

● ● ●

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 019



4TH QUARTER ACTIVITIES | OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2022

This newsletter presents activities and events that FPEAK was involved in for the months of October, November & December 2022.

IN THIS ISSUE

Avocado Consultative Meeting

Reclaim Sustainability! Program

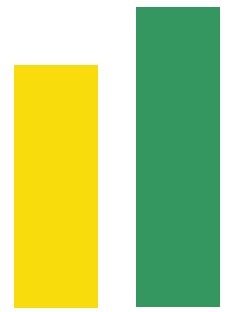
Flowers & Perishable Logistics

National SPS Committee

Principles & Guidelines on Food Safety

READ MORE INSIDE





PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP DIALOGUE MEETING

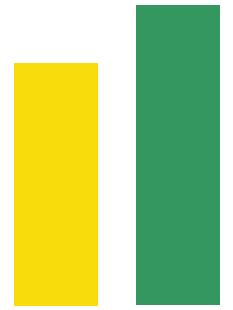
FPEAK participated in a Public Private Dialogue which was organized by UNIDO under the MARKUP project on 18th October 2022 at Ibis Styles Hotel, Westlands.

During this PPD meeting, FPEAK shared market access challenges for Horticulture produce including but not limited to high cost of production that lowers Kenya's produce competitiveness, technical barriers to trade and non-compliance to plant health and food safety requirements.

FPEAK has intervened in a number of ways including training farmers and technical staff on plant health, food safety and environmental sustainability and continuous engagement with all the industry stakeholders for implementation of proposed solutions to address industry challenges.



Participants pose for a group photo during the meeting



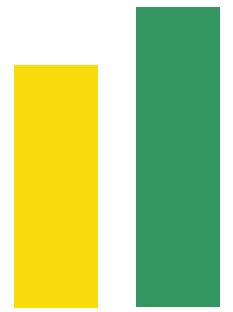
KENYA FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES OECD SCHEME TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (TWG) MEETING

Kenya is an approved source of fruits and vegetables into the European Union since 2006 and a member of OECD FFV scheme since 2009. The OECD scheme facilitates the adoption and application of international FFV quality standards in production, trade and marketing conditions, promotes uniformity in quality control and disseminates quality assurance guidelines.

FPEAK is a member of OECD TWG and the objective of this workshop was to develop OECD TWG activities for 2022-2023. The meeting was held at KEPHIS JKIA on 26th November 2022. The activities will target farmers and exporters of fruits and vegetables aiming at improving their quality for market access. A detailed work plan will be shared with FPEAK members at a later date.



TWG Participants pose for a group photo during the meeting



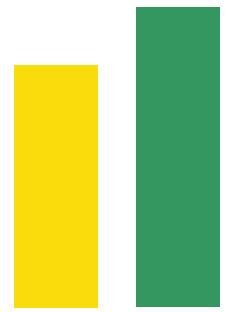
INDUSTRY CONSULTATIVE MEETING FOR AVOCADO EXPORTERS



Given the need to safeguard the export of avocados, FPEAK together with other industry stakeholders participated in a consultative meeting held on 3rd November 2022 at Crowne Plaza, JKIA to agree on the closing of the avocado harvesting season. Industry stakeholders and HCD undertook a survey to ascertain avocado maturity and projected volumes and found there were insufficient mature fruits in the orchards across the country. The stakeholders present agreed that:

1. The closing of harvesting season for Hass, Fuerte, Pinkerton, and Jumbo varieties and shipment by sea for 2021/2022 shall be effected on 15th November 2022.
2. Exports clearance shall only be by air subject to inspection and approval by HCD including fruits from East African Community member countries unless transshipment.

It was also agreed that given the changes in climatic patterns, a review of the notice shall be undertaken in early January 2023 and guidance provided.



GEORGIA GROWERS DELEGATION VISIT TO KENYA

FPEAK hosted delegates from Georgia who were on a study tour in Kenya on 6th to 12th November 2022. The purpose of the study was to exchange ideas with Kenyan fresh produce growers and exporters. The team interacted with FPEAK members and various government agencies.

The team visited various farms that grow flowers, vegetables and herbs for export. Further, the team interacted with the common user facilities domiciled at Horticultural Crops Directorate used by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and as well engaged with Electronic Phytosanitary Certification System at KEPHIS. The team also toured private logistics centers and saw how fresh produce from different companies is handled and prepared ready for dispatch to the airside for loading to aircrafts.

FPEAK continues to facilitate information exchange among different countries and institutions.



