

Report

Programme

on

“Training on EU / WTO Quality and Social Standard Issues”

(Activity 1.1.5)



Submitted by:

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April 2009
Kathmandu, Nepal

Introduction:

The Enhancing the Capacity of Intermediate Business Organization in Nepal (ECIBON) Project is funded By the European Union and is being implemented by European Economic Chamber, Trade and Commerce (EEC) – Nepal. The general objective is to undertake the necessary steps to assist in upgrading the institutional capacity of IBOs including the national and local business organizations. Capacity development has been deemed necessary so that these apex representative organizations have the ability to undertake specific roles that would directly or indirectly help its member institutions in doing business with the European Union.

Activity 1.1.5: Training on EU / WTO Quality and Social Standard Issues

The general aim of this training is to impart knowledge, skills and attitude on the quality and social standard issues as related to World Trade Organization and European Union. This training is being provided to representattive from Nepali IBOs to enable them to better understand and comprehend the issues about potential exports under the WTO and EU regimes. This training will cover the necessary information about EU and WTO regimes needed by the SMEs to enable them to be better equipped in terms of the requirements especially related to exports. This training will be provided by Nepalese local experts.

Training Contents:

World Trade Organization:

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is an important selective, mainly private, international organization designed by its founders to supervise and liberalize international trade. The organization officially commenced on 1 January 1995, under the Marrakesh Agreement, succeeding the 1947 General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The World Trade Organization deals with regulation of trade between participating countries; it provides a framework for negotiating and formalising trade agreements, and a dispute resolution process aimed at enforcing participants' adherence to WTO agreements which are signed by representatives of member governments and ratified by their parliaments. Most of the issues that the WTO focuses on derive from previous trade negotiations, especially from the Uruguay Round (1986-1994). The organization is currently endeavouring to persist with a trade negotiation called the Doha Development Agenda (or Doha Round), which was launched in 2001 to enhance equitable participation of poorer countries which represent a majority of the world's population. However, the negotiation has been dogged by "disagreement between exporters of agricultural bulk commodities

and countries with large numbers of subsistence farmers on the precise terms of a 'special safeguard measure' to protect farmers from surges in imports. At this time, the future of the Doha Round is uncertain."

The WTO has 153 members, representing more than 95% of total world trade and 30 observers, most seeking membership. The WTO is governed by a ministerial conference, meeting every two years; a general council, which implements the conference's policy decisions and is responsible for day-to-day administration; and a director-general, who is appointed by the ministerial conference. The WTO's headquarters is at the Centre William Rappard, Geneva, Switzerland.

The European Union:

The EU has a common trade policy. This means that the EU and its 27 EU Member States act as one single jurisdiction in all trade-related matters. International agreements concluded by the EU are binding on the EU Institutions and on its Member States.

The legal basis for the EU's trade policy is Article 133 of the European Community (EC) Treaty. On this basis, the European Commission negotiates on behalf of the Member States in consultation with a special committee, the so-called "133 Committee". The 133 Committee is composed of representatives from the 27 Member States and the European Commission. Its main function is to coordinate the trade policy of the EU. The 133 Committee discusses the full range of trade policy issues affecting the EU, from the strategic issues surrounding the launch of rounds of trade negotiations at the WTO to specific difficulties with the export of individual products (e.g., textiles), and considers the trade aspects of wider EU policies in order to ensure consistency of policy. In this Committee, the European Commission secures endorsement of the Member States on all trade policy issues. The major formal decisions (for example agreement to launch or conclude negotiations) are then confirmed by the Council of the European Union.

The objective of the EU's Common Commercial Policy is to contribute, in the common interest, to the harmonious development of world trade, the progressive abolition of restrictions on international trade, and the lowering of customs barriers.

The EU's Common Commercial Policy covers all the main measures affecting trade in goods and services and almost all trade-related issues. Trade-related areas partially covered by the common trade policy include: company law, indirect taxation, standards and other technical regulations, and enforcement of intellectual property rights.

One of the most important aspects of the EU trade policy is that the EU is a customs union. The same import duties are charged on imports from third countries regardless of the country of entry. The main principles of customs law are regulated at EU level, although the customs authorities of the EU Member States are in charge of their application. In addition, trade remedies against unfair trade practices (i.e. anti-dumping and countervailing measures) and safeguards are adopted by the EU and imposed on the imports concerned regardless of the country of origin. Import regulations and export controls are also applicable EU-wide.

