



cordially invites you to an **informal session** on

ZIMBABWE

what are the chances of overcoming the man made disaster?

date: **Friday 19 November 2010, at 16:00 h**

venue: **KLK building, "achter de aula", first floor. (Generaal Foulkesweg 1A
6703 BG Wageningen)**

At its independence in 1980 Zimbabwe was regarded as the promise of Africa. Agriculture did well; the country was the bread basket for the subregion. The new president Mugabe was praised for his policy of reconciliation with the former colonizers, and for his efforts to further develop the country. There was a strong international cooperation with the Netherlands in the fields of education, health, water and agriculture. Mugabe is now described as a brutal dictator. One of the previous best performing economies of Africa is in deep poverty, and the country can at the moment not feed itself.

The ruling party lost its majority in March 2008, but refused to hand over power. After a period with lots of violence against the opposition, and after intervention of SADC, a General Political Agreement between three parties was made, and in February 2009 an Inclusive Government came into power.

SKOV vice president **ir Corrie Roeper** has been following developments in Zimbabwe over many years. At the moment she works with FNV Mondiaal and has close contact with the Zimbabwean trade unions and a number of pro-democracy and human rights organisations, which have been the major advocates for change in the country. She will address the following questions:

- What went wrong in Zimbabwe
- What has been achieved since the Inclusive Government came into power
- What can be expected from civil society in Zimbabwe
- Is there a role for international bodies

Inputs and questions from the audience will be welcomed.

N.B.: Last year SKOV had organized a complete seminar on man-made disasters, like in Zimbabwe. At the last moment the seminar had to be postponed, due to sudden urgent missions of two lecturers. Only very few participants had registered. We are particularly happy that ir Corrie Roeper is willing to head an **informal** meeting on Zimbabwe for interested members and guests.

Participation is **free of charge**, but you are kindly requested **to register** before **17 November** by return e-mail to < huydtsbm@pt.lu > or by post to the secretariat. of SKOV.

Tea/coffee will be served from 15:40 h

After the session, around 18:00 h you are most welcome to join us for dinner in town (at cost price).

Please remember to block the date of 16 December 2010 in your agenda for the seminar on Gen Technology of which the details will follow later.