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TRADECOM II NEWS

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END OF TCII-FUNDED PROGRAMMES UNDER THE PROGRAMME ESTIMATE 1

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EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2018

WOMEN AND GIRLS AT THE FOREFRONT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: PROTECT, EMPOWER, INVEST



The 12th edition of the European Development Days (EDD 2018) took place in Brussels at Tour & Taxi on 5-6 June 2018 under the theme of “Women and girls at the forefront of sustainable development: Protect, Empower, Invest”. The EU-ACP TradeCom II Programme, EU-ACP Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), and the ACP Secretariat jointly organised two debates on pressing development issues in the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries (the ACP Group).

INVESTING IN ACP WOMEN’S GRADUATION FROM THE INFORMAL ECONOMY

The session “Investing in ACP Women’s Graduation from the Informal Economy - Supporting Women Entrepreneurs to Effectively Push Back the Frontiers of Poverty, Informal Economy, Unemployment, Inclusiveness through EPAs” moderated by **Axel Pougin de la Maissonneuve** (Deputy Head of Unit, EU - DG DEVCO) was aimed at showcasing the opportunities for Governments, ACP Institutions and EU to invest in helping women to move out of the precarious informal economy.



While the ingenuity and dynamism of the informal sector is a real strength, becoming part of the formal economy allows the government to protect and respond to the needs of its citizens better, for example, via social security schemes and to provide better services such as childcare and education. For entrepreneurs and women, in particular, the formal economy opens doors to new trading and financing opportunities.

Partnerships help local producers scale up and access new markets. Likewise, incubators for new agribusiness ideas are being developed in conjunction with private-sector actors to ensure that the ideas that emerge can be funded once they are market-ready.

Government is also a critical partner in securing the access to finance and technology that women entrepreneurs want. Those with a real commitment to consultation will increase the likelihood of delivering the right infrastructure and ancillary support services that are needed to help businesses thrive, especially those that are women-led.

Mobility remains a problematic issue for women working in agriculture in ACP counties and regions. Participants heard from some great decentralization initiatives that are helping women who want to improve their situation and grow their businesses. Through partnerships, mobile training facilities have been developed. This allows women to train and get the necessary approvals, such as licensing, bank, tax and standards, from the various licensing agencies without having to travel to the capital city.

Empowerment results from giving women access to training, new financing possibilities and to better services. Other capacity building initiatives to help inspire women to try and move their business up the value chain included a CEO roundtable where women leaders share their lessons learned with young aspiring rural women entrepreneurs.



In his opening statement, the Secretary-General of ACP Group, **Dr Patrick I. Gomes** recalled the importance to invest in women's Graduation from the Informal Economy for Governments, ACP Institutions and EU;

First, the Governments and institutions in the ACP countries should sharpen their inclusive policies and interventions at all levels including:

- ✦ Closing the gender gap in education by promoting female education in support of the achievement of demographic dividends; and
- ✦ Adoption of the "womenomics" policy framework to reinforce and expand the potential of the demographic dividend and the cumulative effects on long-term inclusiveness of economic growth and poverty reduction.

Second, the ACP-EU joint facilities should sharpen their focus and interventions in favour of women and girls. The ACP-EU joint institutions' coverage include: agriculture, trade, private sector, investment, climate change, education, culture, migration.

Third, the European Union should provide clear leadership in investing in ACP women's graduation from the informal economy. Through the new trade regime under the EPAs, its development cooperation framework, and its direct support instruments such as the External Investment Plan and its blending instruments, the European Union has a formidable opportunity to excel in its leadership to build a "womenomics" environment in the partner countries—the ACP Group.



get stuck in a particular niche and this need to be done by either expanding the role of the women and enabling them to move in other parts of the value chain (producing, processing, marketing, exporting) or in other sectors (for example an agribusiness value chain integrated with tourism or energy sectors). The States have the responsibility to invest in basic infrastructures and promote the decent work agenda ensuring fair pay, decent workplace (in terms of water supply, energy and childcare facilities). This become essential to make women able to be an actor in a more formalised economy and to benefit from market engagements”.



