

# **Ex-post evaluation of the EPA between the EU and its Member States and the CARIFORUM Member States**

Inception report

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	THE CARIFORUM-EU EPA .....	8
1.1.	Background and context of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA .....	8
1.2.	Main elements of the agreement .....	8
2.	OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE STUDY .....	9
2.1.	Objectives .....	9
2.2.	Scope .....	9
2.2.1.	Geographical scope.....	9
2.2.2.	Time period .....	9
2.2.3.	Tasks.....	9
3.	EVALUATION FRAMEWORK .....	11
3.1.	Intervention logic .....	11
3.2.	Evaluation grid.....	15
4.	RESULTS FROM THE LITERATURE REVIEW .....	19
4.1.	Findings on implementation-.....	19
4.2.	Findings on impact .....	20
4.3.	Findings on methodologies .....	21
5.	METHODOLOGY .....	23
5.1.	Overview.....	23
5.2.	Assessment of the implementation of the agreement .....	23
5.2.1.	Collection and analysis of tariff schedules for all CARIFORUM States .....	23
5.2.2.	Assessment of implementation of other parts of the agreement .....	24
5.3.	Assessment of the impact of the agreement .....	25
5.3.1.	Trends and patterns in CARIFORUM-EU trade and investment.....	25
5.3.2.	Assessment of the economic, social, gender, human rights and environmental impact of the EPA in CARIFORUM States .....	25
5.3.3.	Assessment of the results achieved through development cooperation under the EPA .....	26
5.3.4.	Assessment of the impact of the agreement based on economic modelling .....	27
5.3.5.	Case studies .....	27
6.	CONSULTATION STRATEGY.....	30
6.1.	Stakeholder assessment and identification.....	30
6.2.	Stakeholders Engagement and Consultation Approach .....	31
6.3.	Planning of consultation activities.....	35
7.	WORK PLAN .....	37
7.1.	Planning.....	37
7.2.	Risks: identification and mitigation plan .....	38
	ANNEX A: DESCRIPTION OF THE AGREEMENT .....	40
	ANNEX B: PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX.....	49
	ANNEX C: PROPOSED STRUCTURE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION REPORT .....	60
	ANNEX D: LITERATURE REVIEW TABLE AND EXPANSION .....	62
	ANNEX E DATA AVAILABILITY.....	74
	ANNEX F: INITIAL OVERVIEW OF DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION AND RELATED EVALUATIONS.....	79
	ANNEX G RUNNING STAKEHOLDER LIST AND EVENTS.....	86
	ANNEX H STAKEHOLDER QUESTIONNAIRES .....	100

ANNEX I MEMBER STATE SELECTION .....	114
ANNEX J PLANNING.....	117

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## 1. THE CARIFORUM-EU EPA

### 1.1. Background and context of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA

Relations between the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries are longstanding, dating back to before 1975 and the first Lomé convention. With respect to trade, the EU-ACP agreements have always provided non-reciprocal market access for ACP countries to the EU. This market access to the EU was on more favourable terms than for other, non-ACP third countries. As this is not in line with WTO rules, new, reciprocal trade agreements had to be negotiated, referred to as Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs). These are comprehensive trade arrangements between the European Commission and regional ACP groupings, providing reciprocal market access, as well as containing development provisions. The EPA had the three-pronged purpose of raising the development of their countries, further promoting regional integration and integrating their countries into global markets.

The Caribbean Forum of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (CARIFORUM) was the regional grouping for the EU-Caribbean EPA, and the negotiations for this EPA started in Jamaica, April 2004. The expiration of the World Trade Organization waiver for European Union's unilateral preference was a target deadline for the negotiations, as without the EPA, the CARIFORUM states would by January 2008 have traded with the EU under the Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) regime, or under Most Favoured Nation (MFN). Trading under GSP or at the MFN rate would, for example, subject the region's sugar, bananas and rum to costly EU duties. Negotiations were concluded before that time, as the parties initialled the EPA in Barbados in December 2007. The CARIFORUM-EU EPA was the first EPA to be concluded between the EU and one of the sub-regions of the ACP. The Agreement has been provisionally applied since 29 December 2008. It should be noted that although Haiti was also participating in the negotiations, it is now the only CARIFORUM country which has not ratified the EPA nor started its provisional application to date.<sup>1</sup>

### 1.2. Main elements of the agreement

The EPA provides for an asymmetric and progressive opening of trade in goods and services. It is asymmetric because CARIFORUM goods enter the EU duty and quota free, whilst CARIFORUM States maintain customs duties on sensitive products. It is progressive because CARIFORUM tariff reduction is spread over a 25-year transition period in the interest of insulating regional governments from any sudden loss in fiscal receipts and in protecting domestic producers from having to face immediate competition from EU exports. Some country-specific commitments on trade in services were also set. A number of measures are also taken for trade in services and other trade related areas, as discussed in subsequent chapters.

The stated objectives of the EPAs are (1) the reduction and eventual eradication of poverty; (2) the promotion of regional economic integration and cooperation; (3) the strengthening of the region's integration in the world economy; (4) the improvement of the region's capacities in terms of trade policy and trade-related issues; (5) the establishment and implementation of an effective, predictable and transparent regulatory framework for trade and investment in the region, (6) the improvement of the role of the private-sector; and (7) the reinforcement of the relations between the Parties (the CARIFORUM countries concerned and the EU Member States) on the basis of solidarity and mutual interest.

The European Commission (EC) reiterated several times during the negotiations that the EPA agreement is focused on the development of the CARIFORUM countries, and is based on the two main pillars of regional integration and economic and institutional cooperation.

This is the first comprehensive EPA agreement. It covers Progressive elimination of Customs Duties, Rules of origin, Trade Defence Instruments, Non-tariff measures and technical barriers to trade, Customs and Trade Facilitation, Special treatment for agriculture and fisheries products, Services, Investment by commercial presence and capital movement, Electronic Commerce, Competition, Public Procurement and Protection of Personal Data, Innovation and Intellectual property, Sustainable development and social aspects, Development Cooperation, Dispute Avoidance and Settlement and General Exceptions. In addition, it provides for several joint institutions for the monitoring and management of the agreement. Further details on the context of the Agreement is available in Annex A.

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<sup>1</sup> This includes the CARIFORUM State Cuba, which was not involved in the EPA negotiations as it was not a signatory to the Cotonou agreement.



## 2. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE STUDY

### 2.1. Objectives

The objective of the study is **to determine the extent to which the EPA has been implemented, where the bottlenecks lie and the extent to which the EPA** has contributed efficiently and effectively to reaching the objectives set out in the EPA. The study will therefore provide objective evidence and analysis of the implementation and impact of the EPA.

The study seeks to provide a comprehensive evaluation of the progress thus-far, and allow the Parties to understand the key successes and challenges that need to be addressed.

The results of the study will feed into an in-house ex-post evaluation of the Commission, as well as the second joint periodic review of the EPA in 2020.

### 2.2. Scope

#### 2.2.1. Geographical scope

The evaluation will cover the EPA both from the perspective of the EU and CARIFORUM, with regard to its implementation, functioning, use, knowledge and overall awareness. The evaluation of economic, social and environmental impacts, along with the evaluation of development cooperation efforts will be focussed on the CARIFORUM countries.

#### 2.2.2. Time period

The evaluation will cover the 10-year period since the EPA is provisionally being applied, namely 2008-2018. In 2014, an extensive external monitoring study<sup>2</sup> was conducted on the first five years of the EPA. For topics that were extensively covered in this monitoring study, the focus of this evaluation will be on the last five years (2013-2018), to avoid duplication of efforts.

#### 2.2.3. Tasks

The table below provides an overview of the 17 tasks as outlined in the ToR. The first five tasks have been carried out in the inception phase. The results of these tasks, as well as the approach for the remaining tasks are described in subsequent sections (see last column of Table 1.1).

**Table 1.1 Tasks and report section**

Task	Description	Section of this report
1	<b>Provide a fine-tuned intervention logic</b>	<b>3.1</b>
2	<b>Analyse existing studies and reports</b>	<b>4</b>
3	<b>Develop the evaluation tools and methodology</b>	<b>5</b>
4	<b>Fine-tune the EPA implementation matrix template</b>	<b>5.2</b>
5	<b>Refine and update the detailed work plan for Phases II, III and IV.</b>	<b>7</b>
6	Targeted stakeholder consultations (priority for Phase II)	6.1
7	Implementation matrices for CARIFORUM States and the EU	5.3.3
8	Collection and analysis of tariff schedules for all CARIFORUM States (priority for Phase II)	5.2.1
9	Take into account results/analysis of 12-week online public consultation	6.2
10	Assess the implementation of the EPA, both in the EU and the Caribbean, since 2014 (Implementation Report)	5.2
11	Analyse trends, patterns and effects in CARIFORUM-EU trade and investment relations, since 2008 with a focus on the past 5 years	5.3.1

<sup>2</sup> Monitoring the implementation and results of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA, [http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2014/october/tradoc\\_152824.pdf](http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2014/october/tradoc_152824.pdf).

<b>Task</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Section of this report</b>
12	Qualitative/descriptive assessment of the economic, social, human rights and environmental impact of the EPA in CARIFORUM States	5.3.2
13	Evaluate the results achieved through development cooperation under the EPA	5.3.3
14	Analyse the impact of the EPA on trade performance and other key indicators based on economic modelling	5.3.4
15	Conduct sector case studies	5.3.5
16	Key evaluation questions and conclusions	3
17	Presentation of findings	

### 3. EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

The framework for this evaluation is defined by four elements:

- the scope of the evaluation;
- the definition of the baseline scenario;
- the intervention logic; and
- the evaluation grid.<sup>3</sup>

The scope of the evaluation identifies what is evaluated, over which specific period and for which geographical area. This is based on the ToR of the study and presented in Chapter 1 of this report.

The baseline or counterfactual scenario is the situation if the EPA was not in place. This is important to define as it helps assess the size of the effects (difference between current situation and the hypothetical situation where there would be no EPA). In the context of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA, this is particularly important, as the trade policy in place before the EPA cannot be the counterfactual, since this trade policy is not compatible with WTO rules as described in cChapter 1. Instead, the counterfactual (baseline) scenario is a situation where there is no agreement in place and the general MFN and GSP regimes would apply. As specified in the ToR, the baseline scenario is defined as follows:

- EU exporters export to the CARIFORUM markets under applied MFN tariffs in line with WTO trading rules,
- CARIFORUM's exporters export to the EU under the possible access granted under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), or MFN in case a country would not be eligible for GSP, taking into account any changes in eligibility due to GSP reform and/or changes in the partner country's socio-economic situation.

It should be noted that for the economic modelling (conducted by the Commission), there is a second baseline scenario related to EU market access, assuming a situation in which all EPA commitments have been fully implemented. Previous studies found that the implementation of the EPA is not on track (see Section 4.1 for the literature review on implementation) This scenario can thus be used to show the impact of a full implementation compared to the status-quo.

The intervention logic and evaluation grid have been further developed in the inception phase and are presented in the following two sections.

#### 3.1. Intervention logic

An important element of the evaluation framework is the intervention logic: what were the objectives of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA, and through which channels would the EPA help to achieve these objectives? The intervention logic is also referred to as result chain, as it outlines how the EPA would lead to certain intermediate results, which will lead to subsequent outcomes and ultimately to the achievement of the EPA objectives. This intervention logic is an essential element of the evaluation framework, as the intended outcomes guide the identification of indicators that we can apply to evaluate the EPA (see evaluation framework in next section). The European Commission has developed a preliminary intervention logic for the EPA in the Terms of Reference for this evaluation.

During the inception phase, we have refined this intervention logic, based on an analysis of the agreement, literature review and the information received at the kick-off meeting. Part of this refinement includes the addition of some underlying assumptions in the result chain. For example, for the implementation of the agreement to lead to the use of preferences,<sup>4</sup> the assumption is that companies are aware of the preferences and know how to apply them to the EU (or vice versa), and that there are no remaining barriers that prevent them from exporting.

During the evaluation, we will not only assess whether the expected results have been achieved, but also to what extent the implicit assumptions have held up in practice. While to some extent, this may be possible based on desk review (e.g. evaluations of development co-

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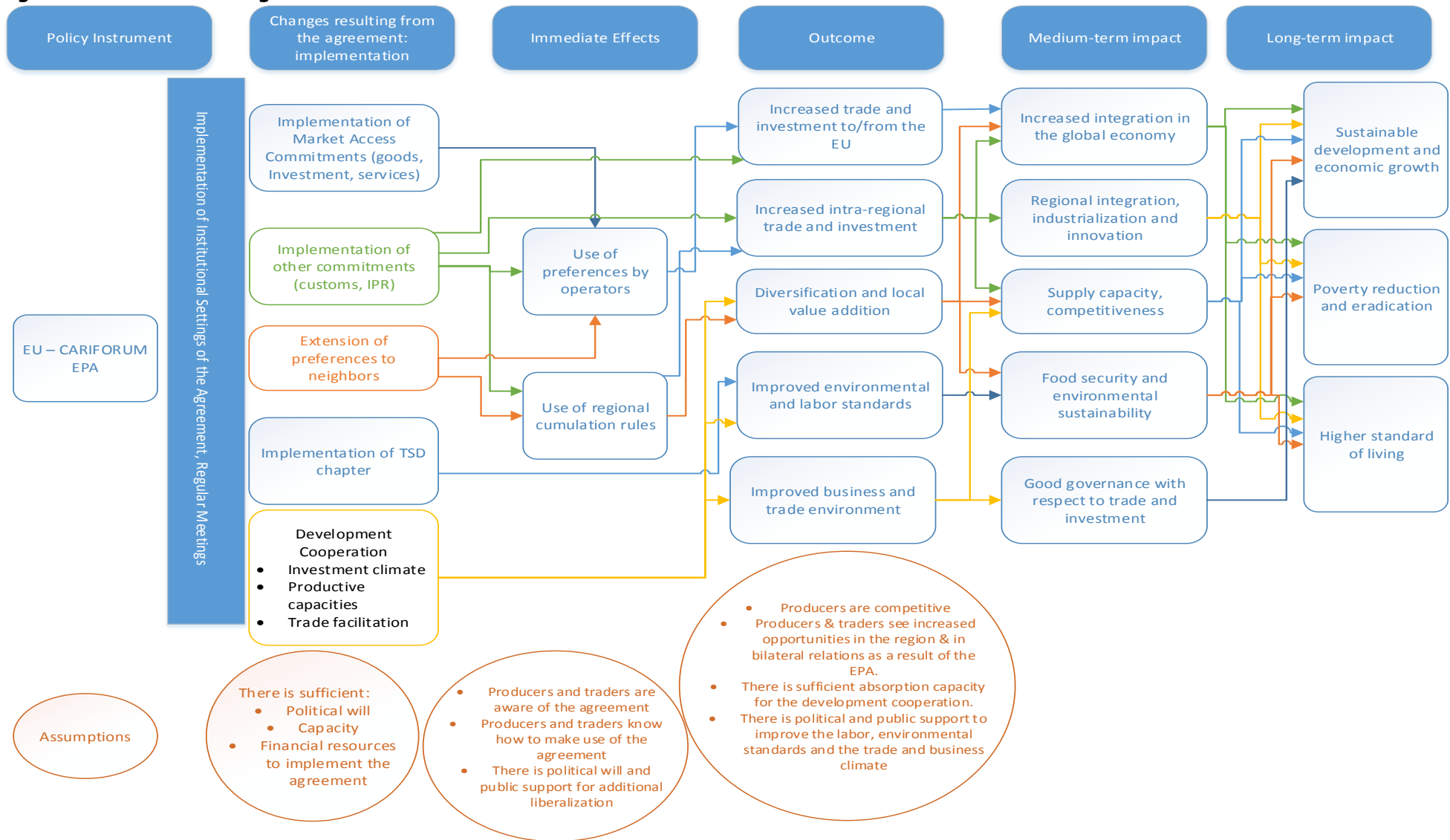
<sup>3</sup> The evaluation grid is usually referred to as evaluation matrix. We use the term grid here to avoid confusion with the implementation matrix that is also part of this study (see section 5.2.3)

<sup>4</sup> It should be noted that by preferences, we refer to all preferences provided by the agreement, not just tariff preferences.

operation projects may provide information on the absorption capacity of the beneficiaries), most assumptions will be checked during the stakeholder consultations (e.g. OPC, interviews).

We only made the assumptions explicit for the first steps in the intervention logic (changes, immediate effects and outcome effects), as the assumptions underlying the results at impact level are multiple and more complex and therefore more a topic for academic research.

**Figure 3.1 Intervention logic of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA**





### **3.2. Evaluation grid**

The ToR for this evaluation clearly define the evaluation questions, grouped under four evaluation criteria: effectiveness, efficiency, coherence and relevance. These evaluation questions guide the analysis in the study, as these are the questions that ultimately need to be answered. We identified judgement criteria to help answer the evaluation questions. In addition, we identified specific indicators to support this judgement. The intervention logic is important in the development of these judgement criteria and indicators.

The overview of evaluation questions and related judgement criteria and indicators are presented in an evaluation grid on the next page. As shown in this table, the different tasks of the ToR (to the extent they relate to effects rather than implementation) are also reflected in this grid.

**Table 3.1 Evaluation grid for the evaluation of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA**

Evaluation questions	Judgement criteria	Example of indicators/information needs	Sources
<p><b>Effectiveness</b></p> <p>EQ1: To what extent have the objectives of the EPA been achieved? What are the factors influencing (either positively or negatively) the achievement of those objectives? Has the CARIFORUM-EU EPA given rise to unintended consequences?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent to which poverty has been reduced as a result of EPA;</li> <li>• The extent to which regional integration, economic co-operation and good governance have been promoted by EPA, contributing to an effective, predictable and transparent regulatory framework for trade and investment.</li> <li>• The extent to which EPA has supported conditions for increasing investment and private sector initiative and enhancing supply capacity, competitiveness and economic growth</li> <li>• The extent to which CARIFORUM states have integrated into the world economy;</li> <li>• The extent to which CARIFORUM States have increased capacity in trade policy and trade related issues;</li> <li>• The extent to which relations between CARIFORUM and the EU have improved in all areas relevant to trade and investment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of poverty indicators (people living below the poverty line, GDP per capita);</li> <li>• Change in bilateral trade flows (goods and services), in total and by sector between EU and CARIFORUM, and total export/imports of CARIFORUM;</li> <li>• Change in bilateral investment, in total and by sector between EU and CARIFORUM; and total outward/inward investment in CARIFORUM);</li> <li>• Trends in introduction/removal of barriers, and status investment climate/enabling environment;</li> <li>• Extent to which institutional structures and other co-operation types (e.g. joint council, sub committees) have been able to address trade and development issues;</li> <li>• Change in the degree of diversification of trade and investment flows of CARIFORUM countries;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trade and investment flow analysis;</li> <li>• Poverty indicator analysis;</li> <li>• Economic modelling;</li> <li>• Desk study (e.g. MADB, WTO notifications, WB doing business reports);</li> <li>• Interviews;</li> <li>• Survey;</li> <li>• CSD/ roundtables;</li> <li>• Case studies.</li> </ul> <p>Links to Task 10-15.</p>



Evaluation questions	Judgement criteria	Example of indicators/information needs	Sources
	(e.g. increased trade and investment between the two parties, increased policy co-operation, extent to which relations are based on solidarity and mutual interest).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification of unintended economic impacts in EU and/or CARIFORUM countries;</li> <li>• Identification of unintended social impacts in EU and/or CARIFORUM countries;</li> <li>• Identification of unintended environmental impacts in EU and/or CARIFORUM countries;</li> <li>• Identification of unintended human rights impacts in EU and/or CARIFORUM countries;</li> <li>• Identification of unintended economic, social, environmental and human rights impacts in third countries, including OCTs.</li> </ul>	
<b>Efficiency</b>			
EQ2: To what extent has the EPA been efficient with respect to achieving its objectives? To what extent are the costs associated with the EPA proportionate to the benefits it has generated? How proportionate were those costs borne by different stakeholder groups, taking into account the distribution of benefits?	Extent to which benefits outweigh the cost, overall and for specific groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costs related to the implementation of the agreement (authorities);</li> <li>• Costs related to the use of the EPA (tariff preferences, quota) of companies;</li> <li>• Positive impacts and negative impacts compared (cost-benefit analysis);</li> <li>• Distribution of benefits and costs;</li> <li>• The time needed to realise the objectives compared to original plan.</li> </ul>	Desk study (e.g. TRTA, ministerial budgets) Survey Sectoral studies Interviews (e.g. national EPA coordinators, business, civil society)
EQ3: What are the main inefficiencies and unnecessary regulatory costs (Including	Extent to which remaining barriers could be reduced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remaining inefficiencies and regulatory costs.</li> </ul>	Links to tasks 10, 11-15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desk study on NTBs;</li> </ul>

Evaluation questions	Judgement criteria	Example of indicators/information needs	Sources
administrative burden)? What is the potential for simplification?		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The costs of the promotion of trade and cooperation in relation to the progress made in intra-regional integration both within the region and between the region and the EU</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interviews (customs, companies, freight forwarders);</li> <li>Sectoral case studies;</li> <li>Survey.</li> </ul>
<b>Relevance</b> EQ4: To what extent are the provisions of the EPA relevant for addressing current trade and development issues faced by the EU and CARIFORUM?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which current trade and development issues can be addressed on the basis of the current agreement;</li> <li>Extent to which new or more ambitious provisions are needed to address current trade and development issues;</li> <li>Extent to which development co-operation can be used to address current trade and development issues.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identification of current trade barriers (not arising from non-implementation), by sector and type of barrier;</li> <li>Extent to which tariff preferences or quota are used and problems encountered in their use.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Desk study (e.g. MADB, MAP);</li> <li>Sectoral analysis;</li> <li>Stakeholder consultations.</li> </ul> <p>Links to task 10.</p>
<b>Coherence</b> EQ5: To what extent has the EPA been coherent with other policy instruments of the EU affecting the Caribbean?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent to which objectives of EPA align with those other EU policy instruments affecting the Caribbean;</li> <li>Extent to which there are contradictions between EPA and other EU policy instruments affecting the Caribbean;</li> <li>Extent to which synergies between EPA and other EU policy instruments affecting the Caribbean have been created and taken advantage of.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number and type (and possibly extent) of contradictions;</li> <li>Number and type (and possibly extent) of synergies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Desk study or relevant documents;</li> <li>Survey;</li> <li>Interviews with EU (e.g. delegation, DG DEVCO, DG Trade and national administration);</li> <li>Other stakeholder consultations.</li> </ul> <p>Links to Task 10, 13.</p>

## 4. RESULTS FROM THE LITERATURE REVIEW

During the inception phase we took stock of the existing studies and reports on the operation and impact of the EU-CF EPA, trade between the EU and CARIFORUM, regional integration in the Caribbean and other related topics. A full list of the consulted literature is included in Annex D, along with the key findings and relevant lessons learned of studies published after 2014.

The literature review was carried out based on a set of criteria. These criteria are in turn based on the focus of the study and some stricter exclusion criteria. These were:

- Area of focus: all parts of the EPA, concentrated on the impact of the EPA (direct and indirect changes), the key bottlenecks in the implementation, and the extent to which EPA contributed to the overarching objectives. Given the limited literature on the EPA specifically, this scope was widened to include aspects of trade, economic development and development aid within the CARIFORUM region.
- Time scope: focus on studies published after 2014 to avoid covering information already included in the first five year evaluation study. While other studies were considered and looked at, the summaries to be provided in the Annex are only of the newer publications.
- Additional criteria: the inclusion of a document was furthermore based on the following questions
  - Is the source / author reliable?
  - Does the document include a methodology that might be input for our implementation/impact analysis?
  - Does the author reach conclusions that might serve as input for our implementation/impact analysis?

### 4.1. Findings on implementation-

In September 2014, the first five-year study of the implementation and impact of the CARIFORUM – EU EPA was released.<sup>5</sup> This study was commissioned by the European Commission, undertaken jointly with Cariforum Directorate, and was one of the sources used for the first Joint Review, undertaken by the parties in 2015. The assessment of the compliance with the agreement showed some shortcomings, as well as some delays on setting up certain institutions foreseen in the Agreement's institutional framework.

Key shortcomings identified in this study were related to the following:<sup>6</sup>

- slow ratification of the agreement;
- delays in setting up and making operational certain EPA joint institutions, such as the Joint Consultative Committee and Joint Parliamentary Committee (both of which are however currently fully operational) ;
- delayed designation of arbitrators under the EPA dispute settlement mechanism;
- the lack of an adequate monitoring mechanism;
- the non-implementation of the regional preference provision, which provides for the extension to all CARIFORUM countries of any favourable treatment granted by one CARIFORUM country to the EU (art. 238);
- shortcomings identified in the EPA cooperation areas, including development aid;
- no review of the rules of origin, which was supposed to take place five years after the entry into force of the EPA;
- incomplete elimination of *ad valorem* boarder charges, provided in Article 13 of the EPA;
- incomplete elimination of export taxes and restrictions by CARIFORUM countries (Article 14 and Annex 1);
- incomplete compliance with tariff commitments by CARIFORUM countries (Article 16 and Annexe III);
- no-activation of the MFN clause;
- no-activation of cooperation in customs-related matters;
- incomplete alignment of trade defence measures;
- insufficient notification of SPS and TBT measures and institutional dialogue on these issues;

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<sup>5</sup> B&S Europe and LINPICO (2014)

<sup>6</sup> It should be noted that not all shortcomings observed in this study were validated and some were even contradicted, as reflected in the Joint Review of the parties, undertaken in 2015.

- incomplete regulatory framework regarding services. This also concerns the services sectors for which regulatory cooperation is required in the EPA (courier, maritime transportation, telecommunications, tourism);
- delay in the start of negotiations for further services trade liberalisation;
- frustration related to the access in the EU of CARICOM business persons and services suppliers;
- insufficient progress in the negotiation of mutual recognition agreements related to the professional qualifications of service providers;
- incomplete implementation of the obligation to establish services Enquiry Points; and
- insufficient implementation of the trade-related regulatory framework provided in the EPA in the areas of competition, intellectual property, and public procurement.

While in the period preceding the first five-years review, several independent studies assessed the level of compliance with the EPA<sup>7</sup>, after the review, no such new systematic study was conducted. More general recent studies, however, have pointed towards similar shortcomings. Mora (2016) argues that EPA implementation has failed to become a priority in the region since discussions are still overly focused on whether the EPA can potentially generate benefits. This lack of prioritisation on the implementation process is also identified by Nyakatawa (2015), who draws as a lesson learned for future EPAs that it is crucial to involve all the key stakeholders from the start, thus ensuring ownership of the Agreement at the national level and establishing inter-agency collaboration to ensuring more coherent, efficient and coordinated implementation. In addition to the limited involvement of multiple stakeholders, there are still supply-side and capacity constraints in CARIFORUM. Green (2015) is more optimistic, stating that, while significant efforts must still be made to complete the implementation agenda, headway has been made in the area of building capacities through external resources (as in Aid for Trade).

The importance of developing and implementing an effective monitoring and evaluation mechanism for implementation is highlighted by both Nyakatawa (2015) and Green (2015), as the lack of a strong M&E system is also identified as a reason for delayed implementation.

Summarising, the literature shows that not all parts of EPA have been implemented, but that there is no clear overview at this stage of what has been implemented or not and in which state. This implies that data collection for assessing the actual level of implementation will be a key element of this project.

#### 4.2. Findings on impact

With respect to impact, there are several studies and reports analysing the impact of the EU-CARIFORUM EPA. Many of these are ex ante impact assessments and simulations, while there are only a few that analyse the impact after its implementation started.

As with findings on implementation, the most recent comprehensive report reflecting on EPA impacts is still the first five-year review. **The review generally finds little evidence for impacts on trade** in that period, which coincided with the global financial and economic downturn. Moreover, on the CARIFORUM side the EPA did not fundamentally change the access of their exports to the EU market, AS they had been exporting their products free of tariffs under the previous ACP-EU trade regime. The study however pointed out that without the EPA the EU should have imposed tariffs on key Caribbean export items, since they are not Least Developed Countries and as such cannot benefit from the EU's Everything But Arms scheme, which would have had a clear negative impact on CARIFORUM. On the one hand, this is because impact itself was limited at the time, mainly due to the shortcomings in implementation as identified in the previous section. On the other hand, the *evidence* of impacts is limited due to a lack of data and the difficulty of attributing changes to the EPA. For example, the global recession had strong effects on trade and investment trends. With respect to more specific impacts, the report has the following findings:

- Regarding **trade in goods**, the study finds only modest increases in CARIFORUM imports from the EU. This is attributed to the fact that CARIFORUM's tariff reduction during the review period was largely limited to items with existing zero rates. It reaches a similar conclusion for EU imports from CARIFORUM, which is explained by the fact that the EPA largely locked in the existing duty-free access under the Cotonou tariff

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<sup>7</sup> For example ICTSD (2010), ECDPM (2011), KEA (2011). See Annex D for the full list of literature considered for the Literature Review.

- scheme.<sup>8</sup> Rum is a product where CARIFORUM exports (particularly in the Dominican Republic) have experienced an increase in value and also in market shares, which can be linked to the EPA;
- Regarding **trade in services**, available data shows significant increases in CARIFORUM exports to the EU of certain services that are central to the EPA. While for one of the main service sectors (travel) no EPA-driven impact is identified, some other sectors (such as personal/cultural services and royalty/licence fees) show steady increases, which could be tentatively attributed to the EPA;
  - With respect to **investments**, data limitations make it difficult to reach concrete conclusions, but based on stakeholder consultations, the study found that the levels of EU investments were low and did not see a boost upon provisional application of the EPA;
  - With respect to **impact on social conditions and the environment**, no significant impacts could be identified, largely due to the lack of reliable indicators and the difficulty of establishing a link with EPA.

Schmieg (2015) is also cautious in attributing large impacts to the EPA. Overall, the study concludes that modest new trade flows have appeared. As an explanation for the limited success of Caribbean exporters, the study points to expensive production inputs, high transaction costs, capacity problems in the private sector and civil society and delayed progress in regional integration. With respect to regional integration, an earlier report by ECLAC (2014) also found that the agreement has not yet succeeded in improving intra-regional trade or subregional integration. Through empirical analyses, it found a clear disparity between the competitiveness of the Dominican Republic and other Caribbean commodity exports in the EU market.

Regarding development cooperation, the most comprehensive study is by Schmieg (2015), who recognises the importance of aid for trade in this EPA but finds that the initiatives need to be designed with more cooperation and aiming for longer-term effects. The most important lessons to be taken from the paper for development cooperation are a closer cooperation between the public sector, the private sector and different specialised development institutions and a focus on developing capacities for both regional and national authorities in a complementary way.

Garner (2017) looks at the provisions on market access and cooperation specifically for building cultural sector capacity. He finds that these provisions do potentially offer significant gains in a region which is rich in world-renowned cultural expressions. However, it also finds the support lacking, establishing that the EU needs to back such provisions up with much more substance, for example by devoting more reliable streams of finance and assistance than was seen in the EPA, and doing more to recognise some of the limitations in productive capacity that exist in developing contexts.

Concluding, the literature on impacts of the EPA suggests that impacts seem to be modest, partly as a result of the earlier finding of some shortcomings in the implementation but especially because of the global recession during the first 5-year term as well as the absence of a drastic change in CARIFORUM's access to the EU market, which had earlier existed under the unilateral regime. As a few years have passed in the meantime and implementation will have advanced, this study should be able to have more detailed findings on impact.

#### **4.3. Findings on methodologies**

In regard to the methodologies, we observe from the previous evaluation study, that it is difficult to isolate the impacts of the EPA. This implies that the study should avoid collecting data on certain indicators without first establishing a link between the EPA and these indicators. Conducting the evaluation on the basis of a clear intervention logic will help to focus on the most relevant indicators. We further developed the intervention logic for the EPA as a whole (see section 3.1), but this intervention logic can be made more specific for specific impact areas (see for example our approach for the case studies in section 5.3.5).

The literature review confirmed many of the indicators included in our evaluation (see section 3.2) and did not lead to the identification of new ones.

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<sup>8</sup> A similar finding is found in Lorde (2018). The overall trade and revenue impacts on Barbados are likely to be small. This is because Barbados already enjoyed a high degree of duty-free access to EU markets prior to implementation of the EPA.

We have not come across literature that uses economic modelling to isolate the EPA-related effects, other than partial equilibrium modelling. In addition, the literature review shows that there are often data gaps. This calls for a combination of methods, combining data, literature and stakeholder consultations, so as to create a picture that is, as much as possible, balanced and complete.

Regarding implementation, we believe the September 2014 five-years evaluation study falls short of a detailed gap analysis regarding implementation. However, we are informed that the CARIFORUM Directorate has conducted legislative gap analyses for some CARIFORUM States in order to determine the areas requiring legislative intervention for EPA compliance. Furthermore, in 2012, the national EPA Implementation Unit of the Dominican Republic developed an EPA Country Implementation Matrix (CIM) in Spanish, which was later translated into English. It seems that this CIM has served as a best practice template for other national EPA Implementation Units and been replicated and used by at least four other CARIFORUM countries. The Dominican Republic is reported to already have conducted three EPA reviews<sup>9</sup>. It will be important, obviously, to gather the analysis that was conducted under this framework.

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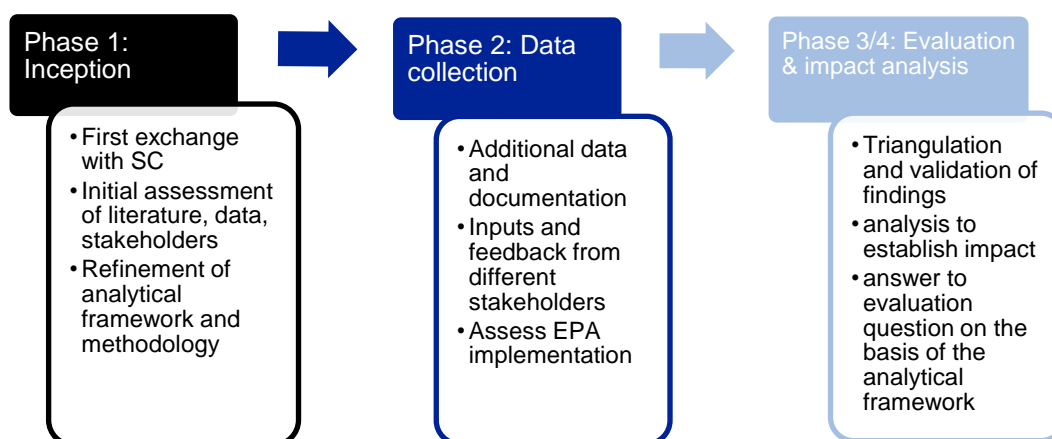
<sup>9</sup> "The CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement: Lessons from Implementation", The Commonwealth, Trade Hot Topics, G. Greene, Issue 121, October 2015, Available at: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/309429297\\_The\\_CARIFORUM\\_Economic\\_Partnership\\_Agreement\\_Lessons\\_from\\_Implementation](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/309429297_The_CARIFORUM_Economic_Partnership_Agreement_Lessons_from_Implementation).

## 5. METHODOLOGY

### 5.1. Overview

The ToR splits the study into four phases, including 1) an inception phase, 2) a data collection phase; 3) a first analysis phase, with an identification of impacts of the trade part of the agreements but also of the development co-operation that is part of it; 4) a final analysis phase, with some further impact analysis and a focus on answering the evaluation questions. Due to the important links between phase 3 and 4, we have combined these to present the approach to the study.

Figure 5.1 Study phases



Whereas in phase two, the emphasis on implementation of the EPA, in phase 3 and 4, the emphasis on the analysis of impacts of the EPA. In Phase 2 we will already preliminary identify some of the main impacts, in order to focus the analysis in phase 3 and 4. The next two sections detail our approach for assessing the implementation and impact of the EPA. As stakeholder consultations are a crucial element of our approach in all phases, we have a separate section on our consultation strategy.

### 5.2. Assessment of the implementation of the agreement

#### 5.2.1. Collection and analysis of tariff schedules for all CARIFORUM States

On the EU side, duty free quota free access has been granted from day one. Cariforum States committed under the EPA to liberalize around 80% of their trade over 25 years. Each Cariforum State submitted its own market access offer and schedule. This study will assess in a comprehensive manner whether each CARIFORUM States has complied with its tariff schedule and whether it has eliminated all other duties and ad valorem charges up to today as stated in their original schedule.

The Consultations Team will collect raw data on tariffs applied by Cariforum EPA States on products originating in the EU. It will try to obtain numerical copies of tariffs lists at 6 or preferably 8 digits level (.xls, .csv or .dta files). In this respect, it will approach the Customs services of each Cariforum States to get those data.<sup>10</sup> It will also enquire with local stakeholders (importers, freight forward companies, EU local Chambers of Commerce) on the effectiveness of the application of the preferential tariffs to EU products In particular, the Consultations Team will test the accuracy of the applied tariffs communicated by the national customs authorities with freight forwarders. In order to do that, the Implementation Team will select a sample of five tariff lines (at four digit level) in several sectors (agriculture, textile and clothing, industrial products,

<sup>10</sup> Most of the countries do not have an online national tariff database, with the exception of Bahamas Customs Department (upon subscription), available at <http://www.bahamas.gov.bs/bahamasweb2/home.nsf/vContentW/CUSTOMS--Other--Tariff+codes!OpenDocument>

machinery and consumer products, for instance) for each country and check the applied rates with the freightforwarders.<sup>11</sup>

The Implementation Team will then carry out the assessment of compliance with the relevant tariff schedules of the CARIFORUM parties. In order to do that, DG Trade indicated that it will proceed to the theoretical transposition of the Market Access Offer of each CARIFORUM State from HS2002 to HS2017. Based on the document DG Trade will provide us, the Implementation Team will make a comparison country by country between the theoretical tariffs obtained through the transposition process and tariffs applied on the field on products originating in the EU.

### **5.2.2. Assessment of implementation of other parts of the agreement**

Assessment of implementation will be mainly based on interviews with public administration representatives on EU and CARIFORUM side and an analysis of legal documents, such as official journals. Progress will consider the information obtained in the September 2014 five-years evaluation study. Furthermore, we will request to the CARIFORUM Directorate General the legislative gap analysis it has already performed, as well as the EPA Country Implementation Matrix (CIM) the Dominican Republic and four other CARIFORUM countries seem to have completed.

We will conduct our own review of key legislation of each country and at the level of the CARIFORUM and the EU related to the following areas:

- Customs clearance and special customs regimes;
- Quality infrastructure (technical regulations and standards, conformity assessment procedures);
- SPS measures;
- Trade defence;
- Agricultural support;
- Courier services, telecommunication services, financial services, international maritime transport, tourism and cultural cooperation;
- Investment;
- Capital movement;
- Intellectual property;
- Protection of Personal data;
- E-commerce;
- Competition law;
- Public procurement;
- Ratification of international environmental standards; and
- Adoption of core ILO standards.

We will obtain all relevant information on each of the key obligations of the agreement. We will make a research through existing legal sources and in the official journal of each country. In addition, we will also issue consultation questionnaires for the relevant stakeholders in each country, which will enable to highlight any possible source of concern and areas where we need to concentrate further attention. Consultation questionnaires will be sent to the national stakeholders for written responses where possible, and they will be addressed during the interviews the local consultation experts will conduct in their respective countries. We attach as Annex H the questionnaire that needs to be completed, and as Annex G the proposed list of stakeholders to whom to ask the questions in the questionnaire. The consultations strategy below further describes the consultations process to be conducted in the EPA contracting countries. This work will be carried out in May and June 2019.

Specifically, regarding labour standards, we will carry out a desk research on the ILO supervision system, which is available online<sup>12</sup>. This website indicates ILO conventions ratified, labor legislation enacted, and a track record on implementing labor standards. This desk review will enable to see whether following the CARIFORUM ratification new labour legislation was acted and if countries adhere to the Core Labour Standards.

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<sup>11</sup> This will be a random selection, including only products with a minimum level of trade flows, to avoid the selection of products that are hardly traded. This threshold level will be determined after the analysis of trade data.

<sup>12</sup> [https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:11001:::~:::](https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:11001:::)



After this data collection, we will analyse all information received. The legal research and the responses to the questionnaire will feed the implementation Matrix for the CARIFORUM, the EU and each country (see below and attached).

Institutional aspects will also be covered in the implementation report, including a review of the mandate and decisions of the joint institutions and the mechanism for cooperation with outermost regions of the EU.

In addition to hard obligations, the EPA, conveys a spirit of cooperation and soft obligations. These concern commitments to support each other in the implementation of the provisions of the agreement by cooperating in the formulation of relevant national legislation. While legal compliance is not requested from the parties, the questionnaires and the interviews will highlight the possible shortcomings in these areas. We will report them in a separate chapter of the Implementation Study.

### **5.3. Assessment of the impact of the agreement**

#### ***5.3.1. Trends and patterns in CARIFORUM-EU trade and investment***

The first step to assess the impact of the EPA will be to get a clear view of trends and patterns in CARIFORUM-EU trade and investment as well as the resulting conditions in the CARIFORUM states. This requires time series in the period under study and in the period leading up to the implementation. It involves an analysis of the changes in preferences (tariff preferences as well as preferences from other parts of the agreement), the use of preferences, as well as the changes in trade and investment flows, at both aggregate and sectoral level. In addition, we will not only look at the trade and investment flows, but also at relative market shares, and compare the trends with other major trading partners. Together, these data can shed light on how EPA impacted trade and investment.

In line with the ToR, we will provide separate figures for EU27 and the UK, to allow for an assessment of the importance of EU27 relations with CARIFORUM in comparison with the UK, to be able to draw some preliminary conclusions for the post-Brexit period.

Existing trade and tariff data from, respectively, Eurostat and UNCTAD TRAINS databases, will be used to describe the evolution of imports and exports as well as the evolution of bilateral import tariffs and preferential tariff margins in selected specific product categories since the beginning of the implementation of the EPA. Annex E contains an initial review of data availability for this task. It should be noted that we are aware of some of the issues related to the data, e.g. the importance of re-exports in certain trade flows, reliability of FDI figures, etc. When interpreting and presenting the data, we will take these issues into account, in order to ensure the right conclusions are drawn from the data.

The trade and investment data analysis will be done both for the bilateral trade between the EU and CARIFORUM, but also within the CARIFORUM region, to focus on the possible regional integration effects of the EPA. In addition, there will be an analysis on the developments in fiscal revenues, and impact on third countries.

Next to pure data analysis, this task also includes questions relating to the underlying reasons for the trends, such as the awareness of exporters about the EPA, their knowledge on how to use preferences, differences between SMEs and larger companies in this respect, etc. These issues will be addressed by relying on the literature identified and described in section 1 but more importantly, through stakeholder consultations.

#### ***5.3.2. Assessment of the economic, social, gender, human rights and environmental impact of the EPA in CARIFORUM States***

Increased bilateral trade and investment is certainly not the ultimate aim of the EPA as highlighted in the intervention logic (see section 3.1). Therefore the analysis of trade and investment flows is complemented with an analysis of the broader economic, social, gender, human rights and environmental impact of the EPA. In this assessment, the focus is on the CARIFORUM States, not the EU (as indicated under scope in section 2.2).

In evaluating the economic, social, gender, human rights and environmental impacts (in short referred to as sustainability impacts) of the EPA, we will work on the basis of the EPA's intervention logic, to ensure that we focus on those issues where links can be established with the EPA.

The approach to the sustainability impact assessment will consist of four main elements:

- An analysis of the commitments made in the EPA, the extent to which these require changes in sustainability-related policies, and if there are changes, the impact of these changes;
- The Literature Review findings on the sustainability impact of the EPA in CARIFORUM Member States;
- An analysis of indirect effects from EPA on sustainability issues in the Caribbean;
- Stakeholder consultations to identify additional sustainability impacts and to deepen the understanding of the impacts and their size.

In the inception phase, we conducted an analysis of the text of the agreement. The TSD chapter is a clear starting point for the analysis. In general, the provisions in this chapter recognise the right of all parties to regulate their markets to pursue objectives related to sustainable development and social aspects, while requesting them to keep each other informed, avoid unnecessary obstacles to trade and work towards regional harmonisation of these policies in the CARIFORUM States. The EPA reaffirms the Parties' commitment to conserve, protect and improve their natural environment and to prioritise sustainable development. As to social rights, the parties commit to respect core labour standards in the 1998 International Labour Organisation Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights of Work and the United Nations declaration on Full Employment and Decent Work. The EU and the CARIFORUM states agree to support each other in the implementation of the provisions of the chapter by cooperating in the formulation of national legislation. The introduction of programmes aimed at raising the awareness of the public regarding their rights in the labour market and the strengthening of the mechanisms for social dialogue are some of the areas in which the Parties agree to cooperate and to facilitate support.

In addition to the TSD chapter, two other elements are worth highlighting. First is the preamble of the agreement, where the Parties reaffirm their commitment to the respect for human rights, democratic principles and the rule of law as well as to good governance. The second element is special treatment granted by EPA to fisheries, living marine resources and agriculture, as the Parties "acknowledge the economic and social importance" of activities relating to these sectors and of the utilisation of the natural resources in the CARIFORUM States. A higher level of tolerance, therefore, can be granted in favour of domestic measures aiming at ensuring food security, employment, poverty alleviation, foreign exchange earnings, effective conservation of resources and social stability of local communities.

The analysis shows that although the EPA has several elements that link to sustainability-related policies, in general they do not require the ratification or implementation of international agreements. In that sense the agreement does not oblige them to certain policy changes. In the consultations, we will investigate whether the EPA has assisted in promoting policies that positively affect sustainability, or prevented policies that would negatively affect sustainability in the CARIFORUM States.

The literature review presented in section 4 revealed that literature on the sustainability impacts of the EPA (beyond trade and investment) is relatively limited.<sup>13</sup> Therefore, in the next phase, we will focus on identifying sectors where the EPA appears to have had an impact on trade and investments in specific sectors, and to what extent these changes may have indirect effects on sustainability. For example, if a sector employs relatively many women, the expansion or contraction of a sector can have a gender impact. Or if a sector has high CO2 emissions, or makes use of many natural resources, it could have an impact on the environment.

The first round of stakeholder consultations will help to identify any additional sustainability impacts stemming from the agreement. Based on the findings of this analysis as well as that of the economic analysis, where there seem to be significant impacts, these will be further analysed based on additional literature review and stakeholder consultations.

### ***5.3.3. Assessment of the results achieved through development cooperation under the EPA***

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<sup>13</sup> These studies include Trade and Investment Agreements for Sustainable Development? Lessons from the EU's Economic Partnership Agreement with the Caribbean (2015) and Towards a European strategy on culture and development. Learning from the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (2017).

The complexity of this ex-post evaluation stems not only from the wide scope of the trade policy-related provisions of the EPA, but also from the fact that development co-operation is an integral part of the agreement (in contrast to most other FTAs of the EU). This development co-operation particularly includes the technical assistance of the European Development Fund. The EDF can help to support the implementation of the EPA by providing assistance to the public sector (e.g. TA to help implement EPA in the area of customs or SPS) or to the private sector or business membership organisations (e.g. TA to improve supply capacity and competitiveness).

It goes beyond the scope of this project to evaluate each of the development co-operation project or programs individually. However, most projects and programs have already been evaluated. Therefore, we will take the following approach for assessing the results of development co-operation. We initially finalise the inventory of the trade-related development assistance funded by the EU. Secondly, we assess the relevance, effectiveness and impact of these projects, based on existing evaluations. This therefore also requires an inventory of existing evaluation studies. The analysis of these studies will not only provide important background information, but will also allow us to identify any information gaps. Thirdly, we will endeavor to fill the data gaps in our stakeholder consultations, notably with the EU Delegation and project beneficiaries. For particularly interesting and relevant projects we may also approach former and current project team leaders. Based on these three steps, we assess the extent to which EPA commitments with respect to development co-operation have been met so far and the extent to which these projects have contributed to the specific objectives of the EPA.

In the inception phase, we received information on development co-operation projects and related evaluations from the EU. An overview list is included in Annex F. This list will be checked with the Delegations for completeness. The review of evaluation reports and identifying the information gaps will commence in the next phase.

#### **5.3.4. Assessment of the impact of the agreement based on economic modelling**

Economic modelling will be performed by DG Trade. Due to data constraints, CGE modelling is not possible and also gravity modelling is unlikely to be possible for assessing the impact of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA. Based on the available data, the European Commission will undertake some Partial Equilibrium (PE) modelling. This has also been used in the previous CARIFORUM-EU EPA monitoring report. The advantage of PE modelling is that it is transparent, relatively straightforward and that it can be done at detailed product level. However, an important disadvantage is that PE modelling neglects interaction between markets (e.g. indirect effects on supplying sectors). The European Commission will provide the modelling results and underlying assumptions at the start of phase IV of the study.

The economic modelling exercise for this study will be considered as a complement to the other types of analyses that can provide some indication on the order of magnitude of identified effects, but more importantly, can help us triangulate the findings.

#### **5.3.5. Case studies**

In addition to the overall analyses, this ex-post evaluation also includes three in-depth sector case studies as well as a case study on investment. Compared to the overall analysis, these studies allow for a more detailed analysis of the chosen sector and the sectoral impact of the EPA. Below, we focus on the selection of sectors and what the analysis will entail. As discussed in the Kick-off Meeting, we have not yet selected specific case studies. This will be decided upon as more data is collected and stakeholders contacted. Similarly to the assessment of the impact of the EPA, the case studies also depend on data received via stakeholder consultations. Considering the lack of data in specific sectors and investment, it will be important to select case studies that are more extensive in data than others are.

### **Selection Process**

Three sectors will be selected from the list of potential sectors provided in the TOR, according to the following criteria:

#### **1. Weight (initial importance of the sector)**

This can be the sector's share in terms of e.g. GDP, trade, employment, etc. With data availability limited, we look at other sources, with more qualitative information on the relative weight and importance of the sector. This includes government policies and strategies, which might focus on specific sectors;

#### **2. Impact of the EPA**

For these criteria, we look at the growth of the sector in the last few years, after the EPA has come into force. Data availability and attribution of causality, as usual, will be a problem. In general, we select both sectors that experienced strong growth and sectors that experienced only limited or no growth, indicating the extent to which the EPA has had an effect upon these sectors. We also take the results of the EPA implementation into account (whether EPA-related changes impact specific sectors, e.g. reduction in tariffs);

**3. Global industry trend**

We also select sectors based on an assessment of global industry trends, with a focus on sectors that are particularly dynamic, and which offer strong potential for increased trade between CARIFORUM and the EU;

**4. Focus group discussion with our experts and selected stakeholders.**

We also consult our local experts and stakeholders, inquiring their reasoned assessment about which sectors could be particularly interesting and instructive. For example, following our recently completed project<sup>14</sup> in the Caribbean, we have noted that the fashion industry is surprisingly large and promising. In the absence of data and statistics, we would otherwise have assumed a different conclusion. This indicates that early discussions are crucial for the selection of sectors;

**5. Discussions with the steering group.**

Based on their ongoing work with CARIFORUM countries, steering groups provide particularly unique insights.

## Content of the sector studies

**I. Baseline description:**

The sector analysis commences with an overview of the situation in the selected sector during the evaluation period. Themes include; the economic structure of the sector, SMEs in the sector, trade and investment, global value chains and competitiveness, challenges and opportunities for the sector, social situation, gender balance, and environmental situation. Again, data availability will be an issue. This section draws heavily on stakeholder consultations, in particular those with business associations and MSMEs;

**II. Opportunities:**

By providing an overview of the size and potential of the market in the EU, we determine the market's opportunities and how these have changed as a result of the EPA. This involves a more detailed analysis of the intervention logic for the specific sector: what did EPA exactly change and what effects can be expected of that change. We present examples of countries or regions that strongly export to the EU. Data availability is less of an issue in the EU market. This section relies on data and previous reports and studies;

**III. Market access issues:**

This section is centred on remaining sector-specific market access issues, within the region *vis-à-vis* the EU. As a starting point, we explore various databases, such as the Market Access Database (MADB) or trade restrictiveness indices from the World Bank or OECD. Furthermore, we rely on stakeholder consultations;

**IV. Impact of the EPA:**

This section looks at the impact of the EPA in bilateral trade between CARIFORUM and the EU, in comparison to other major trading partners. As highlighted in the evaluation framework, the use of the intervention logic is key here: what specific changes in the EPA are likely to affect the sector, and have the changes been in line with expectations or not? This also involves testing of the underlying assumptions of the intervention logic.

While data on trade in goods is readily available, this is not the case for trade in services. Consequently, where data is less available, we make more use of stakeholder consultations. Also for understanding the underlying reasons for the observed changes, which is needed for attribution purposes, stakeholder consultations are key.

## Investment case study

The investment case study faces the challenge that data on investment flows is not readily available. Furthermore, FDI data is difficult to interpret, in particular in the context of CARIFORUM countries. We often cannot identify the nationality of the true economic entity, or distinguish physical from non-physical investments, amongst other issues. Consequently, we

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<sup>14</sup> More information on the programme available at <http://www.cosmeprogramme.org/>.

heavily rely on qualitative information from stakeholder consultation, particularly the EU Delegations of the region, as well as Foreign Investment Agencies. These are also seen as an opportunity, as consultations allow us to focus on understanding how the Caribbean conducts FDI decisions and how the EPA, in turn, influences these decisions.

## 6. CONSULTATION STRATEGY

As indicated in the previous sections, stakeholder engagement and consultation sits at the heart of this evaluation. It aims to provide data, concrete examples, evidence and experiences that can complement and underpin the evaluation methods of literature review, data analysis and economic modelling. The consultation approach is designed in two-fold. The first step is to gather information related to the implementation of the agreement through an analysis of legal documents and implementation-related questions to the stakeholders (see above). The second is to gather information and insights that will illustrate particular opportunities and challenges resulting from the EPA. It will help us to better understand the challenges and opportunities, the underlying reasons for possible challenges in certain areas, and how different stakeholder groups (e.g. specific sectors) are affected.

In this section, we present our approach to the stakeholder consultations, which spans across all phases of this study. It specifies our assessment of the stakeholders and identification process, our approach to outreach and engagement of stakeholders, and finally our targeted consultation activities. The risks related to the stakeholder strategy are included in the overall risks related to the project, which are discussed in Chapter 7.

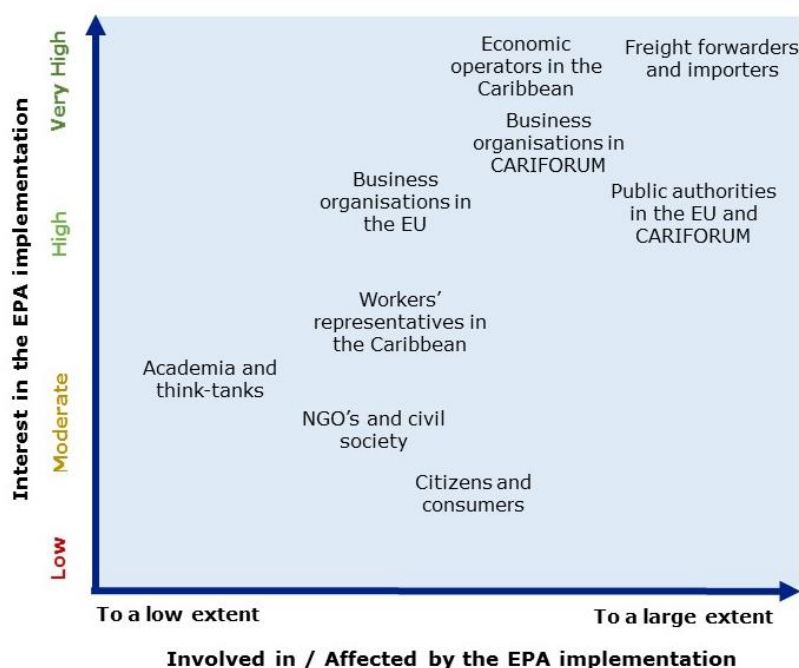
### 6.1. Stakeholder assessment and identification

We are aware that this evaluation is complex and requires understanding of the various stakeholder groups, their levels of interest, engagement and influence. Based on our understanding and stakeholder analysis, we have further grouped stakeholders across high, moderate and low interests to capture insights on those who are:

- directly affected by the Agreement;
- involved in the direct implementation of the Agreement; and
- interested in trade policy.

