Dear Members and Partners,

Welcome to the Member’s Update for the month of October. In September and October, EAGC carried out several activities on capacity building, market linkages and market information partnership.

EAGC mandate is facilitating, efficient, structured, inclusive and profitable grain trade in the region. As such, the secretariat conducted small and medium entrepreneur-ship trainings in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Uganda and Rwanda. Among other featured updates is on policy, market information and institutional partnerships.

EAGC has continued to partner with several grain stakeholders in the region and Africa at large. These partnerships will benefit EAGC members in growing their trade networks.

We hope this Members Update will keep you informed on the activities of the council as well as opportunities available for enabling grain trade.

We look forward to your feedback. Feel free to contact us for more information on any of our ongoing and upcoming interventions.

Enjoy the reading,
REGIONAL OFFICE
Training and Capacity Building

EAGC in partnership with SACAU takes Structured Commodity Training to South Africa


The training attracted 15 participants from Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania, Namibia and South Africa members of SACAU, who are key stakeholders in the grain value chain. The facilitators were Isaac Tallam the lead trainer, Samuel Rutto and Emmanuella Atito. The trainees visited AFGRI Ltd in Bronkhorstspruit, Pretoria to learn more of grain intake process, sampling and grading, offloading, storage, pest and disease control and grain collection process. The participants were trained on; International commodity trade, International commodity trade process, Application of MIS in international/regional trade, among other topics.

EAGC continues to be the leading Agricultural training institute in the region and continent at large through offering relevant, quality courses that have visible impact on our stakeholders.

EAGC Hosts Inaugural Agribusiness Expo in Malawi

The Eastern Africa Grain Council with the support of Global Communities successfully hosted the Inaugural Agribusiness Expo in Malawi from the 27th to 28th of October 2016 at LUANAR-NRC Campus in Lilongwe district.

The event attracted thousands of farmers, exhibitors, traders, millers, etc from across Malawi. Government, the private sector, development partners and other Strategic partners in the agricultural sector graced the expo.

The theme “Promoting Agricultural Trade Through innovations” gave opportunity to the closely linked sectors to showcase any interventions, products and services as a mechanism of improving market linkages and increase access to improved market information through facilitating Buyer –Seller interaction.

A total of eleven exhibitors showcased their products ranging from input suppliers, producers, traders, processors and service providers. A considerable number of farmers mostly from the central region participated in the ABF. The Executive Director, Gerald Masila accompanied by the Regional Programs Coordinator, Janet Ngombalu and Uganda Administration Officer, Justin Namubiru represented the council in the expo.

The two day expo was officially opened by the Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water development represented by Mr. Phiri, Controller of Agricultural Services from the Ministry of Agriculture.
Trainers of trainers (ToT) equipped with skills to facilitate competency based curriculum to the grain stakeholders

Over twenty trainees drawn from Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi, Kenya, Burundi and Rwanda were trained as trainers of trainers to facilitate capacity building and training mandate of Eastern Africa Grain Council. The three day, Trainers of Trainers workshop was held at PridelInn Hotel, Westlands, Nairobi from 19th-21st, September, 2016, facilitated by Morena Talent Consulting.

The trainees were trained on the competency based curriculum to equip them with facilitation acumen to aid in delivering the right information to the grain stakeholders.

The training will enable trainers add value and impart knowledge to improve on grain produce, post-harvest management, trade quality management, warehouse operations and management and agribusiness finance.

Recently, Eastern Africa Grain Institute, EAGI, a training division of Eastern Africa Grain Council developed and validated an overarching competency based curriculum. A training manual was subsequently developed to guide training processes to the target groups. The curriculum will offer relevant and quality courses to stakeholders in the grain industry, particularly geared to build capacity in the structured grain trade.

Informed by the need for capacity building, the EAGI curriculum is tailored to standardize the learning outcomes and modify the learning process as well as create an opportunity of interaction between academia and grain industry players.

The curriculum is also expected to improve stakeholders’ competency in agribusiness sector.

