

FEDERATION OF EAST AFRICAN FREIGHT FORWARDERS ASSOCIATIONS

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Federation of East African Freight Forwarders Associations (FEAFFA)

Quarterly Report on COMPETE grant

3rd Quarter, July - Sep 2011

Vision: To be a model professional Association in Freight

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Section A. General Information

Name of Organization:	Federation of East African Freight Forwarders Associations (FEAFFA)
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Organization's Contact Person:	John K. Mathenge, Regional Executive Officer
P F Tracking Number:	<u>FEA-STA-010-012</u>
Title of Activity:	Strengthening FEAFFA to become a self sustaining regional business association effective in championing the growth and development of an efficient, professional, self-regulated and competitive freight logistics industry.
Start Date of Reporting Period:	1 st July 2011
End Date of Report:	30 th Sep 2011
Date Report Submitted:	October 2011

Section B. Overview

The report covers the third quarter of this year. There were only two activities that were to be undertaken with the grant fund i.e. launch of the FEAFFA Code of Conduct and the Women Only Seminar. However, the Federation executed other activities outside the grant. It is important to note that while these activities were not funded by COMPETE grant, they were all planned and facilitated by FEAFFA secretariat, which is almost fully funded by the grant. To this extent, the activities are part of this report.

Detailed review report is provided in the matrix below.

Section C. Activity Matrix

Pillar	Activity and target	Status
Professionalism, Certification and Accreditation/Knowledge management	To facilitate a retreat of the task force on development of a regional examination policy for the East Africa Customs Freight Forwarding Practising Certificate (EACFFPC). Achieved 100%	<p>The retreat was at held Source du Nil, Bujumbura, Burundi on 11th – 15th July 2011 and was sanctioned by the EACFFPC Curriculum Implementation Committee (CIC). CIC set up the task force to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop regional examination policy • Develop framework for the implementation of the Certificate of Competence (COC) implementation • Trainers’ enhancement programme <p>A harmonized regional examination policy, a framework for implementation of the certificate of competence and the trainers’ enhancement programme were developed for presentation to CIC.</p> <p>15 participants attended the retreat representing the national associations, revenue authorities and FEAFFA secretariat.</p> <p><i>(Copy attached as Annex 1 Q3)</i></p>
	To facilitate the 7 th East Africa Customs Freight Forwarding Practising Certificate (EACFFPC) Curriculum Implementation Committee (CIC) meeting in Sheraton Kampala on 22 nd – 23 rd August 2011. Achieved 100%	<p>The 7th CIC meeting was held in Kampala at Sheraton hotel on 22nd – 23rd August 2011. The meeting validated the draft regional examination policy, the Certificate Of Competence (COC) implementation framework and Trainers enhancement programme.</p> <p>The meeting was attended by 24 officers from all the National Associations affiliated to FEAFFA and East Africa Revenue Authorities.</p> <p>The meeting also prepared a revised draft EACFFPC implementation framework for consideration by the High Level Policy meeting.</p> <p><i>(Copy attached as Annex 2 Q3)</i></p>

	<p>To launch the regional Freight Forwarders Code of Conduct</p>	<p>In fulfilment of this constitutional requirement, FEAFFA with the support of USAID - COMPETE developed a Regional Code of Conduct to regulate professional conduct of Clearing and forwarding agents in East Africa. The Code of Conduct has been endorsed (signed) by all the Commissioners of Customs in the five Revenue Authorities of the Region, Director of Customs at the EAC Secretariat among other key industry regulators and actors.</p> <p>With further support from USAID- COMPETE, FEAFFA organized a regional launch of the Code of Conduct as the first step towards its implementation. The function was held at Sankara Hotel – Nairobi and was presided over by the then Minister for East African Cooperation of the Republic of Kenya on the 28th July 2011.</p> <p>A cartoon version to be translated into Swahili and French are being made in preparations for the National launches of the code of conduct in the next quarter.</p> <p><i>A copy of the Code of Conduct is already provided to COMPETE</i></p>
	<p>To facilitate the 2nd East Africa Customs Freight Forwarding Practising Certificate (EACFFPC) High Level policy meeting on 26th August in Sheraton Hotel, Kampala.</p> <p>Achieved 100%</p>	<p>The 2nd EACPPC High level policy meeting was held on 26th August in Sheraton Hotel in Kampala.</p> <p>The meeting was attended by Commissioner of Customs of the East African Revenue Authorities, Chairmen of the National Associations affiliated to FEAFFA.</p> <p>The meeting adopted a revised EACFFPC Implementation framework.</p> <p><i>The signed policy framework is attached herewith as Annex 2 Q3.</i></p>
	<p>To hold interviews for the EACFFPC programme's Regional and National Training coordinator in Uganda and Rwanda</p>	<p>FEAFFA has secured support from TMEA to support training activities of Customs agents and freight forwarders. The support includes providing training coordinators in all countries. Interviews for the coordinators were conducted in Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda and suitable training coordinators for the three countries identified.</p> <p>This exercise will be finalized in the first month of the next quarter.</p>
	<p>To sign funding MOU with Trade Mark East Africa to support the EACFFPC training programme.</p>	<p>FEAFFA secured support for the EACFFPC programme from TMEA amounting to USD 1million. The support agreement was signed by the President of FEAFFA and TMEA on 26th August in Sheraton Hotel in Kampala.</p> <p>EAC Revenue Authorities, FEAFFA Board and National Associations affiliated to the Federation witnessed the signing ceremony</p>
<p>Institution</p>	<p>To hold the FEAFFA</p>	<p>The first board meeting in 2011 was held on 4th July at</p>

