

Improving fruits and vegetables to meet EU standards

In recent years, Uganda has experienced multiple interceptions of fruit and vegetable consignments due to the presence of harmful organisms, in particular False codling moth (*Thaumatotibia leucotreta*). In 2014, 81% of consignments to the EU were intercepted and in 2015, that figure grew to 86%. The increased interception rate has led to the destruction of over 28,000 kg of fruits and vegetables in the EU during 2014-2015. There is a risk that the EU will ban exports of fruits and vegetables due to non-compliance of phytosanitary requirements. The EU market share of Uganda's exports of fruits and vegetables, roots and nuts is estimated at 40% of total volume, with the UK and the Netherlands being the main importers.

Work under this PPG will seek out the geographical areas that need intervention and identify capacity gaps within the public and private sector. The PPG will then compile strategies for sustainable production and export of fruits and vegetables as well as identify ways of reducing the cost of doing business for exporters. The resulting project would identify phytosanitary measures that can ensure pest freedom and thus allow continued market access to the EU for Ugandan fruits and vegetables.

STDF/PPG/543

Status

Completed

Start Date

15/03/2017

End Date

31/03/2018

Project Value (US\$)

\$35,000

STDF Contribution (US\$)

\$35,000

Beneficiaries

Uganda

Implementing Entities

Hubertus Stoetzer