

The OECD Codes and Schemes on the African Continent



Information Brochure

OECD Seed Schemes



OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme



OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme



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The OECD Codes and Schemes facilitate international trade through the simplification of procedures in the field of Seeds, Fruit and Vegetables, Forest Reproductive Material and Tractors.

These programmes contribute to **reducing technical barriers to trade** that particularly affect trade between developing and developed countries.

By joining programmes such as the OECD Codes and Schemes, emerging and developing countries can **reap the benefits of globalization and penetrate global markets**. They will be able to export to foreign markets, at a regional level but also with partners on other continents.

Trade has been recognized as a very efficient driver of growth. Africa is host to 10 % of the world population but the continent contributes, so far, to less than 2% of global trade.

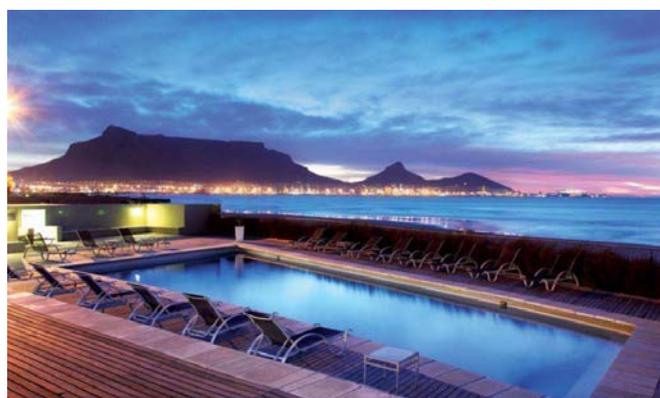
Being members of the OECD Codes and Schemes is a definite advantage to promote growth thanks to an increased trade in some key agricultural sectors.

Already, eleven countries on the African continent actively participate in the OECD Codes and Schemes. The first African country that joined the Schemes was **South Africa** in 1961, by becoming a member of the Seeds Scheme. It later joined the Fruit and Vegetables Scheme in 1994 and hosted the first official meeting on the continent, **the 8th Meeting of Heads of National**

Inspection Services in Cape Town in March 1997.

A year later, in April 1998, the **Annual Seeds Meeting** took place in Pretoria.

More recently, in January 2016 the Technical Working Group Meeting of the OECD Seed Schemes was hosted in Cape Town by SANSOR (**South African National Seed Organization**).



Date of accession to the Schemes

| | Seeds | Fruit and Vegetables | Forest |
|--------------|-------|----------------------|--------|
| Burkina Faso | | | 2008 |
| Egypt | 1998 | | |
| Kenya | 1973 | 2009 | 2014 |
| Madagascar | | | 1998 |
| Morocco | 1989 | 2004 | |
| Rwanda | | | 1994 |
| Senegal | 2015 | | |
| South Africa | 1961 | 1994 | |
| Tunisia | 1978 | | |
| Uganda | 2005 | | 2014 |
| Zimbabwe | 1992 | | |

Among the 59 Member countries, **8 from Africa currently participate in the OECD Seed Schemes.**

Of the 25 countries that are **Members of the Fruit and Vegetables Scheme, 3 are on the African continent.** There are 27 countries participating in the **OECD Forest Scheme**, including several tropical countries (**5 from Africa**) that are developing their forest seed trade for reforestation.

- The *OECD Seed Schemes* provide an **international framework for the certification of agricultural seed moving in international trade.** The Schemes were established in 1958, driven by a combination of factors including a fast-growing seed trade, regulatory harmonisation in Europe, the development of off-season production, the seed breeding and production potential of large exporting countries in America and Europe, and the support of private industry.

There are 7 agricultural Seed Schemes. They aim at encouraging the use of “quality-guaranteed” seed in participating countries. The Schemes authorise the use of labels and certificates for seed produced and processed for international trade according to agreed principles ensuring varietal identity and purity.

The Technical Working Group Meeting of the OECD Seed Schemes was hosted by **South Africa** in January 2016. The meeting was opened by the Deputy

Director-General, Agricultural Production, Health and Food Safety, Departure of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. The Deputy Director General welcomed delegates and presented an overview of the South African plant production sector, of the legislation in the plant production sector and of the seed industry and seed certification in South Africa.

