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Els Bedert works as advisor on Food and Non-Food policy at EuroCommerce, the European federation representing retail, wholesale and international trade. Els dedicated a large part of her career to development cooperation and capacity building to enhance food safety and food security for small scale livestock keepers in remote areas in Eastern and Southern Africa. In 2011 she moved to the European Commission's Directorate for Enlargement, working as team leader in the Institution Building Unit responsible for organising TAIEX assistance on EU law related to agriculture, veterinary, phytosanitary and food safety to public administrations in candidate and potential candidate countries. In 2012 she joined EuroCommerce to focus on advocacy related to European Food and Non-Food policy. Her academic background is veterinary medicine.

(last updated 25.09.2017)