The below diagram provides a sketch of the varied groups across the topics and levels of interest in line with the EU Stakeholder Consultation Strategy provided. This presents the broader picture and the approach to the open public consultation being launched by the European Commission in parallel to the consultations to be carried out for this evaluation.

**Figure 6.1 Stakeholder mapping**



While the range of stakeholders presented in the above table is extensive, for the purpose of this evaluation and scope (implementation and impact assessments), we have focused on five different types of stakeholders for the capture the key information and data required. These include: 1) public administration; 2) business associations; 3) private business including SMEs;

4) freight forwarders and importers; 5) civil society organisations and other interested stakeholders (e.g. academia, think tanks). While all stakeholders will be involved, the focus will be on those stakeholders that have a high interest in EPA or are to a large extent involved in/affected by EPA. Our first mission to the region has confirmed this approach, as generally public awareness of EPA seems to be low.

During the inception phase, we commenced the initial engagement with some of these key stakeholder groups. We have started approaching the national EPA coordinators and customs authorities in the CARIFORUM countries, the main regional organisations through the support of the CARIFORUM Directorate and the EU Delegation (e.g. CEDA, Caribbean Development Bank), some national stakeholders (Investment Agencies, Ministries of Foreign Affairs) and some key business associations. These consultations are being led by our Consultations Team. Based on these first interviews, we are in the process of finalising the list of key organisations/stakeholders<sup>15</sup> to approach. The Consultations Team will consolidate this list further through the support of the EPA coordinators. Equally relevant to this assessment are the business associations and a number of key sector-specific ones, as they play a key role in identifying other relevant organisations and especially private businesses (including importers and freight forwarders). For identifying those businesses that trade with the EU, presence of EU Member States consulates or embassies could be another source of information.

The identification of stakeholders for the targeted consultations is thus a continuous and evolving process. Annex G provides an overview of these stakeholders. The list is considered a living document and will be expanded (and become increasingly focused) throughout the study, based on further inputs from our local experts, suggestions of the CARIFORUM Directorate, the European Commission, the EU Delegations, and suggestions from the stakeholders.

## 6.2. Stakeholders Engagement and Consultation Approach

Based on the identification and analysis of the stakeholders, we have developed a stakeholder engagement and consultation approach. This covers our approach to geographical coverage, outreach and engagement, and finally the approach to targeted consultation.

### 1. Geographical coverage for consultations

The consultations are directed primarily at the stakeholder groups outlined in the diagram above in CARIFORUM states and EU Member States. Given the tight timeline and budget available, it is not possible to carry our physical (in-country) consultations across all countries. However, we recognize the need to engage all states and ensure similar coverage in the analysis. For this purpose, we have specifically designed approaches to engage stakeholders across other states via other tools.

The table below provides an outline of the consultations and the type of consultative tools to be used in each country. In total, these consultations will surpass the minimum of 100, with a minimum of 10 stakeholders consulted per country in the in-country consultations. In the countries for remote consultations, there will be a larger focus on the key organisations (the ones in the right up corner in the stakeholder assessment diagram representing high interest and high involvement), although with a lesser focus on individual companies. Individual companies we will endeavour to approach through mini-surveys.

**Table 6.1 Consultation instruments and coverage**

Country	In-country consultations (physical)	Remote consultations
<b>Consultation tools</b>		
Tools	Intruments: One-on-one interviews, FGDs, Structured Questionnaire	Phone calls, skype interviews, webinars, mini-surveys, etc.
<b>Distribution</b>		
Antigua and Barbuda		✓

<sup>15</sup> For example, several ministries and other government organisations are involved in the implementation of the EPA, and the organisation and institutional structures differs per country.

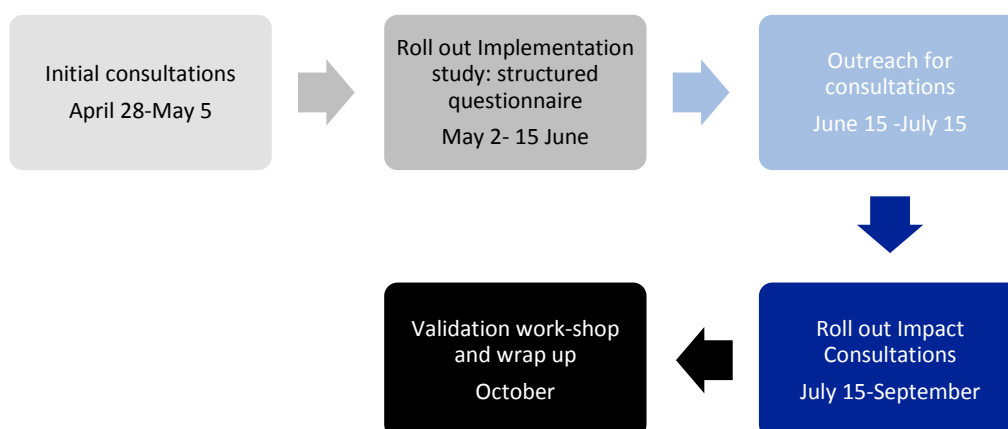
Country	In-country consultations (physical)	Remote consultations
the Bahamas		✓
Barbados	✓	
Belize		✓
Dominica		✓
the Dominican Republic	✓	
Grenada		✓
Guyana	✓	
Jamaica	✓	
St. Lucia	✓	
St. Vincent and the Grenadines		✓
St. Kitts and Nevis		✓
Suriname	✓	
Trinidad and Tobago	✓	
<b>Total countries</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>

Similarly, for the EU, we will carry out physical consultations in Belgium (Brussels) and remote consultations in France, Germany, the Netherlands and Spain. Physical meetings may take place wherever relevant and possible. Similar tools such as phone calls, Skype and other videoconferencing platforms will be used. These Member States have been selected based on their importance in bilateral trade and investment flows with the region, along with their political ties and cooperation efforts. The rationale for the selection process for both the EU and CARIFORUM Member States are included in Annex I. In the analysis for these countries, we will focus on the implementation, impact and challenges perceived. In addition, we will focus on elements relevant for the specific country (e.g. France relevant for outermost regions, the Netherlands for the OCTs, and Germany for development co-operation). These consultations will include also stakeholders from the outermost regions and OCTs.

## II. Outreach and Engagement Approach

For a robust stakeholder consultation process, especially in the context of such a complex evaluation, targeted engagement and outreach is an important starting point. Consultations during the Inception Phase have revealed limited awareness of the EPA and the practical implications of the agreement, in particular for economic operators i.e. associations and businesses. Therefore, the team has designed specific outreach measures to provide awareness and information regarding this evaluation process. This will allow stakeholders to understand the background, scope and objectives of the study and to proactively provide feedback. In this context, sequencing of activities will be critical. The below diagram provides an overview of how we will sequence each activity as we roll out the outreach and engagement process:

**Figure 6.2 Outreach and engagement sequence**





The following provides an overview of the outreach activities:

- **One Pager Briefing:** The team will develop a one pager awareness brief to provide information on (I) an introduction of the EPA (ii) the review and consultation process and (iii) why it is important for various stakeholders. These will be disseminated via Facebook, LinkedIn, emails, twitter and the Chambers and various private sector agencies social media and mailing lists, as well as through our local networks. In addition, we will prepare newsletters to send to our mailing list (see above) and use Twitter and Facebook to reach out to stakeholders. Both DG Trade as well as the EU Delegations have offered their support to tweet and retweet messages for this study, to ensure a wider audience. The same can be done with the Facebook sites of the EU Delegations.
- **Updates:** Next to the one-pager, we will send out short insertions/newsletters to inform people on key dates and updates of the study. For this we will use news letter (by e-mail), and the above mentioned social media channels. Key players will be approached through our network to reach a wider audience. The possibility of radio insertions is also being investigated. Through these channels we will roll out to build (i) awareness (ii) consultation plans; and (iii) mini-surveys which will be posted online. The mini-surveys will be short and simple surveys to capture structured responses on knowledge of the EPA, business environment challenges and other special topics. This will be done through the Ecorys trade Twitter / Facebook accounts.
- **Youtube/Webinar briefing:** As part of the outreach especially for business and their representative organisations, it would be useful to organise a webinar briefing (ideally with the Regional EU Delegation+Caribbean Export Development Agency+CARIFORUM Directorate). This will be a moderated session of an hour "on what EPA means for stakeholders" with provision for live Q/A. All CARIFORUM states and participants will have the opportunity to post live questions and have conversations. This is a relatively easy way to engage and inform a broad group of people within a limited time. We will discuss further with the Directorate and the Commission and launch it in June.

### III. Others

Next to these engagement and outreach activities, as outlined in section 6.1 our consultations are focused on the five stakeholder groups. Our approach to each of these groups is further underpinned by their levels of interest in the specific topics, engagement in the implementation and how affected they are by the EPA. This targeted consultation aims to get a better understanding of why and how implementation has been achieved or not and why and how certain impacts have resulted from the EPA.

In summary across each group, we will focus on:

**Table 6.2 Stakeholder types and focus**

Stakeholder Type	Levels of Engagement and Interest	Key Focus
Public administration	Engagement: <b>Very High</b> Interest: Direct Implementation	EPA Implementation, its challenges and outcomes
Business associations	Engagement: <b>High</b> Interest: Awareness and use in EPA	Opportunities and challenges in making use of the EPA
Private businesses including SMEs	Engagement: <b>High</b> Interest: Use of EPA	Bottlenecks and barriers in making use of the EPA. Impacts of the EPA.
Freight forwarders and importers	Engagement: <b>High</b> Interest: Implementation (tariff, administrative procedures)	Ease of importing and exporting under the EPA (including the Tariff schedules). Impacts of the EPA.
Civil society organisations and other interested stakeholders	Engagement: <b>Moderate</b> Interest: societal effects of EPA	Effects of the EPA on economic, social (gender, human rights and labour rights) and environmental impact.

As outlined earlier, the implementation assessment will follow a structured questionnaire (see Annex H). This questionnaire has been tested on the ground by our team and is being rolled out in Guyana and Barbados. A similar approach will be adopted in the rest of the countries by our teams. An overview of our consultations team is provided below to provide clarity on consultation process and how it feeds back into different teams.

**Table 6.3 Team structure**

<b>Team member/role</b>	<b>Countries</b>	<b>Instruments</b>
<b>Consultation Team Leader</b> Role: <i>Overall Supervision, roll-out, questionnaire testing, key interviews and feedback to implementation and impact teams)</i>	Guyana, Barbados, Netherlands, Brussels, EU remote interviews	In-country key one-on-one Interviews, phone calls, skype interviews, webinars
<b>Consultation Team Coordinator</b> Role: <i>Overall coordination and collection of information from all consultations on the ground and key interviews)</i>	Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Kitts and Nevis.	In-country key one-on-one Interviews, phone calls, skype interviews, webinars
<b>Local experts</b>	Barbados, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, St. Lucia and Suriname.	One-on-one interviews, structured interviews, FGDs

The above table provides an overview of our consultations team and responsibilities across physical and remote consultations.

In addition to these targeted consultations, we have also indicated Focus Group Discussion (FGDs) as a tool to reach to wider numbers of stakeholders. These are designed particularly for businesses e.g. exporters, investors, and private sector operators. This allows for deeper understanding similar stakeholders at the same time, which has the advantage that with the simultaneous sharing of experiences, it becomes clear where certain experiences or opinions are similar or where they diverge and why. In addition (e.g. depending on the outcome of the OPC and participation level), we will roll out mini-online surveys on special topics (business environment, sectors, competition, SPS, geographical indications etc) specifically for states with remote consultations. The topics of the FGDs and targeted surveys will be similar to those of the interviews. It should be noted that both for the FGDs and for the targeted surveys, we will depend on intermediaries and Business Association. We are in the process of discussing these arrangements with the associations.

Finally, we will investigate the possibility of attending relevant events, which can simultaneously provide direct information as well as access to several stakeholders. Especially with business, which is known as a more difficult group to target, these events will provide opportunities for short interviews at the event. The most promising event in this respect, is the CARIFORUM-EU Business Forum, that will be organised in Germany in September 2019. This event will target companies that are already involved or interested in the bilateral EU-CF trade. However, there will also be other events for business organised in the CARIFORUM region (although not exclusively focused on the EU), as presented in Annex G.

With these personal consultations, we target to at least speak to a 100 stakeholders (which can vary according to stakeholder willingness to engage in such interviews).

**In addition**, our outreach activities and consultations may generate inputs and feedback. Stakeholders can approach us through twitter and Facebook as well as through a dedicated e-mail address for this study: **CARIFORUM-EU@ecorys.com**. This is also the address from which the newsletter will be sent.

In addition to continuous outreach and updates, the European Commission has prepared the survey questionnaire for the 12-weeks Online Public Consultation, which provides the opportunity for all stakeholders to provide their inputs on various aspects of the agreement. Although the development and implementation of this survey is managed by the European Commission, the results will feed into this study as well. Depending on the outcome of the open consultations and participation level, and information gaps identified, we can also develop smaller, more targeted surveys.

Finally, we foresee the organisation of either one full-day or two half-day workshops. The intention is to organise workshops, with an audience including all different types of target groups. These will be organised towards the end of the study, and aims to create exchange on some of the preliminary findings, both on implementation and impact. While initially the Dominican Republic and Jamaica were likely candidates, based on the size of their economies and the trade and investment flows with the EU, other considerations can be taken into account as well (e.g. chairmanship of CARIFORUM, ease of access for stakeholders from other countries). The focus and location of the workshop will be discussed with relevant stakeholders in the next weeks but will be decided before the summer. A possible agenda for these events would be as follows:

**Table 6.4 Proposed agenda for the workshops**

Timing	Topic	Content	Responsible
<b>9:00-10:00</b>	<b>Registration of participants</b>		
10:00-10:15	Welcome	Introduction of the study and explaining its relevance.	CARIFORUM Directorate, EU Representative Study Team
10:15-10:30	Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aim of the study;</li> <li>• Process of study;</li> <li>• Methodology of the study.</li> </ul>	Study team
10:30-11:00	Implementation of the EPA: progress and challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of interim results;</li> <li>• Discussion with participants.</li> </ul>	Study team with local expert
11:00-11:45	Economic impacts of the EPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of interim results;</li> <li>• Discussion with participants.</li> </ul>	Study team with local expert
<b>11:45-12:45</b>	<b>Feedback from stakeholders (Moderated by the Consultations Team)</b>		
13 :00-14 :00	Lunch Break and Networking		
14:15-15:00	Social, gender, human rights and environmental impacts of the EPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of interim results;</li> <li>• Discussion with participants.</li> </ul>	Study team with local expert
15:00-16.15	Wrap up and closing	Summarising key results of the workshop.	Study team
16-15-17.15	Inputs from Stakeholders		

### 6.3. Planning of consultation activities

We foresee two main phases of the consultations. In the period until the summer (April-June 2019), the focus of the consultations is on implementation of the agreement, and identifying impacts. This period has commenced with a visit of some core team members to key regional organisations, and by contacting all national EPA coordinators and customs authorities. Based on the first findings, more detailed instructions are being provided to the other members of the consultation team. In this period, the focus in terms of stakeholders will be on the public sector as well as the main business associations. Consultations with business will focus on the importers and freight forwarders. In the second phase of the consultations (July-November 2019), the focus is on the deeper analysis of impacts, with particular attention on business and more generally civil society.

The planning of the consultation activities is as follows:

- Week of 29<sup>th</sup> of April: start of targeted consultations, with visits to Guyana and Barbados. Consultations with regional organisations and national organisations will be combined during these visits. This visit (together with the more advanced desk work at that time) will help to further detail the interview questionnaires and guidelines;
- May-June: targeted consultations in other selected countries (CARIFORUM and EU);
- July-October: second part of targeted stakeholder consultations, focusing on deeper analysis of impacts;
- November (to be confirmed): participation in EU's Civil Society Dialogue in Brussels;
- October/November: final workshops in CARIFORUM countries.

## 7. WORK PLAN

This chapter provides the work plan of our activities. An important element in this is the planning of activities. In addition, it contains an overview of the risks and how we plan to mitigate these. Annex J presents a full Gantt chart for the evaluation.

### 7.1. Planning

The Timetable in Table 7.1 shows the timing of the different phases and the related deliverables. We note that while officially the phases are in sequence, in reality there will be some overlap. For example, the work of phase III includes data analysis and literature review. There is no reason to await this analysis until after the data collection part. So these activities will also start immediately after the inception phase. Further details on the planning of the consultation activities are also included in section 6.3.

**Table 7.1 Timetable of deliverables**

Study Phases	Responsible	Tasks	Timing (months after kick-off meeting)	Timing (dates)
<b>Kick-off Meeting</b>				5 <sup>th</sup> March 2019
<b>Phase I:</b>	Contractor	Inception Phase (Task 1-5)		
	Contractor	Inception Report	1 month	4 April 2019
<b>Meeting to discuss the Inception Report</b>				11 April 2019
<b>Phase II</b>	Contractor	Data collection (Task 6-9) Data analysis: EPA implementation, including tariff phase-down (Task 10).		11 April- 25 July 2019
	Commission	Online public Consultation (Task 9) (Analysis provided to Contractor early in Phase II)		11 April- 25 July 2019
	Contractor	Implementation report + Annexes	5 months	25 July 2019
<b>Meeting to discuss the Implementation Report</b>				Week 4 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> September 2019
<b>Phase III</b>	Commission	Economic modelling if feasible Strategic guidance for Phase IV Results submitted to Contractor at the time of the Interim Report Meeting		
	Contractor	Data analysis: descriptive statistics, qualitative impact analysis,		

Study Phases	Responsible	Tasks	Timing (months after kick-off meeting)	Timing (dates)
		development cooperation (Tasks 11, 12, 13)		
	Contractor	Interim Technical Report + Annexes	8 months (-3 weeks)	14 <sup>th</sup> of October 2019
<b>Meeting to discuss the Interim Report and present/discuss the economic modelling</b>				Week 21 <sup>st</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
<b>Civil Society Dialogue</b>				November 2019
<b>Presentation at EPA Committee and/or Join Council</b>				Nov/Dec 2019
<b>Phase IV</b>	Contractor	Data analysis: quantitative impact analysis, case studies, overall evaluation questions (Tasks 14, 15, 16)		
	Contractor	Draft Final Report + Annexes	11 months	Early January 2020
<b>Meeting to discuss the Draft Final report</b>				
	Contractor	Final Report + Annexes	13 months	Early March 2020
<b>Final Presentation in Brussels, TBD</b>				March 2020

## 7.2. Risks: identification and mitigation plan

In each study, there are a number of risks. In the table below we identify the potential risks for this study and indicate how we plan to manage / mitigate these.

**Table 6.2 Potential risks to the ex-post evaluation**

Risk	Management / mitigation
<b>Internal</b>	
Problems with stakeholder engagement due to lack of capacity and resources	Dissemination of information about the this study at an early stage of the project will be important to get the stakeholders involved. In addition, there should be sufficient focus on readability of the reports and other material we produce, so it can also be understood by the non-technical reader. The existing networks of our team members will also help to get stakeholders involved. It should be noted that some stakeholders may not be able to assess or articulate how the EPA has impacted them. With some of these, working on the basis of the intervention logic may help to create a better picture. Others may not take the time for the evaluation. Especially with SMEs, this is a real risks. In those cases, we identify experts or organisations that can 1) act as an intermediary to involve these stakeholders (e.g. through small surveys or focus group discussions) or 2) provide more inputs and feedback on the possible impact on certain stakeholders groups.
Stakeholders are not willing to engage	Some stakeholders may not be willing to engage. For this we intend to approach them through a recommendation letter issued by the CARIFORUM Directorate and/or the European

Risk	Management / mitigation
	<p>Commission. There may also be stakeholders unwilling to give a transparent picture on the implementation or impact of the EPA. It is therefore important to triangulate the information, and try to obtain information from various sources. E.g. for customs issues: we get information available from the authorities, we speak to the authorities, but also to freight forwarders and SMEs. This should help to obtain a comprehensive picture of the situation. Where there may still be gaps, we will make comments on the reliability of the findings. N</p>
<p>Unbalanced mix of stakeholders</p>	<p>The EPA can affect a broad range of stakeholders. It is important that the perspective from all these stakeholders is taken into account, such as vulnerable groups. We have taken this into account when compiling our stakeholder database and will continue to monitor this throughout the study. If we find there is an imbalance in representation of specific groups, we will make extra efforts to reach the underrepresented group(s) in particular (see also first point).</p>
<p>Reliability of available data</p>	<p>Obtaining complete and reliable statistics is notoriously difficult with respect to a number of areas, such as NTMs, investment, more specific statistics on the CARIFORUM Member States, etc. We are well versed with the strengths, limitations and benefits of the various databases in these fields, and can put the data into perspective. In addition, we will apply our expertise in data verification and validation to address possible problems. Finally, in this study it will be crucial to complement our quantitative analysis with more qualitative approaches to obtain as complete a picture as possible (see the above comments on stakeholder consultations).</p>
<p>Hurricane-related risks</p>	<p>In June/July, there is a significant risk of hurricanes in the CARIFORUM region. While the hurricanes are outside our control, the fact that we work with local consultants in various states, will make the consultations flexible and easy to adjust. In countries with remote consultations, there could be temporary problems with communication channels, which could create delays. We will keep close contact with the client to discuss any problems and implications in this respect.</p>
<p>Not sufficient links between the different tasks, resulting in a disjointed study</p>	<p>With the variety of topics and geographical area to be covered, the team consists of a large number of experts. The challenge then becomes to ensure consistency of the analyses and their results, within the overall framework of the study. This requires cooperation and coordination across all team members. We have to main ways to avoid this risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A clear analytical framework and timetable, so that all team members understand what is expected and how their analyses feed in into the evaluation;</li> <li>• A core team of experienced experts, who frequently discuss progress, problems encountered and how to solve them. They explicitly pay attention to the links between the different tasks.</li> </ul>

## **ANNEX A: DESCRIPTION OF THE AGREEMENT**

**This Annex summarises the main elements of the agreement. The full text of the agreement is available at:**

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:289:0003:1955:EN:PDF>

### **a) Objectives of the EPA**

The stated objectives of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA are (1) the reduction and eventual eradication of poverty; (2) the promotion of regional economic integration and cooperation; (3) the strengthening of the region's integration in the world economy; (4) the improvement of the region's capacities in terms of trade policy and trade-related issues; (5) the establishment and implementation of an effective, predictable and transparent regulatory framework for trade and investment in the region, (6) the improvement of the role of the private-sector; and (7) the reinforcement of the relations between the Parties (the CARIFORUM countries concerned and the EU Member States) on the basis of solidarity and mutual interest.

The European Commission reiterated several times during the negotiations that the EPA agreement is focused on the development of the CARIFORUM countries, and is based on the two main pillars of regional integration and economic and institutional cooperation.

### **b) Progressive elimination of Customs Duties**

The EPA provides for immediate duty free, quota free access of products originating in the CARIFORUM States exported to the EU including, as from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010. This excludes products of Chapter 93 (Arms and Ammunition). For sugar and rice, which are considered in the EU as sensitive products, a longer period for the phasing out of tariffs had been provided and have since expired..

The agreement also requires the signatory CARIFORUM States to gradually eliminate customs duties on their exports and imports, in various phases. The process of liberalisation started three years after the signature of the Agreement and will take place over a period of 25 years. In 2018, the CARIFORUM States are supposed to have liberalised 61.1% of their imports of products originating in the EU. The pace of liberalisation is faster for the Dominican Republic. The CARIFORUM States, however, excluded from the liberalisation commitments so-called sensitive products up to 13.1% of the value of their imports, thus liberalising their trade with the EU for at least 86.9 % of it. The main sensitive products excluded from tariff liberalization on the Caribbean side are in the sectors of spirits, spiritual beverages, agricultural and processed agricultural products; chemicals, furniture and other industrial products.

The total amount of trade flows (imports and exports) which will be liberalized between the CARIFORUM and EU by the end of the transition period (2033) will be 92%.The parties believe this is sufficient to meet the requirements of Article XXIV of the GATT, which accepts a deviation from the most favoured nation principle for free trade agreements to the extent they cover "substantially all trade" among the parties.

The EPA also requires the elimination of duties and charges, which were applied in a discriminatory manner at the signature of the agreement, over ten years, with full application over seven years and removal in the succeeding three years. These duties and charges now must be entirely removed. All other taxes (for example, value added tax) which are applied equally on imports and domestic production may continue to be applied and be autonomously determined.

Another feature of the EPA is that it provides for the most favourable treatment among the parties, i.e. the immediate extension to them of the higher benefits that one or several parties may grant to third parties through separate free trade or cooperation agreements. The MFN clause is tempered in favour of the CARIFORUM States: it applies with respect to the more favourable treatment they would grant to "any major trading economy" only. Furthermore, the Clause does not include the preferential treatment Caribbean countries are granting and will grant to each other in the context of their regional integration.



The EPA also provides for the total prohibition of export duties, with immediate effect on EU side, and progressively, on the CARIFORUM side, on the basis of a schedule annexed to the Agreements.

Finally, in the event that tariff liberalisation causes significant difficulty to a CARIFORUM State, the tariff liberalisation schedule may be modified provided that the date for tariff elimination is maintained and the level of liberalised trade is achieved. Moreover safeguard measures may be applied in the event that trade liberalisation leads to large unexpected import surges (see below on trade defence measures).

**c) Rules of origin**

Only goods which meet the rules of origin will benefit from EPA preferential market access. Rules of origin determine the origin of imported goods.

The determination of the origin of a product is easy when it is wholly obtained in one country: the product originates in that country. This determination becomes more complicated when the products are made of parts and components manufactured in more than one country or when they are subject to various processing operations in several countries, including the importing country itself. This situation is not so uncommon in CARIFORUM countries, considering the multiplication of transnational operations on certain specific products such as consumer appliances, textiles and clothing or food. The typical rule of origin is: when a product is made of parts or components originating in different countries, it acquires the origin of the country where it underwent its last substantial transformation. Three tests may be applied to determine which is the country of the last substantial transformation: a change in tariff classification, i.e. the finished product acquires the origin of the country where it acquires its final tariff classification<sup>16</sup>, a value added test, i.e. the finished product acquires the origin of the country where a certain percentage of its value is obtained<sup>17</sup>, and a specified working or processing i.e. the finished good acquires the origin of the country where such specified working or processing, defined in advance, takes place<sup>18</sup>.

Under the Cotonou Agreement, the European Commission could apply "preferential" rules of origin with respect to imports from CARIFORUM countries, rendering in practice a determination of CARIFORUM origin for these imports more difficult than under the regular rules of origin<sup>19</sup>. The Cotonou agreements, however, provided for diagonal cumulation, i.e. all elements obtained in an ACP State could be taken into consideration for the acquisition of the preferential origin, even if they were obtained in more than one country. Cumulation presents the advantage that it fosters intra-regional trade and regional sourcing for inputs. This may provide interesting opportunities for cross-regional synergies in a number of sectors.

The rules of origin in the CARIFORUM-EU EPA are more relaxed - compared to those contained in the Cotonou Partnership Agreement - to make it easier for certain goods from CARIFORUM to qualify for preferential treatment under the EPA. The goods concerned are particularly flour, biscuits and other bakery products; jams and jellies; chocolate confectionery; juices and drinks; garments, of both knit and non-knit fabric; and air conditioning units. The rules of origin are contained in Protocol I of the EPA and the same rules of origin apply to trade in both directions - from the EU to CARIFORUM and from CARIFORUM to the EU. The List in Annex II of Protocol I specifies the necessary working or processing which must be carried out on non-originating materials if the final product is to be considered as originating.

Finally, in relation to cumulation, this is possible across the CARIFORUM, with the European Community, with the other ACP States, with the OCTs, with South Africa and even with non-CARIFORUM neighbouring developing countries under certain conditions. The products originating in the countries that are not parties to the agreement may participate to cumulation

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<sup>16</sup> This test presents the advantage of simplicity, but does not always distinguish complex transformations from lighter ones. It may discourage value added operations abroad or in countries which are not tied by a preferential trade agreement.

<sup>17</sup> This test, while it is subtler than the change in tariff classification, is also more difficult to implement, since it requires an objective and independent assessment of the value of the raw material and of the processing carried out on it. Such test, like the change in tariff classification, may discourage outward processing of complex operations in countries not parties to a preferential trade agreement.

