

# TRADECOM II NEWS

## INFORMATION BULLETIN OF TRADECOM II PROGRAMME

PAGE 2



ACP GENEVA

LAUNCH OF THE TRADECOM II SUPPORT PROGRAMME

PAGE 3

### EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY (EAC) KICK-OFF MEETING OF THE TCII SUPPORT PROGRAMME

### PIF+NIUE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

PAGES 4-5

### FOCUS ON PMU ACTIVITIES

STATE OF PLAY OF TA COMPONENT  
DISTRIBUTION PER PE1 OBJECTIVES  
REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF REQUESTS  
REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF PROGRAMMES

PAGE 4

### CARIFORUM-EPA IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

PAGES 6-7-8

### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

**CAMEROON** - OPTIMIZATION OF MARKET ACCESS AND LEGAL TOOLS RELATED TO CAMEROON'S TRADE POLICY

**OECS** - COMMON OECS SERVICE AND FISHERIES TRADE POLICIES

**COMESA** - ENHANCE COMESA'S REGIONAL TRADE INTEGRATION AGENDA

**KENYA** - SUPPORT TO KENYA TO DEVELOP A STAKEHOLDER-LED AND "GOOD PRACTICE" BASED VALUE CHAIN COMPLIANCE SYSTEM FOR EXPORTS TO THE EU

PAGE 9



PROMOTE 2017

TRADECOM II PRESENTATION AND WORKSHOPS

# ACP GENEVA

## LAUNCH OF THE TRADECOM II SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Following the signature of a service contract by the PMU of the TradeCom II Programme with SAANA Consulting, the implementation of the Programme "**Targeted Support to the ACP Group in Geneva to Strengthen the Group's participation in the multilateral trade negotiations under the World Trade Organisation (WTO)**" started on March 1, 2017 with a kick-off meeting that was held in the Offices of the ACP Secretariat in Geneva. The project is aimed at empowering the ACP Delegations in Geneva to participate effectively in trade negotiations/deliberations in the WTO.

A team of three senior experts on Services, NAMA and WTO Special and Differential Treatment and Agriculture were recruited to provide the necessary technical expertise during the 12 months (February 2017 – February 2018) implementation period.



The formal launch of the project took place on March 20, 2017 at the WTO in Geneva. At that event, the ACP Secretariat was represented by **H.E. Patrick I. Gomes** (ACP Group Secretary General), **H.E. John R. Deep Ford** (Ambassador & Permanent Representative, Mission of Guyana, Geneva) and **Viwanou Gnassounou** (Assistant Secretary-General responsible for Sustainable Economic Development and Trade at the ACP Secretariat). **H.E. Marc Vanheukelen** (EU Permanent Representative to the WTO) represented the European Commission.

**Ahmed Ndyesobola**, (TradeCom II Team Leader) and **El Hadji Diouf** (Multilateral Trade Expert) represented TradeCom II programme at that event. In attendance also was **Tom Pengelly**, (Managing Director of the contractor SAANA Consulting).

**H.E. John R. Deep Ford** opened the session emphasizing the great appreciation for the support from the Brussels community on trade policy and other technical issues that feeds into the ACP positions in the multilateral trade negotiations.



**Viwanou Gnassounou** highlighted that the project will be able to support and meet the objectives and needs of the ACP Group in Geneva. It will also compliment the support provided by other institutions like the WTO, ITC and UNCTAD for the benefit of the beneficiaries—the ACP Member States.

**H.E. Marc Vanheukelen** reaffirmed the close cooperation between the ACP Group and the EU, and the importance of the project in fostering that cooperation. To enhance cooperation, he empathized the need for working together to get a better outcome at the MC11. In that regard, he encouraged greater ownership of the project and the inherent processes.

**Ahmed Ndyesobola** expressed appreciation to all stakeholders who supported the TradeCom II team at various stages during the development of the project, in particular: **H.E. Ambassador Ngarame** (the former ACP Group coordinator) and his staff, **H.E. Ambassador Kisiri** (Head of the ACP Office in Geneva), **Tiina Satuli** (EU Delegation Geneva), and the colleagues from the EC and ACP Secretariat in Brussels: **Koen Rossel-Cambier** (EC), **Viwanou Gnassounou** and **Morgan Githinji** (ACP Secretariat).

