

Progress towards development of national organic policies: The case of Kenya

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*"Modern technology
Owes ecology
An apology."*



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Introduction to Organic Agriculture in Kenya



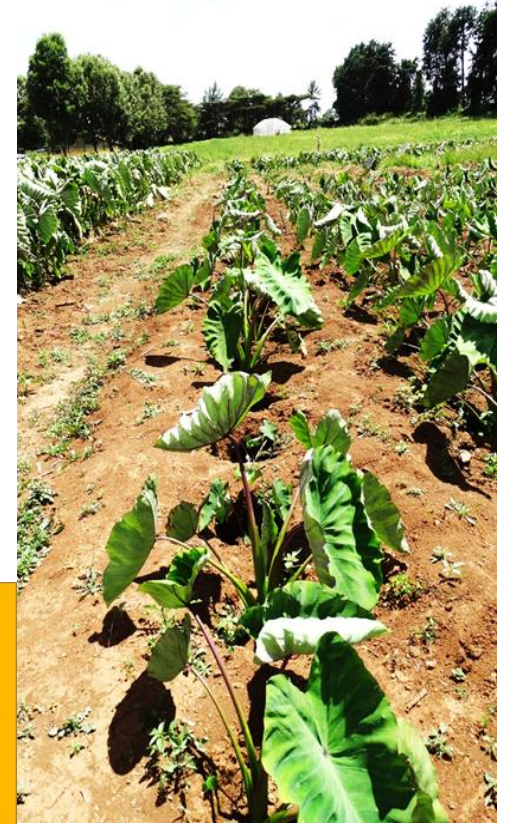
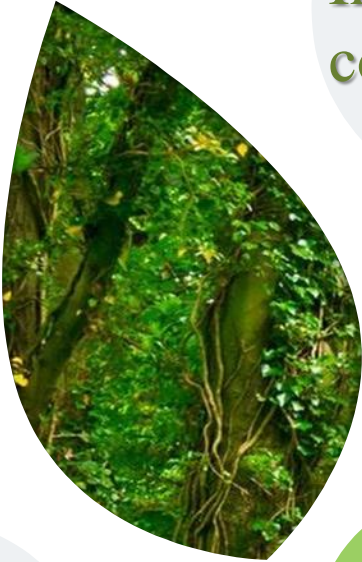
The organic sub-sector in Kenya is relatively small but fast growing especially in fruit and vegetable export components. Formal organic agriculture in dates back to the early eighties when the first pioneer organic training institutions were established..



By 2011 the subsector had grown to 151,371 hectares of certified organic land.

Introduction to Organic Agriculture in Kenya--- cont'd

Demand is high and largely going unmet There are companies now listed as producing organic products for local and international markets, large supermarket outlets and restaurants are selling organic products and food



Importance of Organic Agriculture in Kenya

The sub-sector contribution :

- food security
- environmental conservation
- gender empowerment
- Diversification of markets and premium prices
- Organic agriculture provides a cheap means of replenishing depleted soil nutrients
- Enhanced health due to reduced chemical residual intake

