



Kingdom of the Netherlands

Agriculture Newsletter

July – September 2019

9th Edition

Rwanda and Uganda

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Websites www.agroberichtenbuitenland.nl

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VISITS

Exposure visit, IPM Mission, to the Netherlands

In the week of 25 August, a delegation from Rwanda visited the Netherlands for a mission on Integrated Pest Management with the objective to develop a National Strategy for Pesticide Management in Rwanda. The delegation was by DG Crops of MinAgri and DG RALIS and existed furthermore of representatives of NAEB, RSB, PSF and others. The right use and management of Pesticides in Rwanda is crucial for the further development of the #horticulture sector. [Read more](#)

SPF Visit to the Netherlands

Agrittera organized a visit to The Netherlands for the Rwandan Company Seed Potato Fund (SPF). The visit brought together potato farmers from Rwanda (Seed Potato Fund) and potato experts from The NL for an exchange of potato knowledge. The delegation visited Delphy and HZPC to name a few. Watch the video [here](#)

EVENTS CALENDAR

Nov 2019 :	1 st TradeMission Floriculture to Rwanda organized by Resilience BV
2 - 11 Dec 2019 :	Study Mission on PPP in Extension services to The Netherlands
End Jan 2020:	2 nd TradeMission Floriculture to Rwanda organized by Resilience BV
Mid Feb 2020 :	Agri Trademission to Uganda in combination with Harvest Money Expo Kampala
June 2020:	National Agrishow Rwanda (expo)
August 2020:	African Green Revolution Forum (AGRF) in Kigali (conference & expo)

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EVENTS

Launch SDG P facility projects

On Friday 4 October the [embassy](#) launched 3 new Public Private Partnerships that will bring an investment of 18Millions Euro to the maize, potato and tea value chains in Rwanda, improving the livelihoods of more than 60.000 farmers. The three partnerships result from the SDG Partnership Facility of the Netherlands Enterprise Organization. Each partnership consists of a 50% grant, matched by 50% private investment. The three partnerships aim to contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals on ending hunger, decent work and income, health and climate action.

The event brought together all partners of the projects

At the occasion Designated Ambassador Matthijs Wolters emphasized the strong ties between the government of Rwanda and the Kingdom of Netherlands. The three partnership projects are an important step in a growing agenda of trade and investment between the two countries. The Deputy DG of the Ministry of Agriculture in The Hague, mr. Guido Landheer, inspired the audience with the concept of #CircularAgriculture as the new focus area of Dutch Policy and Innovation. Related news click [here](#) and [here](#).

Poultry Africa 2019

On 2 and 3 October #PoultryAfrica2019 took place in the Kigali Convention Centre, organized by the Dutch company VNU Exhibitions. The event brought 28 Dutch and in total 124 poultry businesses to Rwanda. In several seminars and learning events African farmers and entrepreneurs had the opportunity to learn new practices and technologies available to grow their businesses. The embassy in partnership with VNUexhibitions,

Abusol Rwanda, GAIN and the Government of Rwanda organised an Egg Promotion Event to promote the nutritious benefits of egg consumption and how regular consumption of eggs can contribute to an improved nutrition of children.

APA conference 2019

The embassy looks back at a wonderful African Potato Association conference (APA2019) in Kigali in the last week of August. The embassy sponsored the event and organized a Holland Pavilion to showcase services and products from Dutch companies. The conference & expo were well organized by RAB and CIPRwanda and brought together scientists and other key stakeholders from the Sweet Potato and Irish Potato sector. The event gave us the opportunities to present our support to the sector in 2 sessions where Agriterra, Delphy and SEAD presented their projects and Solynta gave a keynote speech about their progress in developing True Potato Seed varieties.

At the occasion of APA2019, Karst Weening from the Dutch Potato Association (NAO) came to Rwanda. He left with a good impression of the progress made in the country and the ambition to transform the economy to a private sector driven growth model. Some concrete aspects for improvement on the business climate for potato sector development were identified and discussed with the Rwandan Agriculture Board (RAB). The embassy will take these issues up, together with RAB in 2020, in cooperation with the HortInvest Project.

