

Content

Introduction	5
Section 1 - Flagship Initiatives	7
1.1 Changing the recipe of Arusha's food system	7
1.2 Going national: Advocating for sustainable rice sector transformation in Uganda	8
1.3 Innovative ways to support access to agri-finance for smallholder farmers	8
1.4 The future of sustainable farming? Our youth!	9
Section 2 - Rice	10
2.1 Unlocking opportunities for youth employment in the Ugandan rice sector	10
2.2 Women for sustainable rice cultivation	10
2.3 Quality rice produced by a quality cooperative: The Uwamale story	11
Section 3 - Food Smart Cities and Beyond	12
3.1 Connecting the dots: Mutually beneficial partnerships	12
3.2 Inclusive business models are hot! Kwapa chili farmers	13
3.3 Demonstrating success: Export Trading Group & pigeon pea producers	15
3.4 How sharing costs leads to generating profits	15
Section 4 - Lessons Learnt	16
4.1 Success stories	16
4.2 Learning points	16
4.3 A Peek into 2020	17
Section 5 - Financial Report 2019	18
Where we work	19





For more information about Rikolto in East Africa, please reach out to eastafrica@rikolto.org

Report written by Ine Tollenaers
Pictures by Philippe Leyssens, Samson Kapinga,
Sandra Kabongoyi, Bob Nuwagire, Maria Serenada,
Bringo Fresh, Selene Casanova, Ine Tollenaers and
Eliudi Doto



Annual Report 2019 5

Introduction



Greetings from Arusha, Tanzania. We are happy to present our 2019 annual report. Internationally, 2019 was an important year for Rikolto to further finetune its global strategy. Rikolto in East Africa is part of a wider global network active in 16 countries in Africa, America, Europe and Asia. Here in East Africa, our horticulture and grains activities are getting more and more streamlined with the global strategies for Food Smart Cities and Rice. This enables our East African staff to engage in exciting **peer learning opportunities** with colleagues around the globe and align their work with Rikolto's global ambitions.

The year 2019 marked the **mid-term of the 2017-2021 programme** Rikolto is executing for the Belgian Development Cooperation. In this report, we have set out some great achievements and learnings made in our horticulture and rice programmes in northern Tanzania and Eastern Uganda.

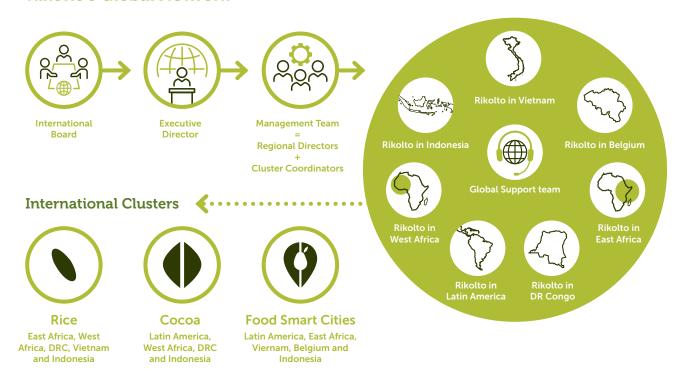
To upscale these interventions, our team has been successfully engaging other donors in 2019 for **three brand new programmes**. The European Union gave us their trust and confidence to execute two programmes in East Africa. From 2020-2024, we will be able to expand our horticulture and food smart cities programmes to **Tanzania's Southern Highlands** under the Agri-Connect programme. Rikolto is the lead coordinator of an ambitious programme that will be executed together with four consortium partners. In Uganda, the EU Development Initiative for **Northern Uganda** will enable us to extend our experiences gained in Eastern Uganda to Northern Uganda. As part of an IITA-led consortium, we will focus on sustainable rice production, inclusive business, professionalisation of farmer organisations and digitalisation of market information systems. In 2019, we also successfully engaged in discussions with the Dutch Foundation DOEN about the elaboration of a Generation Food programme, aimed at supporting young entrepreneurs in the **Arusha** food ecosystem.

The year 2019 also marked the end of an era for Rikolto in East Africa. Our regional director Mark Blackett decided to leave our organisation to become the global director of the Agribusiness Market Ecosystem Alliance (AMEA). AMEA is a global network that helps organisations like Rikolto to collaborate with peers in order to accelerate farmer organisation professionalisation. We are grateful for the contribution Mark Blackett made to Rikolto East-Africa and proud of the next move he will make in his career. *Asanta sana Mark* for your engagement for Rikolto.

