

EAST AFRICA CUSTOMS AND FREIGHT FORWARDING PRACTICING CERTIFICATE (EACFFPC)

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

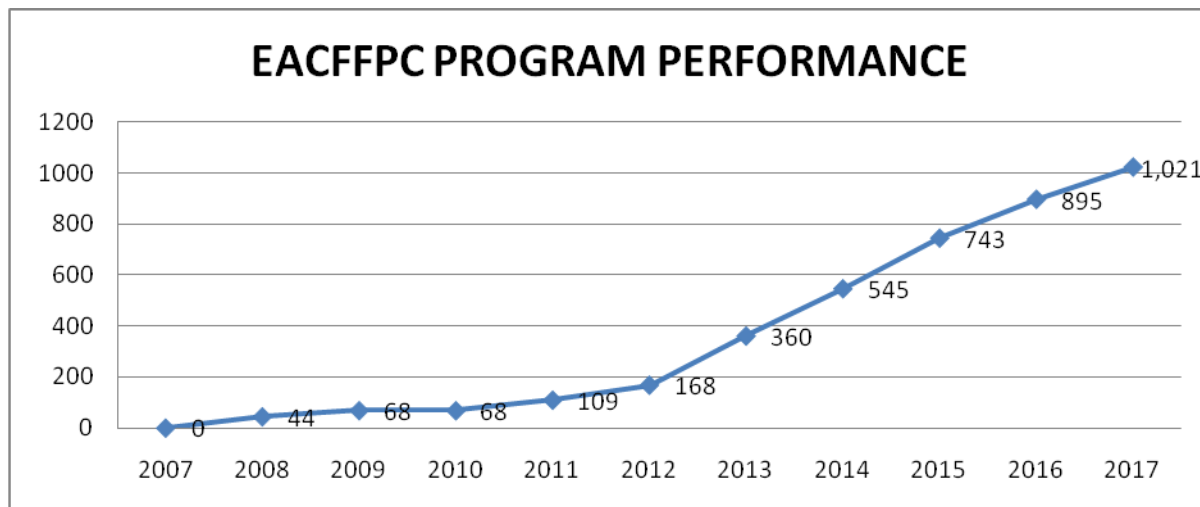
The East Africa Customs and Freight Forwarding Practicing Certificate (EACFFPC) is a joint training program of the East Africa Revenue Authorities (EARAs) and the national freight forwarding associations affiliated to the Federation of East African Freight Forwarders Associations (FEAFFA).

The course is offered to individuals already practicing or intending to practice in the clearing and forwarding industry throughout the East African region. The programme started in 2007 with support from USAID. With assistance from Trade Mark East Africa, the EACFFPC curriculum was improved and training capacity expanded in order to achieve a critical mass of 4,500 trained Customs Agents by end of 2013 throughout the region.

JOURNEY OF THE EACFFPC PROGRAM IN UGANDA

The EACFFPC Training in Uganda started in 2008 with a critical mass of 800. From then, the total number of graduates has increased each year. In 2011, with support from Trademark East Africa to facilitate attainment of the critical mass, the number of graduates rose from 109 to 545 by the end of 2014, and today, that number has increased to **1021** graduates (see figure 1 below showing the performance trend since 2007). Additionally, a total of 150 students are in class for the 12th intake.

With our pass rate of 95%, we expect to graduate another 130 participants, this will make a total of **1151** graduates which surpasses the critical mass of 800.



PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

The EACFFPC is managed by a 12 person Curriculum Implementation Committee (CIC) whose membership comprises of representatives of East African Revenue Authorities (EARAs) and FEAFFA. Each Country Revenue Authority and member body of FEAFFA is represented on CIC.

Downstream, a similarly structured implementation organ, the National Curriculum Implementation Committee (NCIC) exists in each country and oversees the implementation of the program at country level.

