

# Improving coffee productivity, quality and sustainability in East Africa



## Challenges and opportunities

Charles O Agwanda

African Coffee Scientific Conference

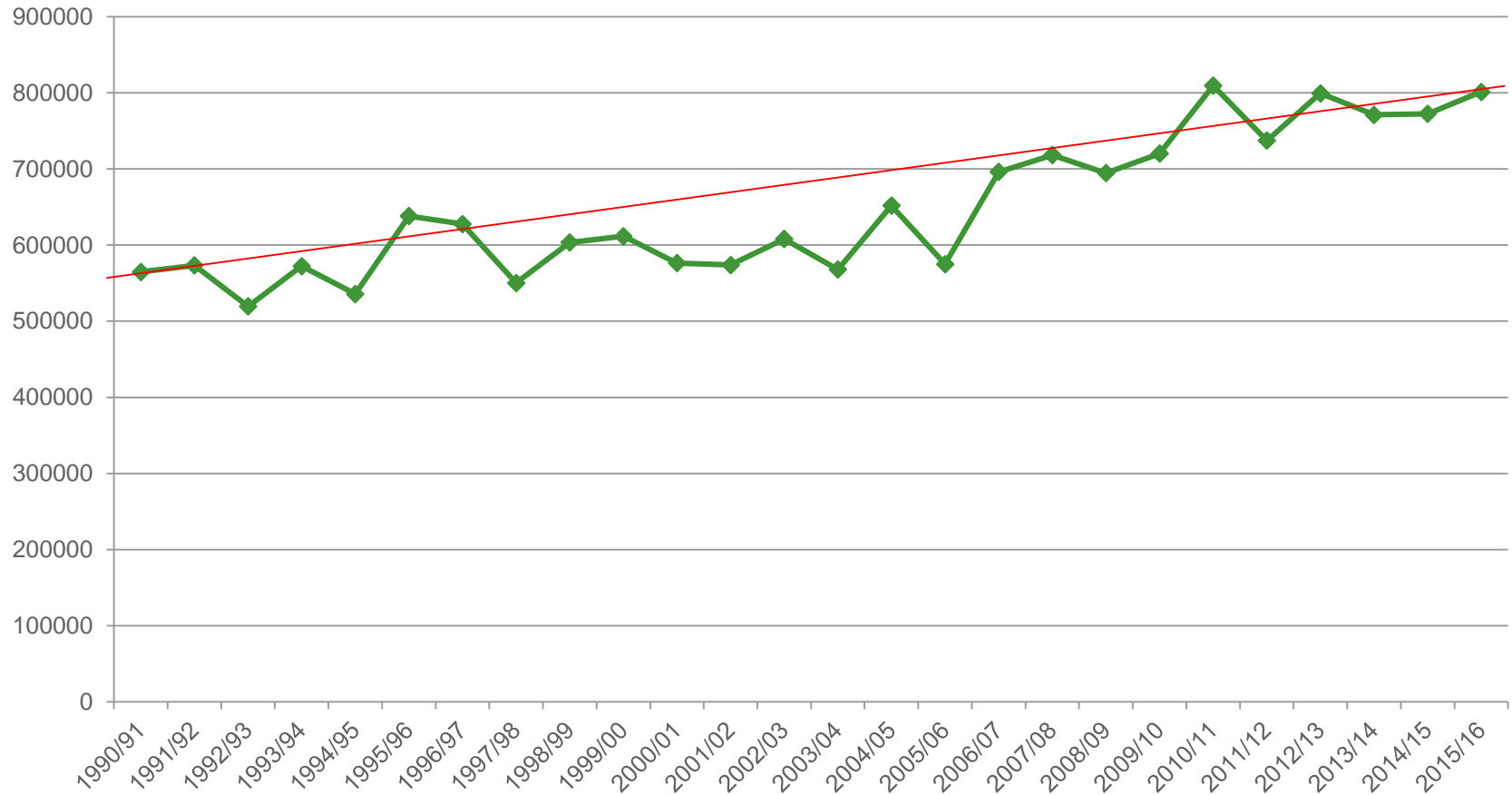
20<sup>th</sup> November 2016, Yaoundé Cameroon

