

# **“ECOWAS OF PEOPLES” = “Borderless ECOWAS”**

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**CONSULTATIVE MEETING**

**“Empowering Women, Youth and Economic Operators  
on Regional Integration Process of ECOWAS”**

**Makavo Hotel, Aflao, Ketu-South, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2011**

**“BODERLESS ECOWAS”**

**VISION 2020**

**ECOWAS OF PEOPLES**

Vision adopted by ECOWAS Heads of State  
and Government in 2009

# The Community Vision

*“ECOWAS of Peoples - A borderless, prosperous and cohesive region where people have the capacity to access and harness its enormous resources through the creation of opportunities for sustainable development and environmental preservation”*

# The Community Vision

1. a developed and **integrated West Africa**
2. the fifteen national economies would **become one integrated, competitive and strong market**, and operate freely anywhere within the region.
3. business community would function as an efficient and diversified **regional production system**
4. modern **infrastructural networks**;

# The Community Vision

5. participatory approach to involve and **all ECOWAS citizens** in the integration process;
6. to “**fast track**” **political integration** by conclusively answering the question “**who wants integration?**”
7. sustained **sensitization** and **communication strategy**;

# The Community Vision

8. “ECOWAS of States to **ECOWAS of People**”  
built on **5 pillars** summarized as follows:

# 5 Pillars of BORDERLESS ECOWAS

1. Agriculture
2. Women, Children and Youth
3. Governance
4. Infrastructure
5. Economic Actors

# 5 Pillars of BORDERLESS ECOWAS

1. **Agricultural and Rural Development** for competitive agro-industrial businesses
2. **Women, Children and Youth:** empowerment, and equitable access to resources and opportunities
3. **Governance:** A unified and integrated region managed according to principles of **transparency, leadership, accountability with focus on village level**
4. **Infrastructure:** economic infrastructural networks operated by efficient, reliable and cost-effective services accessible to all Community citizens and business enterprise
5. **Economic Actors :** A **single market** operated by the private sector to achieve an expanded intra-regional trade,



# Recommendation

- Consultative Meeting of Stakeholders are invited to use these 5 pillars to form Target Working Groups
  - 1. Women**
  - 2. Youth and**
  - 3. Economic Operators**
- We invite you to form discussion groups and come with recommendations in the sector areas to improve your participation in the ECOWAS Regional Integration Process

# Planned Training

## Sessions/Curriculum

- Key Elements in ECOWAS Treaty
- Training on Protocol on **Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence** and Establishment
- Training on ECOWAS **Trade Liberalization Scheme (ETLS)**
- ECOBIZ & Proposed KETU & KEDZOVIAKOPE **CROSS-BORDER BUSINESS INITIATIVE**

# OPEN FORUM & Working Group Sessions

- We can now break into working groups and come up with various **action plans** and to put into concrete realization the **BORDERLESS ECOWAS VISION**.

END

*Thank you for your kind attention*