



PAGE 4: B.1) YOUR CASE STORY: TITLE AND DESCRIPTION

Q1: TITLE OF CASE STORY

Implementation process of the EPA Programme for Development (PAPED) - West Africa - ECOWAS Commission

Q2: CASE STORY ABSTRACT

The case story is presented here, deals with the implementation process of the Economic Partnership Agreement Program (EPA) for Development (PAPED). This program is part of the renewal of the trade regime between the West Africa region (AO) and the European Union (EU).

The overall objective of the PAPED is to build a competitive regional economy harmoniously integrated into the global economy that stimulates growth and sustainable development. Specifically, the program aims to support the West African region to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by the EPA and minimize the negative impacts of the Agreement.

The implementation process PAPED necessitated the establishment of operational instruments, including a matrix of priority projects for a specific period, a regional EPA fund and an observatory of competitiveness. The implementation of these instruments facilitates the mobilization of resources for financing PAPED, notably through the programming of existing EU instruments financing, coordination and channeling of resources mobilized and monitoring and evaluation expected results of the implementation of PAPED and EPA.

Given the importance of existing needs for Aid for Trade in the WA region, it is important to continue the smooth implementation and monitoring of PAPED, particularly through the operationalization instruments put in place.

Q3: LONG DESCRIPTION OF THE CASE STORY

1 - Issues

In the context of the renewal of the trade regime between the countries of Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) and the European Union (EU), Africa (AO) concluded the EPA in July 2014. The development dimension is a key element of this agreement. To achieve the commitment of the AO and the EU to negotiate a carrier EPA's sustainable development, the AO area had developed the program of the EPA development (PAPED). The process of elaboration of this programme had been introduced in 2012 as a case of experience. This development highlights the process of implementation of this program.

This process should address several challenges including:

- The mobilization of resources for the financing of the PAPED and its operationalization in order to ensure the African States of the West of the effective implementation of reforms related to the EPA and facilitate the conclusion of negotiations
- Coordination and channeling of the resources mobilized
- The mechanism of monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the EPAs, including its impact the objectives of the agreement

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To meet these challenges, the process of implementation of the PAPED necessitated the setting up of instruments and appropriate arrangements that involve the key players in the region AO as well as the EU and its Member States. This is the matrix of priority for the period 2015-2019, the EPA regional funds projects and the Observatory of the competitiveness of the West Africa.

2 - Objectives

The general objective of the PAPED is banekshooting a regional economy competitive, harmoniously integrated into the world economy and that stimulates the growth and sustainable development. Specifically, the programme aims to support the AO region to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by the EPA and minimize the negative effects of the agreement.

The matrce priority projects 2015-2019, the EPA regional fund and the competitiveness Observatory are intended to ensure the operationalization of the PAPED and its monitoring and evaluation.

3 - implementation

The main instruments agreed and developed to operationalize the PAPED are as follows:

-The adoption of the matrix of priority projects for the period 2015-2019. The development of this matrix meets one of the principles of the PAPED which is designed in a long term perspective, but is implemented by five years. This matrix valued at 6.5 billion Euros that the EU is committed to finance, is the EU's contribution to the implementation of the PAPED for the period 2015-2019. This contribution is one of the pillars of the consensus on the EPA both parties reached in July 2014. The matrix of priority projects focuses on the improvement of the competitiveness of the economies. In particular, it takes into account the concerns expressed during the development of the West Africa market access offer and places emphasis on the facilitation of trade, sectors that will be impacted negatively or by liberalization positively as well as on channels that have potential for development in intra-Community trade and markets in the EU to enable the region to exploit the opportunities offered by the agreement.

The programming process of the 11th background European Development (EDF) of West Africa takes account of the activities identified in the matrix of the priority projects of the PAPED 2015-2019.

-Preparation of the document framework for the Regional EPA (FRAPE) funds

The diversity of the sources of funding of the development dimension of the EPA, the heterogeneity of procedures, the multiplicity of the beneficiaries and the heaviness that could impede the mobilization and consumption of resources led the region West Africa to initiate the creation of the Regional EPAs (FRAPE) Fund. This Fund appears as a major instrument to channel and coordinate support for the implementation of the PAPED. The establishment of the FRAPE to reduce fragmentation of resources to support EPA and more generally those relating to aid for trade in the region AO. The AO has developed a document framework for the regional EPA Fund that specifies the objectives and guiding principles of the Fund, the modalities of its operation as well as its institutional framework. This framework document is being discussed with the European part. The ECOWAS Commission has entered in its 2015 budget an allowance in respect of his contribution to the operationalization of the FRAPE.

