

FAEA Summer Board Meeting Agenda Tuesday, June 23, 2020 10:00 am – 12:00 pm EDT

10.00 am – 12.00 pm ED 1		
Location	Virtual Meeting via Zoom Conference Call	
10:00 am	Call to Order & Approval of Nov Board Meeting Minutes	Chairman Jim Sutter
10:05 am	Introductions of New FAEA Staff & Guests Program Coordinator Codex Coordinator Venture37 (Land O'Lakes - Minnesota) Venture37 (Land O'Lakes - Nairobi)	Kent Sisson Rosida Nababan Rita Kishore Samuel Karnis Martha Byanyima
10:15 am	Presentation by Venture37 Venture37 Global SPS/Food Safety Overview Kenya and East African Community Overview	Samuel Karnis Martha Byanyima
10:30 am	Financials and Budget MAP/GBI Funds Member Funds	Sam Clemence
10:45 am	Update on 2020 Activities Bangladesh Kenya & Africa (Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia) China Vietnam Cambodia Myanmar Pakistan Codex Member Priorities	Kent Sisson All members
11:20 am	Impact on Codex of U.S. Withdrawal from WHO	Nick Gardner
11:25 am	2021 GBI Proposal	Kent Sisson Kurt Shultz
11:45 am	Other Business USAEDC Membership for FAEA Exec Director FAEA Website: Uses & Feedback Linked-In Account for FAEA	Kent Sisson/All

12:00 pm Adjourn



FAEA Board Meeting Minutes

1. Attendees

Board Members

Elanco Unable to Attend

FAEA Kent Sisson, Rita Kishore, Rosida Nababan

Merck Laurie Hueneke, Allison Flynn

NAMI Bill Westman NPPC Trachelle Carr

USAPEEC Greg Tyler, Jim Sumner

USDEC Jonathan Gardner, Nick Gardner

USGC Ryan Legrand, Kurt Shultz, Sam Clemence

USSEC Jim Sutter

Special Guests

Land O'Lakes Venture 37 Martha Byanyima (Nairobi)

Samuel Karnis (Minneapolis)

2. Call to Order & Approval of November 2019 Board Minutes

- a. FAEA Board Chairman Jim Sutter called the FAEA virtual meeting to order.
- b. He provided a brief history of the formation of FAEA. It was formed in 2004 in an effort to achieve greater cooperation and effectiveness for market access among meat, poultry, dairy, feed grains and soybean cooperators and private sector input providers. The organization has done a great job continuing to stick to its mission. Jim Sumner is the only board member who has been part of the organization since its conception and has been a leader in ensuring that FAEA remains relevant and continues to be true to its mission.
- c. Jim Sumner commented that FAEA was originally known as the "Saint Louis Project" because most of the members were from that area in the beginning. It has been led by the Executive Director, Richard Fritz and now Kent Sisson.
- d. The minutes of the November 19, 2019 meeting were approved without any discussion or corrections.

3. Introductions of New FAEA Staff & Guests

Kent Sisson introduced new FAEA staff and guests from Land O' Lakes Venture 37.

- a. Rosida Nababan is the FAEA Program Coordinator. She joined FAEA under contract on April 1, 2020 but also worked on a Kenya team visit to the U.S. in 2019. Her responsibilities include:
 - i. Monitoring FAEA target markets and gather information regarding the food and feed safety and animal health laws/regs in each country



