Kenya and the KenyaGAP Standard for Good Agricultural Practice

September 2008
Kenya and the KenyaGAP Standard for Good Agricultural Practice is part of a series of case studies developed through the ISEAL Alliance and TSPN ‘Governmental Use of Voluntary Standards’ project, presented and discussed at a high level conference held in October 2008.

These case studies are examples of collaborations between public bodies and voluntary social and environmental standards systems. They investigate why public authorities choose to work with these standards, and what are the benefits and challenges in doing so. Together, the studies represent diversity: in socio-economic and regulatory environments, in the institutional arrangements between governments and standards, in the policy objectives aimed for, and the implementation tools used.

The studies hope to contribute to a critical dialogue about the future shape of the relationship between governments and international, social and environmental, voluntary standards.

E051 Governmental Use of Voluntary Standards
Case Study 6: Kenya and the KenyaGAP Standard for Good Agricultural Practice

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Although I received a great deal of help, the responsibility for any errors or fact or interpretation lies with the author.

The material and geographical designations in this report do not imply any opinion whatsoever on the part of the author or ISEAL Alliance or TSPN concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Christine Carey, Geneva, September 2008
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## Acronyms & Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>CITES</td>
<td>Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora</td>
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<tr>
<td>DFID</td>
<td>Department for International Development of the U.K.</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>EurepGAP</td>
<td>European Retailers Protocol for Good Agricultural Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>FAO</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td>FAOSTAT</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations statistical database</td>
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<td>FPEAK</td>
<td>Fresh Produce Exporters Association of Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>GAP</td>
<td>Good Agricultural Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GLOBALGAP</td>
<td>Global Protocol for Good Agricultural Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GTZ</td>
<td>Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit, German international cooperation enterprise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICIPE</td>
<td>International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISO</td>
<td>ISO International Standards Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>KEBS</td>
<td>Kenya Bureau of Standards</td>
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<tr>
<td>KenyaGAP</td>
<td>Kenya Protocol for Good Agricultural Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>KEPHIS</td>
<td>Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>KHDP</td>
<td>Kenya Horticultural Development Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>MRL</td>
<td>Maximum residue level</td>
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<tr>
<td>PPP</td>
<td>Plant Protection Product</td>
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<tr>
<td>QMS</td>
<td>Quality Management Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>USAID</td>
<td>United States Agency for International Development</td>
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Introduction

Horticultural production\(^1\) can play a fundamental role in poverty alleviation\(^2\) and contribute to delivering the eight United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)\(^3\). Exports of horticultural produce can earn significant income for small scale producers in developing countries who have access to overseas markets\(^4\). They can also provide benefits at the macroeconomic level to developing countries through valuable foreign exchange earnings and strengthening of their balance of trade. The support services needed to export horticultural produce can also stimulate improvements in rural transport infrastructure and services provision, and thus strengthen a region’s rural development\(^5\).

The stringent and complex requirements of the horticultural compliance framework of the European Union (EU) were developed to ensure food safety, protect workers’ health and the environment. The impact of these requirements filters all the way down the supply chain, to small-scale horticultural producers across the developing world who seek to export to the EU.

### Examples of EU Horticultural Legislation

- **European Council Directive EC 29/2000** on protective measures against the introduction into the Community of organisms harmful to plants or plant products and against their spread within the Community
- **European Commission Regulation N°1148/2001** on checks on conformity to the marketing standards applicable to fresh fruit and vegetables
- **European Council Directive EC 178/2002** laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety

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\(^1\) Horticulture: the art of garden cultivation (Concise Oxford Dictionary). In commercial production, horticulture generally refers to the small-scale of production compared to agriculture, usually on a larger scale, cultivating dedicated fields as well as, at times, rearing livestock

\(^2\) See for example: Weinberger and Lumpkin (2005) page 11 and Pesticides Initiative Program (2007) page 1

\(^3\) [www.un.org/millenniumgoals](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals)

\(^4\) Cooper, J. and Graffham, A. (2007) page 1

\(^5\) IIED and NRI (2008) page 1
In addition to EU legislation, retailers, wholesalers and service companies commonly require suppliers be in compliance with private voluntary standards such as those developed by the British Retail Consortium (BRC)\(^6\) and GLOBALGAP\(^7\).

