

NEWSLETTER - December 2020



On activities, events, studies, articles and more
Do not hesitate to contact us in case of questions, tips or trade requests.

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Since our last newsletter a lot has changed, COVID-19 measures were put in place and for many of you business has not been as usual. Moreover, we said goodbye to Ambassador Mr. Frans Makken, and welcomed Ambassador Mr. Maarten Brouwer in Kenya. Ambassador Brouwer had already the chance to meet some of you and is looking forward to get in contact with many more. 2020 was a challenging year, we're all figuring out the new way to make the world move forward. However a new year is on the way and the possibilities are endless. Wishing you all a happy, healthy and prosperous 2021!

Kind regards, Ingrid Korving, Agricultural Counsellor

News

New Ambassador H.E. Mr. Maarten Brouwer

H.E. Mr. Maarten Brouwer, new Ambassador of Netherlands to Kenya, presented his credentials to H.E. Mr. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya. We welcome Ambassador Maarten Brouwer and look forward to working together with him.

You can read more about the Ambassador [here](#).



*A visit to the port of Mombasa in 2019 (above)
Kenyan Avocados ready for export (below)*



An Interview with Ingrid Korving

This article is part of a larger series on the work of Agricultural Counselors abroad. Read the other interviews (Dutch) [here](#).

Kenya has in recent years focused on the development and improvement of their infrastructure. With success. The export of agricultural produce has received a serious boost. "At the moment Nairobi is the logistical hub for the whole of East Africa."

"Opportunities for sea freight are now being explored. Some companies are already testing with the shipment of roses and carnations via sea to Europe. Currently it takes about four weeks for produce to arrive in Europe by sea, which means this is not a viable option for all products. Ensuring quality is a priority. Transport by sea requires development of new varieties, which have a longer shelf-life/ vase-life. Dutch breeders can play a role in this." *You can read the full interview [here](#).*

Latest Publications

Potato Update

The production and consumption of the potatoes in Kenya has grown steadily. Currently potato is the second most important crop after maize in Kenya. The potato produces more food on less land faster than any other major food crop. The potato sector therefore offers job opportunities, strengthens trade and contributes to food security. As development of the sector offers opportunities for both Kenya and the Netherlands, we have invested in the past years in strengthening the potato value chain. To assist the sector to optimize its production the Kenya Netherlands Seed Potato Program, financed by the Government of the Netherlands, was started.

Read the full article [here](#).



Market study with insights into commercial and home-mix animal feed sectors in Kenya

FeedTechKenya is a consortium of leading Dutch and Kenyan parties active in various areas of the feed value chain. The consortium aims to transfer best feed practices, increase the production and take-up of productivity-enhancing quality animal feed, and trial with novel and affordable feeds. To get more insight into the sector the cluster investigated topics related to the Kenyan animal feed, such as the contribution of non-commercial feed milling to the animal feed market size. The study, focusing on poultry, dairy, pig and tilapia feed in Kenya, has uncovered numerous interesting insights.

Read the full article [here](#).

Organic Farming in Kenya

Production of organic food in Kenya is still relatively little but increasing fast. Globally organic markets are growing. Consumers are more and more interested in healthy and sustainably produced food and expenditures on organic food are rising faster than on non-organic food. These trends are common for the export market, and also for the local market. Many consider organic agriculture an interesting option for smallholder farmers in Africa because it offers a unique combination of low inputs, environmental conservation and it provides access to premium price markets. The growing demand for organic produce has led to a rising number of Dutch entrepreneurs investing in organic agriculture in Kenya. We spoke with three businesses involved in organic farming to get more insight in the trends, benefits, opportunities and challenges related to organic farming in Kenya.

Read the full article [here](#).



Short Newsflashes

Bonded warehousing in Kenya

Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) has extended the implementation date of Gazette Notice No. 3350, that restricts goods eligible for bonded warehouses to 14 December 2020. During this period KRA will undertake internal consultations with relevant stakeholders. KRA is accepting goods for warehousing until an agreement is reached.

For more information find [the link to KRA public notice](#).



