

Process and Recommendations of IAP - Kenya

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Key Components Of The Kenya IAP Project

- Stakeholder involvement and consultations (NIT, NSC and NSW)
- Development of a Background document to give an in-depth overview of status of OA in Kenya and the wide agricultural sector. Explored the situation of policy issues within the sector in relation to the OA production and trade.
- Integrated assessment and policy options development (Consultant)

Key Components Of The Kenya IAP Project, cont'd

- Development and revision of the analytical framework for conducting the assessment
- Primary and secondary data collection – through survey conducted among the stakeholders - questionnaire to key informants and focus groups and literature collected, besides the IBD, from other key institutions
- Key challenges facing organic agriculture in Kenya among and suggestions to address them by different actors, among other data. For the farmer and farmer groups, the scope was limited to those involved in the production of two crops, namely macadamia nuts and herbs and spices.

Key Components Of The Kenya IAP Project, cont'd

- Reason - the NIT felt that these two crops would offer best results for the analysis since both had very high potential for addressing the priority policy concerns.
- Secondly since the two crops were already being grown by small-scale farmers, then they would have the requisite experience in conversion as well as the production and market related issues
- Expert input by UNEP and UNCTAD staff into background documents, outlines, analytical framework and country report besides training of country team were conducted.
- Drafting and revision of the country report

Policy Recommendations

Some Specific Policy Challenges in agriculture sector in Kenya

- Low labour payments; social (gender) and economic (income)
- Small farm structures (land tenure and land property ownership rights) both an a social and economic issue
- Food and nutrition insecurity
- The lack of developed domestic organic markets

Some Specific Policy Challenges in agriculture sector in Kenya

- Soil infertility and under productivity (environmental and economic)
- Air pollution
- Lack of information (research, training etc.)
- Certification infrastructures needed to support a developing organic sector
- Market development

The General Key agricultural policy objectives in Kenya

- Increasing agricultural productivity and incomes, especially for small-holder farmers.
- Emphasis on irrigation to reduce over-reliance on rain-fed agriculture in the face of limited high potential agricultural land.
- Encouraging diversification into non-traditional agricultural commodities and value addition to reduce vulnerability
- Enhancing the food security, equity and a reduction in the number of those suffering from hunger and hence the achievement of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
- Ensuring environmental sustainability.

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Environment

- Particular with respect to lower pesticide residues,
- Richer biodiversity,
- Lower nutrient run-off,
- Reduced fossil energy consumption and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

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Social Issues

- Food security and safety, nutrition
- Reduced contamination of food with pesticide and antibiotic residues
- Less risk with respect to microbial and natural toxin contamination
- Improved household health
- Increased involvement of and benefits to women

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Economic

- Increased incomes
- Market development and expansion
- More people employed in the sector
- Contribution growth of GDP

Challenges facing the OA sector in Kenya

- Financing the Shift to Organic Production
- Adopting Organic Methods of Production
- Marketing Organic Products

Policy Proposals

- Innovative financing for organic production (availability of short-term credit for hiring the necessary wage labour and meeting certification costs)
- Social capital Incentives (Strengthening of farmer associations - incorporation of small farmers in organic production)
- Promoting marketing of organic production (helping small farmers obtain better prices)
- Strengthening the role of organic agriculture NGOs (technological development, training, R&D)
- Education, Information and awareness (incorporating OA in school curricula, Research and extension service provision)

Thank You, Asante Sana