- ii. Developing a network of contacts with FAS offices and others in FAEA markets of interest and prepare a monthly report on new developments to share with members and publish on the FAEA website
- iii. Managing the FAEA website (which she just developed)
- iv. Assisting with administrative issues in activity planning and implementation
- v. Rosida has an extensive FAS background. She worked in the Jakarta FAS office in the late 1990's and early 2000's. She also has been working for SIAM Professionals, LLC. since 2009 conducting international food and agriculture market research, Cooperator market development program evaluations, and conducting Cochran Fellowship program training. Much of her work has been in Asia and Southeast Asia, in particular. She resides in Fullerton, CA.
- b. Rita Kishore is the FAEA Codex Coordinator. She joined the FAEA staff on June 1, 2020. Her responsibility is to be the FAEA expert and lead on all Codex and food safety related developments and activities including:
 - i. Participating in the monthly Food Industry Codex Coalition (FICC) meetings
 - ii. Liaising with the US Codex office
 - iii. Developing a network of contacts in the U.S. and FAEA target markets to gather info on Codex and food standards
 - iv. Preparing a monthly report on Codex developments to share with members and publish on the FAEA website
 - v. Recommending delegates for FAEA to sponsor to Codex meetings from like-minded countries
 - vi. Participating in FAEA technical activities (e.g., seminars, workshops and trade team visits), taking advantage of her Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) experience
 - vii. Rita recently retired from USDA where she was a manager in the U.S. Codex Office. Before that she served with FSIS for many years in various capacities. Rita has already participated in several introductory meetings with various FAEA members. Other members interested in having a one-on-one meeting with Rita were asked to contact Kent.
- c. Guests from Venture37, an affiliate of Land O' Lakes
 - i. Samuel Karnis is a Program Director from Venture 37 in their Minnesota office. He oversees programs primarily in Africa.
 - ii. Martha Byanyima the Chief of Mission for Venture 37 in Nairobi, Kenya.



4. Presentation by Venture37 (A ppt presentation is available as separate pdf document)

- a. Venture37 Global SPS/Food Safety Overview Samuel Karnis provided a general overview of Venture37
 - i. Venture 37 is an affiliate of Land O'Lakes Inc.
 - ii. Most of its work is in international food and agriculture development
 - iii. Key interests are in dairy products and crops for dairy cattle
 - iv. Venture37 is the recipient and implementer of USDA's Food for Progress program. Under this initiative, Venture37 is working with Egypt to modernize Egypt's food safety systems to align it with international standards and processes.
 - v. Venture 37 is implementing the USAID/Farmer-to- Farmer, Food Safety & Quality Program in Lebanon, Egypt, and Bangladesh to provide tailored technical assistance to growers, processors and exporters seeking third party certification.
- b. Kenya and East African Community Overview
 Martha Byanyima leads the Venture37 program in East Africa. She gave a
 presentation on the "Trade in Agriculture Safely & Efficiently (TRASE) Project".
 - i. East Africa is the fastest growing region in Africa.
 - ii. US exports to East Africa have grown by 93% in the last six years.
 - iii. The intra-East African Community (EAC) trade is still very low, mainly due to the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) regulatory barriers for both plant and animal health and food safety issues.
 - iv. The SPS system is weak in the region with varied practices. It also is not adequately in protecting against the spread of diseases
 - v. TRASE is a five-year program and its goal is to advance international and intra-region trade by and between EAC countries. TRASE believes that this can be accomplished by harmonizing the food laws in the African nations to create a similar SPS system that will enable businesses to optimize benefits of the EAC trade that is free from technical trade barriers.
 - vi. US is providing assistance via USAID Africa to help create a business-friendly environment in EAC.
 - vii. TRASE supports ongoing US/Kenya FTA negotiations particularly on SPS issues. They are interested in working in close coordination with the FAEA to support the US/Kenya FTA.
 - viii. They support a network of private and public laboratories to generate quality data, increase the private sector voice in SPS advocacy, increase consumer awareness regarding low quality and counterfeit products, and increase public-private sector forums for insights into standard setting processes.
 - ix. A major goal is to harmonize US/EAC positions in international standards



- setting bodies (Codex, IPPC, OIE), as well the WTO SPS Committee.
- x. Requested that FAEA board members utilize Venture37 as a resource as needed or as opportunities arise in the EAC region.
- xi. A joint TRASE and FAEA regional food safety conference can be explored in the near future.
- xii. They work with national agencies that are responsible for setting national standards. Trying to look at ways in which to introduce science-based and best practices for standard setting processes. Encouraging countries to introduce reforms in their standard setting procedures.

