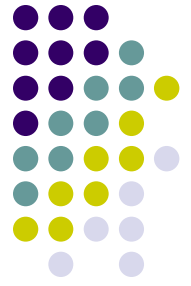


The Organic Agriculture Sector in the East Africa Region, (Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi).

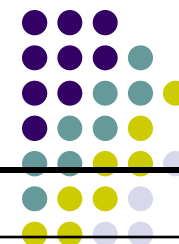
**By: Eustace Kiarri,
Kenya, KOAN, EAOT.**



Background

- Organic Agriculture in E.A can be categorized as formal and informal.
- Formal OA introduced in the early 80's and different countries are in diff stages of development.
- Products from formal OA are mainly for export market (EU, US, Japan).
- No country has adopted an organic policy but all are in the process of developing OA policies.

1. Organic Production in EA



Country	Formal	Informal
Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 45,000 producers certified. -185,000 Ha Certified - Coffee, Cotton, Cocoa, Sesame, Fruits; both fresh and dried, honey, fish, vanilla 	<p>Difficult to establish the Ha an number of producers</p> <p>Fruits, fresh vegetables, cereals, honey, e.t.c</p>
Tanzania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Over 30000 producers certified -- > 50,000 Ha certified -- Coffee cotton cocoa, sesame, spices, fruits, Vanilla, Tea, Herbal teas 	<p>Difficult to establish the Ha an number of producers</p> <p>Fresh vegetables, cereals, fruits, oil crops, tea</p>
Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -30,000 producers >181,000, HA Certified -Coffee, Tea, Herbs and Spices, Essential oils, fresh vegetables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Difficult to establish - Fruits, fresh vegetables, cereals, honey, e.t.c
Burundi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - About 500,000 producers practicing organic - About 10 Ha certified - Coffee, Cotton, Cocoa, Seasame, Fruits; both fresh and dried, honey, fish, vanilla 	<p>Difficult to establish</p>
Rwanda	<p>5 cooperatives</p> <p>chili, mangoes, sweet bananas, geranium, avocado, passion, baby bananas, tomatillos, papaya, gooseberries, Essential oils</p> <p>Geranium, Vegetables- Carrots, Corn, peas</p>	<p>Difficulties to establish</p> <p>Other local traded products are not recognised as organic yet they are organic</p>



2. Organic Marketing in EA

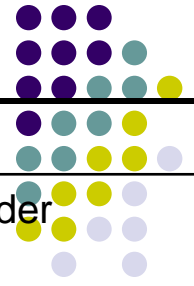
Country	Local Marketing Initiatives	International Marketing Initiatives
Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Nogamu shop-Basket delivery-2 shops run by members & 2 more in the pipeline	-main markets in Europe and US
Tanzania	Supermarkets, hotels, retail shops and green grocers	Main markets in Europe, Middle East and US.
Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-3 restaurants serving organic menus and more interested.- 1 "Pure" organic green grocery-About 13 more outlets where one can buy organic products within Nairobi.	Main Markets: Europe, US and Japan.
Burundi	Not yet established	Main markets in Europe
Rwanda	Not yet established	Main Markets in EU and US

3. Organic Standards and Certification Processes in EA



Country	National	International
Uganda	-Uganda Organic Standards - Ugo cert for local inspection and certification services	- IMO, Ecocert, Soil Association
Tanzania	Tanzania Organic Standards, TanCert TBS in the process of developing guidelines	IMO, Ecocert, Bio Inspector.
Kenya	-Diff private sector Organic Standards, KEBS Guidelines, -ENCert & Africert for local inspections and certification	IMO, CERES, Soil Association, USDA, NOP, Ecocert,
Rwanda	The Rwanda Bureau of Standards has developed organic certification standards.	Ecocert
Burundi	No National certification body	Ecocert

4. Organic Policy Development for EA.



Country	State of Development
Uganda	- Draft policy has already been developed but it is yet to be discussed by the wider stakeholders
Tanzania	- OA has been mainstreamed in the National Agricultural Policy and in the Livestock Policy.
Kenya	<p>-A concept note has been developed by MOA but yet to be discussed by the wider stakeholders.</p> <p>- Components of Organic Agriculture have been included/mainstreamed in the Food Security and Nutrition, and Soil Fertility</p>
Rwanda	None but specific policies on organic seed and fertilizers are in pipe line being developed
Burundi	The agriculture and environment policies are being reviewed to include organic agriculture.

The future



- The future is bright!
- Regional cooperation, Harmonization of EA organic Standards, local and regional market development.
- Policy development.