

Tanzania Eyes Spice Industry Growth: Government, Stakeholders Team Up

Morogoro, Tanzania - March 20, 2024 - A collaborative effort is underway to boost Tanzania's spice industry. Representatives from government ministries, public corporations, non-governmental organizations, and private businesses gathered in Morogoro on March 20th for a meeting co-organized by the Morogoro Regional Government and SAGCOT Centre.

The meeting resulted in a key resolution calling for a comprehensive study to identify and address challenges hindering the growth of the spice sector. This study will encompass spice crop production, processing, marketing, and policy. The ultimate goal? To empower Tanzania to produce high-quality spices that compete effectively in the global market.

"Having quality crops is a production imperative in global trade," the resolution emphasizes. Recognizing the current limitations, participants stressed the need to identify and eliminate bottlenecks. They also encouraged the private sector to take a leading role in promoting efficient and transparent practices.

Building a strong partnership was another crucial outcome of the meeting. This partnership aims to foster collaboration, knowledge sharing, and innovation within the spice industry. It will provide a platform for stakeholders to exchange ideas on best practices, address production hurdles, and explore new technologies.

Government representatives from the Cereals and Other Produce Regulatory Authority (COPRA) and district councils participated in the discussions. Other attendees included cooperatives, spice processing and marketing companies, and prominent spice farmers.

Morogoro: A Spice Powerhouse

Dr. Musa A. Musa, Morogoro Regional Administrative Secretary, highlighted the rising global demand for spices, underlining the importance of Tanzania increasing its production. He pointed to Morogoro's success in clove cultivation, with the region producing 2,000 tons of cloves worth 36 billion shillings last year.

The focus for growth lies in key spices like cloves, cinnamon, cardamom, lemongrass, and pepper. SAGCOT's Kilombero Cluster Manager, Mr. John Nakei, emphasized their collaborative efforts with the Morogoro Regional Commissioner's Office to support the

program's success. He commended the collaboration among stakeholders, including development partners and farmers, in embracing clove plantations.

"Morogoro is the home of many spices," Mr. Nakei declared. "Stakeholders have agreed to fully exploit the opportunities presented by the fertile soil in Morogoro Region." With this renewed focus and collaborative spirit, Tanzania's spice industry appears poised for significant growth.

The key takeaways:

A comprehensive study: The need for a thorough analysis of current bottlenecks and successful practices in spice production, processing, and marketing.

Policy reform: A policy environment that encourages spice and horticultural crop production.

Focus on quality: Recognition of high-quality crops as essential for competing in the global market.

Removing bottlenecks: Identifying and eliminating roadblocks that currently hold back the industry's growth.

Private sector leadership: Encouragement for the private sector to lead the way in efficient and transparent practices.

Stakeholder partnership: Creation of a collaborative platform for sharing knowledge, best practices, and innovations, as well as addressing production challenges in the spice sector.

The global demand for spices is rising, and Tanzania is well-positioned to capitalize on this opportunity. Morogoro Region, a leader in clove production (2,000 tons worth TZS 36 billion in 2023), is a prime example. Other promising spices include cinnamon, cardamom, lemongrass, and pepper.

Encouragingly, stakeholders are committed to exploiting the potential of Morogoro's fertile soil for spice cultivation. Farmers are urged to take advantage of this initiative and contribute to Tanzania's economic growth through the thriving spice industry.



On March 20th, 2024, stakeholders, including senior officers from Morogoro, Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Kilimanjaro, and Mbeya, COPRA, spice processing firms, Agricultural Marketing Co-operative Societies (Amcos), and farmers, gathered in Morogoro for a significant spice development stakeholders meeting. This event, co-organized by the Morogoro Regional Government and the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), resulted in the formation of the Spice Strategic Partnership, marking a key moment for spice industry stakeholders.