<sup>18</sup> This test is from far the more precise, but cannot be implemented in a general way. It is typically applied to a limited number of commodities representing important commercial interests.

<sup>19</sup> Article 7 of the Cotonou Agreement. See Article 174 of the Fourth CARIFORUM-EC Convention.

only if, firstly, the rules of origin applicable to them are identical to those provided in the agreement and, secondly, all the countries participating in the scheme concluded an agreement on administrative cooperation with the EU and between themselves.

**d) Trade Defence Instruments**

The EU - CARIFORUM EPA regulates the adoption of *anti-dumping or countervailing measures* in accordance with the relevant WTO Agreements. It enables the parties to adopt such measures as and when necessary. It also enables the parties to apply multilateral safeguard measures in accordance with the relevant WTO rules. Consistently with the WTO, the EU may exclude the CARIFORUM States from the scope of the application of its multilateral safeguard measures. The application of this exclusion was to be reviewed 5 years after the entry into force of the Agreement.

Furthermore, all parties maintain the possibility to impose bilateral safeguard measures in relation to the benefits granted to each other under the agreement (1) should serious injury to the domestic industry producing like or directly competitive products occurs; or (2) should there be disturbances in a sector of the economy, or (3) disturbances in the markets of like or directly competitive agricultural products or in the mechanisms regulating those markets. The idea is to enable a party to protect itself when difficulties cause major social problems, or serious economic difficulties for the importing party. This is an important element of flexibility for the CARIFORUM States. The bilateral safeguard measures are of course limited to the level of the WTO bound duty rate for the products concerned.

The agreement provides also for specific safeguard measures in favour of the outermost regions, considering the vulnerability of these regions underlined in article 349 of the TFEU.

**e) Non-tariff measures and technical barriers to trade**

The EU - CARIFORUM EPA emphasizes the importance of the prohibition of quantitative restrictions and measures having equivalent effect. This is without prejudice to the parties' capacity to implement technical regulations, standards and SPS measures which are necessary to protect human health or life, natural resources, public morality, etc.

The EPA provides for the principle of National Treatment (NT) under which imports are treated in exactly the same manner as like goods produced domestically, not only in terms of taxation but also in terms of access to channels of distribution and sale.

The provisions pertaining to *Technical Barriers to Trade* in the EPA provide that parties must inform each other of proposals for technical regulations and standards that are especially relevant to trade between them. There are also commitments to inform and consult each other on specific issues as they arise, inform on the preclusion of imports for reasons of safety and the environment; and identify priority products in order to collaborate so that these products meet requirements for access to each other's markets. A key feature of this chapter is its regional dimension and the cooperation between national and relevant regional authorities. Finally, the EPA also includes a commitment to cooperate in international standard setting bodies, facilitating the participation of CARIFORUM countries' representatives in their meetings. As usual in this type of trade Agreement, the definitions used are based on the WTO TBT Agreement.

The chapter on *Sanitary and Phytosanitary* measures tends to be focused on: (a) the designation of competent authorities on SPS measures by both parties and the creation of a regional body to represent the CARIFORUM Competent Authorities; (b) collaboration and integration in the region aimed at establishing harmonised SPS measures; (c) abidance by multilateral obligations (WTO SPS Agreement, International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the CODEX Alimentarius, and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)); and (d) transparency provisions.

**f) Customs and Trade Facilitation**

Customs law and procedures provide for the rules and procedures specifying the conditions upon which customs duties are due. Customs facilitation addresses all measures aimed at reducing trade transaction costs related with the passage of borders. The EPA acknowledges the importance of customs and trade facilitation in trade. It provides for enhanced cooperation among the parties for the:

- (a) exchange of information concerning customs legislation, regulations and procedures;
- (b) cooperation to combat irregularities and fraud in customs and related matters;
- (c) development of joint initiatives to improve import, export and transit procedures; and

- (d) cooperation in the relevant international organizations such as the WTO and the World Customs Organization (WCO).

Several measures are proposed which aim to simplify and harmonise procedures, provide for publication (including by way of the internet) of customs laws and procedures and standardise forms and data used by customs. The provisions of the WTO Agreement on Customs Valuation are incorporated by reference in the EPA.

The parties also agree that in case of "*failure to provide administrative cooperation and/or of irregularities or fraud*", the benefits of the preferential treatment can be suspended towards the failing party. This provision is of course essential to discourage circumvention of rules of origin or of trade remedies.

Furthermore, there is a general recognition that joint efforts and initiatives must be conducted to foster regional harmonisation of customs laws and procedures within the CARIFORUM States.

The EPA contains a rather detailed Protocol on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters (Protocol II).

**g) Special treatment for agriculture and fisheries products**

The CARIFORUM-EU agreement provides that no party may introduce any new subsidy programme, or increase any existing subsidy that is contingent on export, in relation to *agricultural* products. Furthermore, the EU commits to phase out all existing export subsidies in relation to agricultural products for which the CARIFORUM States concerned have committed to the elimination of customs duties.

In the EPA special treatment is granted to fisheries, living marine resources and agriculture. Indeed, the Parties "*acknowledge the economic and social importance*" of activities relating to these sectors and of the utilisation of the natural resources in the CARIFORUM States. A higher level of tolerance, therefore, can be granted in favour of domestic measures aiming at ensuring food security, employment, poverty alleviation, foreign exchange earnings, effective conservation of resources and social stability of local communities.

Furthermore, special safeguard provisions are available when "*availability of, or access to, foodstuffs or other products essential to ensure food security of a Signatory [CARIFORUM] State*" is problematic and when "*this situation gives rise or is likely to give rise to major difficulties for such a State*".

Finally the agreement provides for specific measures in favour of the outermost regions for what is related to elimination of duties on products of tariff heading 08030019 (bananas) and 1701 (sugar).

**h) Services, investment and capital movement**

The CARIFORUM-EU EPA contains a chapter pertaining to services trade liberalisation, investment and capital movement. The provisions of the chapter are based on the rules of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), but go beyond the commitments made at the WTO.

The services chapter of the EPA is characterized by the principle that extensive market access for CARIFORUM countries is granted into the EU, while the CARIFORUM countries will open their markets gradually and progressively, with transition periods and safeguards. EU commitments cover on the whole 94 % of its services sectors. The extent of CARIFORUM countries' commitments is on average 75% of the services sectors. Liberalization commitments are specified for each party, service sector and mode of supply in a schedule of commitments. Each party maintains the right to regulate its market and the Agreement provides for regulatory cooperation in several sectors, including tourism, maritime transport, finance and telecommunications, on the basis of agreed regulatory principles. One of the most positive outcomes of the Agreement in the eyes of the CARIFORUM States is the inclusion by the EU of several commitments on Mode 4 (movement of natural persons), including contractual services providers, short-term business visitors, sellers of goods, investors, graduate trainees, and, to a lesser extent, independent professionals. CARIFORUM States also took commitments for all categories of Mode 4, especially contractual services suppliers and independent professionals.

In relation to investment, the parties also agreed to liberalize foreign direct investment (i.e. through the establishment of a commercial presence in the country) on an asymmetric basis,

whereby the EU would make more commitments than the CARIFORUM countries. The parties also maintain their regulatory autonomy with respect to investment. The Agreement however contains prescriptions pertaining to the behaviour of investors, to prevent abuses, such as corruption, or circumvention of core labour standards or environmental obligations to which the hosting country is tied under public international law.

In relation to capital movement, the CARIFORUM-EU EPA provides for its complete liberalisation as well as that of current payments, subject to the usual safeguards to protect the monetary system, where necessary.

Under the EPA schedules of services liberalisation, the following main sectors are now liberalised across the parties: computer services, courier services, telecommunications services, financial services, international maritime transportation services, and tourism services. For all these services, the EPA provides for the adoption by the parties of specific regulatory principles and for regulatory cooperation and dialogue. Several other services sectors are subject to important liberalisation commitments in the parties' schedules of commitments.

Furthermore, the EPA guarantees National Treatment which consists in treating the other parties' operators or investors no less favourably than their own like services and service suppliers. The Agreement also provides for Most-Favoured-Nation Treatment by guaranteeing at least the same treatment for EPA signatory States as that provided to third party countries. By contrast with the obligation on the EU, the most favourable treatment that must be extended in the CARIFORUM States to the EU services and services suppliers is not the one granted to any country, but the one applicable to any major trading economy with whom an economic integration agreement has been concluded.

The EPA also contains measures concerning the mutual recognition between the Parties of qualifications and/or professional experiences. While the Parties retain their right to require that natural persons of the other Party possess the qualifications needed to supply a service inside the Party's territory, the Agreement encourages the Parties and their relevant professional bodies to develop recommendations on mutual recognition of qualifications. No such agreement seems to have been signed yet.

The EPA promotes transparency and commits the Parties to promptly respond to all requests by the other Party and to establish enquiry points to provide information, if requested, to investors and service suppliers of the other Party.

It also establishes general procedures on how the Parties should deal with submissions of applications for the authorization of commercial presences or supply of services. The Parties commit themselves to respond to these applications in a timely manner and, at the request of the applicant, to provide information regarding the status of the application. Furthermore, investors and service suppliers can ask for judicial, administrative and/or arbitral reviews of decisions regarding their applications and the Parties need to ensure that these reviews are objective and impartial.

Finally, the EPA sets a five years period from the EPA's entry into force, during which the Parties are to negotiate the further liberalisation of the investment and the trade in services sectors.

#### **i) Electronic Commerce**

As electronic commerce increases trade opportunities, the Parties agree to promote development of this type of commerce between them in a way that is compatible with the highest international standards of data protection. An important aspect is that the Parties agree that deliveries by electronic means cannot be subject to custom duties, as their delivery is considered a provision of services which falls under the liberalisation measures of cross-border trade in services.

Furthermore, the Parties commit themselves to maintain a dialogue on regulatory issues raised by electronic commerce and to exchange information on legislation regarding the electronic commerce and the implementation of such legislation.

#### **j) Competition, Public Procurement and Protection of Personal Data**

The CARIFORUM-EU EPA addresses competition, public procurement and protection of personal data.

In relation to competition, the CARIFORUM-EU EPA prohibits anti-competitive conduct that affects trade between the Parties. This mainly concerns cartels and abuses of a dominant position. There are also provisions pertaining to the behaviour of State trading enterprises, i.e. those enterprises granted with special or exclusive rights. However, the EPA does not address mergers and State Aids. As to enforcement, the EPA provides for cooperation among the parties' competition authorities. It is important to note that while the EPA contains a distinctive chapter on competition, other elements of competition policy can be found throughout the Agreement referring to the specifics of individual sectors.

In relation to Public Procurement, the EPA sets out rules to promote transparency and wider accountability in the public procurement practices of the EPA signatories without requiring an opening of the public procurement market. The public procurement chapter establishes some principles and rules that need to be considered during the tendering process. These rules are intended for contracts larger than €200,000 and tendered by central authorities. This severely limits the number of tenders that these rules can be applied to as most of the public expenditure in the CARIFORUM States do not meet these two conditions. The rules provide for some basic non-discrimination principles and minimum transparency requirements.

Finally, in relation to the Protection of Personal Data, the agreement recognises the importance of regulation in this area, as well as the need for coherence with international instruments providing for cooperation and exchange of information. Key regulatory principles the parties are expected to observe include the promotion of transparency in the processing operation, a security principle aimed at stopping data leaks and a principle guaranteeing the right of the individual to obtain a copy of all information relating to him/her, to rectify this data and to object to the processing of certain information. Where sensitive information is concerned (for example racial/ethnic origins or religious beliefs), the data processing operation can only be done if domestic legislation provides additional safeguards. The implementation of these principles must be ensured by appropriate administrative bodies, including independent supervisory authorities that must be governed by legal and regulatory frameworks that respect the international standard regarding the protection of personal data.

#### **k) Innovation and Intellectual property**

The CARIFORUM-EU EPA also contains an extensive chapter pertaining to the protection of intellectual property and the promotion of innovation and technological development. Not only it requires the parties to abide by existing international convention protecting IP rights, but it also provides for extended cooperation among the parties to facilitate technology transfer and technical innovations, with the view, among others to "*foster competitiveness of enterprises*". Cooperation among research teams and technical centres is provided as well as exchanges of scholars, joint research networks, etc. Special sectors for which research cooperation is provided include the information society, information and communication technologies and eco-innovation and renewable energy.

In relation to the protection of intellectual property rights themselves, the provisions tend to go beyond what is provided by the WTO TRIPs agreement. They are more precise also. There is an extensive chapter on the protection of geographical indications, which is one of the issues which is at the heart of EU's trade policy, and interesting provisions pertaining to the preservation of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore. The Convention on biological diversity is also mentioned in this regard. However, there is no recognised protection for the genetic and traditional resources. The parties merely agreed to "*working towards the development of internationally agreed sui generis models for the legal protection of traditional knowledge*". Furthermore, there is no provision for the sharing of profits arising from the exploitation of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore by patent holders.

Finally, like in most other subjects, the EPA encourages regional harmonization of IP rules as well as "*further progress towards regional management and enforcement of national intellectual property rights*".

#### **l) Sustainable development and social aspects**

The CARIFORUM-EU EPA contains chapters dedicated to Sustainable development and social aspects. In general, these provisions recognise the right of all parties to regulate their markets to pursue these objectives, while requesting them to keep each other informed, avoid unnecessary obstacles to trade and work towards regional harmonisation of these policies in the CARIFORUM States.

Regarding sustainable development, the Agreement aims to ensure that any trade activity does not cause environmental degradation but instead leads to sustainable development. It seeks to promote a sound and sustainable management of the environment. The EPA reaffirms the Parties' commitment to conserve, protect and improve their natural environment and to prioritise sustainable development.

The sustainable development chapter recognises the rights of the CARIFORUM states and of the EU countries to issue laws which protect the environment through regulation. The Parties agree that the development needs of each state need to be considered when deciding to protect the environment but stress the importance of maintaining a high level of environmental and public health protection. However, the protection of the environment cannot be used as a reason to suspend the trade concessions described in the EPA or to discriminate against another Party. The EPA also encourages the signatories to cooperate in the development of their legal framework regarding the environment at a regional level using international environmental standards.

Any measure that is aimed at protecting the environment and public health and that affects trade between the EPA signatories is to be introduced in a transparent manner in order to promote cooperation and foster confidence-building.

As to social rights, the parties commit to respect core labour standards in the 1998 International Labour Organisation Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights of Work and the United Nations declaration on Full Employment and Decent Work. The text specifically mentions the freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining, the abolition of forced labour, the elimination of the worst forms of child labour and non-discrimination in respect to employment as basic social rights that are to be respected by the signatories of the Agreement.

The "social aspects" chapter of the EPA emphasises the importance of policies that ensure social cohesion and of measures that promote decent work. The EPA encourages the development of such measures at a regional level in order to promote regional integration to the benefit of ordinary workers.

The EU and the CARIFORUM states agree to support each other in the implementation of the provisions of the chapter by cooperating in the formulation of national legislation. The introduction of programmes aimed at raising the awareness of the public regarding their rights in the labour market and the strengthening of the mechanisms for social dialogue are some of the areas in which the Parties agree to cooperate and to facilitate support.

However, the chapter prevents the introduction of labour standards intended to be used for protectionist reasons and does not permit the suspension of trade concessions to enforce the provisions related to social issues. Furthermore, the EPA commits signatories not to lower the level of protection conferred to the workers by national legislation in order to promote trade or foreign investment.

#### **m) Development Cooperation**

Every individual chapter of the EPA provides for cooperation and technical assistance in the subject addressed. Moreover, the provisions of the Cotonou Agreement still apply in relation to development financial cooperation and the financial instruments provided for in this regard (European Development Fund). The objectives of development cooperation, including a financial target, are reiterated in the CF-EU EPA Joint Declaration on Development Cooperation.

#### **n) Dispute Avoidance and Settlement**

The EPA contains a specific chapter providing for a mandatory dispute settlement mechanism in relation to all matters arising under the agreement. The EPA, however, excludes from the scope of the mechanism the provisions pertaining to development finance cooperation, which remain subject to the procedures established under the Cotonou Agreement. Forum shopping is possible with the WTO Dispute Settlement Procedure. However, the two procedures cannot be initiated at the same time.

#### **o) General Exceptions**

The EPA contains general exception clauses mirroring those of Articles XII, XVII, XX and XXI of GATT and XII, XIV and XIV bis of GATS, pertaining to national security, public morality, the protection of human, animal or plant life or health, the conservation of exhaustible natural resources, balance of payment, etc.

**p) Institutional provisions**

The EPA provides for several joint institutions for the monitoring and management of the Agreement.

### ***Joint CARIFORUM-EU Council***

The Joint CARIFORUM-EU Council is the highest institution created by the EPA and its role is to supervise the implementation of the Agreement. The Joint CARIFORUM-EU Council shall meet at ministerial level at regular intervals, not exceeding a period of two years. The Joint Council is responsible for monitoring the fulfilment of the EPA's objectives and the examination of proposals and recommendations from the Parties regarding the review of the Agreement. The Joint Council has the power to take decisions and to make recommendations on any issues covered by the EPA. Its decisions are binding on the Parties and they must be implemented in their national legislation. A representative of the EU and a representative of the CARIFORUM States will take turns in chairing the Joint CARIFORUM-EU Council, with the change taking place at the end of the calendar year. The Joint Council is required to provide periodic reports on activities related to the EPA to the Joint ACP-EU Council of Ministers established under the CPA.

### ***CARIFORUM-EU Trade and Development Committee***

The CARIFORUM-EU Trade and Development Committee is the second highest institution established by the EPA and its role is to assist the Joint Council in supervising the implementation of the Agreement. The Trade and Development Committee is to play a very important role as it is charged with specific responsibilities that are crucial to ensuring that all issues affecting the partnership are quickly resolved. The Trade and Development Committee has therefore been granted specific trade-related and development-related functions. The Committee is to be chaired alternately for a period of one year by a representative of the EU and a representative of CARIFORUM, with the change taking place at the end of the calendar year. It is required to report annually to the Joint CARIFORUM-EU Council.

### ***CARIFORUM-EU Parliamentary Committee***

The CARIFORUM-EU Parliamentary Committee is a forum where members of the European Parliament and members of CARIFORUM legislatures meet to discuss various issues related to the Agreement. The Parliamentary Committee can request information from the Joint Council regarding the implementation of the EPA and needs to be informed of the decisions and recommendations of the Joint Council. It can also make recommendations to the Joint Council and to the Trade and Development Committee.

### ***CARIFORUM-EU Consultative Committee***

The CARIFORUM-EU Consultative Committee brings together representatives of civil society, who include persons from academia, and social and economic partners. The composition of the European Delegation to the CARIFORUM-EU Consultative Committee is Decision 1/2014 of the Joint Council and provided for in the Council Decision of 16 November 2009<sup>17</sup> and the 15 members from the EU are drawn from NGOs and academia (with 40% of the seats between them), and employers, socio-economic actors and trade unions (20% of the seats each). The CARIFORUM representation reflects academia, private sector and employers, organised labour, non-governmental organisations, youth and gender interests.

### ***Special Committee on Customs Cooperation and Trade Facilitation***

The role and function of this Committee are expressed in the Agreement and include monitoring implementation of the provisions dealing with Trade Facilitation and monitoring implementation of the rules of origin, and consideration of requests for and grant of derogation under the rules of origin.



## ANNEX B: PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX

### CARIFORUM-EU obligations matrix

- This matrix displays the main obligations stemming from the CARIFORUM-EU Agreement under each relevant trade policy area that each party (EU and CARIFORUM Member States) needs to comply with. The matrix will be completed for all CARIFORUM MS and the EU; it will be completed for 4 EU MS where relevant.

Introduction for each country specifying the following:

- Ratification: yes / No;
- Latest implementation reviews;
- Sources of information.

#### A. Country Matrix

Trade policy area	Provisions of the CARIFORUM-EU Agreement	Country's/EU's implementation (yes/no)	Comments
<b>Objectives</b>	1) the reduction and eventual eradication of poverty; (2) the promotion of regional economic integration and cooperation; (3) the strengthening of the region's integration in the world economy; (4) the improvement of the region's capacities in terms of trade policy and trade-related issues; (5) the establishment and implementation of an effective, predictable and transparent regulatory framework for trade and investment in the region, (6) the improvement of the role of the private-sector; and (7) the reinforcement of the relations between the Parties (the CARIFORUM countries concerned and the EU Member States) on the basis of solidarity and mutual interest		
<b>Trade in goods</b>	<b>Tariff bindings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customs duties in Annex II (art. 15);</li> <li>Imports from EU States: elimination and notification of such elimination, since we are 10 years after signature (art. 16);</li> </ul>		

Trade policy area	Provisions of the CARIFORUM-EU Agreement	Country's/EU's implementation (yes/no)	Comments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modification of tariffs in Trade and Development Committee (art. 17).</li> </ul>	
	<b>Export duties</b>	Elimination of export duties (Art.14).	
	<b>Non-discrimination MFN</b>	Most favourable treatment granted to any country (EU) or to "any major trading economy" (CARIFORUM) (art.19).	
	<b>Non-discrimination National Treatment</b>	National treatment for signatories regarding internal taxation and regulation (art. 27).	
	<b>Fees and charges</b>	Fees limited to the real cost of services (art. 13).	
	<b>Transparency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transparency in TBT (art. 48);</li> <li>Transparency in SPS (art. 57);</li> <li>General provision of environmental transparency (art. 187).</li> </ul>	
	<b>Quantitative restrictions</b>	Prohibition of quantitative restrictions in imports and exports (Art. 26).	
	<b>Customs and Trade Facilitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced cooperation among the parties;</li> <li>Simplification and harmonisation of procedures;</li> <li>Publication (including by way of the internet) of customs laws and procedures;</li> <li>Standardisation of forms and data used by customs;</li> </ul>	

Trade policy area	Provisions of the CARIFORUM-EU Agreement	Country's/EU's implementation (yes/no)	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abidance by the provisions of the WTO Agreement on Customs Valuation;</li> <li>• Customs cooperation must be organized (art. 30, 31 and 35);</li> <li>• A Special Committee for Customs Cooperation is formed (art. 36).</li> </ul>		
	<p><b>Specific rules for agricultural goods</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progressive removal of all barriers to trade in the agricultural domain (art. 38 and 39);</li> <li>• CARIFORUM States must take specific measures required for food security (art. 40);</li> <li>• Preferential market access for traditional agricultural products (art. 42).</li> <li>• Specific rules for outermost regions ( Annexe II, 9)</li> </ul>		
			Special safeguard measures.
			Agricultural export subsidies are forbidden (art. 28).
	<p><b>Rules of origin</b></p> <p>Enforcement of rules of origin as specified in Protocol 1.</p> <p>Review of the rules of origin, particularly on key CARIFORUM export interests (art. 10).</p>		

Trade policy area	Provisions of the CARIFORUM-EU Agreement	Country's/EU's implementation (yes/no)	Comments
	<p>Cooperation with respect to Movement Certificates EUR.1 - provision of addresses and specimen impressions of the stamp used by their customs offices (Protocol 1, art.32).</p>		
	<p><b>Technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abidance by the WTO TBT Agreement (art. 44 and 46);</li> <li>• Designation of a contact point (art.49);</li> <li>• Collaboration, transparency, consultation and cooperation between the Signatories (art. 47, 48, 49 and 51);</li> <li>• Cooperation with International Standard Setting bodies (art. 50).</li> </ul>		
	<p><b>Sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abidance by the WTO SPS Agreement (art. 52 and 54);</li> <li>• Collaboration, transparency, consultation and cooperation through the Competent Authorities of each Signatory State (art. 55, 56, 57, 58 and 59).</li> </ul>		
	<p><b>Trade defence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anti-dumping and countervailing duties, in accordance with WTO agreements and cooperation with EU Member States (art. 23);</li> </ul>		

Trade policy area	Provisions of the CARIFORUM-EU Agreement	Country's/EU's implementation (yes/no)	Comments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specific safeguards procedure between Members of the EPA (art. 25);</li> <li>Multilateral safeguards are allowed and exclusion of CARIFORUM States from the scope of the measures is possible (art. 24).</li> </ul>	
<b>Trade in services</b>	<b>Ongoing liberalisation</b>	In less than 5 years negotiation for the additional liberalization of services shall be organized (art. 62).	
	<b>Regional integration</b>	Progressive removal of barriers between CARIFORUM States (art. 64).	
	<b>Liberalisation commitments (4 modes of supply)</b>	<p>No less favourable treatment than Annex IV for market access (art. 67).</p> <p>National treatment and MFN commitment (art. 68, 70, 76, 77, 78, 79, 83 (commitments Annex IV).</p>	
	<b>Non-discrimination MFN</b>	Most favourable treatment granted to any country (EU) or to "any major trading economy" (CARIFORUM) (art.70).	
	<b>Key personel, graduate trainees and business sellers</b>	Entry of key personnel and graduate trainees allowed for every sector liberalised under commercial presence mode (art. 80).	

Trade policy area	Provisions of the CARIFORUM-EU Agreement	Country's/EU's implementation (yes/no)	Comments
		Entry of business sellers allowed for every sector liberalised under commercial presence more and cross-boarder supply mode (art.81).	
	<b>Mutual recognition</b>	Negotiation of MRAs (art. 85).	
	<b>Transparency</b>	Transparency in regulation and enquiry point (art. 86). Other Agreements are also allowed (art. 71).	
	<b>Courier services</b>	Universal service and prevention of anti-competitive practices (90 and 91).	
	<b>Telecommunications</b>	Regulatory authority, ensure interconnection, prevention of anti-competitive practices (art. 95, 96, 97 and 98).	
	<b>Financial services</b>	Ensure transparency, confidentiality and data processing (art. 105 and 107).	
	<b>International Maritime Transport</b>	Access to ports and infrastructure, auxiliary maritime services (art. 109).	
	<b>Tourism and cultural cooperation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevention of anticompetitive practices, SME Facilitations, mutual recognition, quality and sustainable development (art. 111, 113, 114, 115 and 116);</li> <li>Accession to the UNESCO convention on the Protection and Promotion of</li> </ul>	

Trade policy area	Provisions of the CARIFORUM-EU Agreement	Country's/EU's implementation (yes/no)	Comments
	<p>the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (Protocol on cultural cooperation).</p>		
<b>Electronic commerce</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E-commerce not subject to customs duties (art.119);</li> <li>Dialogue on regulatory issues raised by electronic commerce and exchange of information on legislation regarding the electronic commerce and the implementation of such legislation (art.120).</li> </ul>		
<b>Capital movement</b>	<p>Liberalization (art.122-124).</p>		
<b>Intellectual property</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commitment to the TRIPS Agreement (art. 139);</li> <li>• Exceptions for least developed countries (art. 140);</li> <li>• Project of regional integration and harmonization (art. 141);</li> <li>• Prevention of control licensing practices or conditions pertaining to intellectual property rights which may adversely affect the international transfer of technology and that constitute an abuse of intellectual property rights (art. 142);</li> <li>• Copyright: Cooperative compliance with WIPO (art. 143);</li> <li>• Trademarks: common registration system (art. 144);</li> </ul>		

Trade policy area	Provisions of the CARIFORUM-EU Agreement	Country's/EU's implementation (yes/no)	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geographical indication: protection system in each territory (art. 145);</li> <li>• Industrial designs: Compliance with the 1999 Hague Agreement on Industrial designs (art. 146);</li> <li>• Patents: compliance with 1970 Washington Patent cooperation Treaty, 2000 Geneva Patent Law Treaty and 1977 Budapest Treaty on patent recognition (art. 147);</li> <li>• Utility models, plant varieties and genetic resources (art. 148, 149 and 150);</li> </ul> <p>Effective, proportioned and dissuasive enforcement (art. 151 to 163).</p>		
<b>Protection of personal data</b>	Implementation of appropriate regulatory regime (art. 197-201).		
<b>Government procurement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited to procuring entities of Annex VI (art. 167);</li> <li>• Transparency is the general principle (art. 168);</li> <li>• Selective and limited tendering procedures (art. 170 and 171);</li> <li>• Common basic government procurement rules (art. 173 to 181);</li> </ul> <p>Cooperation in the process of government procurement (art. 182).</p>		



Trade policy area	Provisions of the CARIFORUM-EU Agreement	Country's/EU's implementation (yes/no)	Comments
<b>Investment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equality of treatment for investors and respect of environmental regulations (art. 72 and 73); Investment review 3 years after signature (art. 74).</li> </ul>		
<b>Competition rules</b>	<b>Rules on undertakings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of rules in the 5 years following the signature of the EPA (art. 127); Cooperation and information sharing between Parties (art. 128 and 130).</li> </ul>		
	<b>Disciplines on State Trading Enterprises</b> <p>No distortions to trade through STEs (art. 129).</p>		
<b>Sustainable development and social aspects</b>	<p>Commitment to conserve, protect and improve their natural environment and to prioritise sustainable development.</p> <p>Commitment to respect core labour standards in the 1998 International Labour Organisation Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights of Work and the United Nations declaration on Full Employment and Decent Work. This concerns in particular the freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining, the abolition of forced labour, the elimination of the worst forms of child labour and non-discrimination in respect of employment.</p>		

Trade policy area	Provisions of the CARIFORUM-EU Agreement	Country's/EU's implementation (yes/no)	Comments
Transparency and awareness	Publications of laws and regulations (art. 235).		
Regional preference	Extension to all CARIFORUM countries of any favourable treatment granted by one CARIFORUM country to the EU (art. 238).		

