

SERVICE PRIOR INFORMATION NOTICE

Strengthening Regional Collaboration amongst the
Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories, EU and CARIFORUM

Location: Caribbean region — Anguilla, Aruba, Bonaire, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Montserrat, Saba, Saint Barthélemy, Sint Eustatius, Sint Maarten, Turks and Caicos Islands

1. Publication reference

EuropeAid/136392/IH/SER/MULTI

2. Procedure

Restricted

3. Programme title

10th EDF

4. Financing

Financing Agreement

5. Contracting Authority

The Deputy Regional Authorizing Officer (DRAO)/Territorial Authorizing Officer (TAO) for the British Virgin Islands

6. Nature of contract

Fee-based

7. Contract description

The overall objective of the COSME Programme, of which this contract is a part, is to contribute to the economic diversification and prosperity of Caribbean OCTs by improving the competitiveness of SMEs in the territories.

The specific objective is to strengthen regional collaboration as a platform to complement efforts at the country level as a means of unlocking their collective economic potential. The proposed approach is to support economic diversification and SME competitiveness through regional collective action that leads to greater physical connectivity; trade and investment expansion; financial market development and regional macroeconomic and financial stability.

These will be achieved through separate, but interrelated activities:

- (i) Facilitate the creation of an umbrella organisation/association for Trade and Investment and private sector development;
- (ii) Stimulating of Regional and sub-regional programs on regional networks and online platform;
- (iii) Facilitating regional trade and investment policy dialogue and comprehensive frameworks for trade and investment expansion;
- (iv) Facilitate research and information dissemination, including support for establishing a database on Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) in the wider Caribbean.

In addition the potential of Financial Cooperation with the focus on capacity building, institutional strengthening and partnership building with other stakeholders and/or institutions supporting financial integration will be explored.

8. Indicative budget

Maximum budget: 1,200,000.00 Euro

9. Intended timing of publication of the contract notice

December 22, 2014

10. Additional information

-/-

11. Legal basis

ACP-EC Partnership Agreement signed at Cotonou on 23/06/2000 as amended on 25 June 2005 and on 22 June 2010 (Annex IV).

12. Remarks

There must be a minimum period of 30 calendar days between the publication of this prior information notice and the publication of the corresponding contract notice.

No applications or requests for information should be sent at this stage.