In Europe, private voluntary food safety standards began to emerge in the early 1990s, when the European agricultural sector was faced with an increasing number of food safety and environmental concerns related to food production, such as Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) or ‘mad cow disease’ in cattle, *Escherichia coli* more commonly known as ‘E-colı’ in contaminated poultry or fresh vegetables, blue tongue virus (BTV) in livestock, and genetically modified organisms or ‘GM foods’. These concerns, and the strong reactions from consumers, NGOs and governments alike, drove the development of GLOBALGAP.

GLOBALGAP was founded in 1997 for and by European retailers with the aim of establishing one global reference standard for Good Agricultural Practice (G.A.P.) with different product applications applicable to various agricultural sectors. The GLOBALGAP standard is a pre-farm-gate standard, which means that it addressed the process of production until the product leaves the farm. It is a business-to-business label not directly visible to consumers\(^8\).

European retailers sell produce that is grown both in Europe and imported from third countries, and have come to require the same GLOBALGAP standards from all their producers, regardless of their location. This has at times created tensions in developing countries where the standards may have been perceived to act as a barrier to access the European market. In Kenya however, the horticultural sector\(^9\) viewed GLOBALGAP as an opportunity to coalesce and strengthen itself.

Kenya has significant trade links with the EU. Horticulture is the leading agricultural export sub-sector and one of Kenya’s top three foreign export earning industries\(^10\). In 2007, Kenya exported over 403,000 tons of horticultural produce valued in

\(^{6}\) The British Retail Consortium developed and introduced the BRC Food and Technical standard to be used to evaluate manufacturers of retailers own brand food products. www.brc.org.uk/standards/default.asp

\(^{7}\) GlobalGAP, formerly known as EurepGAP, changed its name in 2007. In this report the name GlobalGAP will be used irrespective of date of event described

\(^{8}\) www.globalgap.org/cms/front_content.php?idcat=2

\(^{9}\) Kenya’s horticultural sector produces fresh fruit and vegetables and cut flowers. The main flowers exported from Kenya include roses (*Rosa*), carnations (*Dianthus*), statice (*Statice*) and alstroemeria (*Alstroemeria*). The main vegetable exports are French beans (*Phaseolus*), followed by snow peas (*Pisum*), and increasingly Asian vegetables such as chillies (*Capsicum*), aubergines (*Solanum*) and okra (*Abelmoschus*). The most important fruit exports are mangoes (*Mangifera*), avocados (*Persea*) and passion fruit (*Passiflora*)

\(^{10}\) USAID – KHDP (2008) page 1
excess of 57 billion Kenyan Shillings (KES)\textsuperscript{11}, of which over 95 percent was exported to the EU\textsuperscript{12}.

Recognising the growth in international regulatory and voluntary requirements for agricultural products, and the significant role of horticultural exports to the Kenyan economy, a consortium of public and private organisations decided to ‘take ownership’ of Kenya’s horticulture sector and develop their own voluntary standards.

In 2007, KenyaGAP was launched and became the first standard in Africa, benchmarked to the internationally recognised GLOBALGAP standard for fruit, vegetables and flowers.

> How did this come about?
> What motivated the Government of Kenya to decide to facilitate the development of a voluntary standard?
> What has the impact been?
> And finally what can other governments and standards organisations learn from the Kenya’s experiences?

The Kenyan case study is based on research and interviews conducted in July and September 2008 and a survey of published and unpublished literature. This case study does not claim to be comprehensive but aims to summarise key events that have unfolded over the past few years to provide insight into the research questions on governmental use of voluntary standards.

\textsuperscript{11} Kenyan Schillings, KES 57 billion = USD 900 million at time of writing
\textsuperscript{12} KEPHIS (2008) page 1
1 How the Kenyan Government Engages with Voluntary Standards

1.1 The Regulatory & Institutional Framework

The agricultural sector employs some 75 percent of Kenya’s workforce and is the engine of the national economy. Between 1987 and 1993, after a prolonged drought and a series of market liberalisation policies that removed agricultural subsidies, Kenya’s agricultural sector fell into serious decline. To address this, the Government of Mwai Kibaki launched the Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation which, between 2003 and 2007, largely focused on supporting agriculture.