# Discussion areas as per the Terms of Reference

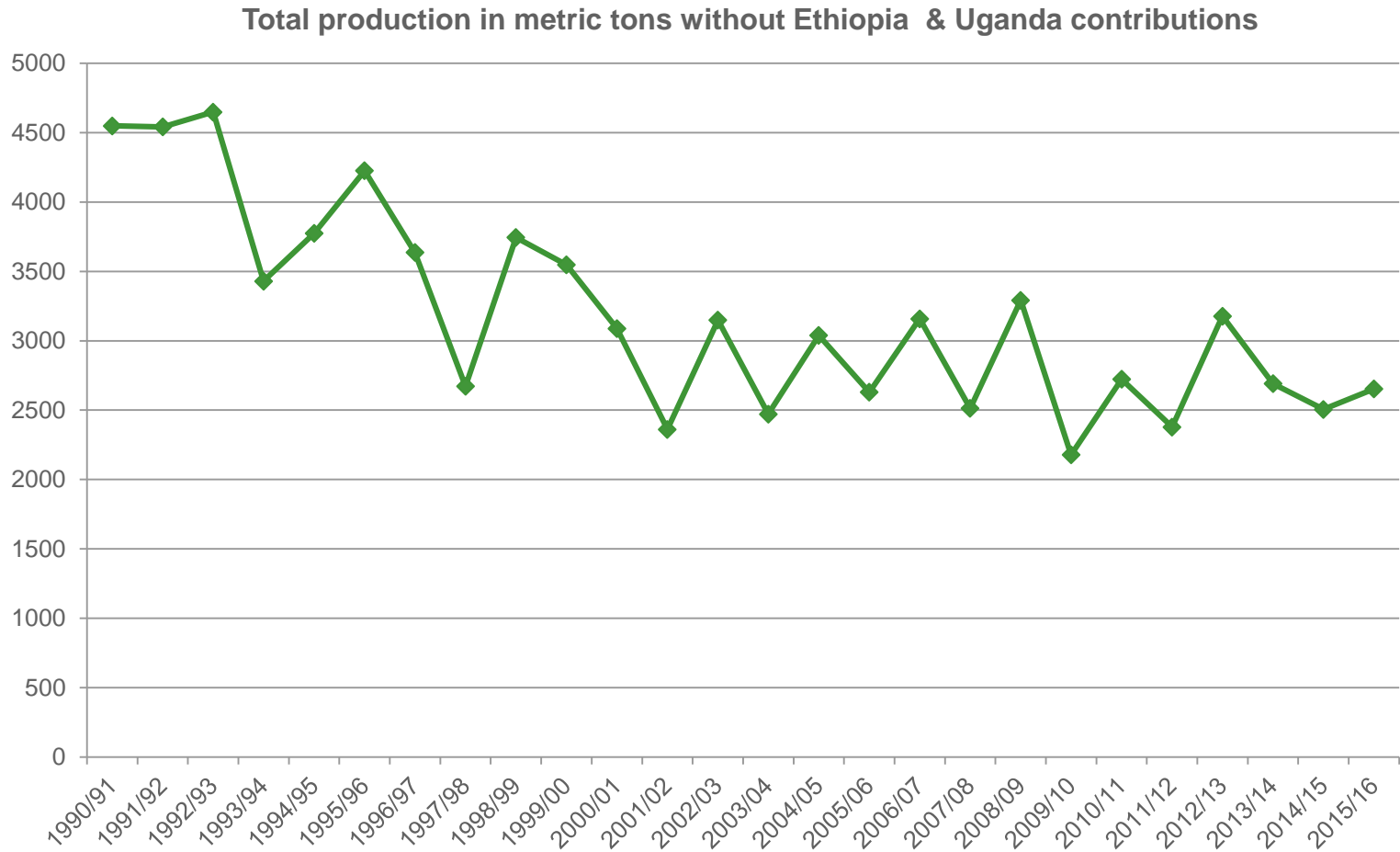
- Main production constraints in East Africa
- What has been/is being done in response to the problems
- Why has success been slow or absent

