

Opportunities for SMEs under the EU-CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA)



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Port of Spain

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Introduction

- > What does the EPA mean for Caribbean business?
- > Benefits for exporters of goods
- > Benefits for exporters of services
- > Where to go for help in exporting to Europe



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What it means for Caribbean business

- > Removes barriers to trading with Europe: it saves you money
- > Puts clear trading standards in place
- > Asymmetric: gradual process of opening Caribbean markets
- > Easier travel to Europe for business
- > Easier access to EU investment
- > EU development support to EPA implementation



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What it means for goods exporters

- > Caribbean goods exporters have fully free access to the EU
- > Asymmetric: sensitive Caribbean sectors are protected for longer
- > More flexibility on rules of origin



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What the EPA means for services exporters

- > If you offer a service from the Caribbean, in over 90% of cases, you can provide that service in the EU.
- > If you offer a service and need to set up in the EU, you can offer that service in almost all cases.
- > If you offer a service that requires you to be in the EU to do so (entertainer, architect), you can do so temporarily in 29 sectors.

Where to go for practical support in exporting to Europe



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- > Export to Europe Helpdesk: <http://exporthelp.europa.eu>
- > exporTT: <http://www.carib-export.com/>
- > Caribbean Export: <http://www.carib-export.com/>
- > T&T High Commission in the UK: <http://www.tthighcommission.co.uk/>
- > Chamber of Commerce: <http://chamber.org.tt/>



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Thank you