is Professor Sustainable Development and Food Security at Wageningen University and former member of the Dutch Senate for the Labour Party.



TARIQ RAMADAN
Professor of Islamic Studies at the Faculty of Theology at Oxford University.



MONIKA SIE DHIAN HO
Director of the Wiardi Beckman Foundation.



DOEKLE TERPSTRA
President of the Netherlands Association of Universities of Applied Sciences, 'HBO-Raad'.



ANNELIES ZOOMERS
Professor of Development Geography (IDS) at Utrecht University and Professor of International Migration at the Radboud University in Nijmegen.

Former Worldconnectors:

An agreement for the continuation or termination of Worldconnector membership is made in principle for one year. The Worldconnectors have been active since 2006. In the last few years, several Worldconnectors have decided, by mutual agreement, to discontinue their membership because of availability issues, a long stay abroad or for health reasons.

- MIRIYAM AOURAGH
- PETER BAKKER
- HANS DIJKSTAL †
- LOUISE GROENEMAN
- HENNY HELMICH
- ROEL JANSSEN
- MARC KLEIN ESSINK
- BEN KNAPEN
- WIM KOK
- JELTJE VAN NIEUWENHOVEN
- LOUK DE LA RIVE BOX
- PAUL ROSENMÖLLER
- ERIC SMALING
- ROB DE VOS



TERESA FOGELBERG
Senior Director Business Engagement and Stakeholder Relations of the Global Reporting Initiative.



JOHAN VAN DE GRONDEN
Chief Executive Officer of World Wildlife Funds (WWF) in the Netherlands.



LEONTIEN PEETERS
Communication Director for the Bernard van Leer Foundation.



JANNET VAESSEN
Managing Director of the contemporary women's platform WOMEN inc.



LUCIA VAN WESTERLAAK
Policy Advisor with the FNV Trade Union's Confederation.



INFLUENCING POLICY

In January 2010, the Dutch Scientific Council for Government Policy (WRR) presented a report entitled *Less Pretension, More Ambition: Development Aid that Makes a Difference*, recommending fundamental changes in the organisation of Dutch development aid as well as more structural attention for global public goods. The report stirred up the debate on the future of international cooperation in the Netherlands and gave the Worldconnectors an opportunity to present their views during the process of policy making and thereby to truly influence policy.

On 16 February 2010, the Worldconnectors organised a Roundtable to examine how they perceived this report and to take the first steps towards a common reaction. During this Worldconnectors Round Table, it was decided that, under the coordination of Jos van Gennip, a number of constituent sectors of the Worldconnectors would provide input for a joint comment on the WRR Report. This resulted in the creation of three documents, each prepared by a different Working Group, which contain several recommendations that complement each other.

Business & Development Cooperation

Herman Mulder and Nanno Kleiterp chaired the Working Group that focused on Business & Development Cooperation. This led to the document 'More entrepreneurship, coalitions and ambition', in which recommendations are given for a new comprehensive focus and a new governance model.

“ HERMAN MULDER

chair working group

“The WRR report correctly focuses on the importance of economic growth for developing countries. Without growth, there is no development and no means to reduce poverty. The business sector is the most important driver for realising economic growth and the creation of jobs. By stimulating entrepreneurship in an environmentally and socially sustainable way, people will be given the opportunity of becoming self-sufficient.”

Civil Society

In the WRR report there is little attention for the role of civil society in development. Also, in its paragraphs on civil society, the report focuses on the organisational and financial set-up of Dutch civil society. The Worldconnectors believe that the report lacks a reflection on the fundamental role that civil society plays, in each and every society, in the processes of social and societal development. With a second document, entitled *Civil Society's Role in Development*, the Worldconnectors wanted to draw attention to civil society's crucial and autonomous role in development processes and in the shaping of a just and sustainable world, a role that is coming under increasing pressure.