Furthermore, he reaffirmed that the wide consultations by the TradeCom II team with the relevant stakeholders in Geneva enabled the team to cover all grounds and issues within the context of the multilateral trade negotiations under the WTO. As a result, the structure and content of the project reflects the broadly agreed actions that, when fully and timely implemented, should sustainably meet the needs of the ACP Group in the next 12 months and beyond. **Tom Pengelly** (Managing Director of SAANA Consulting) reassured the meeting that all the Key Experts are on the ground in Geneva and SAANA is providing the required backstopping. Further reassured the meeting that the team will continuously work in a demand-driven and coordinated manner towards the MC11.



In conclusion, **H.E. Dr. P. Gomes** declared the project launched, reassuring the ACP Representatives in Geneva, the beneficiaries of the project, that his office will do all what is possible to ensure the successful implementation of the project also in the context of enhancing the cooperation between the ACP Group and the European Union in Geneva.

## EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY (EAC) KICK-OFF MEETING OF THE TCII SUPPORT PROGRAMME

The kick-off meeting for launching of the programme “**Targeted Support to the EAC for the Implementation of the Tripartite FTA Agreement-Trade Policy and Export Development to the EU Market**” was held on 27 March 2017 at the EAC Secretariat in Arusha, Tanzania.

The meeting chaired by the Ag DG Customs and Trade, **Kenneth Bagamuhunda** and co-chaired by the Director for Trade, **Alhaj Rashid I. Kibowa** was also attended by **Geoffrey Osoro** - Tripartite Coordinator, **Vonesai Hove** Project Coordinator for the TradeCom II Support Programme, **Emmanuella Habizimana** - Trade Export Officer, and the Technical Assistance Team composed by the **Amanda Sunassee** - Team Leader, **Charles Nuwagaba** (Trade Facilitation and competitiveness expert) and **Stacy Wagala** – Legal Expert.

**Alhaj Rashid I. Kibowa** opened the meeting, welcoming the Team of Experts and gave a brief overview of the programme, highlighting the fact that the programme had been formulated slightly over six months ago, and that the activities which were earmarked in the programme were important and a priority for the EAC Secretariat and the Member States.

**Kenneth Bagamuhunda** pointed out the need to ensure that the activities foreseen under the programme, complement existing activities to avoid duplication. He emphasised the need for building ownership and ensuring that Member States benefit from the outcome of the programme.

**Amanda Sunassee** (Team Leader) presented the team and she made a presentation of the methodology to be used in implementing the activities foreseen in the Terms of Reference (ToR) and providing clarifications and responses to the major points raised by the EAC Secretariat.

Main points of discussion were on the NTB regulations and the EAC Export Strategy. On the NTB regulations Geoffrey Osoro, the Tripartite Coordinator, pointed out that the NTB Act was still in the process of being assented by Rwanda and Burundi thus the Team of experts would need to focus more on the operational procedures. Given the informal nature of the trade associated with the Simplified Trade Regime (STR) and the fact that STR related NTBs touched mostly women and youth, the mapping exercise would require field work. And a detailed modus operandi should be envisaged for setting up of a trade remedies committee.

With respect to the Export Strategy, he emphasised that prior to drafting the successor plan, consultation with the Member States would be critical. Also, for the Strategy 2017-2021, it will be important to assess what were the weaknesses of the previous Strategy as stipulated in the ToR.

With respect to the NTB regulations and operational procedures, **Amanda Sunassee** - Team Leader - suggested that different data collection options could be explored, and OSBP (One Stop Boarder Post) could be visited from the Arusha base. Concerning the Export Strategy, suggested that the implementation of such activity should focus on adding value to the national strategies and focusing on providing strategic vision on common shared challenges including creating regional public goods to support the Member States’ national export strategies.

## PIF+NIUE

### IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

The first Regional PACP programme launched by TradeCom II programme, “Targeted Support to PIFS to build capacity for Mainstreaming Trade Policy Frameworks (TPFs) and overall Trade Agenda in the Pacific Region, and to Niue for the Implementation of its TPF” is now in implementation phase.

