

ISSUE #9 | MAY 2017

TRADECOM II NEWS

INFORMATION BULLETIN OF **TRADECOM II PROGRAMME**

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Brussels 2-4 June 2017

Flagship event of the European Year for Development



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BOOSTING INVESTMENTS FOR ACP INCLUSIVE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Harnessing investment opportunities to empower ACP's as the World's Next Emerging Economy



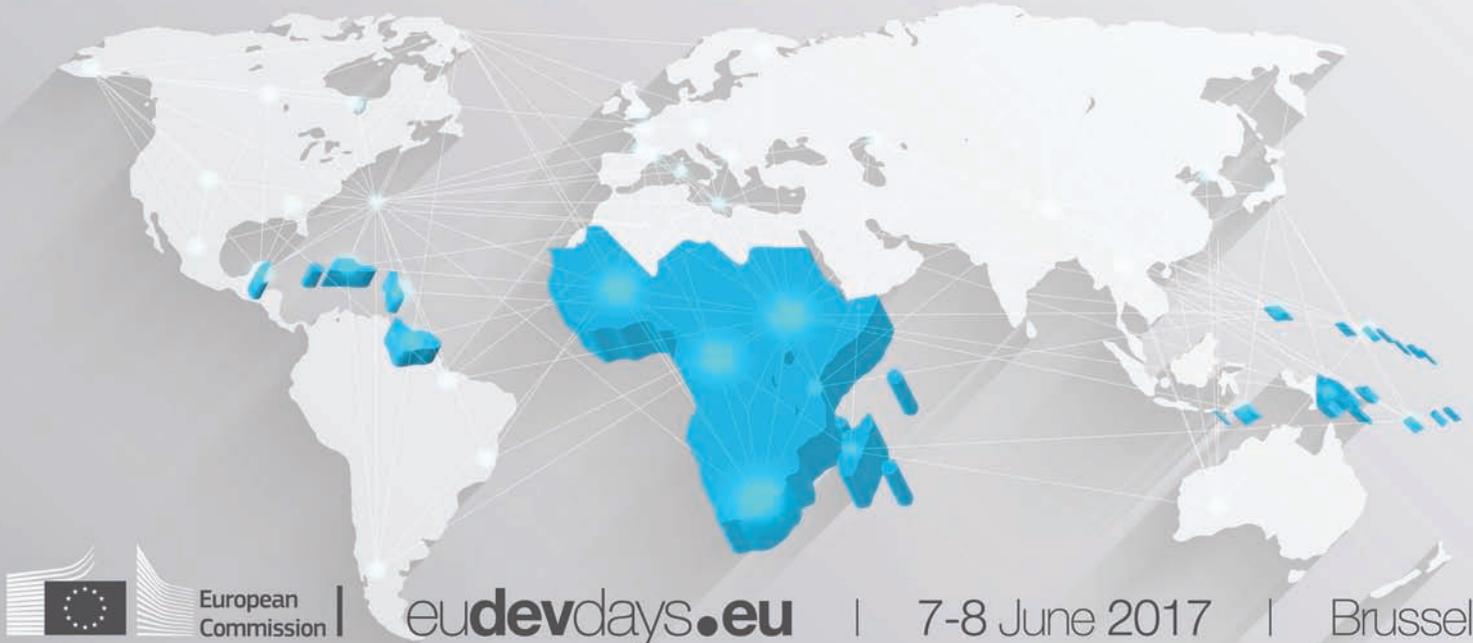
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7-8 June 2017

Brussels

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EDD17

JOINT ACTION IN FAVOUR OF ACP COUNTRIES

The 2017 European Development Days (EDD), Brussels June 7-8, 2017 are fast approaching, with a focus this year on "Investing in Development".

In the spirit of cooperation, the EU-ACP TradeCom II Programme, CTA and the EU-ACP TBT Programme will jointly organise two unmissable sessions at the EDD2017 on pressing development issues in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States.

The first session "Boosting Investment for ACP Inclusive Trade and Development - Harnessing Investment Opportunities to Empower ACP Member States as the World's Next Emerging Economy" will take place on the 7th of June 2016 – from 9.30 to 10.45 AM. This session is aimed at showcasing ACP Group as the next generation of the world's emerging economy and will present intra-ACP initiatives aimed at spurring investment opportunities to support trade expansion and sustainable development. Panellists include Roberto Ridolfi (Director, Sustainable Growth and Development, DG DEVCO), Pamela Coke-Hamilton (Executive Director, Caribbean Export Development Agency), Steve Kayizzi-Mugerwa (Advisor to the International Monetary Fund - IMF), and Masego Marobela, (Managing Director, Botswana Bureau of Standards). The keynote speaker, via video link, will be Dr. Amena GURIB-FAKIM, the President of Mauritius. The session will be moderated by Vivanou Gnassounou (Assistant Secretary General, ACP Secretariat).

