

Newsletter

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Embassy in the
Netherlands
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**PROSPERIDAD
PARA TODOS**

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Embassy of Colombia to the Kingdom of the Netherlands



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Children's Book fair in The Hague

KINDERBOEKENMARKT 2014

N The 38th edition of the Children's Book - *Kinderboekenmarkt* - took place on October 12, 2014 at the city hall in The Hague under the Plan to Promote Colombia Abroad. Colombia, one of the invited countries, had a pavilion with some copies of books by illustrator Angela Peláez published by Editorial Rubinstein, and in which were conducted workshops to capture the attention of young audiences.

The workshops consisted in teaching a few words in Spanish to the younger attendees and an activity focusing on Latin music performed by Colombian Silvia Ojeda, a resident of the Netherlands, who taught the children to play some percussion instruments.

Additionally, our pavilion had a special guest: the Colombian children's writer Francisco Montaña, who also participated in a discussion with Mr. Paul Juten, Dutch translator of Montaña's book "Do not eat tadpoles" (*Eet geen kikkervisjes*).

More info:

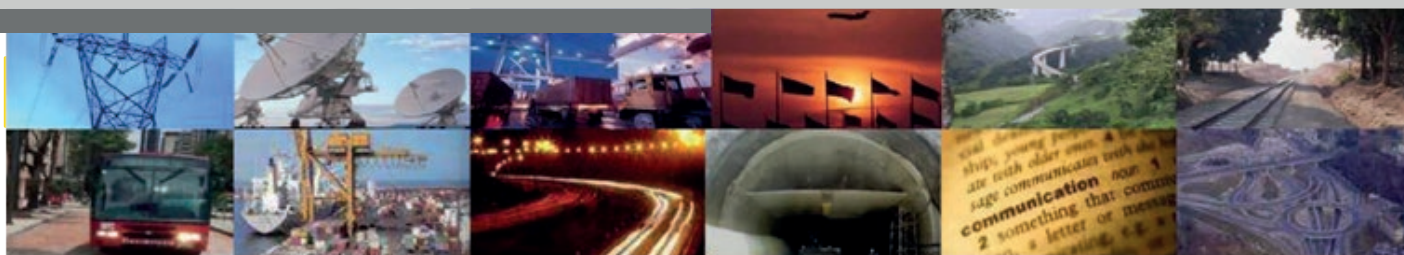
<http://www.kinderboekenmarkt.nl/>



SUSTAINABLE PROJECT TO REUSE COFFEE PULP BIOMASS

N The Common Fund for Commodities, a multilateral organization of which Colombia and the Netherlands are members, is supporting the feasibility study of a project regarding the use of coffee pulp biomass for bio-refinery processes, made by the Dutch company Pectcof B.V. Such project will be carried out in our country and, in the event it turns out to be a sustainable and successful concept, it will be implemented in different coffee growing regions of the world.

The main goal of the project will be the development of new technologies with the goal of extracting food additives and biochemical waste from coffee pulp biomass using bio-refinery techniques. These substances can be used in the food, beverage, health and care, pharmaceutical and nutrition industries.



ECONOMIC MISSION TO COLOMBIA along with the Minister Lilianne Ploumen

N Between 23 and 26 November 2014, an economic mission of about 35 Dutch companies from the sectors of energy, water management, healthcare, flowers, gardening, solid waste management, cosmetics, electricity, among others, will be visiting Colombia.

Such economic mission will take place on the occasion of the official visit of the Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to our country.

The mission is due to the international economic importance of Colombia, as well as the increase in

the growth rate of the economy and the augmented interest of Dutch entrepreneurs to venture into the Colombian market.

The purpose of the mission is to seek and create opportunities for business and foreign investment, in addition to the transfer of technology and knowledge of Dutch expertise, framed in the bilateral cooperation.

The mission represents an opportunity to share knowledge and experiences between Dutch and Colombian entrepreneurs, as well as an excellent matchmaking opportunity.

During the visit, a series of group activities will take place, such as a reception in the Holland House.

More information

<http://www.rvo.nl/actueel/evenementen/economische-missie-naar-colombia-met-minister-lilianne-ploumen-en-naar-peru-met-simon-smits-dgbeb>



“COLOMBIAN SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOUNDATION”
and the book written by Eddy Veldhuisen
“STRAATKINDEREN IN MEDELLÍN”

N On October 23, at the premises of the Embassy of Colombia in The Netherlands, it took place the presentation of “Colombian Social Responsibility Foundation” in charge of Diana Diaz de Prinsen, who seeks to channel resources from The Netherlands to projects with high social impact in Colombia, through plans of corporate social responsibility, inclusive finances and post-conflict projects.

Likewise, the presentation of the book written by Eddy Veldhuisen entitled "Straatkinderen in Medellin" was held. This book narrates how Eddy, through football and his foundation, called Stichting Club Deportivo Straatkinderen Medellín, rescued children from the streets in the city of Medellín and has successfully allowed them to go to school, with high level of commitment.



