



NEWSLETTER **ISSUE 026**



3RD QUARTER ACTIVITIES | JULY - SEPTEMBER 2024

This newsletter presents activities and events that FPEAK was involved in for the months of July, August & September 2024..

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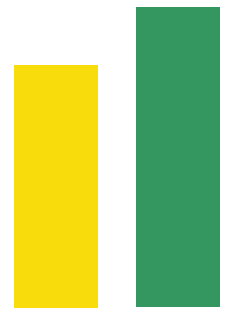
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WORKSHOP ON DEVELOPING A FOOD SAFETY CAPACITY BUILDING ROADMAP FOR KENYA



Participants pose for a group photo during the workshop which took place on 27th to 29th August 2024 at Radisson Blu Hotel, Upper Hill, Nairobi.



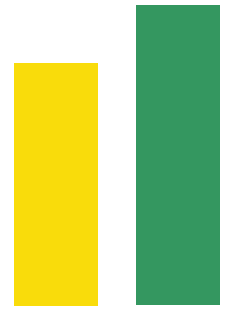
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The PS, State Department of Crop Development, Dr. Paul Ronoh makes remarks during the workshop which took place on 27th to 29th August 2024 at Radisson Blu Hotel, Nairobi.

From August 27th to 29th, 2024, FPEAK took part in a pivotal workshop aimed at shaping a Roadmap for Industry Capacity Building in food safety within Kenya. Hosted at Radisson Blu Hotel in Upper Hill, Nairobi, the event was supported by the Food and Agriculture Export Alliance and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, bringing together industry leaders and experts to discuss strategies for enhancing food safety standards.

The workshop was honored by the presence of Principal Secretary Dr. Paul Ronoh, who highlighted the critical importance of safeguarding the food supply chain. He stressed that food safety must be upheld across every stage of production, from primary processes like harvesting and processing to transportation, distribution, and consumption. His remarks underscored the need to protect food from potential hazards throughout its entire lifecycle.

This timely three-day event occurred ahead of the anticipated implementation of the Food & Feed Safety Control Coordination Bill 2023, currently under debate in the Senate. The bill is expected to introduce stronger regulations and improved oversight in Kenya's food safety landscape, making this workshop a key step toward preparing the industry for these upcoming changes.



FPEAK PARTNERS TO PROMOTE AWARENESS ON MAXIMUM RESIDUE LIMITS (MRLS)

In September 2024, FPEAK teamed up with key industry players, including aak-GROW, the Agriculture and Food Authority – Horticulture Crops Directorate, Pest Control Products Board, CABI, and Solidaridad East and Central Africa, to raise awareness on the importance of adhering to Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs). Workshops were conducted on September 16th and 17th at Kelvian Hotel in Wote, Makueni County, and on September 19th and 20th in Meru town. These regions are renowned for their production of mangoes, chilies, French beans, snow peas, sugar snap, kales, oranges, and other horticultural crops.

The workshops targeted growers and agronomists, aiming to educate them on the critical window between the last pesticide application and the harvesting of crops. The sessions emphasized that proper pesticide management is vital to ensuring food safety for both export markets and local consumers. Adhering to MRLs not only protects public health but also preserves the integrity of Kenya's horticultural exports.

FPEAK reinforced the message that food safety is a shared responsibility across the entire value chain. From regulators and exporters to farmers and consumers, every stakeholder plays a role in maintaining high standards. Collaboration is essential in ensuring that the food we produce and consume meets the required safety measures.



Participants pose for a group during the training at Kelvian Hotel, Wote, on 16th and 17th September 2024



Ms Stella, Croplife Africa, makes a presentation during the training at Kelvian Hotel, Wote Makueni on 16th and 17th September 2024



ONGOING PROJECTS

Tailor Made Training Plus (TMT+)

FPEAK collaborated with Q-Point BV and Kenya School of Agriculture to deliver a consumer-driven product development training. The training took place at Kenya School of Agriculture main campus, Nyeri County on 8th to 11th July 2024. The program kicked off with in-depth market and consumer research, leading to insightful value propositions based on real market demands.

Participants then spent two days in our value addition processing hall, experimenting with innovative product formulations such as fresh mango and passion juice, finger-licking tomato sauce, tingy natural yoghurt, and potato chips with exciting new flavours.

The training concluded with a vibrant market exhibition, where potential consumers provided invaluable feedback on the new products.



Participants exhibiting freshly made tomato sauce during the product development training at Kenya School of Agriculture Main Campus on 8th to 11th July 2024



Participants prepare their equipment and materials during a practical session at the training on product development training at Kenya School of Agriculture Main Campus on 8th to 11th July 2024



ONGOING PROJECTS

Loss To Value (L2V) Creation Project

Through the L2V project, farmer groups from Nyandarua and Nakuru Counties participated in a training on Quality Assurance and QMS to enhance their production capabilities for peas and beans in pods. The training sessions took place at Njabini ATC on 5th and 6th August 2024 and at Nakuru ATC on 8th and 9th August 2024.

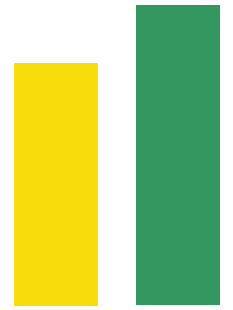
During the training, the farmer representatives were equipped with knowledge on Quality Management Systems, record keeping, policies and procedures, traceability among other topics. FPEAK remains committed to providing training and building the capacity of farmers in various areas of production and value chain management.



Participants pose for a group photo during the training at Njabini ATC on 5th and 6th August 2024



DCA representative, Martin Odinga, gives remarks during the training at Njabini ATC on 5th and 6th August 2024



ONGOING PROJECTS

Brand Reputation Compliance Global Standards (BRCGS) Training

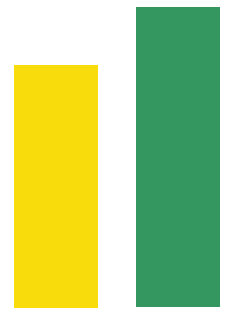
Through the ongoing Business Environment and Export Enhancement Programme, FPEAK staff and members participated in a training on BRCGS at ParkInn by Radisson, Westlands on 29th July to 3rd August 2024. The participants were taken through the BRCGS standard and were also equipped with auditing skills on the same standard. During the training, the participants visited AAA Growers Ltd's Hippo Farm in Thika for a practical session. FPEAK continues to be at the fore front to deliver training on this and other training needs.



Participants pose for a group photo during the training at Park Inn by Radisson, Westlands which took place on 29th July to 3rd August 2024



Participants follow proceedings during the visit to Hippo Farm in Thika during the training that took place on 29th July to 3rd August 2024



NAIVASHA HORTICULTURAL FAIR 2024

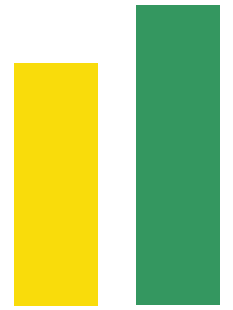


FPEAK's secretariat engages stakeholders during the Naivasha Hortifair 2024 on 20th & 21st September 2024

FPEAK took part in the Naivasha Horticultural Fair 2024, held on September 20th and 21st at the Naivasha Sports Club. The event provided a valuable platform for FPEAK to engage with its members and other key stakeholders in the horticultural sector, fostering discussions on the future of horticulture in Kenya. This fair remains one of the region's premier events, drawing participation from across the industry.

Through its presence at such fairs, both local and international, FPEAK continues to champion Kenya's horticulture sector. These events offer opportunities to highlight the sector's growth, share insights on emerging trends, and advocate for the industry's potential in global markets. FPEAK remains dedicated to telling the success story of Kenyan horticulture to the world.

FPEAK extends its heartfelt thanks to its members, partners, and the wider horticultural community for their unwavering support. It is through this collective effort that Kenya's horticulture sector continues to thrive, and FPEAK looks forward to more fruitful collaborations in the future.



LOGISTICS WORKING GROUP MEETING EXPLORES TRANSITION FROM AIR TO SEA FREIGHT

On September 26th, 2024, the Logistics Working Group convened at the Royal Dutch Embassy in Nairobi to discuss the ongoing shift from air to sea freight in Kenya. During the meeting, Kenya Railways shared an update on the expected arrival of reefer wagons, which are set to enhance cold chain logistics by December 2024. The event featured key presentations on the progress and challenges surrounding this transition in the export logistics landscape.

One of the highlights was a report from Flower Watch, detailing a study on the air-to-sea freight transition as part of the overall logistics master plan. The study aimed to assess how Kenya can optimize its export strategy by integrating more sea freight, ensuring that sensitive products like flowers maintain their quality during transit.

The meeting also addressed the impact of the ongoing Red Sea crisis, which is currently affecting sea exports. Discussions focused on finding solutions to minimize disruptions in the export chain. Additionally, an update on the procurement status of reefer wagons by Kenya Railways Corporation provided insight into future improvements in the country's freight capabilities.





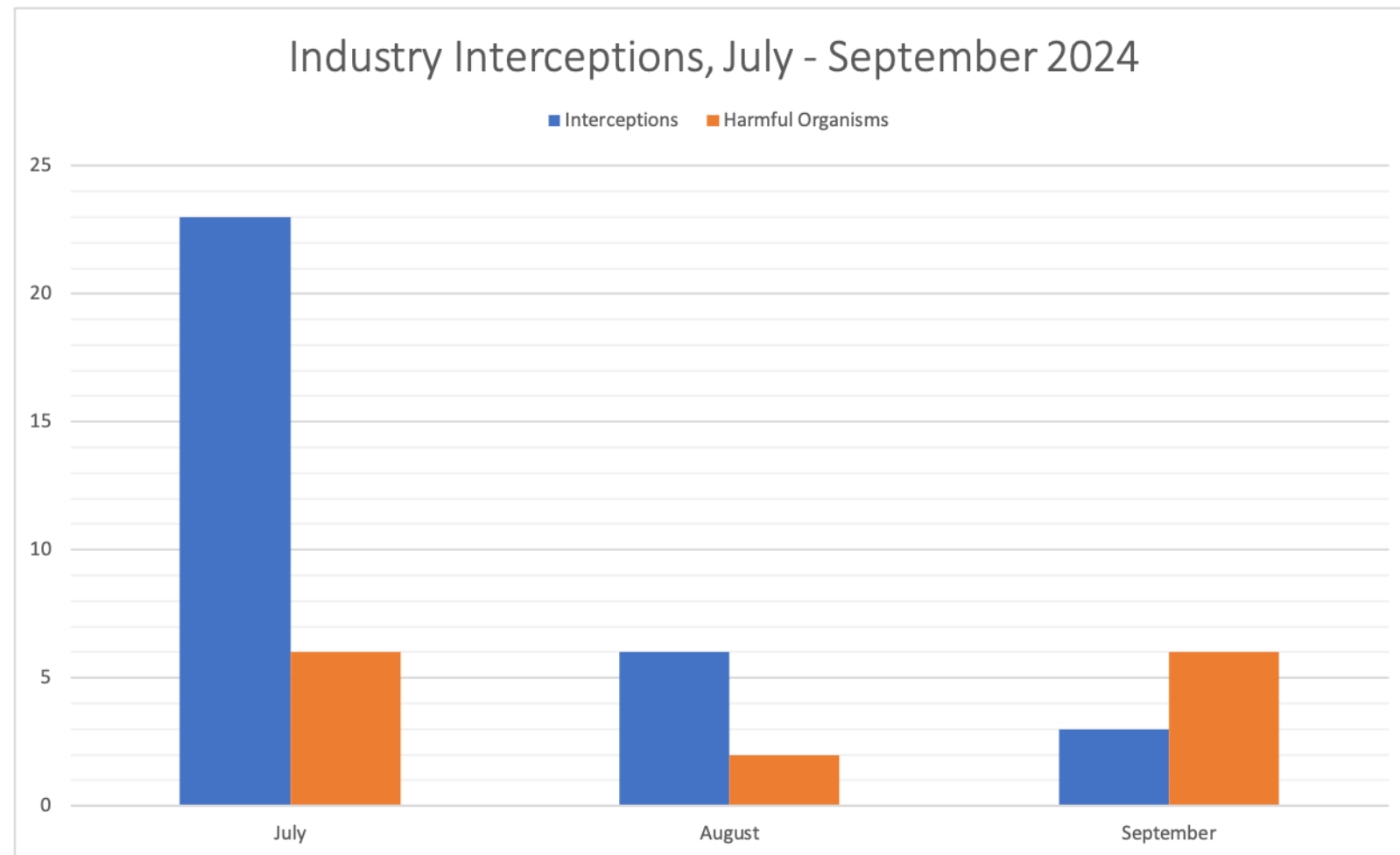
FPEAK PUSHES FOR "GREEN CHANNELS" TO EXPEDITE FRESH PRODUCE MOVEMENT

FPEAK, with the support of GIZ, is spearheading efforts to establish "green channels" at weighbridges and border points across the East African Community (EAC). Currently, trucks transporting perishable goods face delays as they wait alongside non-perishable items, leading to increased transit times and post-harvest losses. The green channels will prioritize horticultural trucks, aiming to reduce delays, minimize losses, and lower overall business costs. Key border points like Namanga and Oloitokitok are set to benefit from this initiative, ensuring fresh produce is handled with the urgency it requires.

To raise awareness of the challenges faced by transporters and traders, FPEAK has developed a documentary showcasing the real-world issues encountered during transit across the EAC. This visual representation highlights the inefficiencies in the current system and underscores the importance of implementing the proposed green channels. The documentary is available for viewing at <https://youtu.be/6UIR1gIEjoo>.

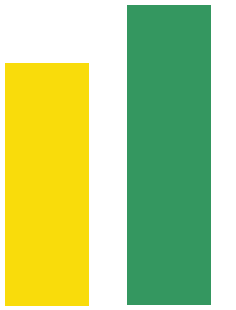
Additionally, FPEAK has developed a comprehensive position paper on the state of logistics in Kenya and the EAC. This paper, which will be presented to government ministries, agencies, and the relevant parliamentary trade and transport committee, outlines the necessary steps to improve logistics and transport systems. Together with the documentary, the position paper advocates for swift action to support Kenya's horticultural sector and enhance trade efficiency across the region.

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