### B. General Matrix

Trade policy area	Provisions of the CARIFORUM-EU Agreement	Implementation (yes/no)	Comments
Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dispute settlement – list of arbitrators;</li> <li>• Joint CARIFORUM-EU Council;</li> <li>• CARIFORUM-EU Trade and Development Committee;</li> <li>• CARIFORUM-EU Parliamentary Committee;</li> <li>• CARIFORUM-EU Consultative Committee;</li> <li>• Special Committee on Customs Cooperation and Trade Facilitation;</li> <li>• Special Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries;</li> <li>• Special Committee on Trade in Services.</li> </ul>		
Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuous monitoring required (Art. 5);</li> <li>• Joint mechanism for EPA monitoring.</li> </ul>		
Development Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every chapter of the EPA and CF-EU EPA Joint Declaration on Development Cooperation;</li> </ul>		

Ex-post evaluation of the EPA between the EU and its Member States and the CARIFORUM Member States

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participation in EU Framework Programmes (R&amp;D, innovation, competitiveness, etc) (art. 134).</li> </ul>		
Dialogue	Dialogue on financial issues and collaboration in the fight against illegal financial activities (art. 236, 237).		
Outermost regions of the EU	Mechanism for cooperation with outermost regions of the EU (art. 239).		

## **ANNEX C: PROPOSED STRUCTURE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION REPORT**

### **List of Abbreviations**

### **Acknowledgments**

### **Chapter 1. Executive Summary**

### **Chapter 2. Introduction and methodology**

- I. Objectives
- II. Results to be achieved
- III. Overall Methodology

### **Chapter 3. EPA Parties' Trade Policy State of Play**

- I. European Union  
CARIFORUM
- III. Summary of changes and impact on the EPA parties' rights and benefits

### **Chapter 4. Implementation of liberalisation commitments**

- I. Trade in Goods
  - a. Tariff bindings
  - b. Elimination of other duties and charges
  - c. Elimination of export duties
  - d. Non-discrimination
  - e. Quantitative restrictions
  - f. Transparency
- II. Trade in Services
  - a. Services schedules of commitments
  - b. Non-discrimination
  - c. Regional integration- Progressive removal of barriers between CARIFORUM States
  - d. On-going liberalisation
  - e. Entry of key personnel, graduate trainees and business sellers, contractual service suppliers and independent professionals
  - f. Transparency

### **Chapter 5. Implementation of regulatory commitments**

- I. Trade in Goods
  - a. Customs and Trade Facilitation
  - b. Specific rules for agricultural goods
  - c. Rules of origin
  - d. Technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures
  - e. Sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures
  - f. Trade defence
- II. Trade in Services
  - a. Domestic regulation in courier services
  - b. Domestic regulation in telecommunications services
  - c. Domestic regulation in financial services
  - d. Domestic regulation in International Maritime Transport
  - e. Domestic regulation in Tourism and cultural cooperation
  - f. Mutual recognition of professional qualifications
- III. Electronic commerce
- IV. Capital Movement
- V. Intellectual Property
- VI. Protection of Personal data

- VII. Public procurement
- VIII. Investment
- IX. Competition rules
- X. Sustainable development and social aspects
- XI. Regional Preference
- XII. Outermost Regions of the EU

#### **Chapter 6. Implementation of Institutional Aspects**

- I. Joint Institutions
- II. Monitoring
- III. Development Cooperation
- IV. Dialogue

#### **Chapter 7. Summary regarding implementation, trade irritants and challenges**

- I. Summary of implementation
  - a. Critical shortcomings
  - b. Consideration of deficits of the September 2014 five-year review
- II. Remaining trade irritants
  - a. Irritants covered by the EPA
  - b. Irritants not covered by the EPA
- III. Challenges regarding implementation
  - a. lack of political willingness to implement
  - b. lack of capacity
  - c. budgetary constraints
  - d. Priority given to or conflict with other trade agreements
- IV. Related issues
  - a. Awareness of the EPA
  - b. Reform of the business climate

#### **Chapter 8. Conclusions and recommendations**

- I. Overall conclusion regarding implementation and challenges
- II. Recommendations
  - a. Facilitate implementation
  - b. Low hanging fruits

## ANNEX D: LITERATURE REVIEW TABLE AND EXPANSION

Author / Published by	Title	Year	Link	Implementation	Impact	Methodology
World Bank	World Bank Enterprise Surveys	Multiple	<a href="#">Link</a>			X
Dominican Republic Ministry of Industry, Trade and SMEs	Implementation Report of the Dominican Republic of the Economic Partnership Agreement between the EU and CARIFORUM (Informe Sobre la Implementación en República Dominicana del Acuerdo de Asociación Económica UE-CARIFORO)	2018	Document received	X		
Troy Lorde, Antonio Alleyne	Estimating the Trade and Revenue Impacts of the European Union–CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement: A Case Study of Barbados	2018	<a href="#">Link</a>		X	
Roger Hosein, Rebecca Gookool, Troy Lorde	Trade, fiscal and welfare consideration of the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement: a CARICOM perspective	2018	<a href="#">Link</a>	X		
European Commission	Analysis of the use of preferences in the EU-CARIFORUM EPA in the Dominican Republic (Análisis del uso de preferencias del Acuerdo de Asociación Económica UE-CARIFORO)	2018	Not yet published	X		X
Evert-Jam Quak	The EU and its member states' trade support programmes for Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs)	2018	<a href="#">Link</a>		X	
World Trade Organisation	World Trade Organization, 2018, Factual Presentation: Economic Partnership	2017	<a href="#">Link</a>	X		

Author / Published by	Title	Year	Link	Implementation	Impact	Methodology
	Agreement between the CARIFORUM States and the European Union (Goods and Services), Report by the Secretariat					
World Bank	Open and Nimble: Finding Stable Growth in Small Economies, Summary.	2017	<a href="#">Link</a>	X		
Bruce Byiers, Quentin de Roquefeuil	Monitoring Regional Integration in Practice: Reflections from the EU-CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement	2017	<a href="#">Link</a>		X	
Ben Garner	Towards a European strategy on culture and development. Learning from the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement	2017	<a href="#">Link</a>		X	
Anthony Gonzales	The Caribbean-EU EPA: A Caribbean Perspective	2017	<a href="#">Link</a>		X	
World Bank	Taming Volatility: Fiscal Policy and Financial Development for Growth in the Eastern Caribbean.	2016	<a href="#">Link</a>			X
European Commission	Assessment of economic benefits generated by the EU Trade Regimes towards developing countries	2015	<a href="#">Link</a>			X
Eva Schmieg	Trade and Investment Agreements for Sustainable Development? Lessons from the EU's Economic Partnership Agreement with the Caribbean, Stiftung für Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP) – English version	2015	<a href="#">Link</a>		X	X

Ex-post evaluation of the EPA between the EU and its Member States and the CARIFORUM Member States

Author / Published by	Title	Year	Link	Implementation	Impact	Methodology
Interamerican Development Bank.	Understanding Economic Growth in the Caribbean Region: A Conceptual and Methodological Study,	2015	<a href="#">Link</a>			X
Josephine Nyakatawa	Lessons from Implementation of the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement	2015	<a href="#">Link</a>		X	
Ginelle Green	The CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement: Lessons from Implementation	2015	<a href="#">Link</a>		X	
Caricom Secretariat	External Trade Agreements as Potential Innovation Systems Development Policy Instruments	2015	<a href="#">Link</a>	X		
EU	Joint Working Document - 5 year review	2015	n.a.			X
G. Greene	The CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement: Lessons from Implementation	2015	<a href="#">Link</a>			
B&S Europe and LINPICO, funded by the European Commission	Monitoring the implementation and results of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA Agreement, Final report	2014	<a href="#">Link</a>		X	
United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	Regional integration in the Caribbean: The role of trade agreements and structural transformation,	2014	<a href="#">Link</a>		X	
CARICOM Community Secretariat	Implementation by CARIFORUM States of the phased reduction of customs duties provided for under the Economic Partnership Agreement	2014	<a href="#">Link</a>	X		



Ex-post evaluation of the EPA between the EU and its Member States and the CARIFORUM Member States

Author / Published by	Title	Year	Link	Implementation	Impact	Methodology
Institute of International Relations - University of the West Indies	The EU – CARIFORUM EPA: Regulatory and Policy Changes and Lessons for other ACP Countries	2013	<a href="#">Link</a>	X		
KEA European Affairs (prepared for ECPDM),	Implementing Cultural Provisions of CARIFORUM - EU EPA	2011	<a href="#">Link</a>	X		
ECDPM, European Centre for Development Policy Management	Implementing the Economic Partnership Agreement. Challenges and Bottlenecks in the CARIFORUM Region”	2011	<a href="#">Link</a>	X		
ICTSD, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development	What Happened to the CARIFORUM-EPA?	2010	<a href="#">Link</a>	X		
One World	Gender Justice in Trade Policy: The gender effects of Economic Partnership Agreements	2009	<a href="#">Link</a>		X	
Pierre Sauv�, Natasha Ward	The EU-CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement: Assessing the outcome on services and investment	2009	<a href="#">Link</a>	X		
The Shridath Ramphal Centre for International Trade Law, Policy and Services	EPA Implementation Stakeholder Analysis. The CARIFORUM Context	2009	<a href="#">Link</a>	X		
ECLAC, Economic Commission for Latin America and Caribbean	Report of the Expert Group Meeting to consider the impact of the EU- CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement on CARIFORUM Countries	2009	<a href="#">Link</a>	X		

Ex-post evaluation of the EPA between the EU and its Member States and the CARIFORUM Member States

Author / Published by	Title	Year	Link	Implementation	Impact	Methodology
Centre d'Etudes Prospectives et d'Informations Internationales	An Impact Study of the EU-ACP Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAS) in the Six ACP Regions	2008	<a href="#">Link</a>			X
University of the West Indies - Center for gender and Development Studies	Caribbean Community Secretariat - Gender Audit Report	2008	<a href="#">Link</a>			X

**Troy Lorde, Antonio Alleyne, Estimating the Trade and Revenue Impacts of the European Union–CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement: A Case Study of Barbados, 2018**

Available at: [Link](#)

**Methodology**

The authors use a Partial Equilibrium model developed by the World Bank, the Tariff Reform Impact Simulation Tool (TRIST) model to estimate the impact of EPA tariff changes on trade and the subsequent revenue changes. The TRIST model runs on excel with the input of customs data on revenues.

**Key findings**

The paper's simulation finds that the trade and revenue impacts of the EPA in Barbados depend critically on whether the rates applied are the statutory or not. When the rates charged differ from statutory rates, overall imports are expected to rise, revenues fall and trade diverted to the European Union from its primary trade partner, the USA.

Conversely, application of statutory rates results in lower imports, greater revenues and trade diverted to the USA. Despite the differences between both scenarios, the overall trade and revenue impacts on Barbados are likely to be small.

**Roger Hosein, Rebecca Gookol, Troy Lorde, Trade, fiscal and welfare consideration of the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement: a CARICOM perspective, 2018**

Available at: [Link](#)

**Methodology**

The paper employs three partial equilibrium approaches to evaluating trade and welfare effects of the EPA on CARICOM economies. The models look at the static effects of the impact of liberalisation on import quantities, tariff revenues, and hence welfare. Their structure allows for a high level of aggregation and for the analysis of sector-specific and country-specific impacts of tariff changes.

The authors measure welfare by comparing trade creation and trade diversion effects. The assumption is that tariff reductions will be translated into reductions in the price of the final product to consumers, thereby increasing welfare. The authors note that this ignores the other welfare effects on an economy (such as the resource reallocation process or the changes in the terms of trade) which often occur in an economy subsequent to a liberalization exercise.

The paper presents 3 different frameworks. Data used includes data on imports and tariffs, excise and VAT revenue that have employed, respectively, SITC 2 digit, HS data at 6 digits and HS data at 8 digits.

**Key findings**

The general level of economic welfare (evaluated as a function of the change in trade and fiscal positions) declined for all CARICOM economies in the post-EPA period.

The three models show the extent of trade displacement increasing over the time period for Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica and Suriname and trade diversion increasing over the period for Bahamas, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica and Suriname. Under each permutation there is a significant amount of trade displacement and trade diversion. This is a significant finding, especially given that one of the main goals of the EPA is to boost the level of intra-regional trade.

The models find that in each case, CARICOM countries experienced a decline in fiscal revenues.

**Lessons learned:**

The authors conclude that CARICOM economies must consider other revenue-generating interventions for the medium to long term. In this regard, local development and production planning is critical, as countries must consider the diversification of markets (exports and

imports) as a deliberate strategy to strengthening the long-term prospects of their respective economies.

Continuous engagement of the regional private sector is critical for ensuring that the benefits offered by the EPA are fully realized, in the context of an increasingly liberalized trade environment.

The paper also finds that CARICOM should recognize that its own legislative and productive frameworks may require restructuring in order to allow the region to take advantage of trade agreements in general. CARICOM governments should reduce the time taken to complete such restructuring. Delays are costly in terms of missed opportunities.

### **Evert-Jan Quak, The EU and its member states' trade support programmes for Economic Partnership Agreements, 2018**

Available at: [Link](#)

#### **Methodology**

This is a literature and statistics-based evaluation of three EU trade assistance programmes (Trade.Com, MTS and EPA support programmes). It seeks to answer the question on what support is available under the EPA and whether this support is effective. The report relies heavily on the OECD Credit Reporting System for Aid for Trade values as data input.

#### **Key findings**

The EU and the ACP Group play an important role in helping developing countries to strengthen their capacity to formulate trade policies consistent with national development plans, participate in trade negotiations and implement trade agreements that facilitate market access. The long-term impact of such support on development and poverty reduction is often difficult to assess.

Looking at the EU member states, France and Germany increasingly focus on the investment side of trade support by providing loans, while the Netherlands, United Kingdom, Sweden, Belgium and Denmark are more focussing on ODA grants.

#### **Lessons learned**

The literature shows that trade assistance and other trade related support impact positively on improving trade conditions, lowering trade costs and the integration of developing countries in the global trade system. What this means for poverty reduction, gender issues and income inequality is highly debatable in the literature.

### **Tatiana Mora, Reflections on the EPA, the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean (year not known)**

#### **Key findings**

The author finds that, while the EPA was designed as a model agreement, it has not been fully taken advantage of due to the following reasons:

- It is an agreement between two regions (42 countries in total), making it difficult to manage. On the side of the EU, the agreement has generated some interest on the cooperation side (notably GIZ and DFID) but hardly so for the private sector. On the side of CARIFORUM, there are still ongoing discussions on whether signing the EPA was a good idea, and its implementation has taken on a secondary position. The region does not have a strategy to take advantage of economies of scale or to push forward a joint agenda. Finally, dialogue between CARICOM and the Dominican Republic is limited.
- There is no sense of urgency. The region still has not defined where its competitive advantage lies, nor has it been able to build on the few success stories.

#### **Lessons learned**

The paper concludes that the region needs the following things to take advantage of the EPA.

- Firstly, it needs a clear strategy, both on a regional as well as on a national level, based on competitive and comparative advantages. The author identifies the cultural sector as an area with potential. Furthermore, potential for branding is seen in the rum, tobacco, organic products, specialty foods and music industries.

- A new approach. One-off actions are not enough. Since the EPA came into force there have been commercial missions and study tours but all have been independent initiatives, without a sufficiently developed preparatory process. These initiatives also hardly have a follow-up programme.
- A committed private sector, with a group of companies and sectors willing to step into positions of leadership.

**Daniel Lederman and Justin T. Lesniak, Open and Nimble: Finding Stable Growth in Small Economies, 2017**

Available at: [Link](#)

**Methodology**

The book looks at growth in the LAC region using working age population as a proxy for country size, the Herfindahl-Hirschman Index (HHI) for revenue concentration across export products, government revenue from IMF and labour statistics from WB indicators.

**Key findings**

Caribbean FDI inflows relative to GDP have dwarfed those of the region and other small economies. In particular, members of the OECS lead the region in FDI. This is no coincidence, as countries in the Caribbean have been aggressive in courting FDI through tax breaks and other incentives. FDI inflows are associated with increased growth through knowledge and technology transfer.

Evidence indicates that small size limits the positive spillover benefits of FDI, because small economies are home to only a small number of firms that could possibly absorb technology and know-how from multinational corporations operating within their borders. There is not a large enough domestic market to encourage FDI to be more than an export platform and so FDI in small economies often does not lead to the benefits predicted by theory.

**Lessons learned**

Small economies should be careful in granting large tax incentives for FDI. Countries in the Caribbean have not reliably benefited from the predicted spillover effects and backward linkages from FDI and there is evidence that this related to small size. This suggests that small countries should not incentivize FDI as generously as many currently do.

Regarding trade, the study argues, governments could augment flexibility in the export sector by encouraging new export ventures and ventures into non-traditional product lines. Small economies might also expand the number of export markets they cater to in order to reduce the volatility associated with being highly open. Expanding the number of products produced and markets exported to can be done together—and are often complementary to each other. To achieve these goals of flexibility and diversification, further regional integration is potentially helpful.

**Data sources**

IMF World Economic Outlook and World Bank World Development Indicators

**Bruce Byiers, Quentin de Roquefeuil, Monitoring Regional Integration in Practice: Reflections from the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement, 2017**

Available at: [Link](#)

**Methodology**

The study on the problems faced by monitoring the EPA looks at current monitoring efforts in the region to identify the challenges that need to be addressed.

**Lessons learned**

- Analysing the political, historical and economic contexts is key to determine the state of regional integration.
- Regional monitoring systems can be seen as a useful tool for national governments. This needs to be highlighted for national governments to gain interest in the monitoring systems. The monitoring exercise should be flexible enough in regards to countries with different characteristics and contexts.

- The monitoring system must begin with a modest ambition, to be built upon as implementation continues. The authors emphasize that the design of an EPA monitoring systems requires consideration of objectives, scope, actors and institutions, as well as methodology.

**Ben Garner, Towards a European strategy on culture and development. Learning from the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (2017)**

Available at: [Link](#)

**Methodology**

This article examines the EU's policy position on culture in its external relations, and in particular in the area of development cooperation. It focuses on the content and record of implementation of the EPA's cultural provisions and situates them within broader debates concerning the "instrumental" role of culture in development.

**Key findings**

Some territories in the region have more developed cultural sectors and longer connections with export markets than others: notably Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad & Tobago and St Lucia – in contrast to Guyana, Suriname, Haiti and the other six members of the OECS that come under the CARIFORUM grouping

In addition to this limited appeal of the EU's culture and development agenda in the region, there has been frustration at the way in which the EPA negotiations and related initiatives aimed at building the cultural sector have proceeded with little consultation with relevant stakeholders.

**Lessons learned**

Some of the provisions on market access and international cooperation to build cultural sector capacity that can be found in the EPA do potentially offer significant gains in a region which is rich in world-renowned cultural expressions and has extensive global diasporic and cultural-linguistic ties. However, if this is to be a model to extend to other developing regions then from the point of view of its partners the EU would need to back such provisions up with much more substance, for example by devoting more reliable streams of finance and assistance than was seen in the EPA, and doing more to recognise some of the limitations in productive capacity that exist in developing contexts.

**Anthony Gonzales, The Caribbean-EU EPA: A Caribbean Perspective, 2017**

Available at: [Link](#)

**Methodology**

Literature review

**Key findings**

The EPA has had some beneficial impacts, despite the slow pace of implementation and the problems that have arisen in the process. Benefits include expansion of some non-traditional agricultural exports; creation of new contacts in the EU market; and an increase in awareness of the need for policy development in new trade-related areas such as competition.

**Lessons learned**

The Caribbean ACP countries should focus on increasing their competitiveness, developing new export sectors, and implementing regional integration schemes, in order to realise fully the EPA's potential benefits. For the rest of the ACP, the Caribbean experience shows the importance of timely and adequate mobilisation of resources, and of understanding the close-knit relationship between negotiation and implementation.

**Evita Schmiege, Trade and Investment Agreements for Sustainable Development? Lessons from the EU's Economic Partnership Agreement with the Caribbean, 2015**

Available at: [Link](#)

**Key findings**

The EPA possesses great potential but this alone cannot guarantee positive outcomes. To date the Caribbean partners have enjoyed only limited success in realising additional export opportunities.

The economic and financial crisis that broke out shortly after the agreement was concluded hit most Caribbean economies hard, and without a doubt overshadowed positive effects of the EPA. But internal problems also bear some responsibility for the failure of the CARIFORUM countries to open up substantial new export perspectives despite now enjoying free market access. Concretely, the most important would be: expensive production inputs, high transaction costs, capacity problems in administration and the private sector (as well as civil society), and delays in regional integration. Furthermore, gaining entry to the highly complex and geographically distant European market, with its complex technical standards and administrative hurdles, is not easy at the best of times. The common European market eases access in certain respects for goods, but to a much lesser extent for services, which is where the Caribbean hopes to exploit particular advantages.

#### **Lessons learned**

- “Informing and involving stakeholders is central for ownership and impact. Although much energy was devoted to stakeholder consultations, with numerous opportunities ongoing in the implementation phase, parts of the private sector feel they know nothing about the EPA and have nothing to do with it.”
- Aid for trade is of great importance for realising trade opportunities. The major objective of aid for trade programmes and projects is to initiate processes with longer-term effects. The interviewed stakeholders named the successive improvement of competitiveness of rum producers as an example of constructive European-Caribbean cooperation. Some key lessons to be learned are:
  - Prospective long-term support for improving productivity along the entire value chain must correlate with an adequate planning perspective and requires close cooperation between different specialised development institutions, the state and the private sector.
  - Cost-benefit considerations and instruments for measuring success should flow more strongly into project design.
  - Capacities at all levels are important for implementing a regional agreement. Regional organisations frequently fulfil a coordination role, but a large part of implementation occurs at the national level. Aid for trade measures must therefore address both.

#### **Rodrigo Fuentes, Karl Alexandr Melgarejo, Valerie Mercer-Blackman, Valerie, Understanding Economic Growth in the Caribbean Region: A Conceptual and Methodological Study, 2015**

Available at: [Link](#)

#### **Methodology**

The paper uses a multivariate time series model to measure economic growth across several Caribbean countries.

#### **Key findings**

This study is interesting in its exercise in looking at Caribbean-specific issues of economic growth. The study finds that the combination of domestic policies, high indebtedness and outside shocks (such as main trading partners' tourism demands) explain the gaps in growth rates of the different Caribbean economies.

#### **Lessons learned**

Methodology-wise, the paper characterizes three specific Caribbean issues that increase volatility (making the economies susceptible to shocks) need to be considered when looking at growth in the region over time:

- The fact that exports are concentrated in tourism or commodities
- The synchronicity of the islands' economic cycles with that of the United States
- The size of the economies.

#### **Josephine Nyakatawa, Lessons from Implementation of the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement, 2015**

**Author:**

**Available at:** [Link](#)

**Key findings**

Despite the many opportunities offered by the CARIFORUM-EU EPA, the paper finds that many CARIFORUM States have not been able to achieve the benefits to be derived from the Agreement due to a myriad of challenges. To begin with, the conclusion and signing of the Agreement coincided with the global financial and economic crisis of 2008, which negatively impacted goods trade flows between the CARIFORUM region and the EU.

Operational and capacity constraints have also thwarted the region's efforts to take full advantage of the benefits of the EPA in both merchandise and services trade.

**Lessons learned**

Given the cross-cutting nature of the EPA, a whole-of government approach is vital in the implementation of the Agreement. It is, however, crucial to involve all the key stakeholders from the start, i.e. at the negotiation stage, to ensure ownership of the Agreement at the national level. This will facilitate the implementation process.

Importantly, inter-agency collaboration is critical to ensuring more coherent, efficient and coordinated planning and implementation. In addition, continuous awareness-raising among stakeholders is crucial to the implementation of the Agreement.

Furthermore, addressing supply-side and capacity constraints in CARIFORUM States should be a priority for both Parties to the Agreement, if the CARIFORUM region is to seize the opportunities available. The region's productivity capacity and competitiveness need to be strengthened.

Finally, the Parties to the CARIFORUM-EU EPA need to develop and implement an effective monitoring and evaluation mechanism to track progress on EPA implementation and ensure that the Agreement's objectives are realized.

**Ginelle Greene, The CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement: Lessons from Implementation, 2015**

**Author:**

**Available at:** [Link](#)

**Key findings**

Due to the comprehensive nature of the EPA, there remains a significantly unfinished implementation agenda to complete before it can lead to noteworthy impacts on the CARIFORUM states' trade and development. However, through Aid for Trade (AFT) assessment one can determine that in at least in the area of building productive capacities, some headway has been made.

In terms of intra-regional trade, the post-EPA period showed significant increases in some CARICOM member states' exports to the Dominican Republic, particularly from Trinidad and Tobago (energy products, fertiliser inputs, iron/steel, car batteries and processed foods), Barbados (paper labels) and Belize (fruit juices). This is not proven to be attributable to the EPA.

Noteworthy have been the activities of regional networks (EPA specific work groups were established concerning relevant key implementation areas) such as the CAFEIN and the Caribbean Network of Services Coalition.

**Lessons learned**

- Importance of leveraging external resources such as Aft. International actors have provided key tools as well as crucial services that would have otherwise been unavailable to both public and private sector stakeholders. However, greater need still exists to link projects to key national trade and development priorities and thus enhance political buy-in.
- Balancing economic commitments with sustainable development. Fears of adverse economic impacts and capacity constraints to implement the EPA can influence the implementation process leading to a lack of policy measures enacted. Gaining a thorough understanding of varying socio-economic and cultural contexts is key.



- The importance of monitoring and evaluation (M&E). There is a need for a harmonised M&E system to comprehensively track EPA implementation progress. From the outset of EPA implementation, benchmarking and identification of overarching progress indicators with key partners should be undertaken. The M&E framework should have accompanying tools for data capturing, analysis and reporting of all implementation work conducted with key partners.

### **Marsha Drakes, External Trade Agreements as Potential Innovation Systems Development Policy Instruments, 2015**

Available at: [Link](#)

#### **Key findings**

The Caribbean Region's international competitiveness and ability to create wealth are in part contingent on the Region's creation and application of new technology, products, processes, and services, its absorptive capacity, the prevalence of entrepreneurship, and the development of a knowledge-based economy.

The EPA was leveraged to allow CARICOM countries to tap into Europe's advanced innovation system to afford them opportunities to improve their innovation capacities. In that regard, the provisions as expressed were aimed primarily at improving CARICOM's access to and use of innovation systems components that are more advanced than those available within its own domestic innovation systems, including knowledge and expertise, as well as innovation developing institutions.

#### **Lessons learned**

Given that innovation is about commercializing creativity, in addition to benchmarking innovation, there is a need to benchmark CARICOM levels of creative expression that are independent of innovation activity. History supports the evidence of CARICOM creativity but in going forward it would be insufficient to assume that levels of creativity are not decreasing over time.

It will also be important for policy makers to monitor and analyze innovation and innovation policy benchmarks of the countries with which CARICOM may have an interest in establishing economic partnerships in the future.