The second session entitled: "Promoting Inclusive Trade in Africa - Boosting Cross Border Trade through Simplified Trade Regimes: Supporting Local Businesses to Address the Informal Economy in Africa" will be held on the 8th of June 2016 – from 15.15 to 16.30 PM.

The Simplified Trade Regime (STR) is designed specifically for small traders who regularly transact in low value consignments. STRs exempts small consignments of goods from customs duties and other related taxes and is meant to benefit the small-scale cross-border traders in employment creation, food security and promotion of cross pollination of goods within the regions.

This panel will see the contributions of experts such as Stefano Manservigi (Director General, DEVCO) and Paulina M. Elago (Executive Secretary, Southern African Customs Union SACU) who will discuss and bring insight on the need to empower small scale traders in Africa as they strive to expand their trading capacities beyond national markets.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

SUPPORT TO REPOA AND ZANZIBAR MINISTRY OF TRADE INCEPTION MEETING

The Inception Meeting to launch the programme implementation was held at the REPOA HQ in Dar es Salaam – Tanzania on the 4th May 2017. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Zanzibar Ministry of Trade, the Director and staff of the REPOA Institute, the EU Delegation in Dar es Salaam, and the Technical Assistance Team (TAT) represented by two Key Experts—Mr. Calvin Manduna and David Parsons.

The kick-off meeting discussed the Terms of Reference and the scope of the Programme implementation including the timeline its implementation and key activities as envisaged in the programme design.

The field work will focus on two of the country’s five export corridors, namely the Zanzibar/Pemba Export Corridor and the Northern Export Corridor. The field research will concentrate on spices, cloves, sea weed and horticultural products (fine vegetables) for the Zanzibar export corridor, and on coffee and horticultural products for the Northern Export Corridor.

The Inception Report is scheduled to be submitted by Friday, 12th May. It will include a revised work plan for the following 8 months.

PIF+NIUE

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES



Since programme activities commenced on March 13, the team started working on the Regional Component. The team has reviewed a survey of PACPs on Trade Policy Mainstreaming that was conducted by the PIFS in 2016, as required under the programme. Although not all PACPs that have TPFs in place responded to the survey, the available responses did yield some useful information on a range of issues from PACPs’ institutional set-up for trade policy, in particular the incorporation of TPFs within National Development Plans. This review and survey was also supplemented with other evidence on TPF mainstreaming from PACPs (including case studies of regional best-practice) and broader literature. In particular, the programme team had direct exchanges in early April with the Director of Trade from Vanuatu on the process used in the country to mainstream trade policy, as requested by the PIFS.

Following from the survey review, work has begun on drafting a Regional Manual on Trade Policy Mainstreaming as delineated in the TORs. This constitutes the main output of the regional component of the programme. The Manual will be a practical

guide for the PICs, taking account of their limited capacities. Two briefings were held with PIFS to discuss and obtain feedback on the work in progress on the Manual (and on the project in general).

Activities on the Regional Component are scheduled to be carried out from 20 March until approximately the 12 May. It was agreed that the programme team will submit a draft of the main output of the work, the Regional Manual on Trade Policy Mainstreaming, on 15 May.

Activities on the National Component will commence in mid-May, including a mission to Niue now confirmed to take place starting on 15 May until mid-June. The team has been in continuous contact with the Niue Government with respect to planning and advancing the work on the National-level component of the programme also to prepare the field work and mission to Niue.

FOCUS ON PMU ACTIVITIES

STATE OF PLAY OF "TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE" COMPONENT

266
TOTAL PROJECT REQUESTS

232
PROJECTS ACCEPTED

BUNDLED INTO:

85
PROGRAMMES

6
PROJECTS
WITHDRAWN /
REFORMULATED

28
PROJECTS
REJECTED

81
PROJECTS
UNDER IMPLEMENTATION

BUNDLED INTO:
23
PROGRAMMES

2
PROJECTS WITHDRAWN

2
PROGRAMMES

140+
PROJECTS
FOR IMPLEMENTATION
UNDER PE2 (MAY 2018)

