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NEWSLETTER **ISSUE 016**



1ST QUARTER ACTIVITIES | JANUARY - MARCH 2022

This newsletter presents activities and events that FPEAK was involved in for the months of January, February & March 2022.

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PUBLIC-PRIVATE DIALOGUE (PPD) ON AVOCADOS TRADE OBSTACLES

FPEAK participated in a public-private dialogue organized by EU-EAC MARKUP regional development initiative, which aims to contribute to the economic growth of the East African Community (EAC) through supporting increased exports of agribusiness and horticultural products, promoting regional integration and access to the European market.

The event took place on 17th January 2022 at Four Points Sheraton in Hurlingham.

The partnership is focused on improving the business environment for the avocado sector, with a focus on the removal of export-related trade barriers, leading to increased regional and international trade in avocado.



STATUS OF MRLS NOTIFICATIONS WORKPLAN DEVELOPED BY THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

FPEAK participated in a consultative meeting held on 25th January 2022 at HCD-JKIA to review progress on the implementation of the developed workplan and the way forward. The aim of the meeting was to discuss the developed workplan in response to spiraling levels of interceptions on the beans and peas exported to the United Kingdom and European Union. The following was discussed:

- KEPHIS is to call for a meeting for all the companies with MRLs notifications by the end of the first quarter 2022.
- KEPHIS to suspend ECS service for 30 days for the affected produce. Full joint audit to be carried out before the company is provided with ECS service.
- Revocation of ECS and export license following second notification within one year of the previous notification to be discussed at HCA level where industry CEOs and other players will give their opinions.
- HCD and KEPHIS to carry out unannounced joint audits on high-risk farmers and exporters of beans and peas. This will include auditing and confirming mass balances.
- Involve county government during sensitization of growers of beans and peas on the safe use of pesticides.
- Ministry of Agriculture to have control over the distribution of Acephate products to maize farmers since the products end up being used by farmers of beans and peas .
- Farmers growing beans and peas for export to be sensitized on the importance of using spray service providers.
- List of trained spray service providers to be shared with industry associations.
- Technical guidelines to be developed and shared with beans and peas farmers.



KENYA NATIONAL SPS COMMITTEE WORKSHOP TO REVIEW THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL SPS STRATEGY

Being a member of the National SPS committee, FPEAK participated in a 5-day implementation and review workshop of the National SPS Strategy. This workshop was supported by Trademark East Africa (TMEA) at Gilean Hotel, Machakos from 21st to 25th of February 2022. The retreat for committee members and TMEA aimed to draw an intervention program and catch up on SPS issues affecting the export market.

The strategy seeks to address key sanitary and phytosanitary issues affecting market access of Kenya's produce. Consequently, the quality of Kenya's fresh produce will be improved hence increased competitiveness in the global market. TMEA aims to support the horticulture sector to address issues that arise due to the SPS regulations.



VEGETABLES FOR ALL INCEPTION MEETING

FPEAK was part of an inception meeting for the project dubbed “vegetables for all” held on 8th February 2022 at Panafric Hotel Nairobi. The meeting was hosted by Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN).

The project seeks to improve the production and consumption of vegetables in targeted counties. This will be done by making use of existing extension services to implement the right actions to support the greater availability of vegetables.

The goal of the project is to improve vegetable consumption towards global guidelines for urban consumers and dietary diversity among rural consumers in Nyandarua, Nakuru, Kitui, Makeni, Nairobi, Mombasa, Kwale, Kiambu, Machakos and Taita Taveta.



STRATEGY LAUNCH OF MANAGEMENT OF MIGRATORY AND INVASIVE PESTS IN KENYA

FPEAK participated in the launch of Migratory and Invasive Pest Management Strategy, held at Villa Rosa – Kempiski Hotel, on 7th February 2022. Kenya has encountered a number of transboundary pests in the past, largely affecting agricultural productivity. The strategy seeks to use lessons learnt from the first and second wave of desert locust invasion, and quarantine pests affecting the horticulture sub-sector for a coordinated multi-stakeholder approach for migratory and invasive pest management.



NATIONAL VALIDATION EXERCISE OF FOOD SAFETY POLICY AND BILL

FPEAK is a member of the National SPS Committee and participated in the Validation workshop of Food Safety Policy and the proposed Food and Feed safety Control Bill on 16th Feb 2022 at MovenPick Hotel- Westlands. Successful interpretation and implementation of this policy document is expected to improve food safety control in the country leading to health benefits for consumers.

The policy prioritizes the decisive management of food safety hazards, through well-informed, up-to-date interventions that are backed by a well-coordinated mechanism that eliminates ambiguity and duplication through a hybrid mechanism undertaken through a multi-agency institutional arrangement.



VIRTUAL LAUNCH OF THE 3RD COMPREHENSIVE AFRICA AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (CAADP) BIENNIAL REVIEW (BR) REPORT

FPEAK was part of the virtual launch of the 3rd Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) on 10th March 2022. The launch was aimed at strengthening the efforts of all stakeholders to build momentum behind the CAADP agenda for increased political, policy and financial commitment. Deliberations on the results of the report will help to collectively formulate policy and investment responses to address any challenges and build on opportunities presented by African agriculture.