Speaking at the workshop, EAGC, Executive Director, Mr Gerald Masila called on trainees to use the knowledge acquired to train more people who will work with EAGC as associate trainers in the Institute. “The Institute is now looking up to you (trainers) to facilitate a quality curriculum that will be accessible to all stakeholders,”. He added that EAGC wants to develop the grain industry because over the years, EAGC has witnessed success stories from people who have benefited immensely. “There is a ‘big good’ out of the grain industry when it flourishes,” he quipped.

Eastern Africa Grain Institute (EAGI) is a division of the Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC), that provide specialized training, capacity building and consultancy services to grain value chain stakeholders for the purpose of reducing transaction costs. Among other courses, EAGI offers Structured Commodity Trade Finance, Trade Quality Management Standards, Warehouse Operations and Management, Agribusiness Finance and Web 2.0 and Social Media for development among others.
On 10th October, 2016 Tegemeo Institute in partnership with Eastern Africa Grain Council, hosted a breakfast meeting at Panafric Hotel, Kenya. The meeting brought in key stakeholders in the grain value chain and national and county government officers. The Tegemeo Institute shared their findings on the competition of key staple foods in Kenya: Production costs and Pricing.

From the study, Kenya remains largely a net importer of key food staples namely maize, wheat and rice. On average, the country imports over 50% percent of its demand for rice and wheat and 7-10 percent of maize. This is despite favorable conditions for production thus implying an unexploited potential and/or lack of sufficient policy support for increased production.

A report from the Ministry of Agriculture indicates that two per cent of total maize harvest is used in animal feed manufacturing while another one per cent is retained as seeds.

“When this percentage is diverted from human consumption to other uses, then it cuts down on available stocks, creating a shortage,” said James Githuku, senior research associate at Tegemeo.

Speaking during the meeting, EAGC Executive Director, Gerald Masila said that the government should plant yellow maize on part of the Galana – Kulalu Irrigation Scheme to cater for animal feeds which eat into substantial maize stocks meant for human use.

“Kenya is a maize-deficit country and using white maize for animal feed manufacturing eats substantially into the little stocks that we have, the government has to come up with alternatives,” said Mr Masila. The report reveals that rice is becoming an important staple.

In Kenya, majority of producers of maize and rice are small scale farmers who also depend on these staples for their livelihoods. In order to ensure food security and improve household incomes, it is important to continuously assess and monitor the profitability and competitiveness of these key staples in the country. This will enable identification of key challenges and opportunities for increased production and areas of policy intervention.

Tegemeo Institute of Agricultural Policy and Development, Egerton University conducted an assessment of the costs of production for maize and rice for the 2015/16 cropping year and the current status of food situation in the country. The findings of this assessment were shared and discussed in a stakeholders’ breakfast forum to elicit feedback and way forward on feasible options that could improve on the profitability and competitiveness in production. Such interventions are necessary for ensuring lower food prices for consumers.
EAGC Commissions an assessment on the role of ICTs in improving the functions of RATIN

EAGC is in the process of carrying out an assessment on the role of ICTs in improving the functions of its market information system, RATIN.

In order to increase the number of users of the EAGC RATIN and also improve on the access of the data, EAGC with support from Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), would like to develop and launch new mobile based ICT tools and applications.

Informed by the ever increasing development in the technology space, EAGC undertook to commission a consultancy service to carry out a detailed review of the RATIN system, service, products and solicit feedback from users on their requirements and also scope the market to establish the available and potential ICT tools and capabilities (including mobile technologies) that EAGC can consider using in developing the new RATIN ICT tools and applications that would improve the functions of EAGC RATIN particularly in increasing the speed and reduce the costs of information delivery.

The outcome of the process will in turn guide the fundamentals of the proposed AgriHack symposium through which EAGC will engage youth in Africa to participate in agriculture and trade through developing innovative ICTs and digital applications to support EAGC RATIN and broaden its functionalities.