BUNDLED INTO:
60+
PROGRAMMES

PROGRAMMES' DISTRIBUTION PER "TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE" OBJECTIVES

CAPACITIES OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL TRADE INSTITUTIONS STRENGTHENED



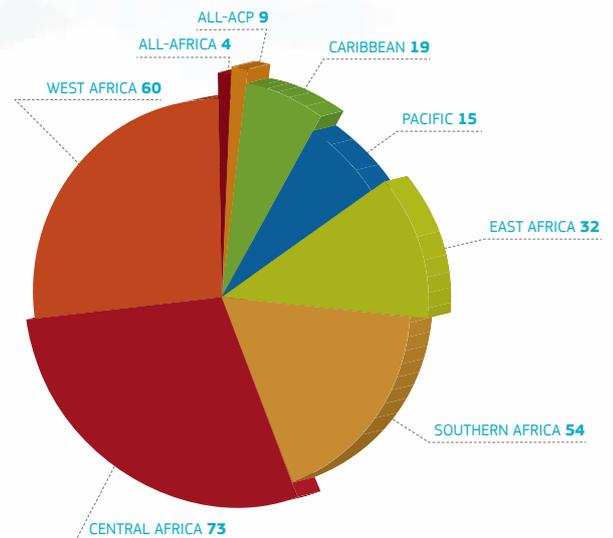
TRADE NEGOTIATION CAPACITIES OF ACP BENEFICIARIES STRENGTHENED & AGREEMENTS IMPLEMENTED



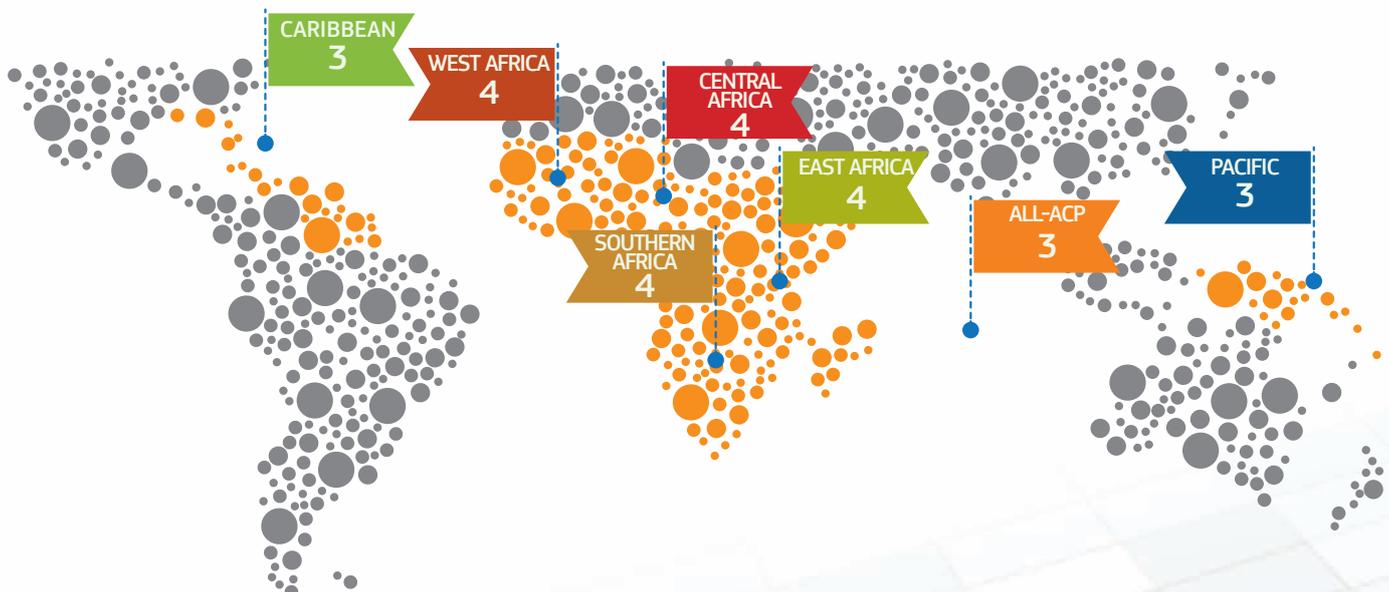
TRADE FACILITATION & COMPETITIVENESS STRENGTHENED



REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF REQUESTS



REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF PROJECTS



TCHAD

SUPPORT FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES IN THE FORMULATION, IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF TRADE POLICIES

This programme was designed by the Tradecom II Programme and comprises four (4) individual projects.

In January 2016, Chad adopted a National Trade Strategy (NTS) whose objective is to develop an attractive trade sector which has a potential for growth and fosters the well-being of the population, taking full advantage of international trade opportunities. This objective has five strategic focuses:

- ④ The first focus lays emphasis on consolidating the trade institutional and regulatory framework;
- ④ The second focus which tackles the various aspects of regional market integration and development, aims at improving integration and trade facilitation;
- ④ The third focus which pertains to market diversification aims at strengthening Chad's export competitiveness;
- ④ The fourth focus highlights the need for Chad to participate in international trade negotiations and suggests ways to promote trade partnerships;
- ④ The fifth focus aims at supporting the participation of women in the sector by building the managerial and operational capacities of the Association of Chadian Women Traders and Business Managers (AFCEET).

