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VANUATU

TARGETED SUPPORT FOR THE 2017 UPDATE OF THE VANUATU TRADE POLICY FRAMEWORK (TPFU2017)

This support programme is motivated by the fact that as of today, a comprehensive update of the Trade Policy Framework TPF is seen by the Government of Vanuatu (GoV) and its development partners as an essential precondition to keep up the momentum of the whole Trade Mainstreaming Program (TMP) in Vanuatu. The TPF 2012 has become the main national document on trade matters and its implementation is being professionally monitored through a comprehensive Implementation Matrix (TPFIM), a tool which allows the government to pursue a sector-wide approach to trade. At institutional level, the Vanuatu's NTDC is now firmly established as the best-performing governance mechanism in the country, and its recommendations routinely inform decision-making by the GoV and its donor partners.

The TPF Update 2017 (TPFU 2017) will be carried out by adopting DTIS guidelines, as adapted to best fit the national conditions. In line with the thrust of the EIF to serve as leverage for multi-donor trade initiatives, and considering the need to craft a TPFU which reflects the advanced stage of maturity of the Vanuatu's TMP, the GoV is now seeking commitments by multiple donors—the EU (through its TradeCom II), Australia, EIF and the Asian Development Bank for an ambitious exercise which will culminate in a revamped policy roadmap suitable to drive the national trade agenda for the years to come.

By supporting the TPFU 2017 through the provision of experts and adequate visibility, this support programme will also provide a crucial contribution towards the strengthening of the EU's Sectoral Policy for Vanuatu. More generally, by keeping up the momentum of the Vanuatu's TMP, the programme will play a pivotal role in driving progressive policy reforms, ensuring increased inflows of Aid-for-Trade, and ultimately enhancing the role of trade as the key engine of sustainable development in Vanuatu.

TPFU 2017 will see the concerted effort of the government and its partners to deliver a high-quality product that can drive the country's trade policy. The technical support will entail updating six (6) Chapters of the Vanuatu Trade Policy Framework:

- Ch. 2) The macroeconomic environment
- Ch. 3) Trade composition and trends
- Ch. 4) External trade policies and trade agreements
- Ch. 6) Trade Facilitation and related infrastructure
- Ch. 11) Agriculture
- Ch. 12) Agro-processing & other manufacturing.

Implementation of TPFU 2017 started in July 2018 and is expected to be completed in march 2019.

GUINEA

SUPPORT FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL AND TECHNICAL CAPACITIES IN THE FORMULATION, IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF GUINEA'S TRADE POLICIES

For its economic development, the Republic of Guinea is pursuing the implementation of reforms undertaken under the various structural adjustment programmes. Guinea is full of enormous potentials in the areas of agriculture, mining, fishing and energy. To this end, in its third Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP III), is centred around three main thrusts: improve governance; stimulate growth and diversification of the economy and strengthen the human capital, special emphasis has been laid on trade as a guarantee for the improvement of the living conditions of the people, the maintenance of social peace and political stability as a vehicle of growth.

This programme results from five complaints and is based on three aesthetic components: (1) developing strategies and strengthening export support services; (2) building the capacity of stakeholders in negotiating and monitoring trade agreements; (3) setting up operational tools for the management of non-state commercial stakeholders.

The objective of the first component is to assist Guinea in developing strategies for the promotion of its export products. This is about developing a comprehensive national export promotion strategy; and two sectoral strategies related to the following products/sectors: coffee and shea butter. Training for AGUIPEX staff will also be conducted and will include market access, marketing, rules of origin, export subsidy opportunities for agricultural and industrial products, among others.

- The second component addresses capacity building in the area of trade negotiations and the implementation of agreements. In this context, an action plan and training, aimed at agreements that concern the country (WTO, EPA, TEC, SLEC, ZLEC), will be implemented.
- The third component addresses the private sector, especially women traders. The objective is to help Guinea strengthen the commercial capacities of non-state stakeholders by promoting the establishment of accounting and management procedures for SMEs, and by professionalizing informal trade activities, particularly by women; enacting a consumer protection manual against commercial practices and products dangerous to health.

