



FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES

**The Agricultural Delivery System in Suriname: Towards
Sustainability?
A System-Analysis on Communication on Informal Education
among Extension Agents, Farmers and Researchers**

Public defense to obtain the degree of
DOCTOR OF ADULT EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES
of

Ms. Wasudha Malgie Satyartie

which will take place on

**December, 10th, 2018, 14.00h
Room D.3.08**

Brussels Humanities, Sciences & Engineering Campus (Etterbeek)

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EXTERNAL:

Prof. dr. Abdullah Adil Ansari
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Summary

In Suriname a lack of coordination and collaboration within the innovation systems between research agencies, researchers, farmers and government results in inconsistency in the information flow caused by shortcomings in institutional capacity. The overall aim of this study is to strengthen the delivery system by identifying which factors are influencing and weakening this system so that it can function effectively and sustainably.

The empirical research consisted of four stages:

- 1.Literature review: to provide an overview on the vegetable production of small-scale farmers in Suriname;
- 2.Survey research: to examine which problems small-scale vegetable farmers are experiencing and what the needs are in their community;
- 3.Implementation of a communication model: to analyze the current relationship and problems in the communication between farmers and extension workers;
- 4.Experimental research: an experiment with a new innovative product 'Biochar' was conducted using the participatory approach.

In conclusion, it is confirmed that the agricultural delivery system does not contribute to sustainable development. This system is still facing many problems (such as policy, institutional and capacity building problems) with extension officers. It is highly recommended that extension officers should build a strong internal relationship with farmers from each community to create strong linkages that builds cohesion and solidarity between those farmers.

Curriculum Vitae

After completing a bachelor degree in Public Administration in International Relations (2010) and a master degree in Education and Research for Sustainable Development (2013) from the Anton de Kom University of Suriname (AdeKUS), Wasudha Malgie Satyartie (Paramaribo, 1984) started a PhD study in 2014 at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel at the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences.

Since 2010, Wasudha has been teaching six different subjects at a secondary vocational education (MBO) school in Suriname on social and communication skills and management techniques. She also supervises students who are doing internships in various companies. In addition to her role as a teacher, Wasudha is also a Dean of the MBO school.

The last three years Wasudha has been working as a research associate for the course "Technology Transfer in "Third World" Countries" within the Master in Education and Research for Sustainable Development (MERSD). Recently, she is also teaching as an external lecturer the course "Advanced Qualitative Research" within the MERSD.