

The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands  
Agricultural Department

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

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



Welcome to our latest newsletter, the 2nd of this year. We hope the newsletter keeps you updated on the latest news and provides you with tips. When putting this newsletter together, with activities, projects and interactions it almost felt like normal. However, the difference is that we won't be returning to normal as we've known it before COVID-19. No-one knows exactly how long this pandemic will be with us, but after a crisis comes recovery. That also means that governments, public authorities and businesses need to rethink, adapt and recover to make sure that we plan and design a more resilient future.

When you think about the future of your company, what do you see?

*Kind regards, Ingrid Korving, Agricultural Counsellor*

## News

### The Netherlands and Nakuru County

We work together on climate smart and sustainable solutions for local challenges, making us strong partners for the sustainable development goals. To this effect, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Kenya Maarten Brouwer, the Agricultural Counselor Mrs. Ingrid Korving and the agricultural & water team of the Netherlands embassy visited Nakuru County from 21 -24 March 2021 to discuss developments, ongoing activities and future cooperation.

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



### New team member Saschanne van Dam

Coming months Saschanne van Dam will be working with the Agricultural Office for Kenya and Tanzania to cover Manou Aelmans when she is on maternity leave. Before I moved with my husband and by that time two daughters (recently extended with a third daughter) to Kenya in 2019, I worked as strategic policy advisor with Economic Affairs for the city of Amsterdam and as project leader with Amsterdam inbusiness, I hold two master degrees in Business Geography and Human Geography. I am looking forward to the coming months to apply my knowledge and experience to the team. *Read more about the team [here](#).*

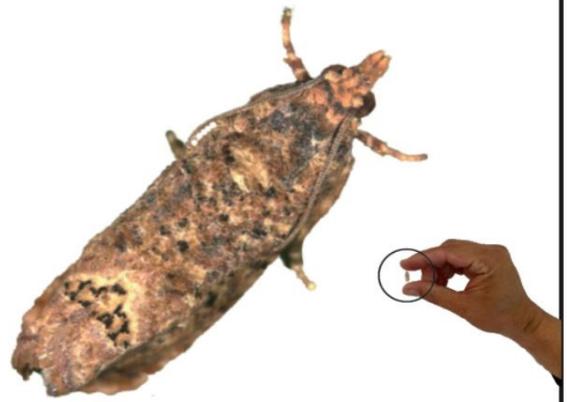
## Rose farmers in Kenya watch out!

The False Codling Moth (FCM) could stop the export of roses to the EU. FCM is posing an increasing threat to the export of roses from Kenya to the Netherlands. Despite efforts of farms, the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Services and other stakeholders like KFC, FPEAK and FPC, FCM is still being detected on a regular basis. As interceptions of roses with FCM are deemed too high, the EU is now considering increasing the amount of inspections. In 2019 the frequency of inspections already increased from 5% to 10% this may now rise even further. Increased inspections have large consequences for Kenyan rose farmers in terms of costs, time and their competitive position. Moreover, continued interceptions will affect the Kenyan export sector as a whole. To mitigate this risk KEPHIS has increased its measures with respect to production and export of roses in Kenya.

Read more [here](#).

# HATARI !

False Codling Moth: this moth is a threat for our export.  
Watch out! Do not let this pest enter our farms.  
When detected take immediate action.  
It is in our common interest to stop this pest, so be aware.



## Launch regional Aquaculture Academy

On the 7th of May 2021 the regional Aquaculture Academy was successfully launched. The Aquaculture Academy comes at the right place, at the right time, filling the necessary gaps in the East African aquaculture sector through practical and high-quality training. “The driver of success in the aquaculture industry in the Netherlands is what we refer to as the golden triangle. This is the partnership and close co-operation between the private sector, knowledge institutes and the government. This is what we are currently undertaking with FoodTech Africa and the launch of this academy,” said the Kingdom Of Netherlands Ambassador to Kenya, H.E. Maarten A. Brouwer during the launch. Read more [here](#).