Programme activities commenced on March 13, with a one-week inception period at the PIFS in Suva. During this week, the Team Leader and Key Expert 2 conducted meetings with key officials from the beneficiaries in the Economic Governance Division at the PIFS and the Economic Planning and Development (EDP) and Customs Departments of the Government of Niue (via conference call). The inception meetings discussed clarifications of the project’s Terms of Reference (ToR), the timing of activities, the specific methodology for undertaking the work and the context on the ground. The Team also met with officers from the Oceania Customs Organisation (OCO) Secretariat to discuss their recent work in Niue. The discussions and their outcomes were summarised in the draft inception report submitted on 17 March (with a revised version awaiting final approval). The key

lessons from both the Regional and Niue components of the project will be presented at a regional workshop later in the year.

The main output from the regional-level work carried out at the PIFS in Suva, Fiji, will be the production of a Regional Manual on Trade Policy mainstreaming which draws on international and regional best practice, and looks at what is meant by trade policy mainstreaming, its different dimensions, and the tools that can be used, and processes that can be followed to ensure that strong, coordinated, and effective trade policies are put in place across the region. One specific result will be to strengthen the role of the national trade committees that have been established across the PACPs. At the national level, the project will also provide specific support to Niue – the smallest ACP country – to move forward in implementing its TPF, delivering targeted support and training to officials in the country in conducting trade policy, and particularly addressing customs legislation reform.

## CARIFORUM-EU EPA | IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

Following the Inception Phase, implementation of programme activities for the “support to enhance the implementation of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA, Cariforum directorate in Georgetown-Guyana has moved at full speed during the month of March, particularly in the following areas:

- Updating the 5 model bills to provide for reciprocal market access for services. National Consultations have been held by the Team of Key Experts during the month of March on all five draft model bills. These five draft model bills were initially prepared in 2012 and underwent initial discussion and review by the States at that time. The model bills are aimed both at implementing components of the countries' commitments made under the CARIFORUM-EU EPA and strengthening their regulatory environment to support the growth of investments and services.
- The consultations were scheduled to inform relevant stakeholders that the drafts were being updated and to solicit their inputs on deficiencies in the current drafts and/or developments since 2012.

- Intra-CARIFORUM Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) for Architects. Work has begun to support a regional consultation on recognition arrangements for architectural services, scheduled for April 4, 2017. A draft MRA have been prepared and circulated to the meeting participants. The consultation is being held by video conference, with the Consultant participating from Guyana.
- Transposition of EPA Tariff Schedule to provide for reciprocal market access for goods. Work has also begun to support a regional meeting on the transposition of the harmonized commodity description and coding system in the EPA, scheduled for April 3, 2017. The meeting is being held by video conference, with the Consultant participating from Guyana.
- Additionally, the procedure for the recruitment of the Non-Key Expert (NKE) was launched and is scheduled to be finalised at the end of the first week of April.

## FOCUS ON PMU ACTIVITIES

### STATE OF PLAY OF “TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE” COMPONENT



# FOCUS ON PMU ACTIVITIES

## PROGRAMMES' DISTRIBUTION PER "TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE" OBJECTIVES

CAPACITIES OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL TRADE INSTITUTIONS STRENGTHENED



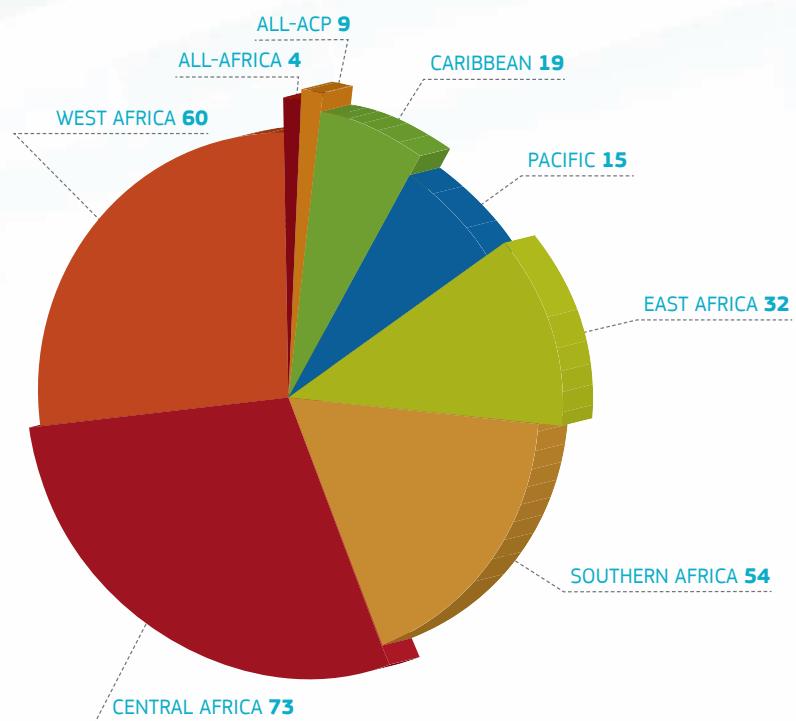
TRADE NEGOTIATION CAPACITIES OF ACP BENEFICIARIES STRENGTHENED & AGREEMENTS IMPLEMENTED