Grain Traders asks EACG to organise more bilateral Business to Business meetings,

The Eastern Africa Grain Council, on 22nd September 2016 in partnership with Agribusiness Investment for Market Stimulation (AIMS) Program, facilitated a successful regional Business to Business (B2B) meeting, between Malawi and Tanzania traders hosted at Blue Pearl Hotel, Da es Salaam, Tanzania.

The regional B2B which brought together grain traders, processors and input suppliers mainly dealing with Maize and Rice was aimed at promoting structured trading systems and cross border trade in the region. Some of the participants from Tanzania were AgroKibiti, International Tanfeeds, Musoma Foods, Dofra Enterprises.

Non–binding contracts amounting to 130,000MT of both maize and Rice were signed by the participants and witnessed by EAGC represented by Taziona Mchira, Program Officer, Malawi, Emmanuella Atito, Trade Facilitation Officer and Terry Ikunda, Country Program Manager, Tanzania

The event catalyzed grain stakeholder engagement between the two participating countries. Owing to the importance of the B2Bs, participants urged EAGC’s to introduce its facilitating role in the contractual arrangement.

Appreciating the vital role, the bilateral B2Bs have played in promoting grain trade, the traders urged EAGC to consider hosting more of such events frequently so as to strengthen and create more opportunities for grain players. EAGC assured grain handlers that they will get more services, which among them include deliberate efforts to ensure non-binding contracts are actualized.

This bilateral regional B2B meeting is one of the key interventions of EAGC in promoting intra-regional trade through market linkages and increase access to improved market information through facilitating Buyer –Seller engagement.
Under the auspices of the Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, the NEPAD Agency convened a meeting on 11th to 13th October, 2016 at Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi under the theme “From Agreement to Action: Implementing African Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) for Growth and Resilience in Agriculture”.

The Forum brought together an estimated 200 delegates from Government, Regional Economic Communities, Farmers Organizations, Private Sector, Civil Society and Development Partners from the 54 African Countries to deliberate on Africa’s efforts to bring out practical and grass root-based action on agriculture and climate change and open up new opportunities for collaboration as well as strengthening or refining of existing ones in terms of technical collaboration as well as finance-investment partnerships.

The main aim of participation was to exhibit EAGC activities for awareness creation as well as to contribute to the ongoing discussions around climate change which has impact on food security.

**Online Grain Commodities Trade Through EAGC GSoko System Takes Off Successfully.**

The Trading of grain commodities on the EAGC GSoko took off with the first traders biding paddy rice successfully. The online trading process kicked off on 6th October, 2016. Two commodities listed for sale; Paddy Rice-540,000kg and White Maize-38,000kg located in RUDI Mbarali and RUDI Kilolo warehouses were traded. The successful bid was for the Paddy rice at a price of 650Tshs per kg. There was no closing deal for maize posted for sale as the offer price was relatively higher than the bid price. The Offer for the white maize will therefore be re-floated in the next trading session.

Recently EAGC launched GSoko system which is an online platform, to facilitate regional and national trade in grains. GSoko comprises of a network of village aggregation/grain bulking centres (VACs) linked to certified warehouses installed with a software automating the grain intake and grain warehousing and management process, connected to a virtual trading platform with a clearing and settlement process, all regulated and administered by EAGC, under the law of contract and operating under defined set of protocols, procedures, rules and regulations.

On 13th October 2016, the second trading happened successfully, green grams from Katine Warehouse were listed for sale. Tempest Commodities was the highest bidder for the Katine green grams 10MT at a price of USD 5100.

**EAGC Participated in the 2nd Agricultural Smart Climate Alliance Forum**

Under the auspices of the Government of Kenya through the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, the NEPAD Agency convened a meeting on 11th to 13th October, 2016 at Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi under the theme “From Agreement to Action: Implementing African Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) for Growth and Resilience in Agriculture”.

