

## KENYA

MAY 2026

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A very warm welcome to the first Embassy newsletter edition of 2026.

It is with great pride that I share this edition, reflecting the continued strengthening of ties between the Netherlands and Kenya. The year has begun on a strong note, marked by key engagements and milestones.

We attended the official opening of De Heus' state-of-the-art animal feed factory in Athi River, Machakos County, a KES 3 billion investment. We also hosted an interactive workshop on biopesticides, participated in the 4th Kenya International Investment Conference (KIICO)—which highlighted Kenya as a preferred investment destination and fostered global partnerships - and witnessed the official opening of Tunga Nutrition (K) Limited's second fish feed production line, showcasing advanced technology to boost capacity and support fish farmers across East Africa. And finally in The Hague on 23 April, the Joint Trade Committee successfully took place with Ministers from Kenya and the Netherlands present.

These engagements underscore our commitment to supporting Dutch investments, inclusive development, and mutually beneficial partnerships.

Henk Jan Bakker  
Ambassador

# Agricultural news



## De Heus Kenya Launches Kshs 3bn animal feed factory

We joined the Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture & Livestock Development Senator Mutahi Kagwe at the launch of Dutch company De Heus Kshs 3 billion animal feed manufacturing plant at Athi River. This marked one of the largest private-sector investments in Kenya's livestock and agribusiness sector as livestock farmers across Kenya are expected to benefit from improved access to quality, consistent and affordable animal feed from De Heus producing feed locally.

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## Tunga Nutrition Unveils State-of-the-Art Aqua Feed Plant

In February, We joined His Excellency Hassan Ali Joho, EGH, the Cabinet Secretary for Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs, at the official opening of Tunga Nutrition (K) Limited's 2nd Fish Feed Production Line in Industrial Area. The facility will serve Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, and neighboring markets, contributing to food security and boosting farmer profitability across the region.

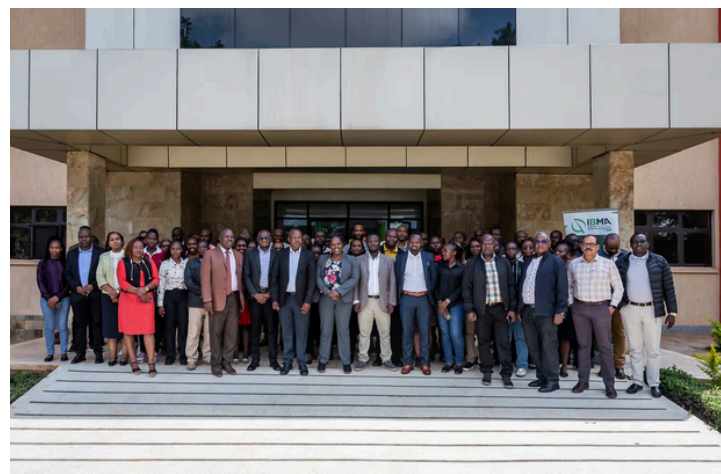
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## Shaping Kenya's Biopesticide: Industry Consultation on Registration Data Requirements

Kenya's agricultural sector is undergoing a gradual but important shift as the role of biopesticides gains prominence within the broader conversations on sustainable food systems. For years, crop nutrition and protection in Kenya has largely relied on conventional fertilizers and pesticides, driven by the need to ensure increased productivity, management pest outbreaks, aimed at meeting market demands. However, increasing concerns around environmental impact, human health, export compliance, and pest resistance have accelerated the push towards safer and more sustainable alternatives. Biopesticides, which are derived from natural materials such as microorganisms, plants, and semiochemicals are now at the center of this transition, offering a pathway toward integrated pest management and climate-smart agriculture.

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# Agricultural News



## Kenya's climate-smart agriculture agenda Highlights from KIICO 2026

At a time when climate shocks are no longer distant forecasts but lived realities, the urgency to rethink agriculture has never been greater. From unpredictable rains to prolonged droughts, the pressure on food systems is mounting, and with it, the need for a response that is climate-smart, investment-driven, and globally competitive.

During the Kenya International Investment Conference 2026, stakeholders from government, private sector, development partners and global investors came together at a high-level side event under the theme: Scaling Climate-Smart Agriculture for a Sustainable Future.

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## Strengthening Kenya's sustainable avocado production

Avocados grown in Kenya have become one of the country's most valuable horticultural exports, earning farmers significant income while positioning Kenya as a key supplier to international markets. Demand for Kenyan avocados particularly the Hass variety continues to grow across Europe, the Middle East and Asia, creating new opportunities for smallholder farmers across the country.