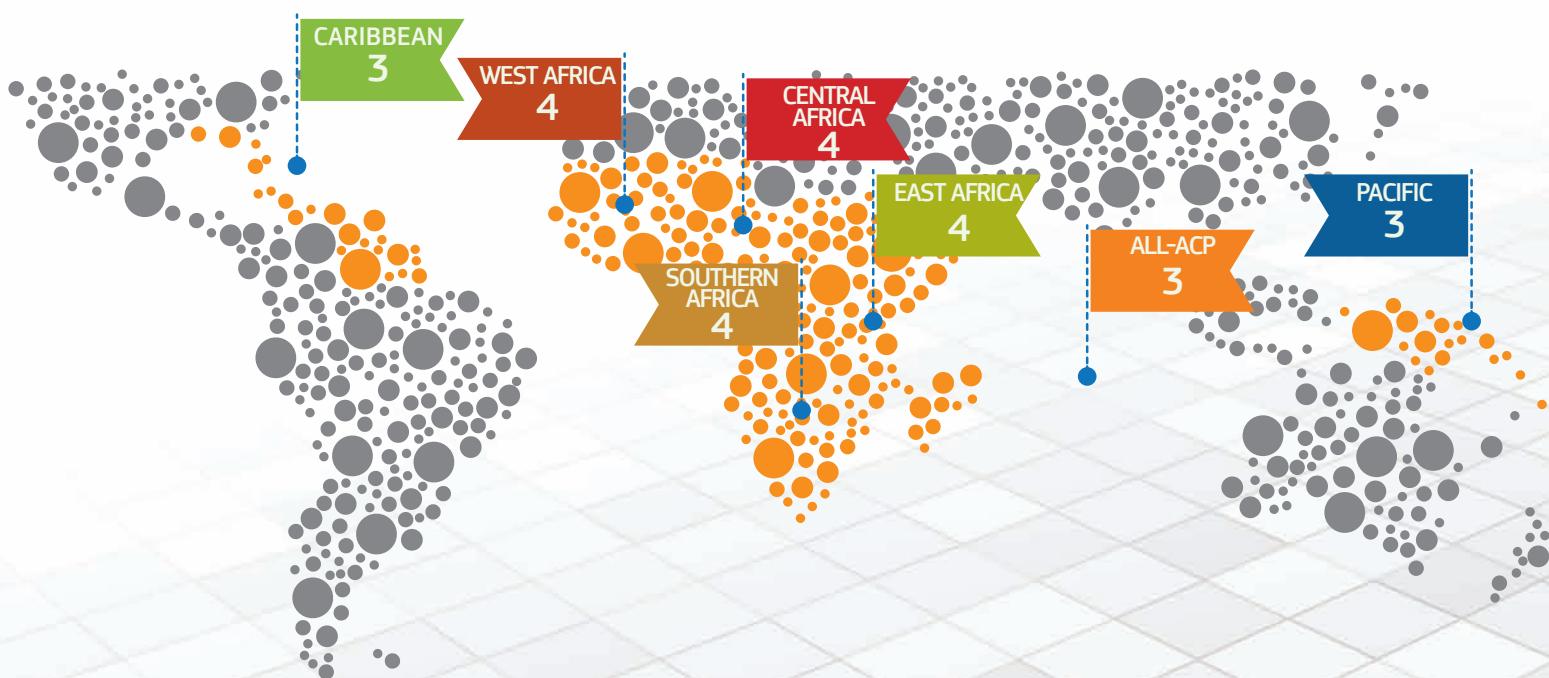
TRADE FACILITATION & COMPETITIVENESS STRENGTHENED



## REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF REQUESTS



## REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF PROJECTS



# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

## CAMEROON

### OPTIMIZATION OF MARKET ACCESS AND LEGAL TOOLS RELATED TO CAMEROON'S TRADE POLICY

A number of individual projects (17) were bundled into this programme—“Optimization of market access and legal tools related to Cameroon’s trade policy” designed by TradeCom II in collaboration with the Trade Ministry of the Republic of Cameroon.