In Uganda, implementation of the program is coordinated by the NCIC, and overseen by the program trustees who are responsible for the development, implementation, review and overall management of the program in Uganda. The NCIC comprises of a team of members from both URA and the Freight Forwarding Fraternity. The day-to-day activities of the program are administered by Training Coordinators who report to the NCIC.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course is intended to equip trainees with necessary skills, competencies and values desirable in Customs and Freight Forwarding in order to:

- Enable them discharge their roles competently as Customs Agents.
- Entrench professionalism in the services offered by Freight Forwarders, especially in Customs clearing.
- Enhance ethical conduct, good governance and integrity in the profession.
- Facilitate trade.

COURSE DESIGN

The course has three sections, namely:

- Customs designed to equip trainees with skills and knowledge to enable them discharge their role competently as Customs agents.
- Freight Forwarding introduces trainees to the profession. It covers the basics of freight forwarding.
- Management which covers aspects of communication, planning, time management, ethics and integrity as essentials in sound business management.

TRAINING METHODOLOGY

This is a practical course and accordingly the delivery methods have been blended to include theory and practice including lectures, case studies, field attachments and seminars.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Mandatory

- i. O-level Certificate or its equivalent as a minimum qualification with a credit in English
- ii. Exposure/experience in Customs/ Clearing and Forwarding operations, transportation or related disciplines
- iii. Recommendation letter from Employer

Duration:

Six months part time course running in the evening from 5:30pm - 7:30pm

Fees:

Registration and Training Materials: United States Dollars One hundred and fifty only (**\$150**)

Examination fees and Tuition Fees: One million shillings only (**UGx.1,000,000/=**)

Application procedures:

Applications should be done using the prescribed form downloaded from URA website, <https://www.ura.go.ug> **OR** obtained for free from URA Training School, Human Resource Department (Lugogo Bypass) **OR** can be picked from the program office on Kanjokya Street, Kanjokya house, 2nd floor room 11 **OR** can be downloaded from

The completed Application Forms and copies of qualification certificates should be delivered to:

Manager Human Resource Development	OR	UFFA EACFFPC Program Office
URA Training Centre		Kamwokya, Kanjokya Street,
Lugogo Courts Building		Second Floor,Room 11
Rotary Avenue		Kanjokya House

EXAMINATION AND CERTIFICATION MANAGEMENT

After successful completion of training, students are subjected to examinations upon which a regionally recognized practicing certificate is awarded. The certificate is recognized by all revenue authorities in East Africa.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCE

The Certificate of Competence (COC) is part of training of the East African Customs and Freight Forwarding Practicing Certificate (EACFFPC) program for members of the clearing and forwarding fraternity who have served this industry for over 15 years. The Curriculum Implementation Committee (CIC) for the EACFFPC program thought it wise to exempt them from attending the 6 months course and award them a Certificate of Competence (COC) in recognition of their vast experience in the Clearing and Forwarding industry.

REGISTRATION AND CERTIFICATION OF PRACTITIONERS

FEAFFA and its member national associations have set out a roadmap for the professionalization of the Customs agents and Freight Forwarding industry in the region. The East Africa Customs and Freight Forwarders Board (EACFFB) has been established to certify professional customs agents and freight forwarders in the region for professional identification. Key milestones include training, registration, certification and self-regulation of certified practitioners who have qualified under the EACFFPC Program and the Certificate of Competence has commenced. These practitioners are expected to complete a registration form, sign the professional code of conduct and pay membership and annual subscription fees. Additionally, development a model self-regulation legislative bill is underway towards enactment of relevant national legislations for self-regulation. All these efforts are being supported by the East African Community Directorate of Customs and East African Revenue Authorities. For details and registration, please contact the UFFA secretariat.

For further information, please contact:

UFFA EACFFPC Program Office, Kamwokya, Kanjokya Street, Kanjokya House, Second Floor,
Office Line: **0414531670**, Direct contacts: **+256 776344937/751344937**

Download attachments:

1. Full list of graduates
2. Course coverage
3. Application form

EMPOWERMENT THROUGH PROFESSIONALISM