5. Financials and Budget

Kurt Shultz and Sam Clemence gave an update on the budget and expenses for both MAP/GBI and FAEA Member funds

- a. Membership fee for FAEA is \$12,000 per year
- b. All members have paid their dues except one that will be sending its payment soon.
- c. The total FAEA member budget for 2020 is now \$84,000 and with the remaining payment the total will be \$96,000.
- d. About \$38,000 has been spent as of now with the expected expenses forecast FY 2020 at approximately \$98,000. This is slightly over the annual FAEA income but over the last few years there has been a growing surplus of FAEA member funds which will be used to handle this and any future year deficits.
- e. If/when the carryover funds start to be worked down, the Board would like to be informed well in advance of any discussion on whether to consider increasing the membership fee.
- f. One member inquired about changes is the yearly member fees over the history of the program. In the earlier years, member fees were higher sometimes as high as \$24,000/year, but it was not always charged and collected at that rate. Member fees have been constant at the \$12,000 level for the past several years. There is a budget section in the "Members Only" section of the the new FAEA website where members can see historical budgets and expenditure rates going back to 2006. Current year budgets will be updated and posted to the website every month.
- g. One member stated it would be a good policy to maintain about four to six months of reserve funds in the FAEA budget.
- h. GBI funding from the FAS Market Access Program (MAP) is \$300,000 for FY 2020. \$100,000 of that is carryover from 2019 and the remaining \$200,000 was new money allocated in 2020. Currently FAEA has only spent about \$14,000. This low expenditure rate is due to the Covid-19 pandemic that has made it impossible to travel to FAEA markets since February 2020.
- i. GBI funds are currently allocated for conducting activities in nine countries, that is, Bangladesh, China, Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Cambodia, Myanmar, and Pakistan. FAEA funds are also allocated to Vietnam. If travel restrictions are relaxed before the end of 2020, the Executive Director will prioritize travel to



Bangladesh, China and Kenya. Any unused funds for 2020 will be rolled over into 2021, per recent policy decisions made by FAS regarding funds that are not able to be used due to COVID-19.

j. FAEA has signed a contract with Alcumus in Bangladesh. Some of the GBI funds will be used to pay monthly fees to Alcumus of just over \$3,100 per month.

6. Update on 2020 Activities

Kent provided brief updates on the status of 2020 FAEA activities:

- a. China
 - i. When COVID related travel restrictions are lifted, China will be one of the priority countries he will visit.
 - ii. FAEA would like to develop a relationship and/or contract with the Agriculture and Food Partnership (AFP) or other potential partners to be FAEA's eyes and ears on the ground in China and provide monthly reports on the current food/feed/animal health legislation and regulations in China.
 - iii. Bill Westman said that AFP would be a good potential partner. The last few years have been challenging for doing work in China because of various disease outbreaks, ongoing US/China trade disputes, COVID-19, and reorganization within the Chinese Government regulatory agencies.
 - iv. AFP is organized under the umbrella of the U.S./China Chamber of Commerce in China so is not subject to the NGO laws in China.
 - v. Kent will follow-up with Bill later regarding contacts and collaboration discussions with AFP staff

b. Bangladesh

- i. Kent travelled to Bangladesh in early February 2020
- ii. Met with lots of officials from several regulatory agencies and also with industry groups, FAS Embassy staff, the US ambassador, and others.
- iii. The USAID Mission in Bangladesh is one of their largest missions in the world.
- iv. There are also a large number of other organizations working and funding food safety, SPS and trade facilitation activities in the country including FAO and U.S. Universities (i.e., Kansas State, Purdue and Cornell)
- v. FAEA signed an MOU with the International Development Group (IDG) to collaborate with them in implementing USAID's trade facilitation program under the Feed the Future Program. No commitment of FAEA money to pay IDG, but FAEA will jointly fund projects and activities with the group.
- vi. FAEA hired a local company, Alcumus, to be FAEA eyes and ears in Bangladesh. Alcumus will report monthly on current food and feed safety and animal health development in Bangladesh. They will contact the Food Safety regulatory offices, Codex and WTO related offices in the country



and send a monthly report to FAEA for sharing with FAEA members and publication on the FAEA website. They will also identify potential technical assistance activities that the agencies are interested in having FAEA conduct. For example, Alcumus reported that the Bangladesh Food Safety Authority and Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institute are interested in participating and attending some Codex meetings. Based on Alcumus request, FAEA will explore opportunities to sponsor Bangladesh delegates to relevant Codex meetings.

