

The EAGC Annual Agribusiness Expo was held on 24th and 25th June 2016 happening concurrently in Arusha, Tanzania and Masindi, Uganda. The Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC) with support from partners hosted a two day 6th Annual Agribusiness themed “Promoting Agricultural trade in the region through innovations”.



Dr. Florence Turuka, PS, Min. of Agriculture of Tanzania visit farmers' training stand by EAGC during Expo in Tanzania

As the Eastern Africa Grain Council strive to facilitate structured, efficient, inclusive and profitable grain trade in the region, the 6th Annual created a platform for the closely linked stakeholders of the agribusiness sub-sector to network and discuss demand driven service delivery in a wake to improve the agribusiness sub-sector.

The Expo in Tanzania was officiated by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Dr. Florence M. Turuka who was accompanied by other senior government officials.

In his remarks Dr, Turuka recognized the work of EAGC in Tanzania especially in advocating for an enabling environment for grain trade through trainings and policy advocacy. The Minister affirmed continued support to EAGC to advance promotion of innovations in the agricultural sector and more importantly, grain sector.

While in Uganda, the expo was officiated by the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Hon. Vincent Ssempijja who was also accompanied by the Minister of State for Bunyoro Affairs, Hon.



Hon. Ssempijja, Minister Agriculture, Uganda awards certificate to Afgri Ltd staff during Expo in Uganda as EAGC Chairman, Dr. Otim and EAGC Regional Finance Manager Ms Drollah looks on

Ernest Kiiza. In his remarks, Hon Ssempijja acknowledge the efforts of EAGC in structuring grain trade in Uganda. He assured to work with Eastern Africa Grain Council to expand interventions and reach every farmer and stakeholders in grain sector across the country.



Kinoni Farm Produce Ltd explains a point to famers at the demo site in Masindi, Uganda

Speaking during the opening session, the EAGC Chairman, Board of Directors, Dr. Bernard Otim, said that EAGC is in the mission of ensuring grain trade is structured for efficiency and profitability. In his speech the EAGC Executive Director, Gerald Masila called upon governments and development partners to support initiatives of EAGC which are aimed at ensuring food security in the region.

The event allowed stakeholders and potential agribusiness entrepreneurs raise the level of appreciation for the country's grown, processed and locally made commodities, and secure greater linkages between agriculture and business sectors.

The Expo in both countries attracted several development partners, national and local government officials, Farmer federations, Farmer groups, and farmer associations, Civil Society, Strategic Partners and other stakeholders in the agricultural industry.

Key activities were Exhibitions, Road Shows, a Business Day, Networking Dinner, Farmers Day and farmers' and Youth training. Several stakeholders took part in strategic exhibitions

among them, both public and private sector stakeholders from Government Agencies, Development Partners, Financial institutions, and telecommunication companies, Agri-Input Dealers, Machinery and Agricultural implement companies, Research Institutions, Seed companies, farmers, schools, and all other stakeholders in the agricultural industry.

This attracted over 30,000 participants in both Uganda and Tanzania. This year's expo was a success with several achievements;



Farmers receiving training materials during Expo in Arusha, Tanzania

- Farmers were exposed to new and existing technologies, innovations and financial services for agriculture
- Exposed farmers to Agro-processing technologies through demonstration of equipment & machinery
- Farmers were trained on good agronomic practices through live crop demonstration; live-stock & poultry, Apiary; Fish farming, Agro-Forestry
- Farmers were trained on EAS staple foods standards, Market information Systems and post-harvest handling technologies
- Exhibitors and partners participated in Networking and business relationship dinner which created possible trade agreements in the grain value chain
- Youth exhibited their innovations and contribution to the agricultural sector which attracted possible investors support youth towards promoting food security and job creation. Youth were trained on various topics such as Agribusiness, mind-set change, and trends agricultural technologies



The Kenya Expo will be held on 12th and 13th June 2016 at Kabarak University, Nakuru County.