Impact of fodder management on dairy farming

Wageningen University and research published a report that assesses the impact of adoption of fodder conservation and feed rationing interventions on economic performance and nitrogen use efficiency (NUE) of dairy farms in central Kenya.

Read more [here](#).

Synthesis paper on valuable vegetables

€210 million of public investment has been used since 2009 to fund 160 horticulture projects in 47 countries! The Synthesis paper gives insight in the most important lessons from these initiatives. For example, the creation of partnerships – particularly between farmers and service/ input providers – and information flow between various actors within the value chain fostered adoption of technologies and created better trust among actors. [Read more here](#).



Key findings and lessons from Dutch publicly funded horticulture initiatives in low- and middle-income countries

Valuable Vegetables Synthesis Paper

Indira Moreno-Echeverri, Johann Bonnand, Salome Boyd and Edwin van der Maden

WAGENINGEN
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH

Food & Business
Knowledge Platform



Support to flower workers from COVID-19 effects

Civil Society Organisations under Hivos East Africa's Women@Work Campaign and the [Kenya Flower Council \(KFC\)](#) dispatched food packages and mobile money transfers worth approximately 75,000 euros (equivalent to KES 8 Million) to workers in selected flower farms.

Read more [here](#).

[NL] Prinsjesdag

Tijdens Prinsjesdag stonden er een aantal thema's op de agenda die interessant zijn voor internationale bedrijven, zoals: dienstverlening aan Nederlanders in het Buitenland; duurzame ontwikkeling en wereldwijde gezondheidzorg; verder herstel van de handelspositie; en een sterk Europa.

Wilt u meer weten over de belangrijkste plannen voor 2021 zie [dit artikel](#).



Events & Developments



Information on COVID-19 in Kenya

The Kenyan Ministry of Health is the main source of information regarding COVID-19 in Kenya, see their [COVID-19 page](#). In addition, The Kenya Private Sector Alliance has [an information portal](#) for businesses.

The Government of Kenya also published an 8-point economic plan valued to stimulate economy.

[See this 1 pager for details.](#)

Information on COVID-19 in the Netherlands

The Central Bureau for Statistics in the Netherlands expects that the Dutch economy will shrink with 8.5% in the second quarter of 2020. See more [here](#).

For more information on COVID-19 in the Netherlands, visit [this website](#).



Upcoming Events

15/16 December 2020 Digital Africa Business days.

The theme is “Moving Forwards Together” and aims at co-creating solutions to Africa’s challenges in food, water, energy, health, and circular economy during and after COVID-19. The Digital Africa Business Days are co-organized by NABC, the Dutch Government and the members of the ‘Africa Coalition:’ VNO-NCW/MKB Nederland, FMO, NLinBusiness, DECP and PUM - [Link](#).

We will share upcoming events on our [twitter](#) and our [Agenda](#).



Wishing you a happy, healthy and prosperous 2021!

Ingrid Korving	Agricultural Counsellor
Elizabeth Kiamba	Agriculture Advisor Kenya
Theo Mutabingwa	Agriculture Advisor Tanzania
Manou Aelmans	Agriculture Officer



Financial instruments

- ◆ **A Kickstart voucher** is available for internationally active companies in the Netherlands. With this voucher an external advisor can be hired - See more [here](#).
- ◆ **DHI** - You can apply for the subsidy scheme for demonstration projects, feasibility studies and Investment preparation projects (DHI). More info can be found by clicking [here](#).
- ◆ **The Dutch Good Growth Fund (DGGF)** offers loans, guarantees and export financing. The fund can help you take the first step towards trading and investing in developing countries and emerging markets abroad - [link](#)
- ◆ **Partnering for Green Growth (P4G)** helps create public-private partnerships. P4G aims to advance breakthrough solutions. P4G is for SMEs, bigger companies, NGOs, knowledge institutions (except universities), local government and government institutions in the Netherlands and abroad - [Link](#).
- ◆ **Seed Money Projects** is now open for Dutch companies who want to increase their international activities and strengthen their networks (deadline 18 Dec) - [Link](#).

To assist you in finding financial instruments that suit your needs, we have created [this overview page](#).

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