

Project Highlights

- January 10** Draft Inception Report online - Available [here](#)
- January 19** First Civil Society Dialogue, Brussels - Presentation and minutes available [here](#)
- February 7** Local Workshop in Bangladesh – Workshop materials available [here](#)
- March 7** Local Workshop in Ethiopia – Workshop materials available [here](#)
- March 17** Launch of Online Public Consultation - Available [here](#)
- April 27** Final Inception Report online – Available [here](#)
- April 25** Local Workshop in Bolivia - More information available [here](#)
- May 16** Local Workshop in Pakistan - More information available [here](#)
- June 9** Closing date of Online Public Consultation

April 2017

Welcome to the first issue of the newsletter for the Mid-Term Evaluation of the EU's Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP), a project funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by DEVELOPMENT Solutions (DS). Our aim is to provide you with the most up-to-date information about the Mid-Term Evaluation and advise you regarding previous and upcoming project events and activities.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Please share your comments and queries with us by using the online contact form (www.GSPEvaluation.com) or by e-mailing the Project Team at: comments@GSPEvaluation.com. You can also connect with us on [LinkedIn](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).

INTRODUCTION TO THE MID-TERM EVALUATION

The Mid-Term Evaluation of the EU's Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP) is an initiative of the Directorate General for Trade of the European Commission (DG Trade) to assess whether the objectives set by the reformed GSP Regulation (Regulation (EU) No. 978/2012 of the European Parliament and the Council of 25 October 2012) are on track to be achieved.

In this context, DG Trade has commissioned DEVELOPMENT Solutions Europe Limited to conduct an in-depth quantitative and qualitative assessment of the scheme's application and its economic, social, environmental and human rights impact in the beneficiary countries and the EU.

The Project Team will focus its analysis on the impact and application of the scheme in six case studies. These case studies will assess the impact of the GSP on the textile and machinery sectors, the impact of the GSP+ in Bolivia and Pakistan and the

Impact of the Everything But Arms (EBA) arrangement in Bangladesh and Ethiopia.

A continuous and wide-ranging consultation process will be conducted to collect information and insights from relevant stakeholders as well as to further raise awareness of the GSP among relevant stakeholders. The consultation and outreach activities include four local workshops in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Bolivia and Pakistan, an Online Public Consultation, two Civil Society Dialogues in Brussels, interviews and meetings, a project website, electronic newsletters and social media channels.

For more information about the Mid-Term Evaluation, please visit www.GSPEvaluation.com

ONLINE PUBLIC CONSULTATION NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Project Team invites all interested stakeholders to contribute to the Mid-Term Evaluation of the EU's GSP

This project is being implemented by:



This Project is funded by the European Union

The Mid-Term Evaluation of the European Union's Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP)

through the Online Public Consultation. The questionnaire is now available online in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian and French. The consultation will be open for 12 weeks, until **9 June 2017**.

To access the questionnaire, please click [here](#).

CASE STUDIES

In-depth analysis on the economic, social, environmental and human rights impact of the GSP will be conducted in four country case studies and two sector case studies. The Project Team welcomes stakeholders contributions on the impact of the scheme on the textile and machinery sectors and in Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Bolivia and Pakistan.

Please email your contributions to comments@GSPevaluation.com

CIVIL SOCIETY DIALOGUE, 19 JANUARY, BRUSSELS

On 19 January 2017, representatives from the European Commission and the Project Team met with civil society in Brussels to present the Draft Inception Report for critical review. The project's Team Leader Willem van der Geest, Senior Modelling Expert Michael Gasiorek and Senior Environmental Expert Tony Zamparutti presented to an audience of business and NGO stakeholders, who provided valuable feedback on the project.

To access the presentation and minutes, please click [here](#).

LOCAL WORKSHOP BANGLADESH, 7 FEBRUARY, DHAKA

On 7 February 2017, the Stakeholder Outreach Workshop on the EU's EBA in Bangladesh was held at Le Meridien Dhaka in Dhaka. The workshop brought together around 70 stakeholders from government, industry and civil society. High level speakers included H.E. Mr. Tofail Ahmed, Honourable Minister of Commerce, Bangladesh and H.E. Mr. Pierre Mayaudon, Ambassador and Head of the Delegation of the EU to Bangladesh. Participants were provided with the opportunity to learn more about the EU's EBA and to share their views on the impact and application of the scheme.

For more information on the workshop, please click [here](#).



LOCAL WORKSHOP ETHIOPIA, 7 MARCH, ADDIS ABABA

On 7 March 2017, the Stakeholder Outreach Workshop on the EU's EBA in Ethiopia was held at the Capital Hotel and Spa in Addis Ababa. Around 60 stakeholders from government, industry and civil society gathered to discuss the impact and application of the EBA in Ethiopia. The Project Team further presented its preliminary findings on the case study. High level speakers included H.E. Dr. Bekele Bulado, Honourable Minister of Trade, Ethiopia and H.E. Ms. Chantal Hebberecht, Ambassador and Head of the Delegation of the EU to Ethiopia.

For more information on the workshop, please click [here](#).

Find out more:

[Visit the project website](#) | [The GSP on the EC website](#)
[Subscribe to our mailing list](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Learn more and stay engaged with the project by connecting on [LinkedIn](#) and by following us on [Twitter](#).

