

UNEP-UNCTAD Capacity Building Task Force on Trade, Environment and Development

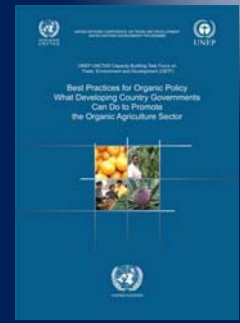
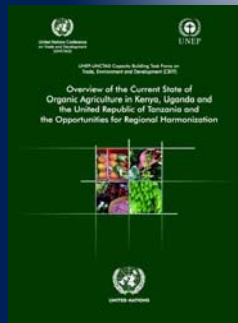
September 2008 Briefing




Promoting Production and Trading Opportunities for Organic Agricultural Products in East Africa, 2005-2008





- Part One: Background studies
- Part Two: Country Projects on integrated assessments of organic agriculture
- Part Three: Regional cooperation, including development of East African Organic Product Standard (EAOPS)



Part One: Background studies CBTF





Part Two: Country Projects on Integrated Assessment CBTF



What is IA?



- A **process**, lead by national institutions for assessing the environmental, social and economic impacts of a specific policy, set of policies, sector or planning process
- A **combination** of multidisciplinary research and multistakeholders participatory process.
- Process is at least as important as the product

Part Two: Country Project on Integrated Assessment - Kenya CBTF

The food and nutrition policy, which is under review, will have a section on organic agriculture in the draft. This draft is being prepared drawing very much from the CBTF "Best Practices for Organic Policy" study.

Part Two: Country Project on Integrated Assessment - Tanzania CBTF

In Tanzania, the agriculture policy is currently under review. Now for the first time, it will include a section on organic agriculture.











Part Two: Country Project on Integrated Assessment - Uganda CBTF

A multi-stakeholder process has been developing an organic agriculture policy that is very much in line with the recommendations of the CBTF initiative.

Part Three: Regional Cooperation and EAOPS CBTF

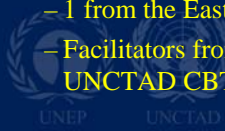
- Ensure overall project coherency
Regional Steering Committee
- Facilitate exchange of national experiences & identify areas for regional cooperation:
Regional Conferences
- Facilitate development of East African organic products standard (EAOPS)
Regional Standard Technical Working Group




The East African organic product standard- EAS 456:2007



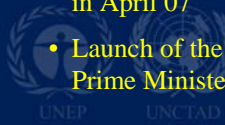
- RSTWG Composed of a cross - section of stakeholders
 - 5 representatives from NBSs Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda Rwanda and Burundi.
 - 3 from certification bodies,
 - 3 from NOAMs
 - 1 from the East African Business Council
 - Facilitators from IFOAM and UNEP-UNCTAD CBTF



- 4 meetings of the RSTWG (Oct 05; March, May & Dec 06)
- Wide stakeholder consultations
- National consultative meetings May & Dec 06
- Field testing Nov 06
- Comparison with international standards (Codex and IFOAM)
- Joint meeting RSTWG & IFOAM Standards Committee (Dec 06)



- KEBS submits EAOPS to the Committee responsible for standards in the EAC (EASTSC) Jan 07
- The EASTSC approved the document in Feb 07
- The EAC Council of Ministers approved in April 07
- Launch of the EAOPS in May 2007 by Prime Minister Lowassa of Tanzania



- Informed policymaking
- Policy packages that help promote OA
- Enhanced transparency and stakeholder participation in policy dialogue and decision-making
- Increased awareness and capacities of public and private institutions and individuals



Partnerships and cooperation:

- National institutions in the beneficiary countries (public, private, NGO)
- International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM)
- International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/WTO)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- Export Promotion of Organic Products from Africa (EPOPA Project), NOAMs, EA Business Council
- European Union and Sida



SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Quality of project design | b |
| 2. Efficiency of implementation to date | a |
| 3. Effectiveness to date | a |
| 4. Impact prospects | b |
| 5. Potential sustainability | a |



- Note: a = very good; b = good; c = problems; d = serious deficiencies

“This is a timely and relevant project achieving important results in an area of growing significance: support to sustainable international trade. The choice of the two UN agencies as implementing partners has been a good one and has ensured much greater ownership by developing country administrations than would otherwise have been the case.”



Focus on environmental requirements and market access

1. Capacity building to meet OA related requirements for market access
2. Support to countries to develop and implement OA action plans
3. Research and analysis to fill the knowledge gap on key issues
4. Capacity building for more effective participation in intl negotiations and standards setting processes



THANK YOU

Please visit our website at:

<http://www.unep-unctad.org/cbtf/>

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