Development	Executive Board meeting Achieved 100%	<p>Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi. 10 out of 11 Board members attended.</p> <p>The Board made the key decisions including among others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To hold assist the national of Kenya (KIFWA) address leadership wrangles that are bedevilling the Association. • To liaise with the EAC Directorate of Customs to harmonize and mainstream the EACFFPC training programme. • To amend the existing MOU and TORs with JICA. Identify the activities that JICA can support.
	Prepare and submit a funding proposal	FEAFFA prepared and submitted a two year grant request to Trademark East Africa. FEAFFA is still awaiting feedback from TMEA.
Lobbying and Advocacy	To participate in the national stakeholders sensitization workshops on Alternative System for Secure Electronic Transit (ASSET).	FEAFFA mobilized national associations to participate in the stakeholders' workshops on the proposed scheme with a view to refining the ASSET's concept. FEAFFA secretariat participated in two of the workshops i.e. in Kigali and Nairobi.
	To participate in the 3 rd stakeholders workshop – Harmonization of overload control regulations in the EAC Workshop in Nairobi, 17 th – 19 th August 2011	The objective of the workshop, held at Permanent Secretaries level, was to present a summary and key study findings, reach consensus on outstanding issues, validate the final report to be submitted to the EAC secretariat on 29 th September 2011 and agree on a road map for subsequent activities. During the meeting, members agreed on a maximum of six-axle per vehicle and a weight of 56 tons.
	To participate in the Fifth Meeting of the Management Committee of the Regional Customs Transit Guarantee (RCTG) Scheme on 7 th – 8 th July in Lusaka Zambia.	The meeting was organized by COMESA Secretariat to review implementation of the RCTG, a regional trade facilitation instrument. It approved the proposed development of a training module for the RCTG and recruitment of the manager among other things. It also evaluated implementation of the programme. The meeting was facilitated by COMESA Secretariat with the support of USAID. <i>The full report of the meeting is attached as Annex 3 Q3.</i>
	To facilitate a regional women in logistics Seminar	This activity has now scheduled to take place in the next quarter on the 17-18 th November 2011 at Whitesands hotel in Mombasa. The postponement was occasioned by COMPETE.
Knowledge Management	To design and publish a quarterly newsletter/ upload an E-Newsletter	<p>Quarterly E-newsletter – The third issue of the e-Newsletter is in its final stages for publication. It is will be available on the FEAFFA website (www.feaffa.com).</p> <p>The official FEAFFA newsletter is yet to be designed and published mainly because of funding constraints. Possibility of undertaking the project on self-sustainability basis; where FEAFFA does not put in any seed capital has been explored but not worked. Most of the possible vendors require FEAFFA to pump in mobilization funds after which the magazine can sustain itself through advertising.</p>

		FEAFFA is seeking funding support for this activity.
	To market and publish the regional directory of freight forwarders. This is a self-sustaining activity.	This is a continuing activity and currently in the final processes. It is expected to be on the market starting November 2011. However, being the first issue, selling advertising space has been quite a challenge and this has occasioned delay in outputting the directory.
	To participate in regional task force meeting on establishment of an EAC Single Window, Nairobi	The task force has been set up to fast track established of a regional Single Window. The meeting was attended by participants from all the five countries of EAC including development partners. It was convened by EAC Secretariat. The task force came up with the proposed structure of consultation at national level and regional level including the composition of the working groups that will steer national initiatives.
	To test, populate and deploy the online information portal	Having developed the portal, initial population with data has been complete. An Official launch of the portal has been scheduled for 26 th Oct 2011 at Serena – Kigali.

Section C. Conclusion

The ‘Women only Seminar’ is the only activity yet to be executed under the grant. COMPETE has proposed that FEAFFA holds the seminar jointly with Kenya Shippers Council, which is planning a similar seminar. Furthermore, COMPETE is keen to have more participants attend the seminar. This has budgetary implications and already consultation are on with COMPETE on how to implement this activity.

End