Senegal was officially admitted to the Maize and Sorghum Seed Scheme and in the Cereal Seed Scheme in 2015. The objectives of the country were to answer at the request of multiplication of seeds in Senegal for registered varieties on lists of participating countries and to support the development of the varieties registered within the national catalogue of Senegal towards markets requiring a OECD certification.



OECD Secretariat and Experts during the evaluation mission held in Senegal in February 2015

In 2014 **Tanzania** applied for admission to the OECD Seed Schemes (maize & sorghum and cereals) in order to motivate local and foreign investment in seed production and increased seed exports.

Tanzania is located just south of the Equator and covers 947,300 Km². A

population of over 44 million people, making the largest nation in the Eastern African region both in land area and population. It is bordering 8 countries in total.



After the evaluation mission held early 2016, the country participated as Observer in the June 2016 Annual Meeting of the Seed Schemes at the OECD Headquarters. Delegates were invited to admit **Tanzania** to the OECD Seed Schemes for Cereals, and Maize & Sorghum Seed under the condition that a monitoring visit to Tanzania will be organised in 2018 to verify and confirm full compliance with the Rules of the OECD Seed Schemes.



Members of the Bureau, OECD Secretariat, Delegates from Tanzania in front of the flags of the 35 OECD Member Countries in OECD, Paris, June 2016.

Zambia participated as Observer country in the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Seed Schemes and made an oral presentation

about the national seed sector and the seed certification system. The country sent an official application letter to OECD in June 2016 where they indicated their wish to join the Maize and Sorghum Seed Scheme. An OECD evaluation mission will be organised in the country in 2017.

African Seed Trade Association (AFSTA)

AFSTA is a not-for-profit membership association formed in 2000 to champion interests of private seed companies in Africa. It is registered in Kenya as an International Organization with an office for West Africa in Dakar, Senegal. Currently, the Association has about 100 members comprising of seed companies and National Seed Trade Associations, among others.

World Seed Partnership

The World Seed Partnership is a joint initiative between the OECD Seed Schemes, UPOV, ISTA, FAO and the ISF for establishing a "one-stop-shop" information platform for countries which wish to develop their formal seed sector, as well as for developing joint activities e.g. **capacity building** on demand.



OECD Seed Schemes Website:
<http://www.oecd.org/tad/seed>

• The main objectives of the *OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme* is to facilitate international trade through the harmonization and interpretation of marketing standards.

Kenya is member of the Fruit and Vegetables Scheme since 2009 and is Vice-Chair of the Bureau. The country gave a presentation during the 2015 Plenary Meeting.

Outline

- Country Profile
- Avocado Production and Trade in Kenya
- Passion production and trade in Kenya






Country Profile - /1

- Kenya is a tropical country on the Eastern Coast of Africa. with a population of 45 million people and an area of 500,000 Sqkms (about the size of France).
- Kenya is famous for tourism and beaches and has in recent years become a leading supplier of fruits, vegetables and flowers, mainly roses.





One of the Vice-Chairs of the Bureau (**South Africa**) took part with the OECD Secretariat in the **Peer Review** of France in September 2015. The Peer Review is a systematic examination and assessment of the performance of national fruit and

vegetables quality inspection systems by experts from other countries under the umbrella of the OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme. The ultimate goal is to help to improve policy making, adopt best practices and comply with established international standards and principles. The examination is conducted on a voluntary basis, and relies on mutual trust and co-operation among reviewers, as well as their shared confidence in the process. Seven Peer Reviews have already been released (Finland, Hungary, **Morocco**, the Netherlands, Slovakia, Spain and Turkey).

