

TRADECOM II NEWS

INFORMATION BULLETIN OF TRADECOM II PROGRAMME

PAGE 2

ACP GROUP IN GENEVA

SUPPORT TO THE ACP GROUP IN GENEVA TO STRENGTHEN THE GROUP'S PARTICIPATION IN THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS UNDER THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO)

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME'S ACTIVITIES

PAGE 2

ZAMBIA

LEGISLATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING IN ZAMBIA
KICK-OFF MEETING

PAGE 5

CARIFORUM EPA

SUPPORT TO ENHANCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CARIFORUM-EU EPA
IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME'S ACTIVITIES

PAGE 3



PAGE 5

PACP 4

SUPPORT TO SELECTED PACPS TO STRENGTHEN TRADE FACILITATION AND PRIVATE SECTOR COMPETITIVENESS

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME'S ACTIVITIES

PAGE 6

PIF+NIUE

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

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME'S ACTIVITIES





ACP GROUP IN GENEVA

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IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME'S ACTIVITIES

The project was officially launched on March 20, 2017 at the WTO Secretariat in Geneva, by the Secretary General of the ACP Group, H.E. **Dr. Patrick I. Gomes**, the ACP Assistant Secretary General for Sustainable Economic Development and Trade, **Mr Viwanou Gnassounou**, and **H.E. Deep Ford** of Guyana, ACP Group coordinator in Geneva.

Since the project start, several technical level meetings were held, supported by country mission advisors. These meetings focused mainly on MC 11 preparations, in particular on the following issues:

-  Fisheries
-  Agriculture
-  SDT
-  Services.

Additionally, background briefings and presentations on key issues were provided to the new Coordinator (Guyana). Support was also provided to Focal points on fisheries in the WTO negotiating group.

The TAT was also provided on revised papers for ACP submission on Fisheries and Agriculture domestic supports. Finally, three briefing papers on negotiations were prepared.

By mid-September, the TAT will deliver the full studies on: Impact of trade distorting support study, alternative approaches to developing a permanent solution on public stockpiling for Food Security purposes; on services, domestic regulations and on fisheries legal regimes impacts on ACP States. The composite negotiating position paper on ACP positions in the key areas of the trade negotiations, will be finalised by the end of October, as agreed with the ACP Group.

ZAMBIA

LEGISLATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING IN ZAMBIA

KICK-OFF MEETING

This project has been awarded to Imani's Development and the contract was signed at the end of June 2017.

The inception meeting took place on July 20, 2017 at the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry (MCTI). The meeting was attended by the Director of Foreign Trade, **Ms. Lillian Bwalya**, and other MCTI staff, the EU Delegation, and the technical assistance team (TAT) - **Mr. Gustav Brink** (KE1 and Team Leader), **Mr. Mark Pearson** (KE2 and Imani's representative) and **Mr. Isaac Njoroge** (KE3).

During the meeting, the parties discussed the Terms of Reference and the scope of the Programme, including its key activities and the timeline for implementation.

The project is structured on three components:

1. Strengthen legal and institutional framework related to trade remedies in Zambia;
2. Strengthen institutional capacity in trade negotiations and implementation – focus on WTO and i-EPA implementation as well as regional trade negotiations developed and shared with the national authorities;
3. Develop a strategy for the diversification of the mining sector and the export base – focus on new fields like gold and gemstones.

The beneficiary underlined that the trade remedies component is a priority issue and the Ministry would appreciate this being addressed as soon as possible. Further, the trade remedies component should also address infant industries regulations and legislation as the two were interlinked. Component 2 is dedicated to building institutional capacity in trade negotiations for the MCTI and the concerned stakeholders in Zambia to strengthen the country's participation and positioning in both regional and multilateral trade negotiations. With respect to the strategy for the diversification of the mining sector, it was agreed that the focus should be on Emeralds and Gold. The Ministry of Mines had already done a scoping study in the area and its results should be taken into account.

Following the meeting, the TAT started the desk research on existing legislation and trade statistics to address the first component.

