

Dr.ir Gert-Jan Monteny (1960; PhD)



My roots are within the dairy sector. I was born and raised on a mixed dairy farm in the west of the Netherlands, got educated at the Wageningen University in the field of Agricultural Engineering.

My involvement in the dairy sector is mostly in the field of environment (manure, ammonia, greenhouse gases, odour), and manure handling and processing. My slogan is: ...'I know it, or I know where to find it...'. My philosophy is that animal excreta are not a waste, but an asset, offering a variety of opportunities, ranging from fertilizer, soil enhancer, and energy source.

In various missions, mostly conducted in South-East Asia, as environmental consultant I have discovered that many examples of those opportunities are already put into practice. My aim is to use these examples and my knowledge as source of inspiration for animal husbandry world-wide.

**Name of Project:** Free choice dairy barn with on-farm biogas production

**Year:** 2009-2010

**Location:** Koudum, Netherlands

**Client:** Firma Stokman, Friesland Foods

**Position Held:** Free lance consultant (environmental specialist)

**Activities Performed:** environmental footprint analysis of a dairy cow husbandry system with biogas production and on-farm use of the digested manure. Dairy cow manure and additives (e.g. autumn grass) is digested on 4 similar dairy cow farms, and the gas is transported to and used by a cheese producing factory. The on-farm impacts of this system on the environment (reduction of pollution of water, air and soil) were assessed, in the format of an environmental footprint.



**Name of Project:** Environmental impact assessment of a World Bank project LIFSAP (Livestock Competitiveness and Food Safety)

**Year:** 2007 & 2008

**Location:** Vietnam - Hanoi

**Client:** World Bank

**Main Project Features:** EIA of a major project focusing on strengthening livestock competitiveness and food safety in selected Northern Vietnamese provinces (LIFSAP)

**Position Held:** Environmental Specialist

**Activities Performed:** Together with the Worldbank, the Vietnamese government is focussing on modernisation and growth of the livestock production sector, especially to meet the ever growing demand for human food. Food safety and animal hygiene are taking into account. A project 'Livestock Competitiveness and Food Safety' (LIFSAP) was prepared to support this development. This EIA focusses on quantification of the impact on environment, but also on strategies to reduce pollution even when production increases. Anaerobic digestion is one of the technologies that has been assessed.

**Name of Project:** Environmental Assessment of dairy and buffalo production in Pakistan

**Year:** 2007

**Location:** Pakistan - Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi

**Client:** FAO

**Main Project Features:** EIA

**Position Held:** Environmental Specialist

**Activities Performed:** Analysis and description of animal nutrition, animal production, and environmental aspects of dairy and buffalo husbandry around big cities in Pakistan (Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi), with the emphasis to provide solutions for limitation of the environmental pressure as a result of the production/the use of animal manures and waste materials (including anaerobic digestion).



**Name of Project:** Environmental Assessment of dairy and buffalo production in India

**Year:** 2007

**Location:** India, New Delhi, Hyderabad

**Client:** FAO

**Main Project Features:** EIA

**Position Held:** Environmental Specialist

**Activities Performed:** Analysis and description of animal nutrition, animal production, and environmental aspects of dairy and buffalo husbandry around big cities in India (Delhi and Hyderabad), with the emphasis to provide solutions for limitation of the environmental pressure as a result of the production/the use of animal manures and waste materials (including composting, anaerobic digestion).



**Name of Project:** VBDP (Vietnam Belgium Dairy Project)

**Year:** 2008 - 2009

**Location:** Vietnam - Hanoi

**Client:** VBDP (Belgium Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Aid)

**Main Project Features:** EIA

**Position Held:** Environmental Specialist

**Activities Performed:** In 2 consecutive missions, an environmental impact assessment and trainings were provided in the framework of the Vietnamese Belgium Dairy Project in the Hanoi region. In this Belgium development aid project, smallholder farms are trained and educated to improve their livelihood by improving grass production (new grass species), biogas production and use, use of effluent for irrigation, and heat stress prevention. The project staff, mostly being Vietnamese local consultants, were trained to evaluate the impact of improved livestock production practices in terms of environmental performance (e.g. nutrient mass balances, climate change impacts).

