

**On activities, events, studies, articles and more**

Do not hesitate to contact us in case of questions, tips or trade requests.

**Agricultural Department**

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First of all we are wishing you courage in these troublesome times. The coronavirus is affecting all of us. In Kenya and Tanzania, in the Netherlands, and in the rest of the world. Our thoughts are with the people whose health is affected and with their families. For many companies, large and small, this is an extremely difficult time. Whether you are an export organization or self-employed, this will be hitting you hard. In the coming period we regrettably cannot meet face to face due to the social distancing measures to combat the virus. However we will continue to inform you as much as possible through social media and our newsletters. You can call or email the agricultural office for all your questions. Despite all the uncertainty, one thing is perfectly clear, the challenge we face is enormous and all of us will have to work together to overcome it. Please stay healthy and safe. *The Agricultural Counsellor, Ingrid Korving.*

**Corona related news**

Below we have provided an overview of useful information based on the type of questions we receive. In case you have suggestions for useful additions to this list, kindly share them with us by sending an email to [nai-Inv@minbuza.nl](mailto:nai-Inv@minbuza.nl).

**Information on corona in the Netherlands**

The corona virus outbreak is giving rise to many questions, also from entrepreneurs and businesses. For more information on corona in the Netherlands, visit [this website](#).

**Business update - Update on relevant corona related measures in place in Kenya**

Kenya has imposed a range of measures aimed at halting the spread of COVID-19 in the country. These measures may also impact businesses in Kenya and trade with the Netherlands. The Embassy collects relevant information provided by the Government of Kenya on COVID-19 related measures taken. And shares this overview through regular updates on our website.

See the latest business update [here](#).

**Corona Business Emergency Response Centre**

There is a special contact point set up by the Kenyan government for the corona crisis. You can find information, share challenges and make suggestions.

**Business Emergency Response Centre**

Ministry of Industrialization,  
Trade and Enterprise Development  
**+254 -110922066 - [advisory@trade.go.ke](mailto:advisory@trade.go.ke)**

**[Dutch] Informatie over corona in Kenia**

De veranderende omstandigheden en maatregelen tegen COVID-19 hebben grote impact op het dagelijks leven en het bedrijfsleven in Kenia.

Als ambassade staan we voor u klaar. Afgelopen weken hebben we met vele contact gehad om individuele vragen te beantwoorden.

Zodra er nieuws is bericht de ambassade hierover op sociale media en de [website](#).

Als ambassade zijn wij graag op de hoogte welke Nederlanders zich in Kenia bevinden. U kunt zich hiervoor registeren bij de [informatieservice van Buitenlandse Zaken](#).

## **Results Smart Water for Agriculture Program**

The Smart Water for Agriculture program (SWA) aimed at saving water and energy as well as ensuring sustainable resource use. This was done by promoting farmer-led and market-based smart water products and services. The program facilitated smart water innovations in selected counties by bringing stakeholders together in the platforms known as Irrigation Acceleration Platforms.

Through the development of smart water solutions SWA objectives were to contribute to increased water productivity in agriculture leading to increased income and food security. Some of the key results included the following:

1. Agricultural water productivity increased by 20%
2. 20,000 Small and Medium Enterprise farmers adopted smart water solutions; 50% of them are women.
3. Choices of smart water products and services doubled at county and lower level.
4. Kenyan and Dutch companies were supported to invest in the sector.
4. The SWA and HortIMPACT combined their close out sessions in November 2019.

The SWA factsheet can be found in the link [here](#)



## **Closure Kenya Market led Horticulture Project**

The Kenya Market led Horticulture Project (HortIMPACT) was a collaboration by multiple development and private sector partners. The project aimed towards supporting small and medium sized entrepreneurial (SME) farmers in supply chains, contributing to food safety and the reduction of food losses in the horticulture sector.

In Nov 2019, HortIMPACT project held its close out day. Participants from the government and private sector shared results and lessons learnt in the Kenyan horticulture sector.

A summary of the first project's impact and results was presented in the final report "HortIMPACT: The Story". One example of its success stories is that it managed the certification of 1,290 farmers in Global Agricultural Practices (GAP). By doing so, the project facilitated access to national and international markets for the participating farmers.

The report also shows examples of how cooperation with the private sector can be used to create more sustainable value chains, for instance through the replication of innovations and better practices by other players. Overall, HortIMPACT project developed 11 key lessons for the future of developmental policy in the field. These lessons, as well as more information about the project and its impact, are available in the online version of the [end of project booklet](#).



## Sustainable agriculture, an integrated approach

Farmers in Kenya are progressively intensifying their agricultural production to meet the domestic and export market demands. More often than not, this is closely associated with increased inputs of Agrochemicals. When not managed well, pesticides may lead to resistance of plant pests and diseases, adverse health impacts on farmers and consumers as well as environmental degradation.