The Georgian delegation poses for a photo at KEPHIS JKIA



The Georgian delegation during a farm visit in Kajjado county



The Georgian delegation visiting a vegetable packing facility

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND HERBS CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 2022

FPEAK hosted the 4th edition of the Fruits, Vegetables and Herbs Conference & Exhibition 2022 on 9th to 10th November 2022 at Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi. The theme for this year's conference was "Enhancing Productivity, Quality, Food Safety, and Market Access for Fruits, Vegetables & Herbs".

The main objective of the conference was to bring together stakeholders (both public and private) in the fruit, vegetables, and herbs subsector to discuss challenges and opportunities in the subsector with greater emphasis on promoting the competitiveness of Kenya's fresh fruits, vegetables, and herbs through greater adoption of business models that will guarantee, quality, safety, increased production and enhanced market access.



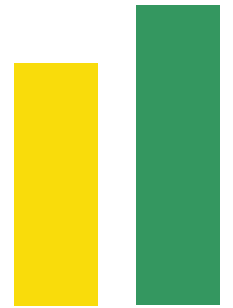
Hosea Machuki, FPEAK CEO, gives remarks at the opening session of the conference



Key stakeholders pose for a group photo during the event



RECLAIM SUSTAINABILITY! PROGRAM



FPEAK is running a program supported by Solidaridad East and Central Africa. 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. FPEAK has facilitated a number of activities through this project, namely;

- *Hosting the SIC and the Executive Committee of KS 1758:2016 Horticulture code of Practice during the review of the scheme rules*
- *Developed two video documentaries; one focusing on food loss and food waste management and the other on food safety. FPEAK has utilized her social media platforms to promote the messages to its industry stakeholders and audience. The links to the videos are;*
 - o *Food Loss and Food Waste <https://youtu.be/GmATbcy5Ymg>*
 - o *Food Safety https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GwkYilp8FoE&ab_channel=FPEAK*
- *FPEAK supported a two-day workshop with stakeholders drawn from Meru County Potato Farmer Groups, National Potato Council of Kenya (NPCK), Kenya National Farmers Federation (KENAFF).*
- *FPEAK supported two one-day sensitization workshops which targeted tomato growing farmers from Kirinyaga (28th October 2022) and Kajiado (18th October 2022) counties and taken through an awareness training on KS1758:2016 Horticulture Code of Practice - Part 2 Fruits and Vegetables.*

FPEAK has engaged a consultant, Sustainable Farming Services Africa (SFSA) to undertake a study on the status of Pesticides use in Kenya. The study looks into the status of pesticides in Kenya, as well as specific issues on skills and knowledge levels, engagement of value chain actors, as well as emerging issues potentially impacting on policy and usage related to pesticides. A cross-section of stakeholders are being engaged, including but not limited to producers, traders, researchers, consumers, regulators, and policy makers. The activity is ongoing.

RECLAIM SUSTAINABILITY! PROGRAM



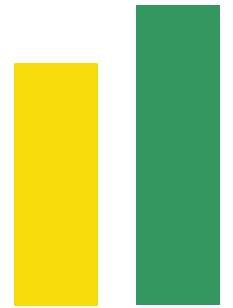
Members of the KS 1758:2016 SIC and Executive Committee pose for a group photo during the meeting in Nakuru



Participants pose for a group photo during the Meru Potato Farmers meeting on 12th to 13th October 2022



Participants pose for a group photo during the Kajiado Tomato Farmers meeting on 18th November 2022

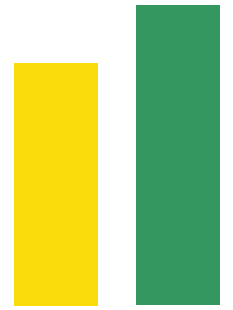


INCEPTION WORKSHOP STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES FOR ENHANCED SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE POST-HARVEST MANAGEMENT OF FOOD



Post-harvest losses and food waste are a bottleneck in ensuring resilience and emergence out of the poverty cycle as investments in production are not profitable if the resultant product does not earn revenue due to losses. Therefore, for the country to achieve its potential from the agricultural sector through bountiful harvests as more investments are made in improving productivity, the same attention needs to be put into post-harvest management of food to ensure the food produce is not wasted.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is supporting the Kenyan government to review and finalize the strategy for post-harvest management. FPEAK was part of the project inception workshop organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on 29th November 2022 at Pride Inn Hotel, Nairobi in an effort to gain insights on how best to address the key challenges and maximize opportunities presented by the gaps in post-harvest management. FPEAK will keep members informed on the progress of the project.



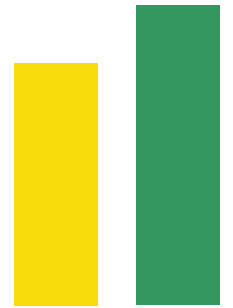
WORKSHOP ON STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL SPS AND CODEX INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND BUILDING CAPACITY ON SPS MEASURES

Ensuring food safety should be a high priority in Africa and Kenya in particular, in view of the fact that Africa has the highest burden of foodborne-related illnesses and deaths. Further, growing and exporting good quality and safe food is paramount for trade sustainability and market access.