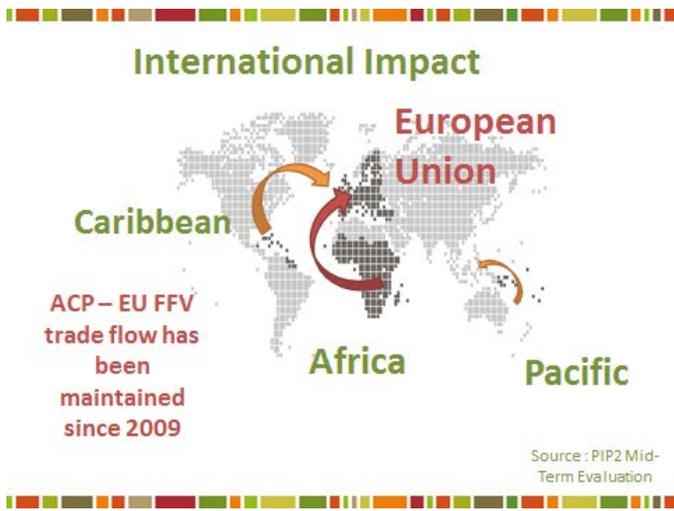


OECD Secretariat, Vice-Chair and Delegation of France in Rungis, France in September 2015



The Europe-Africa Caribbean-Pacific Liaison Committee (**COLEACP**) is a civil society organisation (CSO) established in 1973 whose main purpose is to support the development of a sustainable and competitive agriculture and agribusiness.

The COLEACP objective as an association is to contribute to poverty alleviation and food and nutrition security through the development of sustainable agricultural value chains throughout ACP Countries.



*Family photo
2015 Plenary Meeting held in OECD, France*

COLEACP is an important player for sustaining the ACP horticultural industries and more and more systematically associated to the reflection on this thematic. Since 40 ans, the association works on the strengthening of the inclusive value chains and the public-private partnerships. The COLEACP position is based on the convergence of the objectives of the association and those of the development of the ACP countries (agriculture modernization, imperative of sustainability and resilience, food security), important objectives of EU public policies (food safety) and markets evolution under the pressure of the European and ACP consumers (fair trade, food quality, organic agriculture).

COLEACP develops also an institutional presence through fora, seminars, conferences and also key event for agricultural sectors (Fruit Logistica 2015) et and public and development policies (European Development Days, International Conference for rebuilding Agriculture in Vanuatu, Conference for transforming the African Agriculture, Milan Universal Exhibition...).

COLEACP participates regularly in the Plenary Meetings of the OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme.

A further objective of the Scheme is to facilitate mutual recognition of inspections by participating countries. **The Fruit and Vegetables Scheme is well known for its explanatory brochures on standards**, but is also involved in defining inspection procedures that are recognized in many countries, and in sponsoring training courses. **South Africa hosted the 8th Meeting of the Heads of National Inspection Services** in Cape Town in 1997 and **Morocco hosted the 12th Meeting** in Agadir in December 2006.

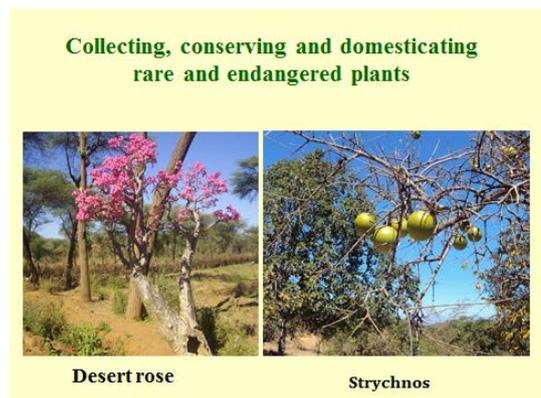


OECD Fruit and Vegetables Website:
<http://www.org/tad/fv>

• **The OECD Forest Seed and Plant Scheme is a certification scheme to facilitate international trade in forest seed and plants.** The Scheme aims at encouraging the production and use of forest reproductive material that have been collected, processed, raised, labelled and distributed in a manner that ensures their trueness to name. The Scheme reflects the requirement by governments to have these materials correctly identified, with a view to minimising uncertainty in achieving successful afforestation.

Kenya was admitted in 2014 to the Forest Seed and Plant Scheme. The National Designated Authority of Kenya is Vice-Chair of the Bureau in 2016. Kenya is internationally considered to be a low forest cover country as it has only 7 % of its total land area classified as forest. The Government therefore put in place measures to significantly increase the area under forest cover, with the aim of attaining at least 10% within the next decade. This is particularly important as the forest sector plays a vital role in the livelihood of the Kenyan population. The most significant contribution is in energy supply for domestic and industrial processes, provision of timber for construction and trees for regulation of water flow. Forests provides essential goods and services such as timber, poles, fuel-wood, food, medicines, fodder and other non-wood forest products. Forest resources and forestry development activities also contribute significantly to the national economy by supplying raw materials for industrial use and creating substantial employment opportunities and better livelihoods. **Kenya** is already a Member of key international organizations related to seed production and certification such as the OECD Seed Schemes, the

International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plant (UPOV), The International Plant Protection of FAO (IPPC) and the International Seed Testing Association (ISTA).

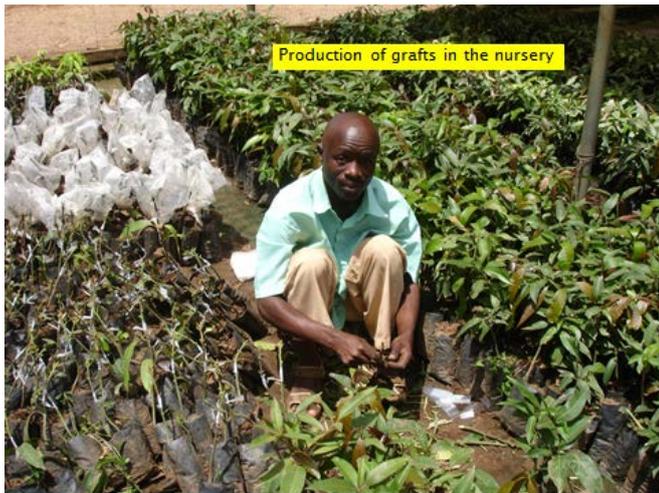


Photos extracted from a presentation from Kenya during the 2013 OECD Annual Forest Meeting

After an evaluation mission, **Uganda was admitted to the Forest Seed and Plant Scheme in 2014.** The Forestry plays an important role in the economy of the Republic of Uganda contributing 8.7 % to GDP. Forests and woodlands cover about

17.4 % of the total land area. The most important forest products are timber, firewood, charcoal, wood pulp, and paper; as well as leaves for fodder and fertilizer, medicinal herbs, fruits and fibres.

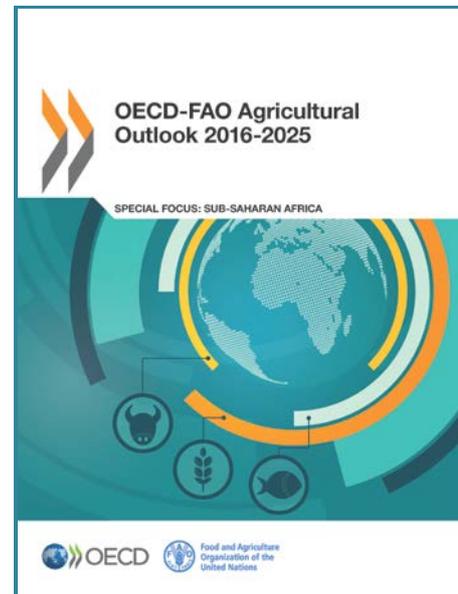
the Republic of **Uganda** has developed the necessary institutional capacity and legal framework for forestry and a certification system of forest reproductive material.



OECD Forest Website:
<http://www.oecd.org/tad/forest>

OECD Flagship Publication

The 2016 report provides a special focus on prospects and challenges for agriculture in Sub-Saharan Africa.



Delegates from Kenya, Uganda, Chair, Vice-Chairs and OECD Secretariat posing in the OECD Conference Centre during the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Forest Scheme.

Membership of the OECD Codes and Schemes not only facilitates trade thanks to certification and harmonized practices for some key agricultural products, but also provides an opportunity to be part of the decision making process on rules to facilitate international trade.

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www.oecd.org/tad/codes