

CORENET Good SFSC Practice No 26:	
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Insert photo or any visual image or diagram e.g. SNA diagram/Word or Image Collage (Optional)	
Short title in English	CSA-farms 'Herenboeren' The Netherlands
Choose relevant advising categories below* and provide short explanation:	
a Business planning and strategy:	Each CSA-farm of the network employs 1 to 3 professional farmers (part-time). Cooperative members are encouraged to work on the farm or participate in working groups or the board. Together they strive for a small cycle with as little outside input as possible. As a national organization, the Herenboeren Nederland Association, coordinates the setting up and successful operation of all Herenboerderijen.
b Distribution and logistics:	The “consumers/owners” collect their food weekly at the farm.
c Regulatory compliance:	-
d Better partnering:	Herenboeren is a kind of franchise organization with no commercial goals. The brand Herenboeren strives to empower citizens to take the agricultural transition in their own hands
e Technology:	A digital knowledge base is maintained internally at 3 levels: for farmers, board-members and members.
f Production & processing:	A Herenboerderij is a mixed farm of about 20 hectares that supplies vegetables, fruit, eggs and - for those who want - meat. There are differences between the range of fresh produce per Herenboerderij location due to local soil conditions or limitations in land use. The objective is to provide 60% of the daily need for food of families.
g Packaging:	-
h Branding and marketing:	limited to explaining how the system works to members and to stakeholders related to the initiatives (such as land owners and local governments) licensing certain activities at certain locations. Active marketing is done to spread the idea and name of Herenboeren in order to constantly increase the number of farms all over the country.
Basic information on knowledge and advice provided: e.g. private or public funded organization/advisor, peer to peer knowledge exchange, etc.	For developing the concept expertise from their own network has been used for land acquisition, spatial planning, organization and process management. Initially on a voluntary basis. The farmers involved have been trained/retrained internally (in cultivation and management) and collect knowledge in practice. Sympathizers and suppliers offer specialist knowledge. The Herenboeren NL foundation (umbrella organization) was grown to 20-25 employees (approximately 10 FTE). They provide advisory support for the development of each new local cooperative at all levels: legal regulations, permits, human resource management, organizing a cooperative, finances and agricultural knowledge. When a local cooperative has started, they offered structural support. Knowledge is further collected in broad own network, vocational education, universities and agricultural business.
*See The CORENET SFSC Charter 14. C SFSC ADVISING.	

Short summary for practitioners in <u>English</u> on the <u>(final or expected) outcomes</u> (1000-1500 characters, word count – no spaces). Do not complete if the summary below is completed in English This summary should be as interesting as possible for farmers/end-users, using <u>a direct and easy understandable language</u> and pointing out entrepreneurial elements which are particularly relevant for practitioners (e.g. related to cost, productivity etc). Research oriented aspects which do not help the understanding of the practice itself should be avoided.	Herenboeren NL is a network of self-employed local CSA cooperatives/farms. The first CSA-farm (= Herenboerderij) started ther development in 2014. In 2026 there are 23 of this kind farms spread across the Netherlands. Each farm is created by a group of citizens in a region. Is is owned by a cooperative of 250 households who divide the harvest among themselves. They pay at the start an entrance fee to make investments possible and from the start of production they pay for the weekly delivered food (vegetables, fruits and meat). The local farms are supported by a national umbrella organization from the early beginning to the realization of running a mixed farm. Afterwards they also get several support. This was housed in a foundation, which went bankrupt in June 2025. Subsequently, it was taken over by an association that was established for the farms.
	Main results/outcomes of the activity (expected or final) Model of principles and standards that makes it easier for local groups of citizens to start a Producer Consumer Agreement SFSC. The main practical recommendation(s): what would be the main added value/benefit/opportunities to the end-user if the generated knowledge is implemented? How can the practitioner make use of the results? Involvement for consumers in production sustainable food. Ownership and part of a 'community' Local CSA-farms are practical examples, they show that it works and is financially feasible. Further information/references:
Actors, stakeholders	Consumers/owners, local cooperatives, farmers (employed), national umbrella association
Region, Country	The Netherlands
Media attachment (e.g. video) or other attachment (e.g. benchmarking data)?	website https://herenboeren.nl/ (about umbrella association; there are also websites of the local cooperatives) https://herenboeren.nl/wp-content/uploads/De-3-pijlers-en-7-uitgangspunten-van-het-Herenboerenconcept.pdf https://www.netwerkplatteland.nl/documenten/2017/01/09/herenboeren-engels https://herenboeren.nl/herenboeren-in-frankrijk-op-tv/ (video in French)
Short title in <u>native language</u>	Herenboeren Nederland
Short summary for practitioners in <u>native language</u> (can be the language of the coordinator / one of the partners - otherwise in English) (1000-1500 characters, word count – no spaces).	Herenboeren NL is een netwerk van lokale zelfstandige CSA-coöperaties/boerderijen. De eerste Herenboerderij startte in 2014. In 2026 zijn er 23 van dit soort boerderijen verspreid over Nederland. Elke boerderij wordt opgericht door een groep burgers in een regio. Het is eigendom van een coöperatie van 250 huishoudens die de oogst onderling verdelen. Ze betalen aan het begin entreegeld om investeringen mogelijk te maken en betalen van de start van de productie voor de wekelijkse levering van voedsel (groenten, fruit en vlees). De lokale Herenboerderijen worden vanaf het begin tot de realisatie ondersteund door een landelijke koepelorganisatie. Ook daarna ontvangen ze hiervan diverse vormen van ondersteuning. Dit was ondergebracht bij een stichting, die in juni 2025 failliet ging. Vervolgens werd deze overgenomen door een voor Herenboeren opgerichte vereniging.