The implementation of this programme started in August 2018 for a period of 5 months. The major implementing partner is the Ministry of Commerce.



ZIMBABWE

TARGETED SUPPORT FOR STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY AND COMPETITIVENESS OF SMALL SCALE HORTICULTURE FARMERS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF NICHE EXPORT PRODUCTS UNDER THE EPA IN ZIMBABWE

The Zimbabwe's economy faces several constraints affecting export performance: low productivity and product quality, high regulatory costs, high trade costs and delays at borders. Nevertheless, the Country is experiencing renewed hope and confidence that would need to be supported by going back to basics to restore business confidence and to foster discipline within the national economy, and to adopt measures that gradually position the country as 'open for business'.

To enhance its international competitiveness, Zimbabwe is implementing major reforms targeted at Ease of Doing Business.

The Ministry of Industry and Commerce, ZimTrade together with the Office of the President and Cabinet embarked on a programme under the Rapid Results Initiative (RRI) made up of two thematic committees focusing on Export Regulations, Procedures and Permits and enhancing the Export Capacity with twin goals to reduce costs of doing export business by 50% and increase value-added exports by 5%. The focus is on reviewing export laws, regulations, licences, permits, processes and fees affecting all exports except the mining sector, maize and tobacco.

At the heart of Zimbabwe's new trade and industrial policy thrust is enhancing export competitiveness and diversification of the economy, the private sector in particular the SMEs.

Zimbabwe concluded and is implementing an Interim Economic Partnership Agreement (i-EPA) with the European Union (EU) under the Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) configuration.

Under the interim EPA, Zimbabwe has secured full duty-free quota-free market access for its exports into the EU market and, in turn, it is gradually opening 80% of its market to EU imports.

In particular, Zimbabwe's horticulture sector, underpinned by exports can easily become a major source of foreign currency and as the country's export development and promotion body, ZimTrade intends to improve the sector's export competitiveness through farmer capacity building programmes.

In the context of boosting the capacity of the horticulture farmers/ private sector to export, sustain the competitiveness gained and enhance access into the EU and other markets, the purpose of the TCII support programme to Zimbabwe is three-fold:

- First, to develop a stakeholder-led and "good practice" value chain compliance system for horticulture exports;
- § Second, to improve the capacity of the beneficiaries to access value chain compliance and export requirements that enhance and sustain access to the EU and other export markets including the CFTA;
- Third, to mainstream the recognized export requirements and "good practice" both in the public and private sectors into the stakeholder-led value chain compliance system.

Implementation of this programme is expected to be launched early November 2018 for the duration of one year. Zimtrade is the main agency coordinating the participation of a wide range of beneficiaries in the horticulture and services sector.





MOZAMBIQUE

TARGETED ASSISTANCE FOR EPA IMPLEMENTATION THROUGH SPS CONFORMITY FOR FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE, AND ENHANCED EXPORT CAPACITY OF FISHERIES IN MOZAMBIQUE

In recent years Mozambican aquaculture has gained increased presence with the current potential annual production. Nevertheless, the exploitation of aquaculture potential in Mozambique is about 1%.

The fisheries and aquaculture sector is also hampered by the presence of certain fish diseases, crustacean diseases and parasites that require special attention. The National Institute for Fish Inspection (NIFP) under the Ministry of Fisheries is responsible for applying, controlling, verifying, supervising, disseminating and enforcing compliance with the provisions of general regulations for hygiene control on foodstuffs of aquatic origin. The fish inspection laboratories have the fundamental role of supporting the NIFP in their regular fish inspection programme as well as to provide analytical services to the industry in their in-house quality system.

