PRESS RELEASE

Sino-Dutch innovation leads to modern circular agriculture

Chinese ambitions combined with Dutch knowledge and expertise has resulted in an innovative Masterplan for fully sustainable food production in an agrofoodpark in Shanghai. This 27km2 park next to Dongtan Ecocity, named 'Greenport Shanghai', is a joint product of Shanghai Industrial Investment Corporation (SIIC), TransForum and Wageningen UR. Greenport Shanghai will offer high quality foods to consumers, high profits for the entrepreneurs and will fully expect the environment. The Dutch consortium of governments, knowledge institutes and entrepreneurs that was formed via TransForum, will sign agreements on further Sino-Dutch development of Greenport Shanghai. Greenport Shanghai will be ready before the World Expo 2010. The Masterplan for Greenport Shanghai will be presented to Chinese Minister Sun Zhengcai and the Dutch Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, Ms. Gerda Verburg, at the seminar '*Innovating Metropolitan Agriculture*' in Beijing on October 22-23.

Innovating Metropolitan Agriculture
During the Beijing seminar Minister Sun and Minister Verburg will open the Sino-Dutch Agricultural Innovation and Promotion Center. The center will support cooperation between China and The Netherlands fro agricultural research and innovative agricultural projects. The center is an initiative of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Science and Wageningen UR. Together with the Shanghai Industrial Investment Corporation and TransForum they organize this seminar. Chinese scientists from CAAS, Tongji University and Jiatong University will contribute to this international seminar, together with well known scientist from The Netherlands, the United States and Germany. Also high-level representatives from Chinese, Dutch and Indian governments and industry will present speeches on the challenges and opportunities of providing the fast growing metropolitan populations with sufficient, high quality and sustainable produced food.

Cradle 2 Cradle
Greenport Shanghai will be the showcase of circular production of high quality food in a metropolitan area. Agricultural production, processing and trade will be integrated in Greenport Shanghai. Greenport Shanghai will work via the principles of cradle-2-cradle. It results in a circular economy in which the rest- and by-products of one unit are converted to be used as the input of another. The benefits of this approach are obvious. It provides fresh and wonderful food for the Shanghai people. Greenport Shanghai will be *the* brand representing high quality food. Greenport Shanghai will offer work for tens of thousands workers, who will sharpen their skills and learn to produce high quality food. It offers a learning stage for the scientific development of the agriculture of the 21st century. Greenport Shanghai will also be an attractive recreation site with high educational value. China will be proud on how food is produced in Greenport Shanghai, so it will be shown to everyone. And to top it all Greenport Shanghai doesn't use energy, it produces it, delivering enough excess energy to service a city of 20.000 people.

Dutch investments
Dutch governments, businesses and knowledge institutions are eager to participate in the implementation of the Masterplan of Greenport Shanghai. Greenport Shanghai will be linked to the development of a Dutch Greenport, Greenport Venlo and the World Horticultural Exhibition 'Floriade 2012'. The Governor of the Dutch Province of Limburg and the Mayor of Venlo will therefore sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Shanghai Agricultural Commission, the Shanghai Industrial Investment Corporation and TransForum for further Sino-Dutch cooperation. SIIC and TransForum will organize the Sino-Dutch consortium for the implementation and management of Greenport Shanghai. Several agricultural entrepreneurs are already fully committed to invest in Greenport Shanghai. They are represented by the Dutch company KnowHouse. Also the Dutch engineering company Grontmij and the Environmental Science Group of Wageningen UR are involved in this consortium.