To date, Cameroon is the only country among the seven Central African States to have signed the EPA with the EU, and hence stands to benefit from preferential access to EU markets. However, apart from the low level of the country’s exports, for most of the agricultural products exported by Cameroon, non-tariff barriers (NTBs) remain a major constraint. Furthermore, data on NTBs are limited and have shortcomings.

This programme will support the identification of exportable products with higher potential to contribute to the attainment of the Government’s export target. It will also identify modalities for reducing the scope of NTBs with the view of enhancing the competitiveness of exporting companies and their effective access to the targeted EU taking advantage of the EPA provisions, and other export markets. To that end, the programme also will develop a built-in anticipation of new export regulations in order to specifically enhance compliance and quality standards.

The programme contributes to: produce a market access mapping; drafting the Export National Strategy; understand and

optimize the EPA trade opportunities; strengthen the capacities of national actors in the private and public sectors on subject-matters related to prevention, dispute settlement resolution and drafting of commercial contracts, and enhancing the capacities of national actors in the private and public sectors on subject-matters related to litigation on the anticompetitive practices.

Specifically, the activities of this programme intend to contribute to:

- Identify markets’ new niches;
- Outline the nature of non-tariff barriers to Cameroonian products;
- Conduct a study on reducing the impact of non-tariff measures (NTM) on trade export capacities;
- Develop a strategy to better penetrate into the export markets and propose concrete measures to make the national strategy more operational;
- Develop of an action plan to strengthen the internationalization of Cameroonian companies;
- Put in place training on the topic of prevention and resolution of disputes and drafting of commercial contracts and on anticompetitive procedures.

## OECS

### COMMON OECS SERVICE AND FISHERIES TRADE POLICIES

The OECS programme—“Common OECS Service and Fisheries Trade Policies” is designed by TradeCom II Programme in collaboration with the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and merges together three (3) individual projects.

The OECS Member States are small vulnerable economies with narrow economic bases and a high vulnerability to exogenous shocks, given the level of openness of their economies. The territories are located in a region prone to natural disasters, mainly hurricanes and are highly dependent on tourism services. To varying degrees, the financial services and construction sectors are also significant contributors to Gross domestic product (GDP) and employment. For most of the Member States, the share of agriculture and manufacturing in GDP is small.

OECS Member States are signatories to trading arrangements such as the CARICOM Single Market and Economy, the CARIFORUM-EU EPA, the World Trade Organisation and bilateral free trade arrangements.

This programme is aimed at addressing convergence of the regulatory frameworks for services in the OECS Economic Union for the four target sectors(i.e Professional Services including offshore educational services, Health and Wellness Services, Cultural Services and Information and Communication and Technology Services; strengthening capacity in the OECS in project design and management in the domain of trade related assistance and developing an OECS approach to Fisheries Subsidies Rules Negotiations in the Multilateral Trading System and other negotiating arenas.

To that end, the areas of intervention contemplated under this programme contribute to:

- conducting an analysis/diagnostic of the services environment and in particular, any domestic policy or regulatory measures that could negatively affect or constrain the seamless operation of the four sectors under consideration;
- reviewing an inventory of regulations and institutions affecting sectoral activities of the targeted sectors;
- assessing the extent to which legislative or regulatory changes and/or reforms will be needed to remove the restrictions and barriers impeding the operation of a seamless Services Sector across the Economic Union Area;
- undertaking a thorough search and/or review of the laws of the OECS Economic Union Area to identify horizontal (investment, incentives) and specific legislation that have implications for establishment and free movement of services in the targeted services sectors;
- preparing and submitting an Action and Implementation Plan for sequencing reform and implementation to achieve a harmonised legislative and regulatory regime and the required institutional infrastructure;
- designing and delivery of tailor-made trade-related project management capacity building programmes in trade related areas for key regional stakeholders;
- defining and developing various regional/national trade-related projects concepts jointly with relevant stakeholders following the capacity building programme;
- analysing the current WTO fisheries agreements;
- establishing and sharing baseline negotiating principles with the OECS States during the workshop.

