







Community as a private standard against which products are certified. These products are sold with the Kilimohai mark on the domestic market.

One local certification agency exists in Uganda namely Uganda Organic Certification Ltd. (Ugocert), which was established by NOGAMU in 2004. Besides this national body, international certification agencies such as BCS, IMO, Ceres, Ecocert, and Soil Association offer services in the country.

### **Government support and organic policy**

Despite the Government's good will for organic farming in Uganda, there has been no organic policy put in place. There is a draft organic policy that is still at the top management level of the Ministry of agriculture animal industry and fisheries for presentation to the Government Executive Cabinet for approval. It is hoped that by end of 2011, the organic policy will be in place.

### **Research, advice, and training**

Currently, there is still limited research in the organic sector. This is partly because there is no specific budgetary allocation from the government towards organic research in Uganda. However, as donors or private companies supported initiatives, some research has been conducted on specific areas. NOGAMU has been behind the overall coordination of such initiatives at the general sector level and in collaboration with other private local and international organizations. There has also been research by academic institutions such as Uganda Martyrs University, Nkozi (UMU), and Makerere University (MUK). UMU offers degree and certificate courses in organic agriculture whereas MUK offers a short training in collaboration with BOKU University in Austria.

### **Conclusion**

While the sector faces challenges, it is projected to grow further given the increasing market opportunities for organic products, the major driving force for companies engaging in international organic trade. If the above mentioned challenges are addressed in the medium term, the sector is capable of growing at a higher rate of 60 percent per annum, if the number of farmers doubles, land under organic management doubles, and the organic policy is put in place.

### **Further reading/Sources**

- NOGAMU (2010): Uganda Organic statistics Report, 2009/10. NOGAMU, Kampala