

TRADECOM II | BUILDING ACP TRADE CAPACITY

KNOWLEDGE SHARING ON TRADE AND INVESTMENT
"GOOD PRACTICES"
20-21 February 2018 - Brussels, Belgium

Regulatory Framework for EPA Implementation

Alexis Downes - Amsterdam
Director
CARIFORUM - EU EPA Implementation Unit

Background

- The CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement, signed in 2008, is yet to enter into force but is being provisionally applied since 29 December 2008.
- The CF-EU EPA is comprehensive agreement encompassing not just a Trade in Goods regime, but also Trade in Services, Trade-related Issues and Development Cooperation.
- Implementation of the CF-EU EPA remains a top priority. However, CARIFORUM States face a number of obstacles, namely, institutional and operational capacity constraints and lack of financial and human resources to accommodate the increased demands related to the implementation of the Agreement.
- A key component to ensuring the success of the EPA is the adoption of appropriate measures to ensure that obligations are honoured and that the States are better positioned to take advantage of the Agreement. Attention to the legal and regulatory framework is therefore pivotal to the strengthening of the enabling environment.

Enhance the implementation of the CARIFORUM-EU - EPA

PROJECT PURPOSE

To enhance the capacity of CARIFORUM States to implement the CF-EU EPA

SPECIFIC PURPOSE 1

To foster an enabling environment for economic growth through the enhancement of the legal and regulatory framework of CARIFORUM States

SPECIFIC PURPOSE 2

To strengthen capacity to monitor effective implementation of the CF-EU EPA

Beneficial integration of the CARIFORUM States into the world economy and, thereby, contribute to sustainable economic development and poverty reduction in these States

Project Results

EXPECTED RESULT 1

Enhanced legal and regulatory environment in CARIFORUM States

EXPECTED RESULT 2

CF-EU EPA is updated to HS 2017

EXPECTED RESULT 3

Trade Data for Submission to WTO Transparency Mechanism is validated

Foster Enabling Legal Environment

Project Results

EXPECTED RESULT 4

Improved monitoring of the implementation of the CF-EU EPA

EXPECTED RESULT 5

Enhanced knowledge sharing on CF-EU EPA opportunities and benefits

Strengthen Capacity to Monitor Effective Implementation of CF-EU EPA

Achievements

RESULT 1 FOSTER ENABLING LEGAL ENVIRONMENT

ENHANCED LEGAL AND REGULATORY
ENVIRONMENT IN CARIFORUM
STATES

- Five (5) revised Model Bills for the services sector
- Guides to Enactment to aid transposition into national law
- A Draft CARIFORUM MRA for Architecture services
- Model CARIFORUM MRA Bill
- Capacity in transposing Model Bills into national law built

RESULT 2 FOSTER ENABLING LEGAL ENVIRONMENT

TRADE DATA FOR SUBMISSION TO
WTO TRANSPARENCY MECHANISM IS
VALIDATED

- Trade data validated and submitted to the WTO for the factual presentation of the CF-EU EPA
- Concrete positions elaborated on the WTO Draft CF-EU FP Report

RESULT 3 FOSTER ENABLING LEGAL ENVIRONMENT

EPA IS UPDATED TO HS 2017

- Draft Transposition of EPA Tariff Schedule and Rules of Origin

RESULT 4 STRENGTHEN CAPACITY OF EPA IMPLEMENTATION UNIT

IMPROVED MONITORING OF
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
CARIFORUM-EU EPA

- Draft Framework of a CF-EU Monitoring System
- EPA Implementation Roadmap Design – Best Practices Guide

RESULT 5 STRENGTHEN CAPACITY OF EPA IMPLEMENTATION UNIT

ENHANCED KNOWLEDGE-SHARING
ON THE OPPORTUNITIES AND OF THE
CF-EU EPA

- Some public education material prepared

Good Practices

- 1 High level approval of the interventions**
- 2 Adherence to CARIFORUM's consultative process**
- 3 Administrative and Technical Backstopping by CF-EU EPA Unit**
- 4 Provision of additional/ complementary resources to stabilise project activities**

Main limitations of TA support

1 Project Scope

2 Capacity constraints at the national level

3 Delays caused rushed and less effective implementation

4 Project Resources

Way forward

OPTIONS	PROS	CONS	COMMENTS
COMPLETION OF ALL OUTSTANDING COMPONENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work to build on Completing what was started 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broad scope Capacity constraints Resources constraints 	Technically convincing but difficult to support
COMPLETION OF SELECT COMPONENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likelihood of success Manageable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hanging interventions 	Allows for best technical response to current needs
DO NOTHING			

COMPLETION OF SELECT COMPONENTS IS THE FAVOURED OPTION