

Curriculum vitae Erik Smolders

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Erik Smolders is environmental chemist with expertise in soil science and environmental toxicology. He obtained a MSc. in Surface Chemistry (1988) at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and a PhD in Agricultural Sciences (1993) at the same institute. Post-doctoral studies were conducted at Imperial College (U.K.), at the CSIRO, Div. of Soils, Adelaide, South Australia and at UW-Madison (WI, U.S.A.). He was appointed as Associate Professor at KU Leuven in 1996. Currently he is full professor at the same institute, teaching environmental chemistry and ecotoxicology. He is director of Education of the undergraduate program of the Faculty of Applied Biological Sciences (about 700 undergraduates)..

The research focuses on bioavailability of contaminants and plant nutrients in soils and water, i.e. plant uptake of ^{137}Cs , Cd, N, P and S; toxicity of trace metals for plants and soil microbial processes. This research is extended to environmental risk assessment and soil fertility evaluation, including in developing countries. Current projects focus on fate and effects of dissolved organic matter and phosphorus in soils and freshwater, metal speciation, redox chemistry in soil, soil transport processes, risk assessment and effects of metals on soil microbial processes.

Erik Smolders has been chair of the Scientific Committee of the Society of Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC, 2009-2012), is President of the International Committee of the International Society for Trace Element Biogeochemistry (ISTEB) and was Technical Editor (2006-2008) and Associate Editor (2008-2010) of the Journal of Environmental Quality. Erik Smolders has been responsible for the risk assessment of Cd for the European Union and contributed to similar documents for Pb, Ni, Cu, Zn, Co and Sb. In the Cd risk assessment, he was responsible for deriving soil, water and sediment environmental quality limits. Erik Smolders has been adviser for environmental risk assessment for the Flemish Government (OVAM), for the Federal Government (Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment) the European Commission and for EPAs in USA.

Erik Smolders and his group published about 230 peer reviewed publications and contributed to 7 books.