“ RENÉ GROTENHUIS

chair working group civil society

“Civil society organisations working in development have a role to play in creating an open society, in which the notion of global citizenship is the cornerstone of our living together in the diverse reality of today's world.”

Vision document

The third and final document of the triptych is the Worldconnectors Vision Document. In this document the Worldconnectors link these issues with previous themes and highlight the important role of civil society and the private sector as well as the key position of women.



“ SYLVIA BORREN
document drafter

“We know that particularly women, when given half a chance, will work hard for the future of their children: creating economic and social progress and stability. Solving the gender gap and stimulating women’s leadership at local, national and global level must be a central element of the new Dutch international policies for the management and development of the global commons.”



“ ELVIRA HELENA BROCK MENDOZA
VoiceOver member

“Making choices concerning development aid has many problems. First of all how can it be possible to decide which country does need more aid. This sounds terribly unhuman because some countries require investments in one thing or another... and all of those needs imply human needs and imply human lives. How can you choose who lives and who not??

At the same time... thinking that Africa only requires development is not true. Many countries still require help inclusively in Europe who are struggling with many issues. Latinamerica for example many countries are better but have the legacy of conflict or tragedies and working towards their growth may take years and years. Finally focusing on only ten countries... implies prioritizing some countries but politically may sound as preference and far away from being fair. I would only consider this possibility if actually Netherlands will commit with Fair Trade with all the countries who are struggling against subsidies and barriers...then if they take out away the aid...countries may still survive with exports arriving to all the corners of Europe.”



Public Outreach

The Broker

The debate surrounding the WRR Report on the innovation of international cooperation has been facilitated by The Broker. A number of Worldconnectors contributed to the debate on this online platform. For contributions by Ruud Lubbers, Jos van Gennip, Herman Mulder, Sylvia Borren, Johan van de Gronden, Ton Dietz, Paul Hoebink and many others, please see: <http://www.thebrokeronline.eu/en/Special-Reports/Towards-a-global-development-strategy>.



VoiceOver forum

On the VoiceOver forum, several members from developing countries reacted to the following statement posted by Worldconnectors: According to the WRR report, the Netherlands should bring more focus into their policy regarding development aid. Aid should be limited to 10 instead of 36 countries. Do you agree? Read the reactions on www.politiek2015.nl/voiceover.



Public debate

On February 10th, NCDO in collaboration with IS, VoiceOver 2015, the Worldconnectors, Wereldpodium, Lux/Global and lokaalmondiaal organised a discussion on the WRR report in Pakhuis de Zwijger, Amsterdam. The primary aim of the meeting was to get a ‘Southern perspective’ on the main conclusions of the WRR report. For this reason around 20 guests from developing countries participated in the discussion. Worldconnectors Ton Dietz and Louk de la Rive Box shared their reflections with the audience and pointed out that in the current globalised world, no country is capable of solving its problems in isolation. ‘Globalisation means mutual influence and mutual responsibility.’



The Working Group

Business

Worldconnectors: Herman Mulder (chair) and Nanno Kleiterp (chair), consultations with René Grotenhuis, Johan van de Gronden, Hans Eenhoorn, Leontien Peeters and Ruud Lubbers, André Veneman, Dirk Elsen. Advisors: The Business Working Group included representatives from the following companies, or organisations: AKZO Nobel, Unilever, Ahold, TNT, Philips, Shell, Rabo Foundation, VNO, IDH, BiD, SNV, FMO and EZ. In addition, informal consultations took place with i.a. Bert Koenders, Frank Heemskerk, Alexander Rinnooy Kan, Maarten Brouwer (DGIS); Bernard Wientjes (VNO)

Civil Society

Worldconnectors: René Grotenhuis (chair), Sylvia Borren, Jos van Gennip, Ineke Bakker, Teresa Fogelberg Advisors: Alexander Kohnstamm (Partos), Kees Biekart (ISS), Lau Schulpen (CIDIN).

Vision document

Document drafters: Sylvia Borren and Koen Kusters.

