

Strategic partnership established with Kenya's premier research organization

APEO has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Kenya Agricultural Research and Livestock organization (KARLO), the lead national center agricultural innovations in the country. The MOU will pave the way for the promotion of climate-smart agriculture in the dryland counties of north eastern Kenya, starting with Garissa County.

Through its Horticulture Research Institute, based outside of Thika city, the partnership with KARLO will provide access to a wide range of fruit tree species that are suitable for drylands, including improved varieties of mangoes, guava, and pawpaw, among others.



A well-managed greenhouse at the Horticultural Research Institute. Several of the species raised in this facility will be promoted by APEO's dryland agriculture program. They include mangoes and guava (see below).



Mango



Guava



Oranges

Besides the fruit trees, the partnership with KARLO will promote a wide range of food crops. APEO has already accessed several of them from KARLO and its partner – the International Center for Research in Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT). The crops include sorghum, millet, groundnuts, beans, pigeon peas, among others.

The MOU with KARLO will also promote the production of fodder crops and their conservation, medicinal and herbal plants, and the overall utilization and commercialization of the crops produced to enhance food and nutrition security as well as incomes. To this end, capacity development and knowledge transfer (and exchange) will be an important component of the strategic partnership developed with KARLO.