

## **Burundi: Update of the Organic Agriculture.**

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### **1. Introduction**

- NOAM not existing but in preparation
- Very few fresh products exported(6t/year
- Government committed at setting up an organic agriculture policy
- NGO and private stakeholders: ready to start a NOAM

### **2. How Burundi NOAM is being prepared:**

- - Burundi stakeholders preliminary contact IFOAM and EPOPA and AGROECO
- - Burundi participation in EAO conference ( Dar es Salaam, may 2007)
- - EAOPS adoption but not yet implemented

- AGROECO visit in Burundi (2007, Alastair Taylor)
- Meeting with the main stakeholders ( Minister of Agriculture, ISABU, BBS, Private exporters and potential producers, NGO: CRS, INADES)
- - Brainstorming on agenda of launching a Burundi NOAM)

### **3. What is done up to now**

- Government organic agriculture policy: Published as a strategy by the Ministry of Agriculture
- - BBS likely to resume the certification when conditions are conducive
- - New laboratory equipment
- - ISABU ( Burundi Agriculture Research Institute)

- Agenda of cooperation with AZARECA in the field of OA Research:
- - Founders ( USAID, EU, WB) are implementing projects intended to resume fruit and vegetables export( including organic item)

- - Private Sector:
- 1 exporter certified (ETRO)
- Many others: ready to start production
- ie: coffee cooperative of MUSEMA ( FHI)
- COTRIEX 9 exporter of agricultural produce) with ISABU cooperation
- Rice cooperative using natural manure

#### Proposed agenda for launching the Burundi OAM (2009-2010):

- sensitization, information and training workshop
- BOAM proclamation
- Resuming activities of production, certification, export and selling on the local market

#### 4. Challenges and opportunities:

- Challenges:
- - Lack of information on the OA sector
- - Slow follow up of new initiatives
- - The international crisis and the fruit and vegetable market trends
- - Soil fertilization and pest fighting

- Opportunities:
- - Government commitment
- - NGO,s and private sectors stakeholders: ready to start NOAM
- - Very good agro-ecology
- - Security
- - Resumption of founders activities in agriculture ( WB, USAID, EU, bilateral ....)

#### 5. Conclusion:

- -The current situation is very to conducive to the launching of the OAM in Burundi
- - Government, private sector, founders, NGO ....., all of them are ready.
- - BOAM soon born

- THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION