

● ● ●

NEWSLETTER **ISSUE 022**

3RD QUARTER ACTIVITIES | JULY - SEPTEMBER 2023

This newsletter presents activities and events that FPEAK was involved in for the months of July, August & September 2023.



IN THIS **ISSUE**

Importers & Exporters Workshop

BEEEP Program

Post GLOBALGAP Workshop

Avocado Industry Workshop

NTFC Meeting

FPEAK Members Meeting

[READ MORE INSIDE](#)



IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS WORKSHOP

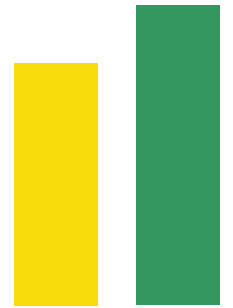
In a significant development, FPEAK has become a part of the CODEX Kenya committee, marking an important step towards international standards and collaboration. Recently, this committee organized an enlightening Importers and Exporters Workshop at Bahari Beach Hotel in Mombasa, spanning from July 10th to 12th, 2023.

The primary goal of this workshop was to share vital insights, particularly CXG 97-2022: 'Guidelines for the Recognition of Active Substances or Authorized Uses of Active Substances of Low Public Health Concern that are Considered Exempted from the Establishment of Maximum Residue Limits or do not give rise to Residues.' Participants had the opportunity to become well-versed in Codex Tools and understand how to effectively integrate them into their operations.

Additionally, this event served as a platform to equip importers and exporters with essential knowledge about Pre-Export Verification of Conformity (PVoC) requirements. Such initiatives highlight FPEAK's commitment to ensuring the highest standards in the import and export processes, fostering transparency, and enhancing industry practices.



Participants pose for a group photo during the event



INDUSTRY CONSULTATIVE MEETING WITH AVOCADO EXPORTERS

In a collaborative initiative, FPEAK recently took part in a productive industry gathering hosted by AFA-HCD on August 3, 2023, at Crowne Plaza JKIA. During this event, several crucial topics were brought to the forefront:

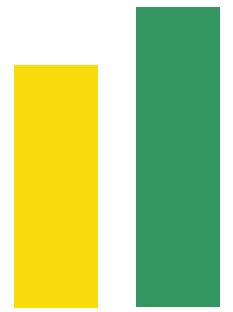
- Tracing Avocado Origins
- Managing Scattered Production
- Effective Aggregation of Resources
- Extending Support Services
- Optimizing Fruit Harvest Timing

The directorate underlined its unwavering dedication to enforcing essential handling procedures. They emphasized the importance of avocado exporters adhering to established quality standards and export regulations. This joint endeavor is aimed at ensuring that only top-quality avocados reach international markets, which will help us both maintain and potentially expand our market presence globally.

As a result, FPEAK strongly encourages all its members involved in the avocado industry to strictly follow national standards and implement best practices for avocados. You can access the Avocado Good Practice Guide by clicking [here](#).

Let's work together to ensure the excellence of our avocado exports!





MARKET DRIVEN TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR THE HORTICULTURE SECTOR

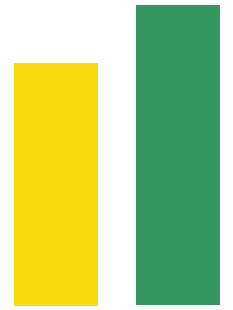


The team from FPEAK, KSA and Q-Point pose for a group photo during the meeting

FPEAK is collaborating with Q-Point B.V. and Kenya School of Agriculture to conduct training programs aimed at addressing knowledge and skill gaps within the horticulture sector.

The project dubbed “Tailor Made Training Plus – Orange Knowledge Management Program” which is funded by NUFFIC, aims to build the capacity of players in the value chain on topics like; regulations, standards, agronomy, greenhouse management, value addition as well as facilitating the sharing of pertinent and current insights in perishable product value chain management.

On 9th August 2023, FPEAK convened a meeting with the two partners to deliberate on how best to execute the project.



POST GLOBALG.A.P. TOUR STOP WORKSHOP

In our objective to support compliance to standards, FPEAK participated in the post GLOBALGAP Tour Stop meeting at Gigiri Lion Villas on 17th August 2023.

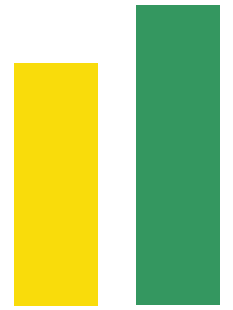
The objective of the meeting was to recognize the synergies between KS 1758 - Horticulture code of practice and GLOBALG.A.P. standard.

This effort aims to simplify and reduce the cost of meeting market requirements in the industry.



Members Present pose for a group photo during the workshop

Members follow proceedings during the workshop



PROJECT: LOSS TO VALUE (L2V)

FPEAK has entered into a partnership with DanChurchAid (DCA) to implement a project named From Loss to Value Creation (L2V). The project's objective is to reduce food loss and waste by implementing scalable cold storage solutions accessible to horticulture small holder farmers. By offering flexible and sustainable financing and payment/loan options, the project aims to make cold storage accessible to small holder farmers, cooperatives, and traders, benefiting over 2,000 farmers, 4 trader associations, and 10 commodity aggregators in Nakuru and Nyandarua Counties. The project will be implemented jointly with two commercial partners; Danfoss and InspiraFarms. The project will develop energy efficient, low global warming potential refrigeration solutions to target Kenya's thriving horticulture sector. FPEAK members sourcing fresh produce from the two Counties will benefit by leveraging on the activities implemented by the project. The project runs from August 2023 to July 2028.

The kickoff workshop took place at Merica Hotel, Nakuru on 30th to 31st August 2023. This also involved a field visit to one of the project beneficiaries, Mirangine Cooperative which produces snow peas in Nyandarua county.





BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT & EXPORT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (BEEEP)

FPEAK has signed a financing agreement with Trade Mark Africa to implement the BEEEP program on behalf of private sector players in the horticulture industry in Kenya. The objective of this program is to facilitate Public Private Dialogue on behalf of the National Horticulture Task Force (NHTF) that supports the horticulture sector.

The program will build on interventions already supported by the Government of Kenya and will complement the goal of the Integrated National Export Development and Promotion Strategy (INEDPS) that seeks to grow Kenya's horticultural exports. BEEEP seeks to close the negative balance of trade through growth in exports, enhanced productivity, stimulate economic development and job creation, in a sustainable and inclusive manner. The BEEEP program runs from August 2023 to June 2027.

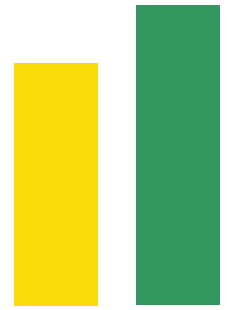
AGRICULTURE STAKEHOLDERS' WORKSHOPS ON PRODUCE CESS AND OTHER MARKET RELATED LEVIES ORGANIZED BY ASNET

FPEAK was part of a virtual meeting hosted by industry stakeholders on 12th of September 2023 to discuss the Agriculture Produce Cess and other market levies that affect an enabling business environment. The meeting provided an opportunity for different stakeholders in the agriculture sector to conducting a deep dive into the subject, share the experiences and views and propose solutions to develop a common position on how Cess should be remitted.

From the plenary discussion, some of the below main points were presented:

- Government should abolish landing cess since farmers already pay money at the point of origin. There is no need for the farmer to incur other unnecessary costs.
- There should be no cess collection until there is evidence of the value for money.
- In the absence of a national policy, cess should not be applied. There should be a national policy to stipulate guidelines and for transparency.
- The regulatory framework for cess collection should be harmonized.

FPEAK will continue to engage with other industry and sector stakeholders on the issue of cess to find a lasting solution that is beneficial and cost effective for the horticulture sector.



CONSULTATIVE MEETING ON THE UTILIZATION OF ELDORET INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

In a bid to facilitate trade and logistics through the Eldoret International Airport, FPEAK actively engaged in a consultative forum convened at the BOMA Hotel in Eldoret on 31st August and 1st September 2023, collaborating with prominent stakeholders within the horticulture sector.

The primary objective of this gathering was to strategize and optimize horticulture export operations through the Eldoret International Airport, with the aim of bolstering local horticulture farming endeavors and improving the livelihoods of the agricultural community in the region. The event was graced by Cabinet Secretary, Roads & Transport Hon. Onesimus Kipchumba Murkomen and Hon Mithika Linturi, the Cabinet Secretary, Agriculture and Livestock Development. The forum facilitated a convergence of critical stakeholders, encompassing national and county leadership, governmental bodies, diligent farmers, exporters, and representatives from the aviation sector.

From the two-day discussions, AFA-HCD created a roadmap plan that outlined the main action points and the responsible persons. The following are the plan's top goals;

- Increasing the base of export crop production
- Encouraging market access Create an enabling Policy and Regulatory Framework
- Provide horticulture produce transit logistics
- Develop infrastructure and amenities at EIA.





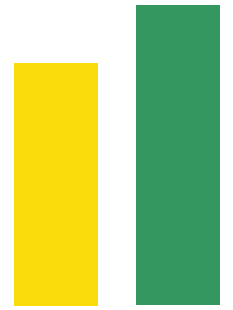
DEVELOPMENT OF PEST MANAGEMENT DECISION GUIDES

In a remarkable collaborative effort, FPEAK joined hands with fellow industry stakeholders in the horticulture sector for a significant event that took place on September 4th and 5th, 2023, at Ole Ken Hotel in Nakuru County. The primary aim of this gathering was to create Pest Management Decision Guides (PMDGs), a valuable resource designed to offer guidance to both technical advisors and farmers.

These PMDGs are tailored to aid in making well-informed decisions and taking strategic actions to effectively manage pests and diseases on farms. They serve as an essential tool in optimizing crop health and overall agricultural productivity.

This noteworthy initiative received substantial support from CABI through its Plant Wise Plus program. CABI's commitment is directed towards empowering smallholder farmers by enabling them to cultivate safe and high-quality crops through the adoption of sustainable production practices. This collaboration underscores FPEAK's dedication to the continual improvement and advancement of the horticulture sector.



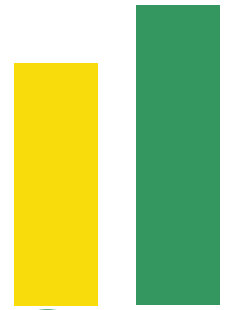


NATIONAL TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE MEETING

FPEAK remains dedicated to championing the interests of its members by actively participating in multiple committees. As part of this commitment, FPEAK collaborated with government agencies and other stakeholders during the National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC) workshop, held at Gelian Hotel in Machakos from September 4th to 8th, 2023.

The primary aim of this workshop was to assess the progress made in implementing the 22 Articles that have been communicated to the World Trade Organization (WTO). The focus was on enhancing the effective implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement. FPEAK's participation in such initiatives underscores our dedication to facilitating and improving trade practices for the benefit of our members and the broader community.





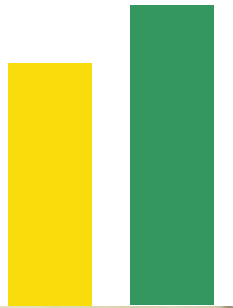
INAUGURAL WORKSHOP FOR UMBRELLA BODIES (PRIVATE SECTOR ACTORS (PSAS) & CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOS) FOR DEVELOPMENT OF OPERATIONAL INSTRUMENTS

The County Government of Nairobi recently organized an engaging three-day workshop, held at the Machakos University Hotel and Conference Centre from September 13th to 15th, 2023. This event brought together a diverse array of stakeholders, including FPEAK, representing the private sector and civil society organizations operating in Nairobi County.

This gathering was a pivotal part of the Agricultural Sector Development Support Program (ASDSP II), designed to bolster efforts addressing critical challenges hindering the growth of the agricultural sector and the achievement of food and nutrition security. For Nairobi County, the primary focus under this program encompasses Cow Milk, Broilers, and Kale as priority value chains.

The workshop's fruitful conclusion involved the formulation of preliminary Terms of Reference and a work plan to chart the course for future endeavors. This emerging multi-stakeholder platform aligns seamlessly with FPEAK's advocacy mission, especially concerning the advancement of the horticulture industry and the broader agricultural sector. FPEAK's participation in this platform not only fosters networking opportunities with relevant stakeholders but also keeps us well-informed about emerging issues within Nairobi County.





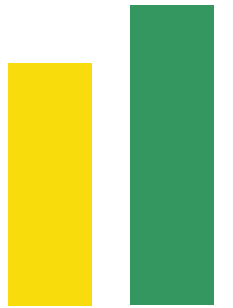
FPEAK MEMBERS BREAKFAST MEETING

In accordance with FPEAK's 2023 calendar, an important event took place on September 16th, 2023, when FPEAK hosted a Members' Breakfast Meeting at Strathmore Business School. This special gathering was made possible by the support of USAID - the U.S. Agency for International Development, through its Kenya Small Business Development Centers Program.

The collaborative breakfast meeting served as a platform for FPEAK and USAID to explore how FPEAK members can leverage the program's initiatives, including access to valuable market opportunities, particularly in the United States. A key focus of discussion was the potential for FPEAK members to tap into U.S. export markets under existing trade agreements, such as the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

The Kenya SBDC program, facilitated by USAID, is strongly committed to equipping Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) with essential market insights and capacity-building resources. This strategic partnership aims to empower businesses to seize opportunities, fortify their resilience, and foster sustainable growth. Stay tuned for more updates on this exciting collaboration



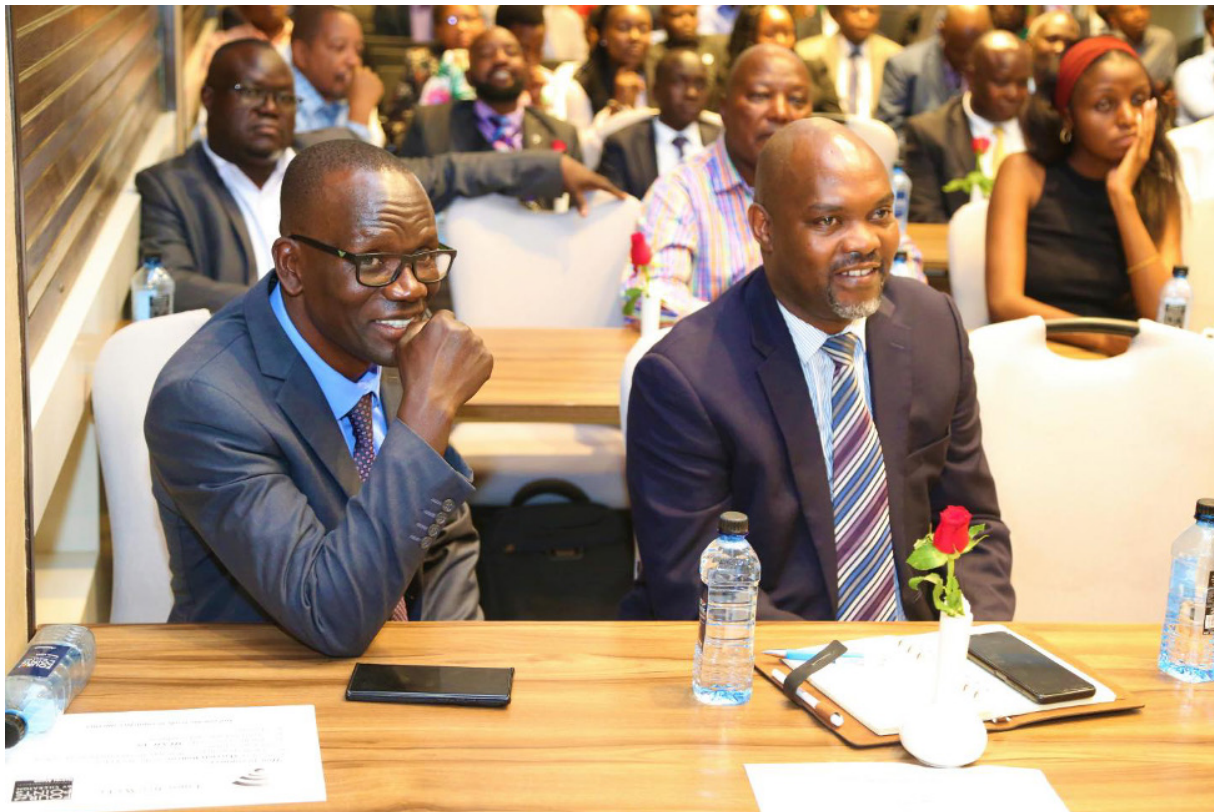


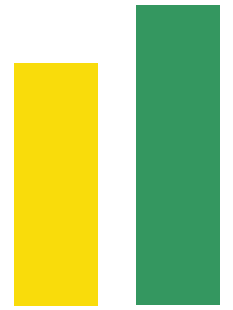
CARGO STAKEHOLDERS' MEETING

On September 27, 2023, the Kenya Airports Authority (KAA) played host to FPEAK and other key players in the industry for a significant Cargo Stakeholders' Meeting. This event offered a productive platform for discussions and networking, with a keen focus on the air cargo sector.

The esteemed KAA Board Chairman, Hon. Caleb Kositany, presided over the event, shedding light on the pivotal role that air cargo plays in propelling Kenya's economic development. His insightful remarks underscored the need for on-going dialogues and collaboration on this critical subject. The meeting brought together a diverse group of participants, including cargo handling service providers, freight forwarders, and airlines. It offered a valuable opportunity for all stakeholders to engage in meaningful discussions and gain insights into the sector's current developments.

FPEAK remains committed to advocating for favorable freight charges to bolster competitiveness within the marketplace. Our dedication to addressing this vital issue continues to be a central part of our industry advocacy efforts.





PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR THE WATER RESOURCES REGULATIONS 2023

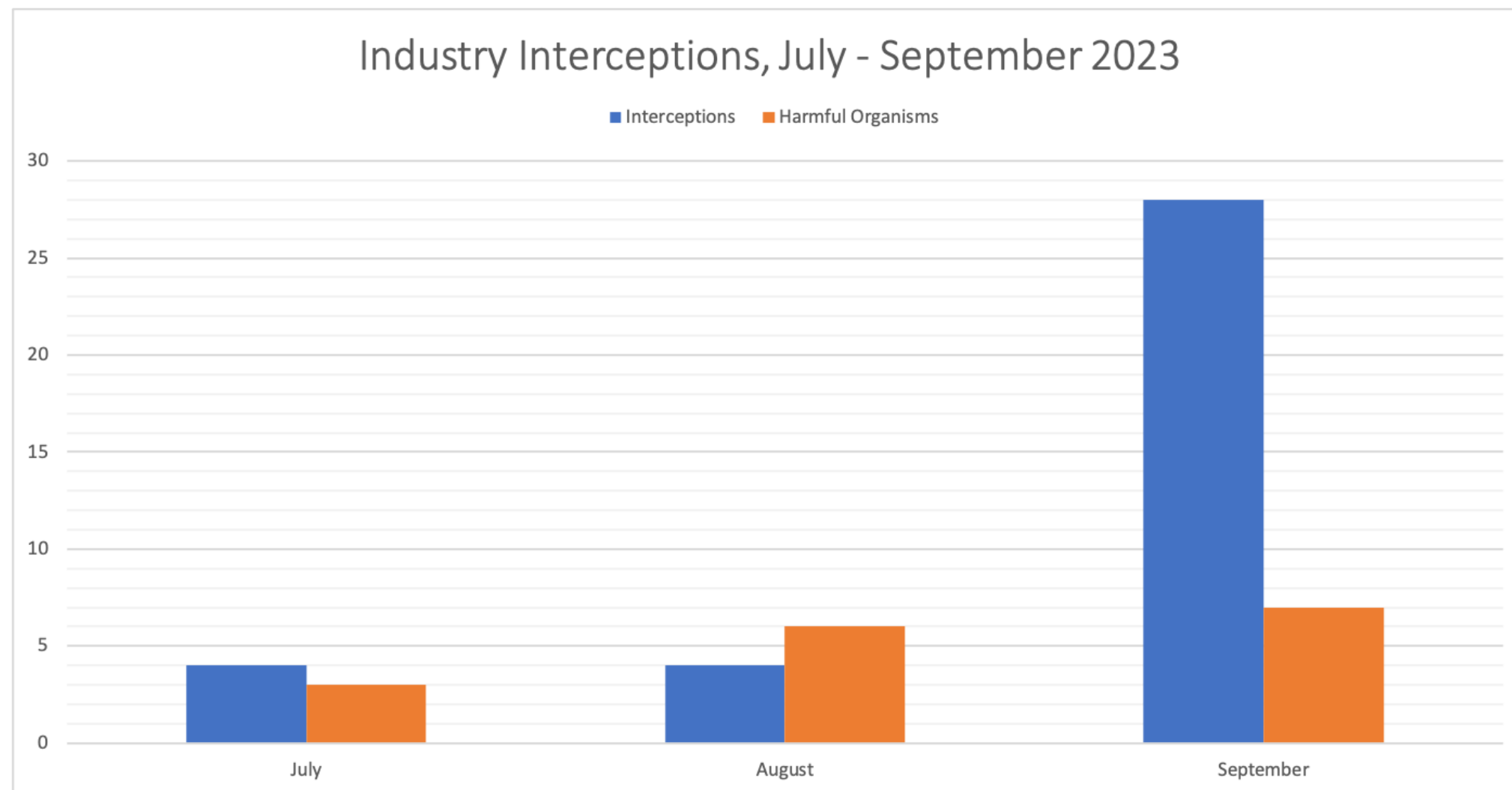
In our unwavering commitment to champion the interests of our members, FPEAK has actively engaged with private sector partners and various government bodies concerning the Water Resources Regulations of 2023. These regulations proposed an increase in water use charges for irrigation, domestic water, public water supplies, and livestock use, which could have detrimental consequences for the agriculture sector by increasing the cost of farming for those who rely on irrigation and livestock farming.

To address these concerns, the 'Water Resources Regulations 2023' were reopened for public participation until September 30, 2023. FPEAK, along with members of the public and other stakeholders, participated in the public consultation sessions held in Machakos County on September 28th and 29th, 2023. These sessions included representatives from Water Resource Users Associations (WRUAs) and a few private sector bodies, allowing for comprehensive discussions on the four regulations under review.

The agriculture sector presented several proposals during these discussions, including a call to reduce domestic water charges from the proposed KSh 5 to KSh 2 per m³ and from KSh 1.5 to KSh1 per m³ for irrigation. Furthermore, there was a suggestion to extend the review period for water use charges from one year to three years and to lower the additional groundwater conservation charge from 10% to 5%.

In addition to these sector-wide proposals, FPEAK presented its own memorandum, highlighting key areas of concern and providing recommendations. Our association remains dedicated to continued engagement on this matter to advocate for a reconsideration of the proposed fees, with the aim of making them more economically feasible for farmers who rely on irrigation to cultivate their land.

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 |



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