

TRADE AT A GLANCE

THE OFFICIAL QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE, INDUSTRY, COMMERCE & CONSUMER AFFAIRS



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Quotes

"Maintaining confidence in international trade will be critical to the broader economic recovery in the post-Covid world." - Liz Russ -

"I believe we are here to do good. It is the responsibility of every human being to aspire to do something worthwhile, to make the world a better place than the one we found.." - Albert Einstein -

"It's important to focus on how we can strengthen international trade.." - Maggie Hassan -

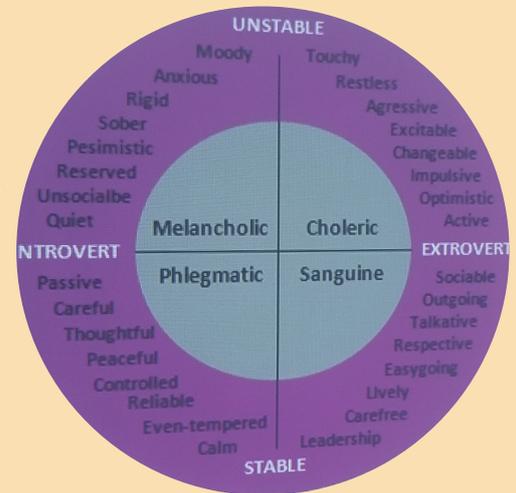
"As an economist specializing in the global economy, international trade and debt, I have spent most of my career helping others make big decisions - prime ministers, presidents and chief executives - and so I'm all too aware of the risks and dangers of poor choices in the public as well as the private sphere.." - Noreena Hertz -

The Importance of Self Awareness in the Workplace: Managing Oneself in the Working Environment.

On Thursday, 8th April 2021, Mrs. Tonya Kelly, Trade Policy Officer, conducted a very informative session on ***The Importance of Self Awareness in the Workplace: How to manage Oneself in the Working Environment.*** Participants of this session included the interns from the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College (CFBC), several Trade Policy Officers, and the Communications Unit-MITICCA. This session commenced with an icebreaker that aimed to encourage familiarization among colleagues.

The presentation covered the following topics:

1. Better Understanding of your Personality Type and Traits
2. Ask Others for Feedback but don't take it personally!
3. Learn from Your Experiences
4. Embrace Your Failures
5. Journaling
6. Self Evaluation & Self Reflection



The presentation concluded with a reminder for each individual to conduct End of Day Reflections by asking themselves:

1. What did I do at work today that I am proud of?
2. How would I have handled that conflict with a co-worker, differently?
3. Did I accomplish my goals for work today?
4. What motivated me to be my best at work today?
5. Did I give that assignment from my boss my best shot?
6. Did I receive useful feedback from my boss or peers about my performance at work today?
7. Is there anything about my behavior or attitude towards my coworkers that should be adjusted?



The Importance of Human Resources

On Thursday 15th April, 2021 at 10:00 a.m, a brief developmental session was conducted by Ms. Nakeida Drew, Human Resources Officer, within the Ministry of International Trade et al. This session highlighted '**the Importance of Human Resources**' within the workplace. In attendance were the four CFBC interns who will soon join the working population, as well as Officers from the Communications Unit.

The presentation commenced with a detailed definition of the term, Human Resources. As expressed by Ms. Drew, the term Human Resources describe "both the people who work for a company or organization and the department responsible for managing all matters related to employees, who collectively represent one of the most valuable resources in any business or organization."



Other key Topics that were addressed as part of this session include:

1. The responsibilities of the Human Resources Department
2. Major Functions that small businesses include in the HR department
3. Why is Human Resource important to an Organization/Business
4. The Benefits of Human Resources



Overall, the session was very successful as it was very comprehensive and informative. It was instrumental for all employees, particularly the Interns who are new to the world of work.

Knowledge Sharing and Development

Trade Policy Officer, Ms. Latoya Davis, held an interactive '**Knowledge Sharing and Developmental Session**' on Friday, 16th April 2021 at 2:00 p.m. in the Ministry's Conference Room. In attendance were interns from the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College, Trade Policy Officers and the Communications Unit for the Ministry.