The paper concluded that the region must be steadfast in its efforts to address this burgeoning policy issue. In that regard, the work already being undertaken by agencies such as the Caribbean Export Development Agency and by the Shridath Ramphal Centre, will continue to be important. In the end, only a concerted coordinated thrust will be sufficient to drive CARICOM's innovation-led competitiveness.

## ANNEX E DATA AVAILABILITY

As described in the text, our team has started looking into the data availability for trade, economics, social and environmental indicators for the EU and CARIFORUM sides. While the data will feed into the assessment of the impact of the agreement (which will be done at a later stage) this preliminary data collection lets us have an early overview of data gaps.

**Table E.1 Relevant World Bank Indicators – a closer look**

Source	Completeness for EU countries	Completeness for CARIFORUM countries	Time
<b>Agriculture and rural development</b>			
Agricultural land (% of land area)	Medium	Low	2001-2016
Rural land area (sq. km)	High	High	1990-2010
Rural population	High	High	1960-2017
Rural poverty gap at national poverty lines (%)	Low	Low	1992-2015
<b>Aid effectiveness</b>			
Net official aid received (Current US\$)	n/a	Medium	1990-2011
Net official development assistance (current US\$) received (current US\$)	n/a	Medium	1960-2017
Vulnerable employment, total (%)	High	High	1991-2018
<b>Climate change</b>			
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing, value added (constant 2010 US\$)	High	Medium	1960-2017
CO2 emissions (metric tons per capita)	High	High	1960-2014
Adjusted savings: natural resource depletion (% of GNI)	High	Medium	1970-2017
<b>Environment</b>			
Plant species (threatened)	High	High	Only 2018
Mammal species (threatened)	High	High	Only 2018
Fish species (threatened)	High	High	Only 2018
<b>Gender</b>			
Female-headed households (%)	Medium	Low	1990-2016
Fertility rate (total, births per woman)	High	High	1950-2016
Employment in services, female (% of female employment) (modeled ILO estimate)	High	High	1995-2015
<b>Social protection and labour</b>			
Coverage of social protection and labor programs (% of population)	Low	Low	1998-2016
Labor force (total)	High	High	1991-2015
Unemployment (total, %)	High	High	1991-2015

Note: World Bank Group data for Caribbean often include stats for 'Caribbean small States', an aggregated indicator for Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago.

**Table E.2 Relevant Trade Indicators – a closer look**

Source	Between EU and CARIFORUM	CARIFORUM regional	Completeness	Notes
<b>Trade in goods</b>				
UN Comtrade	Yes	Yes	Yes	Data collected down to HS Commodity level 2005-2018. Data available but often registering very low amounts (e.g. values between 50-500 USD for yearly trade between Dominican Republic and smaller islands). Includes data on re-exports
Easy Comext (Eurostat)	Yes	No	Yes	Data available for trade between CARIFORUM-EU for current EU composition and for an composition as it evolved over time.
CARICOM TradeSys Online	Yes	Yes	Limited	Regional Trade Information System - includes detailed commodity level data submitted to the Secretariat by CARICOM Member States. Most data up to 2016.
<b>Trade in services</b>				
UN Comtrade	Yes	Yes	Limited	Trade in commercial services by sector and partner. Data pm CARIFORUM regional trade in services presented but often very small.
Easy Comext (Eurostat)	Yes	No	Limited	International trade in services data by BOP lines since 2010
WTO Data	Yes	Yes	Limited	Trade in commercial services by sector and partner. Large gaps in CARIFORUM regional trade in services.
CARICOM TradeSys Online	No	Yes	Limited	Latest published report on Caricom's statistics

Source	Between EU and CARIFORUM	CARIFORUM regional	Completeness	Notes
				on International Trade in Services from 2011.
<b>Investment</b>				
Eurostat FDI (bop_fdi6_pos)	Yes	No	Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allows filtering by Caribbean ACP States;</li> <li>Large gaps in years and in island data.</li> </ul>
Eurostat FDI bop_fdi_pos_r2	Yes	No	Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allows filtering by Caribbean ACP States;</li> <li>Large gaps in years and in island data.</li> </ul>
<b>Tariffs and non-tariff barriers</b>				
Caribbean Exporter Gateway	No	Yes	Yes	Provides information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Applicable rules of origin;</li> <li>-Applicable SPS regulations</li> <li>-Non-Tariff Requirements a;nd Documents;</li> <li>-Duties and fees.</li> </ul>
European Commission Market Access database	Yes	No	Yes	Provides information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Tariffs;</li> <li>-Rules of origin.</li> </ul>
UNCTAD TRAINS	Yes	Yes	Yes	Contains information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Tariffs;</li> <li>-Para-tariffs;</li> <li>-Non-tariff measures;</li> <li>-Imports by suppliers at HS 6-digit level.</li> </ul>

**Table E.3 Statistics offices and Central Banks of CARIFORUM countries**

Country	Website	Level of information	Scope of trade data	Scope pf social and environmental data
Antigua and Barbuda	<a href="https://ab.gov.ag/detail_page.php?page=5">https://ab.gov.ag/detail_page.php?page=5</a>	Low	Most official trade statistics go up to 2013.	Few outdated social reports (Development Goals Report '09 and Social security report '15) Ministry of Environment has more recent reports on climate change.

Ex-post evaluation of the EPA between the EU and its Member States and the CARIFORUM Member States

Country	Website	Level of information	Scope of trade data	Scope of social and environmental data
The Bahamas	<a href="#">Department of Statistics</a>	Medium	Includes a comprehensive overview of foreign trade in goods (PDF).	Recent social statistics available on labour force & household income, labour market information, population & census, household expenditure.
Barbados	<a href="#">Barbados Statistical Services</a>	Medium	Includes an overview of foreign trade in goods for main trading partners (PDF).	Social and demographic statistics available for purchase. Public documents for the Continuous Household Labor Force Survey Statistics ('17).
Belize	<a href="#">Statistical Institute of Belize</a>	Medium	Includes a comprehensive overview of foreign trade in goods (Excel).	Comprehensive. Annual reports up to 2017 on variety of topics. Also recent Infographics. National census of 2020, last count 2010. Labor force Survey of 2018. Other statistical reports.
Dominica	<a href="#">Government of Dominica Web Portal</a>	Low	No trade statistics found.	Nothing found at this stage.
Grenada	<a href="#">Central Statistics Office</a>	Low	No trade statistics found.	Labour market data available up to 2017. Employment Status and Labor Market Indicators by Broad Age Group and Sex, 2013-2017, National Labor Force Survey Basic Tables 2017
Guyana	<a href="#">Bureau of Statistics</a>	Medium	Trade in goods data available for main partners and categories for the latest year.	Labor Force Survey available for 2017. Up to date reports from the Environmental Protection Agency available.
Jamaica	<a href="#">Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN)</a>	High	Includes trade in goods, sectoral statistics, and social statistics.	Recent demographic and social statistics as well as environmental reports.
Saint Lucia	<a href="#">The Central Statistical Office of Saint Lucia: Home Saint Lucia Open Data</a>	Medium	Includes trade in goods, sectoral statistics, and social statistics. St. Lucia Open Data portal includes an interactive dashboard.	Census population and labor force indicators available. Outdated environmental reports available.

Country	Website	Level of information	Scope of trade data	Scope of social and environmental data
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	<a href="#">Economic Statistics - Statistical Office</a>	Low	Website down.	Limited information on the Ministries' websites.
Saint Kitts and Nevis	<a href="#">The Official Website of St. Kitts and Nevis</a>	Low	Solely fiscal data (2014)	No information on the Department of Environment website.
Suriname	<a href="#">Algemeen Bureau voor de Statistiek in Suriname Centrale Bank van Suriname</a>	High	Includes downloadable data on merchandise trade and international investment position.	Downloadable statistics (in Dutch) – on population, census, gender, household budget and research, human development atlas, environment, millennium development goals, social statistics
Trinidad and Tobago	<a href="#">Central Statistical Office</a>	Medium	Includes downloadable data on merchandise trade per SITC category and per country.	Statistics on earning & employment, labor force, population, education. Some reports on environment available on the Ministry website.
Dominican Republic	<a href="#">Oficina Nacional de Estadística Dirección General de Aduanas</a>	High	The customs website contains monthly trade data by partner country and by product category.	Recent statistics available on demographic, social cultural and social coexistence, environment.

## ANNEX F: INITIAL OVERVIEW OF DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION AND RELATED EVALUATIONS

The list has been shared and discussed with the EU Delegation to Barbados shared the list with the EU Delegation in Barbados and will be followed up on jointly. The Delegation has agreed to share Mid Term Evaluations that have been conducted.

DG DEVCO DOCUMENTS					
Project	Action/Document	Document Type	Time Period	Financing Agreement	Evaluated?
8 <sup>th</sup> Caribbean Integration Support Program		Contribution Agreement	2007 + 36 months	Contribution Agreement	
Caribbean Trade and Private Sector Program – phase 2	Caribbean Trade and Private Sector Development Program (CTPSD) RCA/003/04, 9 ACP RCA 008	Contribution Agreement	From 31 December 2006 to 31 December 2008 period of implementation. Then the period of execution from 31 December 2008.	Financing Agreement between the European commission and the Caribbean Forum of the ACP States.	FINAL EVALUATION OF THE CARIBBEAN TRADE AND PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (CTPSDP) - PHASE 1 (9-ACP RCA-8) (not phase 2).
10 <sup>th</sup> EDF Fund	Caribbean Forum of ACP States (CARIFORUM) – CSME and Economic Integration Programme CRIS ref. 022-737	Action Document	60 months, 2011-present	COMMISSION DECISION on the Annual Action Programme 2011 in favour of the Caribbean Forum of ACP States to be financed from the	Final Evaluation of the 10th EDF Regional projects EU CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) and CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) Standby Facilities for Capacity Building.

<b>DG DEVCO DOCUMENTS</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>Action/Document</b>	<b>Document Type</b>	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Financing Agreement</b>	<b>Evaluated?</b>
				10th European Development Fund.	<p>Evaluation of the 10th EDF Institutional Support to CARIFORUM / EU Development Cooperation and EPA Implementation.</p> <p>Final Report - "Capacity Building within Member States of the Caribbean Forum for ACP States (CARIFORUM) in the areas of Competition, Procurement and Customs and Trade Facilitation for the implementation of the EPA".</p> <p>FINAL REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF CARIFORUM-EU ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT STANDBY FACILITY FOR CAPACITY BUILDING. Final Evaluation - 10th EDF Regional Private Sector Development Programme.</p>
	Caribbean Forum of ACP States (CARIFORUM) - Economic Integration and Trade of the OECS Region — CRIS reference 22086	Action Document	60 months, march28, 2012	Financing Agreement between the European Commission and	



<b>DG DEVCO DOCUMENTS</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>Action/Document</b>	<b>Document Type</b>	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Financing Agreement</b>	<b>Evaluated?</b>
				the Caribbean Forum of the ACP States.	
	Support for the Caribbean Forum of ACP States in implementing the commitments undertaken under the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) — CRIS Decision No 022-088	Action Document	60 months, starting from February 7, 2012	Financing Agreement between the European commission and the Caribbean Forum of the ACP States.	
	Annual Action Program 2013 in favor of the Caribbean region	Action Document	Starting from 4.12.2013	COMMISSION DECISION of 4.12.2013 on the Annual Action Programme 2013 in favour of the Caribbean region to be financed from the 10th European Development Fund.	
	Program of Support for Wider Caribbean Cooperation CRIS decision number: FED/2013/24928	Action Document	Starting from 18 September, 2014 60 months of operational	Financing Agreement between the European	

<b>DG DEVCO DOCUMENTS</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>Action/Document</b>	<b>Document Type</b>	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Financing Agreement</b>	<b>Evaluated?</b>
			implementation phase 24 months closure phase	Commission and the Caribbean Forum of ACP States.	
	Regional Private Sector Development Program CRIS No: RCA/FED/022-056	Action document	Starting from 20 December, 2010 84 months	Financing Agreement between the European Commission and the Caribbean Forum of ACP States.	
	Support to the Caribbean Forum of the ACP States in the Implementation of the Commitments  Undertaken under the Economic Partnership Agreement Component: Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT)	Action Document  Action Document	June 28, 2012 to March 27, 2017		FINAL NARRATIVE REPORT Support to the Caribbean Forum of the ACP States in the Implementation of the Commitments Undertaken under the Economic Partnership Agreement Component: Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT).
11th EDF Caribbean Regional Indicative Programme (CRIP)	Action Document for 11th EDF Binational Cooperation in favour of Dominican-Haitian relations	Action Document	60 months starting from 11.12.2017	COMMISSION DECISION of 11.12.2017 on the Annual Action Programme 2017 - part II - in	

<b>DG DEVCO DOCUMENTS</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>Action/Document</b>	<b>Document Type</b>	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Financing Agreement</b>	<b>Evaluated?</b>
	Action Document for Capacity Development for CARIFORUM Member States on Financial Compliance, Asset Recovery and Cybercrime	Action Document	60 months starting from 11.12.2017	favour of the Caribbean Region to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund.	
	Action Document for Support to the Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Center (CARTAC)	Action Document	28 months, from January 1, 2017 to April 30, 2019	COMMISSION DECISION of 5.10.2016 on the Annual Action Programme 2016 in favour of the Caribbean Region to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund.	
	Regional Private Sector Development Programme	Action Document	60 months starting from 13.12.2016	COMMISSION DECISION of 13.12.2016.	
	Institutional Support for CARIFORUM/EU Cooperation	Action Document	48 months starting from 13.12.2016	on the Annual Action Programme 2016 in favour of the Caribbean Region to be financed from the	
	Action document for "Strengthening Regional	Action Document	60 months starting from 10.12.2018	financed from the	

<b>DG DEVCO DOCUMENTS</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>Action/Document</b>	<b>Document Type</b>	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Financing Agreement</b>	<b>Evaluated?</b>
	Integration in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)"			European Development Fund.	
	Action Document to Support to the effective administration of Criminal Justice Systems in the Caribbean	Action Document	Starting from 10.12.2018	COMMISSION DECISION of 10.12.2018 on the financing of the annual action programme 2018 - part 2 - in favour of the Caribbean Region to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund.	
	Action document for "Coconut Industry Development Expansion and Enhanced Support for the Caribbean"	Action Document	60 months starting from 10.12.2018	COMMISSION DECISION of 10.12.2018 on the financing of	
	Action document for "Support to CARIFORUM States in furthering the implementation of their Economic Partnership Agreement commitments and in meaningfully reaping the benefits of the Agreement"	Action Document	60 months starting from 10.12.2018	the annual action programme 2018 - part 1 - in favour of the Caribbean Region to be financed from the 11th European	

<b>DG DEVCO DOCUMENTS</b>					
<b>Project</b>	<b>Action/Document</b>	<b>Document Type</b>	<b>Time Period</b>	<b>Financing Agreement</b>	<b>Evaluated?</b>
				Development Fund.	
	Action Document for "Strengthening Framework for CARICOM Integration and Cooperation Process"	Action Document	60 months		
	Multi Country Border Security (MCBS) Programme in Jamaica, Haiti and the Dominican Republic	Action Document	starting from 10.12.2018		
	Caribbean Investment Facility (CIF) financed under the European Development Fund (EDF) blending framework	Action Document	starting from 10.12.2018		
	Strengthening of the Caribbean Biological Corridor (CBC)	Action Document	Starting from 5.10.2016	COMMISSION DECISION of 5.10.2016 on the Annual Action Programme 2016 in favour of the Caribbean Region to be financed from the 11th European Development Fund.	
	Technical Assistance Programme for Sustainable Energy in the Caribbean (TAPSEC)"	Action Document	Starting from 5.10.2016		

## ANNEX G RUNNING STAKEHOLDER LIST AND EVENTS

**Table 1 Relevant business events for CARIFORUM-EU trade, 2019**

Date	Name	Location	Description
30 May to 1 June	Jamaica International Exhibition in Montego Bay	Jamaica	Staged by the Jamaica Manufacturers' and Exporters' Association (JMEA).
7 to 10 June	The Barbados Manufacturers' Exhibition	Barbados	Exhibition for the manufacturing industry meant to create opportunities for Barbadian and Caribbean manufacturers alike.
4 to 7 July	Everything Vincy Plus Expo	St. Vincent and Grenadines	An export development tool to provide Vincentian businesses with a platform to showcase their products and services.
4 to 7 July	Trade & Investment Convention	Trinidad and Tobago	Connecting buyers and sellers to foster intra and extra regional trade for regional businesses, with a focus on consumer goods
19 to 22 September	Guyana Trade and Investment Exhibition	Guyana	Business-to-Business (B2B) event that creates a platform for local export-ready businesses to engage foreign buyers and other potential partners.
24 to 26 September	4th CARIFORUM-EU Business Forum	Germany	Hosted by CEDA, with the European Commission and GIZ, this event brings together stakeholders for B2B meetings and networking. The event brings together the Caribbean's leading producers in natural products, rum, sauces and condiments; music, film and animation.

### **Antigua and Barbuda**

#### ***EPA Implementation Unit***

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Immigration - Trade office of the National Authorizing Officer for European Development Fund & EPA Implementation

#### ***Public Administration***

Comptroller of Customs – Customs Authority – Customs and Excise Division

Coalition of Service Industry

Antigua and Barbuda Investment Authority

Ministry Of Finance & Corporate Governance -

Financial Service Regulatory Commission

Ministry Of Justice And Legal Affairs

Ministry Of Tourism, Economic Development, Investment

Antigua And Barbuda Bureau Of Standards

Antigua And Barbuda Investment Authority

Eastern Caribbean Central Bank Headquarters (ECCB) Agency Office

Office for the National Authorising Officer for European Development Fund (EDF) & EPA Implementation

#### ***Business Association***

Antigua and Barbuda Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ltd

Antigua Manufacturers Association Coolidge

Antigua Barbuda Association of Small Business Owners

Free Trade And Processing Zone

Caribbean Network Of Services Coalitions

Antigua And Barbuda Association Of Home Economists

British Chamber Of Commerce

Antigua And Barbuda Association Of Persons With Disabilities

Antigua And Barbuda Chamber Of Commerce And Industry Ltd

Antigua Hotel Association

Industrial Development Board

Commonwealth Secretariat

Small Business Development Center

***Freight Forwarders and Importers***

Worldwide Trading Group Inc.  
Hispaniola Export-Import Trading S.J  
Consolidated Forwarders Ltd.  
Carib Seas  
Caribbean Maritime Services  
Bryson's Shipping Agency  
Geo. W. Bennet Bryson & Co  
Tropical Shipping  
Vernon Edwards  
Francis Trading Agency  
Walkers Trading Agency  
Gadget Importers  
Armstrong Frank B Ltd  
Caribbean Distribution Company  
Island Provisions Limited  
Interfreight Ltd.

***Civil Society and Others***

Organization of American States Barbuda Office  
Antigua Trades and Labor Union  
Benda's Community Group  
Disabled Peoples' International  
Environmental Awareness Group  
St Johns Development Corporation  
Antigua Planned Parenthood Association

**Bahamas**

***EPA Implementation Unit***

Ministry of Financial Services – Legal advisor and Director

***Public Administration***

Bahamas Investment Authority  
Comptroller of Customs  
Ministry Of Finance  
Minister of Foreign Affairs & Immigration  
Ministry Of Tourism and Aviation  
Ministry of Financial Services

Tax Information Exchange Agreements (Ties)  
The Bahamas Customs Department  
Compete Caribbean

***Business Association***

Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation  
The Insurance Commission of the Bahamas  
The Bahamas Maritime Authority  
Association of International Banks and Trust Companies  
Bahamas Association of Compliance Officers  
Bahamas Association of Fund Administrators  
Bahamas Association of Securities Dealers  
Bahamas Employers Confederation  
Bahamas Instituted Of Financial Services  
Bahamas International Insurance Association  
Bahamas International Trade Association  
Bahamas Real Estate Association  
CA Society of the Bahamas  
Grand Bahama Chamber Of Commerce  
Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners  
Small Business Development Center  
Batch Bahamas  
Bahamas Chamber Of Commerce  
Bahamas Airline Pilots Association  
Bahamas Prison Officers Association, The  
Royal Bahamas Police Association, The  
Bahamas Financial Services Board  
Aon Bahamas

***Private Business***

Atlantics Manufacturing Company  
Bacardi Distillery  
Bahama Cement Company  
Bahamas Aluminum Manufacturing Company  
Bahamas Distillers Ltd  
Bahamian Brewery and Beverage Company

***Freight Forwarders and Importers***

Ace-Freight  
Alligator Bay Shipping Co  
B&K Import Export Services  
Bali Imports  
Cavalier Shipping  
Gas Worldwide Express  
Import Export Brokers Ltd  
Inchcape Shipping Services  
Intimacy Shipping Ltd  
International Shipping Agency  
Jamaica Bahama Imports  
Max Imports  
Memo Import and Export  
National Emergency Management  
Nine To Five Import and Export  
Tropical Shipping Container Terminals  
Tokay Shipping  
Quantum Imports  
Pioneer Shipping  
Tracker Once Shipping  
World Imports  
Sun Express Cargo, Inc. – Bahamas  
Fiver Star Brokers  
Skyline Imports  
Region Xpress  
Go Postal

***Civil Society and Other***

Airport, Airline & Allied Workers Union  
Amnesty International  
Bahamas Alliance for Blind & Visually Impaired  
Bahamas Casino Gaming & Allied Workers Union  
Bahamas Hotel Catering & Allied Workers Union  
Bahamas Maritime Port & Allied Workers Union  
Bahamas Musician & Entertainers Union  
Bahamas Red Cross  
Bahamas Reef Environment Education Foundation  
Commonwealth of the Bahamas Trade Union Congress  
Crisis Centre Bahamas  
National Congress of Trade Unions (Bahamas)  
National Workers Cooperative Credit Union  
Nature Conservancy, The  
Organization of American States (Bahamas)  
Pan American Health Organization (Bahamas)

**Barbados**

***EPA Implementation Unit***

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade - Permanent Secretary

***Public Administration***

Comptroller of Customs  
Caribbean Export Development Agency  
Delegation of the European Union to Barbados, the Eastern Caribbean States, the OECS and  
CARICOM/CARIFORUM  
Office of Trade Negotiations  
CARICOM Regional Organization of Standards and Quality (CROSQ)  
Customs and Excise Department  
Barbados Coalition of Service Industries  
Ministry Of Agriculture  
Ministry Of Finance & Economic Affairs  
Ministry Of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade  
Ministry Of Tourism and International Transport  
Ministry Of Industry, International Business, Commerce and Small Business Development  
Ministry Of Industry, International Business,  
Corporate Affairs and Intellectual Property  
Barbados National Standards Intuition  
Fair Trading Commission  
Government of Barbados Information Network  
Barbados Integrated Government  
Barbados Investment and Development Corporation  
Barbados Tourism Investment Inc.  
Barbados National Productivity Council  
The Caribbean Network of Service Coalitions



Invest Barbados  
Central Bank of Barbados

**Business Association**

Barbados Association of Non-Governmental Organizations  
Barbados Association of Professional Engineers  
Barbados Chamber Of Commerce and Industry  
Barbados Coalition of Service Industries (BSc)  
Barbados Entrepreneurship Foundation  
Barbados Family Planning Association  
Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association  
Barbados Investment Development Corporation (BIDC)  
Barbados Manufacturer's Association  
Barbados Manufacturers' Association (BMA)  
Barbados National Trusts  
Barbados National Trusts  
Barbados Small Business Association  
Barbados Stock Exchange  
Care Barbados  
Caribbean Conservation Association  
Community Tourism Foundation  
Counterpart International (Barbados)  
International Trade and Investment Organization Barbados  
International Transport Workers' Federation  
Int'l Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Rest. Catering, Tobacco & Allied Workers' Association  
Invest Barbados  
Leonard Cheshire Disability Barbados (Led)  
Panes Caribbean (Barbados)  
Small Business Association  
The Congress of Trade Unions & Staff Associations of Barbados (Causa)  
The Shipping Association of Barbados

**Freight Forwarders and Importers**

Ace Courier and Logistics  
Ag Marine Transport Agency Services Ltd  
AK Cargo Logistics  
Barbados Port Authority  
Barbados Port Inc.  
Booth Steamship Company  
Commercial Services Co Ltd  
Ducats Meanings Ltd  
Eric Hassel and Son  
Fast Transit Shipping  
Goddard's Shipping and Torus  
Hispaniola Export Import Trading S.J.  
La Forde Logistics  
Laparkan  
Marine Trading Ltd  
Pentridge Customs Broker Agency  
Radical Researchers  
Renwall's Imports and Export Services  
Robel Agencies  
Sea Freight Agencies (Barbados) Ltd  
Worldwide Trading Group Inc.

**Civil Society and Other**

Barbados Association of Non-Governmental Organizations  
Barbados Employers' Federation  
Barbados Red Cross  
Caribbean Conservation Association  
Caribbean Development Bank  
Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency  
Caribbean Policy Development Centre (Cod)  
Community Health Action Trust (Chat)  
Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)  
National Organization of Women  
The Barbados Workers Union

**Belize**

**EPA Implementation Unit**

Ministry of Investment, Trade and Commerce - Directorate General for Foreign Trade

**Public Administration**

Central Bank of Belize  
Central Information Technology Office (Cite)

Compete Caribbean  
Comptroller of Customs  
Ministry Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry, the Environment and Sustainable Development  
Ministry Economic Development, Petroleum, Investment, Trade and Commerce  
Ministry of Finance- Belize Customs & Excise Department  
Ministry of Finance- Department of General Sales Tax  
Ministry Of Foreign Affairs  
Ministry Of Natural Resources and Immigration  
Ministry Of Tourism and Civil Aviation  
Organization of American States

***Business Association***

Belize Coalition of Service Providers  
BELTRAIDE  
Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Belize Intellectual Property Office (Blip)  
Belize Chamber Of Commerce  
Belize Chamber Of Commerce & Industry  
Betrayed - Same Development  
Belize Coalition of Service Providers  
Association of National Development Agencies  
Belize Audubon Society  
Corner Stone Foundation

***Freight forwarding and importers***

Freight Forwarders and Importers  
Bel Car Export & Import Company Limited  
Bel-Car Export & Import Co Ltd  
Belize Logistics Services Ltd  
Euro Caribe Shipping Services  
Sterling Freight Services

***Civil Society and Other***

Belize Organization for Women and Development  
Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute  
Habitat for Humanity  
National Development Foundation of Belize  
National Trade Union Congress of Belize  
Pan American Health Organization (Belize)  
Red Cross (Belize)

**Dominica**

***EPA Implementation Unit***

Ministry of Trade, Energy and Employment - EPA Coordinator

***Public Administration***

Comptroller of Customs  
Dominican Institute for Quality (INDOCAL)  
Dominica Export Import Agency (DEXIA)  
Dominica Port Authority  
Ministry Of Agriculture, Food And Fisheries  
Ministry Of Environment, Climate Resilience, Disaster Management And Urban Renewal  
Ministry Of Finance  
Ministry Of Foreign And CARICOM Affairs  
Ministry Of Planning And Economic Development  
Ministry Of Tourism And Culture  
Ministry Of Trade, Energy And Employment  
OAS

***Business Association***

Dominica Association of Industry and Commerce  
Dominica Manufacturer's Association  
Invest Dominica Authority  
Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States – Competitive Business Unit

**Dominican Republic**

***EPA Implementation Unit***

Ministry of Industry, Commerce and SMEs (MICM) - Direction of Administration of Agreements and International Commercial Treaties(DICOEX)

***Public Administration***

Centro de Exportación e inversión de la Republica  
Comision de Defensa Comercial  
Comisión de Defensa Comercial  
Comisión de Defensa de la Competencia  
Consejo Nacional de Competitividad  
Delegation of the European Union to the Dominican Republic  
Direccion de Inocuidad Agroalimentaria  
Dirección de Relaciones con Haití  
Dirección de Sanidad Vegetal  
Dirección General de Aduanas  
Direccion General de Comercio Exterior  
Direccion General de Ganaderia  
Ministerio de Agricultura  
Ministerio de Economía, Planificación y Desarrollo  
Ministerio de Hacienda  
Ministerio de Industria, Comercio y MIPYMES  
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores.  
Ministerio de Trabajo  
Ministerio de Turismo  
Oficina de Propiedad Intelectual  
Vice Ministro de Negociaciones Comerciales, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

***Business Association***

Asociación de Industrias de la región Norte  
Asociación de Industrias de la Republica Dominicana  
Asociación Nacional de Productores de Banano  
Asociación Nacional de Productores de Ron  
Asociación Nacional de Zonas Francas  
Asociacion Productores de Vegetales  
Cluster de Mangos  
Cluster de Piña.  
Consejo Nacional del Cacao  
Organización Nacional Empresas Comerciales

***Private Business***

Advensus  
Barcelo Import and Export  
Brugal y Compañía  
Carrefour  
Cervecería Nacional Dominicana  
Conservas Viscaya  
Convergys  
Corporation Zonas Francas de Santiago  
Daniel Lomba (Capilo)  
Global Logistics Cargo  
Grupo Corripio  
Grupo INICIA  
Grupo Punta Cana  
Guzman Ariza  
La Tabacalera, S.A.  
Oliver & Oliver  
Parque Industrial Pisano  
Pernod Ricard

***Freight Forwarders and Importers***

Asociacion Dominicana de Agentes Aduanales  
Baez & Ranik  
Maritima Dominicana

***Civil Society and Other***

Caribbean Export  
Banco Mundial  
BID  
PNUD  
Dominiana (Ceil-Rd)

**Grenada**

***EPA Implementation Unit***

Ministry of Trade, Industry, Cooperatives and CARICOM Affairs - Director of Trade

***Public Administration***

Comptroller of Customs

Ministry Of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries  
Ministry Of Environment, Foreign Trade, Export  
Ministry Of Finance, Economic Development, Energy And Foreign Trade  
Ministry Of Social Development  
Ministry Of Tourism  
Pan American Health Organization  
Immigration Office Grenada

***Business Association***

Grenada Industrial Development Corporation  
Grenada Chamber of Industry & Commerce  
Grenada Industrial Development Corporation  
Dominica Trade Union

***Freight Forwarders And Importers***

CaribTrans  
Cargo Consolidated Agency  
Grenada Freight Services Inc.

