



TradeCom Facility

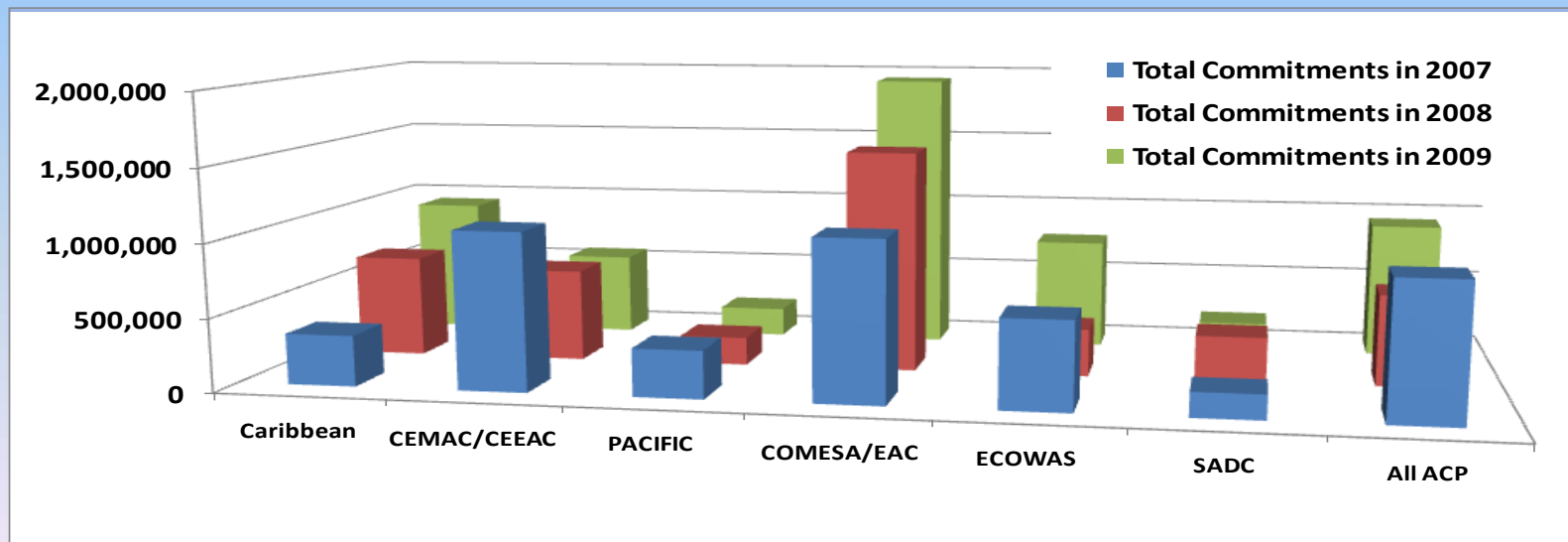


**Presentation by Lingston Cumberbatch
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on the occasion of the
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The TradeCom Facility is an ACP Group Programme of 50 million Euros financed by the European Development Fund.

TradeCom is in its 4th year of Operation, implementing some 130 projects across ACP regions





Project Purpose

« Improve the capacity of ACP countries and regional organisations to design and implement their own trade strategies and effectively participate in international trade negotiations »



The **TradeCom Facility** has 3 main components:

Trade Policy Formulation

Trade Negotiations

**Implementation of Trade Policy and
International Trade Agreements**



In each of these Components, TradeCom fosters a greater involvement of the private sector:

- Encouraging and supporting public-private sector dialogue;
- Building the capacity of the private sector to effectively participate in trade policy formulation, trade negotiations and implementation of trade agreements .



The Eligible Beneficiaries are:

- The regional or inter-regional organisations;
- The Government ministries involved in trade policy and international trade;
- **Representative structures in charge of the dialogue between government and private sector;**
- **Private sector associations, duly representative of the business operators;**
- Civil society, universities, research and training organisations and other non-state actors.



Typical Activities

TRTA and Capacity Building mainly, including:

- Institutional change and development
- Organizational development
- Policy advice
- Training and educational programmes
- Diagnostic impact and sector specific studies
- Research
- Networking and policy dialogue
- Strengthening of the private sector to interact effectively with the public sector
- Legal review and drafting of laws and regulations having an impact on trade and business trading environment



TradeCom Activities in COMESA Region

Institutional capacity building and training

– Train- the- trainers programme – ESAMI

Training programmes were developed to transfer knowledge on trade policy, analysis and negotiations to a group of ESAMI staff who will deliver training programmes in a range of African countries.

– Train-the-Trainers Programme – Uganda Revenue Authority

The objective of the programme was to train customs officers to enable them to perform their duties efficiently and effectively – improve trade facilitation and revenue collection. 16 trainers trained.



Public – Private Sector Dialogue - the case of ZACCI

– Support to the Zambia Association of Chamber of Commerce and Industry on International Trade issues

(1) enhance operational and institutional capacity of ZACCI to understand the Trade and Trade-related Agreements of the World Trade Organization (WTO), the on-going Doha Development Agenda (DDA), Cotonou Agreement, EPAs Negotiations; and

(2) set up a Trade Information Resource Centre supported by a trade data base for use by the members of ZACCI



Support in Trade Negotiations

– Comesa-wide training on scheduling for services

The project has 2 components, namely (1) preparation of a generic training manual on drafting services schedules of commitments ; (2) the implementation of national training seminars on drafting services schedules of commitments. Training courses took place between February and May 2009 in 13 ESA member states In total, over 500 people were trained from the public and private sectors.

The need for a greater involvement of the operators was felt during the training seminars.



Implementation of International Trade Agreements

- Drafting of IP Legislation for Uganda, Zambia
- Review of trade law in Seychelles and Malawi

International experts working in these countries to assist them comply with their international commitments and also to create an enabling business environment.

TradeCom in other ACP regions

- **Fair Trade Cotton in West Africa**
- **Building the capacity of the Belize Bureau of Standards**
- **Agricultural diversification in Guyana**
- **Traditional Knowledge in the Pacific**

Potential areas for support

- **Strengthening private sector involvement in trade policy**
- **Fair trade initiatives**
- **Market analysis and development (particularly access to EU market for COMESA states)**



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