



Summary

TITLE	Technical Assistance for the Accession of Vanuatu to the World Trade Organization (WTO)
Applicant	Vanuatu, represented by the Embassy of Vanuatu in Belgium
Duration of the Project	3 Months
Objectives of the action	<p>Overall objective</p> <p>The overall objective of the assignment is to assist Vanuatu accede to the World Trade Organization (WTO).</p> <p>Specific objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government officials and stakeholders to be well informed on the implications of Vanuatu's accession to the WTO in terms of future commitments as a result of the accession package and the rights to be granted to Vanuatu as a (future) Member of the WTO. • Through organizing a series of meetings and a national consultative workshop targeting the general public of Vanuatu, key stakeholders including private sector representatives, parliamentarians and NGOs representatives, the project aims to enhance the understanding among the civil society in Vanuatu of the implications of Vanuatu's accession to the WTO.
Purposes of the action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To prepare Vanuatu to implement its obligations both during and post accession so that it benefits from WTO accession.
Target group(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of Parliament, Government officials, policy makers, private sector representatives, non-states actors and civil society representatives
Expertise Required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two consultants with at least 10 years experience in trade policy formulation, significant exposure to the ACP issues, in-depth knowledge on the multilateral trading system, including accession process and demonstrated ability to make oral and public presentation of technical issues in a simplified manner. • The experts are expected to be utilised as follows: The lead expert for 48 working days and the other consultant for 46 working days

Expected results	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise trade policy responses and prepare Vanuatu to manage the accession and post accession processes • Provide information and explanation to the target groups about the benefits and the costs of Vanuatu joining the WTO • Enhance the understanding of the nature and content of WTO obligations and rights in general. The intervention will specifically address the issue of how Vanuatu can effectively engage and be part of the international trading system.
Main activities	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analyse and update the draft accession package – analysis of the rights and obligation associated with the accession of Vanuatu to the WTO based on the results of the bilateral and multilateral negotiations. • Hold consultations with the focal point (Ministry of Trade) on the analysis and on the outreach activities envisaged below. • Undertake outreach activities for the public and private sectors to understand the commitments Vanuatu has undertaken. The activities will lead to a national validation workshop with stakeholders including representative of the private sector, NGOs and other non-state actors. The consultants will develop an abridged version of the accession package for the outreach activities. • Finalise the accession package with the Ministry of Trade
Budget Estimate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • €196,000.00