***Civil Society And Other***

Grenada Community Development Agency(GRENCODA)  
Grenada Union of Productive Co-operatives(GUPC)  
Grouping of Grenada Civil Society Organisations  
Inter-Agency Group of Development Organisations

**Guyana**

***EPA Implementation Unit***

Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Department of Foreign Affairs

***Public Administration***

CARICOM Secretariat  
Commissioner of Customs and Trade Administration Government Information Agency Ministry of the Presidency  
Compete Caribbean  
Go Invest Guyana  
Government Information Agency (Gina)  
Guyana Bureau of Statistics  
Guyana Consumers Association  
Guyana Development Gateway – SME Development  
Guyana National Bureau of Standards (Gabs)  
Guyana Office for Investment  
Ministry Of Agriculture  
Ministry Of Foreign Affairs  
Ministry Of Legal Affairs  
The Private Sector Commission of Guyana

***Business Association***

Georgetown Chamber of Commerce  
Guyana Coalition of Service Providers  
Guyana Forestry Commission  
Guyana Manufacturing & Services Association Ltd  
Guyana Marketing Corporation (Ngoc)  
Guyana Office for Investment  
Guyana Rice Producers Association  
Guyana Small Business Bureau  
National Industrial and Commercial Investments  
Parliament of Guyana  
Private Sector Commission  
Shipping Association of Guyana (Sag)  
Tourism and Hospitality Association of Guyana  
United Association of Guyana

***Freight Forwarders and Importers***

Barakat Timbers and Trading Company  
D&J Shipping Services  
Demerara Bank Ltd  
Guyana Freight Services  
Guyana National Shipping Corporation Ltd  
Laparkan Freight Services  
Marics & Co Ltd

***Civil Society and Other***

Amnesty International

Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute  
Every Child  
GPSU  
Guyana Red Cross Society  
Habitat for Humanity  
Inter-American Institute for Cooperation On Agriculture  
Pan American Health Organization  
The Institute Of Private Enterprise Development  
True Vision Foundation  
UNICEF

## **Jamaica**

### ***EPA Implementation Unit***

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade – Undersecretary Trade

### ***Public Administration***

Anti-Dumping And Subsidies Commission  
Bureau Of Standards Jamaica  
Caribbean Network Of Services Coalitions  
Compete Caribbean  
Consumer Affairs Commission  
Customs Commissioner  
Government Of Jamaica Cabinet Office  
Jamaica Bureau Of Standards  
Jamaica Fair Trading Commission  
Jamaica Promotions Corporation (Jampro)  
Jamaica Tourist Board  
Ministry Of Agriculture And Fisheries  
Ministry Of Finance And The Public Service  
Ministry Of Foreign Affairs And Foreign Trade  
Ministry Of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture & Fisheries  
Ministry Of Science, Energy & Technology  
Ministry Of Tourism  
Ministry Of Transport And Mining  
Organization Of American States  
Port Authority Of Jamaica  
Smes: Jamaica Business Development Corporation  
The Jamaica Fair Trading Commission  
The Jamaica Fair Trading Commission  
The Jamaica Intellectual Property Office (Jipo)

### ***Business Association***

Association Of Development Agencies  
Association Of Women's Organisations  
Branson Centre for Entrepreneurship  
Enact Programme  
Jamaica Association For The Deaf  
Jamaica Association Of Local Government Officers, The  
Jamaica Chamber Of Commerce  
Jamaica Exporters' Association (Jea)  
Jamaica Family Planning Association  
Jamaica Manufacturers Association  
Jamaica Social Investment Fund  
Jampro - Jamaican Promotions Corporation  
Land Surveyers Association Of Jamaica  
Shipping Association Of Jamaica  
Start-Up Jamaica  
Technology Innovation Centre  
Jamaica Sustainable Development Network Programme  
Private Sector Organization Of Jamaica

### ***Private Business***

Financially Smart Services  
FirstCaribbean International Bank  
Gravita India Limited  
Jamaica Export Trading Company (Jetco)  
Jamaican Teas Limited  
National Rums Of Jamaica Limited

### ***Freight Forwarders And Importers***

A E Parnell And Co  
Agriventures Jamaica  
Alvin Marshall  
Caribbean Freight Handlers  
Caribbean Shipping Association

Clive W Coke Custom Brokers  
Coates Logistics  
Dfl Importers & Distributors  
Eagle And Whale Ltd  
Flight Connections Limited Cargo  
Grace Foods International  
Icon Importers  
Ivanhoe Ricketts  
J A Dixon And Sons  
J R Wellington Import Export Corporation  
Jamaica Customs  
Jamaica Exporters Association  
Jlb International  
Jts Shippng  
Port Of Kingston  
Select Brands  
Wico Logistics Group Limited  
Worldwide Trade Servcies

***Civil Society And Other***

Build Jamaica Foundation  
Bustamante Industrial Trade Union  
Canadian International Development Agency  
Caribbean Agricultural Research & Development Institute  
Caribbean Coastal Area Management Foundation  
Development Bank of Jamaica  
Donor Lending Community In Jamaica  
Environmental Foundation Of Jamaica  
Food And Agriculture Organization (Jamaica)  
Independent Jamaica Council For Human Rights (1998) Ltd  
Industrial Workers Of The World (Iww)  
Jamaica Confederation Of Trade Unions, The  
Jamaica Employers' Federation, The  
Jamaica Environment Trust  
Jamaica Red Cross Society  
National Workers Union (Nwu)  
Portland Environment Protection Association  
Red Cross Society  
Ridge To Reef Watershed Project

**St. Lucia**

***EPA Implementation Unit***

Department of Commerce, International Trade, Investment, Enterprise Development and Consumer Affairs -  
Ministry of Finance, Economic Growth, Job Creation, External Affairs and the Public Service

***Public Administration***

Caribbean Association For Feminist Research And Action  
Compete Caribbean  
Comptroller of Customs  
Eastern Caribbean Central Bank  
Ministry Infrastructure, Ports, Energy And Labor  
Ministry Of Agriculture, Food Production, Fisheries,  
Ministry Of Commerce, Industry, Enterprise  
Ministry Of External Affairs, International Trade And  
Ministry Of Finance, Economic Growth, Job  
Ministry Of Public Service, Information And  
Ministry Of Sustainable Development, Energy,  
National Competitiveness And Productivity Council  
National Research And Development Foundation  
Saint Lucia Customs & Excise  
Saint Lucia National Development Corporation  
St. Lucia National Development Corporation  
The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission

***Business Association***

Association Of Management Consultants Saint Lucia  
Caribbean Network Of Services Coalitions  
Civil Service Association  
Free Zone Management Authority (Fzma)  
Invest Saint Lucia  
James Belgrave Micro Enterprise Development Fund  
Saint Lucia Coalition of Services Industries (SLCSI)  
Saint Lucia Tourist Board  
Saint Lucia Trade Export Promotion Agency (TEPA)

Small Business Development Centre (Sbdc)  
St Lucia Crisis Centre  
St. Lucia Association Agriculturists  
St. Lucia Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture  
St. Lucia Floral Society  
St. Lucia Manufacturers' Association  
The Saint Lucia Coalition Of Services Industries

***Freight Forwarders And Importers***

Biscette And Hinkson Shipping And Customs  
Blanchards Customs & Freight Services  
Hippolytes Agencies And Services  
Hunte-S International Packing & Storage Co Ltd,  
Josephs Shipping Agencies  
Laparkan (St Lucia)  
Monplaisir Trucking Co  
Nigel S Nicholas Agencies  
Octave Customs Brokerage And Shipping Services  
Peterson And Petersen  
Spense Shipping  
St Lucia Air And Ocean Freighters  
St Lucia Customs And Excise Department  
St Lucia Logistics Services

***Civil Society And Other***

Caribbean Agricultural Research And Development Institute  
National Development Corporation  
National Organisation For Women  
St Lucia Red Cross

**St. Kitts and Nevis**

***EPA Implementation Unit***

Ministry of International Trade, Industry, Commerce and Consumer Affairs - Permanent Secretary -

***Public Administration***

Comptroller of Customs  
Ministry Of Finance  
Ministry Of International Trade, Industry And Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
Ministry Of National Security  
Ministry Of Sustainable Development  
Ministry Of Tourism

***Business Association***

Saint Kitts and Nevis – National Workers Union  
Saint Kitts And Nevis Trades And Labour Union (TLU)  
St. Kitts Chamber of Commerce  
St. Kitts Coalition of Services  
St. Kitts Investment Promotion Agency (SKIPPA)  
St. Kitts-Nevis Chamber of Commerce

**St. Vincent and the Grenadines**

***EPA Implementation Unit***

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Commerce - Permanent Secretary

***Public Administration***

Comptroller of Customs  
Ministry Of Agriculture, Livestock And Fisheries  
Ministry Of Finance  
Ministry Of Planning, Raw Materials And Forestry  
Ministry Of Trade, Industry And Tourism  
Ministry Of Transport, Communication & Tourism

***Business Association***

Centre for Enterprise Development  
Invest SVG  
St. Vincent and the Grenadines Chamber of Industry & Commerce  
St. Vincent and the Grenadines Chamber of Industry & Commerce

The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Coalition of Services Industries (SVGCSI)  
The Suriname Hospitality And Tourism Association

***Civil Society And Other***

**Suriname**

***EPA Implementation Unit***

Ministry of Trade and Industry - Deputy Permanent Secretary of Trade

***Public Administration***

Chief Customs Officer  
Consumer Affairs  
Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Ministry of Finance  
Ministry of Natural Resources  
Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism

***Business Association***

Suriname Business Development Centre  
Suriname Chamber of Commerce and Industry  
Associatie van Surinaamse Fabrikanten/ Manufacturers'  
Association Suriname IDCS  
Suriname Business Forum  
Suriname Trade and Industry Association (STIA)

***Freight Forwarders And Importers***

Telesis Cargo Services  
Paramaribo Customs Broker  
Cambridge International Transport

***Civil Society And Other***

Bureau Forum NGOs  
Moiwana Human Rights Organisation  
National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname  
Organization for Justice and Peace (OGV)  
Stichting Projekta - Organization for Women and Development

**Trinidad & Tobago**

***EPA Implementation Unit***

The Ministry of Trade and Industry - The Permanent Secretary

***Public Administration***

Central Bank Of Trinidad And Tobago  
Compete Caribbean  
Comptroller of Customs  
Intellectual Property Office (Ipo)  
Ministry Of Agriculture, Land And Fisheries  
Ministry Of Energy And Energy Industries  
Ministry Of Finance  
Ministry Of Foreign And Caricom Affairs  
Ministry Of Tourism  
Ministry Of Trade And Industry  
Trinidad And Tobago Bureau Of Standards (Ttbs)

***Business Association***

American Chamber Of Commerce  
Bizbooster  
Caribbean Agribusiness Association  
Caribbean Network Of Service Coalitions  
Caribbean Association Of Women Entrepreneurs  
Entrepreneurship & Business Development  
ExpOrTT  
Idea to Innovation (I2I)  
InvesTT  
National Entrepreneurship Development Company (NEDCO)  
Super Manufacture Association Of Trinidad And Tobago  
T&T Tradesman Association



The American Chamber Of Commerce Of Trinidad And Tobago  
Tobago District Agricultural Society  
Trinidad And Tobago Chamber Of Industry And Commerce  
Trinidad And Tobago Manufacturers Association  
Trinidad Music Association

***Private Business***

Habanero Pepper Sauce Co Ltd

***Freight Forwarders And Importers***

Acclaim Freight & Logistics Services Ltd  
Advanced Transport & Integrated Logistics Ltd.  
Asap Cargo Services  
Fortune Traders Ltd  
Gulf Shipping  
Huggins Shipping And Customs Brokerage  
Impex Caribbean  
Insa Shipping Services  
Intercontinental Shipping  
International Shipping Ltd  
Int-Ter-Trad Company  
Manufacturing Contractors Export Services  
Mnk Distributors  
New World Services And Trading Ltd  
Sarah Imports Company  
Shipping Association Of Trinidad And Tobago  
Tee Tee Importers  
Tropical Trinidad Agency Unlimited

***Civil Society And Other***

Amalgamated Workers Union  
Caritas  
Contractors & General Workers Trade Union  
Development Foundation  
Environment Tobago  
Federation Of Independent Trade Unions And Ngos (Fitun)  
Food And Agriculture Organization  
Global Environment Facility  
Habitat For Humanity  
International Federation Of Red Cross And Red Crescent Societies  
National Trade Union Centre Of Trinidad & Tobago  
Pan American Health Organization  
Red Cross  
Transparency International  
Union Of Commercial Industrial Workers

**European Union**

**France**

***Public Administration***

Embassy of France in Santo Domingo de Guzman  
Embassy of France in Port-au-Prince, Haiti  
French Embassy in Kingston, Jamaica  
Embassy of France in Paramaribo, Suriname  
Embassy of France in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago  
Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs  
Ministry of Overseas France  
Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances, Direction Générale du Trésor, Service des Affaires Multilatérales et du Développement, Sous-Direction Politique Commerciale et Investissement – Multicom 1, Bureau Politique commerciale, OMC et accords commerciaux de l'UE  
Secrétariat Général des Affaires Européennes, Secteur RELEX  
Agence Francaise de Developpement

**Germany**

***Public Administration***

Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy  
German Embassy in Jamaica  
German Embassy in Trinidad and Tobago

German Embassy in the Dominican Republic  
GIZ - Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH  
Honorary Consulate General of Germany in Nassau  
Honorary Consulate General of Germany in Barbados  
Honorary Consulate General of Germany in Belize City  
Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany in Grenada  
Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany in Georgetown, Guyana  
Honorary Consulate of the Federal Republic of Germany in Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic

### ***Investment***

European Latin American Arbitration Center  
Ongresso  
Germany Trade & Invest

### ***Export/Import Promoters***

AUMA – Association of the German Trade Fair Industry  
Federation of the German Export Trade  
BGA - Federation of German Wholesale, Foreign Trade and Services

### ***Business Association***

BDI - Federation of German Industries  
Business Association for Latin America  
Chambers of Industry and Commerce (IHK)  
Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHK)  
German Chamber of Commerce Abroad (AHK)  
SPECTARIS - German Hightech Industry Association

## **The Netherlands**

### ***Public Administration***

Consulaat honorair in Belize City  
Consulaat-generaal in Miami  
Honorair Consulaat in Nassau, Bahamas  
Landbouwraad Cuba  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Directorate-General for Foreign Economic Relations  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Directie Westelijk Halfrond - De Adviseur Koninkrijksaangelegenheden DWH/AK)  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Directie Westelijk Halfrond Latijns-Amerika en Caraïbisch gebied (DWH/LC)  
Nederlands consulaat in Kingston  
Nederlands honorair consulaat in Basseterre, Saint Kitts en Nevis  
Nederlands honorair consulaat in Bridgetown, Barbados  
Nederlands honorair consulaat in Castries, Saint Lucia  
Nederlands honorair consulaat in Georgetown, Guyana  
Nederlands honorair consulaat in Kingstown, Saint Vincent en de Grenadines  
Nederlands honorair consulaat in Puerto Plata  
Nederlands honorair consulaat in Roseau, Dominica  
Nederlands honorair consulaat in Saint George's, Grenada  
Nederlands honorair consulaat in St. John's, Antigua en Barbuda  
Nederlandse ambassade in Havana  
Nederlandse ambassade in Mexico-Stad  
Nederlandse ambassade in Paramaribo  
Nederlandse ambassade in Port of Spain  
Nederlandse ambassade in Santo Domingo  
Vertegenwoordiging van Nederland in Aruba  
Vertegenwoordiging van Nederland in Philipsburg, Sint Maarten (VNP)  
Vertegenwoordiging van Nederland in Willemstad, Curaçao (VNW)

### ***Investment***

NFIA  
Invest in Holland Network  
Atradius Dutch State Business  
Nederlands Investerings Agentschap

### ***Business Association***

Kamer van Koophandel  
CEDA  
International Association of Dredging Companies  
VNO NCW  
MVO

**Export/Import Promoters**

RVO

**Spain**

**Public Administration**

CAF Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina  
Consulate of Spain in Grenada  
Consulate of Spain in Suriname  
Embassy of Spain in Dominica  
Embassy of Spain in Dominican Republic  
Embassy of Spain in Kingston, Jamaica  
Facilidad de Inversión para el Caribe (FIC)  
Facilidad de Inversiones para América Latina (LAIF)  
Ministry of Industry, trade and tourism  
The Secretariat of State for International Cooperation and for Ibero-America and the Caribbean

**Investment**

ICEX Spain Export and Investment  
Invest in Spain  
SIFDI Foreign Direct Investment in Spain

**EU**

Association of the Overseas Countries and Territories of the European Union  
Association of ACP National Chambers of Commerce, Industry and other Economic Operators  
Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce (CAIC)BusinessEurope  
CEPS – European Spirits OrganizationEcologistas en Accion  
Economic Research Forum (ERF)  
Euro Coop - European Community of Consumer Cooperatives  
Eurochambers  
EuroCommerce  
Eurogroup for Animals  
European Apparel and Textile Organisation EURATEX  
European Branded Clothing Alliance  
European Commission  
European Committee for Standardization  
European Digital Rights  
European Environmental Bureau  
European Organisation for Security  
European Policy Centre  
European Renewable Energy Council  
European Services Forum  
European Small Business Alliance  
European Training Foundation  
FoodDrinkEurope  
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung  
Friends of the Earth Europe  
Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung  
Human Rights Watch  
Humane Society International  
industriAll European Trade Union  
International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)  
International Fund for Animal Welfare  
International Trade Union Confederation  
Latin American Industrial Association (AILA)Oxfam International  
Platform of European Social NGOs  
The European Consumer Organisation  
Union Européenne de l'Artisanat et des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises  
Young Entrepreneurs for Europe

**Other EU Member States- Enquiry points under the EU-Cariforum EPA**

Austria: Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy, Department for Multilateral and EU-Trade Policy - C2/3  
Belgium: Federal Public Service Economy, SMEs, Self-employed and Energy, Directorate – General Economic Analysis and International Division  
Bulgaria: Foreign Economic Policy Directorate, Ministry of Economy  
Croatia: Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Trade Policy Department  
Cyprus: Ministry of Energy, Commerce, Industry and Tourism, Trade Service

Czech Republic: Ministry of Industry and Trade, Trade Policy and International Economic Organizations Department  
Denmark: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Trade Council, International Trade Policy and Global Public Affairs  
Estonia: Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications  
Finland: Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Department for External Economic Relations  
Greece: Ministry of Economy, Infrastructure, Shipping and Tourism, General Directorate of International Economic and Trade Policy, Directorate of International Trade Policy  
Hungary: Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department for Trade Policy  
Ireland: Department of Jobs, Enterprise, and Innovation, Trade Policy Unit  
Italy: Ministry of Economic Development, General Directorate for Trade Policy – Division V  
Latvia: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, Foreign Trade and Foreign Economic Relations Promotion Department, Foreign Trade and Investment Division  
Lithuania: International Economic Organizations Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Luxembourg: Ministère des Affaires étrangères et européennes, Direction des Relations économiques internationales et des affaires européennes  
Malta: International Economic Relations Directorate, Economic Policy Division, Ministry of Finance  
Poland: Ministry of Economy, Trade Policy Department  
Portugal: AICEP Portugal Global – Trade and Investment Agency, Intelligence and Knowledge Unit; Ministry of Foreign Affairs, General Directorate for European Affairs (DGAE), Trade Policy Department  
Romania: Ministry of Economy, Trade and Tourism, Department for Foreign Trade and International Relations  
Slovak Republic: Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic, Foreign Trade Policy and European Affairs Directorate, Foreign Trade Policy Department  
Slovenia: Ministry of Economic Development and Technology , Tourism and Internationalisation Directorate  
Sweden: National Board of Trade, Department for WTO Affairs; Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Department: International Trade Policy Department  
United Kingdom: Department for Business , Innovation & Skills, Trade Policy Unit

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## ANNEX H STAKEHOLDER QUESTIONNAIRES

### Process of consultations

A questionnaire based on the evaluation and implementation Matrix will be issued regarding implementation for the national experts of the Consultations Team. National experts will in turn issue specific consultation questionnaires for the stakeholders of each country, which will highlight any possible source of concern regarding EPA implementation and impact.

The following pages show the draft questionnaires for the different target groups. At this stage, the implementation questionnaire has been fully developed. For implementation, countries have organised the implementation differently. EPA coordinators will help to identify which part of the questionnaire is relevant for which stakeholder. The questionnaires for other stakeholders serve to identify main impacts at this stage, but will be further detailed and specified in the course of the implementation phase.

### Full implementation questionnaire

#### **Tariff bindings**

1. What are the applied customs duties of your country for all tariff lines (6 digits level)? Would you have them available in Excel Format?

#### **Export duties**

2. Has your country eliminated export duties according to Article 14 of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA?

Please respond by Yes/No

#### **Non-discrimination MFN**

3. Is there another country with which you have signed a Free Trade Agreement?

Please respond by Yes/No

4. If yes, which country?

5. If yes, does the FTA concerned provide for more preferences in favour of your partner than for the EU under the CARIFORUM-EU EPA?

Please respond by Yes/No

#### **Non-discrimination national treatment**

6. Do you impose any higher tax in your country on imported products than on domestic products?

Please respond by Yes/No

7. Do you impose any additional obligation on imported products, with respect to packaging, transportation, labelling, technical regulations or standards as compared to your national products?

Please respond by Yes/No

#### **Fees and charges**

8. What custom fees are required on imports of products originating in the EU?

#### **Transparency**

9. Please provide a list of all technical regulations and standards in your country.

10. Please provide a list of all sanitary and phytosanitary regulations in your country.

11. Are all the above regulations above published in an official journal?

Please respond by Yes/No

#### **Quantitative restrictions**

12. Does your country restrict any imports or exports? If the answer is yes, is there a schedule to remove them?

**Customs and Trade Facilitation**

13. Please provide a copy of your country's customs code or set of customs regulations, including those pertaining to customs valuation.

14. Is the customs legislation of your country published, including the customs' administrative practices?

Please respond by Yes/No

15. How can a foreign exporter be informed of the custom regulations or procedures? Is there a website designed to help the exporters?

16. Please indicate how does your country cooperate with the customs authorities of the EU Member States or the EU Commission?

**Specific rules for agricultural goods**

17. Are there remaining barriers in the agriculture sector for goods originating in other CARIFORUM countries?

18. Does your country have any problem regarding the availability of, or access to, foodstuffs or other products essential to ensure food security?

Please respond by Yes/No

19. Has your country triggered a special safeguard provision due to problems related to the availability of, or access to, foodstuffs or other products essential to ensure food security ?

Please respond by Yes/No

20. Are there agricultural export subsidies in your country's legal system? If yes, is there a schedule to remove them?

21. Do you consult with the EU Member States or the EU Commission on agricultural matters?

**Rules of origin**

22. Does your country apply rules of origin on imported products?

Please respond by Yes/No

23. If yes, please provide the legal basis

24. Does your country provide to its applicants all relevant information for them to obtain a EUR.1 Movement Certificate?

Please respond by Yes/No

25. Do you see any difficulty in this respect?

**Technical regulations, standards and conformity assessment procedures**

26. Does your country base its technical regulations and standards on existing international standards?

Please respond by Yes/No

27. Please identify the TBT contact point in your country.

28. Does your country collaborate with the EU regarding the identification and implementation of its technical regulations and standards?

Please respond by Yes/No

29. Is your country satisfied by the cooperation between your country and the EU member States and the EU Commission regarding the identification and implementation of its technical regulations and standards?

**Sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures**

30. Does your country base its sanitary and phytosanitary measures on those established by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the CODEX Alimentarius, and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)?

Please respond by Yes/No

31. If no, please provide the basis for your country's sanitary and phytosanitary measures? Are these measures based on a scientific assessment of the risk?

32. Has your country established a SPS Competent Authority?

Please respond by Yes/No

33. Is your country's SPS Competent Authority cooperating with the other CARIFORUM States?

Please respond by Yes/No

34. Is your country's SPS Competent Authority cooperating with the EU Member States?

Please respond by Yes/No

**Trade defence**

35. Has your country adopted trade defence legislation (antidumping, countervailing and safeguards) ?

Please respond by Yes/No

36. If yes, has it used this legislation against products originating in the EU?

37. Has your country implemented any specific safeguards against products originating in the EU?

**Trade in services**

**Ongoing liberalisation**

38. Has there been negotiations for additional liberalisation of service within the CARIFORUM States? What is your country's position in these negotiations?

**Liberalisation commitments**

39. Are your country's commitments provided for in Annex IV of the CARIFORUM-EU Agreement applied in your country? If not, what are the plans for its implementation?

40. Please provide a list of your country's licensing or authorisation requirements related to the supply of a service subject to your country's schedule of commitments.

41. Are your country's licensing or authorisation requirements different for your domestic services and service suppliers than for foreign services and services suppliers?

Please respond by Yes/No

42. Is there another country with which you have signed a Free Trade Agreement which also covers services?

Please respond by Yes/No

43. If yes, which country?

44. If yes, does the FTA concerned provide for more preferences in favour of your partner than for the EU under the CARIFORUM-EU EPA??

Please respond by Yes/No

**Key personnel, graduate trainees and business sellers**

45. Does your country allow the entry of key personnel and graduate trainees for all foreign service suppliers who have established a presence in your country?

Please respond by Yes/No

46. Does your country allow the entry of business sellers for all foreign service suppliers who have established a presence in your country or who simply want to trade service?

Please respond by Yes/No

***Mutual recognition***

47. Has your country signed a Mutual Recognition Agreement with other CARIFORUM countries or with EU Member States?

Please respond by Yes/No

***Transparency***

48. Has your country established enquiry points to provide information, if requested, to investors and service suppliers of the other countries?

Please respond by Yes/No

***Courier services***

49. Is your country regulating anti-competitive practices in the courier sector, especially as regards the incumbent operator?

50. Has your country adopted appropriate measures to ensure that universal service obligation do not artificially favour the incumbent operator over the other service suppliers in the sector ?