TANZANIA REPOA-MTIM

SUPPORT TO REPOA AND ZANZIBAR MINISTRY OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND MARKETING TO INCREASE THE COMPETITIVENESS OF PRIMARY PRODUCERS AND DIVERSIFY THE EXPORT BASE IN LIGHT OF THE TRADING OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE EU

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME'S ACTIVITIES

The third month of the programme implementation phase focused on four major activities and associated deliverables:

FINALISING A GUIDE ON MANAGING PRODUCT QUALITY IN THE ZANZIBAR/PEMBA EXPORT CORRIDOR

Following extensive consultations with the Zanzibar Ministry of Trade, Industry and Marketing (ZMTIM) and its Planning, Policy and Research Department as well as other stakeholders, a final draft of the Guide was presented at a dissemination workshop bringing together Zanzibar's Trade Support Institutions (TSIs). The Guide provides a thorough assessment of Zanzibar's product quality environment, identifies the shortcomings, and offers policy recommendations. The TSIs, with enhanced coordination and quality management improvements as recommended in the Guide, will be able to support farmers, producer associations and exporter organisations to overcome trading bottlenecks, gain greater access to and enter new markets, particularly those in the European Union (EU).



ORGANISING A DISSEMINATION WORKSHOP IN ZANZIBAR TO PRESENT THE GUIDE AND SEEK FEEDBACK FROM THE PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS

The event was held on 20th July in Zanzibar. While Key Expert 3 presented the Guide and delivered several presentations, the Director of ZMTIM Department of Industry opened the workshop and the Director of the Planning, Policy and Research Department chaired, moderated the session and closed the event. The workshop was attended by a number of Zanzibar's TSIs and covered by the local media.

DEVELOPING POLICY BRIEFS ON SEAWEED AND SPICES VALUE CHAINS

The policy briefs were drafted in close collaboration with REPOA's research staff, based on the data collected from the field visit to the Zanzibar/Pemba Export Corridor. Both briefs focus on the obstacles to competitiveness and diversification along the two selected crops value chains. The drafts were presented at one of the brown bag seminars organised at REPOA as part of the capacity building process. Tanzania's avocado value chain was proposed to be the subject of the third policy brief and it is envisaged to be developed in August.



CLASSIFYING DATA COLLECTED DURING THE FIELD VISITS TO THE ZANZIBAR/PEMBA AND THE NORTHERN EXPORT CORRIDORS, INCLUDING IDENTIFYING DATA GAPS

Further consultations were held in Dar es Salaam in order to validate the data and lay grounds for the technical report that will be developed in advance of the training and policy dialogue workshop. The workshop will be organised together with REPOA.

All activities were implemented by the Technical Assistance Team (TAT) in close collaboration with both REPOA and ZMTIM staff members.



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



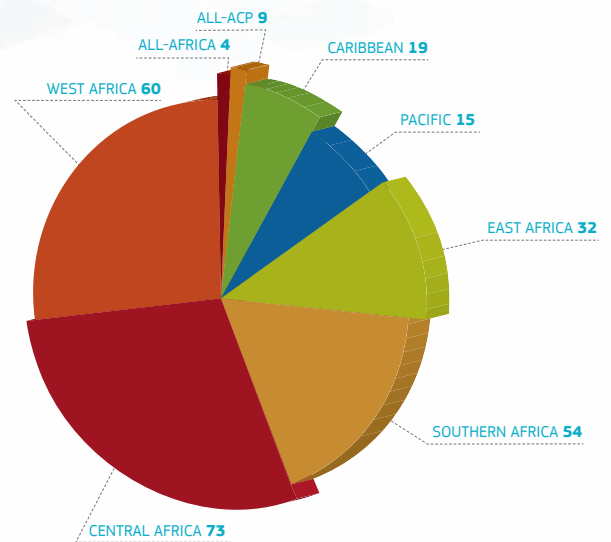
TRADE NEGOTIATION CAPACITIES OF ACP BENEFICIARIES STRENGTHENED & AGREEMENTS IMPLEMENTED