This two day training program was designed for specific participants and was conducted in 4 different locations (Kathmandu, Dharan, Nepalgunj and Rupandehi) in Nepal.

As part of the programme, this training was conducted at Kathmandu from 16th to 17th April, Dharan from 28th to 29th March, Rupandehi (Butwal) from 21st to 22nd March and from 18th to 19th March 2009 in Nepalgunj respectively.

Participants represented various local business organizations and included entrepreneurs. Hence the audience was quite heterogeneous in nature from diverse occupations and backgrounds. The total number of participants was as per expectations. The training in Kathmandu was conducted at Nepal Administrative Staff College while the training in Dharan was conducted at a Hotel. The training at Butwal was conducted at the Rupandehi Industry Association (RIA) complex and the training at Nepalgunj was conducted at the office of Nepalgunj Chamber of Commerce and Industries.

The participants of this training were representatives from the various IBOs, who can play a catalytic role to impart knowledge and skills on EU / WTO Quality and Social Standard Issues to Nepalese entrepreneurs.

The methodology of the training included ice breakers, lecture sessions, group exercises, assignments, presentation and energizers.

Training Hand outs were provided to the participants and question answer sessions were encouraged.

Scheduled Dates:

The trainings were conducted as per the following dates:

18th to 19th March 2009 at Nepalgunj

21th to 22th March 2009 at Rupandehi (Butwal)

28th to 29th March 2009 at Dharan

16th to 17th April 2009 at Kathmandu

Nepali Experts:

This training activity was conducted by the following Nepalese Experts:

Dr. Badri Pokhrel, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Supplies, Govt. Of Nepal and

Mr. Jayendra Rimal, Management Consultant and Trainer, Management Dynamics

Involvement from ECIBON Project:

Mr. Sagar Nepal

Ms. Kamini Chand

Local Partners/Hosts:

A. Host: Nepalganj Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Dates: 18 to 19 March 2009

Venue: Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Nepalganj, Banke

Total participants: 18

B. Hosts: Rupandehi Industry Association

Dates: 21 to 22 March 2009

Venue: Butwal, Rupandehi

Total participants: 22

C. Host: Itahari Chamber of Commerce and Industry Association

Dates: 28 to 29 March 2009, Dharan,

Venue: Hotel

Total participants: 23

D. Host: Lalitpur Handicraft Association

Dates: 16 to 17th April 2009

Venue: Nepal Administrative Staff College

Total participants:

Conclusion:

The participants were representatives from the Intermediate Business Organizations (IBOs) at the district and local levels. It was evident that most of the participants at all four locations were very eager to learn the European Union and World Trade Organizations regimes and how these would have an effect on their businesses. The participants were highly interactive. They discussed various issues that required further clarification. As part of the training all participated in the group exercise regarding the identification of two products and/or services that have a potential of being exported under the EU/WTO regimes. Furthermore they were given guidelines under which they prepared the assignment in the class as group work and presented it to the other participants. The other participants were asked to comment on the presentations. It was, basically, a learning exercise whereby the participants realized the importance of proper identification and other facets of products/services that had potential of being exported.

The participants asked that more such program be carried out in their respective areas. They provided the feedback that the duration of the course was too short hence the time should be extended. Some provided the feedback that this type of training should be conducted at a more basic level.

This was based on the feedback form that was distributed at the end of the course at each location.

The training at all four venues were conducted as per the schedule and the number of participants was noteworthy. The trainers also felt that there was a two way exchange of information and learning took place with high levels of participation. The participants were satisfied with the training they received and material that was provided for self study.

The help provided by the following ECIBON Project was efficient:

Ms.Kamani Chand: Program Coordinator and

Mr.Sagar Nepal: Administration officer.

List of participants at Nepalganj (18 - 19 March 2009)

S.no	Name	Organisation	Contact Number
1	Bishnu Kumar Pun	Tulsipur Chamber of Commerce	9857820090
2	Bidur Pokhrel	Bardia Chamber of Commerce	9848098046
3	Surya Poudel	FNCSIN, Dang	9847825588
4	Dor Prasad Pokhrel	Pyuthan Chamber of commerce	9847820647
5	Bandana K.C	NGCCI	9848027251
6	Ravi Devkota	Nepalgunj chamber of Commerce	9841632222
7	Binam Kumar Shrestha		9858020350
8	Jit Bahadur K. C.	Dang Chamber of Commerce	082-571220
9	Dhan Prasad Lamsal	Kohalpur Chamber of Commerce	9848053332
10	Sumina Shrestha	FNCSIN, Banke	9848020366
11	Puskar Raj Joshi	Darchula Chamber of Commerce	9749507618
12	Govinda Ballav Badu	Darchula Chamber of Commerce	9749503318
13	Deepak Khadka	Gularia Chamber of Commer	9848032461
14	Puskar Kharel	JABAN	9848034531
15	Jitendra Kumar Tharu	Kohalpur Chamber of Commerce	9848020366
16	Shanta Gyawali	JABAN	9848045535
17	Bikal Kumar Shrestha	NIA	9858023492
18	Pradeep Prasad Gupta	NGCCI	9858020377

