



THE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INDUSTRY SERIES



FRUIT AND VEGETABLES SCHEME



OECD-COLEAD Fruits and Vegetables Industry Series

Session 4 - Impact of climate change on production and quality of fruits and vegetables

16th May 2023 – 10h00-11h30 CET

BIODATA OF THE SPEAKERS

Maik BLASER – Leader Production Units, HPW Fresh & Dry – Ghana & Côte d'Ivoire

Maik Blaser started working for HPW in Ghana in 2005 after completing his education as an agronomist in Switzerland. In the first couple of years with HPW he helped establishing a Fairtrade certified fresh pineapple export network in Ghana. From 2010 onwards the focus shifted to processing, and he led the local team in the setup of a dry fruit factory of initially quite small size. In the next 10 years the production volumes and capacity of the team grew which allowed the setup of a dry fruit factory in Côte d'Ivoire in 2020.

Today HPW fresh & dry is one of the largest suppliers of dry mango to the European market and holds BRCGS, IFS, Fairtrade and various organic certifications. In the meantime, Maik has handed over the management of the two processing factories to two experienced local managers and works mainly on the raw material supply and strategic projects for the companies.



The OECD-COLEAD Fruits and Vegetables Industry Series focuses on market access conditions and opportunities for the fruit and vegetable sector, especially for fruit and vegetables producers and exporters from ACP-countries. This activity is supported by the Fit For Market Plus programme, implemented by COLEAD within the Framework of Development Cooperation between the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and the European Union.



Isolina BOTO – Head of Networks and Alliances, COLEAD



Isolina is the Head of Networks and Alliances at COLEAD, a non-profit association of private sector operators in the agrifood sector active in the European Union (EU), Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP) regions. Isolina has more than 25 years of experience in agricultural development. She started her career with the European Commission, worked with various ACP embassies and NGOs in areas related to food security, rural development and trade. Before joining COLEAD, she was the Manager of the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation ACP-EU (CTA) Brussels Office (2004-2020) implementing policy initiatives related to the ACP-EU cooperation in the field of agricultural and rural development. She has led trade and agribusiness projects in support of capacity development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), entrepreneurs and farmers organisations across Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific.

Kelly COBURN – Agricultural Policy Analyst, Trade and Agriculture Directorate, OECD



Kelly Cobourn works as Agricultural Policy Analyst for the Trade and Agriculture Directorate at the OECD. She is a researcher and professor of a range of topics from forest resources and environmental conservation, agriculture and applied economics, resource economics and policy and others. Her interest areas include natural resource economics, applied econometrics, bio-economic modeling, water resource policy and invasive species management. Kelly has a Master Resource Economics and Policy from University of Maine, United States of America (USA), and a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from University of California, Davis, USA.

Jeremy KNOPS – Délégué Général, COLEAD



Jeremy Knops holds a Master's degree in Business Engineering from the Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management (SBS-EM). Prior to joining COLEAD in 2009, he was involved in Guatemala with the daily operations of a farmers' cooperative exporting loquats to the EU and the US. He started to work for COLEAD as an expert in charge of matters related to private standards and certification for ACP producers and exporters of fruit and vegetables. Jeremy is an accredited coach for leadership and professional development. He has been appointed as General Delegate of COLEAD in June 2019.



Gert-Jan LIEFFERING – Quality and Sustainability Manager, Eosta BV. / Nature & More – the Netherlands

Gert-Jan Lieffering is Quality and Sustainability Manager at Eosta BV., a Dutch based importer of organic fruit and vegetables. Gert-Jan has a background in agronomy and is currently involved in impact measurement, technical assistance and projects like living wage at Eosta's suppliers base.

Wandile NGCAMPHALALA –Researcher, PPECB, South Africa

Wandile Ngcamphalala is a Researcher at the Perishable Products Export Control Board (PPECB) of South Africa. He has worked in the agricultural sector for more than 5 years, starting his career with the research and policy unit of Grain South Africa. He fulfilled other roles before joining the PPECB in 2022.



Wandile is trained in agriculture with genetics as his speciality, and has a keen research interest in fruit quality and cold chain management.

Ngcebo PARTON KHUMALO – Research and Development Manager, PPECB, South Africa

Parton Khumalo is the Research and Development Manager of PPECB of South Africa. He worked more than 20 years in the fruit export industry of South Africa. He started his career as a researcher with one of the largest export companies. He moved to other roles in fruit export value chain and joined PPECB in 2022.



Parton Khumalo is trained in Horticulture with Citrus as his speciality. His research interest is postharvest physiology of fruit.

Marie RUSSEL – Senior Programme Officer, Trade and Agriculture Directorate, Agricultural Codes and Schemes, OECD

Dr Marie Russel is a Senior Programme Officer at the OECD in Paris, France, and coordinates the activities of the OECD Fruit and Vegetables Scheme. Before joining the OECD she worked at the French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS) and the French National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA) on research management and European cooperation in the fields of sustainability and resilience of ancient and contemporaneous agricultural and food systems.



She holds a food science and engineering degree (MSc) from the French National School of Agronomy and Food Industries (ENSAIA) in Nancy, France, and a PhD in historical archaeology of food from University of Provence at Aix-en-Provence, France.