Highlights from the Organic, Fair & Ethical Trade Event

The Event

MARKET OPPORTUNITIES - APPROACHES - LABELS/PROCESSES

CHALLENGES - SUPPORT
The Delegation of the European Union and African Farmers Association of South Africa hosted the Organic, Fair & Ethical Trade Event on 19 February 2019 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre in Cape Town.

The event was attended by more than 140 participants and was a great success, thanks to the quality and engagement of the participants as well as useful presentations and the direction provided by the keynote addresses.
South Africa is already a strong supplier of agricultural produce to the EU and new producers can build on this experience. EU overall imports of fruits and vegetables increased by 3.6% between 2016 and 2017.

South Africa has leading position as an out-of-season supplier to the EU (i.e. during European winter)

Organic, Ethical and Fair Trade is generally well suited to small farmers’ resource endowment

Pooling costs & sharing resources is the answer to tackling conversion & accreditation

**APPROACHES TO SUSTAINABLE TRADE**

- **Public Sector driven standards:** International/National norms (i.e. ISO)
- **Private Sector driven standards:** corporate standards/ sustainability programmes
- **Voluntary approaches:** (producer defines standard)
- **Combination approach**

**CLIMATE CHANGE**
- Carbon credit
- Measuring
- Reducing
- Compensating
- Carbon neutrality
- Forest

**ENVIRONMENT**
- Biodiversity
- Soils
- Water
- Fertility
- Land use
- ...

**SOCIAL**
- Child Labour
- Fair Trade
- Modern slavery
- Social Responsibility
- CSR
- ...

**HEALTH**
- Food Safety
- Quality
- Nutrition
- ...

**Additional Notes:**
- **Health**
- **Social**
- **Environment**
- **Climate Change**
SUSTAINABLE CERTIFICATION – LABELS

- All labels/processes are certified by an independent accredited certification body
- Standard are set and maintained by national authorities, NGOs or private organisations
- Typically products carry certification label
• Initial compliance and certification can be expensive for smaller farmers (costs are the highest in the 1st year and decrease in subsequent years)

• Different farming approaches, e.g. in terms of equipment, might be required initially

• Maintaining detailed records is an administrative burden

• Market changes to standards and approaches represent additional challenges


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