

Kenya

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SEPTEMBER 2023



A very warm welcome to the second embassy newsletter edition of 2023! As developments in the agriculture and economic sectors in Kenya are increasingly integrated, the Agriculture and Economic teams of the embassy have joined forces to inform you of the latest business updates in Kenya.

This newsletter covers a wide range of topics: how sustainable farming is helping future farmers generations, needs assessment in the dairy sector, the Challenge Fund for Youth Employment, progress in saline agriculture, poultry farming as economic empowerment for women, the incoming port development trade mission and 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!

H.E. Maarten Brouwer
Ambassador

NEWS – AGRICULTURE



Mlango Farm in Kenya paves the way for new generations of farmers

Mlango Farm in Kenya is an exemplary model of sustainable farming, championed by Els Breet and Kamande Njenga. It combines organic practices, biodiversity, and community inclusivity to pave the way for a new generation of nature-inclusive farmers. By fostering environmental consciousness and providing education to school children, Mlango Farm helps this new generation to create socio-economic impact while tending to the land.

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Kenya's Breeding Sector: a study on the knowledge and capacity needs of inseminators in Nakuru County and Directorate of Veterinary Services

Whereas the dairy sector in Kenya is developing at a fast pace, the demand for milk is increasing due to population growth and changing consumption patterns. This increased demand gives rise to a window of opportunities for growth and the development of the dairy sector, which heavily depends on the availability and quality of artificial services. The Netherlands and Kenya Governments are striving to bridge the gap between bovine semen demand and supply while aiming to increase the quality of locally available bovine semen.

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NEWS – AGRICULTURE



Report on the Saline Agriculture and Halophyte Agro-Ecologies Conference

In March 2023, a three-day workshop took place in Turkana County, Kenya. The workshop brought together various stakeholders from (local) government, NGOs, United Nations organizations, knowledge institutes and the private sector and the challenges and opportunities of using the saline resources in Turkana County were discussed. The workshop was implemented by Seawater Solutions and The Salt Doctors, in close collaboration with World Food Programme, FAO and the Turkana County Government, with support of the Saline Water & Food Systems Partnership (SW&SF) of the Netherlands Food Partnership (NFP) and Netherlands Water Partnership (NWP).

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NEADAP Newsletter – updates on Dairy Development in East Africa

NEADAP's newsletters are designed for the vibrant community of dairy professionals in East Africa.

In this edition, NEADAP explores topics like Legume forages, the forage seed policy brief, and an introduction to Ms. Damaris Kikwai, a NEADAP consultant specializing in Forage and Fodder production.

Furthermore there is exciting news from dairy partners, including the BRIDGE Extension Focus on the Dairy Lactation Cycle, ICISIAPL's Field training to promote improved forage adoption among agro-pastoralists, and FORQLAB's emphasis on Food losses and food quality in the dairy chain.

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NEWS – AGRICULTURE



Women lead the way in poultry rearing amidst climate change

To address the harsh drought conditions, women in Isiolo County have taken up poultry farming as a means of economic empowerment. SNV's "Laikipia, Isiolo, Samburu Transforming the Environment Through Nexus" (LISTEN) project has been implemented using a nexus approach to promote sustainable livelihoods and economic development. The project, funded by the Embassy of the Netherlands, supports women-led groups to build resilience to the effects of climate change. Through training and knowledge-sharing sessions, women can easily adopt climate-smart agricultural techniques that integrate Water-Energy-Food management approaches for socioeconomic growth.

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El Niño Anticipatory Action and Response Plan

El Niño is rapidly coming our way and will likely affect Kenya from October this year to well into 2024, with heavy above-average rainfall. This poses threats but also creates opportunities for the agricultural sector. Flood-prone areas in Kenya need to make adjustments now and where still possible, for instance by strengthening river banks. If this is not possible, people need to prepare for swift evacuation when needed. In terms of opportunities, investments could be made in water catchment and flood recession agriculture.

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NEWS – ECONOMIC AFFAIRS



The Challenge Fund for Youth Employment is unlocking potential of Kenya's youth

The Challenge Fund for Youth Employment, funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, aims to support robust and innovative ideas for creating or improving decent work prospects for youth, especially young women. Beatrice Gichohi, country lead for CFYE Kenya, says this project is crucial in the Kenyan context. Read the interview with Beatrice on our website:

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West Wing Report – Sustainable Horticulture / Kenya's Flower Power

West Wing is the official youth think tank from and for the Dutch ministry of Foreign Affairs. As a think tank, they give the ministry advice on different areas of Dutch foreign policy. This year, they wrote an advisory paper for the Embassy of the Netherlands in Kenya with the aim of providing recommendations to optimize the agriculture industry.