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Office of the President asks EAGC to build staff capacity on Post Harvest management skills

EAGC Uganda country program team represented by the Country Program Manager; Mr. Benjamin Aijuka and Pausta Clessy held a meeting with Gen. Salim Saleh; the Director of Namunkekera Agro-Processing Industries Ltd (NAPIL), and the Government’s Operation Wealth Creation (OWC). The meeting that took place at the Office of the President was meant to discuss working relations between NAPIL, and OWC.

The meeting also centered on NAPIL joining as members and linking NAPIL’s Warehouses (both in Silos and Flatbeds), and OWC’s Stores to the EAGC G-Soko. They recognized that there was a great need for EAGC to build the capacity of NAPIL and OWC staff in PHH, Warehouse Operations, and Grain Grades and Standards.

National Round Table meeting on Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs)

The team represented by the Country Program Manager; Benjamin Aijuka attended a round table meeting on Non Tariff Measures (NTMs) organized by Ministry of Trade, Industries and Cooperatives in collaboration with the International Trade Centre (ITC) at Sheraton Hotel Kampala.

The meeting was meant to present the survey findings as conducted by the ITC on Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs) and procedural obstacles encountered by exporters and importers in Uganda. The survey was carried out by local experts and covered 513 exporting and importing companies across sectors and the region between August 2015 and August 2016.

The findings of the report are very essential in the business environment for the grain handlers in the country and region as a whole.

National Round Table meeting on Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs)

The team represented by Benjamin and Pausta Clessy held a meeting with the CEO of Yo KuKu, the biggest poultry farm in Uganda that boosts of over 300,000 broilers in three different farm stations and utilize an average 350MT of maize per month.

The farm is located in Semuto, Luwero district; 50Km North-west of Kampala. The farm provides maize market for the local farmers but have been impeded by the poor quality of the maize. Although the farm has no storage facilities, they apply the EAC Standards in their procurement procedures.

The meeting discussed EAGC membership and other areas of cooperation like training, and access to market information and market linkages. EAGC continues to reach all grain value chain stakeholders in its mandate of ensuring all stakeholders benefit from these services.
In partnership with the Ministry of Trade, Industry and EAC affairs, EAGC Rwanda hosted the meeting to review the rules of origin. The main purpose of the workshop was to bring together grain sector stakeholders in Rwanda to review the existing COMESA, EAC and SADC Rules of Origin for grain-related products and develop a National Grain Sector Position on the harmonization of the Rules of Origin for the proposed TFTA. Specific objectives include: Review the already agreed TFTA Rules of Origin pertaining to grains, Review the Rules of Origin of COMESA, EAC and SADC for grain-related products (products under chapters 11, 19 and 23 of the Harmonized System (HS) codes).

After deliberations, participants agreed to continue deep analysis of what is provided for in the rules of origin from three economic blocs. There is need of further consultation before we decide on the final Country positions to adopt.

**Over 60 Farmers Trained on PHH practices with grades and standards**

The Rwanda country team conducted two trainings to Farmer Based Organisations within the week. The objective of this activity was to train 60 heads of FBOs on Post harvest with grades and standards”. The two trainings were held in Kayonza and Huye Districts from Wednesday 13 to 16 October 2016.

Forty eight (48) participants (12 women and 36 men) in total representing FBOs of Eastern and Southern Provinces have been reached. At the end of the training, the farmers were introduced to EAGC, trained on PHH practices, understood well grades and standards and many more.

**RATIN awareness and training in Burera and Rubavu Districts**

The EAGC Rwanda team conducted a Post-Harvest Handling (PHH) practices training for the Farmer Based Organizations in Musanze district. A total of 20 farmer group leaders, twenty (20) farmer based organisations were training from Friday 7th – 8th October 2016.

The objective of the training was to equip farmers with PHH practices with grades and standards in 5 districts of Western and Northern Provinces (Nyabihu, Rulindo, Musanze, Burera and Rubavu). The participants have proved at least 2 new things/skills acquired from the training; the FIFO principle, beans harvesting practices, what are the steps for grain intake into storage, warehouse conditions among others. The participants learnt a lot from the training and as such, they expressed interest in knowing and working with EAGC in future. They also suggested that EAGC visit them on their respective sites to meet the other members and do a coaching session on field.
EAGC on Membership Visits in Kibaigwa and Dodoma

With the recent trade export bans on grains which was subsequently lifted, EAGC Tanzania team, saw it prudent to conduct frequent membership visits. The team visited several members within the month. Among other reasons, a follow up of the G-Soko system and its utilization.

At Kibaigwa Flour Supplies (KFS) in Dodoma, the team noted that they were diversifying into other sectors such as animal husbandry. As such, the KFS has constructed another warehouse making it three in total. Kibaigwa is one of the companies installed with G-Soko system which is working well.

Mr. Makilagi, one of the KFS directors mentioned that, maize supply was very low and yet the demand was very high. He also pointed out that the prices at Kibaigwa market had shot up since February. He was surprised that the maize prices were quite high at this time of the season.

At the Kibaigwa Market the team met with the General Manager Mr. Kusekwa Dalali who shared their gratitude for the benefits and opportunities they have gained as members of EAGC. He was especially grateful for the B2B events, that helped them to trade more grains to the EA countries. Kibaigwa Market is the largest grain market in Tanzania and it attracts traders from all around the country and also outside the country. Some of the traders come from as far as South Africa, Angola and Zambia. EAGC has identified the market for RATIN monitoring. The market stands a an important price reference point for G-Soko prices because it is in the center of Tanzania and it is the largest aggregation center for grains.

Grain trade in Tanzania eases as members calls on government to fast track new policy

Despite challenges experienced by the grain traders in the country, tremendous achievements have been realized in Tanzania. The EAGC Country Programs Committee for Tanzania held their meeting to evaluate the progress that the country team has made in the 3rd quarter and reflect on quarter 3 activities.

The CPC members; Prof. Lekule, Prof. Wangwe, Mr Dikwe were also accompanied by EAGC directors; Mr Lyimo, Mr. Silayo and Mr Wambura. In attendance were the Regional Manager, Structured Trading Systems, Mr. Samwel Rutto and Mr Tuhoye.

The meeting received quarter 3 progress report as presented by the CPM, Mr. Terry. The team noted that over the last three quarters, EAGC, Tanzania team has realized tremendous achievements which especially on GSoKo uptake, Market Information, Training and even member recruitment drive. Notably, was the policy advocacy efforts which realized lifting of the export ban which had affected businesses for almost two months.

Mr. Tuhoye, a member of EAGC and former board of directors, made a presentation on the new procedures of obtaining export permits which was very important to the CPC as a continuation of EAGC’s work on the export restriction advocacy. The meeting called on the EAGC Country team to put more effort in ensuring the government fast tracks the implementation of the new policy procedures in exporting grains. The members said this will ensure grain trade normalises in the country and EAGC members would soon gain momentum in the businesses.
Kenya Country Members raise concerns over food insecurity in the country

As the world celebrated World Food Day on 14th October, 2016, EAGC Kenya Country program hosted a members meeting at Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi.

Continuous engagement of members is key for ensuring challenges facing members are addressed. The Council convened a members meeting for its Kenya members so as to provide an opportunity to update the members on ongoing interventions in addressing their challenges and also receiving valuable feedback and guidance from Members so as to improve our service delivery.

On special invitation, the meeting was attended by Tegemeo Institute CEO, Dr. Mathenge and Food Trade ESA representative, Isaac Talam.

In his welcome remarks, Gerald Masila, EAGC Executive Director said the members meeting was taking place an ideal opportunity for the council to reflect on the issues of the grain sector and food security. He recognized the contribution of EAGC members towards the success of the organisation as it prepares to commemorate 10 years in December.