c. Kenya

- i. Kenya is a top priority for FAEA assistance. In November 2019 FAEA sponsored a delegation from Kenya to meet with U.S. food safety regulatory agencies and ag industry representatives to learn about the U.S. food safety system. Kenya, with assistance from FAEA, was planning to draft new legislation to create their own Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
- ii. After the U.S. visit, the Kenya Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, and Parliament officials changed their mind and decided they no longer wanted to create an FDA but rather, draft and pass legislation for a new Food Safety Law that would look similar to the U.S. food safety system in terms of creating food and feed safety regulatory agencies and rule-making. However, Sisson's plan to travel to Kenya the 1st Qtr of 2020 to work out the details of how FAEA would assist with drafting the legislation were shelved due to COVID-19.
- iii. As of June, there has been a progress with Kenya. The Principal Secretary (PS) of Agriculture (the lead official for the intra-Governmental food safety working group) agreed to the FAEA proposal to hire a consultant team to assist Kenya to drafting the new law. FAEA will also hire another consultant to represent FAEA interests in Kenya.
- iv. Once we receive an official written response from the PS FAEA will proceed with hiring the consultants and move forward.
- v. Kenya and the U.S. are negotiating a Free Trade Agreement (FTA). USTR and FAS are very interested in the work FAEA is doing in support in draft of Kenya's Food Safety Law and has asked FAEA to coordinate and support them as they negotiate the FTA, in particular the SPS chapter.
- vi. USTR and FAS are also engaged with the African community as it develops its African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to harmonize tariff and SPS regulations and standards between the African countries to harmonize their SPS regulations. FAS and USTR have requested FAEA and other industry stakeholders to support and assist them as they engaged and advise the African nations.
- d. Africa (Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia)
 - i. FAEA worked with Ghana and Nigeria in the past to draft their Food



Safety Laws but nothing has been done recently by these two countries in as far as adopting the laws. No new actions will be taken by FAEA until the Food Safety Laws are passed or countries request assistance. Both Ghana and Nigeria are included in the FAEA proposal for FY 2021.

ii. FAEA will explore if Ethiopia needs any assistance.

e. Vietnam

- i. Kent travelled to Vietnam during February 2020. He briefed Robert Hansen, the FAS Ag Counselor in Hanoi, about FAEA work and plans for Vietnam and Cambodia (also covered by the FAS office in Hanoi).
- ii. Only FAEA member funds are currently available for use in Vietnam because FAEA worked there for many years and then "graduated" under GBI rules. FAEA will continue to monitor food/feed safety and animal health regulatory developments, primarily through contacts with the FAS Hanoi office. There are no plans to hire anyone in Vietnam at this time.

f. Cambodia

i. Kent met with officials from the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Commerce in December 2019 and discussed the legislation previously drafted for Cambodia's Food Safety Law (with FAEA assistance). The officials both said that the laws is not being moved forward because various ministries are still trying to sort out their respective rule-making, enforcement, and inspection roles and responsibilities under the new law. FAEA will monitor any changes/progress in the food safety legislation via FAS Hanoi and other contacts in Cambodia.

g. Myanmar

i. Nothing new to report regarding their Food Safety Laws.

h. Pakistan

i. Pakistan is included in the FAEA 2020 GBI plan as a promising market to consider for FAEA activities. But due to Covid-19, an exploratory trip to Pakistan is currently not possible or planned at this time.

i. Codex

i. Based on strong interest by many FAEA members, we added a Codex Coordinator to the staff to monitor and report on all Codex developments and manage Codex related activities.



7. Member Priorities

a. NAMI

- i. Kenya is a great opportunity
- ii. Namibia, Indonesia, Philippines, and Vietnam are markets of interest to NAMI. NAMI does not think that at this time companies will be able to do much business with Nigeria.

b. USSEC

- i. Bangladesh, China and Vietnam are important markets for USSEC. There are some issues with Vietnam so it must be closely monitored.
- ii. Are good future opportunities in Myanmar. FAEA work can be helpful to ensure that Myanmar continues on the right path.
- iii. Pakistan is in a similar situation as Bangladesh as a potential good market. Need to help them put sound science around rules that they are working on. Demand for soybean products is increasing due to the growing demand for feed for their domestic poultry production. U.S. soybeans are processed in Pakistan for poultry feed and cooking oil.

c. Merck

- i. China is the most important market for Merck with regard to veterinary drugs, pesticides, and other SPS related issues.
- ii. Codex is important because what happens in one committee reverberates in other committees. Therefore, it is important for FAEA to be aware of various Codex issues.
- iii. West Africa and Myanmar are markets of interest.

