

Agriculture Newsletter - July 2022



Kingdom of the Netherlands

The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
in Kenya - Agricultural Department

[@] nai-lnv@minbuza.nl

[tw] [@NLAgriKenya](https://twitter.com/NLAgriKenya)

[w] [www.agroberichtenbuitenland.nl/
landeninformatie/kenia](http://www.agroberichtenbuitenland.nl/landeninformatie/kenia)

On developments, events, reports and more

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



It is our pleasure to share with you our second newsletter for 2022. The last few months were eventful with the Agricultural Team going through some changes, and we did of course not sit still. We were glad to be back at IFTEX Exhibition, where we were able to interact face to face again.

Sea freight as an alternative to air freight for perishables was high on the agenda, in the shape of practical seminars, flowers by sea conference and a published insights report. In addition, the Embassy and Kenya Flower Council signed a Framework of Cooperation geared towards sea freight

There have also been noticeable trends showing that the Kenya is ready or is already shifting to a circular economy / agriculture.

Lastly, we bade farewell to Ingrid Korving, the previous Agriculture Counsellor for Kenya and Tanzania, and we look forward to welcoming Bart Pauwels who will take over from her.

With kind regards, Elizabeth Kiamba (Agricultural Advisor) and Angela Swinkels (Agricultural Officer).

News

Agrofoodsector Kenia kiest voor circulair

De ontwikkelingen in de agrofoodsector in Kenia gaan snel, vooral op het gebied van circulariteit. Voor Tanzania geldt dat, in mindere mate, ook. Nederlandse bedrijven leveren kennis en technologie. Dat zegt Ingrid Korving, landbouwraad op de Nederlandse ambassade in Nairobi. Zij verhuist deze zomer naar Vietnam om daar leiding te geven aan het landbouwteam van de Nederlandse ambassade.

Lees het volledige interview [hier](#).



Roadmap to accelerate the transformation of the Kenyan dairy sector through SMEs

Roadmap to accelerate the transformation of the Kenyan dairy sector through SMEs

Together with Agriculture Transformation Office (ATO) and key stakeholders in the Kenyan dairy sector, NewForeSight designed a roadmap for operationalizing an SME dairy accelerator. Prior to the design, a thorough understanding of the key issues of the sector and the major challenges faced by SMEs in the sector needed to be clarified and articulated. *Read more [here](#).*



Regenerative Agriculture for Business in the Veggies for Planet and People Project

One of Africa's greatest challenges to address malnutrition is increasing the supply of vegetables. This "vegetable gap" in Africa provides however an opportunity to enhance nutrition and to create jobs and income at the same time.

To that purpose, the IKEA Foundation and the World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) developed "Veggies4Planet&People" (V4P&P). At the same time, the objective was to improve environmental and human health through safe production of vegetables, cutting out chemical pesticides as much as possible, and replacing them with safe biopesticides. [Read more here.](#)

Interview with the Netherlands Business Hub

The Netherlands Business Hub Kenya (NLBH) is linking public institutions and private entities, as well as national and regional markets in Kenya.

We interviewed Ms. Yvonne Oerlemans, General Manager of NLBH, asking her to explain a bit more about what services NLBH can provide the Dutch Entrepreneur in Kenya. [Read more here.](#)



Launch of the FORQLAB Living Lab

Early 2021, The Netherlands Embassy in Nairobi commissioned a [study on opportunities to reduce food losses in Kenya](#). It was carried out by Wageningen University and Research and looked into mango, avocado and poultry.

The conclusion was that vast volumes of perishable, nutrition dense food products are lost before they reach the market or consumers. Reducing post-harvest losses enhances the efficiency of the food system, reduces waste, minimizes environmental footprint of agricultural production, and makes more food available, accessible and affordable for consumers.

The study inspired a call for proposals for education institutes by the Dutch NWO-SIA fund, which was won by the FORQLAB consortium. [Read more here.](#)



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Trends toward a Circular Agriculture in Kenya

There have been noticeable trends showing that the Kenya is ready or is already shifting to a circular economy. This article highlights 11 trends being adopted, which have been showcased in the recently published report on [‘The Netherlands and Kenya Moving Toward Circular Agriculture in Kenya’](#).

Read more [here](#).



Elevating Kenya’s food security with protein-based animal feed

The Embassy of the Netherlands hosted a Circular Economy Roundtable on alternative protein-based animal feed to raise awareness and inform the target group on the status of current successful developments in Circular Agriculture in the country.

Participants of the roundtable also discussed their collective vision for a more sustainable sector in the country, as well as challenges and next steps to grow opportunities locally and regionally.