David Leyssens

Regional Director Rikolto in East Africa

Rikolto's Global Network





DAVID LEYSSENS

Regional Director

Challenges in the food sector are complex as they link with many different sustainability challenges. New and innovative partnerships between 'unusual suspects' are therefore needed to tackle them. Rikolto in East Africa wants to be a matchmaker of partnerships and market facilitator for change.

Annual Report 2019 7

Section 1 Flagship Initiatives

1.1 Changing the recipe of Arusha's food system

Fresh fruits and vegetables are indispensable to a healthy and balanced diet, but are the fruits and vegetables sold on the local market in Arusha as healthy as we think? To find the answer to that question, Rikolto worked with the Tropical Pesticides Research Institute (TPRI) to conduct a study on the **food safety risks** of fruit and vegetables in Arusha. The study found high levels of biological and chemical residues in the fresh produce, which pose a threat to food safety. On the Arusha market, 63.2% of fresh fruit and vegetables were biologically contaminated and 47.5% had detectable levels of pesticide residues, of which 74.2% exceeded safety levels.

To improve the food safety of fresh fruits and vegetables, the **Arusha Food Safety Initiative** – a multi-stakeholder platform – addresses the challenges that exist throughout the supply chain, from farm to plate. Rikolto has worked with farmer organisation Muvikiho (Muungano wa Vikundi vya Kilimo cha Horticulture) to coach farmers on **Good Agricultural Practices (GAP).** By adopting these sustainable practices, farmers become more resilient to climate change and the food safety risks are reduced, for instance due to the correct usage of pesticides. Muvikiho farmers then supply their fresh produce to the sellers on the Arusha market.

Like many other markets around the country, the Arusha market does not meet the **basic hygiene requirements**

due to its aging structures. The Food Safety Initiative is training 200 vendors to arrange their stall like a kiosk, in line with hygiene, storage and food safety standards. The **kiosk model** seeks to raise awareness and promote food safety on the market. In 2020, we will continue the work with farmers and vendors, as well as set up a public awareness campaign about food safety.

We want to make sure that all food produced in Arusha, especially vegetables and fruits, is safe. The municipality also looks at developing a Food Policy for Arusha together with a wide range of partners.



SHUKURU TWEVE Arusha Food Smart City Coordinator



1.2 Going national: Advocating for sustainable rice sector transformation in Uganda

The Ugandan government is in the process of formulating a new National Rice Development Strategy (NRDS) for the period 2020-2030 to guide the development of the rice sector in Uganda. Given our track record with **enhancing environmental sustainability** in the rice sector, Rikolto was invited by the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries to a national rice stakeholder meeting in Kampala to share our experience with the use of the global **Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) standard** to promote sustainable rice cultivation.

I advocated for the adoption of the Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) standard in the new National Rice Development Strategy to make rice farming more sustainable and address the challenge of increasing production while protecting the environment and mitigating the impact of climate change.



JOHN ERENG
Rice Cluster
Coordinator

The SRP standard is a performance standard that uses a scoring system to enable stepwise compliance. It is not a "pass or fail" standard, but instead encourages constant improvement towards more ecological sustainability. Between 2018 and 2019, we have piloted this standard with over 1,400 rice farmers from two rice farmer cooperatives in Eastern Uganda. On average, the farmers increased their sustainable rice cultivation score with 30% in just one year.

The stakeholder meeting in Kampala on the one hand created a space for further discussions on the SRP standard in the framework of the National Rice Development Strategy that will be finalised in 2020. On the other hand, it gave Rikolto the opportunity to join the rice task force that was charged with the responsibility of formulating the rice component of the new Agricultural

Sector Strategic Plan III (2021-2025) (ASSP). The rice component of the ASSP will provide the framework within which the new NRDS will be formulated. In this plan, we successfully pushed for the recognition of the SRP standard. Our key task as highlighted in the ASSP is to support the **local adaptation** of the global standard to the Ugandan context to make it more relevant and practical for all the key sector players in the country.



1.3 Innovative ways to support access to agri-finance for smallholder farmers

Access to finance is one of the biggest hurdles in setting up inclusive and sustainable farming and agri-food businesses. It is therefore important to create strong business cases for financial institutions and other actors to provide finance to smallholder farmers and small businesses. In 2019, we were successful in facilitating investments in grains in Uganda and solar-powered irrigation in Tanzania.

