Funded by
the European Union

PROJECT FACTSHEET

Trade in Services

EU contribution: € 4,400,000 (approx. BWP 64.1 million)

Period of implementation: 2023 –2026

Location: Southern African Development Community

Implementing organisation(s): Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit

Project objectives and description:

This programme, which is co-funded by the German Development Agency BMZ, aims to increase intra-regional, continental, and bilateral Trade in Services, and integration into regional and global value chains and actors to benefit from all trade agreements (Multilateral, Continental, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and Bi-lateral-Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs).

This initiative supports Trade in Services (TiS) through targeted peer reviews, stakeholder working groups, and research training to assess regulations and prioritise reforms—including gender and youth considerations. It facilitates negotiations and commitment lists aligned with regulatory frameworks while promoting experience-sharing among regional economic communities (RECs). To boost private sector engagement, it raises awareness of TiS opportunities, particularly for women and youth-led businesses, and provides export training. Finally, it develops harmonised, climate-conscious TiS regulations, ensuring transparency and compliance with global standards—including through digital platforms for better accessibility.

Achievements / expected results:

This initiative works to remove trade barriers in Trade in Services (TiS) by conducting comprehensive analyses and shaping clear, well-defined policies to govern the sector. It will establish structured commitments in TiS, ensuring greater predictability and fairness in cross-border service trade.

Additionally, the programme seeks to raise awareness of export opportunities, particularly for women- and youth-led businesses, helping them access new markets. A key focus is the development of harmonised, transparent, and socially inclusive TiS regulations—integrating climate and social considerations—while making these frameworks more accessible and business-friendly.