

United States Government
2003 Trade Capacity Building Assistance (\$US)
WESTERN AFRICA NS

Activity Title	Activity Description	TCB Category	FY 03 Total
Alternative Dispute Resolution Arbitration Certificate Training: W. Africa	This fall, the Commercial Law Development Program's (CLDP) will enable 10-14 Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) practitioners from West Africa to receive certified training in arbitration in the United States to improve both their ADR technical skills and their credibility vis-a-vis foreign investors involved in commercial disputes in West Africa. Funded by USAID and implemented by Department of Commerce/CLDP.	Business Services & Training	531,000
Alternative Dispute Resolution: Production of West Africa Investor Guide	By facilitating the production of an investor guide on the provision of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) services in West Africa, the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) is now enabling investors to have the opportunity to use ADR within West Africa to resolve commercial disputes instead of foreign ADR for or local courts. Funded by USAID and implemented by Department of Commerce/CLDP.	Financial Sector Dev. & Good Governance	531,000
Customs Activity	This activity will be done in tandem with ECOTRADE. Hardware will be purchased for customs offices for data transmission and work towards a harmonized tariff schedule for the region will be initiated in FY 03. Funded by Department of State and implemented by USAID/WARP.	Agreement on Customs Valuation Methods	340,000
		Customs Operation & Administration	660,000
		Activity Total	1,000,000
ECOGEE	This activity identifies impediments to the expansion of women owned enterprises in West Africa. Interventions are then designed to help reduce trade barriers. West Africa needs to remove obstacles to trade within the region. Trade barriers particularly affect businesswomen. The main obstacles that they have identified are weak financial services, police and customs harassment, and transaction taxes. Women also have less access to training in business skills, including marketing, credit management, and communications. Businesswomen's organizations, including the recently founded West African Businesswomen's Network (WABNET) plan to work with the West African Enterprise Network and other mainstream business and professional organizations to lobby governments to remove obstacles to regional trade. Funded and implemented by USAID/WARP.	Customs Operation & Administration	24,774
		Business Services & Training	61,935
		Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord.	161,031
		Activity Total	247,740

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ECOTRADE	Working through the Economic Community of West African States Secretariat (ECOWAS), this program's objective is to accelerate member country participation. West African Businesswomen's Network (WABNET) will work with the ECOWAS Secretariat and regional and national stakeholders over the next three years to promote a common external tariff in West Africa. Additionally, the consortium will collaborate with the ECOWAS Secretariat, national governments, women's organizations and other stakeholders to identify barriers to regional trade, particularly those that affect women, and work together to remove them. In collaboration with the ECOWAS Secretariat and local consultants, the team will contribute to the organization and content of national workshops to consider and approve national plans for implementing the Common external tariff. Consultation will bring public officials together with key stakeholders such as (1) the national chambers of commerce, industry, and agriculture, (2) professional associations; (3) business organizations; and (4) women's groups. Funded and implemented by USAID/WARP.	Regional Trade Agreements (RTA)	575,270
Regional Market Information Networks	This activity will strengthen regional networks of market information systems and traders' organization. The design of the program should be completed in FY03. Funded and implemented by USAID/WARP.	E-Commerce & IT	1,685,335
		Trade-Related Agriculture	722,286
		Activity Total	2,407,621
Treasury International Affairs Technical Assistance (TIATA) Program	The Government Debt Team from the Treasury Department is providing resident and intermittent advisors to Western Africa Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU). Funded and implemented by Department of Treasury.	Financial Sector Dev. & Good Governance	280,000
USAID/Small Business Association Nigeria Project	This project is intended to provide technical assistance to Nigeria for the creation of two business information centers (BIC) which can serve as models for the establishment of a proposed network of BICs that focus on the promotion of private enterprise and small business development. Government officials from Nigeria have made numerous visits to the U.S. Small Business Association (SBA). They found its programs and service worthy of replication and asked SBA to assist in the adaptation of the U.S. BIC concept to the Nigerian culture. A BIC is a one-stop community-based location where current and future small and medium business (SME) owners can receive assistance and advice. BICs provide computer and telecommunication access, advice on business operations and finance, and extensive reference materials such as publications and videotapes. BICs are typically formed through public-private partnerships. Through the establishment of BICs, SBA will assist in building a sustainable Nigerian-owned infrastructure to promote small business and entrepreneurship in Nigeria. Funded and implemented by Small Business Administration.	E-Commerce & IT	40,000
		Export Promotion	200,000
		Business Services & Training	160,000
		Activity Total	400,000