ECCAS

TRADE CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME

Several specific projects (3) have been clustered in this programme designed by TradeCom II in collaboration with the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

ECCAS is a regional economic community which was established in 1983. It has 11 member states comprising the six countries of the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC): Cameroon, Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Central African Republic, Chad and five other states: Angola, Burundi, DRC, Rwanda as well as Sao Tome and Principe.

Its economic integration actions are geared towards promoting peace and security, physical, economic and trade integration as well as environmental protection, especially through:

- ④ The elimination between Member States, of custom duties and all other charges of equivalent effect to the import and export of goods;
- ④ The abolition between Member States, of quantitative restrictions and other hindrances to trade;
- ④ The institution and maintenance of a common foreign customs rate; the institution of a trade policy for third-party States;
- ④ The progressive removal between Member States, of obstacles to the free movement of persons, goods, services, capital and the right of establishment;
- ④ The harmonisation of national policies for the promotion of community activities, especially in the areas of industry, transport and communication, power, agriculture, natural resources, trade, currency and finances, human resources, tourism, education and culture, science and technology;
- ④ The creation of a co-operation and development Fund ;
- ④ The fast development of Member States without coastline, insular, partly insular, semi-enclaved countries and/or countries belonging to the category of least developed countries

The project aims at:

- ④ Streamlining customs formalities and improving trade facilitation procedures;
- ④ Improving institutional capacities in terms of formulating, implementing and monitoring trade policies;
- ④ Strengthening the collection of statistical data on foreign trade and trade in services.

As part of these objectives, the actions of this project help to:

- ④ Prepare a study on the implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement,
- ④ Organise a national workshop to share the Study and raise awareness on the Trade Facilitation Agreement and the measures to streamline the procedures and formalities adopted,
- ④ Prepare and train officers of the ministry and trade operators (private sector) on the drafting, implementation and monitoring of trade policies,
- ④ Collect statistical data to facilitate Chad's foreign trade, including in the area of services.

- ④ Any other activity aiming at achieving the community objectives that the Member States could undertake together.

This project which is of benefit to the ECCAS zone is based on three main pillars:

1. Support to the drafting and validation of an action plan for the assistance strategy for trade in central Africa;
2. Support to the implementation process, in Central Africa, of the decisions of the 10th WTO ministerial Conference which held in Nairobi; and
3. The establishment of a mechanism to promote the development of technological capacities, innovation and the competitiveness of central African countries.

The areas of work considered within the framework of this programme shall contribute to:

- ④ The preparation of a detailed action plan of the strategy including the identification of operational priority activities ;
- ④ Training of trainers on the implementation modalities of the strategy detailed action plan;
- ④ The preparation of the Post-Nairobi road map and activities at the national level;
- ④ The completion of a study on services trade, which takes into account the flexibility granted to LDC under the WTO and which incorporates the opportunities and challenges related to future EPAs;
- ④ The preparation of a Study/Strategy to develop technological capacities and innovation in the region; with special focus on the regional EPA in perspective
- ④ The preparation of a regional road map on innovation, technological capacities and competitiveness
- ④ The organisation of a regional public/private forum to explain the procedures for implementing the strategy and the road map at the national level.

BOOSTING INVESTMENTS FOR ACP INCLUSIVE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Harnessing investment opportunities to empower ACP's as the World's Next Emerging Economy



European Commission

eudevdays.eu

7-8 June 2017

Brussels

Glossary

- ACP** Africa Caribbean and Pacific
- CARIFORUM** Caribbean Forum
- COMESA** Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
- CTA** Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
- DG DEVCO** Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development
- EAC** East African Community
- ECOWAS** Economic Community of West African States
- EDD** European Development Days
- EPA** Economic Partnership Agreement
- EU** European Union
- FTA** Free Trade Area
- ITC** International Trade Centre
- 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
- TBT** Technical Barriers to Trade
- TFTA** Tripartite Free Trade Area
- TRA** Trade-Related Assistance
- TRIPS** Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
- TPP** Trans-Pacific Partnership
- TPF** Trade Policy Framework
- TTIP** Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership
- UNCTAD** United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- UNECA** United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
- WAEMU** West African Economic and Monetary Union
- WCO** World Customs Organisation
- WTO** World Trade Organisation

Upcoming events



JUNE

European Development Days - EDD17
Brussels, 07 June

WTO - Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
Brussels, 13 June

DG TRADE
International forum on women and trade
Brussels, 11 June

TRADECOM II PROGRAMME
BUILDING ACP TRADE CAPACITY
RENFORCER LES CAPACITES COMMERCIALES DES ACP

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