

# Tour de table

## The Netherlands

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Inspired by:

Stefan Ouboter and

The EU constitution

# 25 years Soil Remediation in NL

- Different perspectives
  - Authorities
  - Consultants
  - Citizens
- Future developments

# The Authorities

- 1980
  - Engaged people, we want to clean NL;
  - No regulation at all, strong believe in rules;
  - Policy makes rules, society acts, industry pays;
- 2005
  - Environment means rules; Society is sick of rules;
  - Parliament: why do we still bother soil contamination?
  - Competition from other policy fields

# The Consultants

- 1980
  - Engaged people; environment means status;
  - Advisors are environmental trained people;
  - Soil remediation will become big business: only in NL 50 billion Euro;
- 2005
  - A strong infrastructure;
  - All “soil advisors” are merged with larger companies;
  - The annual NL market is 400 million Euro, but the profit is only 4 - 5 %
  - Environment is not popular for students

# The Citizens

- 1980
  - Soil pollution is a threat to health;
  - Policy will protect us;
  - Technology can solve all problems;
- 2005
  - Soil pollution is no issue only in the price of real estate;
  - Radiation (telephone) and air quality are new threats;
  - Politicians are cheating us don't trust them;

Versnelings  
organization for  
applied scientific  
research



**ON CLEAN SOIL AGAIN**











# The Netherlands in 2005

- NL is densely populated 400/km<sup>2</sup>;
- NL is stressed by many perceived threats;
- Citizens fear europisation and globalisation;
  - 62 % no votes to constitution;
- Politicians have no vision on future NL;
- Health more important than Wealth



# The Future

(Only EU counts not NL)

- Europe will not be the most competitive economy in the world;
- Europe could be the most sustainable society in the world eg:
  - Energy consumption is average;
  - Environmental protection is well developed
- Europe should be proud on the diversity and small scale
- In this concept soil is an essential part of environment.

# Canada Thanks