List of participants at Butwal, Rupandehi (21 - 22 March 2009)

S.no	Name	Organisation	Contact Number
1	Madhav Prasad Poudel	Association of Chitwan Industries	9745013422
2	Suman Kumar Shrestha	Narayangarh Chamber of Commerce	9855055693
3	Rajesh Kumar Upadhaya	Taulihwa Chamber of Commerce	9847133766
4	Kul Prasad Neupane	Siddharthanagar CCI	9857022045
5	Navaraj Paudel	Baglung chamber of Commerce	9857620068
6	Nilu Bahadur K.C	Baglung chamber of Commerce	9857620068
7	Surendra Poudel	Tanahun Chamber of Commerce	9846037919
8	Rudra Prakash Upadhaya	Nawalparasi Chamber of Commerce	9847026538
9	Tika Ram Sharma	RIA	9847036282
10	Prakash Karmacharya	Prabat Chamber of Commerce	9857630291
11	Hari Om Sharma	P.C.C	9847620711
12	Lekhnath Gaire	R.C.C. Butwal	9847027790
13	Yadav P. Bhandari	RIA	9847034186
14	Ramesh Adhikari	FNCSIN, Dhading	9741193999
15	Shanta B. Baniya	FNCSIN, Dhading	9841528422
16	Devendra Raj Poudel	Dhaka Product Association, Palpa	9847068678
17	Akhileshwore Pandey	Gulmi Chamber of Commerce	9857023342
18	Durga P. Pandey	Gulmi Chamber of Commerce	9857025167
19	Naresh Kumar Shrestha	RIA	9847076352
20	Tek Bahadur Pageni	Lumbini Bakery Association	9857021459
21	Ganesh P. Adhikari	Nawalparasi Chamber of Commerce	9857025548
22	Azaj Alam	Rupandehi Industry Association	9857020051

List of participants at Dharan (28 - 29 March 2009)

S.no	Name	Organisation	Contact Number
1	Ganesh Sanjel	Sanjel Hastakala Udhog, Itahari	9842083370
2	Ramesh Bhattarai	Sankhwa Sabha CCI	9742010132
3	Nabin Pokhrel	Sunsari Chamber of Commerce	9804306796
4	Bhisma Pradhan	FNCSIN, Illam	9742614717
5	Krishna Shrestha	Illam chamber of Commerce	9842662129
6	Mani Rijal	Dharan Chamber of Commerce	9842037526
7	Shantiram Adhikari	Morang Chamber of Commerce	9842047203
8	Subash Kafle	Khanar Chamber of Commerce	9842034743
9	Tara Shrestha	Terathum Chamber of Commerce	9742005095
10	Bhupendra Shrestha	U.B. Sangh	9842051740
11	Suman Rijal	Pathivara Shopping Center, Dharan	9842174933
12	Purushottam Dahal	Sunsari Chamber of Commerce	9842038844
13	Jayandra Pradhan	Dhakuta Chamber of Commerce	9842031249
14	Nobindra Katuwal	Itahari Chamber of Commerce	9842141320
15	Prabhav Khatiwada	R. C. Dharan	9804365043
16	K.B. Shrestha	FNCSIN, Morang	9841509689
17	Sunil Shrestha	FNCSIN, Jhapa	9842626709
18	Ram Kumar Shrestha	Purwanchal Hastakala	9842053151
19	Gulab Sharma	Inaruwa Chamber of Commerce	9842036791
20	Sudeep Shrestha	Sunsari Chamber of Commerce	9841435766
21	Rakesh Mundhra	Duhabi Chamber of Commerce	9802720181
22	Rupesh Shrestha	FNCSIN, Terathum	9842046698
23	Tanka Dulal	Itahari Chamber of Commerce	9852046156

List of participants at Kathmandu (16 - 17 March 2009)