Supporters

Alide Roerink and Pamela Moore (NCDO), Afke de Groot and Iem Roos (SID), Koen Kusters (DPRN).



According to the FAO, food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. This stands in stark contrast with today's reality. Before the food crisis, 850 million people worldwide were estimated to be chronically hungry. Today, their number is more than one billion. Based on the contributions of a wide range of experts, the Working Group therefore recommends a drastic increase of the budget for global agricultural development and food security, with a long-term commitment of at least ten years. The Dutch government should use the ODA budget to allocate at least one billion Euros per year to this field.

“ **TON DIETZ**
chair working group

“One billion Euros is a lot of money, but against the backdrop of one billion chronically hungry people it represents only one Euro per human being per year, or one Euro cent per chronically hungry African per day. Can the Netherlands afford to do less?”

Public Outreach

Essay contest

The consultation rounds did not only reach the formal experts in the field of food security. In order to make sure every good idea would be heard, the Worldconnectors organised an essay contest in cooperation with United Academics and the Rabobank Foundation. Participants were asked to answer the following question. *Imagine: the Dutch government offers 1 billion euros per year for agricultural development to contribute to food security and the eradication of hunger in the world. How would you utilise this money?* Jerome Roos, a 25 year old student from Amsterdam, won the competition and was invited to the Round Table. He presented his thoughts and delivered valuable input for the recommendations that followed the consultation rounds.

FIGHTING GLOBAL HUNGER

Since the food price crisis of 2007-2008, the issue of food security once again features prominently on international policy and research agendas. For the Worldconnectors this is also an important theme, since it is interconnected with many other global issues such as climate change, the financial crisis and global human security. The Worldconnectors believe that the urgency of the issues at stake requires immediate action from the Dutch government. But how and where should the Dutch government invest? In search of the answer to this question, a Worldconnectors Working Group on food security gathered expert opinions related to the direction set out by Dutch government policies in the field of agriculture for the purpose of global development and food security.



Recommendations

With the input gathered, the Worldconnectors Working Group on Food Security formulated a series of recommendations for the Dutch government's international policy on agriculture and food security that were sent to the secretaries of state Dr Bleker (Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation) and Dr Knapen (Ministry of Foreign Affairs).

Recommended framework for the € 1billion ODA budget targeted at 'agriculture for global food security and climate-smart, fair and sustainable growth':

1. Ten percent of the budget for research and research collaboration.
2. Forty percent of the total budget to support a selection of global institutions (global food security organisations for emergency aid, existing UN organisations and recently established institutions such as the Global Food Security Trust Fund and the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa).
3. Fifty percent of the total budget for assistance in a limited number of focus areas (or 'hubs'), mostly in Africa. These hubs are located around the major urban centres of demand. Half of this budget should go to supporting long-term PPPs in the fields of agriculture and water (and related S-S-N learning). This includes efforts to support export zones in becoming more fair and sustainable and efforts to put pressure on the EU to diminish trade barriers. Thirty percent of this budget could be spent on more short-term poverty alleviation goals directed at subsistence-oriented smallholders. Finally, twenty percent should be directed at agricultural education and extension.



'Growing Against the Grain'

Investing in Smart Subsidies, Agricultural R&D and Market Infrastructure to Eradicate World Hunger and Achieve Global Food Security
winning essay by Jerome E. Roos

Summary:

The challenge of eradicating world hunger and achieving global food security is undoubtedly one of the most pressing issues facing humanity in the 21st century. With an estimated 925 million people going hungry in 2010 (FAO 2010) and with the world population expected to increase by at least another 2.3 billion people in the next 40 years, the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation has estimated that global food production will need to increase at least 70 percent by 2050 (FAO 2009). In the wake of the 2007-'08 food crisis, it is becoming ever clearer that eradicating hunger and achieving food security will require an ambitious two-pronged approach: (1) a short-term action plan to allow the hungry of the world to feed themselves; and (2) a longer-term commitment to continue



expanding global food production in the face of rapid population growth, protracted economic crisis and commodity price volatility, aggravated climate shocks, diminishing water supplies and increased competition for scarce arable land. If the Dutch government were to commit €1 billion per year to help developing countries rise up to this challenge, it should invest the money not along the lines of theoretical or ideological blueprints, but on the basis of practical lessons learned from the past and adapted to the widely divergent geographical, cultural and institutional contexts found in the developing world.