# COMESA

## ENHANCE COMESA'S REGIONAL TRADE INTEGRATION AGENDA

The COMESA programme—“Enhance COMESA’s Regional Trade Integration Agenda”— is the result of the bundle of eleven (11) individual projects and it is drafted by TradeCom II Programme in collaboration with the COMESA Secretariat.

It is structured under four key parts which are motivated by the fact that:

- a) COMESA region has a good understanding of the characteristics of the region’s services sectors to enable it design the best strategies for making commitments for liberalization;
- b) The COMESA Rules of Origin require traders to prove that the goods meet the criteria on the origin and foreign content, and the traded goods have to be accompanied by a manually issued certificate, hence, the business communities have to incur costs of having to travel to the offices where these certificates are issued;
- c) The emerging economies and particularly the BRICS are increasing their share of global trade and making important inroads in terms of trade and investment opportunities, and appropriate technologies for development. On its part, COMESA has registered growth rates of above 6% for the past decade. It is, therefore, critical for COMESA to devise strategies and identify entry points to beneficially engage with the emerging economies, specifically in the areas of value addition, market diversification, technology, competitiveness and taping into the growing export market;
- d) The urgent need for trade experts in the COMESA region to mainstream gender and youth analytical frameworks when programming for greater trade integration.

The programme envisages the delivery of studies, framework for negotiation as well as a design of an electronic certificate of origin, develop and install the COMESA On-line Trade and Gender/Youth training module. In addition, the programme will also develop 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.

To those ends, the programme provides 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 and a review of the current COMESA Rules of Origin and determine their impact on intra-COMESA trade and industrialisation. It explores explore, as well, opportunities for COMESA’s repositioning itself with the Emerging Economies, and it strengthens the programming skills of trade professionals in the areas of mainstreaming women and youth traders in COMESA’s regional trade integration agenda.

The programme contributes to:

- Increase COMESA Officials’ technical knowledge to negotiate under the First Round of the 2nd tier;
- Enhance COMESA Officials’ preparation for the negotiation of the Temporary Movement of Persons (Mode IV) Agreement as well as the Mutual Recognition Agreement(s);
- Produce an updated baseline study on the COMESA Rules of Origin and their impact on intra-regional trade and industrialisation and recommendations;
- Provide an appropriate electronic certificate of origin for the approval of COMESA policy organs;
- Identify opportunities that COMESA Member States can benefit from their relation with Emerging Economies, and strategies for harnessing the benefits from the identified opportunities specified;
- Develop and install COMESA On-line Trade and Gender training module and planning guidelines;
- Develop comprehensive support framework for women and youth small scale cross border traders.

The areas of intervention contemplated under this programme contribute to provide:

- Technical and trade policy study on the contours for trade in service negotiations in the three priority sectors: energy, construction and related engineering, and business services;
- Framework for the negotiations including delineation of coordination and technical backstopping structure for the negotiation of Mode IV Provisions, and related capacity building support;
- Framework for the negotiations of the MRAs;
- Review study on COMESA Rules of Origin and make recommendations on the broader structure of the next generation of the Rules of Origin;
- Electronic certificate of origin;
- Trading and investment opportunities with Emerging Economies and related strategy for COMESA Member States to exploit the identified opportunities;
- COMESA On-line Trade and Gender training module;
- COMESA Gender Planning Tool on Trade that contains checklists and indicators;
- Framework plan for the comprehensive support for women and youth cross border traders in the region, including an information kit on the COMESA Simplified Trade Regime (STR) and other trade facilitation tools for women and youth cross border traders.



## KENYA

### SUPPORT TO KENYA TO DEVELOP A STAKEHOLDER-LED AND “GOOD PRACTICE” BASED VALUE CHAIN COMPLIANCE SYSTEM FOR EXPORTS TO THE EU

TradeCom II Programme in collaboration with the Kenya Flower Council (KFC), the Abardares Trading Block (ATB), and the Kenya Agribusiness and Agro-industry Alliance (KAAA); the Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM), and the Kenya Agribusiness and Agro-industry Alliance–KAAA); the Aquacultural Association of Kenya (AAK) designed this programme—“Targeted Support to Kenya to Develop a Stakeholder-Led and “Good Practice” Based Value Chain Compliance System for Exports to the EU” that bundles nine (9) individual projects.