Emma Kawawa, Chief Executive Officer of ENTANGO Investments Ltd., a company working with women entrepreneurs in the Cashewnut and Avocados production in Southern part of Tanzania for Local and Export Markets highlighted the need of “capacity building in entrepreneurship skills, changing the mindset and to form women organisations groups. Scaling them up and bringing them out to other regions to learn from others we enable them to see what others do and how they can graduate from that. Even if we still have problems with the process of value-added chain (processing, packaging and export) we need, for Africa, women who work together, women who trust each other and want to share the skills, the knowledge”.

Leonard Mizzi (Director, Directorate C, EC – DG DEVCO) pointed out that “It is important to ensure that women do not



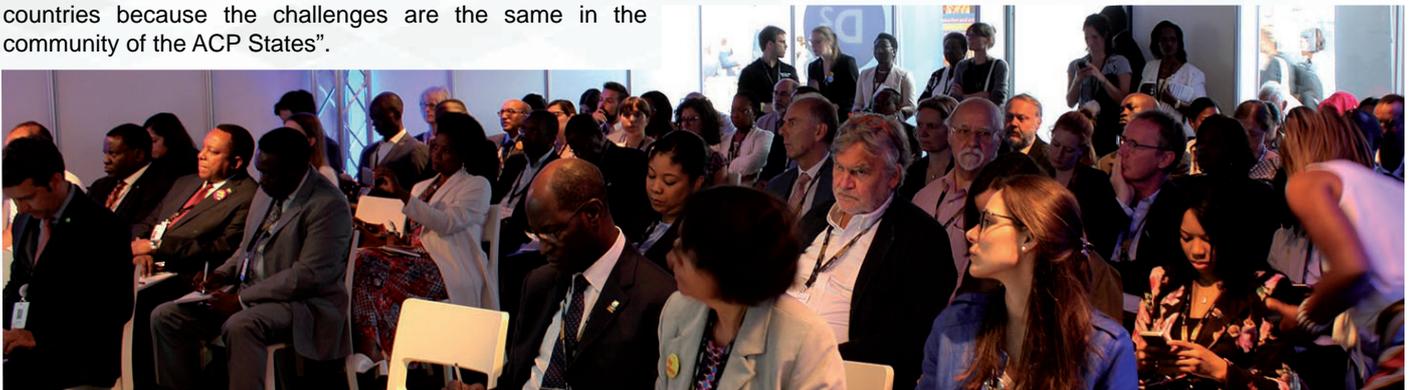
Lucy Muchoki (CEO of Kenya Agri-business and Agro Industry Alliance) recalled the success story of the rural Huduma Registration Centres: “To move from the informal to formal settlement, Kenya created the Huduma Registration Centres to register the activities also in the rural areas in order to immediately access to public services and financing. The access to finance is one of the most sensitive needs for women in Kenya. Today, using the money transfer tools (like M-Pesa) women are able to borrow money and return 100% on a daily basis. So, the challenge for Kenya, and other ACP countries, is to empower the access to finance by women in order to make them able to do their business.”



Viwanou Gnassounou (ASG, ACP Group of States) stated that “the role of ACP Group, as a public entity, with the resources that it can secure at its level, is to promote and scale up success stories like the one of Kenya and the Mama Benz of West Africa, and work with public entities and EU to replicate these models also in the Caribbean and Pacific countries because the challenges are the same in the community of the ACP States”.



In conclusion, **Gillian Stewart** (Programme Manager - Women in Business Development Incorporated) spoke about the actual life in the business communities of Samoa, a country where people have easy access to land but need trade capacity building and strengthening the sense of confidence in business relationships and in enhancing the agribusiness value chains.



STATEMENT BY THE ACP SECRETARY-GENERAL

Ladies – Speakers and Participants,
Colleagues from the ACP Group,
Colleagues from the European Union,
Mr. Moderator,



Patrick I Gomes

Secretary General, ACP Group of States

This morning we are collectively addressing the key opportunities to invest in ACP women’s graduation from the informal economy. More specifically, we are looking at the opportunities to support women entrepreneurs to effectively push back the frontiers of poverty, informal economy and build inclusive communities within the ACP Group through appropriate trade regimes and EPAs. The collective ambition is to sustain and surpass the recent economic and trade expansion and, by 2030, contribute to attaining the SDGs.

