



The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MOEYs) undertook a two-week training and development exercise from 5 – 16th January 2015 to upgrade national curricula to meet Regional Occupational Standards (ROS). The training was done with technical staff of the MOEYs, technical trade instructors from the Institutes for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (ITVETs) and instructors from selected high schools. The Training is important in helping Belize meet the necessary requirements to provide Caribbean Vocational Qualifications (CVQ). CVQ is the certification needed for free movement of artisans and other skilled workers throughout the Caribbean under the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME). Belize, as a signatory member of the CSME, is expected to prepare its citizens for this free movement of labour.



EU-funded consultants with expertise in curriculum development worked with selected instructors at the Biltmore Hotel in Belize City and conducted a technical review workshop with industry partners for their feedback and endorsement. This will assist the Ministry of Education in revising curricula for AC and Refrigeration, Agriculture, Auto Mechanics, Building Construction, Cosmetology, Customer Care, Electrical, Food Preparation, Hospitality, IT, Plumbing and Welding.

So far under the BAM Education activities, a mission from the Caribbean Examinations Council has been facilitated to initiate the mechanisms for the implementation of CVQs in Belize, while two technical staff of the MOEYS have visited Grenada and St. Lucia to study their implementation process for the CVQs. The European Union (EU) has allocated EUR 22mn (~BZD55mn) to the Government of Belize under the BAM 2012 and 2013 Programmes for activities that will foster social and economic development in the Banana Belt. The MOEYs benefited from EUR 2,525,000 (approximately BZD 6.3mn) to support activities leading to improving access to quality and relevant Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in the Stann Creek and northern Toledo districts – the Banana Belt.