



# TRADE NEGOTIATION CAPACITY BUILDING (TNCB) PROJECT

Trade Capacity Building Workshop  
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## Introduction

- The Trade Negotiation Capacity Building (TNCB) project is jointly funded by the ECOWAS Commission and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA)
- Set up to build the negotiation capacity of member states to enable them to benefit from their participation in the multilateral trading system

## Objectives (1/2)

- Phase I (2003 – 2007):** To develop trade negotiating capacities of Member States
- Technical assistance to the Trade Directorate of the ECOWAS Commission;
  - Training of negotiators;
  - Sensitisation of Senior Policy Makers, and;
  - Meetings of Directors.

## Objectives (2/2)

**Project II (2008 -2015) :** Build on the achievements of the first phase of the project

- Assisting the Trade and Customs Department of the ECOWAS Commission to better play its role in the integration process
- Assisting the Member States to establish/ strengthen institutional and organisation mechanisms for trade policy decision making

## Project Management

- **Steering Committee:** Chaired by the Commissioner for Trade, Customs, Free Movement and Tourism, and consists of member states in each phase.
- **Project Coordinator:** Day-to-Day Management of the Project
- **Project Staff:** Consultants; Secretariat

## Expected Results

- ECOWAS Common External Tariff (CET) is finalized and notified to the WTO
- Trade policy is developed
- Inter institutional committees (IIC) are operational in the Member States

## Achievements

- Over **500 members of the Inter-Institutional Committees (IICs)** sensitized/ trained on the CET, the ECOWAS Trade Liberalisation Scheme (ETLS), ECOWAS Investment Code, Intra-regional trade and Multilateral trade
- **ECOWAS CET was adopted** and enter into force as of January 1, 2015
- First **draft of the trade policy** has been developed
- **IICs established/ strengthened** in all Member States

## Way Forward (1/2)

- Completion of Phase II activities
  - IIC meetings
  - Workshops on CET, ETLS, Investment
  - Capacity building workshop on Trade Policy
  - Meeting of IIC Coordinators
  - Project Steering Committee

## Way Forward (2/2)

- Design of Phase III
  - Technical Assistance to ECOWAS Commission (CET, Trade Policy, etc)
  - Strengthening Inter Institutional Committees (IICs)
  - Training
  - Communication Strategy & Action Plan
  - Internship
  - Deepening collaboration with technical partners (e.g WTO, EIF, UNECA, AfDB)
  - etc

**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION**