

ProNet Executive Report

November 17th to November 19th, 2015



The workshop was designed to provide training and development for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in two (2) key areas – *Resources Management and Human Resources Management*. Facilitated by several ProNet trainers, the workshop aimed to fulfil the goal of making regional SMEs export ready and positioned to take advantage of the opportunities available under the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) as well as other market opportunities.

In fulfilling our goal of promoting, growing and sustaining the local manufacturing industry, the TTMA hosted a training workshop aimed at strengthening the capacity of companies in Human Resources Management and Quality Management. These two (2) areas are key to increasing efficiency of companies' operations, growth and development as well as becoming more competitive. The workshop aimed at assisting SMEs to improve their business practices to consistently reach a quality standard of excellence. The workshop intended to develop skills, competencies and responsiveness in maintaining and improving business practices that will ensure the existence and sustainability of SMEs of Trinidad and Tobago.

Held between the period November 17th to November 19th 2014 at the Normandie Hotel, the workshop brought together individuals from different companies to learn and discuss issues related to Human Resources Management and Resources Management. Important matters such as labour relations, interviewing procedures, production planning and scheduling were explored among other areas. A total

of 26 participants attended from nine (9) companies¹. Even though there were 26 participants, only 22 participants responded to the questionnaire.

Twenty- six (26) attendees came from nine (9) different companies. The composition of participants ranged from micro, small to medium businesses. The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Investment also participated at the workshop. Other characteristics of the participants include:

- ✚ 73% (19) of the participants were female while 24% (7) were male in terms of gender characteristics.
- ✚ In terms of age group, the majority of the participants were identified in the 35 to 44 age group (46%) followed by the 25 to 34 age group (34.6%). See below for graphical presentation.

Overall, the ProNet workshop was successful. This workshop met its expectations with respect to the output to the target group. Presentations were tailored to meet the needs of SMEs and to facilitate peer interface. In participants were satisfied with the ProNet Workshop. They thought it was informative, adequate and relevant to their needs, fostered good networking and increased communication among companies. Participants enjoyed the interactive nature of the workshop, and the content of the workshop. Participants were also appreciative of the methodology of the ProNet programme.

¹Even though thirty –two (32) attended, thirty (30) evaluations were secured.