UNDESA/CARICAD 4th Caribbean Ministerial Consultation and High Level Workshop on Public Sector Management

ICT in the Cotonou Agreement

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European Commission
DG Development
Content

• What is the European Union?
• What is the role of the European Commission?
• How does the European Development Fund functions?
• How can the EDF benefit to e-government in the Caribbean?
• What other activities has the EC developed in the context of e-government?
• What should/could the Caribbean do to get more EDF funds for e-government?
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The world biggest trading block

**Imports**
- US: 21%
- EU-15: 18%
- JP: 6%
- China: 8%
- Canada: 4%
- Rest of the world: 43%

**Exports**
- US: 16%
- EU-15: 19%
- JP: 9%
- Canada: 5%
- China: 9%
- Rest of the world: 42%
Aid to the Third World

EU-15(1) 31 873
US 6 878
JP 9 358
Canada 2 045
Australia 1 061
New Zealand 154
Switzerland 911

(1) Union and Member States.
The GDP/Head of Population

- US: 27,561
- JP: 22,402
- EU-15: 19,040
Standard of living: regional disparities

>125
101-125
75-100
<75
External Assistance programmes

- EU is largest donor of humanitarian aid
- Fifth behind US, Japan, Germany and France in terms of Grant Finance
- EU and Member states provide 55% of Official Development Assistance
- Annually: 9.6BEuro
  - In the beginning: ACP
  - Now global: CEEC, CIS, Balkans, Middle-east, Mediterranean, Asia and Latin-America
The EU’s influence in the world

- Process of integration
- Launch of the Euro
- Progressive development of a common Foreign Policy
- The diplomatic and political strength is following the commercial and economic power
  - Bosnia, Kosovo
  - Not fighting wars, but humanitarian and peace-keeping tasks
  - Fight against AIDS, famine, drugs and terrorism
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The European Commission

• The EC is the executive body of the European Union
• In total 20 Commissioners
  – President Romani Prodi (Italian)
  – 2 Vice-Presidents
• 2 Members from the larger Member states
  – Italy
  – United Kingdom
  – France
  – Germany
  – Spain
• The smaller countries provide 1 single Commissioner
External Relations

- Chris Patten, External relations Commissioner
- Poul Nielsen, Development
- G. Verheugen, Enlargement
- P. Lamy, Trade
- J. Solana, SG of Council of Ministers, High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy

- 120 Delegations world-wide
- Summits with major partners
  - Originally trade
  - Environment, international crime, drugs, human rights
- Multilateral forums:
  - G8, UN, WB, OSCE
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Five generations of ACP-EU Agreements

- The world’s largest financial and political framework for North-South co-operation
- ACP states are free to table requests which are mutually negotiated with the EC
- National and Regional Indicative Programmes set development targets and contains five yearly spending pledges out of the European Development Fund
- The EC also provides funds for humanitarian and emergency aid and NGOs, Human Rights, etc. from the EC budget
- The Center for the Development of Enterprise www.cdi.be
New Millennium-New accord

• Need to speed up disbursal of EDF funding and simplify the Convention’s clauses.

• Participation of the ACP states in the world economy and poverty reduction are the central objectives of the new partnership

• Integration of the private sector and civil society actors will be promoted

• Financial resources of the 9th EDF: 13.5 B€
  – Long term allowance: 10 B€
  – Regional allowance: 1.3 B€
  – Investment Facility: 2.2 B€

• EIB own resources: 1.7 B€

Grand Total: 15.2 B€
Country Strategy Papers and Operational Indicative Programmes

• The bible for co-operation between the EU and the ACP countries are the Country Strategy Papers and the Operational Indicative Programmes
  – Situation, strategy of the government, EU response

• The latter implies that when a CSP contains an education element, teleducation projects might be funded (Papoua New-Guinea)

• The Country and National Support Strategies have been planned for the next 5 years.