S.no	Name	Organisation	Contact Number
1	Bimal Bista	ECON	9851077041
2	Mandira Shakya	GHCOL	9841249402
3	Jung Bahadur Shah	FHAN	9851045897
4	Deependra Shakya	Lalitpur Handicraft Association	9841260480
5	Krishna Gopal Maharjan	Lalitpur Handicraft Association	9841252943
6	Manoj Kumar Poudel	Lalitpur Brick Association	9841359085
7	Shyam Tandukar	Lalitpur Handicraft Association	9841789627
8	Rup Ratna Shakya	Lalitpur Handicraft Association	9841959381
9	Kiran Bajracharya	Lalitpur Handicraft Association	9851005805
10	Sarana Shakya	Lalitpur Handicraft Association	9851012343
11	Rajendra Bajracharya	Lalitpur Handicraft Association	9851054428
12	Tanka Prasad Pahari	LFG-MAN	9841589530
13	Neelam Shrestha	Lalitpur Chamber of Commerce	5521740
14	Sunita Pokharel	Nepal Carpet Export Association	9841758994
15	Anita Pudasaini	FNCSIN-Makwanpur	9841253532
16	Pradip Bajracharya	Lalitpur Handicraft Association	9841274007
17	Reena Silpakar	Suineru Art. Village	9841783281
18	Sajani Shakya	Basu Barna Co-operative	9841825996
19	Yagya Raj	Slope Cooperative	9841468148
20	Manoj Bajracharya	Yasodhar SACOS	9841209676
21	Surendra Shakya	Samyak Cooperative	9841381171
22	Madan Shakya	Wood craft Association	9841350300
23	Krishna Gopal Maharjan	Lalitpur Handicraft Association	9841252943
24	Juni Bajracharya	Lalitpur Handicraft Association	9851079809
25	Rameshwor Shrestha	WEAN Multiple Co-operative	9851052470
26	Dilip Bade	Floriculture Association of Nepal	9841381846
27	Rup Kumar shakya	Nepal Gold Association, Lalitpur	9841303946
28	Priti Shakya	Nepal Traditional Handicraft Association	9841525706
29	Mohan Bahadur Katuwal	FNCSIN - Makwanpur	9841384061
30	Bishow Duwal	FNCSIN - Bhaktapur	9851017100
31	Ranjana Khichaju	FNCSIN - Bhaktapur	9841133851
32	Gopi Prasad Dhungana	Nepal Coffee	9841237906
33	Dev Raj Bjaracharya	FHAN	4424423
34	Manju Bajracharya	Anmol Co-operative	9841420399
35	Sapana Maharjan	Lalitpur Handicraft Association	9841851259
36	Bijan Tamrakar	Tama Peetal Baybasaya Sangh	9841260081
37	Chatnya Ratna Shakya	Lalitpur Handicraft Association	9851084665

Programme Schedule

EU – WTO QUALITY AND SOCIAL STANDARDS ISSUES APPLICABLE (ACTIVITY 1.1.5)

Trainers:

Dr. Badri Pokhrel – Chief, WTO Cell, Ministry of Commerce and Supplies

Mr. Jayendra Rimal – Principal Consultant, Management Dynamics

Day 1

08:30 - 09:00	Breakfast and Registration
09:00 - 09:30	Opening Ceremony
09:30 - 11:00	WTO (Dr. Badri Pokhrel)
11:00 - 11:15	Break
11:15 – 12:45	European Union (Mr. Jayendra Rimal)
12:45 – 13:45	Lunch
13:45 - 15:15	Group Work + Presentation
15:15 - 15:30	Tea Break
15:30 - 17:00	Group Work + Presentation

Day 2

07:30 – 08:00	Breakfast
08:00 – 09:30	WTO (Dr. Badri Pokhrel)
09:30 - 09:45	Tea Break
09:45 - 11:15	European Union (Mr. Jayendra Rimal)
11:15 – 12:15	Lunch
12:15 – 13:45	Group Work + Presentation
13:45 - 14:00	Tea Break
14:00 - 15:30	Group Work + Presentation

Closing Ceremony

Instant Class Work

Name:-

Organization:-

District:-

.....
Practically could you list the opportunities and Challenges in your business in International Trade in term of WTO / EU regime?

Identify/ Specify your business: -

Q. Opportunities and Challenges should be matched with the possible exportable items of far western region of Nepal?

-
-

Q. How you can diversify the opportunities?

-
-

Q. How do you reduce the pace of challenges?

-
-

Q. Do you see some strength in your business?

-
-

Q. Is there any threat in doing your business?

-
-