Read the complete essay on www.worldconnectors.nl

The Working Group

Worldconnectors:

Ton Dietz (co-chair), Willemijn Aerdts (co-chair), Jan Berteling, Hans Eenhoorn, Jos van Gennip, Sayida Vanenburg, Erik Thijs Wedershoven, Lynn Zebeda, Annelies Zoomers, Rudy Rabbinge, Teresa Fogelberg, Dirk Elsen, Tineke Lambooy.

Advisors:

Hedwig Bruggeman (Agri-ProFocus), Han de Groot (UTZ certified), Pierre van Hedel (Rabobank Foundation), Bram Huijsman (Wageningen University), Arie Kuyvenhoven (Wageningen University), Rutger Schilpzand (Schuttelaar & Partners), Frans Verberne

(ETC Foundation), Harm-Evert Waalkens (former parliamentarian in the Dutch Parliament), Eric Smaling (member of the Dutch Senate).

Observers:

Minette Kits Nieuwenkamp and Sophie Neve (Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation).

Supporters:

Pamela Moore, Gabi Spitz and Alide Roerink (NCDO), Iem Roos (SID), Koen Kusters (DPRN) and Ellen Lammers (WiW – Global Research and Reporting).

INSPIRING GENERATIONS

The Worldconnectors deal with themes that are of great importance not only to the current, but in particular to future generations. Youth & Young Professional Worldconnectors connect the world of young people to the worlds of more experienced members. Lynn Zebeda and Michel Scholte, who both joined the Round Table in 2010, look back on their first year as Worldconnector.

Lynn:

“One of our Round Table Meetings coincided with the heated electoral struggle in the run-up to the Dutch general elections. In our meeting we discussed the limited scope of the public debate so far; which politician was hiding the sustainable long-term vision and the international perspective? That’s when we decided to come with the *Kijk Verder / Look Beyond* campaign. I loved how, in no time, a small group of committed people managed to translate spontaneous thought into well thought-through action. That was one of the best moments of my first year as a Worldconnector!”

Michel:

“I think Worldconnectors try to link global challenges with global solutions. Not surprisingly, as a newcomer I learned a lot about both challenges and solutions.”



In terms of global challenges, I learned that the current and future crises that we are facing are immensely complex. It takes knowledge and perseverance to grasp the dilemmas that occur when currently 7 billion people, and in 2050 9 billion people, are making use of food, energy, water, forest and biodiversity.

In terms of effective solutions, I learned that the road to a sustainable and just world is bumpy and unsignposted. However, whether we drive fast or walk slowly, by car or on bare feet, we should anticipate and, most of all, keep going.”

Lynn:

“I believe that the strength of the Worldconnectors is a combination of the sincere dedication of each individual to make a positive difference in the world, collective analytical capacity and powerful networks.”

Michel:

“And that they have key positions in our political, business and other social networks, so they can function relatively easily as network brokers. This means that they can connect ideas from one network with resources from other networks. And we, as Youth & Young Professional Worldconnectors, are one of these networks.”

I think involving young people is equally as important as involving any other group of people, because the Worldconnectors is a collective enterprise that transcends generations. I personally involve young people simply because I can reach them easily, as most of my friends are young.

After my first year as a Worldconnector, my conclusion is that with willpower and a good plan we can release butterflies, throw stones in calm streams and create the change resonance needed for the challenges of the 21st century!”