The importance of the topics highlighted also came with tips and exercises that ensured a better understanding of each segment:

- 1) Team Work
- 2) Image and Personal Growth
- 3) Professionalism Does Not Require a Degree

In this segment, Ms. Davis reminded the attendees of the ten (10) characteristics of professionalism which are **Appearance, Demeanor, Reliability, Competence, Ethics, Maintaining your Poise, Phone Etiquette, Written Correspondence, Organizational Skills and Accountability**. Professionalism can be described as the conduct, aims, or qualities that characterize or mark a profession or a professional person. What does being a professional mean to you?

Ms. Davis suggested that to resolve conflict one must manage stress quickly while remaining alert and calm; control your emotions and behaviour; pay attention to the feelings being expressed; as well as the spoken words of others, and be aware of, and respectful of differences.

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She further imparted wisdom on conflict resolution with the following methods to implement in one's everyday professional life which includes the following: *Identify a safe place and time to talk; Clarify individual perceptions involved in the conflict; Practice taking an active and empathetic listening stance; Generate options with the vision of a win-win outcome; Develop an agreement that works for all.*



"The best teamwork comes from men who are working independently toward one goal in unison."
-James Cash Penney

Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA)

In June, 2016, St. Kitts and Nevis ratified the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), which further came into force in February 2017. The Trade Facilitation Agreement is the first Multilateral Trade Agreement to be concluded since the establishment of the World Trade Organization (WTO). This Agreement was enacted at the Bali Ministerial Conference in December 2013, with an objective of boosting global trade by expediting the movement, release and clearance of goods.



Useful points to Facilitate Trade:

Ensure that all formalities are transparent and accessible to all traders, especially Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises.

Digitize all possible processes as much as their infrastructure allows to speed up processing and reduce the need for physical contact between border agencies and traders.

Expedite standard formalities to leave room for necessary additional Covid-19 related controls.

In the midst of this global crisis, international co-operation in Trade Facilitation will remain important to keep trade flowing. Continued aid for trade will be particularly important to assist developing countries to implement Trade Facilitation measures needed in the crisis.



ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Geographical Indications (GIs)

- **What are GIs?**
- **What rights do GIs provide?**
- **How are GIs protected?**
- **What types of products can GIs be used for?**

WHAT ARE GIs?

Geographical Indications are signs used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin. In order to function as a GI, a sign must identify a product as originating in a given place. In addition, the qualities, characteristics or reputation of the product should be essentially due to the place of origin. Since the qualities depend on the geographical place of production, there is a clear link between the product and its original place of production.

WHAT RIGHTS DO GIs PROVIDE?

A geographical indication right enables those who have the right to use the indication to prevent its use by a third party whose product does not conform to the applicable standards. For example, in the jurisdictions in which the Darjeeling geographical indication is protected, producers of Darjeeling tea can exclude use of the term “Darjeeling” for tea not grown in their tea gardens or not produced according to the standards set out in the code of practice for the geographical indication.

WHAT TYPES OF PRODUCTS CAN GIs BE USED FOR?

Geographical indications are typically used for agricultural products, foodstuffs, wine and spirit drinks, handicrafts, and industrial products.

HOW ARE GIs PROTECTED?

Using collective or certification marks; and methods focusing on business practices, including administrative product approval schemes.



Facebook Live Entrepreneurship Workshop: Marketing

For the first time, the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) St. Kitts successfully held a Facebook live in-house Entrepreneurship Workshop on Thursday, 01st April, 2021, with a number of entrepreneurs who were more than ready to ask questions and share their views and opinions with each other.

The topic addressed was Marketing with emphasis on:

The Importance of Marketing

Things you must know in Marketing

Budgeting Marketing Activities

Digital Marketing

Marketing after the pandemic



The SBDC St. Kitts aims to host live workshops to capture not only the potential entrepreneurs but also those existing in the audience as well. Even though existing entrepreneurs are already being established, there is much information to disperse and due to the current pandemic we still have to follow protocol, thus, the purpose of the Facebook live.

To view this interactive session, please click the link provided below:
<https://fb.watch/v/51dkLLtLV/>

**Submitted by Ms. Chedingh Brookes,
Junior Industry Officer**

On Thursday, 27th May, 2021, another Facebook live Entrepreneurship workshop took place at the Ministry of International Trade's Conference Room, addressing the topic: **The Use of Information Technology in Small Business**. The guest speaker for the workshop was Mr. Sheldon Pemberton whose main topic was **"Tech Advantage"**. Mr. Delwayne Delaney hosted this virtual training session.