In Uganda, two cooperatives of smallholder rice farmers in Bulambuli district entered into business discussions with SWT Rice, a company engaged in rice processing and distribution across Uganda. These discussions attracted the attention of the local Micro-finance Support Centre (MSC) and a private fertiliser company from Kenya. "Even before signing a formal agreement, MSC and the fertiliser supplier already started providing services to the farmer organisations, because they saw a business case in it for them. The private company is building on the fact that the farmer organisations intend to make a deal with SWT and access loans from MSC. This will allow the farmers to buy farm inputs, including fertilisers. The fertiliser supplier has already earmarked funds for setting up rice demos to train the farmers on how to use their products. The new season begins in April 2020, let's see if everything falls into place!", explains John Ereng, rice programme coordinator in East Africa.

In Tanzania, 90% of water is consumed by agriculture, with most farmers using an inefficient open canal method and diesel-powered pumps for the irrigation of their land. The inefficient water usage puts even more pressure on already water-stressed regions such as the Pangani River Basin. **Solar-powered irrigation systems** are a more efficient and sustainable alternative. Because access to

finance is the main barrier for farmers to purchase these systems, Rikolto piloted six solar-powered irrigation demonstrations in northern Tanzania in cooperation with Simusolar, a Tanzanian company. Simusolar set up an internal **credit scheme** for customers that can be more easily accessed by smallholder farmers compared to other forms of financial products from financial institutions, if it is bundled with the technology transfer service. In 2020, we will invest more in assisting farmers with the development of business plans to support the adoption of this technology and raising awareness about the importance of investing in efficient solar-powered irrigation systems.



1.4 The future of sustainable farming? Our youth!

Why did we bring forty young farmers and entrepreneurs from five different countries - Uganda, Kenya, DRC,

Tanzania and Rwanda – together for five days in Mbale in Eastern Uganda? To strengthen the capacities of **young** farmers and entrepreneurs in sustainable agriculture, especially when catering to a growing urban market.

"Small towns and cities are expanding rapidly. It is very important to ensure that young farmers are engaged in sustainable agriculture practices to ensure access to safe and nutritious food and create efficient and inclusive rural—urban partnerships." - Dr. Kakoli Ghosh from the Sustainable Agriculture Management Team at FAO

In partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and the Young Professionals for Agricultural Development (YPARD), Rikolto invited forty youth full of potential to learn about sustainable agriculture and food businesses, and to discuss how their own experiences and talents contribute to sustainability. The workshop - Youth-led Sustainable Agriculture for Urban Food Systems in East Africa - created an **open space for learning** from experts, but also peer-to-peer knowledge exchange.

"Our goal is to increase the capacities of young progressive farmers in sustainable agriculture practices that can lead to sustainable development. This five-day event will enable young progressive farmers from all over East Africa to learn and collaborate together to improve our food system in the region." - Paul Zaake YPARD's Country Representative.





2.1 Unlocking opportunities for youth employment in the Ugandan rice sector

Bongomin Group is a private **Business Development Services** provider based in Eastern Uganda. The company offers a range of rice-related services, including professional labour services for individual farmers and private firms involved in rice production. The idea is that – at least for now – not all services required during rice cultivation in Uganda can be mechanised, and therefore there are **opportunities for youth** to provide professional manual labour to rice farmers. Bongomin Group heavily relies on the local youth in the delivery of this service.

Rikolto worked with Bongomin Group to strengthen their ability to support its clients, which are mainly largescale farmers and firms, in cultivating rice in line with the Sustainable Rice Platform standard. In 2019, the company enrolled and deployed 333 young people to provide labour services to 3 large-scale farms in Bulambuli, amongst which also the well-known Kingdom Rice Farm. Following the success of this youth engagement model in 2019, Bongomin Group plans to scale up this endeavour in 2020 and engage an additional 600 to 700 young people in the scheme to cover more rice growing areas. Rikolto will work with the company to popularise this youth engagement model in the new Development Initiative for Northern Uganda programme funded by the European Union (EU-DINU). With Rikolto's support, our partner SOLIDARIDAD is also exploring possibilities to adopt this model in coffee farming.