Inspiration Dinings

As a follow-up to their mission to Washington DC and New York in 2009, the Youth and Young Professional Worldconnectors organised two Inspiration Dinings. A group of young refugees and a group of young entrepreneurs were invited for an informal dinner with several expert Worldconnectors to exchange ideas and above all: to connect.

In the political capital of the Netherlands, The Hague, young refugees dined with Masooma Yousufzai, Karen van Oudenhoven–van der Zee and Ruud Lubbers to discuss the current situation of refugees all over the world and, more specifically, in the Netherlands. This informal gathering was co-hosted by FUSION, the CSR department of the Hotelschool The Hague. The dinner was divided into three courses and three different themes: *Identity, Trust* and *Wishes for the future*.

“ Participant from FUSION

“During the main course Trust was the main theme. Every guest was asked if they trust the country in which they live and what could be changed in order to develop a higher degree of trust. It evolved that norms and values are the same all over the world. In fact, the ways they are expressed is more varied within a country than it is between different religions. We concluded that the government plays a big role in developing trust between citizen and citizen as well as between citizen and refugee.”

The dinner for Young Entrepreneurs took place at the 1%CLUB’s office in Amsterdam. At the table were Worldconnectors Herman Mulder, Anna Chojnacka, Michel Scholte and seven young entrepreneurs. The inspirational setting enhanced the exchange of ideas: with each other and with Worldconnectors.

Herman Mulder and Anna Chojnacka shared their personal experiences and answered questions posed by the young entrepreneurs. During the evening the entrepreneurs talked about their own business case and discussed trends in technology and issues involving the pursuit of social change.

“ KATHELIJN VOETS participant

“It was an absolutely inspirational evening. I met wonderful and very ambitious people. Thanks for the great organisation Michel!”

LYNN ZEBEDA



Lynn Zebeda works as a consultant in the field of leadership development/social entrepreneurship and is involved in the Night of the Tips (Nacht van de Foori).

Lynn’s personal slogan

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams”
– Eleanor Roosevelt

MICHEL SCHOLTE



Michel Scholte is co-founder of Noen and student of the Research Master in Sociology at the VU Graduate School for Social Sciences

Michel’s personal slogan

“Tie your laces to connect the world”

WORLDCONNECTORS TAKING ACTION

Apart from the themes they select at the beginning of each year, Worldconnectors are on the look out for topical events which call for immediate action.

Look Beyond

One of this year's important events in the Netherlands was the election period. Even though many international issues need urgent attention, the political parties mainly focussed on internal affairs. Worldconnectors strongly felt the need to step up and take action. And with the use of social media, weblogs and videos they urged the Dutch public to 'Look beyond'. Their full testimonials can still be read and watched on the Worldconnectors website.

“ MASOOMA YOUSUFZAI

“Journalists should be responsibly trained and above all, they must remain critical. It is not making news that is the most important thing, but rather commitment and a constructive criticism of (inter)national issues.”



“ SYLVIA BORREN

“The Netherlands should play a positive international role in the worldwide preservation and development of the “global commons”, i.e. clean air, sufficient food and water, the forests, cultural and bio-diversity....these belong to all and should benefit all.”

“ ALPHA BARRY

“All the interesting points raised in a recent report by the Dutch Scientific Council for Government Policy on the matter are barely touched upon in the campaign.”



“ LYNN ZEBEDA

“Sustainability and international cooperation are certainly not meant to be issues for back-to-nature freaks and tree-hugging hippies to bleat on about. These are PRECISELY the issues that concern each and every one of us.”



“ SANDRA VAN BEEST

“Is it not utterly shameful that currently one billion people are still living below the poverty line and that, now our economy is less prosperous, we pay them no mind during our political debates.”