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## Roots of Resilience: Restoring Biodiversity and Food Security through Farmer-Led Transformation in Kenya

Solidaridad East and Central Africa implemented the Roots of Resilience project in Taita Taveta County, with support from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Kenya. Addressing biodiversity loss, soil degradation, and climate-driven food insecurity, the project helped farmers build resilience. Reaching nearly 15,000 smallholder farmers—half women and youth—it promoted regenerative agriculture, soil management, and Integrated Pest Management.

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# Embassy News



## Joint Trade Committee: Working together towards sustainable growth, opportunities for entrepreneurs and employment in Kenya.

On April 23, the Netherlands hosted the first Joint Trade Committee, marking an important milestone in the growing economic partnership between Kenya and the Netherlands. This bilateral dialogue focused on addressing trade barriers and unlocking new opportunities for collaboration, particularly in sectors such as agrologistics, healthcare, and water. The meeting resulted in concrete follow-up actions, including identifying priority bottlenecks, strengthening sector-specific partnerships, and setting a clear agenda to facilitate trade and support businesses in both countries.

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## Responsible Business Conduct

Recently, the Embassy, in partnership with the Netherlands Business Hub and Partner Africa launched a [Responsible Business Conduct Handbook for Dutch Businesses in Kenya](#).

The handbook is designed to support Dutch businesses operating in Kenya in understanding and aligning with local regulatory requirements and international RBC frameworks. It provides practical, step-by-step guidance on key areas including human rights due diligence, labour standards, environmental management, and stakeholder engagement.

As part of continued engagement on this topic, there will be upcoming discussions and roundtables to further unpack key themes from the handbook, including labour and employment practices in Kenya.

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## Webinar on opportunities in agrologistics in Kenya

The Netherlands and Kenya jointly work on the transition from air- to sea freight for perishable goods, on the development of cool chain logistics and on increasing volumes of agricultural produce. Private sector plays a key role in this. Therefore, on 16 April the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) and the Embassy hosted a webinar on the opportunities in the agro-logistics sector for Dutch companies.

The shift from air to sea freight for perishable goods faces challenges such as poor first-mile logistics, limited product shelf-life, and inefficient processes that slow transit times. However, these challenges also create opportunities for Dutch businesses in areas like sustainable production, post-harvest processing and packaging, advanced cooling and transport technologies, and port development.

A concrete opportunity for follow up presents itself in June with the Flower Logistics Africa and Perishables Logistics Africa taking place in Nairobi. These events will bring together relevant stakeholders in the sector. Interested companies are invited to reach out to RVO or the Embassy.

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# Embassy News



## King's Day Celebrations

The Embassy celebrated King's Day in Nairobi, ahead of the official celebrations in the Netherlands on Monday 27 April.

In his speech, Ambassador [Henk Jan Bakker](#) emphasized the strong relationship that exists between the Netherlands and Kenya. For the Netherlands, Kenya is not just a partner: it is the cornerstone of our engagement in Africa and a key ally in building a more sustainable and prosperous future.

Read Ambassador [Henk Jan Bakker](#)'s opinion piece on the occasion of King's Day.

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## RANGE (Resilient Approaches in Natural rangeland Ecosystems) Programme

The RANGE program is being implemented by a consortium lead by Mercy Corps Kenya. This is a 5 year program funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Kenya and is implemented in 3 counties in Northern Kenya. The program is focused on strengthening market sector deepening in the livestock value chain, and on rangeland management. This Year the RANGE program has issued its first quarterly newsletter that highlights the progress made over the last 2 years

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

## International Floriculture Trade Expo (IFTEX) (2-4 June 2026)

The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands is proud to participate in this years International Flower Trade Export (IFTEX) 2026, which will be held in June 2026 at Nairobi's Visa Oshwal Center.

The expo, organized by HPP Worldwide, highlights the remarkable progress made through Dutch-Kenyan cooperation in the flower industry – from sustainable farming and cutting-edge agri-tech to expanded global market access.

Visit our stand at the expo! You will find us at booth B3.06

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# INFORMATION



## 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.

## Travel to the Netherlands

Be mindful that visa applications are submitted at VFS Global. Check on [VFS Global](#) | [vfsglobal](#) 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.



## The Agriculture Team

On developments, events, reports and more

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