FPEAK is a member of the National SPS committee and was strengthened on national food safety and SPS system. The platform also provided an excellent opportunity to engage in a consultative dialogue among stakeholders on food safety best practices, success stories, and challenges.

The two-day workshop held on 31st October to 1st November 2022 at Ole Sereni Hotel, Nairobi, was supported by United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) through the MARK-UP Project.





FLOWERS & PERISHABLES LOGISTICS UPDATE AFRICA CONFERENCE

After three years break, the fifth edition of Flowers Logistics and Perishables Summit was held in Nairobi. The focus was on Covid-19 best practices, lessons learnt and the way forward on cold chain logistics.

FPEAK plays a key role in the cold chain logistics to get high-quality and fresh flowers, fruits, vegetables and herbs to the end consumer in a sustainable and efficient manner. Due to climate change and high freight costs, the focus is shifting to transporting fresh produce by sea which is environmentally friendlier, cheaper, and has more capacity.

Kenya is looking forward to shipping 50% of its flowers by sea by 2030.

Adoption of Controlled Atmosphere (CA), Modified Atmosphere Packaging (MAP) and the use of real-time data loggers to monitor produce temperature, and modern and more efficient traceability systems among others are some of the key technologies that ensure high-quality produce is exported to the market in good time.

The two-day conference took place on 23rd and 24th November 2022 at Radisson Blu Hotel, upper hill, Nairobi was organized and supported by STAT Media Group.



GLOBALGAP TOUR STOP, ARUSHA, TANZANIA

FPEAK participated in the GLOBALGAP Tour Stop in Arusha on 28th to 30th November 2022 at St. Carolus Tengeru, Arusha, Tanzania.

The theme of the conference was "Enhancing Compliance for Expanded Market Access and Trade". The conference discussed different topics around certification and the role that BMOs play to facilitate certification. Attendees were drawn from producers, off-takers, technology companies, Government regulatory bodies, transportation and logistics companies, researchers, input providers and Development Partners.

The tour stop event was organized by Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA)



Patrice Ngenga, left, Standards and Compliance Officer, FPEAK, takes part of panel discussions during the event



Participants pose for a group photo during field visit to Africado Farm in Sanya Juu, Tanzania

FRESH PRODUCE LOGISTICS TEAM VISITS NAIVASHA

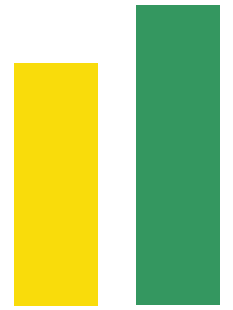
FPEAK CEO, Hosea Machuki, joined the TMEA Council and Board members for a tour to Flamingo Horticulture farm in Naivasha and also held a meeting with the Depot Manager at ICD, Naivasha to assess support needed to facilitate export of fresh produce via sea.



Fresh Produce Logistics team pose for a group photo at Flamingo Farm, Naivasha



Stakeholders pose for a group photo at ICD, Naivasha



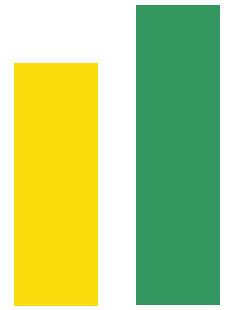
WORKSHOP ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL SPS COMMITTEE WORKPLAN 2022/2023

The National SPS Committee is implementing the National SPS Strategy 2021-2024 which was developed between 2018 and 2020. During its retreat held on October 2022, the National SPS Committee developed its 2nd Year Annual Work Plan for the implementation of the National SPS Strategy.

The work plan had prioritized activities whose implementations were to commence at the earliest convenience. To fast-track the implementation of these prioritized activities, the State Department for Trade (SDT) in conjunction with the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) organized a workshop for the members of the National SPS Committee on 6th to 9th December 2022 at Gelian Hotel, Machakos.