In her presentation, Ms. Davine Minayo, Kenya Country Programs Manager, reported that the 16 certified warehouses have been installed with the G-Soko system, which will streamline and automate operation at the warehouses, 4 trade linkage forums have been held, which have facilitated trade worth $22 million., More than KES 53 million has been loaned out by banks through the warehouse receipts system. The Agribusiness Expo was successfully hosted in Nakuru in August 2016, which was attended by more than 6,000 farmers and more importantly, 26 new members have enrolled as EAGC members in Kenya in 2016, bringing the total number of Kenya members to 96 organisations.

Members called on EAGC to engage the government to advocate for duty free importation of yellow maize specifically for animal feed, noting that this will help reduce cost of animal feed whilst simultaneously availing more maize for human consumption.

In the deliberations, members also asked EAGC to engage more actively in the Climate Change discussion, noting that climate change is having a significant adverse impact on the grain sector.

Among key issues the members recommended, it was agreed that EAGC will share with members memoranda prepared on various legislative matters for members’ information and further inputs. EAGC will engage its members to assess the impact of devolution on businesses of its members in the grain sector. EAGC with technical support from Tegemeo Institute shall petition the government on two pressing issues, these being to advocate for removal of import duty on yellow maize specifically for animal feed and removal of all taxes on post-harvest handling equipment.
North Rift Farmers Trained on post harvest handling techniques to contain post harvest losses

EAGC North Rift Region, facilitated farmers training for seven farmer based organisations with a participation of 141 farmers and another training at Farmers day, Nigeria Prisons with participation of 450 participants.

Currently, farmers in the region have started stocking the maize in the farms and harvesting will start from mid-October. However, the farmers that practiced dry planting are harvesting their maize.

The farmers learnt of the proper handling of maize which include:

- Timely harvesting when crop is physiologically mature
- Sorting of rotten, diseased and discolored grains
- Shelling, cleaning and drying of maize properly
- Grading of maize and factors considered

Proper application of pesticides dusts to control weevils as well as proper preparation of store and storage of maize in the store to avoid losses.

The farmers learnt of the importance of aggregating grains together. This will help the farmers to have strong bargaining power, search for better markets, reduce storage costs for the grains and overcome exploitation by middlemen. Grain aggregation will also help the farmers to access credit through warehouse receipt system.

The farmers were impressed to learn that the warehouse receipt system is the safest way to ensure they earn from their produce without hustle to deposit their maize through Warehouse Receipting System (WRS) after aggregation. This is because the farmers will be able to access credit while waiting for the prices of maize to increase. The credit will help the farmers to meet their immediate needs and purchase farm inputs on time.
This National Workshop on harmonisation of Rules of Origin in TFTA was held in Bujumbura, Panoramique Hotel, October, 12nd 2016.

The workshop, hosted by the Ministry of EAC, Trade and industry, in partnership with Eastern Africa Grain Council brought together stakeholders from Revenue Authority and private sector.

EAGC Regional Programs Coordinator, Ms Janet Ngombalu opened the session by brief remarks and guiding context of the workshop.

After opening of the workshop, the facilitator proceeded to the presentation of the theoretical framework of rules of origin, importance of harmonization of Rules of Origin, context of TFTA, different stages of TFTA. This presentation was followed by distribution of participants into three groups according to the three chapters that were subject of discussion. This session was followed by presentation of various recommendations and observations.

Kimwanga Mhando, Trade Policy Analyst concluded the meeting with a synthesis of different observation from the three groups. EAGC has been coordinating country consultations for the rules of origin on Free Trade Area.

Finally, Burundi Country program has elected Country Program Committee. The country representative organized a members meeting which culminated in election of the CPC members.

EAGC Regional Programs Coordinator, Janet Ngombalu, facilitated the meeting. Members were taken through the EAGC Laws and regulations, terms of reference, definition method of electing EAGC members before election proceeded.

Mr Olivier VYUZURA, Director General of Cerealis was elected Director / Chairman of the CPC in Burundi. The other CPC members elected are: Mr. Willy Bayubahe, Mr. Godefroid Barankeza, Mr. Jean Gilles Dushimirimana and Ms. Ancille Barutwanayo.