Africa Green revolution Forum in Rwanda by 2020

Rwanda will be the home country for Africa Green revolution Forum by next year 2020 and from that moment every other year. This was announced during 2019 AGRF held in Ghana on September 6th, 2019. AGRF is made up of 21 leading actors in African agriculture focused on putting farmers on the center of the continent growing economy. AGRA, FAO and IFAD are among the leading partners of the forum. The move will attract private sector. [Read more](#)

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Grey-crowned crane numbers on a sharp rise in Rwanda

Rwanda has reached a number of 748 grey crowned crane. This is an remarkable increase compared to 459 and 487 recorded in 2017 and 2018 respectively. These results are provided by Rwanda wildlife conservation association(RWCA) during aerial and ground surveys conducted in August this year. This increase results from the effort put in ending captivity as mentioned by The founder of RWCA, an organization responsible for saving cranes. [Read more](#)

Kwita Izina ceremony

The 15th edition of annual gorilla naming ceremony took place in Kinigi in Musanze on Saturday 7th September 2019. About 26 baby gorillas were named during ceremony. The ceremony which is held annually is an opportunity to celebrate the Rwandan conservation efforts to attract more visitors and revenues. The gorilla are amongst the premium touristic product in Rwanda. Prior to the ceremony, a conservation conference took place in Kigali gathering leaders in the industry from various African states to recognize the significance of protecting the environment. [Read more](#). Over Rwf 5,2 billion of the gorilla conservation revenue has been used to support 647 community based projects. [Read more](#)

POTATO SECTOR

Rwanda set to test GM potato varieties

A new potato variety dubbed Victoria will soon undergo trials in Rwanda. The variety has been developed by The international Potato Centre (CIP). The genetically modified variety is known for its resistance to late blight disease as well as its high yield : 40tonnes per hectare which is calculated at 68% more profit compared to the original variety. [Read more](#)

LIVESTOCK SECTOR

Livestock insurance scheme

The insurance scheme mentioned in our previous [newsletter](#) has already started in Rwanda . Farmers

need to pay 4,5 % of the total value of the insured livestock per year , of which there is 40% subsidies from the government and 60% is paid by farmers themselves. Damages covered include diseases and accidents that might occur in livestock (cows) that are still productive and income-generating for the farmer. The project is worth Rwf 370 million in the current financial year. [Read more](#)

WATER

Water utility warns public on Nyabugogo water turbidity

Soil erosion from agricultural activities, artisanal mining zones, and un-tarmacked roads in rural areas are among the primary cause of water turbidity in Nyabarongo river. This affect water supply in various area of Kigali. Various projects have availed funds to address this issue. [Read more.](#)

VARIOUS NEWS

Agricultural exports drop by 9 per cent

A drop of 9,7% in agricultural export has been noticed in the year 2018/2019 compared to the previous year as shown by report provided by NAEB. Horticulture, Dairy, Tea and Coffee sectors are among the most affected sectors. The main causes of this drop include reduced rain fall (Horticulture), fall of prices at the export market (Tea & coffee), loosing dairy market in Uganda and Kenya because of border closures and made-in-Rwanda policy. [Read more](#)

Uganda blames inadequate feeding on food wastage

The Ministry of Agriculture Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) director for agricultural extension services, Beatrice Byarugaba, has blamed the available inadequate feeding in the country on some Ugandans whom she said waste food. Byarugaba made the remarks at Parliament on Friday during the Zero Hunger Walk that was organised by MAAIF and its partners including Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), World Food Program as one of the events organised to commemorate World Food Day.

“At harvest, some people cook too much food that they can’t finish wasting a lot of it that would have helped them in hard times,” she said. She said when some of the people harvest, they sell all the produce leaving them with no food to take them throughout the year. [Read more](#)

Global Climate Protests have also reached Kampala

The youth petition and the recent protest walk in Kampala over climate change have caught the attention of Parliament. The Speaker of Parliament, Rebecca Kadaga, has said the petition will be debated in the coming week. She said climate change has disrupted Uganda’s weather patterns and also food production as well as increased the violation of human rights. [Read more](#)



Protesters participating in the march in September on climate change awareness with messages urging the government to act on the issue. Photo by Wilfred Sanya, New Vision

INSIDE THE EMBASSY

The embassy in Kigali bid farewell to the Former Ambassador Frederique de Man in July. The embassy took the opportunity to thank her for her contribution in the development of various projects including the agricultural projects. [Photos](#)

Designated Ambassador, Mr Matthijs Wolters, arrived in Rwanda in the first week of September.



Matthijs Wolters

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