The BR is the primary mutual accountability mechanism that the African Union and its member states use to track the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) borne from the Malabo Declaration. It is a fundamental instrument that shows outcomes of different agricultural efforts and interventions on the continent to enable countries to track, measure, and report the progress achieved against agreed result areas.

FPEAK debated on the results of the report and participated in formulating policy and investment responses to address any challenges and build on opportunities presented by African agriculture.



NATIONAL TRACEABILITY OF FOODS OF PLANTS VALIDATION WORKSHOP

Are you aware of the National Traceability Regulatory Framework for fresh and processed food of plant origin?

The regulatory framework ensures continuous improvement of conformity assessment services in Kenya's horticultural sector, increasing revenue for Kenya's smallholder producers and enterprises in export-oriented horticulture and strengthening the market potential of high-value horticulture.

The Market Access Upgrade Programme (MARKUP), through United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and Horticulture Crops Directorate (HCD) is working together to review and analyze the current national traceability regulatory framework and systems deployed for fresh and processed food of plant origin. The objective of the assignment was to review the legal requirements of the current traceability system, assess the inspection procedures of the traceability system, and propose activities to strengthen the national traceability system.

They hosted a virtual validation meeting on 10th March 2022 which was aimed at charting the way forward in improving traceability of horticultural produce in the sector.

There will be training opportunities which will target exporters in select regions.



RECLAIM SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM LOBBY & ADVOCACY TRAINING

FPEAK and Solidaridad will be partnering to implement the Reclaim Sustainability! Project. The project “RECLAIM SUSTAINABILITY!” (RS!) Food products project is a 5-year program (2021-2025) supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of the Netherlands.

The program is implemented through a consortium of partners. It tries to invoke the actual meaning of sustainability both in theory and practice in global commodity supply chains. The RECLAIM SUSTAINABILITY!’s Food products strategic objective is to contribute to inclusive sustainable value chain and trade in an innovative way, in which the interests, voices and rights of farmers and citizens (both male and female) are represented and heard in decision making for fair value distribution and sustainable consumption. Through this project, Solidaridad and FPEAK will aim to hold meetings in Meru, Kirinyaga, Makueni and Kajiado counties to establish the issues which farmers face in production of agricultural produce, hold awareness sessions on implementation of the KS 1758 standard and develop policy papers which will improve the business environment in Kenya.

Through this project, FPEAK was part of a three-day advocacy and lobbying training from 21st to 23rd March 2022 at Monarch Hotel. The training session aimed at equipping the FPEAK technical team with the tools and capacity to convene, consult, connect and create innovative solutions to be able to advocate through inclusive dialogue, acceleration of disruptive innovation, and amplification of voices of the citizenry. FPEAK will use the knowledge and skills to better serve FPEAK members and the horticulture industry in general.



COLEACP TRAINING PLATFORM AWARENESS TRAINING

FPEAK participated in a virtual awareness training organized by COLEACP under the NExT Kenya Program on 23rd March 2022. The training targeted technical staff across all counties being supported by COLEACP. The workshop provided an opportunity for trainees to familiarize themselves with the COLEACP e-learning platform and E-Gap database and thereby take advantage of various courses offered. These capacity-building exercises are continuous concerted efforts aimed at increasing the productivity of high-quality agricultural produce to enhance local, regional and global market competitiveness. One can join the e-learning platform through <https://eservices.coleacp.org/en/e-learning>

KS 1758 WORKING TOOLS

FPEAK is part of the Standard Implementation Committee of KS 1758 whose role is to ensure the smooth implementation of the standard. To achieve this, the committee has been reviewing the working tools of this standard to make it easier to fully implement it. So far, the committee has reviewed the scheme rules and is in the process of developing the compliance criteria and implementation guide of the existing checklist. The compliance criteria and implementation guide will make it easier for the implementing parties to comply to the requirements. The documents will be shared with FPEAK members upon completion.

KS 1758 PART 2: FRUITS AND VEGETABLES TRAINING

Through support from the USIAD funded KCMDS program which is being implemented by RTI, FPEAK is currently rolling out KS 1758 part 2: Fruits and Vegetables. The next phase of the training involves training of technical staff of FPEAK members on the standard. This will be a three-day training and each participant will be required to pay a registration fee of KShs 8,000.00 and register on this link <https://forms.gle/WeDsxXyWJFvqCLAs5>.

The registration will be on first come, first serve basis. The dates and venues will be communicated in due time.



It was a historic day as FPEAK witnessed the loading of the first consignment of fresh chillies at the Kisumu International Airport destined for Europe on January 9th 2022. This follows expansion of the airport to encompass a cargo handling and cold storage facility through a Public Private Partnership (PPP).