-The Observatory of competitiveness which is one of the joint bodies foreseen in the institutional framework of the agreement's main objective is to make available indicators of reference on the competitiveness of production sectors, to monitor the evolution of the various parameters of this competitiveness and guide priority support for its improvement. West Africa has developed a draft document that specifies the actors involved in monitoring, the scope, the main relevant indicators with regard to the objectives pursued, the methodology so that the shape and the legal status of the mechanism. The document stressed the need to measure not only the overall competitiveness of the region, including economic and social States generally, preview the competitiveness of some sectors or value chains and the performance of specific sectors, but also to monitor the implementation of the commitments made in the EPA. This document will be discussed with the European side to agree on a mechanism for assessing competitiveness credible and transparent that ensures the acceptance of the results by all the parties, including the EU.

4 - Problems

-Difficulties to reach consensual approaches between the parties on the implementation of the instruments of operationalization of the PAPED

-Lack of capacity of regional stakeholders in implementation which will improve their mode of intervention and

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to adapt to the new challenge induced by the EPA

5 - Success factors

- Commitment of the actors in the region, including the level political, to have instruments of operationalization of the PAPED
- Involvement of regional executing agencies who have a good knowledge and experience of implementing programmes related to trade in West Africa; to facilitate ownership of the implementation of the PAPED by those involved in the West Africa in accordance with the Paris Declaration on the effectiveness of development assistance and the programme of action of Accra.
- Regular meetings, including between ECOWAS and UEMOA Commissions to plan and refine all aspects of the operationalisation of the PAPED instruments
- Contribution of relevant experts in the region and also from outside

6 - Results

The process of implementation of the instruments of operationalization of the PAPED ensures:

- a better visibility of the different supports to mobilize by the region
- a better response of the donors funding the PAPED
- the coherence and synergy between national and regional funding of the development of trade instruments;
- the reduction of procedures and better absorption of the resources mobilized under the EPAs
- A mechanism for measuring the competitiveness and respect for the commitments made in the EPA.

The conclusion of the EPA between the EU and the AO has aroused renewed interest at the level of partner development, including Member States of the EU seeking to realize their contribution to its implementation through their instruments of cooperation, including the aid for trade.

7 - Lessons learned

- Aid for trade programmes require a wide coverage of activities affecting a variety of stakeholders
- The implementation of such programmes requires a good coordination of activities and a phase-coherent implementation; which requires the establishment of relevant and effective instruments of operationalization as well as the mobilization of financial resources and human important

Q4: Please add here web links to project/programme materials.

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Q5: YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

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Q6: FUNCTION

Public sector

Q7: FUNDING PARTNER Tick the appropriate box(es)

Respondent skipped this question

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Q8: Additional information	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q9: START DATE OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q10: STATUS OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q11: DURATION OR, IF ON-GOING, EXPECTED DURATION OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q12: COST OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q13: Additional information	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q14: TYPE OF FUNDING FOR PROJECT/PROGRAMME	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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Q15: PROJECT/PROGRAMME TYPE	Regional
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Q16: SINGLE COUNTRY/CUSTOMS TERRITORY	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
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Q17: REGION(If the region does not appear in the drop down menu, please enter manually.)	West Africa
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Q18: MULTI-COUNTRY(Enter all countries or customs territories) Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo

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Q19: CASE STORY FOCUS Tick the appropriate box(es)	Other (please specify) See Executive Summary
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Q20: HOW SUCCESSFUL WAS THE PROJECT/PROGRAMME Tick the appropriate box(es)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
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Q21: WHAT WERE THE OUTPUTS OF THE PROJECT/PROGRAMME Tick the appropriate box(es)	Other (please specify) See Executive Summary
Q22: Additional information(maximum 300 words)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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Q23: WHAT WERE THE OUTCOMES OF YOUR PROJECT/PROGRAMME Tick the appropriate box(es)	Other (please specify) See Executive Summary
Q24: Additional information(maximum 300 words)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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Q25: WHAT WERE THE IMPACTS OF THE PROJECT/PROGRAMME Tick the appropriate box(es)	Other (please specify) See Executive Summary
Q26: Additional information(maximum 300 words)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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Q27: LESSONS LEARNT Tick the appropriate box(es)	Other (please specify) See Executive Summary
Q28: Additional information (maximum 300 words)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q29: PROJECT OR PROGRAMME MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK Tick the appropriate box(es)	Other (please specify) See Executive Summary