d. USAPEEC

- i. Bangladesh is and has been a target market for USAPEEC and they would like to learn more about what is happening there.
- ii. Cambodia is a market that many USAPEEC members have shown a lot of interest in and would like to see the USG to be more proactive there.
- iii. Myanmar was an attractive market but there have been some roadblocks.
- iv. There are major trade restrictions for poultry in Kenya so there is hope that the FTA negotiations can make headway in addressing those.
- v. Nigeria is not a market of interest because of many market access constraints.
- vi. Pakistan has a very strong poultry industry and is exporting so not much opportunity is seen for poultry there.
- vii. China is an important market and FAEA help in China is most welcome, especially since U.S./China government/political relations are strained.
- viii. Philippines is also of interest.

e. NPPC

i. China remains an important market but there are lots of barriers to trade.



- ii. Southeast Asia Vietnam, Philippines and Thailand are markets of interest.
- iii. Interested in Nigeria but market access is not open.
- iv. Kenya is a market of interest.
- v. Trachelle Carr is the Codex contact for NPPC and work with Rita

f. USDEC

- i. Codex is a big priority for USDEC. They look for FAEA to help boost Codex activities in Africa. USDEC supports FAEA help in sponsoring Codex delegates to attend various Codex meetings.
- ii. China is the biggest priority export market for dairy industry.
- iii. Vietnam is also of interest.

8. Impact on Codex of U.S. Withdrawal from WHO

Nick Gardner has been communicating with USDA officials to discuss the impact on Codex due to the U.S. withdrawal from the WHO.

- a. The U.S. will continue to participate in Codex activities and will not be impacted by the WTO withdrawal. Codex is an independent organization jointly funded and administered by WHO and FAO. U.S. delegates will continue to attend Codex meetings and the U.S. will continue to participate in electronic and physical working groups.
- b. Scientific advice bodies like JECFA, JEMNU and JMPR are funded by Codex members. Many U.S. federal agencies provide funds through WHO. U.S. is exploring alternative mechanisms to provide funds to these scientific advisory bodies. U.S. scientists will continue to participate as experts in these scientific advisory bodies.
- c. However, the U.S. standing in the international arena has not been helped by the U.S. withdrawal of funds from WHO, especially with Africa.

9. 2021 GBI Proposal

Kurt Shultz provided an update on the FY2021 GBI budget proposal

- a. The proposal will be submitted to FAS this week.
- b. The budget includes a request for \$440,000 to cover the same countries as in 2020. That is, Asia (Bangladesh, China, Cambodia, Myanmar, Pakistan, and Vietnam) and sub-Saharan Africa (Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia). GBI funds are also requested to cover Codex committee participation by FAEA sponsored delegates.
- c. Due to Covid-19, not all funds from FY 2020 will be spent by the end of the program year. In past years FAS has allowed unused funds to be rolled over to the next year. This will be the case for 2021 as well.
- d. Beginning with this year's UES approval process, FAS will announce GBI approved funding levels in December of every year. This will help FAEA plan its activities for the following year in a more efficient manner.



- e. The proposal for the FY 2021 budget is available for review on the FAEA webpage under the Members Only section (Password: FAEA2020).
- f. During FY 2021, Bangladesh, China and Kenya will be the top priority markets for FAEA focus.

10. Other Business

- **a.** The Board discussed whether FAEA should use member funds to pay for the Executive Director's membership in USAEDC as an allied member, primarily so for networking purposes at the July and the November meetings. The fee is \$750 per year. The Board agreed it is a good idea. **Kent will contact USAEDC to apply for membership.**
- b. How proactive does the Board want FAEA Executive Director to recruit new members. What kind of industries should FAEA recruit?
 - i. The Board stated that FAEA should focus on potential members that are closely aligned to the current FAEA membership such as the National Renderers Association; US Hide, Skin and Leather; USMEF, U.S. Livestock Genetics, etc. FAEA members do not want FAEA to lose its focus with members that would not be relevant to the poultry, livestock, veterinary drug, and feed sectors. Kent will prepare a list of potential member to target for recruitment.
- c. The FAEA website was launched a few days prior to the Board meeting. Information on the website includes explanations of FAEA membership, mission, partners, calendar of events, and a password protected "Members Only" that will not be seen by the general public. Comments and suggestions are welcome. FAEA staff will announce/notify members, partners, FAS and other U.S. Government agencies of the website and encourages FAEA members to establish a link on their respective websites to the FAEA website.
- d. What does the Board think of creating an FAEA Linked-In Account?
 - i. It was decided that it would be too labor intensive and may require USDA approval before posting anything on an FAEA Linked-In account so it was decided not to create one.
- e. What is the expectation of the Board regarding submission of comments on various Codex documents?
 - i. FAEA members may submit comments individually. If the comments for a document/issue are submitted jointly then all members need to agree on the comments. Decisions on whether FAEA should coordinate the submission of comments will be made on a case-by-case basis.