Kenya has set its development and trade aspirations in its vision 2030 underpinned by the economic, social and political pillars, in which it aspires to be a higher middle income newly industrialized economy by 2030. Key among achieving the economic pillar is growth of the export sectors including agro-products, manufactures, fishery products, services and a growing range of non-traditional exports. Recent efforts towards this end have been the development of special economic zones and the concerted efforts to develop a sound and objective national export strategy.

Moreover, the signing of the comprehensive EAC-EU Economic Partnership Agreement by the Kenyan Government in 2016 provides a further needed impetus to Kenyan exporters to expand and sustain the country's trade with the EU. The EPA will lock-in access to the EU single market through the new legal framework that guarantees duty free and quota free access for the country's exports into the EU market. That's a huge incentive for investment flows into Kenya's export business and job creation.

In the context of fostering sustained competitiveness and access into the EU and other markets, the purposes of the programme are: to develop a stakeholder-led and “good practice” value chain compliance system for horticulture, manufacturing and aquaculture exports; to improve the capacity of the beneficiaries to access value chain compliance and export requirements that enhances and sustains access to the EU and other export markets and to mainstream the recognized export requirements and “good practice” both in the public and private sectors into the stakeholder-led value chain compliance system.

The programme contributes to:

- developing a stakeholder-led and “good practice” value chain compliance system for exports;
- developing a sectorial framework for stakeholder consultative process and implementation of the value chain compliance system;

- making value chain compliance systems and export requirements accessible to beneficiaries
- developing and sharing with beneficiaries a sectorial framework for updating the value chain compliance system is developed and shared with beneficiaries;
- undertaking a peer review of the stakeholder-led and “good compliance practice” value chain compliance system with key sector authorities;
- mainstreaming export requirements and “good practice” into the stakeholder-led compliance system.

The areas of intervention contemplated under this programme include:

- reviewing documents and manuals for value chain and export compliance for the horticulture, manufacturing and aquaculture (fishery products);
- designing a stakeholder-led value chain export compliance system for the horticulture and manufacturing sector;
- designing a (simplified) export compliance and mobile application system for aquaculture value chain sector in both Kiswahili and English;
- developing a multi-stakeholder consultation sectorial framework on the value chain and export compliance system;
- developing simplified and sector-specific manuals for the implementation of the respective stakeholder consultative processes;
- designing and sharing a framework for ease of access to the value chain and export compliance system by beneficiaries;
- drafting and sharing a system for regular updating of the value chain and export compliance system that also enhances the ownership by the beneficiaries;
- organizing a peer review for transparency of the value chain / export compliance system;
- organizing an acceptance dialogue of the beneficiary ownership of the value chain / export compliance system and its regular update;
- disseminating the developed and accepted value chain / export compliance system, to the wider set of beneficiaries.

## PROMOTE 2017

### TRADECOM II PRESENTATION AND WORKSHOPS

PROMOTE 2017, the 6th International Exhibition for Enterprises, SMEs and Partnership of Yaoundé, was held at the Yaoundé Conference Centre (Palais des Congrès), from 11th to 19th February 2017.

The Delegation of the European Union to Cameroon was present with a stand and a dedicated meeting room at Yaoundé Conference Center with the aim to increase understanding in the context of enhancing the country's trading capacity with the EU and the strengthening of the competitiveness of the private sector.

The EU Delegation through the NAO' representative requested the support of the TradeCom II Programme to contribute to a

practical presentation on access to the EC funding possibilities in the framework of the TradeCom II Programme for business actors including local experts.

Mr. José Lambiza (Administrator of TradeCom II Programme) held four workshops aimed at improving the understanding of the Service Tender Process used under the Demand Driven Component and the Grant Component of the TradeCom II Programme.

The four workshops were thought by all the participants to have been a great success in terms of participation and quality of discussion.





## Glossary

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

## Upcoming events



APRIL

WTO

Committee on Regional Trade Agreements  
Geneva, 04 April 2017

ACP Subcommittee  
on Trade and Commodities

Brussels, 07 April 2017

Final deadline for Submission of Full  
Proposals under the Grants Component  
Brussels, 10 April 2017

TCII - Tenders' Opening session

Mauritius - Caricom - MSG  
Brussels, 11 April 2017

TCII - Tenders' Evaluation session

Mauritius - Caricom  
Brussels, 18 April 2017