2.2 Women for sustainable rice cultivation

In northern Tanzania, Rikolto set up a pilot project with smallholder rice farmers from Babati in the Manyara region to coach them on sustainable rice cultivation practices based on the Sustainable Rice Platform (SRP) standard. Those farmers who changed their traditional practices to more sustainable ones reported that productivity went up, while production costs went down as a result of minimal use of external agro-inputs, such as pesticides.

With 80% of the total Babati population practising sustainable rice farming, the shift in lifestyles is impressive. Most farmers have been able to buy cars and tractors for their own farming purposes.



MARY TEMU Extension Officer Magugu ward in Babati



Section 2 Rice

The pilot also led to **women's empowerment** in the district. Before rice farming, most girls were married off at an early age in Babati. Rice farming exposed the Babati population to knowledge through education. This exposure was a starting point for women empowerment in Babati, education for girls, and financial security for rice growing mothers that trickled down to their daughters. "I am one of them, first as a daughter and now as a mother," says Mary Temu.

The success of this pilot in Babati has since been scaled up in southern Tanzania under a partnership with Kilimo Trust. A small successful pilot in northern Tanzania has thus resulted in innovations and learnings that can be implemented in the **major rice producing areas** in southern Tanzania. Importantly, Rikolto was able to lobby the Tanzanian Ministry of Agriculture to mainstream elements of this pilot, especially the use of the SRP Standard, in the new **National Rice Development Strategy II**, an ambitious rice development programme that will run until 2030.

2.3 Quality rice produced by a quality cooperative: The Uwamale story

In the green fields in Arumeru district, not far from Mount Meru in northern Tanzania, the Uwamale farmers' cooperative has grown from just 15 members to 600 rice farmers – mostly women – over the last 20 years. In 2018 alone, the cooperative harvested 531.5 tons of rice, with each kilogram selling at an average 1500 Tanzania Shillings (TZS) and collectively generating TZS 796,500,000 in revenue.

In the past, the cooperative has been struggling with lack of transparency, which left farmers hesitant to fully commit. To change these attitudes and get more farmers on board as members, Rikolto appointed a business consultant to change Uwamale cooperative's negative

narrative, create a transparent medium between the cooperative and all stakeholders, and explain membership advantages to farmers. In the cooperative, farmers can address their **shared challenges**, improve their agricultural practices, enhance their agricultural skills, and **increase production**. Together with the cooperative, Rikolto has organised trainings and workshops for farmers: from plot preparation excursions to food safety to post-harvest handling trainings (placement, storage and packaging) to capacity building workshops about proper canal construction. All this has **reduced the post-harvest losses** and avoided water wastage, making the rice production more sustainable.

As a member of the Uwamale Cooperative, I have learnt so much through Rikolto's trainings on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs). I have transferred that knowledge to how I farm and seen profound improvements in quality and production.

But more than anything, I am grateful to always have food readily available in my home, for my family.

KHADIJA MUNYANYEMBE

With the above interventions, Uwamale farmers have seen a progressive paddy production trend from 5 sacks per acre, to 25 and most recently, 40 bags per acre in seasonal harvests. The numbers are encouraging, and the board of directors and the cooperative's management are looking beyond the local market to regional markets.



Section 3 Food Smart Cities and Beyond



3.1 Connecting the dots: Mutually beneficial partnerships

For a smallholder farmer, it is often challenging to find a buyer for the fresh fruits and vegetables they produce. Due to uncertainty about the capacity of smallholder farmers to adhere to contract terms and standard specifications, companies are reluctant to work with them. The farmers from Farmer Organisation Muvikiho in Usa River, between Arusha and Moshi in northern Tanzania, were not afraid to face this challenge. Rikolto has been guiding them to implement quality management systems and climate-smart and good agricultural practices. After farmers were certified, companies put more trust in the Muvikiho smallholder farmers, making it possible for them

to sign **long-term contracts** with companies such as East Africa Fruits.

In 2019, new companies entered the market, which increased the competition in contract sourcing from farmers. The company East Africa Fruits – a social enterprise introducing sellers to buyers of fresh fruits, vegetables and grains – collaborated with Rikolto to contract smallholder farmers to supply fruit and vegetables to the city market in Dar es Salaam. East Africa Fruits aggregates demand and delivers fresh produce directly from farms to retailers, wholesalers, local vendors, restaurants, cafés, hotels and exporters. They are not only a buyer, but also support smallholder farmers on crop planning in alignment with marketplaces, upgrading farm infrastructure and transitioning to sustainable practices.