• The mid-term review starts in 2004.
Priority activities for Community development aid

- Trade and development
- Regional integration and co-operation
- Support to macroeconomic policies with an explicit link with poverty reduction strategies
- Transport
- Food security and sustainable rural development strategies
- Institutional capacity-building, good governance and the rule of law

- ICT is not a priority as such. ICT can be a tool in the sectors above
Four rules

• Any demand should come from within the country or region

• A demand should fit in one of the areas that is covered by the Country or Regional Strategy Paper

• As a rule of thumb the EU doesn’t support small projects because the EU processing time for a 10k€ project or a 20M€ are roughly the same

• Ownership and leadership by the ACP countries/regions, partnership with the EU.
Procedure

• In the case of a national project:
  – demand should be addressed to the National Authorizing Officer
  – He will forward the demand to the Head of Delegation
  – Who will on its turn send the demand to HQ

• Regional project
  – demand should come from two countries within the region and should be addressed to a regional body that has been acknowledged by the EU (CARICOM or CARIFORUM)
  – The Authorizing Officer will forward the demand to the Head of Delegation
  – Who will on its turn send the demand to HQ
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EC policy context on governance

- As the world largest trade and aid partner of developing countries, EU has capacity to bring together political, social, economic dimensions of development
- 3 pillars of EU external action (political dialogue, trade, aid) can be instrumental in addressing governance issues
- All EC cooperation agreements contain provisions on governance-related essential elements.
- Cotonou Agreement explicitly addresses good governance and fight against corruption
- EC policy is based on dialogue and capacity building support
Institutional Capacity and good governance

• COM (2000)212: « ...Good governance, which includes the fight against corruption and the rule of law, are decisive in strategies to reduce poverty. In that connection, the EC is especially well placed to support the strengthening of the partner countries’ institutional capacities.

• As agreed with EU Council, EC will submit a communication on governance in EC Development policy to be tabled in summer 2003 and discussed under Italian Presidency, e.government to be covered in Communication

• Civil society organisations have direct access to CSP EDF funds (about 5%)

• Through Democracy-Human Rights budget line (€ 100 m/y) we support specific initiatives
Overview of the present provisions for capacity building

Source: http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/strat_papers/index_fr.htm

- **Antigua**
  - 10% of the indicative programme (€0.26) will be earmarked for studies, audits and technical support in the area of regional integration, disaster prevention and monitoring.

- **Bahamas**
  - The major interventions foreseen are: capacity strengthening for local government agencies, civil society organisations and the private sector in the Family Islands.

- **Barbados**
  - 10% of the indicative envelope shall be reserved for studies, audits and technical support in the area of regional integration.
Overview of the present provisions for capacity building

• Belize
  – The European Commission will support Capacity Building in Belize. An indicative amount of 0.8 M€ has been reserved for the following purposes: Institutional strengthening. The specific objective is to improve the overall institutional capacity of the Government so as to meet the country’s obligation, norms and standards, and institutional capacity to ensure appropriate implementation thereof.

• Grenada
  – 10 % of the Indicative programme or 0.35 millions Euro will be earmarked for studies, audits and technical support in the area of regional integration, disaster prevention and monitoring.

• Haiti
  – Support for the democratisation process and civil society
  – Support for regional integration and particularly for co-operation with the Dominican Republic
Overview of the present provisions for capacity building

• St Kitts and the Nevis
  – 15% of the National Indicative Programme will be earmarked for studies, audits and technical support in the area of regional integration.

• St Lucia
  – 10% of the National Indicative Programme or € 0.45 million will be earmarked for studies, audits and technical support in the area of regional integration, disaster prevention, monitoring and environmental management.

