

MAY 2023

INFORMATION

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INTRODUCTION

A very warm welcome to this special edition! This is the first time the Agriculture and Economic Teams have joined forces to inform you on the latest business updates in Kenya, as developments in agriculture and other economic sectors in Kenya are increasingly integrated.

A great example is the topic of Circular Economy, where the Embassy is looking at how the economy and environment could both benefit from being efficient with resources. Both Agriculture and Economic teams work hand in glove.

This Newsletter also covers a wide range of topics: from electronic phytosanitary certification to youth, fish farming, health and life sciences and a lot more. Also make sure to check our upcoming events!

I would like to encourage you to reach out to our Agriculture and Economic Team if you have missed any item or have tips to improve the Newsletter for upcoming editions.

For now I wish you lots of reading pleasure!

Maarten Brouwer
Ambassador

NEWS – AGRICULTURE



Electronic phytosanitary certification is milestone in Dutch-Kenyan relations

Kenya and the Netherlands are serious trading partners that both benefit from their cooperation, on low carbon sea freight, for example, or the circular production of protein for feed. Another achievement is the introduction of electronic phytosanitary certification, says Liz Kiamba, who is an agricultural advisor at the Netherlands Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya. This article is part of a series on the agricultural advisors who play a key role in the Netherlands Agricultural Network (LAN) worldwide.

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FORQLAB Newsletter Q1 2023

The acronym FORQLAB stands for 'Food Waste Reduction and Food Quality Living Lab'. In this living lab, universities, farmer cooperatives and business partners work together around the avocado and dairy sectors in Kenya.

This newsletter gives an introduction to what FORQLAB focuses on, highlights of 2022 and what their planning is for 2023.

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NEWS – AGRICULTURE



Best Fish Farmer Award

After launching the very first Best Fish Farmer Competition in 2021, Lattice Aqua and Larive International decided to build on the momentum and organize a second competition in March 2023. The response was overwhelmingly positive.

More than 600 fish farmers, students and graduates joined the challenges and submitted their applications for this year's competition. The competition served as a prelude to the main event, which honoured the winners and, more crucially, recognized the expertise of Kenyan fish farmers, educated them on best practices and raised awareness of the potential opportunities in the local aquaculture value chain for the public and private sector.

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Visit FieldTechKenya

FeedTechKenya has been a great success and the impact tour activities (round table sessions, feed miller focus day, participation in best fish farmer competition and visits to players all along the value chain) have positively contributed to the development of the animal feed sector, in terms of knowledge sharing, exchanging expertise and transferring the outcomes of the alternative protein trials with tilapia and broilers.

According to the feedmill trainees, trainers, partners and participants of the round table sessions, the week was a great learning curve and gave much input for the needed next steps.

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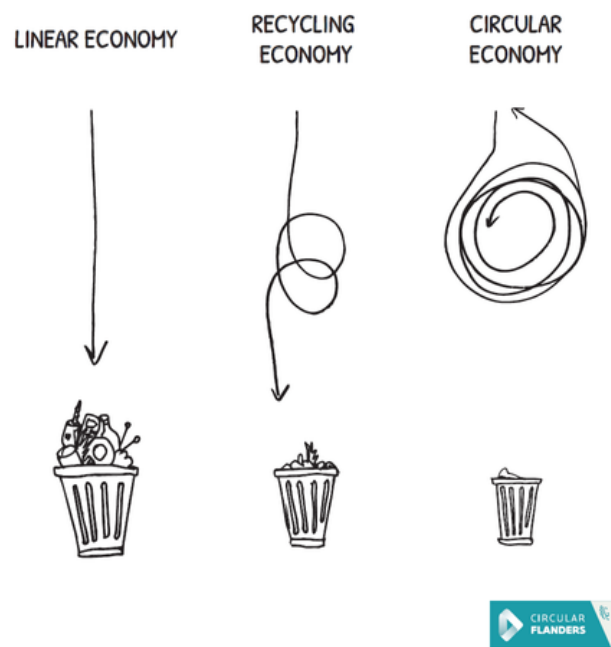


Impact cluster
FeedTechKenya 2020-2022

Empowering the Kenyan Animal Feed Sector

Visual summary Final Impact Tour
26 - 31 March 2023

NEWS – ECONOMIC AFFAIRS



Embracing circular economy

Last year, Kenya and Europe faced inflation close to 10%. Citizens have been facing steep price increases in key commodities, including fuel and food and have been forced to use resources more efficiently. A time to extremely careful with waste. Economy and environment both could benefit from such behaviour, even in difficult times. For consumers and producers environmentally sound production methods are the core of a circular economy. This is more than just careful with waste of recycle products into second or third use. It is a production system in which right from the early design phase of products re-use is taken as point of departure as is the fact that all waste is organically friendly.

The Dutch Ambassador to Kenya, Mr Maarten Brouwer, co-wrote an Op-Ed in The Business Daily Africa on Circular Economy. 'Businesses should design products in ways that are cheaper from a life-cycle perspective, even if they cost a bit more up-front.'

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Let's talk about youth: a study into the barriers of meaningful youth participation

Youth make up a large part of Kenya's population (25%). This comes with great opportunities, as youth provide a great force for production and service delivery. However, it also presents challenges. With the high influx into the labour market each year, it is challenging to absorb them all. Meaningful participation of youth, including on the labour market, is a key priority for the Netherlands. Therefore, the embassy commissioned a study to gain a better understanding of the barriers for youth to meaningfully participate in, among others, the field of work. With regards to youth unemployment, five key barriers were identified: limited educational attainment, a disconnect between education programs and the world of work, the rapid growth of the labor force, the (perceived) lack of experience of young people and a fear of competition experienced by older professionals.