3.2 Inclusive business models are hot! Kwapa chili farmers

Why source chili peppers from far away in Northern Uganda if chili can easily be grown closer to home? That's the question MACE Foods, a Kenyan exporter of dried spices and vegetables has been looking at for some years now. In 2017, the Kenyan exporter wanted to cooperate with chili farmers just across the Ugandan border in Kwapa. Farmers were very interested, since this deal would increase their income considerably, and started growing chilis. Unfortunately, MACE Foods was hit by a bad economic climate and fraudsters, leaving farmers on their own with their chilis. Farmers looked for innovative solutions to recover from this huge setback and decided to start processing the chilis to chili powder by themselves and sell them locally.

In 2019, MACE Foods recovered, and they were looking to reengage the Kwapa chili farmers. Together with Rikolto, MACE Foods and Kwapa farmers set around the table to make a **new contract**. At last, an agreement between MACE Foods and the farmers was reached. This new contract attracted a number of producers to join the Kwapa Farmers' Cooperative, and at this moment, while Covid-19 is affecting many value chains, the **chili farmers remain resilient**.

When I received a call from MACE Foods, I quickly organised a business meetin between the farmers and the company for three reasons: Ironing out their grievances about the previous contractual period, conducting a cost benefit analysis of growing chili for new farmers and compare it to other value chains, and, lastly, agreeing on a few clauses to consolidate the new contract.



PETER BUSINDA Agribusiness Advidor Rikolto Uganda





A trust builing agreement

An agreement was reached by both sides showing their value proposition to the other party and this included the following contractual commitments:

MACE Foods

- Buy chili at agreed price of 12,000 USh a kilo of dry chili: 10,000 USh for the farmers and 2000 USh for the cooperative account as a commission. For comparison, previously the price was set at 9,000 USh.
- Send the company's agronomist to provide extension services, such as nursery preparation and post-harvest handling, to ensure product quality.
- Avail the cooperative with genuine chili seed at an agreed price that is attractive and inclusive to the marginalised group (youth & women).
- Provide transport and bags for the bulked chili at the cooperative store.
- Timely issuing of cash for product sold.

Kwapa Farmers' Cooperative

- · Mobilise many farmers to grow chili in big quantities.
- Produce and maintain good quality chill: Red colour & 10% moisture content.
- Bulk chili to a tune of 10 tonnes per collection from the cooperative store.
- Increase acreage of chili grown.
- All farmers to register their mobile numbers to ease payment by the company.

One of the challenges that had to be tackled was that farmers did not have the capital available to grow the specific chili that MACE Foods was interested in buying. Rikolto engaged the Microfinance Support Centre in the discussion to address this **financial issue**. The Microfinance Support Centre (MSC) recognised the business case in this cooperation, after all growing chilis pays off already after two harvests. MSC put together 10 small groups of 20 to 25 smallholder farmers and awarded a loan of 85 million Ugandan Shillings and trained the farmers on financial literacy.

The interest of the MSC was bolstered by the **social impact** of growing chilis. While land is traditionally owned by men, growing chilis does not require huge plots of land.

Chili growing attracts mainly women and youth because it is a tedious crop that can be grown on less than an acre. Once they saw the results of growing chilis, men in the community understood that giving women and youth small pieces of land could contribute greatly to the household income. Now that women earn some money by themselves, domestic violence in the community has reduced and more kids can be sent to school.

The success of the chili farmers has led to interest from other farmer groups in the district to join the scheme. The Kwapa Area Cooperative Enterprise is now also exploring the idea to purchase their own milling machine to cater to the local market as well.



3.3 Demonstrating success: Export Trading Group & pigeon pea producers

The pigeon pea is a highly nutritious crop that contributes to food security in Tanzania. However, pigeon pea farmers struggle with post-harvest handling and finding high quality inputs, such as seeds and pesticides. Rikolto identified these weaknesses in the supply chain and supported the **Expert Trading Group** (ETG), a buyer of pigeon peas, to improve the use of technology and **expand their extension services** to farmers in order to strengthen the supply chain.

