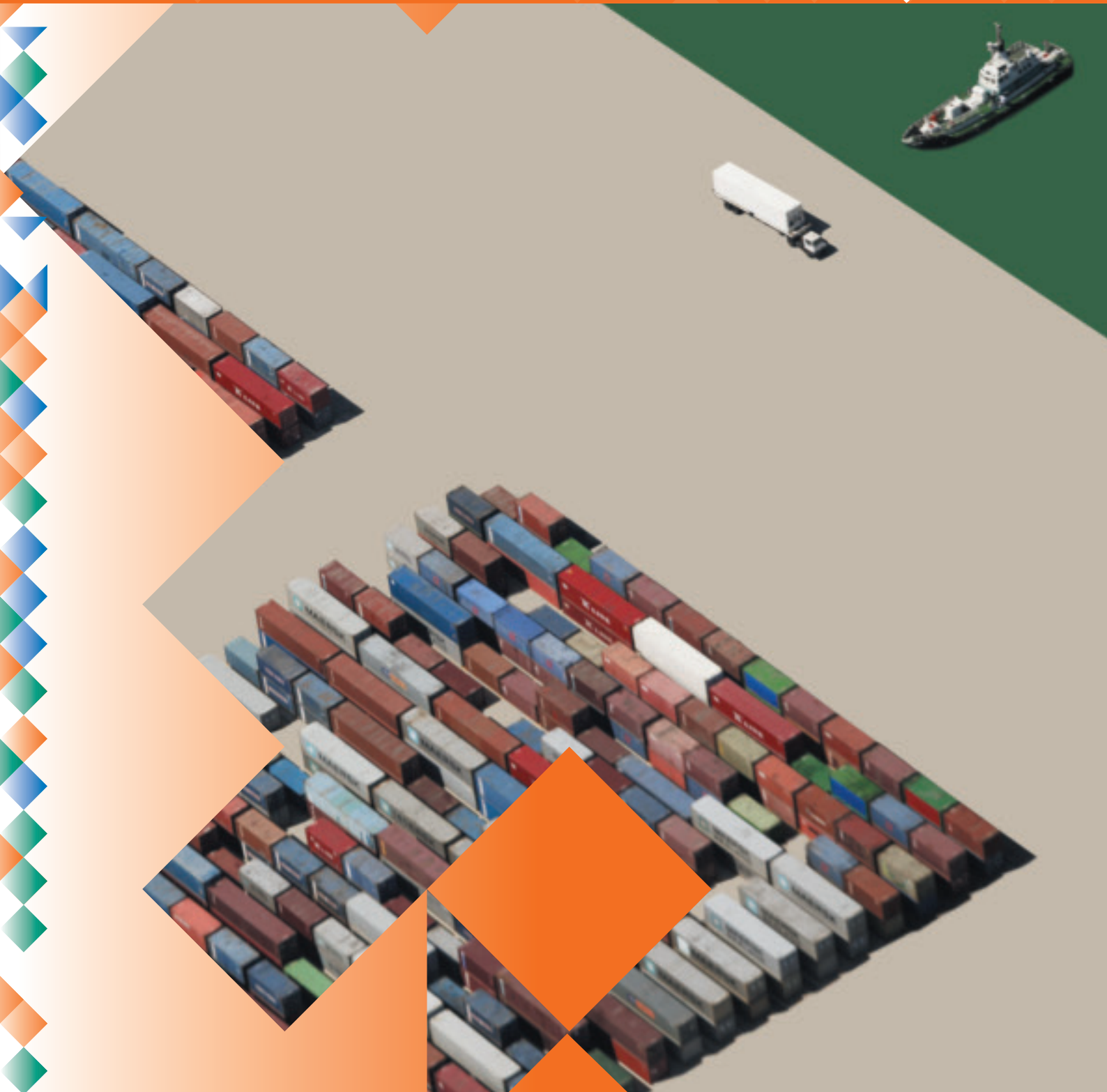


# Platform Agrologistics

'Intelligent solutions  
to transport problems'



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## 'Intelligent solutions to transport problems'

Fact sheet from the portfolio of the department of Trade and Industry version January 2007

### Status

The Dairy Park in Hoozeveer and Agriport A7 (Wieringermeer) projects are currently in the assembly phase. Seven other projects are currently in the planning phase.

In 2006 two projects that are very much in line with the 'Vision Agrologistics' – *De Groene Hoed* (the Green Hat) in Utrecht and Industrial estate Zuid-Groningen – were added to the agenda.

### Facts and figures

- Agricultural and food and nutrition products make up 10% of the total inland shipping transportation and 7% of the rail transportation.
- 75% of the transportation of fresh food is done by road. A third of the trucks on the Dutch roads transports flower and food products.
- The website [www.agrologistiek.nl](http://www.agrologistiek.nl) contains the latest information.

### Period

Started in 2002.

### Parties involved

The Department of Trade & Industry, the agribusiness sector, logistic service providers, shipping firms, various civil society organisations, central government namely the Ministry of Transport, provinces and local councils, universities, consultancy firms and research bureaus

### More information

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PLATFORM

**A g r o l o g i s t i e k**



agriculture, nature  
and food quality

*The Platform Agrologistics supports the elaboration and implementation of the 'Vision Agrologistics'. The platform facilitates the search for intelligent logistic solutions that conform to the principle of 'cluster, connect and direct'. This principle aims to create sustainable, innovative and efficient agrologistics that maintain and strengthen economically powerful and socially responsible agro chains. The platform is currently backing eleven innovative pilot projects that follow this vision, all coordinated by entrepreneurs.*

### Context

More than one third of all of the haulage trucks in the Netherlands contain products produced by the agro sector. As international collaboration increases so does the need for transport. Fresh products need to be delivered as quickly as possible, but freight flows are jamming up. The number of haulage trucks is set to double over the next ten years, so it is essential to tackle the problem of congestion. The Platform Agrologistics involves both the public and private sector. The pilot projects backed by the platform are either concrete or strategic. Besides setting an example, these projects also provide valuable learning experience.

### Effects

'Clustering, connecting and directing' reduces freight flows – or in any event stops further proliferation – despite an increasing supply of freight. Furthermore the pilot projects are highlighting obstacles in legislation, regulations and processes, while a financial manual serves as a guide to the wide array of possible subsidies.

### Particular aspects

The interesting innovative approaches being tried by the pilot projects were all proposed by the business sector. Directors of local companies are clearly supporting it. The platform provides invaluable resources, such as an extensive network of experts in academic circles and within the field as well as the means to implement the projects.

### Challenges

During periods of economic recession people are less inclined to invest in innovation.

To benefit society as a whole, successful innovation needs to be adopted on a large scale. This calls for an infrastructure that provides sufficient logistic knowledge and training.

Entrepreneurs need to be aware of their key position in the chain – it is precisely this broader view of the chain that produces results. However this change in awareness will take time.

### Compatibility with Ministry policy

Besides the gains in terms of food safety, animal welfare, environmental protection and more space on the roads – all of which are key objectives – the Ministry is also committed to promoting a different kind of collaboration between the public and private sector throughout the agro chain as a whole. This is consistent with the policy theme of the Department of Trade and Industry, which emphasizes on demand-driven and sustainable enterprises.

### Benefits

There are financial advantages to be gained from coordinating freight flows and environmental benefits won due to fewer CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, reduced energy consumption and less fragmentation.