11. Adjourn

Chairman Sutter adjourned the meeting a few minutes after 12:00 pm.





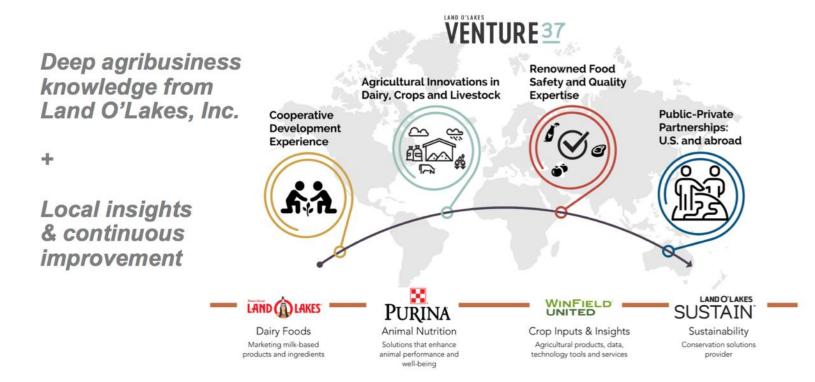


Land O'Lakes V37 - Our work in food safety, SPS and trade facilitation

Sam Karnis, Program Director, STKarnis@landolakes.com



Our unique capabilities



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V37 Select Food Safety/SPS Initiatives

USDA/Egypt – The TAIB program works with the National Food Safety Authority (NFSA) to modernize Egypt's food safety systems; align with international standards and processes.

- Food Import Control Strategy, utilizes risk based approaches and significantly reduces sampling
- · Mutual recognition agreements

USAID Farmer-to-Farmer Food Safety & Quality in Lebanon, Egypt and Bangladesh

- Tailored volunteer technical assistance to businesses seeking certification
- Utilizes GFSI's Global Markets framework
- >40% of volunteers from Land O'Lakes business units



Trade in Agriculture Safely & Efficiently (TRASE) Project Brief & Collaboration with FAEA

Martha Byanyima, TRASE Project Director, Mbyanyima@landolakes.org



TRASE Scene Setter





TRASE Project Background



Implemented in EAC to improve SPS (2019-2024)



Builds from previous USG development investments in EAC and well positioned to support (from the ground up) US/Kenya FTA



Unlocks SPS related trade constraints regionally with long term lens on US trade through key customer being EAC and Partner States



Flexibility and coordination at the heart of our design and guided by EAC/US Steering Committee



TRASE Program Components

Component 1 – Inception Period (current)

Comprehensive Assessment

Mapping US and non-US activities and investments – avoid duplication Partnerships

Component 2 – Reduction of SPS Trade Barriers

Improve regulatory frameworks to align with international standards Strengthen SPS coordination and communication

Narrow regulatory differences through equivalence and mutual recognition

Component 3 – Institutionalize Risk Based Approaches

Institute "risk-based" approaches with regulatory authorities Support a network of public and private laboratories that businesses can rely on for data

Component 4 – Commercial SPS Advocacy & Consumer Awareness

Host public-private forums for business insights into standards setting Reduction in use of low-quality, counterfeit inputs through awareness Simplify pesticide registration process



Areas for Collaboration

- Working in close coordination with FAEA to support the US/Kenya FTA negotiations, given our emphasis on SPS
- Harmonizing US/EAC positions in international standards setting bodies (Codex, IPPC, OIE), as well the WTO SPS Committee.
- Utilize us as a resource on the ground as needed or as opportunity arises
- Joint convening of the TRASE regional food safety conference



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