• St Vincent
  – 10% of the indicative programme (€0.5) will be earmarked for studies, audits and technical support in the area of regional integration, disaster prevention and monitoring.
Overview of the present provisions for capacity building

- **Suriname**
  - The EC will support strengthening the capacity of relevant state and non-state economic actors so as to ensure, the opportunities of regional integration are seized.
  - Activities to be carried out include:
    - Assisting the Ministry of TCT and the Ministry of Finance in formulating a privatisation strategy for public entities in the transport sector.
    - Supporting the Ministry of PLOS to strengthen its capacity to develop and monitor the EC programme, in the form of training, short-term advisory services, studies and facilities
    - Supporting the Ministry of PLOS and line ministries to improve the planning and monitoring the capacity of the MOP and to arrive at a rolling multi-annual programme.
On a pan-Caribbean level
@LIS-programme

• The Co-operation programme « ALliance for the Information Society » with Latin America and the Caribbean was launched at the EU/Latin America ministerial meeting on Information Society on 26-27 April 2002. It is endowed with some 85 M€, of which up to 63.5M€ will be financed by the European Commission/ALA budget line.

• The Regional Indicative Programme which is the EC response strategy to the economic situation and policies in the Caribbean has allocated an indicative budget for the Cariforum Region amounting to 57M€.

• At present an indicative amount of 3-4 M€ has been allocated for participation of the Caribbean in the @LIS programme.

• Close dialogue with CARICOM/CARIFORUM to make it operational.
Other sources in the pipe-line

• @CP programme:
  – In discussion with the Worldbank-InfoDev

• B7-623
  – Sub-contracted to the ITU
  – has an e-government component
  – However mainly concentrated on Africa.

• Proinvest
  – New program for the promotion of investments in ACP countries
  – Implemented and managed by the Center for the Development of Enterprise
  – 110 M€ over a period of 7 years
  – Two major ACP-EU partner -matching events bringing together 200-300 companies
  – 150-200 co-financing activities to support individual projects
  – In terms of capacity building 50-60 demand driven actions
European Investment Bank

- A financing agency for a balanced and steady development of the common market
- Provides loans, guarantees
- Promote the development of less-developed regions
- Financing for Developing countries
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e-Government activities within the EC

- e-Commission (within the EC itself)
- IDA programme for e-government between EC and Member state Administrations
- R&D on e-government
e-Commission

• Best kept secret in the world
Interchange of Data between Administrations (IDA) programme

• Mission: an EC driven strategic initiative using advances in ICTs to support rapid electronic exchange of information between Member State administrations.

• Objective: to improve Community decision-making, facilitate operation of the internal market and accelerate policy implementation.

• Its goal is to co-ordinate the establishment of trans-European telematic networks by:
  – Promoting implementation of sectoral networks in priority areas
  – Developing network interoperability measures
  – Extending network benefits to EU industry and citizens
  – Co-operating with Member States authorities and Community services
     Promoting convergence towards a common telematic interface.
IDA (continue)

- Started already in 1986 with CADDIA and TEDIS
  - videoconferencing between EC sites
  - on-line information from the European Parliament
- All projects owned by the European Commission - no copy possible without prior agreement with EC
- Website: http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/index.jsp?fuseAction=home
- Contact person: Manuela Finetti +32(2) 29 60109 manuela.finetti@cec.eu.int
R&D on e-government

• Mission: Fostering the development of multimedia systems and services to meet the needs of all levels of European Union's administration (community, national, regional, and local)

• Objective: a “European Integrated Government” enabling administrations, citizens, businesses, suppliers, and other public sector bodies to seamlessly come together and interact in real time through a ubiquitous infrastructure that promotes trust and confidence
  – Building services around citizens' choice
  – Making government and its services more accessible
  – Social inclusion
  – Better use of information

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Conclusion

- Analyze your Country Strategy Paper and try to formulate a project so that it fits within the National Indicative Program.

- Present consolidated projects of a certain magnitude that involves as many countries as possible so that the regional integration element also plays.

- The Country and Regional Strategy papers are set-up for periods of five years with a mid-term review which starts in 2004.

- Minister which is responsible for the relations with the European Commission is key player (National Authorization Officer).