Let me welcome and thank the three women entrepreneurs that have travelled from our ACP States in Africa and the Pacific to join and support us in this exploratory mission of this morning. We greatly appreciate your presence and your contribution.

Women and the Informal Economy in the ACP Group

Spanning three continents, the ACP Group is currently comprised of 79 states with a total population of just under 1 billion people. The current youth surge is forecast to generate a 1 billion labour force by 2030, surpassing that of China and India. Half of that demographic dividend will be women and girls.

Global statistics show that the bulk of the women and girls in the ACP countries are in the informal sector. For Africa, the informal sector accounts for more than 80% of total non-agricultural employment of women. For the Caribbean and the Pacific women in the informal sector accounts for over 50 % of the total labour force.

Women are, therefore, over-represented in the informal sector in all ACP regions. The overlap of poverty with the informal sector in ACP regions with a majority of LDCs is telling, despite the fact that it contributes between 30-60% of household income in most of these communities. In most ACP countries, the informal sector, and therefore women and girls, contributes to developing traditional, artisanal

consumer goods and capital that are at the grassroots of economic sustenance, as showcased by the “jua kali” (under the hot sun) informal economy in East Africa.

Three-fold investment opportunities

First, the Governments and institutions in the ACP countries should sharpen their inclusive policies and interventions at all levels including:

- Closing the gender gap in education by promoting female education in support of the achievement of demographic dividends; and
- Adoption of the “womenomics” policy framework, similar to that of Japan, to reinforce and expand the potential of the demographic dividend and the cumulative effects on long-term inclusiveness of economic growth and poverty reduction.

Second, the ACP-EU joint facilities should sharpen their focus and interventions in favour of women and girls. The ACP-EU joint institutions’ coverage include: agriculture, trade, private sector, investment, climate change, education, culture and migration.

These provide a good basis for translating policy ambitions and commitments of the ACP Group and that of the European Union into instruments for investing in ACP women’s graduation from the informal economy.

Third, the European Union should provide clear leadership in investing in ACP women’s graduation from the informal economy. Through the new trade regime under the EPAs, its development cooperation framework, and its direct support instruments such as the External Investment Plan and its blending instruments, the European Union has a formidable opportunity to excel in its leadership to build a “womenomics” environment in the partner countries—the ACP Group.

I invite all in attendance this morning to share your views and good experiences as to the best way we can all make use of the investment opportunities at our disposal to support the women entrepreneurs and communities effectively push back the frontiers of poverty, informal economy and inclusiveness.

Wish you a successful session.

GOING DIGITAL: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AGRICULTURE FOR WOMEN

The panel discussion “**Going Digital: Sustainable Development in Agriculture for Women - Supporting Women’s Access to ICTs for Agriculture and Promoting Participation**” highlighted access to appropriate technology, skills training, engagement with the private sector and gender sensitive ICT policies as critical areas to tackle if we are to improve women’s access to ICTs for agriculture.

Gender disaggregated data on access to ICTs was also highlighted as a key means to make the case for stronger investment and create an enabling environment for women. Increasing access to ICTs, will, panellists agreed, increase employment opportunities, food and nutrition security.

The panel addressed the considerable challenges that the rural digital divide presents, and how the problem is even more acute for women who face a triple divide: digital, rural and gender. Together with the audience, the session celebrated some of the initiatives that strengthen women’s voice and participation in the digitalisation of the agricultural supply chain. The examples presented, such as mAgri, Agrinfo, Women in Business Development, foster rural women’s awareness and access to ICT across the agricultural supply chain, empowering them to be change-makers in their communities and improve livelihoods.

“The value of supporting women in agriculture is known and proven. It is time to move on beyond the studies, and to start working with EU partners to scale-up and expand successful approaches,” said Linda McAvan, panellist and Member of the European Parliament.

Vivianou Gnassounou, Assistant Secretary-General of the Secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States speaking at the event pointed out that “The role of policymakers is to identify and scale up the initiatives that are working in the



field. Some of the limitations facing women in agriculture have strong opportunity to be addressed through ICT solutions”.

Commenting on the outcomes of the discussion, CTA Director, Michael Hailu said: “At CTA, we are committed to shaping the move to the next-generation of farming in ACP countries, and this mandate will only be fulfilled by investing in women and girls. We believe that now, more than ever, it is essential to empower women with the right innovative and digital tools to transform their rural communities. This is key to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.”

In closing, Chris Addison of CTA highlighted the need to move to action and scaling up some of the successes showcased during the panel discussion. Private sector partnerships he said are critical, as is the need to engage at the family level – addressing and challenging gender norms that have restricted access to ICTs. Addison thanked the panellists and audience for a variety of complementing perspectives that made a powerful business case for promoting equal access to ICT in agriculture.

END OF TCII-FUNDED PROGRAMMES UNDER THE PROGRAMME ESTIMATE 1

The end of the Programme Estimate 1 (PE1) provides an opportunity to give an update on the status of the TradeCom II Programme. In terms of project cycle, all TradeCom II Programme-funded interventions under the PE1 ceased their activities in May, 2018

Since operations commenced in December 2016, the TradeCom II Programme has funded 21 programmes across three pillars of operations, namely, (a) strengthening capacities of national and regional trade institutions; (b) enhancing trade negotiation capacities of ACP beneficiaries; and (c) strengthening Trade facilitation and competitiveness.

The 22 programmes are a result of the bundling of 93 project requests that were part of the 258 projects requests received from beneficiaries and validated internally by the PMU by 30th June 2017. Additionally, 09 individual projects have been directly launched, managed and implemented under PE1.

Overall Programmes results warrant the strong commendation of all the partners mainly beneficiaries, consulting firms, the ACP Secretariat, DEVCO and EU Delegations involved in the Programmes' design and implementation.

STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL TRADE INSTITUTIONS

PIFs and Niue

09/02/2017 - 09/02/2018

This programme supported the PIF Secretariat in mainstreaming its trade agenda and implementing the Trade Policy Frameworks (TPF), and the Government of Niue to implement its National Trade Policy Framework (NTPF) as a good practice case for the region.

At Regional level, the Programme:

- 🌐 reinforced regional guidelines on trade mainstreaming and enhanced the capacities of trade experts to implement the NTPFs;
- 🌐 strengthened National institutional structures (National Trade Committees and related departments/agencies) for implementing the NTPFs in the Pacific ACP Countries.

At National level, the Programme:

- 🌐 established a practical action plans for implementing the NTPF's recommendations including consensus on accession to key FTAs;
- 🌐 trade governance Niue's institutions is substantially strengthened;
- 🌐 key reforms of customs-related legislation and regulations are identified and agreed.



ECCAS

21/07/2017 - 21/04/2018

The programme for ECCAS stemmed from five requests and rested on three key pillars: 1. support to the formulation and validation of an action plan for the Central African trade support strategy; 2. support to Central Africa's process to operationalise the conclusions of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference in Nairobi; and 3. develop a system to boost the technological capacity, innovation and competitiveness of Central African countries.

At the end of the period of implementation remarkable results were achieved:

- 🌐 the detailed action plan of the trade support strategy was formulated and approved;
- 🌐 the Post-Nairobi Roadmap has been formulated;
- 🌐 the Region now has a strategy to boost technological capacity and innovation to increase its economy's competitiveness;
- 🌐 stakeholders in boosting technological capacity and competitiveness have been identified, sensitized and have operational tools.

COMESA

18/04/2017 - 19/04/2018

The programme aimed at:

- 🌐 providing a knowledge base for effective participation of COMESA Member States in the negotiation and implementation of the 2nd tier of COMESA Regional Trade in Services Liberalisation commitments;
- 🌐 reviewing the current COMESA Rules of Origin and determining their impact on intra-COMESA trade and industrialisation;
- 🌐 exploring opportunities for COMESA's repositioning itself with the Emerging Economies; and
- 🌐 strengthening the programming skills of trade professionals in the areas of mainstreaming women and youth traders in COMESA's regional trade integration agenda.

The programme envisaged the delivery of, among others, studies, framework for negotiation an electronic certificate of origin, the COMESA On-line Trade and Gender/Youth training module. In addition to that, the programme developed a framework for a comprehensive support for women and youth cross border traders in the region and an information kit on the COMESA Simplified Trade Regime (STR) and other trade facilitation tools for women and youth cross border traders.

RWANDA

12/01/2018 - 09/05/2018

The programme is motivated by the evident gaps in the country's e-commerce environment despite the fact that the Government of Rwanda adopted the National Information and Communications Infrastructure Plan (NICI) in 2000.

The programme supported Rwanda in:

- 🌐 improving e-commerce environment through the development of a Framework for an enabling environment for e-commerce and for the Rwanda business information (RBI) platform; and
- 🌐 promoting exports of the Rwanda private through the strengthening of the Capacities of trade support institutions in providing packaging related support to SMEs and raising awareness among business communities of the trading opportunities and benefits under the EAC-EU EPA.

CHAD

02/10/2017 - 22/05/2018

This programme was the result of four requests and articulated around three thematic components: external trade procedures and customs formalities (1); trade policies (2); and external trade statistics, notably in the services sector (3).

- 🌐 The first component rationalised external trade procedures and customs formalities to achieve the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement by cutting off unnecessary administrative prerequisites.
- 🌐 Component 2 was oriented at assisting Chad in improving its institutional capacities in training, implementation and follow up of trade policies by training government and private sector workers in key sectors of multilateral and regional trade negotiations.
- 🌐 Component 3 concerned continuous support (150 working days) to the expert statistician at the Department of External Trade Statistics in the Ministry of Commerce. This support was designed to improve the current statistics production system and boost the processing and analysis capacities of government staff.

OECS

31/07/2017 - 22/05/2018

This project was designed on the basis of three requests and was structured in 3 components.

- 🌐 The first component supported the OECS Commission and member states in the development of a Common OECS Services Policy for the regulation of services in

a single domestic space. The team of experts identified legislative, regulatory and institutional reforms necessary to effectively achieve unhindered market access in a single economic space and formulated an implementation plan.

- 🌐 The second component addressed the regional needs in terms of project design and management. In this regard, specific theoretical and practical workshops were organised targeting two-levels audience: experienced and less experienced in project design and management.
- 🌐 The project started with the component 3 which was prioritised by the OECS Commission in light of the MC 11 of December 2017. A three-day workshop took place in November to discuss and deliberate on the identification and development of an OECS position and negotiating strategy on fisheries subsidies and related matters.



CARICOM

04/08/2017 - 04/05/2018

This programme was generated from the bundle of two requests and targets the Customs Administrations of CARIFORUM countries (CARICOM Member States plus the Dominican Republic). The assignment involved a combination of desk research work and drafting, and meetings with relevant stakeholders in order to get the necessary information and feedback on the requirements of the Single Administrative Document (SAD).

At the end of the activities implemented under this programme were aimed at:

- 🌐 preparing and presenting to CARICOM Secretariat and the CARIFORUM Directorate a Regional SAD for CARICOM and subsequently for CARIFORUM as per Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) in accordance with the WCO Data Chapter 4 of Model Version 3
- 🌐 supporting the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and CARIFORUM States through capacity building for customs officials on valuations and declarations in the application of the principles and procedures of the SAD.

ENHANCING TRADE NEGOTIATION CAPACITIES OF ACP BENEFICIARIES

CARIFORUM

05/12/2016 - 05/04/2018

This programme aimed at reinforcing the capacities of the EPA Implementation Unit under the Director General, CARIFORUM Directorate. It also aimed to reinforce the capacities of the CARIFORUM States to effectively implement the EPA through enhancement of the regulatory framework and the monitoring system.



The purpose of the programme are two-fold:

- 🌐 Foster an enabling environment for economic growth through the enhancement of the legal and regulatory framework of CARIFORUM States;
- 🌐 Strengthen capacity in the EPA Implementation Unit to facilitate the effective implementation of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA;

Key programme results are the following:

- 🌐 the enhancement of the legal and regulatory environment in CARIFORUM States;
- 🌐 the EPA is Updated to HS 2017;
- 🌐 the Trade Data for Submission to the WTO Transparency Mechanism are validated;
- 🌐 monitoring of the implementation of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA is Improved;
- 🌐 the CARIFORUM-EU EPA knowledge is enhanced and shared among the main stakeholder.

EAC

22/02/2017 - 22/04/2018

The programme provided targeted support to the EAC for the implementation of the Tripartite FTA – Trade Policy and Export Development to the EU Market. The programme's two-fold purposes was the Development of a Framework for the Elimination of NTBs; and to foster trade development and expansion under the Tripartite FTA.

Under the first purpose, the Technical Assistance

- 🌐 developed a Framework for elimination of NTBs faced by the business community; and
- 🌐 improved monitoring of the implementation of the framework for elimination of NTBs.

Under the second purpose, the programme :

- 🌐 developed an EAC Export Promotion Strategy (2016-2020) which include a transparent value chain compliance system for exports; and
- 🌐 made Business communities including women and youth entrepreneurs aware of the trading opportunities and benefits under the Tripartite Agreement

ECOWAS

09/02/2017 - 09/12/2018

This programme was generated from three requests and had two components: the designing of training materials for dissemination of the ECOWAS/EU EPA and the introduction of a regional legal framework for resolution of trade disputes in West African States.

Under the first component:

- 🌐 Parliamentary and ECOWAS experts have training materials certified by ECOWAS and WAEMU Commissions;
- 🌐 ECOWAS parliamentarians and civil society stakeholders have been trained on the West Africa/European Union EPA.

Under the second component:

- 🌐 the regional-level legal cooperation framework has been set up and is operational;
- 🌐 the capacities of officers of the ECOWAS and WAEMU Commissions, lawyers and designated State-level professionals have been built;
- 🌐 the regional dispute settlement has been operationalised.



CAMEROON

16/03/2017 - 16/02/2018

This programme resulted from twelve requests and was structured around two main components. The first one titled "Optimizing Market Access of Export Products (Goods and Services) of Cameroon" and a second one titled "Optimising the Trade Policy Legal Instruments, Intensifying Regional Integration and Improved Contribution to the Global Economy".

The first component was sized on the need for a comprehensive vision of Cameroon's market access options. This was done by developing:

- 🌐 a market access map;
- 🌐 a national export strategy (Study and Action Plan).
- 🌐 the optimization of EPA's trade opportunities

The second component focused more on Cameroon's EPA with the EU. It enabled the execution of:

- 🕒 a Study on correlations between the digital and trade factors of Cameroon's EPA;
- 🕒 an action plan for the implementation of the digital dimension of Cameroon's EPA;
- 🕒 training of public and private stakeholders on the new trade regime for products (goods and services) under the Cameroon's EPA.



ACP GROUP IN GENEVA

22/02/2017 - 22/02/2018

The ACP Group in Geneva addressed one comprehensive request to Tradecom II which generated this programme. The programme covered areas of interest of the ACP Group - such as Agriculture, Fishery Subsidies, Service Domestic Regulations, WTO Rules, Special and Differential Treatment - in line with the thrust and scope of the negotiations at the WTO and the build-up to MC-11. The work programme consisted of producing a series of deliverables:

- 🕒 to empower ACP Delegations in Geneva to participate effectively in trade negotiations/deliberations in the WTO
- 🕒 to guide ACP delegates to participate in the drafting of legal text/elements for incorporation in the outcome of the WTO negotiations in particular the 2017 MC 11.



ZAMBIA

29/06/2017 - 29/04/2018

This programme has been designed following three purposes.

- 🕒 Under purpose 1, the programme strengthened the legal and institutional framework related to trade remedies in Zambia through the revision and update of the Draft Model Bills and the guide that will facilitate implementation of the trade remedies Bills at the domestic level.

- 🕒 The purpose 2 was motivated by the need to build institutional capacity in trade negotiations for the MCTI and the concerned stakeholders in order to strengthen the country's participation and position in both regional and multilateral discourses. A series of consultations with MCTI and the concerned ministries was carried out, along with comprehensive reviews of national policies and practices for the development of positions on selected WTO negotiations, TFTA negotiations and EPA implementation.
- 🕒 Purpose 3 was focused on the mining sector. The team of experts supported the development of a Strategy Document to assist Zambia in the diversification of the mining sector into new fields (gold and gemstones)

MAURITIUS

27/06/2017 - 27/04/2018

Under the i-EPA, Mauritius is able to have full duty free and quota free access to the EU market. Still, Mauritius continues to face several challenges which need to be addressed to strengthen the economy and its export performance.