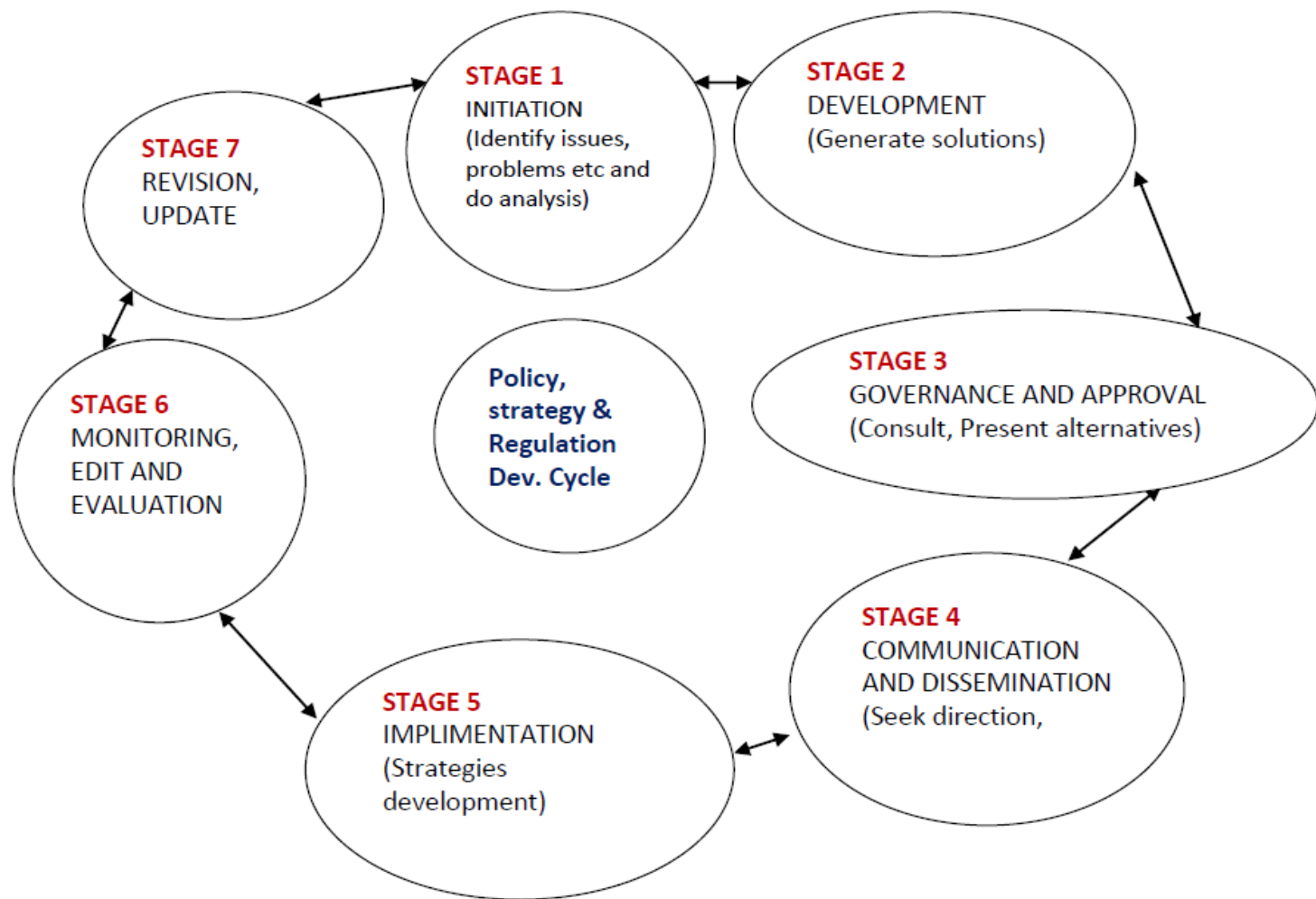


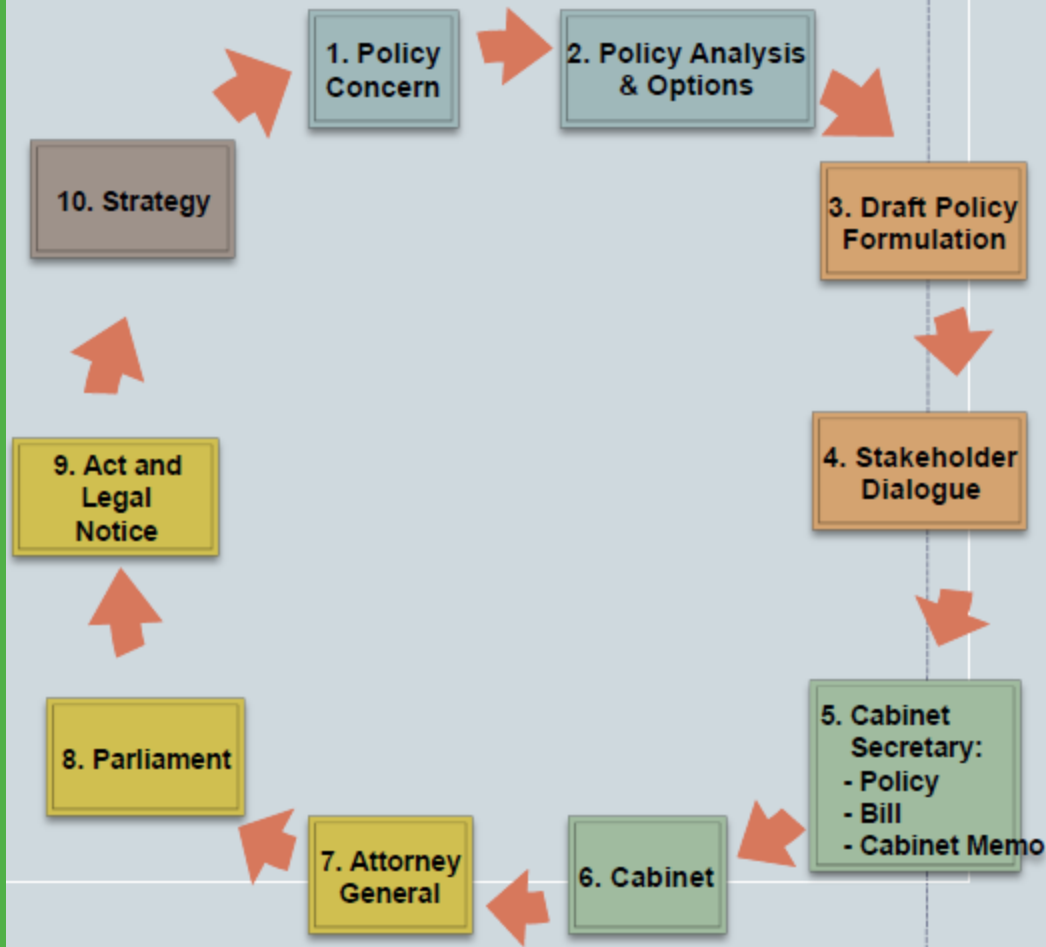
Talisman in Karen, OFM centre for great food. Now hosted on Saturday from 9am to 4pm at Marula Studios, 40 Marula Lane in Karen,

