

Conference on the Rwandan Coffee Sector

Concept Note and Draft Agenda

The Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS II) and the Strategic Plan for the Transformation of Agriculture (PSTA III) emphasise the need to increase exports of Fully Washed Coffee (FWC). Considering national targets to increase export revenues by 18%, improving performance of the sector could have substantial effects on the economy:

- In 2012, coffee accounted for almost 30% of Rwanda's total export revenue.
- If Rwanda were to double the amount of coffee exported as FWC, holding constant total coffee export volumes, it could expect a 10-20% increase in coffee export revenues (3-6% increase in total export revenues)¹.
- Domestic value added is substantially higher for fully washed coffee, compared with ordinary coffee (ORD) (FWC generates approximately \$0.70-\$0.10 more domestic value added per kilogram).

The Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI), alongside government partners – Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Ministry of Trade and Industry–, has targeted reforms in the sector. The Ministry of Agriculture and NAEB have drafted the Rwanda Coffee Development Policy to formalise a long term strategy.

This builds on the existing government policies and programs, inputs from the coffee stakeholders and IGC researchers (Dr Rocco MacChiavello and Dr Ameet Morjaria), reports from different studies and experience of other countries. In view of the past engagement on this topic, MINAGRI has asked the IGC to stimulate discussion on the most important issues related to the coffee sector in Rwanda, and specifically around the new Coffee Policy. The aim of this workshop will be to validate the new coffee policy based on existing research and international best practices in the coffee sector, and feedback from a range of stakeholders and policy experts.

Format and Organization

The workshop will be a one-day high-level event, divided into four panels. Each panel will be composed of three parts: an expert will present a paper on the session topic, highlighting the international experience on the case; there will also be a presentation on the coffee policy for its discussion and eventual validation. Participants will be from key institutions such as Ministry of Agriculture, NAEB, Ministry of Trade and Industry, and Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning. International experts from the EAC and Costa Rica will travel to the conference as well.

¹MacChiavello & Morjaria (2014), 'Coffee Washing Stations Policy Brief', IGC



Coffee Sector Workshop February 9, 2015

Draft Agenda

8th February: Sunday

- Participants arrive

9th February: Monday

0800-0845 Registration

0845-0930 Opening Session

Opening remarks: Dr. Richard Newfarmer, IGC Rwanda Country Director

Welcome and remarks: Hon Dr. Gerardine Mukeshimana, Minister of Agriculture

0930-1100 Panel 1: Enhancing the Coffee Sector – issues and solutions

- What are the easiest ways to create value added in the sector?
- How do we expand coffee exports?
- What policies are needed to increase value added in washing?

Moderator: MINAGRI

Presenters: Presentation on issues in the coffee sector -Dr. Rocco MacChiavello

Government Representative: Presentation on the Coffee Strategy – Dr. Celestin Gatarayihwa

Discussants: Participants

1100-1145 Coffee break

11:45- 13:00 Panel 2: Policies and success stories in coffee washing

- What policies have been most successful in promoting coffee in other countries?
- What are the main challenges faced by other countries?
- How to solve these problems?

Moderator: CEO of NAEB

Presenters: Henry Ngabirano, MD Uganda Coffee Development Authority (15 mins), Roy Aguilar, Costa Rica Coffee Board (15mins), Ethiopian (15mins)

Presentation of the Turnaround program: [SNV Rwanda]

Discussants: [Dr. Ameet Morjaria, Private Sector,]

1300-1400 Lunch– Participants submit written feedback on coffee policy



1400-1530 Panel 3: Conditions on international markets, value chains, access to finance

- How can we encourage access to finance in the coffee sector?
- What do buyers want from the coffee sector?
- How can data enhance coffee production?

Moderator: MINECOFIN

Presenters: Value-chain financing (root capital), What do buyers want? (Sucafina/RTC/Falcon),

Government Representative: [TBD]

Discussants: Private sector, TNS,

1530- 1600Coffee break

1600 –1730 Panel 4: Final deliberation: Feedback on Rwanda's Coffee Policy

- What policies can we feed back from today's discussion for Rwanda
- What steps can we put in place moving forward?

Moderator: NAEB CEO& IGC

Presenters: [Private Sector present on their concerns] [IGC present feedback from participants obtained at lunch]

Discussants:

Government Representative: [MINAGRI, NAEB, MINECOFIN]

17.30 – 17.45: Closing remarks

Richard Newfarmer
MINICOM