

Agri-Newsletter Uganda & Rwanda

September 2022



The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Agricultural Department

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



Welcome to the monthly newsletter of the agricultural department of The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Uganda and Rwanda. In this newsletter we would like to inform you on the latest news on agriculture, upcoming events, interesting studies and articles and give you updates on projects we are working on or involved in.

Kind regards,
Frank Buizer, Agricultural counsellor
Innocent Matabishi, Agribusiness Policy Officer
Heidi Oranje, Policy Support Officer

Agri-News Uganda

Government has set up committee to investigate effectiveness of agrochemicals and animal health products in Uganda

It is estimated that Uganda will lose approximately \$200m in exports of agricultural products to markets in the European Union (EU) and the United Kingdom. This is, among others, due to using agrochemicals that have been banned worldwide.

Concerned civil society organisations (CSOs) have done research on this subject and revealed that large quantities of banned agrochemicals, including pesticides, are still in use in Uganda.

Government has now set up committee to investigate effectiveness of agrochemicals and animal health products in Uganda.

However, there are still many steps to be taken to stop Uganda from losing lucrative markets for its agricultural products at national, continental and global levels.

Read more [here](#).



Rockefeller Foundation invests in satellite data & AI to accelerate economic development and climate resilience in Africa

This three year project will use satellite data and machine learning technologies to produce insight into the well-being of communities.

A digital platform will cover the nexus of agriculture, energy, and transportation sector development conditions. Initially covering Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, and Uganda, the platform will provide policymakers with extensive cross-sectoral insight into where new infrastructure development can help mitigate community vulnerabilities and promote economic opportunities.

Read the full article [here](#).

Diplomatic talks between Rwanda and Uganda resumed

Rwanda and Uganda have officially resumed diplomatic talks on the 1st of September. This is a significant step towards reviving relations between the two countries that were in dispute for almost three years till the beginning of this year.

A delegation of Ugandan officials led by the Foreign Affairs Minister Odongo Jeje held talks with their Rwandan counterparts in the beginning of September in Kigali.

After the consultations, a joint statement was issued, where both countries said that the diplomatic and political consultations were a follow up of the commitments of the heads of State to strengthen the bilateral ties.

Read more about this [here](#).



Government to Release Shs30 billion for Coffee and Tea Seedlings

Minister of Finance, Hon. Matia Kasaija has announced this while making a statement on the supply of coffee and tea seedlings during plenary sitting on Tuesday, 27 September 2022.

Kasaija says “We shall release the money to Uganda Coffee Development Authority and National Agricultural Advisory Services as per the budget. I need to check with the Treasury, but we shall release the money as soon as possible.”

Read the full article [here](#).

Agri-News Rwanda

Rwanda's agricultural exports increased by 44 per cent

Rwanda's agricultural exports increased by 44 per cent to over \$640.9 million (over Rwf663 billion) in 2021-2022, from \$444.8 million (over Rwf460 billion) in the previous financial year. The increase in terms of revenues is attributed to the economic recovery measures and movement of goods and people in 2021-2022 compared to 2020-2021, where cross borders movements were restricted by the coronavirus pandemic preventive measures. During the period in review, traditional export commodities – coffee, tea, and pyrethrum – increased by 18 per cent, while non-traditional export commodities (those that are relatively new for Rwanda, such as horticulture and cereals), increased by 58 per cent.

Read the full article [here](#).



World Bank Launch USD 300 Million projects to commercialize, De-risk Agriculture

The Government of Rwanda through the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI) together with the World Bank Group have launched a US\$300 million project that seeks to commercialize and de-risk agriculture sector in Rwanda. The new Project dubbed Commercialization and De-Risking for Agricultural Transformation Project (CDAT) targets to increase the use of irrigation and commercialization among producers and agribusiness firms across the country. CDAT will also increase access to agriculture finance and insurance.

Click [here](#) for the full article.

Africa needs up to \$257 billion annually to develop its agriculture sector

Rwandan farmers have recently been facing a challenge with the global rise in prices of chemical fertilizers. This raises concerns as the surge in prices affects farmers' yields and incomes, as well as causing increase in food prices, which then poses a major threat to the country's food security. Players in the agriculture sector are hence pushing for home-grown solutions, such as opting for locally produced fertilizers to cushion them against shocks of the global shortage.

Read the full article [here](#).



Latest Publications



Quality Based Milk Payment Systems in Uganda

In many countries, good quality milk is a health consideration. On top of that, it is also a business interest of dairy processors. The Netherlands East Africa Dairy Partnership (NEADAP) supported a pilot project on Quality Based Milk Payment Systems in Uganda.

The pilot combined training, coaching and education as well as setting up a quality control system that provides a financial incentive to the key stakeholders in the dairy chain.

Read more [in this report of the pilot project](#).

Events & developments

Poultry Africa is around the corner

On October 5th and 6th Poultry Africa is organized in Kigali, Rwanda. With over 120 exhibiting companies from more than 20 countries, the third edition of Poultry Africa is the biggest so far.

In these times of rising feed ingredient prices, the rising demand for proteins and quality feed, the subject alternative ingredients for animal feed is a very relevant and a more and more upcoming subject. That's why our agriculture office Kigali-Kampala, in cooperation with RVO and VIV set up an 'Alternative ingredients for Feed' booth at Poultry Africa and unite important players in this sector.

Insectipro, NGN, Larive, ProEnto and Lattice will occupy the booth, and will organize a workshop and seminars during the event.



POULTRY AFRICA 2022

KIGALI, RWANDA

5-6 OCTOBER

POWERED BY VIV

Opening Gishanda Fish Farm Rwanda

The opening is planned on the 18th of October. The demonstration fish farm is built next to Akagera National Park in Rwanda and is a joint venture between Akagera Management Company (African Parks) and FoodTechAfrica. The fish farm aims to empower the aquaculture sector of Rwanda and contribute to the long term sustainability of Akagera National Park.

The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs is a co-funding partner to the project by providing the RVO tool 'Impact cluster financing' available for consortia of companies that jointly work on sector development.

The agricultural team will join the opening. You can read about that in our newsletter next month.

Harvest Money Expo 2023

The Netherlands will organize the Netherlands Village again on the 2023 edition of the expo, that will take place from 10-12 February next year.

Preparations have started for the three day agricultural event, bringing together farmers and practitioners of the agricultural sector. The Netherlands Embassy is a sponsor by organizing the Netherlands Village, a place where Dutch companies, Dutch-Ugandan companies and partners in business of The Netherlands get the opportunity to exhibit, receive guests, meet potential clients and partners, do business and organize and attend workshops.

A Dutch trade mission is also planned to be organized to increase business links and trade opportunities. More information about this will follow in the next newsletters.



Event calendar

- 5th & 6th of October: [Poultry Africa](#) 2022, Kigali Rwanda
- 3rd – 10th of October: International Trade Fair Uganda
- 18th of October: opening of the fish farm at Gishanda, Rwanda
- 26th & 27th of October: [Uganda-European Union Business Forum](#) (UEUBF) 2022
- 7- 18 November: [UN Climate Change Conference](#), Egypt
- 10th – 12th February : Harvest Money Expo



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