BREAKING BARRIERS, FACILITATING TRADE

Locations  
Egypt, Kenya, Malawi, Sudan, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Dates  
01-05-2015 - 31-01-2018

Summary  
Intra-regional trade is key in promoting economic development and improving food security within East and southern Africa. However, due to higher costs, many countries here are trading more with distant countries. We want to change this and increase the trade in agrifood products within the region. The CABI team will be working with COMESA to review and simplify current measures and barriers to trade.
**Results so far**

Implementation agreements have been negotiated with all participating countries and CABI and trade flows between selected countries are being discussed. The ones being considered include: Egypt exporting oranges to Sudan and importing beef from Sudan; reciprocal trade in maize, milk and fish between Kenya and Uganda; Malawi exporting carpenter fish to Zambia and importing maize from Zambia; Zambia exporting maize to Zimbabwe and importing frozen fish from Zimbabwe.

A baseline assessment tool has been developed which collects data and for the first time assesses the costs of trade due to SPS measures (such as tax and inspections). This can be used for a specific commodity crop across a particular border and potential reductions in costs can then be identified.

Following SPS capacity building with front line staff, we hope to demonstrate that costs due to SPS measures have been reduced.

**Donors**

Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)

**Partners**

Ministry of Agriculture, Mechanisation and Irrigation Development (Zimbabwe), Plant Quarantine and Phytosanitary Services (Zambia), Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (Uganda), Plant Quarantine Unit, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (Sudan), Plant Protection Directorate (Sudan), Trade and Marketing Unit, Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Water Development (Malawi), Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), Foreign Agricultural Relations Department (Egypt), Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (Egypt)

**CABI Project Manager**

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https://site.cabi.org/what-we-do/projects