With respect to standards, currently there are some Mozambican fish and fishery standards that have been approved. There are also eleven fishery standards that have been harmonized within the SADC countries that need to be adopted in the country. However, most of the standards are unknown to the fishery industry operators due to lack of promotion as well as limited budget for translation into Portuguese. A further complication is the limited capacity to obtain fish product certification due to lack of certification experience.

Under the SADC-EU EPA, Mozambique is able to have full duty-free and quota-free access to the EU market for its fisheries exports. Many other markets are available for fisheries imports as a result of diminishing fisheries production worldwide. However, Mozambique's fisheries industry faces several challenges which need to be addressed to strengthen the economy and its export performance.

These challenges include strengthening regional integration and linkages to increase utilization of the inherent high market access. Despite the high market access available in the regional and international markets, the utilization is relatively poor. This is partially due to weak market

intelligence and in-market support for these markets. Lack of market information and market surveys makes it challenging for exporters to increase penetration in these markets.

Aimed at contributing to improving the macroeconomic performance of Mozambique through effective integration in its regional and international export markets, this support programme is divided in three components.

- The first component is oriented at improving the expansion and diversification of Mozambique's fish and aquaculture production and export potential through, inter alia, enhancing the regulatory and institutional capacity to meet international and regional standards for fisheries products.
- Within the second component the programme will develop a national standardisation strategy for the fisheries sector, thus enhancing the capacity to manage certification and standardization processes.
- The third component will support the implementation of the SADC-EU EPA in Mozambique with regard to the fisheries sector by strengthening the capacity to implement trade in fisheries within the framework of the SADC-EU EPA and the CFTA and developing an enhanced trade facilitation framework for fisheries and aquaculture.
- It is envisaged that implementation of this support programme will be launched by the end of November 2018 for the duration of one year. The main implementation partners are The Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA), and the National Biosecurity Agency (NBA)

It is envisaged that implementation of this support programme will be launched by the end of November 2018 for the duration of one year. The main implementing partners are the Ministry of Sea, Inland Water and Fisheries - National Institute for Fish Inspection, the Ministry of Industry and Trade - National Institute for Standards and Quality and Institute for Promotion of Small and Medium Enterprises and the business community in the fisheries sector.





GABON

SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF GABON'S TRADE POLICIES AND RULES

Gabon is a country well on the track of a development based on three thrusts: Green Gabon, Industrial Gabon and Services Gabon. The challenge now facing Gabon is precisely to emerge from its heavy dependence on oil and other raw materials, by changing its economic structure towards high value-added industries.

- The green Gabon pillar will be based on the development of "green oil" that constitutes the amazing ecosystem of Gabon (22 million hectares of forest, farmland, 800 km of coastline).
- The industrial Gabon pillar will rely on the local processing of raw materials, like the production of ferromanganese. In the long-term, Gabon is set to become a metallurgical hub, with a dynamic fabric of SMEs exporting iron products throughout the subregion and beyond.
- The Gabon country of value-added services pillar is based on human resource development, making Gabon a regional reference in financial services, new information technologies, green economy services trades or even some specialized areas of higher education or health.

The areas of intervention considered in this TradeCom II initiative are four:

- The first component will update the Commercial Code of Gabon taking into account the existing texts and integrating new regulations and draft a document containing concrete proposals for the establishment of a body devoted to trade administration.
- Onder the second component, a Trade Policy Paper for Gabon will be prepared.
- The third component focuses on capacity building in trade statistics through the establishment of a statistical unit is set up within the Directorate General of Trade.
- The design of strategies for the promotion of foreign trade and investment will be the objective of the fourth component of the Programme.

The implementation of this support programme will be launched by the end of November 2018 for a period of one year. The major implementing partner is the Ministry of Commerce.

SEYCHELLES

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY TO IMPROVE TRADE-RELATED SPS CONFORMITY AND CAPACITY BUILDING FOR COMPETITIVE FISHERIES EXPORT IN SEYCHELLES

This programme is a bundle of two requests received from Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA) and the National Biosecurity Agency (NBA) and it is being implemented under the third Pillar of the Programme: Trade Facilitation and strengthening competitiveness.