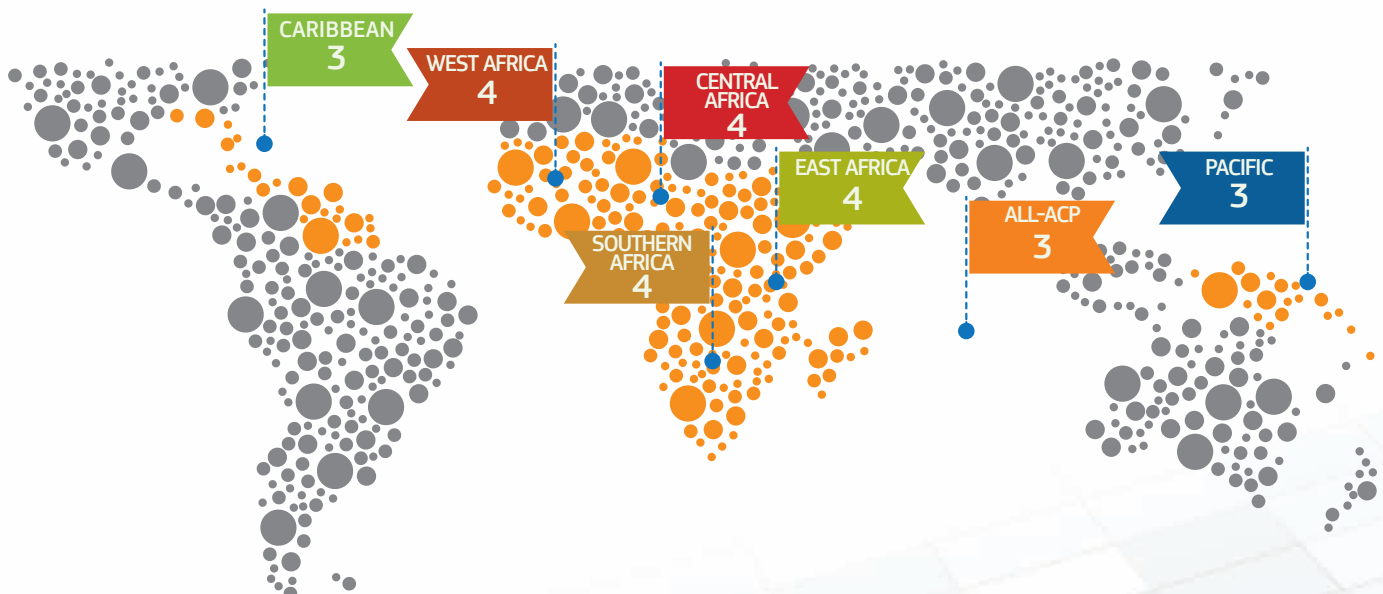
TRADE FACILITATION & COMPETITIVENESS STRENGTHENED



REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF REQUESTS



REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF PROGRAMMES



CARIFORUM EPA

SUPPORT TO ENHANCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CARIFORUM-EU EPA

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME'S ACTIVITIES

In July the programme reached the six-month implementation period. As a result the Contractor achieved, on average, about 65% of the programme's deliverables.

Revise Draft Services Bills: While the TOR indicated four service bills to be updated, in fact the following five model bills have been revised:

1. Immigration (Entry and Temporary Stay) of EU Service Suppliers
2. Telecommunications Regulatory [Commission/Authority]
3. Interconnection and Access to Facilities
4. International Maritime Transport Services
5. Profession Services Regulation

In light of the capacity concerns at the national level it has been essential to give States adequate time to review and comment on the revised instruments.

DRAFT CARICOM MRA & RELATED INSTRUMENTS

The primary goal of this project component is to support the process of finalizing a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) for the movement of professional qualifications of architects. The instrument that is being prepared under this project component is an intra-CARICOM MRA, using the guidelines negotiated by architects in 2014, a draft MRA has been prepared. The revised instruments have been sent to the Beneficiary and are being re-circulated to the States.

PACP 4

SUPPORT TO SELECTED PACPS TO STRENGTHEN TRADE FACILITATION AND PRIVATE SECTOR COMPETITIVENESS

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME'S ACTIVITIES

The programme "Support to selected PACPS to strengthen trade facilitation and private sector competitiveness" has begun with a first mission to Kiribati (17-28 July 2017) and Republic of Marshall Island (31 July 2017 – 11 August 2017). The missions in the Federal State of Micronesia (FSM) and Samoa will be held during the period October/December 2017.

