

# Wannabe a trainee in the Netherlands?

**Check this out!**

Experienced in your field of choice

Keen to build your professional career in your field of choice

Interested in the Dutch culture

Between 18 and 28 years old

Available for a training period in the Netherlands of at least 3 months

Able to ride a bicycle

In good health

Free of a criminal record and in possession of good references

**Then apply to our partner organisation in your country for details**



# Doing a practical training in the Netherlands

## Thinking of a practical training period in the Netherlands?

Then you have found the right program. Stichting Uitwisseling has over 55 years of experience in organising practical training placements in agricultural and horticultural companies in the Netherlands. Training takes place on the job and in the field because we think that “learning by doing” is the best way to improve your skills. So you’d better not be afraid of working hard and getting your hands dirty!

We have placements in the following sectors: dairy, arable, live stock farming, horticulture, mixed farming, field vegetable production and cheese making.

Placements vary in length between a minimum of 3 months and a maximum of 12 months. It is possible to start your training at various moments throughout the year.

We must stress that it concerns practical training placements and not work placements. So your motivation to come to the Netherlands via our programme should be to learn new skills and to experience living in another country and not to earn money!



*Together with a rural youth organisation, Stichting Uitwisseling organises two Midpoint meetings per year. At these 4-day meetings you’ll enjoy getting to know many other Stichting Uitwisseling trainees from all over the world!*

*For the purposes of this brochure we talked to two trainees about our programme Pablo from Brazil and Hiro from Japan, for you to get an impression of the Dutch programme.*

*Pablo Lopes is 28 years old and studies at the Escola Superior de Agricultura “Luiz de Queiroz”. He is doing a 9 months training in horticulture under glass. Hirofumi Takeishi is 22 years old. He studies at the Tokyo University of Agriculture. He is doing a 12 months practical training in cut flowers.*



# Interview with two students from Brazil and Japan

## Why did you choose to come to the Netherlands for your training?

P: I chose the Netherlands because I wanted to get to know a European country and I knew that the Dutch were friendly and easy to approach. I also chose the Netherlands because the training I am able to do here, closely relates to my future profession in Brazil.

H: I wanted to study flowers and I knew that the Dutch standard was very high. My father grows lilies and tulips so I'm hoping that I'll be able to use my Dutch experience in my father's company in the near future.

## Have you met any new people whilst you've been here?

P: I've met colleagues and trainees from Stichting Uitwisseling from Poland, Belarus, Latvia, Argentina, Russia, Ukraine, Canada, France, Germany, Lithuania, Japan, Hungary, Bulgaria and Austria.

H: I've met colleagues from the Netherlands, other Japanese trainees and many other trainees from a lot of different countries.

## Is what you are experiencing during your training what you had expected?

P: No, it is better!

H: It is almost like I had expected it to be, but I thought I would have to work harder!

## Do you think this training will be of help to you in your future career?

P: Sure! It will be useful to me when working in a place that functions differently than a standard Brazilian company does.

Also I'm learning a lot by working here; the glasshouse company I am doing my training at, is a lot more developed than the ones back home. There is far more know-how. What helps too, is that the people here really teach you and explain things to you. They don't just tell you what to do.

H: When I go back to Japan, I hope I can work at another company for two more years and then I would like to start working for my parents' company. What I've learnt about the Dutch market, will definitely be useful to me in Japan.

## What was your first impression of the Netherlands?

P: My first impression was that everything was extremely organised and tidy! All the streets were so straight and the country totally flat.

H: My first impression was that there were lots of bikes everywhere.

## What are you learning at the company you are doing your training at?

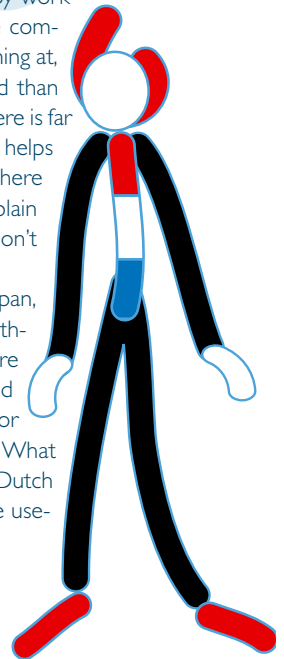
P: To find out how to run a good company, I'm learning about glasshouses, water and soil management, energy, quality control, auctions, prices, etc.

H: I am learning Dutch and English and how I can successfully grow lilies.

## What do you do in your free time?

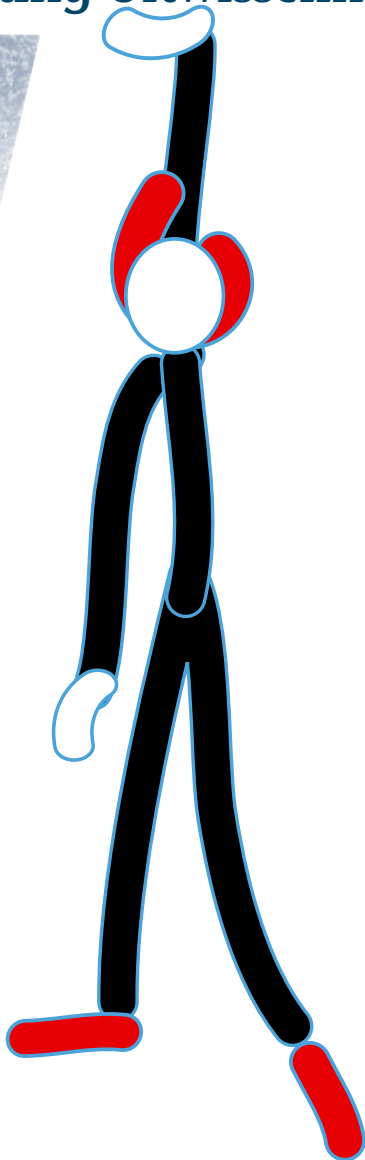
P: In my free time I go to the library, the swimming pool and the disco. I have also been on several outings to the Keukenhof, Amsterdam, Utrecht, Warmenhuizen, Schoorl, Leiden, Alkmaar and London.

H: In the weekends I go sightseeing and I visit other trainees!



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