# The problem

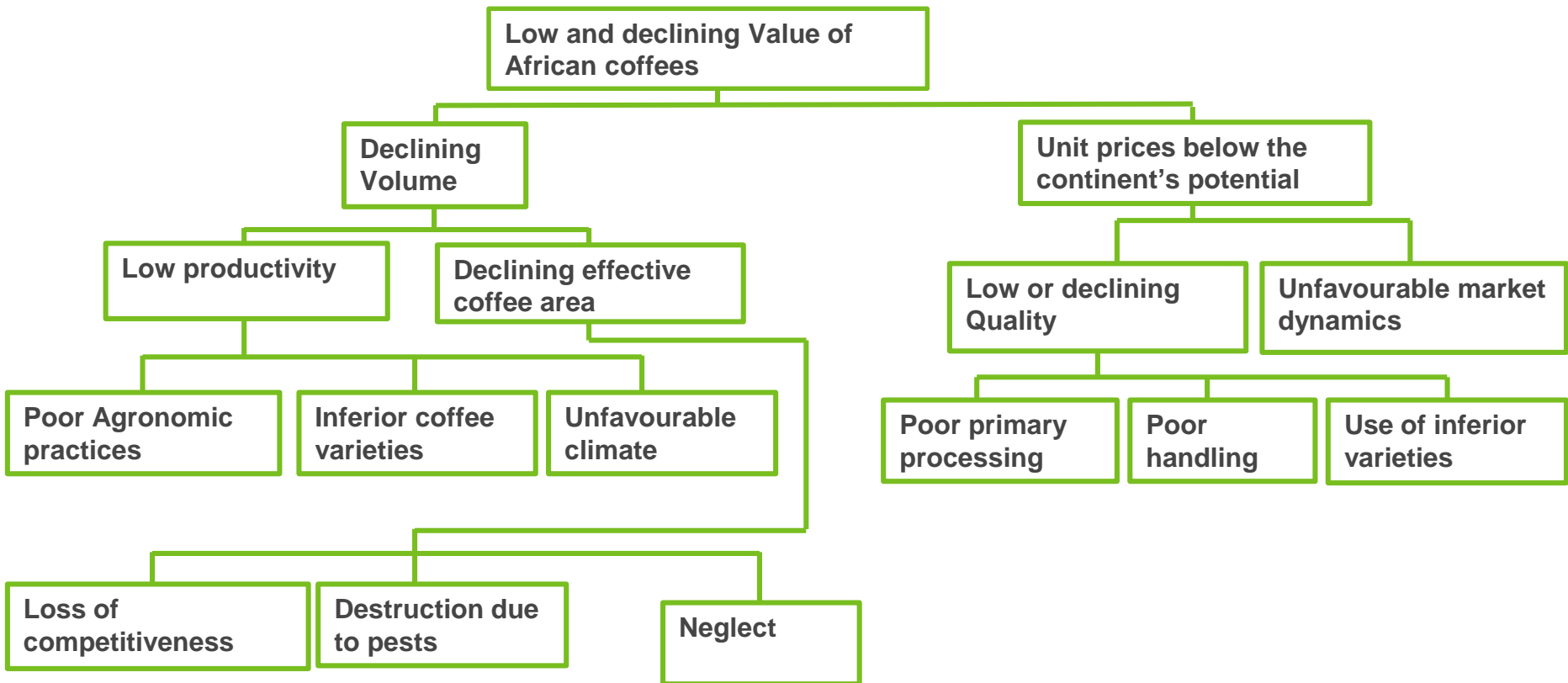
Total Production in metric tons (All East African Countries)



# The problem



# The problem



# Some factors negatively influencing the rate of success

- Producer profile (age of farmers)
- Inadequate access to investment & working capital
- Poor access to services (information for example)
- Poor access to improved technologies such as improved varieties
- Inadequate investment in research
- Future farmers largely absent
- Producer apathy
- Poorly organised farmer organisation
- Low capacity particularly in financial literacy and governance
- Development programs not holistic responding to specific constraints one at a time in most cases
- Challenges of changing climate

# Possible remedial action

- Promote site specific coffee management
- Promotion of climate smart practices (climate proofing of the coffee supply chains)
- Capacity enhancement at all levels (farmers, farmer leaders, researchers)
- Professionalisation of coffee farming
- Modernise research (investment in training and infrastructure)
- Design and implementation of holistic programs at scale (post pilot strategies)
- Move existing research innovations into use by farmers
- Modernised extension services
- Improve access to investment & working capital by farmers
- Promote youth and women ownership of coffee based on/off farm enterprises





شكرا جزيلا  
mercì  
शुक्रिया  
zikomo  
xie-xie  
obrigado  
efharistó  
merci  
zikomo  
thank you  
gracias  
asante  
urakoze  
danke  
terima kasih  
dhanyawaad