KIRIBATI

The experts recruited for the implementation of this programme's component identified key stakeholder and their roles and responsibilities and their respective services in Kiribati. This exercise allowed the contracted experts to assess the desirability, viability of implementing an electronic Single Window system. The assessment included an analysis of the existing export, import and transit business processes as well as corresponding information flows and the trade documents used. With the information gathered the expert designed a broad vision, strategy, objectives, and goals of the single window, including suggestions on IT software and hardware infrastructure required to support the implementation, deployment and operation of an electronic Single Window system. A draft of the implementation plan including analyses of practicable Single Window business models will be considered for future implementation.

The Consultant has reached out to the countries to ascertain their needs and in July met with the President of the Guyana Institute of Architects (and the Guyana EPA Coordinator) to discuss the way forward.

VALIDATION OF TRADE DATA

This project component assumed an even greater level of urgency because of the need to respond to the draft Factual Presentation prepared by the WTO Secretariat in addition to validating the data required by the WTO to finalize the report. The Consultant has supported this process by participating in both video conferences from Guyana and by providing specific technical assistance in the preparation of the related documents. This approach should clear the way for validated trade data to be submitted to the WTO.

DESIGN EPA MONITORING SYSTEM

The Consultant has developed a draft EPA Monitoring & Evaluation framework which is undergoing review by the Beneficiary and the CARIFORUM States. Two regional consultations with the CARIFORUM States were an integral part of this process. The Directorate is considering scheduling a validation session by video conference with the CARIFORUM States.

The purpose of the support for Kiribati is to assess the viability and management implication of implementing an electronic single window.

REPUBLIC OF MARSHALL ISLAND

The Inception Phase underlined that in RMI there is not a consistent and internationally comparable method of classifying tradeable goods. In the recent trade negotiations including the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the EU and the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER Plus), RMI has made market access offers in its trade negotiations using 'HS tariff lines'. However, the 'HS tariff lines' (the commodity classification method) offered are not formally or otherwise defined and recognized in any relevant laws (e.g. the Customs Act) of RMI. This means that some elements of RMI's trade negotiations and international trade agreements are based on such HS tariff lines developed on premises of limited data and assumptions which may not be tenable from a legal point of view in the context of RMI.

PIF+NIUE

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

IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMME'S ACTIVITIES

Overall the programme implementation has progressed very well so far. Alongside the completion of other outstanding activities in the regional and national components, work began in July on organising the Regional Workshop on Trade Policy Mainstreaming.

At this point, the regional (PIFS-based) component is at an advanced stage, with a review of literature and materials, including a 2016 PIFS Survey on TPF Mainstreaming, leading to the development of a draft Regional Manual on Trade Policy Mainstreaming.

In terms of the work of the project on reforms to Niue's customs legislation, a detailed article-by-article desk review of Niue's recently drafted Customs Bill was completed and a draft was submitted to Niue authorities. A comprehensive programme of consultations has been conducted with customs and other stakeholders playing a role in air freight

and sea freight clearance, focused on increasing awareness of the new legislation and the changes it is likely to bring, as well as identification of capacity building and technical assistance required to comply with new draft Customs Bill by the two sets of stakeholders identified. Work on a report with recommendations for amendment of customs legislation to improve trade facilitation was also submitted to the Beneficiary.

With respect to the national (Niue) component, policy work on the TPF and Implementation Matrix has been completed. Training and capacity building activities have also been completed. Support to conduct a meeting of the NTC has been provided and the NTC meeting was held. In terms of the work on customs, a comprehensive review of Niue's customs legislation has been carried out and submitted to Niue authorities and consultations with stakeholders has been carried out.

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



BUILDING ACP TRADE CAPACITY
RENFORCER LES CAPACITÉS COMMERCIALES DES ACP

Avenue de Tervuren 36, box 35
1040 Brussels - Belgium

☎ 0032 (0)2 739 00 60
✉ contact@tradecom-acpeu.org
🌐 www.tradecom-acpeu.org

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