Agricultural legislations and policy development in Kenya

- 
- a. Crops Act, 2013**
 - b. Draft Agricultural Policy 2019**
 - c. National Food and Nutrition Security Policy, 2011**
 - d. National Agricultural Sector Extension Policy (NASEP), 2012**
 - e. Vision 2030**
 - f. Governments Big 4 Priority Agenda (food and nutrition security pillar)-2018-2022**
 - g. Agricultural Sector Development Strategy (ASDS) 2009-2020**
 - h. Agriculture Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy (ASTGS)**
 - i. Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Strategy 2017 – 2026**
 - j. Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Strategic Plan 2013 - 2017 (Revised 2015)**
 - k. EAC SPS 2018, National SSP and KENYA- USA TIWG Document 2018**

DEVELOPMENT PROCESS OF THE POLICY, STRATEGY AND REGULATION





NOTES

- Rectangles 1 and 2 indicate stages that have been completed.
- Rectangle 3 and 4 indicate the stages that require further dialogue.
- Rectangles 5 and 6 indicate what requires to be done.
- Rectangles 7-9 indicate optional stages.
- Rectangle 10 indicates implementation.



Achievements in policy development

- ❑ During the Kenya Organic Food Festival in 2018, the CS was represented by the Deputy PS and other Senior government officials
- ❑ EOA activities included in the 2019 governments Kenya Export Market Development Programme
- ❑ KOAN made a presentation on OA to Senior staff within the Ministry
- ❑ Ministry Assured Support for officer(s) to participate in OA promotion meetings and policy formulations (Mainstreaming)
- ❑ Ministry in the process of initiating development of the OA strategy
- ❑ Mainstreaming of OA issues In EAC SPS 2018 regulation and Kenya-USA TIWG done by desk officer in MOALF&I



POLICY CONCERNS

- Weak research-extension-farmer linkages
- Inadequate research and development
- – Lack of a policy framework explicit on organic agriculture
- – Low consumer awareness on organic products and their benefits
- – Inadequate support of out-growers in capacity building and organization with a view to strengthening their knowledge and skills in meeting market demands.
- There is no strategy to operationalize the various clauses of these policy documents that support organic agriculture

Proposals to mitigate the Policy concerns



The NGO coordination act (1990) greatly supported the Organic sector as partner in rural development and the economic liberalization policies of the late 1980s and early 1990s, improved the business environment there is need to implement for the sector to strategize itself to create impacts on this gains

1. Establish more desk offices in agriculture sector ministries
2. Try to mainstream the ecological agriculture issues in various policies and legislations.
3. Make use of the existing agricultural acts and policies to develop strategies, regulations and finally the Policies eg Stds for organic foods, regulations for organic foods mkting

Thanks!

ANY QUESTIONS?

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