

Gichimu B.M., University of Embu, P.O. Box 6 – 60100, Embu, Kenya.

Potential Productivity of Kenyan Coffee

- Kenya produces 5 cultivars: SL28, SL34, K7, Ruiru 11 & Batian.
- Currently, the Kenyan coffee sector contributes approximately **US\$230 m** annually.
- Kenyan coffee is grown on $\approx 115,570$ ha
- Total bushes $\approx 1700 \times 115,570$ ha = 196,469,000 trees
- Total achievable cherry yields 196,469,000 trees $\times 40$ kg = 7,858,760,000 Kgs
- Assume a kg is paid at US\$ 1.00 = US\$7,858,760,000
- At 50% production capacity (20 kg per tree) = US\$ 3,929,380,000
- Assuming 27% production cost, the net disposable income left with farmers would be **US\$2,868,447,400**
- Further potential lies in the possible expansion of the production area.

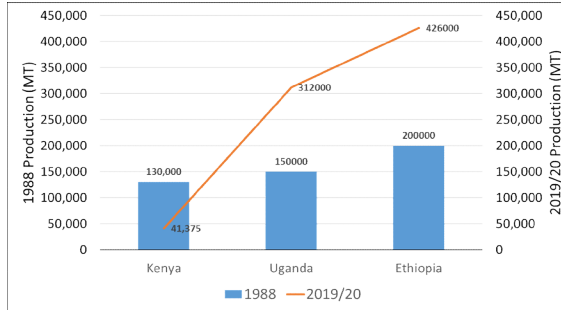


Figure 1: Negative growth of Kenyan Coffee Sector

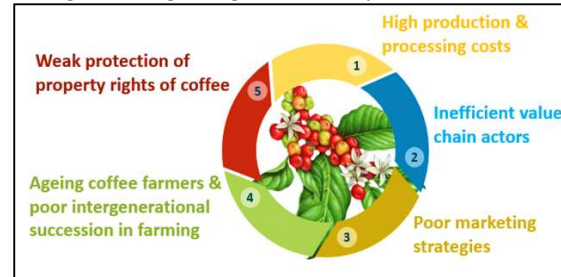


Figure 2: Challenges facing Kenyan Coffee Sector

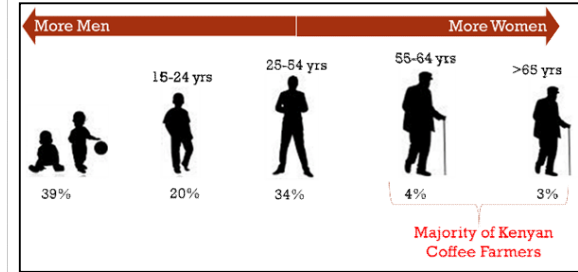


Figure 3: The Demographic Challenge



Figure 4: The Way Forward

Conclusion/Perspectives

The sector has a high potential of revamping back mainly assured by the naturally occurring production resources and the resilient nature of the farmers. However, the Kenyan government must play the leading role of revitalizing the sector by adopting and enforcing recommended strategies.

References:

1. Andae G. Kenya lags behind Uganda, Ethiopia in coffee production. 2019, Business Daily, Kenya.
2. Amadala V. Coffee production to dive to 56-year low as farmer's scale down. 2019, The Star, Kenya.
3. Mersie A. Kenya 2019-20 coffee output to plunge to more than 50-yr low. 2019, USDA