



AID-FOR-TRADE CASE STORY

SPAIN



**DISTANCE LEARNING COURSE AND ON-SITE WORKSHOP ON NEGOTIATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL
INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS FOR LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES**



DATES: November 2009; February 2010.

OBJECTIVES:

- Providing participants with basic knowledge on international investment agreements.
- Improving the capacities of civil servants involved in the negotiations of international agreements, in order to facilitate investment flows towards Latin American countries, whilst incorporating into them, development aspects.
- Conceiving elements to foster the effects of international investment agreements on development.

FINANCING: Spanish contribution of 80,000 €

TYPE: Train for trade course (UNCTAD); CRS 33181 (TPR)

DESCRIPTION:

According to several UNCTAD studies, conflicts on international investment agreements are increasing. Expertise in preventing them, and efficient managing of these situations are necessary for developing countries. Train for trade courses in this domain aim at helping developing countries with better implementation of international rules on investment.

The programme consists of two parts: A distance training course, and an on-site workshop in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The distance learning course was followed by 48 people, of whom 25 people were selected for participating in the on-site workshop. The workshop consisted of two modules and a practical exercise: Basic aspects on International Investment Agreements; and International devices for dispute settlement.

EVALUATION:

The evaluation questionnaires reflect that the Train for trade course was very well received between participants. The target group of the course matched with the group of participants; and the content of the course filled the training need on this issue of the selected countries.

More precisely, both courses allowed participants to revise the basic knowledge on international investment agreements, to put into practice the negotiation clauses which are basic on these agreements, and finally, to distribute between participants adequate bibliography and documentation to better manage these issues in the future.