In this session, the following topics were addressed:

- Importance of Technology*
- Keep "IT" Simple*
- Decision Making*
- Marketing and Business Growth*
- Production Technology*
- Communications Technology*
- Customer Relationship Management*



Mr. Sheldon Pemberton

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the session was conducted without any live audience and lasted approximately 45 minutes. All were welcomed to participate virtually in this innovative session. We amassed a total of 160 views.

To view the Entrepreneurship workshop, please click the link provided below:
<https://www.facebook.com/100011483829193/videos/1390610234665091/>.



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Consumer Safety Measures

The Consumer Affairs Department wishes to advise ALL consumers to adhere to the safety protocols outlined below when doing their essential shopping.

CONSUMERS BE SAFE WHEN ESSENTIAL SHOPPING



**CONSUMER AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT
ST. KITTS & NEVIS**

1. Sanitize with Alcohol in Spray

2. Sanitize Shopping Cart Handles

3. Sanitize Hands after leaving business places

4. Sanitize Shopping Bags before placing in Vehicle or House

5. Sanitize Tin stuff, Wash Fruits & Vegetables before putting away

6. Wash or Sanitize Hands after putting away

Submitted by
Mrs. Trista-Wattley-Stennett

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On April 15th 2021, The St. Kitts and Nevis Chamber of Industry and Commerce (SKNCIC) conducted a Food Safety workshop focusing on Hazard Analytical Critical Control Points (HACCP). HACCP is a management system in which food safety is addressed through the analysis and control of biological, chemical, and physical hazards from raw material production, procurement and handling, to manufacturing, distribution and consumption of the finished product.

The objective of the workshop was to create awareness as it relates to food safety, which is very important for businesses. It helps to prevent consumers from getting food-borne illnesses and food poisoning, which occurs when food becomes contaminated by bacteria, viruses, and other germs.

The session was conducted by Mr. Desroy Tate, a certified HACCP Training Manager. Mr. Tate is the Chairman of the Manufacturing Division and a Member of the Board of Directors of the SKNCIC. The topics included were HACCP plans/ steps, benefits/ disadvantages if not implemented, pre-requisite programs and control measures.

The representatives from the St. Kitts & Nevis Bureau of Standards were Zarina Lawrence, Kevon Mills and Tiana Challenger. Each participant was presented with a Certificate of Participation by the President of the Chamber, Mrs. Giselle Matthews, and the Executive Director, Andrew Satney.



**Submitted by Ms. Zarina Lawrence,
TBT Officer**



The Launch of the National Quality Policy



The Ministry of International Trade, Industry, Commerce, Consumer Affairs and Labour on behalf of the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis is in the process of developing a National Quality Policy (NQP) through a CDB funded “**Formulation of a National Quality Policy for St. Kitts and Nevis**”, negotiated and administered by the CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards & Quality (CROSQ). In 2018, CDB approved a Grant to CROSQ to strengthen the Regional Quality Infrastructure Programme (CROSQ-CDB RQI).

The Grant focused on enhancing national and regional QI across CARICOM through three (3) primary interventions in five (5) Member States, namely: Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, Guyana, Saint Lucia, and Suriname. To date, three (3) National Quality Policies and requisite implementation roadmaps were developed in Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, and Suriname, setting the framework in place for an enhanced QI in those Member States and by extension, the Region.

The national standards body – the SKNBS will act as the Project Secretariat.

The objective of the assignment is the formulation of a National Quality Policy (NQP) for St. Kitts and Nevis, which will guide the establishment of NQI and technical regulations regime; support the competitiveness of the respective countries; and enhance consumer protection.

A Quality Policy is the legal instrument used by governments in promoting and sustaining economic development, as well as environmental and social well-being. It is used to sustain an effective quality infrastructure, which relies on Metrology, Standardization, Accreditation, Conformity Assessment (Inspection and testing among other services) and Market Surveillance.

This policy is expected to provide an enabling platform for trade facilitation and market access and therefore will be an essential element for the development our national quality infrastructure and by extension the quality culture in Antigua and Barbuda. The Mesopartner Team has been contracted to conduct the development of the National Quality Policy.