Members of the National SPS committee pose for a group photo during the workshop



WORKSHOP ON PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES FOR THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION IN FOOD SAFETY EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

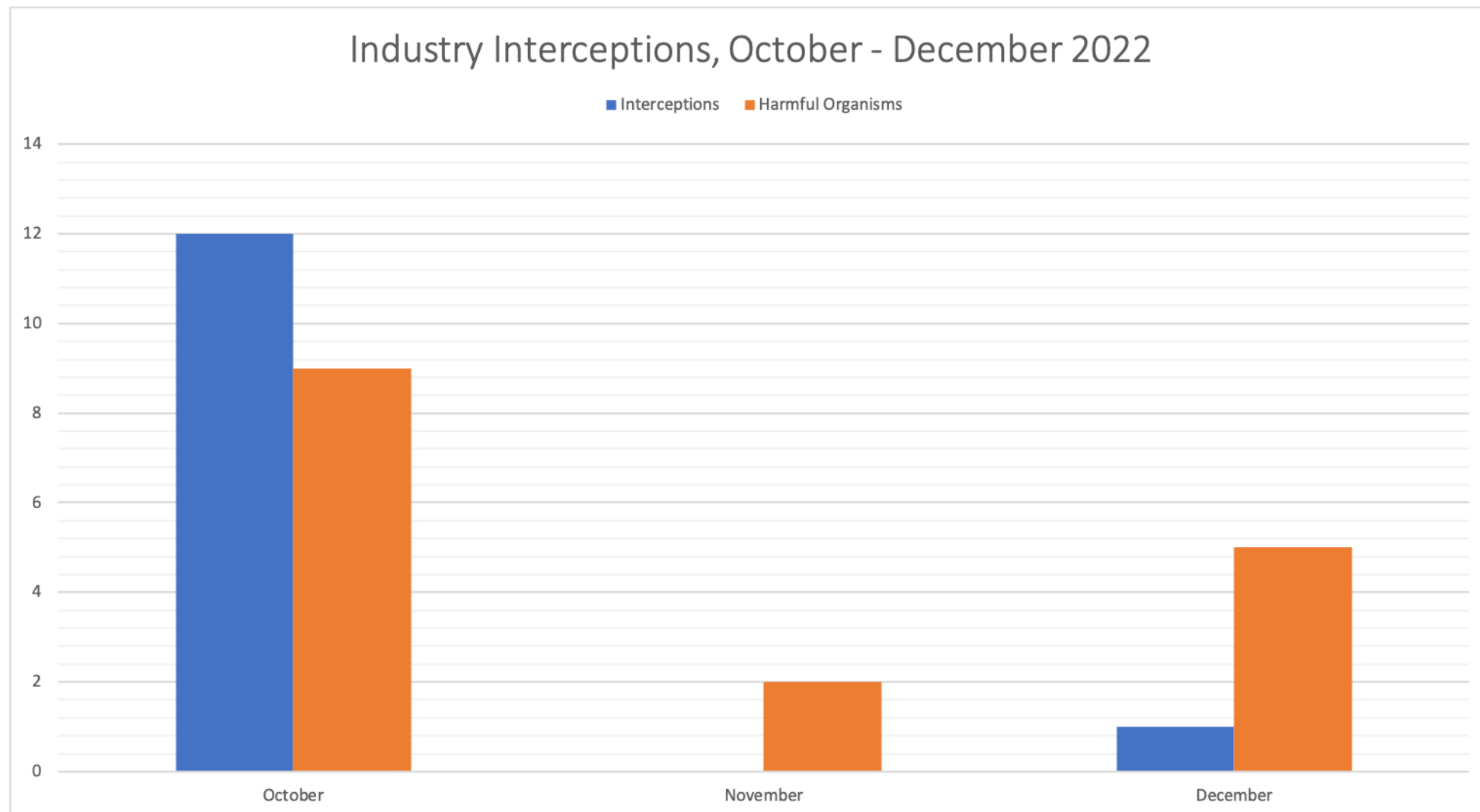
CODEX Alimentarius is a joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Program that was established by FAO and WHO to protect consumer health and promote fair practices in the food trade.

Kenya Bureau of Standard organized a national dissemination workshop of food stakeholders to discuss the principles and guidelines for the exchange of information in food safety emergency situations CXG 19-1995 on 13th December 2022.

The objective of the workshop was to equip relevant government agencies, food business operators, consumers and other stakeholders with principles and guidelines to adhere to in the event of food safety emergency situation with the goal to minimize potential adverse public health effects.

The National CODEX committee is in the planning stage to hold a workshop and sensitize FPEAK members on the available CODEX standards and other information relevant to growers and exporters of fresh produce. Members will be informed when the sensitization workshop will be held.

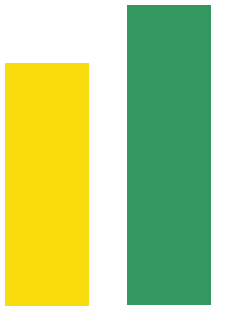
INDUSTRY STATISTICS



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 |

Source: https://ec.europa.eu/food/plant/plant_health_biosecurity/europhyt/interceptions_en



4th Floor, New Rehema House
Raphta Road, Westlands
P.O.Box 40312 - 00100
NAIROBI, KENYA

+254 713 516 555
info@fpeak.org

www.fpeak.org