**Project Summary**

**Project Background**
The Centre for the Development of Enterprise (CDE, successor of CDI) provides non-financial services to ACP companies in all economic sectors to increase competitiveness of ACP. Actions include:

- Promotion of ACP-EU business partnerships and technology transfer
- Development of enterprise support services (capacity building) in ACP countries
- Assistance in investment promotion activities

**Evaluation Objectives**
The evaluation was undertaken in view of the new strategic orientation of CDE covering the following aspects:

- Relevance and Mandate of the CDE and its Positioning within the EC’s mix of instruments and institutions for private sector development (PSD);
- The Centre’s Efficiency, Effectiveness and the Impact of PSD support measures on entrepreneurial and institutional levels;
- CDE’s institutional capacities and organisational set-up (Brussels and decentralised structures) with a view towards its mandate and objectives;
- The Centre’s new ‘Main Strategic Issues’ and the outcome of subsequent changes implemented since mid 2000;
- Consistency, Complementarity and Co-ordination within the overall EC and ACP Private Sector Development Strategy.

**Evaluation Activities**
- Preparatory phase (desk research, discussions with CDE management and staff, interviews with stakeholders at the EC Headquarters and Delegations);
- Field visits to 8 ACP countries in the Caribbean and Africa (intensive interviews with beneficiary firms, intermediary organisations, CDE Field Offices etc.);
- Mail survey with all Antennae and other network partners; processing of questionnaires; analysis of results;
- Feed-back and further discussions with stakeholders and CDE management/staff in Brussels;
- Interim report presentation to CDE’s Board, and the drafting of the draft final report.

**Implementation Features**
The CDE evaluation was initiated in parallel with the corresponding EBAS project of the EC. In agreement with the EC services and the CDE both evaluations were conducted by INTEGRATION with the same team and this resulted in substantial synergies in both evaluations.

**Services Provided**
- Extensive preparatory desk research
- Field research in 8 countries
- Mail survey with Antennae and other network partners
- Surveys among a) beneficiaries b) service providers
- Institutional analysis of CDE

**Client**
European Commission / EC

**Duration**
2004 - 2005

**Personnel**
3 EU STE for SME promotion (4 PM)
- SME promotion specialist
- Institutional analyst
- Evaluation specialist