



EUROPEAN UNION – NIGERIA PROJECT SHEET

Project Title	Support for Regional Integration and Economic Partnership Agreement Negotiations between the EC and West Africa
----------------------	--

Sector	Commercial Policy and Administrative Management	Budget (₦)	
Location	West Africa	Budget (€equiv.)	€7,000,000
Start Date (Est.)		End date (Est.)	31.03.2009

Implementing Partner	ECOWAS Executive Secretariat
-----------------------------	------------------------------

Objective	To support the Regional Integration process in West Africa and the progressive integration of the region into world economy. The project will seek to support West Africa in the negotiation of the Economic Partnership Agreement with the European Commission (EC) and to cater for the immediate needs of the region in matters concerning the preparation of these negotiations.
------------------	--

Description	<p>The states of West Africa have mandated ECOWAS, in collaboration with UEMOA, to negotiate the Regional Economic Partnership Agreement. The present project foresees support to ECOWAS in the EPA negotiations and cover the needs of the region in matters of preparation for these negotiations. The project will also support other priority areas of the regional integration process and reinforce the capacity of all the actors in the negotiation structure.</p> <p>Major activities in this support will be the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Reinforcement of the institutional capacity of the negotiation structure, through training of the management staff of the two regional organisations, representatives of the member states and other parties involved in the EPA negotiation on subjects related to the EPA.- Make the negotiation structure operational by reinforcing the Joint Technical Secretariat of ECOWAS/UEMOA, help put in place and make functional the national negotiating committees and help finance the logistics of the meetings of the different committees and the Regional Preparatory Task Force.- Sensitisation and involvement of the Non-State Actors in the EPA negotiation through support aimed at improving communication between the NSAs and the regional organisations.- Carrying out studies at national and regional level to improve the understanding of possibilities and constraints. Studies of the sensitive sectors are also foreseen. <p>The programme will be implemented through Programme Estimates and Individual Commitments managed by ECOWAS and UEMOA.</p>
--------------------	--

Results Achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Financial assistance provided to ECOWAS and EUMOA for participation at EPA Negotiation meetings.- Recruitment of two long term technical assistants for reinforcement of ECOWAS capacity in the EPA negotiations.- Development of an Equilibrium Model that will allow the sub-region to assess the net fiscal impact of the EPA.- Short term technical assistance for reinforcement of UEMOA Commission.
-------------------------	--

Contact Details (incl. email and website)	<p>Name: Mr Abdou Ali Position: Director a.i. – Department for Trade & Commerce Contact: saliabdou2000@yahoo.fr Address: ECOWAS Commission, 60 Yakubu Gowon Crescent Asokoro District, P.M.B 401 Abuja, NIGERIA</p>
--	---

Project Officer	E-mail: delegation-nigeria@ec.europa.eu	Last Updated	February 2008
------------------------	--	---------------------	---------------