

FCO SPF PROJECT EVALUATION

1. Project Details

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| Project Number | GB-3 PPY 1306 RSA |
| Project Title | A Review of South Africa's Trade Strategy in Light of Global Developments |
| Project Cost (total cost / cost to FCO if different) | £61,262 |
| Project Start/End Dates | July 13 to March 14 |
| Programme | Prosperity Programme |
| Country/Countries | South Africa |
| Official Development Assistance Y/N | Y |

2. Project Purpose (from proposal form)

To influence South Africa's trade strategy choices and policies in the wake of the Doha Round impasse, and emerging strategic realignments in the global trading system.

3. Project Background / Context

The object of the project was to help South Africa take a more active role in regional and international trade matters. The background to the project reads as follows:

The project will review the implications of "mega-regional" FTAs and their implications for the WTO, specifically the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership Agreement (TTIP) and Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPA); proposals to pursue plurilateral negotiations in the WTO; and the prospects for concluding an "early harvest" package from the Doha Round with particular emphasis on trade facilitation

South Africa's position with regard to developments in the global and multilateral trading systems has been to oppose any new initiatives beyond the Doha Round. However, the Doha impasse has necessitated engagement with these 'over the horizon' issues, and there is need for a South African debate on the implications for the country. As such, this project focused on:

1. Current initiatives under the Doha Round and the prospects for success for the LDC package at the Bali Ministerial in December 2013.
2. Beyond Doha, 'over the horizon' issues particularly the potential for negotiation of plurilateral agreements under the auspices of the WTO e.g. government procurement, investment, and a sustainable energy agreement. Consideration could also be given to systemic trade policy issues on the G20 heads of state agenda, such as the so-called 'currency wars' and their implications for WTO agreements. These issues have the potential to impact significantly on South African policies and the broader economy. Work by South

African Institute of Internal Affairs (SAIIA) is already underway on the G20 trade agenda as part of the global economic governance project funded by DFID and GIZ.

3. Review of the implications of “mega-regional” FTAs and their implications for the WTO, specifically the TTIP and TPA, with a view to focusing on how South Africa (and possibly SACU) should respond, and whether this holds implications for its relations with its BRICS partners.

The project will be implemented through a combination of consultative workshops, research and engagement on issues with relevant stakeholders, as well as sustained media presence through electronic media and business publications. South African Institute of Internal Affairs (SAIIA) has already made significant inroads in increasing domestic public dialogue and participation in trade policy issues through previous projects funded by the BHC.

4. Evaluation summary (150 words max)

The purpose of the project was to influence South Africa’s trade strategy choices and was a follow on to a project aimed at deepening the participation of key stakeholders in the development of South Africa’s trade policy.

The project was well conceived (filling a gap in the policy landscape); well designed (albeit with one overly ambitious indicator); and well executed (the level of buy-in from key stakeholders, including the SA Trade Negotiator, was particularly notable).

This project contributed to increased public awareness and debate within SA on trade policy; fed into a new engagement mechanisms from the DTI on trade policy; encouraged greater DTI engagement on regional FTAs; and helped the formulation of a larger multi-year engagement by DFID that will follow on from this. For these reasons the project can claim some notable successes.

5. Questions

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| Did the project achieve the project purpose? | Yes |
| Did the project come in on budget? (Y/N) If no, why and what was the difference in cost? | Yes |
| Was the project completed on time? (Y/N) If not, why not? | Yes |
| Were the Project benefits sustained after project completion? | Partially |

6. Overall Red / Amber / Green rating for project

| Overall Rating for project (put X in relevant box) | | |
|--|-------|---|
| Red | | |
| Red | Amber | |
| Amber | Green | x |
| Green | | |

Guide to overall rating:

Green- project performed well under each of the evaluation criteria: relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability, impact and management

Green/Amber – project performed well under most criteria and adequately in others

Amber/Red – project performed adequately under some criteria but poorly in others

Red – project performed poorly under most criteria

7. Lessons learned

1. This project shows that Prosperity funding can be used effectively to promote debate and explore opportunities in areas where further funding, including through an OGD, could then follow if successful.
2. The project showed the value of combining UK expertise with a UK funded project – as seen by the valuable insight and input gained by the UK Trade Policy Unit official that came out for one of the meetings. But this should be caveated by thinking about the best indirect influencers of a country's approach – for example could a Developing States' trade expert have been brought out to sit on one of the Panels?

8. Recommendations for future projects

DFID's new project will fill the main policy space where this project operated. But there may yet be room for further Prosperity work on trade policy in due course given its close link to the Fund's objectives.