Powerful women for sustainability

After last year's successful publication, Trouw this year composed a new Sustainable Top 100: a list of the 100 most influential people in the field of sustainability. Worldconnectors were pleased to see their co-chair Herman Wijffels in the nr 1 spot, but regretted the meagre number of women on the list. They felt action was required. To stimulate the contribution of women on the issue of sustainability, the Worldconnectors working group 'Gender & Diversity' organised a *diner pensant* with Herman Wijffels and the women on the list. During the meeting the sustainable women and men discussed the ways in which they can support and encourage more women to become leaders in the field of sustainability, for instance by coaching them and by recommending female experts.



“ JANNET VAESSEN

“So many pressing issues present themselves at the moment that we must out of necessity solve all these crises simultaneously, which results in our being unable as individuals to come to grips with the situation. For this reason, the Worldconnectors Gender & Diversity Statement is split up according to domain. In this way, everyone can immediately see how he or she can make a contribution from the perspective of their own particular background. This was the purpose of the dinner: to investigate from the perspective of each of the participants how to propose concrete actions that are beneficial to sustainability whilst using gender and diversity as a starting point.”



Tributes from the Worldconnectors

Halleh Ghorashi

"Hans Dijkstal was a liberal in heart and soul, someone who was always open for dialogue and above all accepted everyone for who they were. He was annoyed by the growing trend towards populism and remained a firm believer in the positive contribution of individuals to society. Even after his active political career he dedicated himself with enormous engagement to combating the hardening of society. As a result of this he became a source of inspiration for many who would not allow themselves to be prisoners of the upcoming negativism."

Awraham Soetendorp

"(...) In the togetherness beyond without words, beyond arguments and disputes, in the *menschelijkheid* he could feel at ease. In this inclusive selfless search for justice and mercy he was a true Worldconnector. In a world desperately in need of synergy and empathy, how much we need apolitical political leaders the like of Hans Dijkstal."

Naema Tahir

"I only met Hans Dijkstal during the Worldconnectors meetings and was touched by the way he engaged with and encouraged each and all of us, young or old, well-known or not so well-known, influential or not. For him there was no difference. That was and is an inspiration."

Johan van de Gronden

"In Hans Dijkstal we have lost a capable and versatile politician who, guided by his powerful personal compass, did not give in to populist nonsense and remained true to his liberal principles at precisely the time when it was most needed."

Karen van Oudenhoven-van der Zee

"Today is a day of grief. Hans Dijkstal, who I think can be considered one of the protagonists of a subtle and intelligent societal debate and for respectful relationships between citizens of different cultural backgrounds, has passed away. What was special about his perspective was the rational way in which he approached these issues, always pointing out the importance of the constitution and particularly of Article 1. He regarded the principle of equal treatment for all as a leading principle in a pluriform society. Hans was deeply concerned about developments in this country that make emotions rather than constitutional principles the basis for policies and practices. I think his ideas have stimulated us as Worldconnectors in the past and I hope and expect that they will continue doing so in the future."

Karen van Oudenhoven - van der Zee interviewed Hans Dijkstal for her book 'Grenze(n)loos vertrouwen' when he was already ill. The book presentation was organised in cooperation with the Worldconnectors Round Table on the first of December at the Royal Tropical Institute.



IN MEMORIAM HANS DIJKSTAL

It was with great sadness that the Worldconnectors received the news that Hans Dijkstal had passed away on the 9th of May 2010. His dedicated involvement as a Worldconnector and his motivation was an inspiration for all. "Interesting about the Worldconnectors," Hans Dijkstal said in his personal Worldconnector video, "is the diverse group around the table from different backgrounds and ages, stressing the need for a broad cooperation to reach the Millennium Goals and to raise support in all societies, in our case the Netherlands, to get everyone on the band wagon." With Hans Dijkstal, the Worldconnectors have lost an active member, one who is still missed.



BEHIND THE SCENES

The Support Team

Organising Worldconnectors Round Table meetings, stimulating media coverage, coordinating information flows, updating the website and documenting and assisting the thematic Working Groups. The Support Team works on a daily basis to make the Worldconnectors an effective initiative, and consists of:



ALIDE ROERINK

Advisor International Affairs at NCDO and project leader of the Worldconnectors.