Kenya Airways will henceforth make available 6 tonnes daily for Fresh Produce export out of the airport and a dedicated 16 tonnes daily if Produce is available.

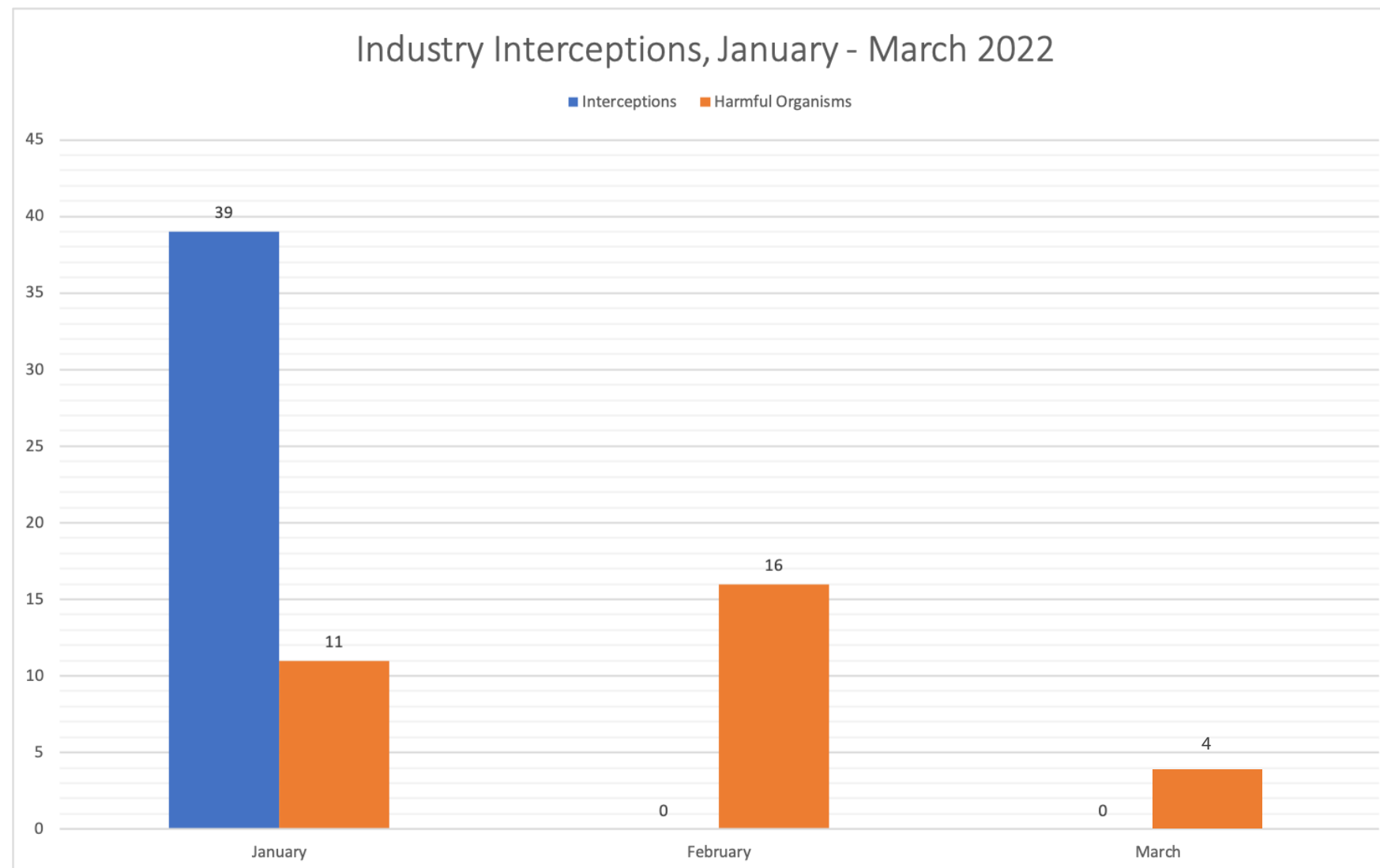
The Kisumu Lake Development Corporation, which seeks to promote investment, trade and tourism, held a consultative meeting with stakeholders from the public and private sector in a bid to bring to fruition an initiative to support stakeholders involved in the development and usage of air cargo transportation.

The meeting brought together the Kenya Airports Authority, Kenya Airways, Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Services, FPEAK and Kenya Revenue Authority.

The establishment of a cargo village at the airport will unite cargo airlines, freight forwarders, farmers, fish traders and airports to identify opportunities, generate new business and add additional frequencies into the aviation market.

Also available is a cold storage facility near the airport with a capacity of 120 tonnes a day.

INDUSTRY STATISTICS



Documentation cases include: Additional Declaration Missing | Plant Passport: Incomplete | Plant Passport:copy/ Duplicata Not Endorsed | Incorrect Identity Declared On Documents | False Information

Harmful Organisms include: Thaumatotibia leucotreta | Scirtothrips aurantii |



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