

NEWSLETTER

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AFRICA FREE ZONES

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www.africafreezones.com
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INVESTMENTS IN AFRICAN FREE ZONES



In the next three years, The United States will invest CFA22 billion into cashew value chain in Senegal, Gambia, and Guinea Bissau. The amount should help increase the production and export of the nut in these nations and create jobs in the value chain. Let's recall that in Guinea Bissau, revenues from the export of cashew represents more than 80% of the overall export revenues and nearly 200,000 tons are exported yearly. Gambia produces nearly 10,000 tons of the nut per year while Senegal also produces 13,000 to 15,000 tons yearly.

Source : www.ecofinagency.com

The Japanese companies Toyota Tsusho and Mitsui secured a KSh6.8 billion (\$66.7 million) contract to set up hoisting cranes in Mombasa port, one of the largest in the African pacific coast (East of Kenya). This new contract raises to KSh9.8 billion (\$96 million) the contracts secured so far, by both companies for the port's modernization. An initiative funded by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The project shows another side of Toyota's activities in Africa. Indeed, the company is better known as vehicles' trader through its 100%-owned CFAO brand. Apart from these activities, the company also sells fertilizers and technology equipment.

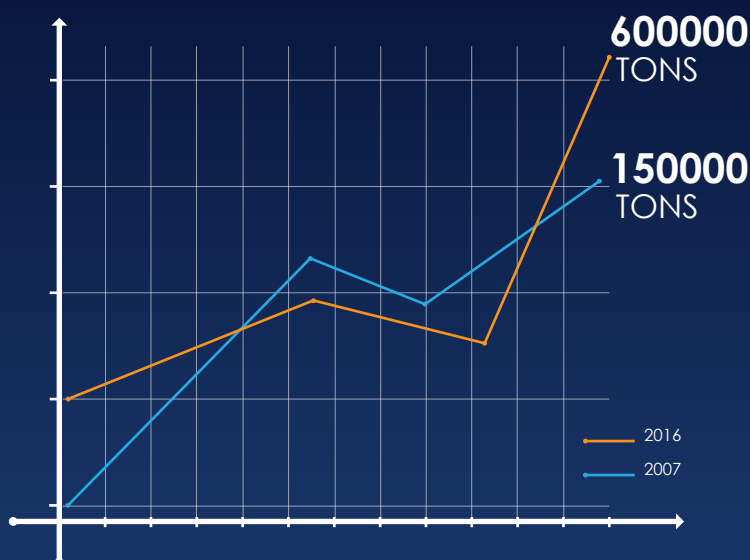
Source : www.allafrica.com



DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT IN AFRICA FREE ZONES

In 2018, Tanzania should harvest 600,000 tons against last year's 150,000 tons, the managing director of Tanzania Cotton Board (TCB), Marco Mtunga, announced. This positive outlook is mainly based on the development of cotton production in new areas. Besides the 17 traditional regions, cotton is now grown in new regions of Dodoma, Tanga, Katavi, Morogoro, Coast, and Kilimanjaro. Let's note that in the country, cotton production provides jobs to about 500, 000 rural households and it is produced between 400,000 and 500,000 ha.

Source : www.ecofinagency.com



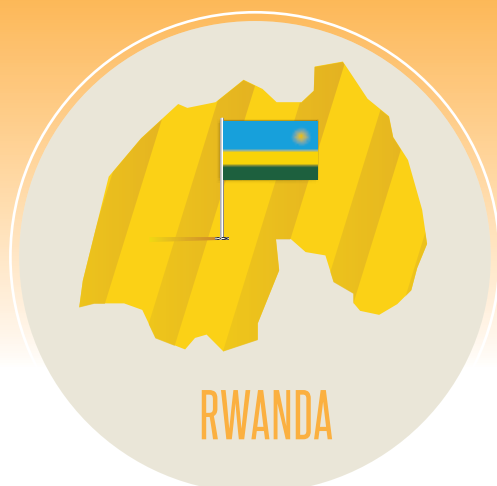


African coffee output could rise by 2-3 million tons, annually, in the next five years. This increase will be spurred by measures undertaken to boost plantings and diversify varieties produced while improving farming practices. The countries which made the most efforts for these measures are Ethiopia, Tanzania and Uganda which would lead the movement with a forecasted production estimated at 20 million bags by 2025. Though this performance will improve the continent's importance on the market which is currently dominated by Brazil and Vietnam, an increase in the production only won't be enough. Africa (which currently accounts for 10% of the global market) will also have to think of quality and access the specialty coffee market which is more profitable than mass coffee. Let's note that according to the US Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s forecasts, Africa should produce 16 million tons this season.

Source : www.bloomberg.com

In Rwanda, export revenue from horticultural products stood at \$21 million in 2017, up by 75% compared to the previous year. This strong performance confirms the increasing momentum initiated by the subsector some years ago. For the record, the country expects to generate \$140 million from horticulture by 2020. Currently, the sector accounts for 3% of national GDP and 10% of agricultural GDP and the main items are carrots, roses, cabbage, tomato, onion, eggplant, banana, and avocado.

Source : www.ecofinagency.com



In 2017, Rwanda generated Rwf72.6 billion (\$85.4 million) from tea exports. Compared to the revenues generated in the previous year, this represents an increase by 9%. According to the National Agricultural Export Board (NAEB), this progress which exceeds authorities' expectation (\$78 million) is due to an increase in the volume processed and the price offered for it on the international market. Indeed, during the period under review, the output processed was 108,344 tons (an increase by 7.6%) and the commodity was traded at \$3.21/kg against \$2.6/kg in 2016. Let's recall that