The Export Trading Group introduced a lead farmer extension service model whereby they assisted a group of lead farmers in setting up **demonstration plots**. The lead farmers received practical training on Good Agricultural Practices from land preparation to crop management to the efficient use of inputs (quality seeds, fertilisers and pesticides) and post-harvest crop management. The lead farmers in turn promoted **farmer to farmer knowledge sharing** through sensitising other smallholder farmers in the area about the improvements made on the demonstration plot.

ETG is also strengthening the **seed production system** in the area by establishing demonstration plots with quality declared seeds and improving the business skills of the farmer organisations to engage in the input supply schemes. Hand in hand with the availability of reliable buyers of pigeon peas, such as ETG itself, this has created a **strong business case** for farmers to invest in quality seeds, fertilisers, pesticides and post-harvest techniques.

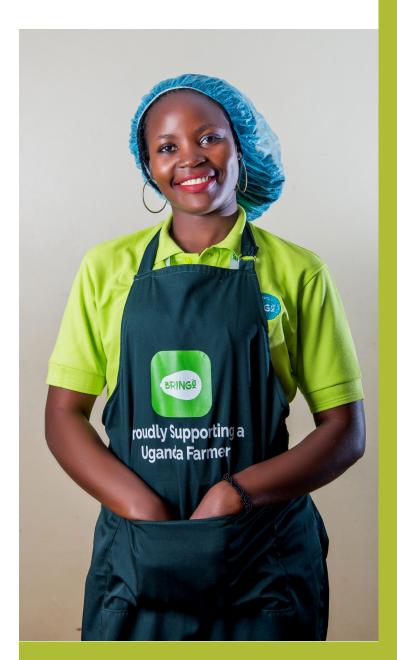
One persistent issue for smallholder farmers is access to finance. A group of pigeon pea farmers had previously received loans from the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank, but due to a failed harvest and misunderstanding of the loan conditions, they were unable to repay the loan. Other banks which have been involved in the project, such as NMB, have therefore refused to give loans to the pigeon pea farmers in the area. To resolve this conflict and avoid similar issues in the future, ETG facilitated a **financial literacy training** by district officers for nearly 200 farmers.

3.4 How sharing costs leads to generating profits

Organic certification has the potential to generate more income for both family farmers and sellers, gives access to the European market and makes healthy fruit and vegetables available for the wider public. Despite the benefits, obtaining **organic certification** is so expensive that only few farmer organisations around the world can afford it. However, Rikolto's cooperation with Bringo Fresh and Kangulumira Horticulture and Vanilla Cooperative Society shows that by working together across the value chain and sharing the costs, organic certification becomes a possibility.

Located in central Uganda (Kayunga district), the Kangulumire cooperative exists of 250 family farmers growing fresh fruit and vegetables such as pineapples. The cooperative trains their members and adds value to the produce. While organic certification was too expensive for the cooperative, Bringo Fresh was looking exactly for that. After seeing the food waste and the bad conditions of fresh fruits and vegetables on the market, the company's mission is to end food waste and provide **fresh organic produce** to the consumer as a crucial part of a healthy lifestyle.

To be able to afford organic certification, Rikolto proposed to use a cost-share model, where **every partner pays a fair share of the costs** of the organic certification. Sharing the cost is fair, because both partners benefit: The certification increases the income of the family farmers and gives Bringo Fresh the proof they need to assure consumers that the fresh fruit and vegetables they sell are safe and healthy. Now, the Kangulumira cooperative and Bringo Fresh can tap into the local and international market for organic vegetables.



Section 4 Lessons Learnt

At Rikolto, we commit ourselves to learn from the work we do, from both successful ventures and less successful ideas.

4.1 Success stories

We have started exploring alternative ways of reaching farmers besides working through farmer organisations to link farmers with services and markets. We piloted the iCRA local coaching approach that engages multiple partners in the ecosystem via local coaches. Although it is too early to judge the effectiveness of this approach, the initial engagement showed that there are more structured relationships worth exploring than the ones through farmer organisations alone. We successfully tested the importance of building relationships between agribusiness service providers, like East West Seeds and East Africa Fruits, and other actors in the ecosystem such as nursery service providers. The local coach has been very instrumental in linking farmers to markets.

Within the framework of the Food Smart City project in Arusha, Rikolto supported the creation of the Arusha Food Safety Initiative, an **inclusive and multi-actor platform**. The platform brings different stakeholders around the table to discuss food safety, which has increased the effectiveness of our work. For example, in cooperation with the Tanzanian Pest Research institute (TPRI), a food risk assessment was conducted that revealed sensitive information on the biological and chemical contamination of food sold in the local markets. Through the stakeholder platform, such information finds ground to be discussed with and become co-owned by all relevant actors.