The economy of Seychelles relies mostly on tourism and exports of tuna, and fish in general. Economic growth has been led by the tourism sector and sustainable tourism, for which Sevchelles is one of the world most perfoming country. However, because of its small size and insular nature, the country's economy is extremely vulnerable to external shocks. Any decline in tourism quickly translates into a fall in GDP, a decline in foreign exchange receipts, and budgetary difficulties. Furthermore, recent changes in the financial and environmental climate are having adverse effects on the fisheries sector.

For this reason, mariculture is considered as priority by Seychelles Fishery Authority (SFA) and will have an important role to play in the coming years to generate growth in the fisheries sector and also as an active contributor to the Blue Economy initiative.

A new Strategic Plan for the Seychelles Fishing Authority has been formulated in anticipation of the Authority getting its full administrative and financial autonomy in January 2019. The plan is aimed at effectively using the comparative advantage that Seychelles has in the quality of its fish, and trade in a sustainable and innovative manner to further develop its competitive advantage and, hence, its chances to compete in international markets.

The purposes of this TradeCom II initiative are oriented at:

- Providing targeted support for quality development and export competitiveness in the Seychelles fisheries sector
- The strengthening the capacity to understand and meet the requirements of main fish markets importation standards.
- huilding Institutional and management capacity of senior officials to meet SPS compliance obligations under the WTO Agreement and international standards.

It is envisaged that implementation of this support programme will be launched by the end of November 2018 for the duration of one year. The main implementating partners are The Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA), and the National Biosecurity Agency (NBA) and the business community in the fisheries sector.



BOTSWANA

TRANSFORMATION OF THE BOTSWANA MEAT COMMISSION INTO A FARMER-OWNED ENTERPRISE

The Botswana Meat Commission (BMC) is a Parastatal and was established in 1965 to promote the development of the country's livestock industry as well as marketing of the country's beef and related products globally. Its headquarters is in Lobatse. The premises are an integrated complex housing an abattoir, cannery and by-products plant as well as a tannery. Besides owning three abattoirs in Botswana, BMC has cold storage facilities in South Africa with marketing subsidiaries in the United Kingdom, Germany, Holland and South Africa.

BMC currently sells its products both locally and internationally with the ability to reach even more markets regionally and beyond taking advantage of the regional trade agreements in particular the SADC-EU EPA, the TFTA, and the Continental Free Trade Agreement (CFTA). The company's quality standards span across many international bodies and is considered among the best five. Botswana beef one of the most naturally grazed.

In March 2018, a cabinet decision was made which concluded that BMC should be converted into a limited by Liability company with mixed shareholding between the farmers, Botswana Government and private sector and be commercialized to achieve operational efficiencies with an appropriate mix of ownership between farmers, legal entities and government. This will require remodeling the business operations of Lobatse and Francistown abattoirs in two to three years.

In the context of boosting the beef value chain in Botswana and the profitable participation of farmers, the purpose of the support project is two-fold:

- Explore the use of a "good practice case" to correspondingly transform the Botswana Meat Commission;
- Povelop a framework for transforming the Botswana Meat Commission into a Farmer-Owned Beef Abattoir and Marketing Company.

The implementation of this support project started in midseptember 2018 for a period of six months. The key partner is the Botswana National Beef Producers' Union (BNBPU).







NAMIBIA

DEVELOPING THE NATIONAL STANDARDISATION STRATEGY FOR NAMIBIA

Namibia's major export markets are South Africa and the European Union. The need to diversify its export markets in order to reduce its dependency on traditional markets and its reliance on primary commodities and products has been identified by the Vision 2030. Technical assistance targeted at export promotion activities, geared towards market and product research as well as engagement of the private sector would complement existing national efforts. The World Trade Review has also highlighted that assistance is needed to improve the quality of Namibian products, so, encouragement in participation in certification and accreditation is of importance and relevance.