After the establishment of CPC, Yves Batungwanayo, country representative of EAGC in Burundi presented the annual report which indicated positive result in the recruitment of EAGC members, 7 new members were elected in 2016 as compared to 2 members in 2015.

Mr. Yves Batungwanayo informed the meeting that the country program will focus on recruiting new members who will increase up to 100%, and ensure improvement of activities for better service to Members.
EAGC Malawi Participates in the Pigeon Peas stakeholders meeting

The Eastern Africa Grain Council, Malawi program represented by Taziona Mchira, participated in the Pigeon peas stakeholders meeting on 15th September 2016 organized by the Business Innovation Facility. The event, which was graced by different stakeholders in the grain sector, was purposed to disseminate results and increase awareness of Nyonga product. Nyonga is a crop protection and fertility enhancement product developed by the Farmers Organization Ltd in partnership with Business Innovation Facility.

Ronald Chilumpha from Farmers Organization Ltd made the presentation on Nyonga product. He emphasized on the potential of Pigeon peas, current price trends and results of the product trials. Seconding him was Arthur Ngwende from Business Innovation Facility, who presented on “Commercializing the Pigeon peas in Malawi”.

EAGC is a key stakeholder in the grain trade in the country and therefore its participation in the meeting was very key.

Photos of the Inaugural Agribusiness Expo in Malawi held on 27th – 28th October 2016

EAGC Malawi Country Program hosted a successful Inaugural Agribusiness Expo at LUANAR- NRC Campus

Mr. Nyandule Phiri, Controller of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation & Water Development speaking during opening ceremony.

EAGC Executive Director, Gerald Masila making his remarks during the expo

Participants vising EAGC tent during the Expo
Within the month of October EAGC featured prominently in the news. With the rising issues around food security in Kenya, EAGC Executive Director, Mr Gerald Masila was interviewed by several media houses to give expert opinion.


In Rwanda, EAGC was covered by the New Times and in Tanzania EAGC was covered by the IPP Media

Capital FM Interview:

How Hunger Can Be Avoided During Dry Seasons In Kenya – Gerald Masila Speaks To Capital FM

Lack of proper food market systems is one of the main reason Kenyans in some parts of the country continue to suffer every time there is drought.

According to East African Grain Council (EAGC) Chief Executive Officer, Gerald Masila, poor markets systems have seen some parts of the country especially high production areas struggle with food surplus while low production areas especially the arid, suffer hunger during dry seasons. Read Full Interview

The Star Interview

EAGC Speaks On Measures To Curb Food Insecurity In Kenya

Eastern Africa Grain Council CEO Gerald Masila said it is sad that some farmers are stuck with tonnes of grains, while others are facing hunger. However, he said it is not abnormal that some parts of Kenya will suffer famine while others have bumper harvests. This is dictated by the agro-ecological zones of the different areas, he said. “We had El Niño rains in the last season, and now we are suffering the prolonged drought situation that follows, known as La Niña,” Masila said.

He said many of those affected in 23 counties, mainly in the arid and semi-arid areas, did not harvest much this season, and do not have much food or grain available in storage, which is now a rare phenomena. Read Full Interview

Other Articles

Grain Council calls for sensitization on rules
How hunger can be avoided during dry season in Kenya - EAGC
Business counselled to focus more on intra-regional trade
Grain traders seek way to develop sector
Leasing land better deal for small scale farmers
Bumper harvest in North Rift while 23 counties starve
Structured Commodity Trade Financing Regional Training Program

23rd - 25th November, 2016
Pride Inn Paradise Hotel Mombasa, Kenya

Structured Commodity Trade involves a process where trading partners (buyers and sellers) are linked through a process that ensures the quality, quantity and safety of the commodity whose origin is in a known warehouse and the delivery logistics is managed to address the counterparty risks of delivery and payment. The structures, risk mitigation and management processes therefore allow for the trade to be financed by a third party who is assured about the source, destination and eventual payment of the commodities.

