



Beltraide

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business
happen

Initiatives for Collaboration

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PROJECTS

1. Cacao Project – OAS: Objective:

- provide mechanism for collaboration amongst industry stakeholders
- facilitate an improved system for collective marketing and efficient resource allocation.
- development of a Marketing and Product Diversification Strategy for Belize's cacao/cocoa industry to foster functional value chain upgrading.

Scope/Project Components:

- I. Development of Marketing and Product Diversification Strategy
- II. guide promotions and branding of the industry at the National, Regional and International level.

This strategy will cover:

- The export market for fine flavour cacao,
 - The market for value added cacao product (health food, gastronomy/culinary, spa and wellness etc.)
 - The tourism market for cacao themed tours and other agro/eco-tourism activities.
- II. Development of institutional framework for the Cluster that morphs into an overarching body that represents the interest of industry stakeholders (Belize National Cacao Committee)
 - III. Capacity Building Program for stakeholders

2. Cacao Project – Compete Caribbean: The objective of this consultancy is to improve the knowledge of Belize cocoa farmers in agriculture best practices that will increase efficiencies in production, maximize yields and bean quality, and establish more sustainable and resilient operations.

Scope

Conduct training and related technical assistance in Belize in:

- I. Farm operation best practices to increase productivity;
- II. postharvest and quality management. Training will be based on scientific approaches and done online in train-the-trainer format

Key Activities

- Review relevant background information and liaise with identified stakeholders, BELTRAIDE and Compete Caribbean to gain a comprehensive understanding of the assignment
- Assess farmer operations in Belize and evaluate farmer training needs to increase productivity and postharvest quality; and then develop a workplan describing activities to be completed, timeline, outputs, people responsible, etc.
- Develop training curriculums, manuals, video demonstrations and other training material to facilitate understanding – for both target audiences: trainers and farmers.
- Training topics should be based on the training needs assessment and include but not be limited to disease management, soil fertility, harvesting practices, and on-farm fermentation and drying techniques.
- Deliver training online, in train-the-trainer format, to MoA Extension Officers and other identified trainers. All training sessions should be recorded, and training assessments completed by participants.
- Coach and ensure trainers understand how to use the training material developed for farmers, and support them in their delivery of training to farmers

3. Female Entrepreneurship Program (Female Cacao Farmers) –The methodology of the FEP is based on a concept of Economic autonomy defined as the possibility that women can depend on their own economic resources through access to their own income from paid employment or from their own business.

Key Activities

- Partner with TCGA and other industry stakeholders
- Design of a targeted Business Development Training Program
- Assignment of Advisors to work with farmers (partner with Extension Officers where possible to address agronomic matters)
- Support development of a saving scheme by partnering with a local Credit Union
- Assignment of Mentors from pool of FEP Graduates and the mentorship network
- Development of a Women Empowerment Program (Life-plan & related training)
- Work with Extension Officers for basic technology extension service (how to improve farm management by making basic changes after evaluation of typical farm operation) – Perhaps develop a manual or rack-card
- Seek third party funding for a Farm Upkeep Package to support farm Maintenance (Small weed-whacker for under-brushing, pole pruners, pruning shears/saws)

4. Buy Belize Campaign:

- In partnership with other Ministries and agencies including the Ministries of Agriculture, Tourism & Diaspora, New Growth, Blue Economy, the Directorate General for Foreign Trade and others
- the campaign aims to promote buying local Belizean products.

One village one product (OVOP)- Buy Belize mini campaign to bring export development to rural communities.

5. Development of Prospectus

- Made in Belize Catalogue (Existing)
- Existing prospectus for Cacao, **Coconut** and Honey
- Proposed – Hemp and Turmeric

6. BELTRAIDE Investment Incentive Programs

a. Fiscal Incentive (FI) Program

- The Fiscal Incentive Program aims to encourage genuine investments in Belize for both existing and prospective investors
- granting of **Customs Import Duty** and **Revenue Replacement Duty Exemptions** for up to 15 years across the priority sectors.

b. Designated Processing Areas (DPA) Program

- Supports investments that engage in international trade and value addition including technology transfer, employment generation and production standards for **10 years**
- options for renewal. It provides import duty exemptions along with many other tax exemptions and benefits

c. Micro, Small & Medium Enhancement Programme (MEP)

- assist micro, small & medium enterprises to import duty free packaging and labeling materials

7. National Investment Policy and Strategy (NIPS):

- The primary objective of the NIPS is to identify crosscutting policies and reforms
- can be implemented to improve the overall investment climate and doing business in Belize.

9. Belize Investment Portfolio (BIP):

- ❑ BIP fosters the promotion and targeted matchmaking of pre-packaged investment projects
- ❑ qualified 'shovel ready' business opportunities, to prospective investment interest globally
- ❑ offers support to the private sector seeking financing or strategic investment partners.

Thank You!



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