The Pesticide Management Initiative East African Region (PEAR) was an initiative between Kenya and the Netherlands from 2016 to 2019. The project worked on sustainable pesticide management, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), food safety and reduction of pesticide use risks. PEAR aimed at improving the structure, clarity and registration procedures for pesticides including biopesticides. And in addition, to stimulate IPM and regulate pesticide use by farmers.

In Kenya, the mandate of regulation of pesticides falls under Pest Control Product Board (PCPB), who were the implementing partner in the project. The other stakeholders involved included International, Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Services (KEPHIS), International Biocontrol Manufacturers Association (IBMA), Agrochemicals Association of Kenya (AAK), Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Fisheries and Cooperatives, Kenya Flower Council (KFC), Fresh producers Exporters Association of Kenya (FPEAK), Center of Insects, Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) and Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT).

The cooperation resulted in the following achievements

- Evaluation of administrative system and benchmarking of Kenyan registration procedures and risk assessment against international practices
- Making low risk and biological products available through a fast-track registration
- Curriculum development for IPM training on pesticide use
- A survey to assess the use of pesticides, the level of awareness and the use of Personal protective equipment by farmers growing tomato and kale



## International Year of Plant Health 2020

Did you know that 2020 is the United Nation's International Year of Plant Health?

Plants make up 80% of the food we eat and produce 98% of the oxygen we breathe. Plant health is therefore not only important to agribusiness, but to everyone.

In collaboration with our partners, we work towards improving plant health in Kenya and Tanzania. For instance, we collaborated with relevant organizations to facilitate workshops for producers regarding the control of plant diseases and pests. By doing so we are involved in creating a safe, sustainable and workable business environment for all farmers within the value chain.

The FAO has created an informative [webpage](#) that we invite you to visit to learn more about the international year of plant health.



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF

**PLANT HEALTH**

2020



## Empowering Kenya's feed sector

An increase in the demand for animal protein in Kenya gives rise to new opportunities for the livestock and aquaculture sector. The extent to which both sectors will be able to capitalize on these opportunities still heavily depends on the availability and quality of animal feed. To bridge the gap between supply and demand of quality feed, FeedTechKenya developed a so-called *impact cluster*. The main aim of this impact cluster is to fast-track the development of the animal feed sector and, by doing so, mitigating current constraints to the developments of the livestock and aquaculture sector.

There are several issues that restrict the development of animal feed in Kenya. These include a lack of raw materials, limited availability of new feed protein sources, and difficulties with transportation and storage. In total, Kenya has 305 registered feed companies, of which 115 solely manufacture feed, 96 supply raw materials, and 94 engage in both activities. The number of registered feed producers has almost doubled over the last five years while production only rose by 30%, indicating the need for more efficient production processes. On 1 December 2019, the impact cluster on animal feed has been formally approved by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO). The FeedTechKenya impact cluster comprises of a consortium of leading Dutch and Kenyan parties active in various areas of the feed value chain. They will conduct studies, perform trials with insect-based feed, and demonstrate best practices, together enabling new technologies to be implemented by the Kenyan animal feed sector. More information? Find the full article [on our webpage](#).

## Funding by the Netherlands Enterprise Agency

Are you a Dutch entrepreneur or investor with international ambitions and an interest in developing countries specifically? Or are you an entrepreneur (of any nationality) that aims to review the production chain for the better? Then the DHI, DGGF or FVO subsidies might be an interesting opportunity for you.

- ◊ **The DHI subsidy** aims to help you demonstrate products and technologies, or to look into the feasibility of your business plan. This funding applies to Dutch entrepreneurs and applications are open until 31 Dec 2020. More info? [Click here](#)
- ◊ **The Dutch Good Growth Fund (DGGF)** has funds available to support investors, importers and exporters to start up or expand business relations with Kenya or one of the other DGGF-countries. This funding applies to Dutch entrepreneurs. More info? [Click here](#)
- ◊ **The Fund for Responsible Business (FVO)** assists you to get an insight into all aspects of your value chain relating to business conduct and sustainability. The fund can also be used to implement measures to address risks and misconduct. It applies to "Dutch partnerships" which can include local stakeholders, including companies in Kenya and Tanzania. Application deadline: 30 September 2020. See full info [here](#)

## Team News

Our team has some wonderful news to share, our colleague Manou Aelmans gave birth on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2019 to her daughter Maisha Aelmans-Okello.



We extended our Kenya team with a new member! Our new intern, Marieke Oomen, has joined us in January and will stay until July .

## The Team

Ingrid Korving	Agricultural Counsellor
Elizabeth Kiamba	Agriculture Advisor Kenya
Theo Mutabingwa	Agriculture Advisor Tanzania
Manou Aelmans	Agriculture Officer
Robin Bongers	Agriculture Officer
Marieke Oomen	Intern Kenya