The engagement with government actors and institutions during the programme interventions have a high potential to contribute to sector transformation. From collaborations with the Tanzania Bureau of Standards leading to the development of a national food safety standard to the policy work around sustainable rice cultivation done with the Rice Council of Tanzania, engagements with government actors have a huge potential to broaden the impact of our interventions. It should however be pointed out that policy work is not the only enabler to sector transformation. Sector transformation can also be triggered on the producer side for example. A potential for producer-oriented sector transformation is seen in the Participatory Guaranteed Standards, which are operational in Rikolto's interventions in Vietnam. Lessons from our colleagues could be drawn to establish similar certification schemes in East Africa to unlock this potential.

4.2 Learning points

Significant investments in ICT pilots were made to provide beneficial market information and trading systems for family farmers and farmer organisations. However, the ICT systems often do not deliver as envisaged due to weaknesses in design, technology, lack of a sustainable business model and poor integration of value chain actors. This has led us to look for options of designing at lower cost which will directly benefit farmers and other users like financial institutions and off-takers. While the service providers, like input services, look for the aggregated demand to reduce transaction costs of the input distribution system, off-takes look for information on the planned seasonal aggregation of the produce. Also, the financial institutions look for the information on the farmer organisation's capacity to borrow following the aggregated capacity of its members to produce and assurance of the market in order to make the informed decisions whether the FBO is bankable. Rikolto therefore piloted a low-cost database starting with FBOs which will be used to link farmers to market and service providers. Throughout 2020, Rikolto will continue to learn on the efficacy and sustainability of the created database.

We have learnt that food safety of fruit and vegetables is critical, but also underestimated by many actors and, if not addressed, will lead to significant hurdles in export and local trade. The past support to farmers organisations on food safety was more geared toward fulfilling Global GAP standard for export market. However, we have learnt that working on food safety for local markets requires a lot of awareness creation to consumers, value chain actors and regulatory bodies. Without awareness raising, consumers for instance lack the willingness to pay premium prices for safe and quality food, which does not stimulate farmers to invest on the production of quality and safe food. Rikolto is working with the Tanzanian Horticulture Association (TAHA), local governments, universities and research institutes to generate evidence on food safety risks and impact on consumers' health, which will inform the food safety consumers campaign such as the Kiosk model.





European Union funded project led by the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture to enhance food and nutrition security, increase household incomes, and improve maternal and child nutrition and health in Northern Uganda. Rikolto will work closely with Kilimo Trust to improve the access of smallholder farmers to local and regional markets.

Section 5 Financial Report 2019

Income raised for Rikolto in East Africa has slightly decreased from €1 million in 2018, due to the end of a UKAID funded programme. In 2019, the Belgian Government remained our most important donor, funding a five-year programme (2017-2021) for rice, grains, fruit, and vegetables in Tanzania and Uganda, but also contributing just over €48,000 to a project to improve the pulses sector in Tanzania. The overall decrease in funding was anticipated and efforts to raise more funds for 2020 were successful.

Financial Report 2019	Tanzania	Uganda	Total	%
Income (in EUR)				
Belgian Directorate General for Development	521,812	210,876	732,688	79%
11.11.11	73,329	0	73,329	8%
Own means	24,925	43,636	68,561	7%
Other donors	9,584	39,321	48,905	5%
Total income	629,650	293,833	923,483	
Investments (in EUR)				
Technical assistance and other services	229,169	162,827	391,996	42%
Staff costs	259,060	131,007	390,066	42%
Expenses by partner organisations	141,421	0	141,421	15%
Total investments	629,650	293,833	923,483	

We want to thank all our donors, who enable us to continue working on changing the recipe of the food system!







Where we work





Regional Office Rikolto in East Africa

Kijenge, near Mt. Meru Petrol Station

P.O. Box 14665 Arusha, Tanzania

Email: eastafrica@rikolto.org Phone: +255 734 294 152

Country Office Rikolto in Uganda

Plot 14B, Wanale Road P.O. Box 2379 Mbale, Uganda

Phone: +256 393 206 846 Mob: +256 752 011 923

www.eastafrica.rikolto.org | **f** @RikoltoEA | **y @ th** @Rikolto