The results achieved of this programme are:

- 🕒 the enhancement of the business environment for Exporting SMEs improving capacities of quality and standards and increasing the access to EU and Regional Related Business Intelligence services by SMEs; and
- 🕒 promoting exports of the Mauritius private sector raising awareness among the business communities (including SMEs, Women and Young Entrepreneurs) of the trading opportunities and benefits under the i-EPA and the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement.



SAMOA AND SOLOMON ISLANDS

02/01/2018 - 22/05/2018

This programme is the bundle of two requests generated respectively by Samoa and Solomon Islands and it was motivated by their intention to accede to the Pacific-EU EPA that was concluded with Papua New Guinea and Fiji in 2007.

It was structured in two purposes:

- 🕒 the first - Support the Samoan and Solomon Island's authorities prepare for the successful accession to the EPA - built capacity of trade and other officials on the key elements of the EPA accession process; to conduct legislative and tariff schedule review(s) and proposed a framework for adaptation of domestic legislation to the EPA and to carry-out a study on the fiscal implications

of the MAO. Furthermore, it proposed measures and recommendations to address the revenue and other economic implications.

- 🌐 Purpose two was focused on the effective implementation of EPA and a better understanding of trade and investment opportunities. It provided support to the relevant authorities to identify trade policy opportunities and develop modalities for their implementation; and to support the business community to identify trading opportunities and benefits under the EPA.

MADAGASCAR

11/01/2018 - 22/05/2018

This programme was the result of two requests and focuses on three components

- 🌐 The first component, “Optimising market access for export products (goods and services) of Madagascar”, was structured into three activities: producing a market access map; formulating an action plan for the implementation of the national exportation strategy and training for better understanding and optimising of trade opportunities for Madagascar within the framework of the new EPA with the EU.
- 🌐 The second component, “Optimisation of trade policy legal instruments and intensified regional integration”, identified some trade related legal issues and supported to the elaboration, updating of agreements and harmonising of instruments to international regulations.
- 🌐 The third component “building the capacities of national stakeholders in international trade negotiations”, was formulated to build the capacities of the National Committee in charge of International Trade Negotiations (CNCI) in trade negotiations (WTO, EPAs, SADC, COMESA) and trade integration like CFTA.

STRENGTHENING TRADE FACILITATION AND COMPETITIVENESS

TANZANIA

18/04/2017 - 18/05/2018

The programme was motivated by the need to enhance and sustain the connection of Tanzania to regional and global value chains by increasingly meeting export requirements in a competitive manner to capture market access and to enhance their productivity for sustained export expansion,

With the aim to enhance Tanzanian potential in terms of trade expansion and growth, and to move up the international trade ladder to fully benefit from more profitable global value chains, the Programme:

- 🌐 identified bottlenecks limiting agricultural exports, competitiveness and value chain processing;
- 🌐 developed a framework for trade policy to foster competitiveness, agricultural export diversification and value chain processing in Tanzania;
- 🌐 enhanced REPOA’s capacity to undertake research

on trade policy, agricultural competitiveness and diversification, and addressing NTBs;

- 🌐 shared REPOA’s research methodology with other research facilities, and widely disseminated outputs among policymakers, agricultural producers and exporters.



SENEGAL

02/10/2017 - 02/04/2018

The programme stemmed from six requests and rests on four thematic components: facilitation of trade (1), fisheries subsidies (2), trade protection instruments (3) and trade in services (4).

- 🌐 Under the component 1, the programme supported the implementation of the Agreement on the facilitation of trade by building the capacities in sanitary and phytosanitary control and compliance assessment, through a study, an action plan and a feedback workshop.
- 🌐 Component 2 was aimed at supplying a complete analysis of fisheries subsidies and facilitating Senegal’s adjustment to WTO rules and policies.
- 🌐 The objective of component 3 was to facilitate the optimisation of trade protection instruments by carrying out a benchmarking study on the use of trade protection tools, updating the regulatory framework, formulating a warning and oversight protocol, organising a feedback workshop and an awareness-raising and training session.
- 🌐 Component 4 assisted Senegal in maximising the WTO Derogation on services for LDCs. For this purpose, a study has been carried out with concrete negotiating proposals that the country can present and defend during negotiations on services trade at the WTO.