The Eastern Africa Grain Institute (EAGI), the specialized training and capacity building division of the Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC) is pleased to invite you to a 3-day training of Structured Commodity Trade Financing where you will learn about:

Courses Covered:
- International Commodity Trade Opportunities
- International & Regional Trade Policies
- International Commodity Trade & Terms
- Trade Contracts & Dispute Resolution
- Warehouse Receipt Systems Finance & Embedded Collateral Management
- Market Information Systems for International & Regional Trade

Who should attend:
Banks; Financial Institutions & Trade Finance Institutions; Commodity Traders; Credit and Risk Managers; Trade Finance Specialists; and Marketing Managers; Import and Export Traders; Finance Managers and Directors; Bankers from the Eastern Africa Region and beyond

Your Investment:

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<th>Accommodation Inclusive (Mombasa, Kenya)</th>
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<td>Non-EAGC Members</td>
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Organizations registering at least 5 participants will get the 6th for free.

N/B: The fees will cover tuition, training materials, teas, lunches and field visits. Participants will cater for their transport costs to/from venue.

Registration:
To register, download and fill out the attached registration form and email to eagi@eagc.org or eatito@eagc.org or cwangombe@eagc.org

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EAGI on Facebook and Twitter handle is @EAGInstitute. www.eagc.org
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<td>2nd to 4th Nov</td>
<td>Grain Quality Management Training - Eldoret</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
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<td>2nd to 4th Nov</td>
<td>African Union Commission Commodity Taskforce</td>
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<td>3rd to 7rd Nov</td>
<td>RFBS-RATIN Sensitization Forum</td>
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<td>3rd to 4th Nov</td>
<td>CRDB, Equity Banks Needs Assessment and discussion</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th Nov</td>
<td>EAGC October Monthly report- All staff</td>
<td>Regional</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th Nov</td>
<td>FTESA Grantees Meeting in Dar es salaam</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th and 9th Nov</td>
<td>STAK Congress happening at Safari Park Hotel on November 2016.</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th Nov</td>
<td>Participation in market access for small holders farmers conference</td>
<td>Malawi</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th Nov</td>
<td>Meeting with WFP on the training consultancy for farmer groups in Maridi and Mundri</td>
<td>South Sudan</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th Nov</td>
<td>SITA meeting in Dar</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th-10th Nov</td>
<td>Stakeholders meeting - Kitale and Eldoret</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th to 10th Nov</td>
<td>Scoping policy issues and developing policy agenda</td>
<td>Malawi</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th Nov</td>
<td>G-Soko buyer's training</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th to 10th Nov</td>
<td>SEMIS Curriculum Development workshop – University of Nairobi</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th Nov</td>
<td>GTOP Meeting Eldoret (AGRA)</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-16 Nov</td>
<td>SME training on structured grain trading</td>
<td>Burundi</td>
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<tr>
<td>15-17 Nov</td>
<td>Travel with WFP and Rural women for development team to Maridi to assess training needs of farmer groups, cooperatives/associations (TBC)</td>
<td>South Sudan</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th, 17th, 18th</td>
<td>Warehouse Receipt Financing WRF training</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
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<tr>
<td>16-17th Nov</td>
<td>Training of graders on testing and grading as per EA standards</td>
<td>Rwanda</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th to 18th Nov</td>
<td>Training of Women in cross border trade at Busia border</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th Nov</td>
<td>Training of warehouse operators</td>
<td>Rwanda</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd—24th Nov</td>
<td>Ex-post evaluation for STS trained farmers, SMEs and extension workers</td>
<td>Malawi</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd to 25th Nov</td>
<td>Structured Commodity Trading Finance – SCTF (Mombasa)</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd-24th Nov</td>
<td>Stakeholders meeting - Laikipia and Nakuru</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>29th Nov</td>
<td>Participate in the National Food Balance Sheet Workshop</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th Nov</td>
<td>Malawi Members meeting</td>
<td>Malawi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For participation and more information on the upcoming activities, kindly contact:
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Regional Programs Manager

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