EU Ambassador to Kenya Commissions KALRO Poultry Project

By Virginia Wangari

The EU will continue to support the agriculture sector in Kenya to secure the peoples’ livelihoods and create employment.

Ambassador Mordue said part of the support to the agricultural sector included support Coffee Research Institute for the development of superior coffee varieties of Ruiru11 and Batian.

In the maize programme, EU has supported maize storage and driers in Laikipia County and supported national efforts to control Fall Army worms (FAW).

The EU Ambassador to Kenya Mr. Simon Mordue who commissioned Improved Indigenous Chicken Breeding and Multiplication Unit at KALRO Naivasha this week said that the over 80% of Kenya cut flowers and fresh produce goes to the EU market.

EU Ambassador to Kenya Mr. Simon Mordue commissioning the Indigenous chicken multiplication unit at KALRO Naivasha on 18 November 2019. Photo | Stephen Odipo
“Indigenous chicken helps communities to cope during challenges of climate change among small holder farmers, and the EU will continue to support poultry research in KALRO which has so far benefitted over 800,000 farmers”.

KALRO Director General Dr. Eliud Kireger, said the 2000 bird capacity indigenous chicken breeding and multiplication facility at Kalro-Naivasha was part of the project that European Union had enabled KALRO to achieve for over 30 years. The latest in this support is the on-going AgriFI Kenya climate smart agricultural productivity project under the 11th European development fund.

Dr Kireger, who was represented by Dairy Research Institute Director Dr Evans Ila'sia, said the indigenous chicken research program was one of the best performing in Africa. In the last five years, the hatchery has availed over 1.5 million chicks to farmers in 45 Counties in Kenya.
In his presentation, the AgriFI Kenya Climate Smart Agricultural Productivity National Project Coordinator, Dr George Keya said the project sought to develop new drought resistant and high yielding climate smart-technologies and to have small holder farmers adopt new and existing technologies to enhance production and value addition.

Speaking during the event, the Nakuru Executive committee member for agriculture Dr Immaculate Maina said the County was finalizing an MOU with KALRO, to ensure that technologies are outscaled to the farmers.