ANNE-KATRIEN DENISSEN

Advisor New Media for a.o. the Worldconnectors website at NCDO.



GABI SPITZ

Project Officer International Affairs at NCDO.



KARI POSTMA

Communications Advisor at NCDO and outreach advisor to the Worldconnectors.



SHERLIEN SANCHES

NCDO Secretariat and member of the Support Team.



SUZANNE BRUINS

Project Officer International Affairs at NCDO (temporary)



PAMELA MOORE

Management Assistant at NCDO and Focal Point for the Worldconnectors.



KOEN KUSTERS

Representative of DPRN in the Worldconnectors Support Team.



AFKE DE GROOT

Project Coordinator at SID NL and representative of SID NL in the Worldconnectors Support Team (from May 1st)



GORDANA STANKOVIĆ

Europe Coordinator at SID NL and representative of SID NL in the Worldconnectors Support Team (until September 1st)



IEM ROOS

Director of SID NL and representative of SID NL in the Worldconnectors Support Team.

FRANS BIECKMANN, ELLEN LAMMERS and ROELAND MUSKENS (Wereld in Woorden) supporters and drafters of quick scans, statements and other preparatory documents.

The Steering Group

Herman Wijffels (Co-chair), Sylvia Borren (Co-chair), Jos van Gennip (Chairman of the Board NCDO), René Grotenhuis (President SID NL), Frans van den Boom (Director NCDO), Jan Berteling (Board member SID NL), Ton Dietz (Taskforce member DPRN), Herman Mulder (Board member NCDO) and Willemijn Aerdt (Youth & Young Professional Worldconnector) form the Round Table Steering Group, the decision making organ of the Worldconnectors.



Goodbye to DPRN

After 6 years the Development Policy Review Network (DPRN), one of the founding organisations of Worldconnectors, will cease to exist. DPRN was set up by the Research School for Resource Studies for Development (CERES) in 2003, with a view to stimulating increased cooperation and synergy between science, policy and practice. In the course of its existence the corporate sector was added to the target groups because businesses are increasingly engaging in development issues, while still being poorly connected to any of the other sectors. DPRN's aims were to bring the four sectors together to stimulate interaction and informed debate. Based on the 2009 results, DPRN is satisfied that its mission, namely to provide an appropriate joint platform for the very diverse stakeholders in development cooperation, is being accomplished. Therefore the network will be repealed as of January 2011.

The Worldconnectors are very grateful for all the support, inspiration and input that DPRN has provided to the Round Table over the past 4 years. Ton Dietz will no longer be part of the Steering Group on behalf of DPRN, but will stay active as a member of the Worldconnectors. Unfortunately the Worldconnectors do have to say goodbye to Support Team member Koen Kusters, who has been a very valuable asset to the Worldconnectors.

The founding organisations



The Society for International Development (SID) was founded as the first global non-governmental organisation. It focuses on opinion making and policy development with respect to development cooperation and is an important platform for the debate on international cooperation. www.sid-nl.org.



The Development Policy Review Network (DPRN) is a network of development experts and policymakers in the Netherlands and Belgium who aim to reduce the gap between science, policy and development practice. www.dprn.nl.



The National Committee for International Cooperation and Sustainable Development (NCDO) stimulates participation of Dutch citizens in international cooperation and sustainable development. www.ncdo.nl.



New President for SID Netherlands

During the SID Senate Conference held in the Senate on September 30, Jos van Gennip delivered his farewell address to mark his resignation as President of the SID Netherlands Chapter as of 17 May 2010. In his farewell address he emphasised the need to take care of public common goods in a divided world. René Grotenhuis has succeeded him as President of SID Netherlands and will therefore also take his place in the Worldconnectors steering group. Jos van Gennip remains member of the Worldconnectors Round Table and will continue his efforts as Member of the Governing Council of SID International.