Within the framework of the national Economic Recovery Strategy, in 2004 the Kenyan Ministry of Agriculture unveiled a Strategy for the Revitalisation of Agriculture (2004 - 2014) with the vision to "transform Kenya’s agriculture into a profitable,
commercially oriented and internationally competitive economic activity.  

The objectives of Kenya’s strategy were to focus on increasing production and income levels especially for small-scale producers; increasing food security and equity; placing an emphasis on irrigation to improve stability in agricultural output; commercialisation and intensification of production especially among small-scale producers; participatory policy formulation; and environmental sustainability.

When the KenyaGAP development process was launched, the Kenyan Ministry of Agriculture, Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) and the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) were the main government departments to become involved. Whilst the legislative framework was not adapted to directly reference the KenyaGAP standard, the government provided information, technical expertise and nominal support to the KenyaGAP development process. “The government’s role was to mobilise the key players to participate in the development of the [KenyaGAP] standard” as they facilitated and mobilised the participation of relevant stakeholders by setting-up and running the private-public sector initiative, the National Task Force on Horticulture.

A precursor of the National Task Force on Horticulture had been in place since 2002, as national Maximum Residue Level (MRL) Steering Committee with a focus on managing plant protection products (PPP) residue limits on horticultural produce in line with export market requirements. In 2004 it was renamed to reflect its broadening remit and multi-stakeholder approach. Its members include public bodies, exporters, growers associations, and the international donor community.

Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS)

KEPHIS was established in 1996 as a state corporation, and sits within the Ministry of Agriculture. Its main role is to monitor and regulate the prevention of plant pests, diseases and noxious weeds entering into Kenya. KEPHIS is responsible for implementing the phytosanitary measures of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and World Trade Organisation’s Sanitary & Phytosanitary agreement (WTO – SPS).

Kenya’s Plant Protection Act (CAP 324), the Suppression of Noxious Weeds Act (CAP 325) and the Agricultural Produce

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13 New African (July 2007) Wanjoh Kabukuru page 1
14 Personal communication: Dr Chagema Kedera 14 July 2008
(Export) Act (Cap 319) provide the legal framework through which KEPHIS carries out its regulatory duties.\(^{15}\)

KEPHIS is a member of the National Task Force on Horticulture and at the time of writing Dr. Chagema Kedera the Managing Director of KEPHIS and the Chairperson of the National Task Force on Horticulture.

**Kenyan Bureau of Standards (KEBS)**

KEBS is housed within the Ministry of Trade and Industry, and is also a member of the National Task Force on Horticulture to which it provided technical and training expertise.

In 2007, KEBS signed an agreement with the Fresh Produce Exporters Association of Kenya (FPEAK) and the Kenya Flower Council (KFC) to promote standardisation and quality assurance activities to assure the quality of goods from the floricultural sector. The objective of the agreement is to support farmers to adopt and embrace the KenyaGAP standard, with the ultimate aim of securing expanded markets for Kenyan horticultural produce. KEBS has stated that: “*it will plough back 25 percent of the Standard Levy collected from this sector to improve their quality audit system (increase competence) thus increase competitiveness of Kenyan exports*.\(^{16}\)"

### 1.2 The Voluntary Standards Framework

**GLOBALGAP**

GLOBALGAP was founded in 1997 for and by European retailers with the aim of establishing one global reference standard for Good Agricultural Practice (G.A.P.). Today, GLOBALGAP members include retailers, producers/farmers and associate members from the input and service side of agriculture.

The GLOBALGAP standard is a pre-farm-gate standard, which means that it addresses the process of production until the product leaves the farm. It is based on the principles of risk prevention, risk analysis and HACCP\(^{17}\). Environmental sustainability focuses on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Integrated Crop Management (ICM).

The GLOBALGAP standard is described as a single integrated standard with modular applications covering different product

\(^{15}\) [www.kephis.org](http://www.kephis.org)

\(^{16}\) [www.kebs.org](http://www.kebs.org)

\(^{17}\) (HACCP) Hazard Analysis at Critical Control Points is a systematic preventative approach to food safety and pharmaceutical safety that addresses physical, chemical and biological hazards as a means of prevention rather than finished product inspection.
groups. The Integrated Farm Assurance Standard covers horticultural crops as well as livestock and aquaculture. Today, it covers over 80,000 certified producers in some 80 countries around the world\(^{18}\). It is a business-to-business label not directly visible to consumers.

