

NLHortiRoad2theGulf

The Dutch Approach to Food Security in the Gulf Region

To achieve food security for a growing world population, we need to substantially boost our supply of safe, nutritious and tasty food and reduce food losses. The Netherlands offers sustainable, integrated and total solutions in exactly these areas. High import numbers make countries vulnerable to fluctuations in the availability of food supplies on the world market, which is strongly impacted by geopolitics, logistic chains and climate change. Through long-term partnerships and by sharing our extensive knowledge and innovative technologies, the Netherlands can help the Gulf Region to improve their food safety, reach food security and to build the required ecosystem. By working together, we can accelerate the transition and unlock the Gulf's potential in becoming more food secure.

Dutch Greenhouse Delta (DGD) coordinates the cluster of Dutch leading companies, knowledge partners and government.



Gulf Region – The Challenge

- Extreme Climate: High temperatures, scarce arable land.
- Water Scarcity: Agriculture consumes over 80% of fresh water resources.
- Food Security Dependence: 70–90% of food is imported.
- Government Priorities: National Vision strategies focus on self-sufficiency, resilience, and advanced agriculture.



The Dutch Contribution

Goal: Deliver sustainable, high-quality, innovative horticultural solutions tailored to Gulf conditions, addressing water scarcity and climate challenges.

Key Impact Areas:

- Controlled Environment Agriculture (CEA) – High-tech greenhouses and indoor farming.
- Water-Efficient Production – Precision irrigation, recirculation, and desalination integration.
- Biological Crop Control – Natural pollination, pest management, and biostimulants.
- Smart Technologies – Climate control, automation, AI-based crop management, LED lighting.
- Knowledge & Skills Transfer – Training, capacity building, joint research.



Program Activities

- Branding & Promotion: Targeted campaigns and showcases of Dutch horticulture.
- Market Access: Outgoing & incoming trade missions, matchmaking events.
- Knowledge Exchange (K2K): Joint workshops and training with Gulf partners.
- Economic Diplomacy: Leveraging the Netherlands' diplomatic network for market entry.



Why the Netherlands?

- Proven Solutions for arid climates and resource-limited agriculture.
- Integrated Approach combining technology, services, and training.
- Sustainability Leadership – minimal water use, lower CO₂ footprint.



Expected Outcomes

- Up to 90% water savings in production.
- Increased local production of fresh vegetables, herbs, and flowers.
- Enhanced bilateral economic and knowledge ties.
- Long-term business opportunities for Dutch companies.

