

**Improving the Quality and Relevance of Technical Vocational Education and Training in Belize  
Through Assessor, Verifier and Quality Audit Training  
Funded under the Banana Accompanying Measures BAM 2012**

The Ministry of Education through the support of the European Union's Banana Accompanying Measures (BAM) Project undertook a three week training exercise from the 3 to 21 August, 2015 to train Assessors and Verifiers in the education sector. Persons being trained were drawn from the Institutes for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ITVETs), two Junior Colleges, and selected technical high schools. A one-week exercise took place from the 24 to 28 August, to teach representatives from these institutions, the Employment Training and Education Services (ETES) and the Inspectorate Unit of the Ministry of Education, in Quality Audit. On completion a total of 28 persons were trained as Assessors and 17 as Verifiers. These persons include trade instructors, Heads of Departments, and industry supervisors.

Having certified Assessors, Verifiers and Quality Auditors is a quality assurance requirement for persons preparing trainees for Caribbean Vocational Qualifications (CVQs). CVQ's are necessary to take advantage of the free movement under the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME). This training exercise being undertaken through the programme is a significant milestone, as these participants will be the first in Belize to be certified Assessors, Verifiers and Auditors.



Three regional consultants with expertise in TVET, conducted the training. The European Union contributed EUR 720,886 (approximately BZD 1,946,000) to the Government of Belize under the BAM 2012 Programme to support activities leading to improving access to quality and relevant TVET in the Stann Creek and northern Toledo districts – the Banana Belt. These activities will foster the social and economic development of the Banana Belt particularly through support for education. The major activities that have been undertaken so far include

the alignment of the national TVET curricula with regional occupational standards, the upgrading of TVET curricula, and the supply of over BZD 1 million worth of technical vocational equipment for the Georgetown Technical High school.