National Technical Working Groups are GLOBALGAP’s link to individual countries and provide a focal point for stakeholders\(^{19}\). The KenyaGAP National Technical Working Group was established in 2005. FPEAK, an industry association (see below) provides its secretariat and other members include representatives from KEPHIS and the donor community (DFID and USAID-KHDP).

**Fresh Produce Exporters Association of Kenya (FPEAK)**

Founded in 1975, FPEAK is a trade association based in Nairobi. It provides a focal point for the fresh produce exporters industry, advocates for a favourable trading environment for its members, and supports and enhances members’ ability to comply with international standards. It promotes Kenyan products in international markets and provides members with market and technical information.

FPEAK has been one of the main engines behind the KenyaGAP standards\(^{20}\), drawing upon its own Code of Practice adopted in 1996, and the small-scale producer compliance guidelines to benchmark to the FPEAK Code of Practice: "on standards FPEAK is happy to have KenyaGAP Africa’s only comprehensive standard for fruit, vegetables and flowers. We believe that compliance to Standards is the passport to international trade. It is important that our farmers, particularly the small and medium sized producers, produce strictly under the same standard if they are to bulk their produce together to achieve volumes that can be traded collectively for economies of scale. Non-standardized production means no bulking and this could lock out small scale producers from participating in international markets. FPEAK seeks to mobilize KenyaGAP compliance across the country to ensure quality and tradable products\(^{21}\).”

**KenyaGAP**

KenyaGAP was launched in 2007, and is a multi-stakeholder, public-private initiative, managed by FPEAK, to develop national voluntary standards for the Kenyan horticultural sector.

\(^{18}\) [www.globalgap.org](http://www.globalgap.org)

\(^{19}\) Gould (2007)

\(^{20}\) Personal communication: Steve New (KHDP), 15 July 2008

\(^{21}\) [www.fpeak.org/](http://www.fpeak.org/)
KenyaGAP standards were the first in Africa benchmarked to the international GLOBALGAP standard for fruit, vegetables and flowers. To date, two KenyaGAP horticultural standards have been approved as equivalent:

> in June 2005, the 7th edition of the Kenya Flower Council (KFC) silver standard,

in August 2007, the FPEAK standard for fruit, vegetables and flowers\(^{22}\).

### KenyaGAP Development Timeline\(^ {23} \)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Launch of 1st edition of the FPEAK Code of Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Launch of AfriCert (see below)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>First GLOBALGAP certification of Kenyan small-holders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>February, 1st meeting of the GLOBALGAP technical working group for developing Kenyan small holder compliance guidelines. Secretariat located at FPEAK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>February, FPEAK receives approval to initiate a benchmarking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>July, the Kenya National GLOBALGAP Technical Committee develops a Quality Management Systems (QMS) template with samples of documents and records required to comply with KenyaGAP, in anticipation of the national code being benchmarked to GLOBALGAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>August, provisional approval of KenyaGAP benchmarking to GLOBALGAP pending formal accreditation of KenyaGAP trained certification bodies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Formal approval of AfriCert to certify to KenyaGAP standards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>August, KenyaGAP launched as a GLOBALGAP benchmarked standard(^ {24} )</td>
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### AfriCert Limited\(^ {25} \)

The certification body AfriCert was born out of a 2001 International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) project funded by the German international cooperation enterprise GTZ, to create local certification capacity in East Africa\(^ {26} \).

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\(^{22}\) KenyaGAP Version 1.0 1005, Rev August 2006 was the standard benchmarked

\(^{23}\) UNCTAD (2008) page 51

\(^{24}\) Personal communication: Steve New (KHDP), 15 July 2008

\(^{25}\) [www.africert.co.ke](http://www.africert.co.ke)

\(^{26}\) Munyi, P. and Nyagah, R. (2007) page 2
AfriCert Ltd. was incorporated in November 2003, and in 2005 after a period of development and training it was launched as the first local certification body in East and Central Africa accredited to the ISO 65 standard\textsuperscript{27}, the internationally recognised norm for best practice for certification bodies.

AfriCert is accredited to certify small-holder farmers groups and individual farms to the KenyaGAP and GLOBALGAP standards for fruits and vegetables and offers support services to farmers including training workshops and GAP analysis. It is an associate member of GLOBALGAP.

AfriCert is also accredited to certify to Utz Kapeh, Starbucks C.A.F.E. Practices, and British Retail Consortium (BRC) standards.

1.3 Other Stakeholders Involved

**Kenya Horticultural Development Program (KHDP)**

KHDP is a USAID funded project implemented in partnership with the international development consulting firm Fintrac.

Its objective is to increase the incomes of smallholders by helping to secure their employment and production capacity in the horticulture industry. The promotion and implementation of KenyaGAP is a key means for KHDP to achieve this objective, alongside partnerships with the government, grower associations, input suppliers, processors, exporters, research institutions and trade associations.

The KHDP is a member of the KenyaGAP National Technical Working Group, and currently chair the Donor Committee on the National Horticultural Task Force.

The KHDP programme runs for five years, 2003-2008, with a budget of USD 9 million.

\textsuperscript{27} ISO/IEC Guide 65:1996, General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems
2 The Government’s Motivations

The Government of Kenya’s motivation for facilitating the development of KenyaGAP was to protect and sustain market access for Kenyan horticultural products to high value international markets, especially those in the EU. Market access would be achieved by benchmarking to a credible, internationally recognised standard such as GLOBALGAP.

Export to these markets would in turn provide economic benefits to Kenya’s small-scale producers, in the form of secured or even enhanced revenues; whilst achieving broader public policy objectives of poverty alleviation through rural development and employment.

Association with an internationally recognised standard would also help to sustain its international reputation, an important contribution to ensuring world market preference for Kenyan products.

Lastly, the choice of supporting a GLOBALGAP – benchmarking was also favoured for the fact that it would help KenyaGAP address not only good agricultural practice, but also health & safety, environmental and social practices, and help improve these in Kenya.
3 How the Voluntary Standard is Applied

The KenyaGAP standards can be used by farm companies, individual farmers or farmers-groups. It is applicable to large and small scale growers, who can choose to become certified according to one of the following options:

1. Option 1: Individual certification against GLOBALGAP
2. Option 2: Group certification against GLOBALGAP
3. Option 3: Individual certification against KenyaGAP
4. Option 4: Group certification against KenyaGAP

However, in order to apply for certification, applicants must first become members of FPEAK as KenyaGAP is "restricted for use by the Association’s members".28

Farmers and farmer groups interested in becoming certified to the KenyaGAP standard must apply for a certification audit by an accredited certification body, like AfriCert for horticultural producers against the KenyaGAP Fruit and Vegetables standard. There are also two other KenyaGAP accredited certification bodies in Kenya: Bureau Veritas Kenya Limited and Société Générale de Surveillance (SGS).29

A 2008 UNCTAD report stated that by April 2007 (i.e. before the benchmarking of KenyaGAP was approved), 606 horticultural producers in Kenya had obtained GLOBALGAP certification, of which 575 (94.9 percent) chose Option 2 - Group Certification.30

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28 www.fpeak.org
29 For further information: www.africert.co.ke, www.bureauveritas.com and www.sgs.com
30 UNCTAD (2008) page 59
4 Impacts

The creation of KenyaGAP and its benchmarking to GLOBALGAP has had several positive impacts on the Kenyan horticultural sector.

The establishment of the first local certification body in East Africa, AfriCert Limited, has not only created new jobs, but importantly helped secure greater access to KenyaGAP and other international standards in the East African region by lowering the cost of access to certification, and consequently to standards. For example, costs are reduced because applicants do not have to pay flight and accommodation expenses for auditors and consultants flown in from abroad. In addition, local inspectors often have a greater understanding of local conditions and ways in which ‘control points’ and ‘compliance criteria’ are followed in the region.

The agricultural practices of farmers have also benefited. Increased awareness of the proper use of plant protection products (as required for certification) has improved operators’ understanding of how to select pesticides, how to reduce their contamination risks and exposure to pesticides, as well as up to 40 percent savings on pesticide costs attributable to certification to GLOBALGAP.