## Tuta Absoluta

Tomato is one of the most important vegetables grown by farmers in Kenya and plays an important role in generating employment and income. However, tomato production is limited by many factors, the most important of which are insect pests. Tomato farmers tend to control tomato pests with pesticide sprays, but these pose risks to the environment, food safety and health. In order to demonstrate to farmers the benefits of biological control within an integrated approach, CABI and Koppert Biologicals Systems Ltd organized a project in Kenya to demonstrate the effects of the use of biological pesticides and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for the control of the tomato leaf miner (*Tuta absoluta*).

Read more [here](#).



# LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

## Launch Agrico Potato Services Africa

In March 2021, the Nakuru County CEC for Agriculture, Dr. Immaculate Maina and the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Kenya, H.E. Maarten Brouwer, launched the innovative Agrico Potato Service Africa website. This one stop shop for Kenyan smallholder farmers working in the potato value chain will enable farmers to boost their business, connect to relevant networks and follow online tutorials. All free of charge.

Read the full article [here](#).



## Valuing Water in Kenya

The Netherlands Ambassador kicked off the Nakuru visit on World Water Day. The World Water Day 2021 celebrations focused on the theme valuing water. It was a good moment to pause and reflect on progress made so far with the Netherlands support to the Kenyan water sector. There is a growing demand for innovations and solutions, attracting different initiatives that clearly demonstrate the opportunities for (Dutch) entrepreneurs. Using models and mechanisms to keep resources circulating in the economy at their maximum value, has the potential to bring real change in using water sustainably, especially in the irrigation sector.

Read more [here](#).

## King's Day in a Box

Due to Covid-19, no physical meetings were organized by Dutch representations this year. Therefore the Embassy & Unseen Nairobi decided to organize "King's Day in a Box", a box full of Dutch treats which Dutch Nationals could enjoy at home for a fee. A great way to taste some of the amazing food by Dutch agrofood companies in Nairobi.



## Using drones to attract youth into agribusiness

In Kenya, roughly 70% of the population is aged between 15-34. Approximately 1 million young Kenyans enter the job market each year and only about 35% are absorbed into the formal job market. Engagement of youth in agriculture is minimal. To this effect Egerton University and FutureWater B.V. have designed a training course "Using flying sensors and crop growth models to increase food production in Kenya", which helps build the technical skills lacking so much in advancing smart agriculture. Providing an opportunity to increase innovation in agriculture and also attract tech savvy youth to farming. Read more [here](#).

# 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.



## 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](#).

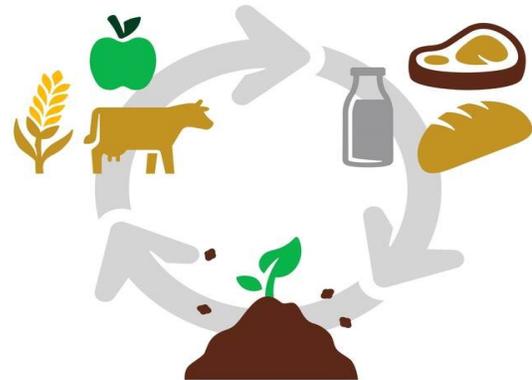
To assist you in finding financial instruments that suit your needs, we have created [this overview page](#).

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

## Information on COVID-19 in the Netherlands

For an overview of all existing measures for traveling to the Netherlands kindly use [this website](#) of the Netherlands Government.

We also share the latest updates on changes either [news site of the Embassy](#) or the [Netherlands Embassy Facebook page](#).



## We are looking for you!

We are looking for Dutch companies and technologies active in Kenya in circular agriculture. Do you know a Dutch company or Kenyan company making use of Dutch technologies, working according to the principles of "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" then please send us an email! Some examples are companies reducing their use of raw materials; reusing waste streams, saving electricity or using alternative energy or plastics; etc.

[You can email us via: nai-lnv@minbuza.nl](mailto:nai-lnv@minbuza.nl)



## The Agriculture Team

|                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Ingrid Korving    | Agricultural Counsellor   |
| Bart Kuiten       | Agriculture Attaché       |
| Elizabeth Kiamba  | Agriculture Advisor Kenya |
| Saschanne van Dam | Agriculture Officer       |
| Manou Aelmans     | Agriculture Officer       |

For address changes or un-subscription please send an email to [nai-lnv@minbuza.nl](mailto:nai-lnv@minbuza.nl)