

Food Integrity and Safety Services

Food Integrity and Safety are critical activities to maintain a trusted, continuous, and safe food supply. SES offers a suite of services that protect your brand, organic compliance, continuity of business, food safety, sustainability claims, and consumer trust.



Contact us at www.ses-corp.com or 913-307-0046

Food Integrity Services

SES offers a suite of services to support food integrity, labeling claims, and food safety and security plans. Our services include the following areas of expertise.



SERVICES

- Organic Fraud Prevention Plans
- Supplier Audits and Outreach Programs
- Marketing Reviews and Consulting
- Certification and Compliance Support
- Organic Systems Plan and Record Keeping Support
- Retailer and Regulatory Support
- Consumer and Supplier Education
- Sustainability Programs and Standards

Organic Integrity Services

SES, Inc. (SES) supported the USDA National Organic Program (NOP) with compliance and enforcement, conducting investigations on organic complaints. Our first-hand experience with the root causes of organic fraud and mislabeling enables us to help retailers, brands, producers, and manufacturers develop robust organic fraud prevention plans, conduct supplier outreach and audits, understand organic policy, and support organic marketing compliance.

Fraud Prevention Plans and Support

SES will develop your fraud prevention plan to meet the new NOP Strengthening Organic Enforcement (SOE) requirements. We will help your business identify high-risk products and suppliers, conduct vulnerability assessments, develop supplier verification programs, and design processes to prevent and mitigate fraud. We can also help manage existing fraud prevention efforts, especially for businesses and retailers with several brands, products, and extensive supplier networks. For operations with an existing fraud prevention plan, we can review the plan to identify areas for improvement and support ongoing updates.

Marketing Reviews and Consulting

When marketing teams don't understand organic regulations, organic seal use, and advertising requirements, the result can be costly. Each organic violation can elicit up to \$22,392 in fines, so it is imperative to know and follow the USDA organic regulations. Our team has extensive experience conducting compliance audits and marketing reviews. We can build or validate internal marketing programs. We can also train your marketing team on the organic requirements to avoid expensive label and marketing changes and prevent brand damage from an organic complaint.

Certification and Compliance Support

We can help your business navigate the certification process and maintain compliance once certified. From translating regulations and policies to helping with organic documents and records, we can make the complicated path to certification manageable.

Retailer and Regulatory Services

SES can support retailers and regulatory teams in preventing and addressing organic fraud complaints. Our services include verifying whether suspect products or operations are certified, informing suppliers and marketers of their requirements under the regulations, and supporting the complaint and compliance process.



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Food Integrity Experience

SES has in-depth experience with organic integrity and compliance. We develop auditing programs to support transparent, meaningful, and legally-defensible sustainability claims and can assist with supplier outreach and supply chain resilience.



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Project Experience

USDA National Organic Program Compliance and Enforcement

SES supported the NOP with compliance and enforcement activities. Under this contract, SES completed over 200 complaint investigations annually. SES analysts conducted surveillance, and reviewed marketing, labeling, organic systems plans, chain of custody, and documentation. Our analysts gathered exhibits and conducted interviews and compliance outreach with subject operations. Analysts produced the final reports of investigation and case documentation for delivery to the NOP.

In addition to complaint investigations, SES supported the NOP by developing training and communications materials, standard operating procedures (SOPs), and Style Guide documents to facilitate consistent deliverables and more efficient processes. Our efforts helped the NOP roll out their Strengthening Organic Standards policy update. SES supported the NOP by closing out a backlog of cases, enabling the NOP to manage their future complaint volume without the need for contractor support.

Sustainability Programs and Audits

SES reviewed sustainability practices for a natural brand poultry integrator with grower operations in California and produced its auditing protocol. SES audits growers on a three-year cycle to verify the company's sustainability claims.