Finally, the quality and volume of Kenya’s horticultural sector has also benefited. A 2007 USAID report noted benefits to farmers in terms of price premiums and improved negotiation skills. The FAO reported improved crop yields: "Yields were generally higher and input costs lower as the growing process was better managed", whilst UNCTAD noted that in Kenya: "smallholders have already realized benefits such as: improved quality of produce, both for the local and export markets; increases in numbers of employees and acreage under export and local market vegetables; better environmental conservation and management; marketing contracts with major exporters as well as considerable savings on the pesticide use."

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31 IIED and NRI (2008) page 26
32 USAID (2007)
33 USAID (2007)
34 UNCTAD (2008) page 60
35 UNCTAD (2006) page 60
5 Lessons Learned

Kenya’s experiences provide a number of lessons for other governments and standards organisations to consider.

The government’s facilitation role

Ruth Nyagah of AfriCert has observed that in the development of the KenyaGAP standard: "The Kenyan Government has played a facilitating role, including institutional innovation, extension services, the establishment of standards, fostering an enabling regulatory environment, and helping to build national capacities...". This demonstrates not only the success of the government’s facilitative role but the numerous and diverse ways in which it was played out.

Improved public - private collaboration

The development of KenyaGAP has also fostered a better public-private collaboration environment especially through the consultative and consensus building model of the National Task Force on Horticulture. The government of Kenya’s support and promotion of organisations such as FPEAK has proved fundamentally important because it has helped to strengthen the linkages between farmers and exporters.

International organisations have played a leadership role

Kenya’s experience thus far has depended on significant financial support and technical assistance from the donor community. The funding has provided for institutional capacity building such as the Kenya Horticultural Development Programme that support producers in their efforts to become certified and with training and market information. Since many of those assisted are low income small scale producers the demand for international donor aid is likely to continue.

Kenya has developed a competitive horticulture industry that has been strengthened by the development and benchmarking of the KenyaGAP standard. This reinforcement of its horticulture sector, the largest contributor to the country’s agriculture export earnings also provides income on which the majority of the country depends.

The government’s engagement with private voluntary standards will continue to play an important role in the fresh fruit and vegetable export trade of Kenya.

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36 UNCTAD (2006) page 61

37 David Kibe (Kenyan Ministry of Planning and National Development) (2007 July)
The Rise and Rise of Agriculture New African page 1
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The ISEAL Alliance and its members represent a holistic movement that is changing the way the world does business through voluntary social and environmental standards.
www.isealalliance.org

Trade Standards Practitioners Network
The TSPN is an informal network of organisations whose work covers trade-related standards associated with agriculture and other rural industries.
www.tradestandards.org

Entwined Research Programme
Entwined is an international research consortium aimed at improving the science and policy basis for environmental governance through trade.
www.entwined.se

SECO - State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, Switzerland
The SECO is the federal government of Switzerland's centre of expertise for all core issues relating to economic policy.
www.seco-cooperation.admin.ch

The World Bank
The World Bank is a multilateral organisation, whose work focuses on achievement of the Millennium Development Goals that call for the elimination of poverty and sustained development.
www.worldbank.org
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This document is part of a series developed through the ISEAL Alliance and TSPN ‘Governmental Use of Voluntary Standards’ project, presented and discussed at a high level conference held in October 2008. The series includes a summary report and ten case studies.

Summary Report: Governmental Use of Voluntary Standards: Innovation in Sustainability Governance

1. Belgium’s Fair Trade Centre, and the Fair Trade Movement
2. Bolivia and Forest Stewardship Council Standards
3. Groningen Province (the Netherlands) and Fairtrade (FLO) Standards
4. The Guatemalan Maya Biosphere Reserve and Forest Stewardship Council Standards
5. Israel and Marine Aquarium Council Standards
7. Rwanda and the East Africa Organic Products Standard
8. South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands and the Marine Stewardship Council Standard
9. Tunisia’s Organic Standard
10. Tuscany Region (Italy) and the SA8000 Standard for Social Accountability.

Governmental Use of Voluntary Standards

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