



Ministerie van Volksgezondheid,  
Welzijn en Sport

**SenterNovem**  
Agentschap voor duurzaamheid en innovatie

ASAT Innovation Programme

# ASAT Ambassador

Cees Veerman

# How it started

- Attention drawn to ASAT by SG Chris Kalden
- Meeting with Colleagues of
  - VWS
  - OCW
  - LNV
  - EZ
    - could not make it because of changing time and location
- Agreed that this needed further exploration
- Request for advice on ASAT
  - ZonMW and KNAW

# Proceeding

- Minister VWS letter to Parliament December 2005
  - On behalf of us
  - Positive recommendation on ASAT
- 2006 politically complex year & elections
- 2007 new cabinet
- Mid 2007 ASAT picked up again
- VWS initiates working conferences
  - to be held early 2008
- 1 March report based and recommendations
  - Ambassador
- Sept 2008 decision on next phase of ASAT
  - Execution with SenterNovem

# My interest

- Intrinsic logic is irresistible
- ASAT is science based
- ASAT applies a multitude of novel technologies
- ASAT is comprehensive
- ASAT is potentially Global

# Benefit

- Benefit to food safety
- Benefit to public health
- Benefit to environmental protection
- Perspective of elimination of animal testing for safety
  - ~ 10% of total use experimental animals
- Benefit to trade
  - Opportunities for business in the Netherlands
    - NL well positioned for SMEs in this area

# Ambassador

- Role:
  - Opening doors
  - Making contacts
  - Convincing people
  - Motivating scientists
  - Motivating stakeholders

The ASAT network will start from here

[www.ASAT-Initiative.eu](http://www.ASAT-Initiative.eu)