Good Environmental Livestock Production Practices (GELPPs) ANSI Standards Development

SES compiled environmental best management practices (BMP) for livestock production to meet American National Standards Institute (ANSI) requirements. SES worked with ANSI to submit the proposed standards, Good Environmental Livestock Production Practices (or GELPPs), for ANSI approval. This was the first time that environmental BMPs for livestock were standardized on a national level.

Secure Food Supply and Food Safety

As the leading private sector company with over 50 years combined experience in livestock disease response planning and exercises, SES can review and update corporate biosecurity plans and develop an auditing program to assess grower implementation and mitigate your risk from foreign animal disease. We can facilitate drills and exercises to prepare your operation to respond during a poultry disease outbreak. We have a depth of experience with supply chain resilience and developing Secure Food Supply Plans. Our staff includes team members accredited to produce HACCP, VACCP, and TACCP food safety plans.

SERVICES

- Policy, procedure, and strategy development for emergency preparedness
- Continuity of Operations planning (Secure Food Supply)
- Evaluation of your current emergency response and standard operating procedures
- Emergency preparedness and biosecurity audit for supply chain
- Secure Food Supply plans for producers
- HACCP, VACCP, and TACCP food safety plans
- Supply chain resilience and supplier training
- Consumer education

Our Services

Secure Food Supply Planning

While foreign animal disease (FAD) events are rare, the current Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) outbreak has had devastating impacts on egg and poultry meat supply chains. In addition, the threats of African Swine Fever, now active in the Dominican Republic; and foot-and-mouth disease, just confirmed in Germany, have increased the threat potential of a FAD incursion into the United States. Our team provides complete solutions for Secure Food Supply (SFS):

- SES can audit suppliers and contract growers to ensure they have an implementable Secure Food Supply Plan and are prepared to rapidly implement the plan, when necessary.
- We can build SFS plans and an overall corporate SFS strategy to support continuity of business and implement your SFS strategy with suppliers.
- We can assist growers in coordinating FAD response plans with state and federal agencies.
- For organizations with an existing SFS strategy, we can monitor supplier participation and update your SFS program.

Learn more about our [Emergency Preparedness services](#), including support for Continuity of Operations planning.

HACCP, VACCP, and TACCP Food Safety Plans

SES has a certified team to assist you with developing your food safety management plans, including Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP), Vulnerability Assessment and Critical Control Points (VACCP) vulnerability planning, and Threat Assessment and Critical Control Points (TACCP) threat assessments. SES can support organizations with supplier audits for high risk foods to meet food traceability requirements.

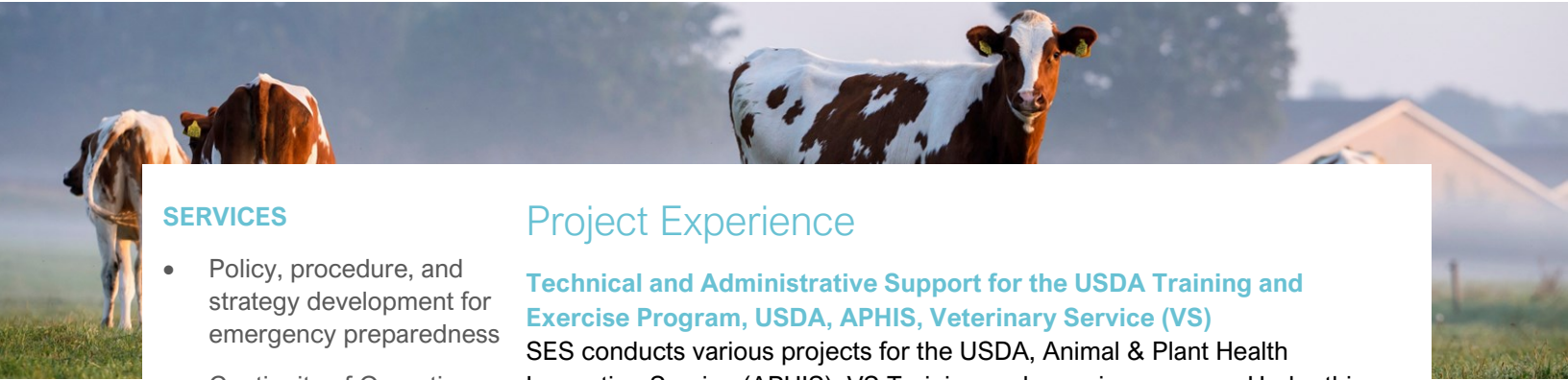
Our project work also includes supply chain vulnerability assessment, including ranking and scoring with tools such as the Food and Agriculture Sector Criticality Assessment Tool (FAS-CAT).