TAKING CARE OF COMMON GOODS IN A DIVIDED WORLD

by Jos van Gennip



As Worldconnectors we aim to be a unifying force in a world that is divided by poverty, scarcity and distrust. The uni-polar world is coming to an end while global issues, such as climate change and the food crisis, are becoming more and more urgent. Taking care of global common goods is the most important and most pressing challenge of this century. Common goods are not something that can be given by one person to another, or that can be ensured by one person alone. Common goods are the result of collective efforts, not only of the world community, but also of communities as part of the global society. From individuals to local communities, to states and

intergovernmental organisations: we all have a vital role to play. However, while the need for international cooperation is more urgent than ever, developments in the Netherlands seem to indicate otherwise. In the Netherlands development cooperation has become the subject of considerable political discussion. A political discussion in which some question not only the size, but also the use of development cooperation.

Therefore, the Worldconnectors have enthusiastically welcomed the report of the Scientific Council for Government Policy (WRR) on the future of development cooperation. Tackling the urgent challenges that this divided world is facing indeed requires a new approach. In our reaction to the report we emphasise the crucial role of non-state actors such as business and civil society towards the global common goods. We also state that an inclusive process of globalisation is a common interest, as development cooperation is intrinsically linked to global issues such as security, climate, migration and peace. Although some of the methods used in development cooperation have become somewhat outdated, it remains an important tool to answer the global challenges the world community is facing. In 2011, common goods will remain an important issue on the Worldconnectors' agenda. We, both as Worldconnectors and as individuals, will continue our efforts to connect a sense of realism to the need for taking responsibility for our common future in a way that is both just and inclusive.

WE'LL KEEP ON TICKING!

by Willemijn Aerdts

In 2009 the Youth & Young Professional Worldconnectors started their search to find out what makes Dutch Millennials, roughly speaking the generation born after 1980, 'tick'. What makes us want to change for the better the world in which we live? And how can we get as many people on board as possible? One of our main conclusions was that people take action only when they can identify with the 'cause'. Global problems are often very complex, which makes it easy to feel powerless as a young person.

Therefore, we decided this year to provide young people with inspiration in a small-scale setting. We succeeded, actually it was a two-way success! Michel Scholte organised a dinner for young entrepreneurs. Special guests Anna Chojnacka en Herman Mulder shared their stories with the participants and they were in turn inspired by the energy and skills of the young entrepreneurs who aim to change the world. Masooma Yousufzai invited Karen van Oudenhoven and Ruud Lubbers to dine with young refugees to discuss the situation of young asylum seekers in the Netherlands. Many of the young participants have a lifetime of experience and a lot of ambitions. Everyone, the young and the more experienced, left the table inspired to make more connections between cultures and generations in order to further peace.

This is what we will continue to do in 2011: providing and receiving food for thought. Sandra van Beest en Awhraham Soetendorp will organise a dinner for young religious leaders. Lynn Zebeda and myself will host a dinner for



young businesswomen. We hope that the female business leaders and the Worldconnectors will inspire each other to find out what makes them tick! If you can bring inspiration to the table, please feel free to join us for dinner. But we will also continue to look forward to the future of the Worldconnectors. Are we doing the right things? How can we be more effective in reaching our goals? 2011 will be the 5-year anniversary of the Worldconnectors, a good time to continue soul-searching and 'grow up'. As young Worldconnectors we will continue to be a refreshing and critical voice. And hopefully, 2011 will be another year of inspiration and new connections!

Colophon

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Themes & Events 2011

In 2011 the Worldconnectors will continue to work on previous themes, particularly in terms of outreach for Food Security, Sustainable World Citizenship and Financial Systems. At the same time the Worldconnectors will start working on the following new themes:

- Vital Local Communities
- The Green Economy

As in previous years, the Worldconnectors will be active in many ways in order to stimulate dialogue and to draw the wider public into the debate on global issues. Keep an eye on the calendar on www.worldconnectors.nl to see when debates, conferences and other events take place!