



Protected cultivation & transition in developing countries

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Objective

Create a tool to analyze the development phase of protected horticulture in developing countries, in combination with options for interventions and guiding criteria for sustainable development.

Introduction

Wageningen UR Greenhouse Horticulture conducts research, development, demonstration and capacity building projects in a number of developing countries. Countries vary in their phase of horticultural development, which may be associated with development in other areas, such as infrastructure. This has consequences for the development options. In some cases, technical solutions are sufficient, such as greenhouses better adapted to local circumstances or cultivation techniques improving productivity and quality. In other cases, an *enabling environment* should be created as well.

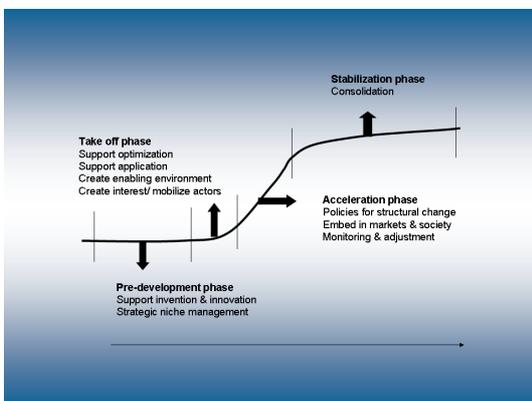


Figure 1: Interventions in different phases of transition (adjusted from Kemp and Rotmans, 2001)

Starting point in our approach is that Protected Cultivation (Floriculture, fresh vegetables) creates high value products that will bring in foreign currency in developing countries. Questions are: what does protected cultivation contributes to development, what is needed for further growth and improvement and how sustainable is it?

Approach

We will build up a framework that can be used to analyze the situation of (protected) horticultural development in developing countries. This is done by a desk-study and confrontation with four or five case studies.

Desk study: literature is studied on a.o. Triple Bottom Line, Global Reporting Initiative and international accepted certification schemes for sustainable products (like MPS-Florimark for flowers).



Photo 1: Rose production in Uganda

Case studies: In 2008 and 2009, Wageningen UR Greenhouse Horticulture collaborated in a number of projects in developing countries. The following cases are useful for testing and improving the analytical framework:

- Uganda: co-creating a training program for bachelor students Floriculture.
- Indonesia: training in applied research on a.o. cultivation of chrysanthemum and sweet peppers.
- Malaysia: demonstration of a new type greenhouse, adapted to the circumstances in tropical lowlands.
- Ethiopia: Integrated pest management in floriculture
- Mexico: set up a knowledge center for protected cultivation

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