Read more [here](#).



Insights by Key Market Players on the Development of Sea Freight of Flowers from Kenya

The cost of transport to Europe is the main expense faced by Kenyan exporters of horticulture products, such as flowers. The air freight industry is well-developed in Kenya and highly flexible to meet demands. The sea freight industry of fresh produce, however, is less developed and could become many times larger. To further explore the potential of sea freight for exporting flowers from Kenya, the Netherlands Embassy carried out [a survey among key market players](#) to get a better understanding of their view on the potential bottlenecks and opportunities regarding the further development of sea transportation as a viable alternative for air freight. Read more [here](#).



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS & EVENTS

Practical Seminars on Sea Freight Transportation for Flowers from Kenya

The Netherlands Embassy and Kenya Flower Council came together to jointly offer the first series practical sea freight training seminars between April 20th to 22nd 2022. The practical sea freight training seminars were organized and run by FlowerWatch Kenya. The seminars were held in Naivasha (Kenya) with more than 190 people participating. [Read more here.](#)



Kenya and the Netherlands sign framework of cooperation to diversify transport of perishables using sea freight

Kenya, through Kenya Flower Council and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, signed a framework of cooperation, which is set to strengthen the efforts in adoption of sea freight for perishables in Kenya.

The signing took place at the International Floriculture Trade Exhibition (IFTEX) at Oshwal Community Center in Nairobi, Kenya, bringing together stakeholders in the floriculture sub-sector such as growers, breeders, regulators, buyers, partners, among others. [Read more here.](#)

Flowers by Sea - Kenya's next frontier in diversifying global transport of perishable goods

Flowers are best received fresh from source and on time, on any other occasion. The framework of cooperation is expected to strengthen efforts in adoption of sea freight for perishables in Kenya to EU markets through the Netherlands.

In light thereof, IFTEX 2022 in collaboration with the Netherlands organized a conference dubbed "Flowers by Sea", aimed at bringing together key stakeholders in the sub-sector to learn about sea freight dynamics and the current trends.

[Read more here.](#)



INFORMATION

Message of the Dutch Ambassador for the Dutch Community in Kenya

De voorverkiezingen en start van de campagnes zijn over het algemeen vreedzaam verlopen. De kandidaten geven ook aan gericht te zijn op het realiseren van vreedzame verkiezingen. Niettemin zien we wel een aantal kleinschalige conflicten. Blijft u de komende periode vooral weg bij politieke bijeenkomsten en tref normale voorbereidingen voor tijdens de verkiezingen.

Wij zien ook dat het aantal vakantie- en zakenreizen tussen Nederland en Kenia weer groeit. Dit legt een druk op het visaproces (wat in Nederland gebeurt) waardoor er langere wachttijden zijn. Daarom manen we u aan om tijdig met het indienen van een visumaanvraag te beginnen.

Al met al geeft het bovenstaande vooralsnog geen aanleiding om het reisadvies aan te passen, wel zullen we een update over de verkiezingen plaatsen. Zorgt u in ieder geval wel dat u het lokale nieuws in de gaten houdt, inclusief de COVID-19 berichten, en vermijd uit voorzorg demonstraties, politieke bijeenkomsten en protesten.

Wilt u op de hoogte blijven, meld u dan aan op 24/7 [Informatieservice Buitenlandse Zaken](#). Kies voor 'Aanmelden + Registratie bij de Ambassade'. Ook als u niet weet of u bent aangemeld, dan kunt u dit via bovenstaande link eenvoudig checken. (Voor reisadvies Kenia, lees [hier](#) verder)



New Agricultural Officer in Nairobi

My name is Angela Swinkels and on 1 May 2022, I became the Agricultural Officer at the Netherlands Embassy in Nairobi. I will be assisting the Agricultural Team in coordinating activities, communication, as well as financial administration while we strive to attain our objectives.

I look forward to delving deeper into policy and the agricultural industry, and look forward to (e)meeting partners and stakeholders!

Financial instruments

The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) has updated their website on financial instruments that are available. You can find the full overview of instruments applicable for Kenya by selecting the country under country. Click [HERE](#) for the updated website.

To assist you in finding financial instruments that suit your needs, click [HERE](#) for an overview for agribusinesses in Kenya.

Consular News

Companies who are a member of the Orange Carpet service can make an arrangement with VFS and will be treated with priority. For more information, go to [VFS Global| vfsglobal](#)

The Agriculture Team

Bart Pauwels	(incoming) Agricultural Counsellor
Elizabeth Kiamba	Agriculture Advisor Kenya
Angela Swinkels	Agriculture Officer

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