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“St Kitts and Nevis NATIONAL QUALITY POLICY: KICK OFF EVENT”

Tuesday, 29th June 2021

11:00 a.m. (AST)

Virtual - Zoom

AGENDA

11:00 – 11:05 **Opening and Welcome Remarks**

Chairperson – Mr. Stuart Laplace, Director SKNBS

11:05 – 11:15 **Remarks**

Mrs. Jasemin Weekes, Permanent Secretary Ministry of International Trade

11:15 – 11:30: **Remarks**

Mr. Deryck Omar, CEO, CROSQ
Miss Andrea Power, Coordinator, Regional Cooperation and Integration, Technical Corporation Division, CDB

11:30 - 11:45 **Inputs and Outputs of the NQ Policy Project**

Mesopartner Team Members: Dr. Ulrich Harmes Liedtke

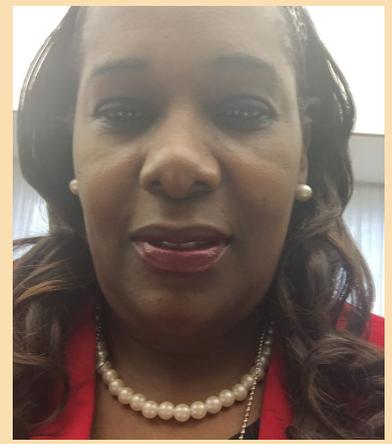
11:45 – 12:00 **Address**

Hon. Miss Wendy Phipps, Minister of International Trade, Industry, Commerce, Consumer Affairs and Labour

12:00 – 12:05 **Closing remarks and vote of thanks**

Mr. Jermine Mike, Standardisation Officer, SKNBS

Meetings with the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of International Trade, Industry, Commerce and Consumer Affairs – 2nd Quarter



In May 2021, it was realized that the Covid-19 pandemic had struck the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis and, as a result, a rigorous exercise of contact tracing conducted by the government has ensured that the active positive cases continues to be followed to ensure our safety.

To this end, non-essential businesses are closed until further notice and we are directed to work from our homes to continue our duties with and to the government of St. Kitts and Nevis.

The Ministry's goals and directions are still our mission and continues to be seen with the Permanent Secretary's attentiveness to the needs of the Ministry, its productivity, and staff.

Mrs. Jasemin Weekes, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of International Trade, Industry, Commerce, Consumer Affairs and the St. Kitts and Nevis Bureau of Standards, meetings for the second quarter consisted of but was not limited to the following lists outlined below.

General Meetings

- Meeting with Mr. Danny Arthurton, Mr. Phillip Browne and Mrs. Daniele Richards
- Meeting with Directors and PS Cherylann Maynard Pemberton at IT Conference Room
- Meeting with Ms. Dwynette Eversley from the Ministry of Gender Affairs Re: St. Kitts and Nevis National Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan (Phase 2) Engagement with Consultant with Mr. Sean Lawrence and Mr. Philip Browne in the Ministry's Conference Room

General Meetings continued

- CEDA Meetings
 - Bilateral Meeting with Directors and Mr. Maharaj, the new CEO of Caribbean Export Development Agency (CEDA), to discuss board membership matters via Video Conference
 - Additional CEDA Meetings were held to discuss subsequent matters
- OECS Consultative Dialogue Meeting via Zoom
- The new Normal- A Post Covid Primer for Business "Launch of Publication"
- Meeting with Taiwanese Mission

Internal Meetings

- Meet with Mr. Sean Lawrence and Trade Policy Officers during Huddle
- Meeting with Administrative Staff
- Meeting with Mr. Laplace and Staff at the St. Kitts and Nevis Bureau Standards
- Meeting with the Directors
- Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) Meeting
- Implementation of the 'I AM CARICOM' Campaign by Member States at National Level strategy meeting with Trade Policy Officers, Communications Officers and Mr. Dwane Hendrickson, CYA - Nevis.



MITICCA

Ministry of International Trade
Industry Commerce, Consumer Affairs

C A R I B B E A N
EXPORT
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



International
Trade
Centre



International
Finance Corporation
WORLD BANK GROUP



There are three types of international trade: Export Trade, Import Trade and Entrepot Trade. Export and import trade we have already covered above. Entrepot Trade is a combination of export and import trade and is also known as Re-export. It means importing goods from one country and exporting it to another country after adding some value to it.