Kingdom of the Netherlands

Agriculture Newsletter

October - December 2018

6th Edition

Rwanda and Uganda

Twitter @NLagriRwanda Websites www.agroberichtenbuitenland.nl or www.netherlandsworldwide.nl

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019!!!!!!!!!

Dear reader,

Sending you our best wishes for this new year, we would like to share with you the latest updates in a 6th edition of our Newsletter. The news and events about agriculture in Rwanda and Uganda are from October to December 2018. We are always looking forward to hear from you, if you have remarks or suggestion for this newsletter please inform us on KIG-LNV@minubuza.nl

EVENTS

Uganda

NAK tuinbouw mission

RVO has contracted Naktuinbouw to perform an inception mission on Plant Variety Protection in Rwanda, Uganda and Burundi. This scoping mission takes place between 4-14 March and will result in an analysis of the policy structures regarding plant variety rights and commitment for potential Dutch support in this area.

EVENTS CALENDAR

February 2019

14-17February 2019: Harvest Money Expo , Uganda

March 2019

4-14 March 2019 Naktuinbouw scoping mission to Uganda, Burundi and Rwanda

October 2019

2-3 October 2019: Poultry Africa 2019 Kigali

Harvest Money Expo Kampala 2019

As a spin off to the Best Farmer Award, New Vision Media Group organizes the Harvest Money Expo annually. The expo has attracted 20.000 individual visitors per year in the first 2 years and provides good opportunities for the Dutch agribusiness sector. In 2019 the expo will take place from February 14-17. Like every year, there is opportunity for Dutch companies active in Poultry, Horticulture, Dairy, and Agrimachinery to join the Trade Mission and increase business links and trade opportunities with the Ugandan sector. NEC is in charge of organizing the mission – please contact them if you are interested in participating in the mission.

Uganda's best farmers put spotlight on NL Agribusiness

The fifth edition of the Best Farmer Competition finished on December 7th with the announcement of this year's winners. The competition is a cooperation between the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Kampala, KLM, DFCUbank/Rabobank, Koudijs and media house The Vision Group. The popularity of the contest puts the Netherlands in the spotlight in Uganda, which gives NL the reputation of the example for agricultural development and agribusiness.

The competition produces in-depth testimonies of farmers and illustrates challenges, inspiration and entrepreneurship of participants. The exposure of these stories is huge through the widely followed TV-show, radio-show and newspaper updates. The 10 best farmers from 10 agricultural regions plus 3 special category winners, are offered a trip to the Netherlands, where they participate in an agricultural tour. This mission facilitates knowledge exchange, initiates business deals, consolidates already existing Uganda-Dutch partnerships and offers market opportunities to both Dutch suppliers and Ugandan exporters. This in turn strengthens bilateral economic cooperation between the two countries.

Rwanda

IDH Mission to the Netherlands

Photo: Rwandan Horticulture exporters visiting Rotterdam

During the week of 19-25 November 2018, a group of Rwandan horticulture exporters visited the Netherlands on a mission to gain insight in the European market for fruits and vegetables and to professionalize their market approach by better understanding the market requirements on quality, certification and food safety. This mission was organized by IDH (The Sustainable Trade Initiative) as part of the Dutch funded HortInvest program. Companies represented : Garden Fresh , Proxifresh , Sunfresh, Nature Fresh Foods , Golden Cat , Esline Foods and Gashora Farm.

Dutch investors mission to Rwanda

During the week of 5-9 November 2018, The Ambassador with The Agricultural Attaché and The Private sector development department of The Embassy received a group of 10 visitors, from various companies in the Netherlands, who are scouting investment opportunities in - among

others- coffee sector in Rwanda. The participants represented several companies amongst which a Dutch coffee company that imports Rwandan coffee and Dutch companies and institutions that drink Rwandan coffee during office hours. The embassy facilitated their mission- which was completely organized by themselves together with a local partner with insight in the Rwandan coffee value chain , the business climate and the social-economic situation in Rwanda. Pure Africa Coffee plans to open a coffee place in Kigali very soon.

COFFEE SECTOR

RWANDA COFFEE
A SECOND SUNRISE

Rwandan coffee won an award

At The 3rd annual Ernesto Illy International Coffee award that took place in October, The Rwandan coffee won "Best of the best" and "Coffee Lover's Choice " awards. The award was given to Ngororero coffee washing station after evaluating its beans' aromatic richness, complexity, balance, elegance and aroma intensity, and strength.Read more.

The high quality coffee of Rwanda is, of course tea, has also attracted investors from China. Read the story here.

HORTICULTURE SECTOR

Uganda

Phytosanitation addressed in Uganda

Ugandan fresh fruits and vegetable consignments for export are regularly struggling to comply with international phytosanitary standards. This leads to consignments not receiving their Uganda Phytosanitary Certificate, or consignments being intercepted at the European border.

A joined project between the embassy of the Netherlands, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fishery (MAAIF), WTO Standards and Trade Development Facility (WTO STDF) and RNE Kampala starts in February. The project supports capacity building to comply with official phytosanitary requirements to improve market access and foster economic and social development. Implemented by the Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International (CABI), this program will contribute to improving the Ugandan plant health status and to facilitate trade and international and regional market access, particularly in the horticultural subsector of fresh fruits and vegetables (FFVs). Both public and private sector are going to partner in achieving this. It will be explored how Dutch expertise can be availed.

€10 million fund to support horticultural, coffee value chains to be launched today

On December 18th, 2018 the Director General of the National Agriculture Export Board (NAEB) Bill Kayonga, and the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Rwanda, Amb. Nicola Bellomo launched a call for proposal to unlock the potential of Rwanda's horticultural and coffee value chains to ensure the supply of safe products to local, regional and international markets, in Karenge Sector of Rwamagana district. The € 10 million fund of which €7.68 million is for horticulture and coffee value chain development and €2.3 million is being invested in building the laboratory capacities of the National Agriculture Export Board (NAEB) for compliance with regional and international markets standards. Read more

VARIOUS NEWS

Reorganisation of Uganda ministries and authorities announced

On September 11th, a restructuring of Ugandan governmental agencies and authorities was announced. Around a dozen state corporations have been selected and will be closed or reverted to the ministries. Some of the agencies affected in the agricultural sector include: Dairy Development Authority, Uganda Coffee Development Authority and the National Agricultural Advisory Services.

The details of this reorganization are still unclear and potential impact remains to be seen. However the expectation is that the process of reorganization in itself will lead to significant unrest and inertia.

More info, Read more

Green agriculture initiative to boost food security for 70,000 households

For addressing land degradation is threatening livelihoods, food and nutrition security of the poorest smallholder farmers and pastoralists in Africa, The EU funded a re-greening project that will see trees planted to boost agro-forestry and scale up green agriculture with an aim to benefit over 500,000 households in eight sub-Saharan countries. The project will cover Rwanda, Mali, Senegal, Niger, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. Read more

Green Growth technologies in Africa

As part of the inaugural Africa Green Growth Forum taking place in Kigali, a green technologies event was held on Wednesday to give players a platform to exchange experience on green growth technologies and those that foster climate resilience.

The technologies range from renewable energy, to energy efficiency for industry and residential applications, recycling technologies (plastic, e-waste, paper waste, among others), clean cooking (biomass, biogas, and energy efficient cook stoves), green building technologies, as well as green transport solutions (such as electric-powered motorbikes) that reduce harmful emissions. Read more

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