PACPS

15/06/2017 - 15/05/2018

The programme has been developed following the requests from the following four PACPs countries namely Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Federal States of Micronesia and Kiribati

For RMI the programme focused on:

- 🌐 assessment of the robustness and adequacy of RMI

customs data collection instruments and trade data (2-13-2015) updated to HS 2012;

- 📌 review of the current legislative framework and existing commodity classification procedures, processes and official forms for recording trade commodity information in RMI;
- 📌 amendment of the RMI legislative framework to incorporate the implementation of the HS commodity classification nomenclature and the relevant regulations, procedures, processes and official forms where commodity classification is recorded;
- 📌 draft of a national tariff schedule (with national splits) according to the 2012 and 2017 editions of the HS nomenclature (HS 2012 and HS 2017).

For Kiribati, the technical assistance:

- 📌 conducted a comprehensive appraisal of the viability of the single window including an economic and technical feasibility, and an assessment of the current legal and institutional environment;
- 📌 identified solutions based on the findings and recommended best practice model for a Single Window System based on the WCO Guidelines;
- 📌 prepared a detailed implementation plan and budget for implementation of a Single Window System including the inherent legal framework and submitted them to the Kiribati Customs Administration for validation.

The programme supported Samoa and FSM in

- 📌 reviewing of policy, legislative, and institutional regulatory framework in Samoa and FSM (such as legislation on SPS measures);
- 📌 improving Market Access of SMEs, through training on standards and conformity assessment procedures and assist selected companies with the implementation of the selected standards for certification;
- 📌 developing a guide on “Managing Quality” to sensitize stakeholders on quality, standards and technical regulations, SPS and the related services available in Samoa and FSM;
- 📌 disseminating the results among the key stakeholders.



KENYA

12/09/2017 - 12/05/2018

In the context of fostering sustained competitiveness and access into the EU and other export markets, this programme achieved a number of result, the most important are:

- 📌 developing a stakeholder-led and “good practice” value chain compliance system for horticulture, manufacturing and aquaculture exports;
- 📌 improving the capacity of the beneficiaries to access value chain compliance and export requirements; and
- 📌 mainstreaming the recognized export requirements and “good practice” both in the public and private sectors into the stakeholder-led value chain compliance system.

MSG

13/07/2017 - 13/05/2018

The programme was motivated by the fact that since the establishment of the MSG in 1988, trade related procedures and systems have remained undeveloped and, as a result, are not consistent with the modernisation in the rest of the world with which they interact. Inefficiency and bureaucratic red tape prevail. The procedures and systems to facilitate the flow of trade remain complicated, slow and not user friendly. The turnaround time for movement of goods in MSG sub region remains long adding on to the high cost of doing business in MSG sub region. This implies that in general, it is not easy to do business in Melanesia.

The programme:

- 📌 strengthened the operations of the MSG Secretariat’s Trade Division to effectively monitor intra-regional and international trade flows;
- 📌 identified air and shipping transport connectivity bottlenecks among the MSG member states and recommend suitable trade facilitation improvements; and
- 📌 improved access to trade-related tools and sharing of trade information.





Glossary

ACP	Africa Caribbean and Pacific	TBT	Technical Barriers to Trade
CARIFORUM	Caribbean Forum	TFTA	Tripartite Free Trade Area
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa	TRA	Trade-Related Assistance
CTA	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation	TRIPS	Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
DG DEVCO	Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development	TPP	Trans-Pacific Partnership
EAC	East African Community	TPF	Trade Policy Framework
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States	TTIP	Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership
EDD	European Development Days	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement	UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
EU	European Union	WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union
FTA	Free Trade Area	WCO	World Customs Organisation
ITC	International Trade Centre	WTO	World Trade Organisation
LDC	Least Developed Countries		
NAMA	Non-Agricultural Market Access		
NTB	Non-Tariff barriers		
NTPF	National Trade Policy Framework		
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States		
OIF	Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie		
PACPs	Pacific ACP States		
PIFs	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat		
PMU	Programme Management Unit		
RCEP	Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership		
RTA	Regional Trade Agreement		
SADC	Southern African Development Community		
SDG	Sustainable development goals		
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises		
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary		

TRADECOM PROGRAMME

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