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West Africa Agro-inputs Regulatory Reform	In cooperation with the African Seed Trade Association and the International Fertilizer Development Center, the US Department of Agriculture is helping USAID work with public and private stakeholders to harmonize seed and fertilizer regulations among target countries and promote the privatization of agro-inputs trade in West Africa (Benin, Burkina, Ghana, Nigeria, Mali, Togo). The project also launched an internet-based market information system. Funded by USAID/WARP and implemented by Department of Agriculture/FAS.	Trade-Related Agriculture	15,504
West Africa Regional Program to Train Customs and Trade Officials	The funds support U.S.-African trade by assisting customs officials from member states of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in understanding and complying with World Trade Organization (WTO) customs administration commitments. USAID will organize in-depth training of three to five senior customs officials per country on WTO legal requirements and other technical issues. The program will further integrate the WAEMU and ECOWAS countries by offering venues for interaction between customs services and other key entities concerned with trade and economic development. This activity will enhance and complement current Economic Support Funds (ESF) funded programs for West Africa including the expansion of the common external tariff and customs technical improvement. USAID will implement the program. Funded by Department of State and implemented by USAID/AFR.	Agreement on Customs Valuation Methods	187,500
		Customs Operation & Administration	62,500
		Activity Total	250,000
West African Agricultural Trade Forum	The three-day forum focused on encouraging cooperative efforts between the public and private sectors in participating countries to address sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) issues. Participants developed action steps and policy recommendations pertaining to transparency and information sharing issues, infrastructure limitations and regional cooperation. Funded and implemented by Department of Agriculture/FAS.	Agreement on SPS	5,000
		E-Commerce & IT	50,000
West African International Business Linkages (WAIBL)	Through the Corporate Council on Africa, this program is designed to link small and medium sized businesses in the U.S. with companies in West Africa. Funded and implemented by USAID/WARP.	Export Promotion	125,000
		Business Services & Training	75,000
		Activity Total	250,000

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West African Power Pool	The purpose of the power pool is to provide a reliable and competitively priced supply of energy in the region, promote energy trade and promote investment in the sector. This activity supports the Economic Community of West African States to address the legal, fiscal, administrative, management and technical issues necessary for the power pool's creation and development. Funded and implemented by USAID/WARP.	Other Services Development	1,000,000
West African Trade Hub	Through the Accra Hub, technical assistance will be provided to West African countries, including the region's private sector and civil society organizations, to promote the six main themes of the TRADE Initiative: (1) enhance the competitiveness of West African products and services; (2) expand the role that trade can play in African poverty reduction strategies; (3) promote U.S.- African business linkages; (4) improve the delivery of public services supporting trade; (5) strengthen West African capacity for trade policy formulation and implementation; and (6) strengthen the enabling environment for West African businesses. Funded and implemented by USAID/WARP.	WTO Awareness	300,000
		Export Promotion	225,000
		Business Services & Training	225,000
		Financial Sector Dev. & Good Governance	750,000
		Activity Total	1,500,000
Western Africa - 2nd Biannual Regional Harmonization Conference	In August 2003, representatives from the Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS), the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) and Anglophone countries of West Africa will be among those composing an official Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa (OHADA) committee tasked with reviewing and offering recommendations for updating and incorporating the Anglophone common-law perspective into all OHADA uniform acts produced to date. Funded by USAID and implemented by Department of Commerce/CLDP.	Regional Trade Agreements (RTA)	531,000
Western Africa - Alternative Dispute Resolution Activities	As a result of the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) programs, Senegal is working with Ghana on how to form an Alternative Dispute Resolution professional association; Nigeria established a multi-door courthouse; Ghana is exploring replicating Nigeria's multi-door courthouse; Mali's Chamber of Commerce has asked Senegal's Chamber of Commerce how it can improve its Alternative Dispute Resolution Center's institutional capacity, and the Organization for the Harmonization of Business Law in Africa's (OHADA) Common Court of Justice and Arbitration is better understood throughout its member states. Funded by USAID and implemented by Department of Commerce/CLDP.	Agreement on Dispute Settlement	531,000

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Western Africa - Intellectual Property Consultations	The Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) is collaborating with the International Intellectual Property Institute (IIPi) and the US Patent and Trademark Office on Intellectual Property consultations set to occur in the fall of 2003 for ten to twenty representatives from West Africa on the commercialization of science and agriculture and the need for more accessible patent and trademark protections. Funded by USAID and implemented by Department of Commerce/CLDP.	Agreement on TRIPs	531,000
Western Africa - Model Investment Law 2nd Drafting Session	The Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) sponsored the development by jurists from Nigeria, Benin, Cameroon, Senegal, Mali and Ghana of a regional model investment law representing the first civil-law/common-law West African venture to promote an integrated investment law. In April 2003, the law was analyzed and accepted as a broad consensus document by key stakeholders and representatives from 11 countries and the 3 major regional intergovernmental organizations (IGOs). Funded by USAID and implemented by Department of Commerce/CLDP.	Competition Policy & Foreign Investment	531,000
Women's Business Facilitation	After identification of trade barriers disproportionately affecting women traders, interventions will be designed to help women traders level the playing field and develop new skills in business. The goal is to assist women traders in expanding cross border trade to increase their contribution to economic growth and poverty reduction. Funded by USAID/EGAT/WID and implemented by USAID/WARP.	WTO Awareness	50,000
		Export Promotion	100,000
		Business Services & Training	150,000
		Regional Trade Agreements (RTA)	50,000
		Trade-Related Agriculture	50,000
		Gov/Transparency & Inter-Agency Coord.	100,000
		Activity Total	500,000
FY03 Total USG Trade Capacity Building Assistance to Western Africa NS			11,617,135