***Telecommunications***

51. Has your country established a telecommunication regulatory authority?

Please respond by Yes/No

52. Has your country adopted appropriate measures to prevent anti-competitive practices in this field?

53. Are the conditions of interconnexion with you domestic operators left to market forces?

Please respond by Yes/No

***Financial services***

54. Are the conditions to obtain a license or authorisation to supply financial services in your country published?

Please respond by Yes/No

55. Has your country adopted adequate safeguards to the protection of privacy and fundamental rights, and freedom of individuals, in particular with regard to the transfer of personal data in the financial sector?

Please respond by Yes/No

***International Maritime Transport***

56. Does your country maintain restrictions regarding access to ports, infrastructure and ancillary services to ships flying the flag of the other CARIFORUM countries and the EU Member States ?

57. If yes, are there plans to provide such access?

***Tourism and cultural cooperation***

58. Has your country adopted appropriate measures to prevent anti-competitive practices in this field?

59. Has your country signed any particular agreement with another country, also for providing mutual recognition of requirements, qualifications and licenses or other regulations?

Please respond by Yes/No

60. Is your country developing its own environmental / sustainability standards as regards tourism?



Please respond by Yes/No

61. Is your country a member of the UNESCO Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions?

Please respond by Yes/No

**Electronic commerce**

62. Does your country apply custom duties on products delivered electronically?

Please respond by Yes/No

63. Has your country engaged into a dialogue with other CARIFORUM States or EU Member States on regulatory issues related to electronic commerce?

Please respond by Yes/No

64. If yes, what are the main topics of this dialogue?

**Capital movement**

65. Does your country impose any restriction on international payments to or from your country?

Please respond by Yes/No

**Intellectual property**

66. Please provide a copy of your country's legislation pertaining to the protection of intellectual property.

67. Does your country protect the following IP rights?
- a. Copyright
  - b. Trademarks
  - c. Patents
  - d. Geographical indications
  - e. Layout-designs (topographies) of integrated circuits
  - f. Protection of undisclosed information

Please respond by Yes/No to each right concerned.

68. Is your country considering new initiatives to strengthen protection of intellectual property rights?

69. What progress has your country made regarding the regional integration / harmonization of IP protection?

70. Which measures has your country taken to prevent or control licensing practices or conditions pertaining to intellectual property rights, which may adversely **affect the** international transfer of technology and that constitute an abuse of intellectual property rights by right holders ?

71. Is your country exchanging information regarding transfer of technology with neighbouring countries or EC Member States?

Please respond by Yes/No

72. Does your country have an independent judicial system which can provide preliminary injunctions and final rulings regarding intellectual property designs?

Please respond by Yes/No

**Copyright**

73. Has your country acceded to the Rome Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organisations (1961)?

Please respond by Yes/No

74. Does your country's collecting society (copyrights) have any arrangement with other parties' collecting societies?

Please respond by Yes/No

**Trademarks**

75. Does your country have a mechanism for the registration of trademarks and to contest decisions related to the acceptance or refusal of a trademark?

Please respond by Yes/No

**Geographical indications**

76. Does your country have a mechanism for the protection of geographical indications?

Please respond by Yes/No

77. Has your country already registered a geographical indication or submitted one to the Trade and Development Committee?

**Industrial designs**

78. Is your country a party to the 1999 Hague Agreement on Industrial designs?

Please respond by Yes/No

79. Does your country have a mechanism for the protection of independently created industrial designs?

Please respond by Yes/No

**Patents**

80. Is your country a party to the Patent Cooperation Treaty (Washington, 1970, last modified in 1984) and the Budapest Treaty on the International Recognition of the Deposit of Micro-organisms for the Purposes of Patent Procedure (1977, amended in 1980)?

Please respond by Yes/No

81. Does your country have a mechanism for the protection of patents?

Please respond by Yes/No

**Other intellectual property rights**

82. Does your country have a mechanism for the protection of utility models? (this concerns any products or processes in any fields of technology, provided they are new, involve some degree of non-obviousness and are capable of industrial application).

Please respond by Yes/No

83. Does your country have a mechanism for the protection of plant varieties?

Please respond by Yes/No

84. Does your country have a mechanism for the protection of genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore?

Please respond by Yes/No

**Protection of personal data**

85. Please provide a copy of your country's legislation pertaining to the protection of personal data protection in your country.

**Government procurement**

86. Please provide a copy of your country's legislation pertaining to public procurement.

87. Please indicate if there are tender procedures which are reserved to domestic bidders. If yes, in which sector and by which procuring entity?

88. Please indicate the mechanism used in your country to publicize tender procedures and the award decisions?

89. Does your country have a mechanism to challenge award procedures?

Please respond by Yes/No

90. Does your country cooperate with other CARIFORUM members in the area of government procurement?

Please respond by Yes/No

**Investment**

91. Does your country have legislation that ensures that investors act in accordance with core labour standards as required by the International Labour Organization (ILO) Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, 1998?

92. Does your country have legislation that ensures that investors act in accordance with international environmental agreements to which your country is a party?

93. Has there been any review of the legal framework of investment, the investment environment, and the flow of investment since the entry into force of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA? If so, what were its conclusions?

**Competition rules**

94. Please provide a copy of your country's legislation pertaining to competition.

95. Does your country have a competition authority? If yes, has it taken decision already?

**Rules on undertakings**

96. Is there any cooperation between your country's competition authority and that of the other parties of the EPA?

Please respond by Yes/No

**Disciplines on State Trading Enterprises**

97. Does your country have any public enterprise and enterprise entrusted with special or exclusive rights, including designated monopolies?

Please respond by Yes/No

98. If the response to the above question is yes, are these enterprises subject to your country's competition laws, like any other enterprise?

Please respond by Yes/No

**Sustainable development and social aspects**

99. Has your country taken specific initiatives in order to conserve, protect and improve its natural environment and to prioritise sustainable development?

100. Does your country protect the freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining?

Please respond by Yes/No

101. Is forced labour prohibited in your country?

Please respond by Yes/No

102. Is child labour prohibited in your country?

Please respond by Yes/No

103. Does your country have legislation prohibiting any discrimination based on gender, race or religion in employment?

Please respond by Yes/No

**Transparency and awareness**

104. Are the laws, regulations, administrative procedures and clarifications of general application and international commitments relating to trade issues of your country generally available to the public?

Please respond by Yes/No

105. If so, what is the publication concerned and what is the average time frame for publication?

**Outermost regions**

106. Does your country have any form of cooperation with outermost regions of the EU?

Please respond by Yes/No

**Regional preference**

107. Does your country extend the most favourable commitments to all CARIFORUM countries?

Please respond by Yes/No

Market access in the European Union

**Exports of goods to the EU**

108. Do exporters of products of your country encounter any difficulties in their access to the EU market?

Please respond by Yes/No

109. If yes, which are the difficulties they encounter?

Exports of services to the EU

110. Do services suppliers of your country, which provide or intend to provide services in the EU, encounter any difficulty in their access to the market of any EU Member State?

Please respond by Yes/No

111. If yes, which are the difficulties they encounter?

**Protection of intellectual property rights in the EU**

112. Do economic operators in your country encounter difficulties for the registration of a trademark, tradename or patent in any EU Member State?

Please respond by Yes/No

113. If yes, which are the difficulties they encounter?

114. Do economic operators in your country encounter difficulties to obtain payment for their copyright in the EU?

**Government procurement**

115. Do economic operators in your country participate or intend to participate in public tendering procedures in any EU Member State?

Please respond by Yes/No

116. If yes, do they encounter any difficulty in this respect?

**Investment**

117. Do economic operators of your country have made or intend to make an investment in any EU Member State?

Please respond by Yes/No

118. If yes, do they encounter any difficulty in this respect?

**Cooperation**

119. Have the economic operators of your country received technical assistance to facilitate their exports to the EU?

120. Have the economic operators of your country benefited from the transfer of technology from the EU?

121. If yes, in which manner?

### **Other questions for public authorities**

Next to the more fact-based questionnaire above, the interviews will also address the following questions (to be tailored to the specific stakeholder).

- How did you become aware of the existence of the EPA between the EU and CARIFORUM?
- What channels and sources have you utilized to learn more about the EPA?
- Please indicate what the practical consequences of the EPA for your organization are?
- To what extent has your organisation been able to implement (part of) the EPA?
- Did you encounter any challenges in the implementation, and if so, please elaborate on these challenges?
- Did you receive any support (technical, financial) to help implement the EPA? If so, please provide more details on the support received (e.g. donor, type of support, duration) and how effective it has been?
- What have been the costs of implementation (e.g. investment costs, recurring costs). Can you quantify these?
- To what extent is implementation still lacking, and by when do you think will implementation of remaining elements take place? Do you foresee any challenges in this regard?

### **Related to impacts**

- What is the relevance of the EPA from your organisation's perspective, what needs does it address?
- To what extent can current trade and development issues be addressed on the basis of the current agreement, either through trade-related provisions or development co-operation?
- Do you already identify any impacts of the agreement, positive or negatively, for your organisation (e.g. related to capacity, quality of policy making, co-operation with regional or EU counterparts)? If so, please elaborate. To what extent can these benefits be quantified?
- Do you already identify any impacts of the agreement, positive or negatively, for society (e.g. on the business and investment climate, trade and investment, economic development, social and environmental issues, etc.) ? If so, please elaborate and distinguish between different stakeholders (e.g. business, sectors, consumers, SMEs, etc.) To what extent can these benefits be quantified?

### **For business associations**

*Business association can work both at the national level, regional or local level, or have a specific sectoral focus. The questions below are indicative of the general questions stakeholders in specific countries will receive, without prejudice of more detailed question depending on the type of stakeholder. Not all stakeholders will receive all questions, depending on their specific focus. E.g. questions on differences in sectoral impact will not be raised to sectoral organisations.*

### **Introduction**

- Please provide some more information about your organisation:
  - What is the membership of your organisation (type of companies, numbers)
  - Do you focus on specific sectors, companies?
  - What are the main objectives and activities of your organisation?

### **Awareness of EPA and its impact on trade and investment barriers**

- To what extent are your members aware of the EPA and what is covered in the EPA?
- What does your organisation and your members think are the main opportunities and threats created by the EPA?

- To what extent has the EPA taken away barriers to trade and investment in the region and with the EU? E.g. in areas like customs, services, investment, SPS, IPR, Public procurement, competition.
  - What barriers remain?
  - To what extent do remaining barriers stem from the non-implementation of (parts of) the EPA?

### **Use of the EPA and impact on trade & investment**

- To what extent are your members able to use the preferences of the agreement?
  - What challenges do they face in using the preferences? E.g. knowledge on procedures, qualifying for preferential access, administrative burden, etc.?
  - Are there differences between bigger companies and (M)SMEs in this respect?
  - Does the use of the preferences involve any costs for your members? If so, please elaborate, and if possible, please quantify.
- To what extent do your members face any competitiveness and supply capacity issues to take advantage of the agreement? What are the differences between bigger companies and (M)SMEs in this respect?
- To what extent has the EPA improved the supply of EU or regional inputs? E.g. in terms of increased availability, access to technology, lower prices, higher quality, etc.? What are the types of inputs (e.g. what type of goods and services) and for which sectors are these relevant?
- To what extent has the EPA increased competition from EU or regional companies?
  - Does this competition come in the form of imports or investment?
  - In which sectors is this mostly the case?
  - How does this affect the market and your members, e.g. in terms of prices, product availability, reduced local employment, position of (M)SMEs, etc.?
- To what extent do you observe other changes in trade and investment with the EU that can be linked to the agreement? What sectors observe the most significant changes?
- To what extent do you observe other changes in regional trade that can be linked to the agreement? What sectors observe the most significant changes?
- Trade and investment flows are affected by many other factors than the EPA. Which other factors have had a significant change on your country's trade and investment flows in the last 5 to 10 years?
- To what extent do you and your member receive development co-operation to support the use of the EPA? If support was received, please elaborate on the support received and the effectiveness of the support.
- If the EPA was not in place, but you would face the market access conditions on the basis of the GSP or MFN, what do you think would be the impact on trade and investment flows? Which sectors would be affected most?

### **Wider impact of the EPA**

- To what extent have the effects of EPA on trade and investment led to a wider economic impact in your country? E.g. on output, employment, the value added products/services, innovation, etc.
  - Do you see important differences between sectors?
  - Do you see important differences between bigger and smaller companies?
- Do you see any specific impact resulting from the agreement on consumers?
- Where the EPA did have clear effects, does this also result in any social (including gender, human rights) effects or environmental effect to your knowledge? If so, please elaborate.
- To what extent has the EPA contributed to an improved business and investment climate?

### **For freight forwarders and importers**

*Freight forwarders and importers have as thematic coverage their perception of the implementation of tariff schedules and whether this has affected their easy of importing and exporting under the EPA. This is measured by the type of procedures tackled by the Agreement, such as the length of customs and other EPA-related administrative procedures.*

### **Introduction**

- Please provide some more information about your organisation.

### **About the CARIFORUM-EU EPA**

- Are you aware of the existence of the EPA between the EU and CARIFORUM?
- How did you become aware of the existence of the EPA between the EU and CARIFORUM?
- What channels and sources have you utilized to learn more about the EPA?
- Please indicate what the practical consequences of the EPA for your organization are?
- To what extent do you help your clients with customs procedures in CARIFORUM-EU trade?
- To what extent does the EPA help to facilitate this trade?
- What barriers do you experience in making use of the EPA? Can you please check whether the attached list of tariff line is in line with the tariffs you encounter.
- More generally, do you see particular deviations of the tariffs? Is this for specific countries or products?

## **For private business, including (M)SMEs**

### ***Introduction***

- Please provide some information on your company:
  - Are you an independent company or part of a bigger group?
  - How many people do you employ?
  - To what extent are you involved in trade and investment with the EU and in the region?

### ***About the CARIFORUM-EU EPA***

- Since when have you been aware of the existence of the EPA between the EU and CARIFORUM? What channels and sources have helped you to learn more about the EPA?
- What are the main opportunities you see from the EPA in terms of trade and investment?
  - to what extent have you been able to take advantage of these opportunities?
  - What challenges do you face, e.g.
    - In the use of preferences (e.g. because unclear procedures, administrative burden, etc.);
    - With respect to internal capacity (capacity to investigate market opportunities, establish links with potential buyers or sellers, being able to respond to opportunities);
    - In terms of competition (other companies being more competitive).
- How has the EPA benefitted your company beyond trade and investment? E.g. increase in output or employment, access in new technology, lower production costs, etc.?
- Do you see any disadvantages of the EPA? Please explain.
- To what extent has the EPA taken away barriers to trade and investment in the region and with the EU? E.g. in areas like customs, services, investment, SPS, IPR, Public procurement, competition.
- What barriers to trade and investment with the EU and in the region remain?
- To what extent has the EPA contributed to a better trade and investment climate in your country?
- Did you receive any development co-operation support to make use of the opportunities offered by the EPA? To what extent did this support help your company?

### ***Closure***

- Would you like to make any other comments on the EPA that may be relevant for the evaluation (e.g. positive and negative impacts beyond the company, lessons learnt, recommendations, etc)?

## For Civil Society and other organisations

*Civil society and other organisations can take many forms. The questions below are indicative of the general questions stakeholders in specific countries will receive, without prejudice of more detailed question depending on the type of stakeholder. Not all stakeholders will receive all questions, depending on their specific focus.*

### Introduction

- Please provide some more information about your organisation (objectives, activities, if relevant, membership);
- What is your organisation's relation to the CARIFORUM-EU EPA? What aspects of it are you interested in (e.g. economic aspect, consumer aspects, social aspect, environmental organisations)?
- Since when have you been aware of the existence of the EPA between the EU and CARIFORUM? What channels and sources have helped you to learn more about the EPA?

### Questions on implementation

- To what extent has the EPA been implemented so far? In which areas is implementation most advanced and in which areas least advanced?
- What are the key challenges in the implementation of the EPA, for public authorities, business, and other relevant stakeholders?

### Questions on impact (depending on the organisation):

- Do you believe the EPA has had an impact **on trade and investment**? Which sectors seem to be most affected?
- To what extent are there differences on the impacts between big companies and (M)SMEs? What are the underlying reasons for these differences?
- To what extent has the EPA taken away barriers to trade and investment? What barriers remain?
- To what extent has the EPA had an **economic impact** beyond trade and investment (changes in output levels, employment, innovation, efficiency, etc.)
- Do you believe the EPA has had an impact on **consumers**? Has the EPA had an impact of the availability, quality or prices of products and services? Could you provide some examples?
- Do you see consumers as having more trust in the products and services they now buy? Are they more comfortable with the safety of these products?
- Do you believe the EPA has had an impact on the country's **social situation**? E.g. in terms of household income, employment, wages and prices. What aspect of the EPA generated this impact? Is there any sector in which you have seen any particular changes regarding jobs and wages?
- Have you seen any changes in the quality of jobs in the economy at large or in any particular sector? Changes in quality of jobs can be moved from the informal to the formal sector, better labour conditions, etc.
- Do you believe the EPA has had an impact on **human rights**? If so, which human rights in particular? What aspect of the EPA generated this impact?
- Do you see the EPA as having had any effect on **women's participation** in the workforce? How has this been a result of the EPA?
- Do you believe the EPA has had an impact on the **environmental situation** of your country or the region? Has this been a positive or negative effect? What aspect of the EPA generated this impact?
- Are these environmental effects limited to a specific sector (e.g. in fisheries or in agricultural land use) or are these affecting the country's environmental situations as a whole (e.g. air pollution, waste, water use or biodiversity in the country?)
- Are you aware of any **development cooperation programmes** funded by the EU, specifically under the EPA? How and when did you become aware of this programme?
- Do/Did you have a role in this programme? (E.g. involved in shaping its strategy or in the role of beneficiary)
- What is/was the objective of this development programme? Do you know how it aims/aimed to achieve this goal and to what extent it achieved its objectives?
- Do you believe the programme will have/had an impact in the long-run? Will the changes remain when the programme finalizes and is no longer funded under the EPA?



**Closure**

- Would you like to make any other comments on the EPA that may be relevant for the evaluation (e.g. other positive and negative impacts not yet discussed, lessons learnt, recommendations, etc)?

## ANNEX I MEMBER STATE SELECTION

### Selection of EU Member States

The consultation strategy includes consultations in four selected EU Member States (next to Brussels), to be carried out remotely or on the ground.

We have selected the EU Member States based on 1) their relevance in trade (measured through trade in goods, services) with the CARIFORUM region, 2) their political ties to the regions, and 3) cooperation with the CARIFORUM Member States.

The following table shows how Member States compare in **trade relevance**:

**Table I.1 Selection of EU Member States**

	Imports of goods	Relevance in trade		Exports of services
		Exports of goods	Imports of services	
1	Netherlands	Spain	Netherlands	Netherlands
2	Spain	Netherlands	UK	UK
3	Belgium	Italy	Italy	France
4	UK	Germany	France	Luxembourg
5	Poland	UK	Belgium	Germany
6	France	Poland	Luxembourg	Denmark
7	Italy	France	Denmark	Italy

Source: Consortium.

The figures below present more details on the trade flows. Data for imports into Belgium and the Netherlands are often skewed due to the Rotterdam-Antwerp effect.<sup>20</sup> For example, the actual values of Rotterdam trade have been calculated to be (on average) 60% of the values presented in the statistics, with the other 40% actually representing re-imports.<sup>21</sup>

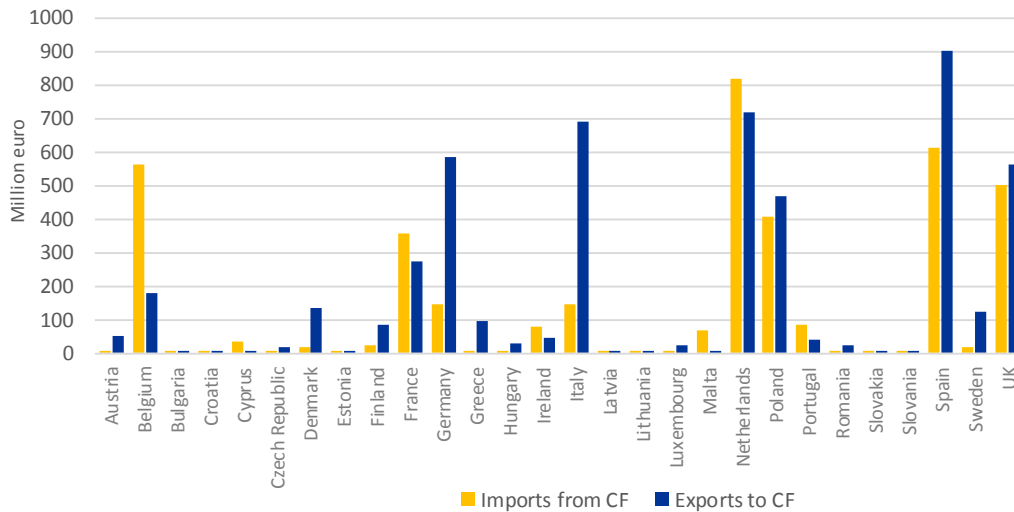
Regarding services, highest values are recorded for the Netherlands, the UK, France, Italy and Luxembourg. However, the collection and reporting of data on the trade of services data often yields unsound figures, making it difficult to interpret. For example, the values for the Netherlands are excluded from the figure as imports from Barbuda in 2017 show a figure that is over 80% the EU total for that year. Spain and Germany, on the other hand, do not report data of services imports from the CARIFORUM member countries.

### Figure I.1 EU Member States trade in goods with CARIFORUM, 2018

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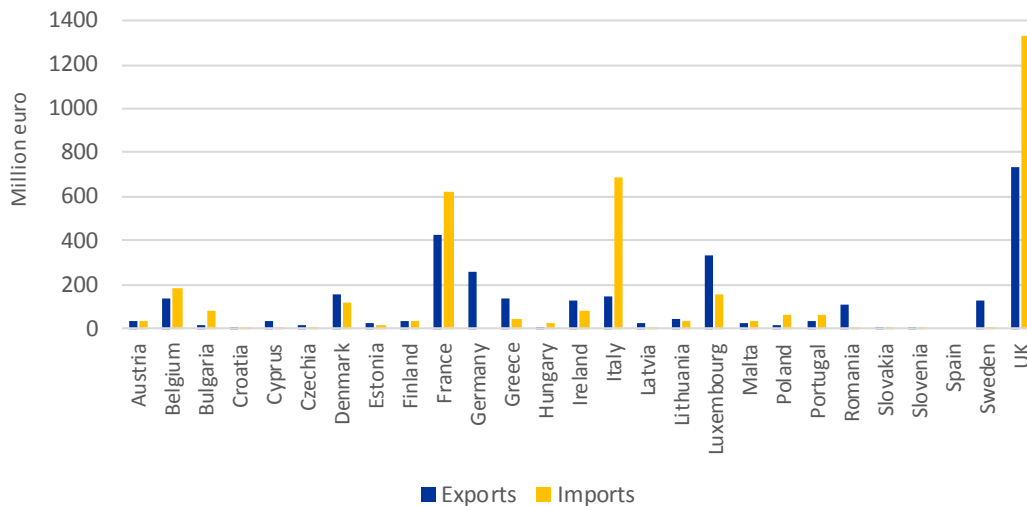
<sup>20</sup> Errors occur in the way trade is calculated when trade enters through ports on their way to final destinations outside of the country or trading block. A large portion of goods are simply unloaded from one ship to another but are registered for the country where the port is located.

<sup>21</sup> CBS Statline 2015.



Source: Own calculations, based on Eurostat data.

**Figure I.2 EU Member States trade in services with CARIFORUM, 2017**



Source: Own calculations, based on Eurostat data.

**Political ties** between the EU and region are strong in various countries, because of former colonial relations. In addition, some EU Member States are still connected to the regions through the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) and Outermost Regions (ORs). The EU Outermost regions (ORs) of the Caribbean (Guadeloupe, Martinique, French Guiana and Saint-Martin) are an integral part of the EU. Therefore, EU law and all the rights and duties associated with EU membership apply to them. However, these regions are entitled, in accordance with Article 349 of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), to specific measures and derogations in EU legislation to help them to address the major challenges they face due to their remoteness, insularity, small size, difficult topography and climate, and economic dependence on a reduced number of products. Caribbean OCTs depend (to varying degrees) on either the United Kingdom, France or the Netherlands but do not form part of the EU territory or Single Market, and are not bound by the EU's *acquis communautaire*. The OCTs are therefore relevant for the possible impact of the EPA on third countries, while the ORs are relevant for analysing specific aspects of CARIFORUM-EU relations. For example, the ORs are entitled, as specified in Art. 349 TFEU, to apply tax exemptions or reductions to local producers (the taxes itself are referred to *Octroi du Mer* or dock dues), to take into account the specific characteristics and constraints of the outermost regions.

In terms of **co-operation**, Germany has close ties to the region in the development cooperation work it does. The five-year review pointed to the crucial role of Germany (as well as the UK) in its bilateral initiatives to aid the EPA development cooperation implementation. Through the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)* it quickly mobilised resources in the critical

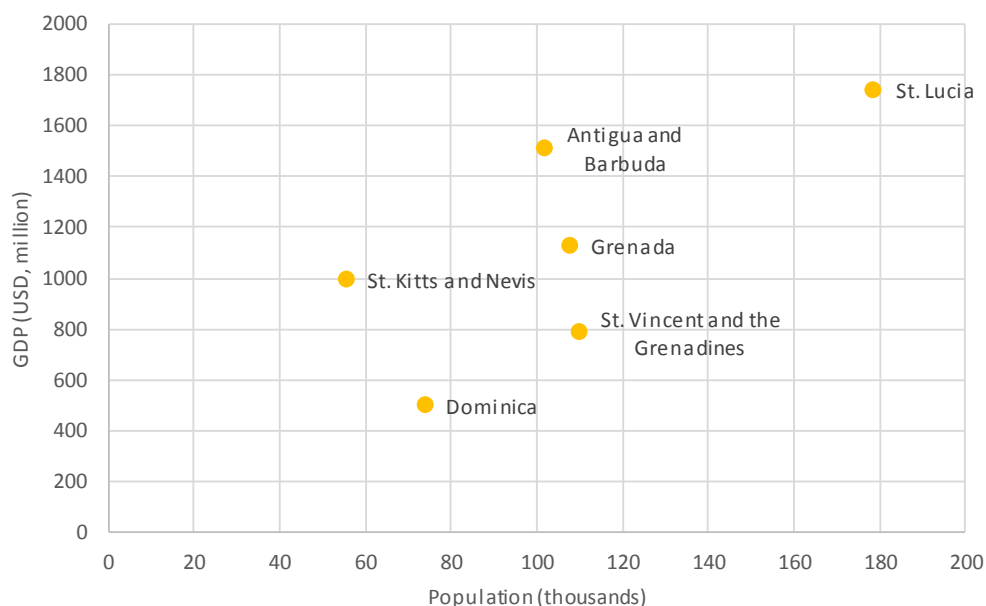
initial periods of implementation when projects under the EDF were still in the formulation/approval stage (EuropeAid, 2014).

Furthermore, the CARIFORUM-EU **Business Forum**, an event for business to business meetings, networking and professional consultations is being held in Germany this year. The 4<sup>th</sup> CARIFORUM-EU Business Forum will be in Frankfurt and will be hosted by the Caribbean Export Development Agency together with the European commission and GIZ. It aims to bring together CARIFORUM exporters to develop and build international partnerships. This three-day long event presents a good opportunity for the evaluation team to have access to a variety of stakeholders already gathered to discuss CARIFORUM-EU trade in the largest economy of the EU.

Given the importance of assessing EU27 relations with CARIFORUM<sup>22</sup>, and the fact that the study should provide lessons learned and recommendations for the future, we propose not to include the United Kingdom. Our proposal is therefore to focus on the **Netherlands, Spain** and **France** (due to their strong trade and political ties in the region) and **Germany** (due to its development cooperation importance).

### Selection of OECS

The consultations will also include one OECS state for physical consultations. This selection is based on the economic and political importance of the states and their population size. St. Lucia is given additional attention due to the administrative body of the OECS ( the Commission) being based in Castries, as well as the country taking up the rotating Chairmanship of CARIFORUM for 2019 (until July).



Based on its economic importance, large population and political relevance (respectively) we propose the OECS states of St. Lucia.

The below figures provides more details on the statistical relevance for the selection of the countries.

### Figure I.3 Economic importance of OECS States, 2018

Source: World Bank Data

<sup>22</sup> As per the Terms of Reference.



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