The NSI (The Namibian Standards Institution) was established as the national standards body of Namibia responsible for the promotion of standardization and quality assurance in the industry, commerce and the public sector in Namibia, with the aim of improving product quality, industrial efficiency and productivity and promoting trade so as to achieve optimum benefit for the people of Namibia. I particular, the NSI is responsible for enhancing product quality, industrial efficiency and productivity in Namibia by:

- Promoting the use of standards and quality assurance and control in industry, commerce and public sector;
- Providing conformity assessment services;
- Certification of systems, product and materials; and
- Metrology.

In the context of boosting the capacity of the NSI the purpose of this TradeCom II support programme is aimed at

- Property Developing a comprehensive national standardisation strategy that supports national economic policies;
- Improving Namibia's competitiveness by supporting micro, small and medium enterprises;
- Improving the understanding of the relationship between standards and technical regulations;
- Conducting a desk study on standardisation needs of the country and develop a fit-for-purpose national quality infrastructure:
- Conducting engagement sessions with the business community nationwide;
- developing of an awareness campaign to the final National Standardisation Strategy.

Implementation of this support project is planned to start in October 2018 for a period of six months.



DJIBOUTI

SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WTO TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT

In order to take full advantage of international mechanisms to develop its economy, Djibouti approved the ratification of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA). Entered into force in February 2017, it is an international mechanism that provides for the simplification and harmonization of international trade procedures, as well as the activity, practices and formalities used to collect, report and disseminate information related to export and import.

This initiative of the TradeCom II Programme aims to:

- number of ensure appropriate ownership and management of EPA and adaptation of the regulatory framework and legislation to the requirements of EPA.
- A Have a detailed work plan on the implementation of the TFA with its timetable of activities and necessary budget over a period of 5 years.
- Have a national platform for information exchange.

In particular, the activities envisaged in the project are geared towards:

- identifying Djibouti's trade facilitation commitments;
- notifying the WTO the categorisations resulting from the EPA;
- Technical Work Plan for the Committee on Trade Facilitation:
- Consultations between stakeholders.

The implementation of this support project is planned to start in October 2018 for a period of six months.





BOTSWANA

STRENGTHENING OF BOTSWANA'S CAPACITY FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

Botswana, a landlocked country in Southern Africa, is a middle-income country with a population of just over 2 million people. Botswana transformed from one of the poorest countries at independence in 1966 and rapidly became one of the world's development success stories. Significant mineral (diamond) wealth, good governance, prudent economic management and a relatively small population has made Botswana an upper middle-income country. Botswana is now ranked 63rd by the World Economic Forum in global competitiveness. This reflects an upward trend for Botswana since 2012, when it was ranked 80 in the world.

Botswana has focused on the development of policies for the achievement of global competitiveness and economic diversification. Pursuing those objectives, the Government adopted a series of policies and regulations including the Private Sector Development Strategy Programme and the Industrial Development Policy, intended to drive the country through economic diversification, export growth and employment generation.

The Botswana Trade Commission (BOTC) was set up by parliament in 2013 as a secretariat body responsible for tariff investigations as well as trade remedies. The commission is also expected to regulate imports and exports to and from the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) and determine eligibility for infant industry protection.

The challenge now is for the Commission to build capacity for the staff in order for them to carry out its mandate. However, with the support of the SADC Trade Related Facility (TRF), the Commission will undertake a number of activities to enhance its capacity.

In this sense, this TradeCom II initiative is aimed at:

- The Enhancing BOTC's trade administrative capacity through the implementation of commitments made under the regional trade agreements: SADC Trade Protocol, SADC-EU EPA, CFTA.
- Improving the Commission's analytical, investigative and policy formulation skills strengthening the technical capabilities for managing international trade and unfair trade practices.