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NEWS – ECONOMIC AFFAIRS



EU – Kenya Business Forum 2023

In February 2023, the first ever EU-Kenya Business Forum took place here in Nairobi. The forum aimed to foster European trade and investment in Kenya by highlighting economic opportunities and potential, whilst also discussing areas for improvement. Dutch companies were present to share their expertise and experiences of doing business in Kenya.

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Trade mission Health and Life Sciences

In November 2022, a health sector trade mission from the Netherlands visited Kenya to seek the collaboration for tackling the challenge of access to essential health services: between both countries, but more so between private sector companies in both countries. There are three central elements to this: access to high quality health services, skilled health workers, and policy-makers that commit to invest in UHC. This mission aimed to strengthen public and private sector alliances to achieve the SDG goals on health.

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Combi Approach: Focus on Life Sciences and Health Kenya

In the Minister for Foreign Trade & Development Cooperation's Policy note, Liesje Schreinemacher lays out Netherlands' intent to achieve synergy between Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation. Kenya was selected as one of the 21 countries in which the combination of foreign trade and development cooperation will be combined. In Kenya, the health sector is one of the sectors in which this approach will be undertaken. The embassy is continuing to shape this work by holding a variety of consultations.

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NEWS – ECONOMIC AFFAIRS



Visit Kericho and Bomet

On the 21st and 22nd of March the green hills of Kericho and Bomet set the scene for Ambassador Brouwer's field visit to the heart of Kenya's tea-economy. Did you know Kenya exports 450 million kg of tea worth 1,2 billion USD per year? The industry also supports over 5 million livelihoods. Therefore, it is important to maintain the ecosystem surrounding the tea estates.

The Mau forest, covering over 40,000 ha, is one of the main water towers of Kenya and therefore a critical factor to the success of tea-production in Kenya. After all, tea production is highly reliant on the constant rain that is produced by the Mau forest through evaporation.

The main purpose of the visit therefore was to have a deep dive into the [ISLA-programme](#). This innovative landscape programme, led by IDH, focusses on restoring the Mau forest together with a wide array of stakeholders: The County governments of Nakuru, Bomet and Kericho, various tea estates, Kenya Forest Service, community groups, civil society, NGOs and others.

It connects the economic value of the forest to restoration efforts and needs of the local communities, for example with regards to wood supply and grazing land. Since 2016 already 800 ha of forest have been restored. Therefore, of course, the trip would not have been complete without planting some trees ourselves.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



**EAST-SOUTH AFRICA
AGRI FORUM 2023**

6 JUNI 2023

**WAGENINGEN,
NEDERLAND**

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East-South Africa Agri Forum 2023

Bent u actief in de tuinbouw en de veeteeltsector? Op 6 juni vindt het East-South Africa Agri Forum plaats in Wageningen. Tijdens deze dagen hoort u meer over kansen in de landbouwsectoren in Kenia, Tanzania, Ethiopië, Oeganda, Rwanda, en Zuid-Afrika. In deze landen groeit de landbouwsector snel door een stijgende vraag naar duurzaam en kwalitatief hoogwaardig voedsel.

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Speaking Day (East-South Africa Agri Forum 2023)

Als onderdeel van het East-South Africa Agri Forum zal op 7 juni in Utrecht de Sprekersdag landbouwraden doorgaan waarvoor u zich kunt aanmelden voor 1-op-1 gesprekken met de landbouwraden van Kenia, Tanzania, Ethiopië, Oeganda, Rwanda, en Zuid-Afrika.

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**BOOK A MEETING WITH ME FOR THE
SPEAKING DAY ON THE 7TH OF JUNE!**

BART PAUWELS
AGRICULTURAL COUNSELLOR
FOR KENYA AND TANZANIA

EMBASSY OF THE KINGDOM OF
THE NETHERLANDS IN KENYA

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UPCOMING EVENTS



IFTEX 2023 (6-8 June, Nairobi)

IFTEX 2023 is set to be the largest edition since its inception in 2012, with over 165 companies participating in the exhibition. The number of growers showcasing their products has significantly increased, especially among new smaller growers. Visit the Embassy on our stand B.5.18 !

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Trade Mission (18-22 September, Mombasa)

Wilt u meer weten over de kansen in Kenia voor havenontwikkeling? Ga dan van 18 tot en met 22 september 2023 mee met de handelsmissie naar Nairobi en Mombasa. Een bezoek aan de haven van Mombasa, netwerkrecepties en individuele matchmaking maken onderdeel uit van het 5-daagse missieprogramma.

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INFORMATION



Financial Instruments

The Kenyan agriculture market is dynamic with many agribusiness opportunities. Most entrepreneurs, however, still face challenges such as limited access to business advice, talent, markets, and capital. These constraints are even higher for those who are young, female, or live outside of the metropolitan regions. One of the key challenges we have heard many times from companies, is access to finance.

To assist you in finding financial instruments that suit your needs, click on the links provided below;

[RVO Subsidies and Programmes](#)

[Financial Instruments](#)

Travel to the Netherlands

Be mindful that visa applications are submitted at VFS Global. Check on [VFS Global|_vfsglobal](https://www.vfsglobal.com) or call them on +254(0)205147913.

Due to the easing of Covid travel restrictions worldwide, you may experience longer waiting times for appointments and the processing time may take longer than 15 days.

Companies who are a member of the [Orange Carpet service](#) can make an arrangement with VFS and will be treated with priority.



Information Embassy

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

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