




COMESA

TRADE FACILITATION AND PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES



Trade Facilitation Programme
Small Scale Cross-Border Initiative

Regional Enterprise
Competitiveness and
Access to Markets
Programme (RECAMP)



Facilitating the smooth flow of goods, persons and services across the COMESA region

Facilitating small scale cross-border trade

Increasing private sector participation in regional and global value chains

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) is currently implementing two trade facilitation programmes and one private sector development programme.

The programmes are part of the regional integration sub-envelope of the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) 2014-2020 for Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean, implemented during the period from 2017-2022.



Trade Facilitation Programme

Overall and specific objectives

The overall objective of the Trade Facilitation Programme is “to contribute to deepening regional integration, improving inclusive regional economic growth and enhancing competitiveness of the COMESA region”.

The specific objective of the programme is “to increase intra-regional trade flows of goods, persons and services by reducing the costs/delays of imports/exports at specific border posts”.

“deepening regional integration”

Results

The Trade Facilitation Programme aims at achieving the following results:

- Monitoring and resolution of non-tariff barriers (NTBs) is supported.
- The implementation of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement is supported.
- Coordinated Border Management (CBM) and trade facilitation along selected corridors and border posts in the tripartite region is supported.
- Implementation of harmonised, science based sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures and technical standards is improved.
- Trade in services, free movement of persons, trade negotiations, and trade promotions are supported.



Small Scale Cross-Border Trade Initiative

Overall and specific objectives

The overall objective of the Small Scale Cross-Border Trade (SSCBT) Initiative is “to increase the formalisation of informal cross-border trade and to enhance small scale cross-border trade flows in the COMESA tripartite region, leading to increased fiscal revenues for governments as well as increased security and higher incomes for small-scale cross-border traders (women in particular).”

The specific objective of the Programme is “to facilitate small scale cross-border trade flows between targeted countries through effective policy and governance reforms, institutional capacity building, improved border infrastructures and better data monitoring.”

Results

The SSCBT Programme aims at achieving the following results:

- Specific trade facilitation rules and instruments are designed and effectively implemented at selected border areas, so as to reduce the cost and time for crossing borders by small scale traders.
- The extent of corruption, bribery and harassment (including gender-based violence) at selected border areas is significantly reduced at selected border areas.
- Cross-Border Traders Associations (and similar business associations) in targeted countries have their capacities reinforced in a sustainable way, so as to effectively defend the interests of their members and deliver good quality support services.
- Gender disaggregated statistical data and analysis on Small-Scale Cross Border Trade are systematically collected, compiled, harmonised and disseminated to





increase evidence-based knowledge and inform trade-policy making process at national and regional levels.

- Adequate and gender sensitive border infrastructures for small scale traders are built/upgraded at selected border areas.

“small scale cross-border trade flows”

Regional Enterprise Competitiveness and Access to Markets Programme

“improve competitiveness and market access”

Overall and specific objectives

The overall objective of the Regional Enterprise Competitiveness and Access to Markets Programme (RECAMP) is “to deepen regional economic integration in the COMESA region”.

The specific objectives of RECAMP are:

1. To improve competitiveness and market access of SMEs and other firms in the targeted value chains/sector in the COMESA region.
2. To improve business environment for SME and other firms in the selected value chains in the COMESA region.

Results

- Access to market information and business linkages in the targeted sectors are enhanced.
- Capacities of the beneficiary firms related to sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) regional standards and quality management are improved including social and environment standards required under the World Trade Organization (WTO) and/or EU market.
- Regional public-private dialogue platforms are supported and enhanced aimed at promoting business opportunities.
- Regional policies in favour of value chains development are further developed and main-streamed in national policies.

“regional
public-private
dialogue”



The COMESA Trade Facilitation and Private Sector Development Programmes are implemented by:

Trade Facilitation Programme



Small Scale Cross-Border Trade Initiative



International Organization for Migration



International Trade Centre

Regional Enterprise Competitiveness and Access to Markets Programme (RECAMP)



Africa Leather and Leather Products Institute (ALLPI)
Leather for Health, Wealth and Luxury!



FEMCOM COMESA
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