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EVENTS



Sustainably growing Kenya's flower sector for environmental preservation, social responsibility and balanced economic development

Kenya hosted the International Floriculture Trade Expo (IFTEX) to showcase its thriving floriculture industry. Efforts are underway to promote sustainability, gender inclusion, and certification programs in the industry, ensuring a transparent and responsible supply chain for the future.

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Kenya and the Netherlands continue to strengthen trade relationship under the Agricultural Working Group

Through the Agricultural Work Group partnership between the Netherlands and Kenya, the Embassy of the Netherlands in Nairobi was able to share knowledge, expertise and technologies. The highlights included a number of activities within the potato sector, poultry sector and electronic certification (ePhyto).

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EVENTS



Kenya - Netherlands trade and investment relations

On 7 September, the Trade and Invest Team of the Embassy of the Netherlands hosted the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), the Kenya Invest Authority and Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) to gain insight in the trends in data on Kenya-Netherlands trade and investment relations.

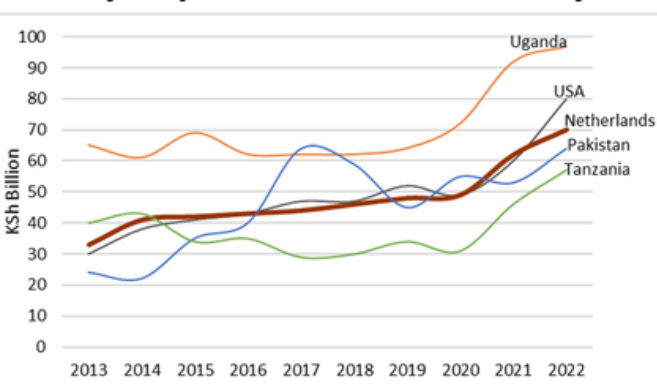
It was an insightful morning and good to have everyone in the room to think about the (economic) position of the Netherlands in Kenya.

For example, did you know?

- NL has consistently been one of the top 5 destination countries of Kenya's export for the last 10 years. In 2022, NL was the 3rd largest market for Kenya's exports globally and largest in Europe.
- Horticultural products account for over 70% of Kenya's domestic exports to NL.
- NL is among the top 5 source of Foreign Direct Investment (FDIs) in Kenya.
- The Amsterdam - Nairobi route has been among the 4 busiest routes after Dubai, Addis and London for Kenya's inbound & outbound air passengers.

(Source: Kenya National Bureau of Statistics)

Key export markets for Kenya



Ambassador for a Day

On 8 March 2023, on International Women's Day, the Ambassadors, High Commissioners and representatives of the UK, the US, Costa Rica, Germany, the Netherlands, and UNDP in Kenya launched the 'Ambassador for a Day' initiative. Young women from all over Kenya applied to participate in the competition to be selected to shadow an Ambassador for one day. On the 11th of May 2023, Ambassador Maarten Brouwer had the honor of being accompanied by his very own Young Ambassador: Ms. Hannah Margaret Birenge. Click on the link below to read Hannah's reflections on the experience.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



Trade Mission (19-22 September, Mombasa)

The Trade Mission on Port Development and Blue Economy will take place in Kenya on 19-22 September 2023. The delegations consists of more than 15 companies and will visit sites in Mombasa and Nairobi, with plenty of opportunities for networking and meeting with key public sector and private sector stakeholders.

The Trade Mission is themed “partnering for sustainable solutions” and is part of our efforts to strengthen the trade and investment relationship between Kenya and the Netherlands, as well as empowering Kenya in its ambition to become a regional trading hub.

The Embassy is championing the development of a Cool Logistics Corridor, to catalyze Kenya’s economic development and align with the Government of Kenya’s agenda to improve the logistics infrastructure and procedures. The goal is to enhance the transportation of fresh produce and improve trade efficiency between Kenya and the Netherlands.

Naivasha Horticultural Fair (22-23 September, Naivasha)

The Naivasha Horticultural Fair is in its 20th year and attracts an audience from across the African continent and Europe. The event will showcase products and services from stake-holders in the horticultural industry (primarily flower industry but also financial institutions, etc).

Together with our partners, the Embassy of the Netherlands will also be organizing a Seminar on the Development of Biopesticides - a solution to changing SPS requirements, followed by a Network Reception.

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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

Are you going to IFTF 2023? Or are you planning a holiday in the Netherlands? Be mindful that visa applications are submitted at VFS Global. Check on [VFS Global](#) | [vfglobal](#) 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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