

UNDERSTANDING TRADE MISSIONS

Trinidad and Tobago Manufacturers' Association

Presented by the Trade Unit Monday 8th July 2024



What is a Trade Mission?

Group Picture taken at Piarco VIP Lounge Trade Mission to Suriname – May 2024



A trade mission can be broadly defined as the process of undertaking a series of business related activities in a specific market for the main goal of doing business (export) in the said market.



What occurs prior & during Trade Missions?

Trade Mission Activities from Inception to End

A trade mission can run from a period of 4 to 7 days depending on the market. For instance, missions to regional markets (eg: CARICOM) can run for a maximum of 4 days, while extra-regional markets (eg: Ghana, Canada) can run for a maximum of 5-7 days.

Pre-Mission Activities:

- One on One meeting with consultant
- Debriefing Session

Mission Activities:

- Day 1: Doing Business Seminar & Start of B2B Meetings
- Day 2: B2B Meetings
- Day 3: Market Visits to Supermarkets/Hardwares/Ports, etc & Evening Cocktail Event
- Day 4: Free Morning/Return Travel





Why the sudden focus on Trade Missions?

TTMA Manufacturing Strategy (2020-2025)

 The TTMA has set a strategic goal to double the value of nonenergy manufacturing exports from TT\$3.3b to TT\$7.0b by the end of 2025

Ministry of Trade & Industry; T&T Trade Policy (2019-2023)

- Goal 1: An improved facilitative and enabling environment for international trade
- Goal 2: Growth in the production and export of non-energy goods and services
- Goal 3: Growth in the production and export of high valueadded goods and services
- Goal 4: Growth in share of CARICOM trade, inclusive of trade in services
- Goal 5: Growth in market share within traditional and non-traditional markets





Breakdown of Total Cost

What is included in the total cost?

- ✓ Flights
- ✓ Hotel Accommodation (inclusive of breakfast)
- ✓ Ground Transfers
- ✓ Doing Business Seminar
- ✓ B2B Meetings
- ✓ Business Cocktail Event
- ✓ Market Visits

Upcoming Mission





Recap of Trade Mission to Ghana 2024

First International Trade Mission hosted for 2024

Period March 10th – 17th

- Led by the Honorable Minister, Ms. Paula Gopee-Scoon, PS Randall Karim and TTMA President, Mr. Roger Roach
- Delegation of 27 companies; 18 private sector & 9 state agencies
- Goal: promote and increase bilateral relations between both countries by creating linkages between local companies, Ghanaian firms and government

Success of Trade Mission

- B2B meetings ran for 2 ½ days; an average of 156 B2B meetings in total with an average of 50 market visits
- · Companies already in the process of solidifying leads
- Overall, the mission's goals of fostering relationships, sourcing raw materials for production, finding potential investors and expanding ones knowledge about the Ghanaian market was achieved
- 95% of participants were satisfied with their individual outcomes



Ghana Delegation @ Piarco International Airport



Doing Business in Ghana Seminar











Business Cocktail hosted by Republic Bank (Ghana)

Trade Mission Schedule 2022-2025

The table shows the countries we have targeted between the period of 2022-2024.

The last column shows the proposed trade missions for 2025 (these countries are subject to change)

| 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 |
|----------|--------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| Suriname | Grenada | Belize | Grenada |
| Guyana | Dominican Republic | Ghana | Special* |
| Jamaica | Suriname | The Bahamas | Dominica |
| - | St. Lucia | Suriname | Guyana/Suriname |
| - | Guyana | Canada | New York |
| - | Antigua & Barbuda | St. Vincent & the Grenadines | Jamaica/Cuba |

The TTMA presents to you 'Trade Mission on the Seas'

Explore business opportunities in 5-6 different countries in one trip; extended access to non-traditional markets in the Caribbean

Schedule for Royal Caribbean (March 2025)

- Puerto Rico
- St. Thomas
- British Virgin Islands (B.V.I)
- Sint Maarten
- Barbados
- Martinique





THANK YOU!

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