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Secure Food Supply and Food Safety

The projects below represent a partial list of SES experience with food safety and biosecurity for agriculture supply chains. We have over two decades of experience working with the public and private sector to build a more resilient, safe, and secure food system.



SERVICES

- Policy, procedure, and strategy development for emergency preparedness
- Continuity of Operations planning (Secure Food Supply)
- Evaluation of your current emergency response and standard operating procedures
- Emergency response training and exercises
- H1N1 pandemic planning
- Emergency preparedness audit for supply chain
- National Movement Standstill protocols
- Secure Food Supply Plans

Project Experience

Technical and Administrative Support for the USDA Training and Exercise Program, USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Service (VS)

SES conducts various projects for the USDA, Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), VS Training and exercise program. Under this ten-year contract, SES provides technical expertise in the areas of policy and exercise development, conduct and evaluation, and training design. We conduct exercises to help regulatory agencies and producers test their response plans and procedures. SES develops state plans, policies and procedures relative to implementing Secure Food Supply Programs for applicable commodities. SES supported the USDA with development of the 2022-2023 HPAI After-Action Report.

Secure Food Supply Plans

West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) engaged SES to conduct an educational event on the benefits of Secure Food Supply (SFS) plans for livestock producers from the cattle, swine, sheep, and goat industries. The presentation provided a detailed explanation of the plan development process and the importance of continuity of business, and included feedback from producers with SFS plans.

Following the presentation, SES conducted site visits to work with producers on their SFS plan. In advance of the visit, SES provided producers with a list of required documentation needed to develop the plan. SES developed the SFS plans and met with producers to review their plans. As a final step, SES submitted the completed plans to WVDA.

Biosecurity Plan Generator

SES to develop the technical content for a biosecurity plan generator program for a large milk cooperative. The program addressed all aspects of biosecurity, including the protection of raw milk in transport. The technical content was incorporated into an online tool to support the dairy industry with biosecurity plan development.



Our Clients

Private Entities

SES provides services for a variety of food and agriculture operations, across the entire food supply chain.

Federal Agencies

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Animal Plant Health Investigative Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), National Organic Program (NOP), U.S. Department of Defense (DoD), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS); U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

State Agencies

Animal Health and Agriculture Agencies in: Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington State, West Virginia, and Wisconsin

Organizations

National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA), Multi-State Partnership for Security in Agriculture, Southern Animal Health Association, Border Governors' Agriculture Worktable, Western Alliance of States for Agriculture Resilience, Cultivation Corridor

Trade Associations

Dairy Farmers of America (DFA), Livestock Marketing Association (LMA), Kentucky Corn Growers Association, U.S. Soybean Board and Export Council, National Pork Board, Western Equipment Dealers Association

"I have worked with SES for more than 15 years on a variety of projects and have come to rely on their expertise in developing management systems, standards, training and auditing programs. SES has consistently delivered high-quality projects, on-time and on schedule."

– VP Environmental Engineering for a Large Livestock and Poultry Company



Contact SES

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SES helps companies manage their triple bottom line through actionable, science-based sustainability programs that improve the resiliency of operations and supply chains.

SES is a leader in the field of greenhouse gas (GHG) offset verification, as well as verification for sustainability metrics and support for regulatory compliance for the organic sector and livestock and poultry production operations.

SES has over 50 years of combined experience managing the risks of foreign animal disease and developing emergency response programs for food and agriculture.