Implementation of this support project is planned to start in October 2018 for a period of six months.

KENYA

SUPPORT FOR THE OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK AND CAPACITY BUILDING FOR THE KENYA TRADE REMEDIES AGENCY

Kenya is a founder member of the WTO and has been pursuing the policy of trade liberalisation for over two decades. Despite opening the economy to fierce competition from foreign players, there has not been any domestic effort to develop policies, regulations and laws to address unfair trade practices and import surges that injure or threaten to injure domestic industries.

In June 2017, Parliament enacted the Trade Remedies Act, in the absence of which Kenya was unable to take remedial action against unfair trade practices. According with the Trade Remedies Act, a Trade Remedies Agency has been established to investigate cases of dumping and improper subsidisation of imported goods, and to impose remedies in the form of anti-dumping and countervailing duties to protect local producers/interests. The Act permits the application of a tariff or quota regime to allow a particular local industry to become competitive.

The objective of the TradeCom II initiative therefore is to assist Kenya in conducting sector studies of the manufacturing industry to inform interventions that will be undertaken by the Kenya Trade Remedies Agency (KETRA).

In particular, the Programme will:

- prepare of an operational framework for the investigating authority:
- nder develop tools for investigation of unfair trade practices; (Preparation of standard documentation required by the investigating authority to carry out safeguards, antidumping and anti-subsidy investigations);
- delivery of trainings and workshops in procedural and substantive aspects of trade defence instruments (Capacity and Institution building); and
- sensitize the private sector and the public about unfair trade practices and available defence instruments (organising specific workshops/ seminars on trade defence instruments for private stakeholders).

Implementation of this support project is planned to start in October 2018 for a period of six months.



CAMEROON

DEVELOPMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY OF THE CAMEROON EPA

This initiative of the TradeCom II Programme is designed to give Cameroon the opportunity to take full advantage of the Cameroon-European Union EPA and, with a view to its efficient and effective operational implementation, is geared towards developing a strategy with an operational action plan that aims to enable more targeted use of the instruments of various kinds provided for in the Agreement and to achieve the overall goal of leveraging it both commercially, growth and development.

More specifically, the project aims to:

- If develop the national implementation strategy for the Cameroon-European Union EPA and its quantified implementation action plan;
- nhance the capacities of EPA actors and beneficiaries (notably the Government of Cameroon, the private sector, civil society) as well as train the other beneficiaries of the EPA on the benefits of the EPA.

The envisaged Strategic Study will in particular make it possible to prioritize the support needs that the EU proposes to make available to Cameroon within the framework of the EPA. Designed as a framework for programmatic management and operationalization, the Strategic Study will set the objectives, the strategic thrusts and the operational interventions that result from them. It also defines coordination and monitoring-evaluation mechanisms.

Ultimately, the development of a Cameroon EPA Implementation Strategy, in the form of a Comprehensive Study, is a priority need of the Government, in order to maximize the benefits of the Agreement.

The implementation of this support project is planned to start in October 2018 for a period of six months.

ACP Africa Caribbean and Pacific

CARIFORUM Caribbean Forum

Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa COMESA

CTA Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation

DG DEVCO Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development

East African Community

Economic Community of West African States **ECOWAS**

EDD European Development Days **EPA** Economic Partnership Agreement

EU European Union

FTA Free Trade Area

International Trade Centre ITC **LDC** Least Developed Countries

NAMA Non-Agricultural Market Access

NTB Non-Tariff barriers

National Trade Policy Framework NTPF

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

Regional Trade Agreement

SADC Southern African Development Community

SDG Sustainable development goals SME Small and Medium Enterprises Sanitary and Phytosanitary

Technical Barriers to Trade TBT **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

Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership TTIP UNCTAD United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa UNECA **WAEMU** West African Economic and Monetary Union

WCO World Customs Organisation **WTO** World Trade Organisation

TRADEC MIDPROGRAMME

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