More information

http://www.colombiansocialresponsibility.com/#!about_us/csgz



COLOMBO-DUTCH TRADE IN PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND WASTE

N Between 13 and 17 October, a delegation of twenty two Colombians from the public, private and civil society sectors involved in water treatment and waste management, paid a visit to the Netherlands with the aim of exchanging views and experiences between the two countries.

The program included meetings at a government level, visits to investigation institutes and public services companies and a matchmaking event with Dutch companies from these sectors, held at the Embassy of Colombia.

The importance of the visit lies in the Dutch experience in these fields, especially because 99.9 percent of Dutch households have access to safe drinking chlorine free water and the level of recycling of industrial wastewater is high. Indeed 60 million tons of waste produced annually about 80 percent is recycled, 18 percent is incinerated and only 2 percent is destined for deposit in landfills.

Also, it is important to highlight that water in Holland has the sufficient quality to be used in the food and beverages industries.

<http://www.elinformador.com.co/index.php/el-magdalena/distributo/87801-pda-magdalena-en-intercambio-colombo-holandes-en-planificacion-y-manejo-de-agua-y-residuos>

KLM BEGINS CAMPAIGN OF FLIGHTS TO COLOMBIA

N Through a video of our country where the culture, geography and history of Colombia are highlighted, the Dutch airline KLM began promoting the reopening of its direct flight to Colombia, with route to Bogota and Cali.



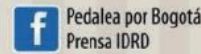
The video highlights the colonial architecture, the modern cities, the richness of its native communities, the incredible biodiversity, the traditional fairs and festivals, elements that without doubt make Colombia a unique and genuine tourist destination, where the experience is unforgettable.

To see the video visit the following link:

http://www.iflymagazine.com/#/39/little_secrets/



www.idrd.gov.co



<http://www.idrd.gov.co/sitio/idrd/?q=es/node/328>



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STUDENTS FROM UNIVERSITY OF GRONINGEN WILL CONDUCT A RESEARCH MISSION IN COLOMBIA

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In April 2015, for two and a half weeks, students from the University of Groningen of the faculties of Economy and Business Management, will carry out a mission to Colombia.

The trip aims at exploring business opportunities for Dutch companies. The visit will focus on the most important sectors regarding bilateral relations, such as: agribusiness, oil and gas, infrastructure and construction, cocoa and chocolate, maritime industry and water management.

It is important to highlight that during the investigation, the students will have the help of a group of economy students from the University of the Andes, one of the most prestigious in the country, and will be using the facilities of the university.

<http://www.verenigingrisk.nl/voor-studenten/activiteiten-overzicht-2/international-financial-program/ifp-2015-colombia>



DISTINGUISHED COLOMBIANS IN THE Netherlands



IRMA MOSQUERA

“ I am a Colombian lawyer born in 1976 in Bucaramanga, where I studied law and then I did an M.A in comparative law in Madrid and a PhD (*cum laude*) in tax law in Groningen, Netherlands. Since 2000 I am in The Netherlands, and worked as a tax consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers, Amsterdam, and as a professor of tax law at the University of Utrecht. Also, I have been a speaker at several seminars about international taxation in Colombia, the USA and Europe and a visiting lecturer at the External University of Colombia, Javeriana University and the University of Florida, Gainesville, USA. Additionally, I have been the author of numerous articles on international taxation publications in Colombia, Spain, the USA and Holland.

The reason why I started working in the area of tax law was due to my employment relationship with PricewaterhouseCoopers, where I could study thoroughly the Dutch tax system and its application in international contexts and because of the opportunity to have development projects of academic character such as my PhD and scientific publications. In the publications I have discussed the problems of the international tax law by differences in tax systems between developing and developed countries.

At the professional level, I am advising Dutch companies to do business in Colombia and in Latin America and Spanish, Colombian and Latin American companies, in general, who want to do business in The Netherlands.

One of the great challenges facing Dutch companies in Colombia is the knowledge of tax law and the use of double taxation agreements to repatriate profits. Colombia, since 2010, is in the process of internationalization and this also leads to changes in the tax system such as the reform that took place in 2012 and the reform currently being discussed in Congress. That is why Dutch companies should consider the tax consequences of having or not an office, permanent establishment or subsidiary in Colombia when they are carrying out their projects, either to provide services or infrastructure, among others.

My professional experience in The Netherlands has been positive and I feel privileged to get to know the international tax law based on knowledge of language and education on these issues. My working relationship with the firm Hamelink & Van den Tooren and academia allow me to discuss current and relevant topics to both Colombia and other countries in Latin America. The experience of living in various countries and to grow professionally establishing relationships in The Netherlands and Colombia let me help Dutch companies and promote Colombia as an attractive country for investment.