WHAT WILL THE NEW STRATEGY BRING TO GUADELOUPE?

By encouraging the outermost regions to capitalize on their unique assets, the strategy will help them create new opportunities for their inhabitants, boost innovation in sectors like agriculture, fisheries or tourism, while deepening the cooperation with neighbour countries. For the Guadeloupe, the strategy could help support in particular:

✓ A solid blue economy sector, by encouraging the development of marine renewable energy, aquaculture and blue biotechnologies and local fisheries

✓ The region's interests taken into account upstream when negotiating trade agreements involving specific local products (such as banana and sugar)

✓ Enhanced mobility, employability and new skills for young people by financially helping students and volunteers travelling under Erasmus + and the European Solidarity Corps

✓ A hand to researchers and their activities by facilitating their participation in the EU research programme Horizon 2020

✓ Waste management solutions under the LIFE programme 2018-2020

✓ Further support to transport connections

Guadeloupe is situated in the Caribbean basin, 2 000 km from Florida and 7 000 km from Paris, and has 400 000 inhabitants.

Guadeloupe’s economy is largely focused on tourism and public service. The region has a rich biodiversity and a strategic location. Banana and sugar cane cultivation is still key to the economy.

Nevertheless high unemployment, particularly for young people and early school leaving, hampers regional development.

Significant exposure to natural hazards, additional transport costs and low integration in its regional space are also important challenges to overcome.
Some **expected results** on this EU support:

- 1,400 companies supported in developing business plans
- 150,000 additional households benefiting from high-speed Internet access
- 70,000 people benefiting from better treatment of wastewater
- 36,000 unemployed people benefitting from training
- Reintegration of 11,000 young early school leavers
- Support to 100 young farmers and 1,800 farms benefiting from modernisation aid

€131 million under the **European Maritime Fisheries Fund** for the French outermost regions can support the French outermost regions with up to €278 million per year.

**Specificities of other EU policies**

The outermost regions benefit from specific or derogating measures, in areas such as agriculture, state aid and taxation, in order to mitigate the impact of their specific constraints and boost economic growth. Guadeloupe in particular, benefits from a specific taxation regime for the commercialisation in France of locally produced traditional rum as well as from the exemption or reduction of the dock dues to goods produced locally.

**EXAMPLES OF PROJECT SUPPORTED BY THE EU IN GUADELOUPE**

**Improvement of the reception of passengers on cruise ships**

**EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND**

**EU funding:** €1.5 million

The cruise activity in Guadeloupe is rapidly growing. This EU-funded project consists in the construction of two hangars specifically dedicated to the reception of cruise ships calling at Pointe-à-Pitre, improving the quality of service to passengers.

**Preparing for employment with training/work-experience schemes**

**EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND**

**EU funding:** €600,000

The aim of the project is to enhance the employability of young people, by offering them training in order to match the skills required by employers.

The project helps young people define a career path and successfully integrate companies.