

Weekly Grant activities 9-13th July 2012

1. Participate in the border assessment for Malaba border

FEAFFA participated in the week long border assessment of Malaba organized by USAID COMPETE. The role of the clearing and forwarding practitioners in facilitating or hampering trade at the border was highlighted. From the assessment, a number of issues relating to trade facilitation at the border were discussed. Focus was on the functioning of the Joint Border Committees on either sides of the border. All agencies at the borders participated in the meetings. FEAFFA appreciated the exposure to border conditions and requests for facilitation of more officials in future border events.

2. Organize a sensitization seminar for the agents on the FEAFFA Code of Conduct at Malaba border

FEAFFA organized a half day seminar aimed at raising awareness on the FEAFFA Code of Conduct among the clearing agents on 12th July 2012. Over 60 participants attended the seminar with more than 50 being clearing and forwarding agents. The seminar focused on the rationale for an industry Code of Conduct, the minimum professional standards provided for and the discipline enforcement mechanism provided for in the Code of Conduct. The agents appreciated the seminar. They also requested for extension of EACFFPC training facilities to the border to enable them quickly professionalize through training.

3. Organize for the FEAFFA e portal audit

The federation organized for the audit of its e portal with a view to making the exercise more productive towards improving the information provided on the portal. A data collection tool that will be utilized across the region was reviewed. The exercise is expected to commence in towards end of July all through August. The E portal is a one stop source of trade information from which traders are expected to access information on import and export of selected value chains within the region. Trademark East Africa supported development of the portal.

4. Launch a EACFFPC class in Nairobi

FEAFFA joined KIFWA in the launch of another EACFFPC class at the Kenya School of Revenue Administration in Nairobi. A total of 67 attended on the first day. More are expected to report in the course of the next two weeks with others going to the expanded class in town. Other classes have commenced in Mombasa.