



Trade Mark Task Force Set-up proposal

BARBADOS | 28/01/2020



CARIFORUM



EU-CARIFORUM Regional project, funded by the European Union and implemented by the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO)

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OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS

Objectives

- To introduce the concept of a Task Force as a working method to implement the project objectives

Expected Results

- Discussion on first topics / initiatives for the Task Force under AWP1
- Agreement on the next steps

INTRODUCTION

RELEVANCE - WHY A TASK FORCE?



- To enhance the overall consistency of TM services in the region
 - To keep IP practice up with ever faster evolving industry needs
 - To actively involve CARIFORUM IP Offices in the elaboration of certain activities under this project
- EPA Art. 141 Regional integration: cooperation and harmonization
- EPA Art. 164 Cooperation: reinforcement of regional initiatives, development of publicly available databases, improving regional regulatory capacity, regional laws and regulations, means of cooperation, development of professional orga.

AIM AND PRINCIPLES

IP Offices **working together** in an effort to reach **common ground** in areas where this could benefit **users and IPOs**.



PRINCIPLES



- ✓ **Not requiring legislative amendments**
- ✓ Initiative-based approach
- ✓ Commitment of implementation by the **participating National IP Offices**
- ✓ Make results publicly available for **the benefit of the users**

SELECTION CRITERIA – TOPICS



Need for active
involvement of
CF IPOs



Expected
Impact

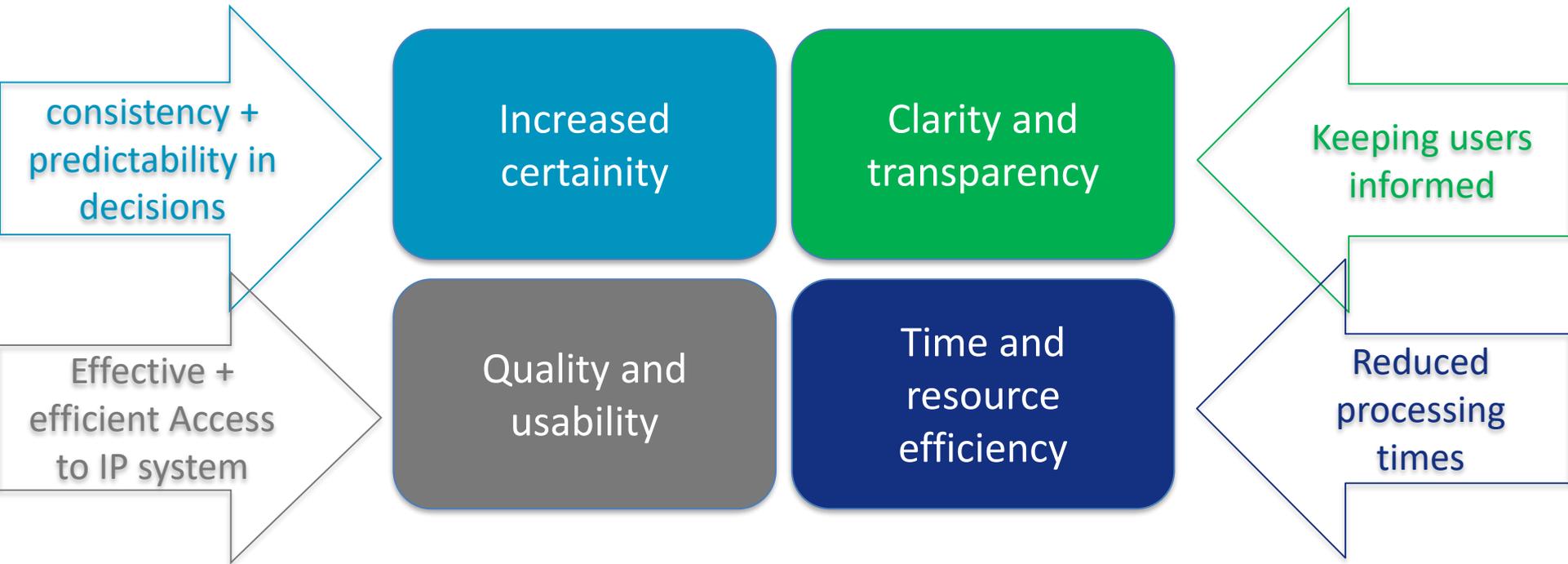


Chance of
achieving
results



Expected
Benefits

EXPECTED BENEFITS - OUTPUTS



SET-UP PROPOSAL

WHAT IS THE TASK FORCE

The Task Force is the group of experts of CARIFORUM IP Offices that will **actively contribute to the implementation of key initiatives**, as envisaged by the Project according to the provisions of the Overall Work Plan (OWP).

THE TASK FORCE - OBJECTIVES

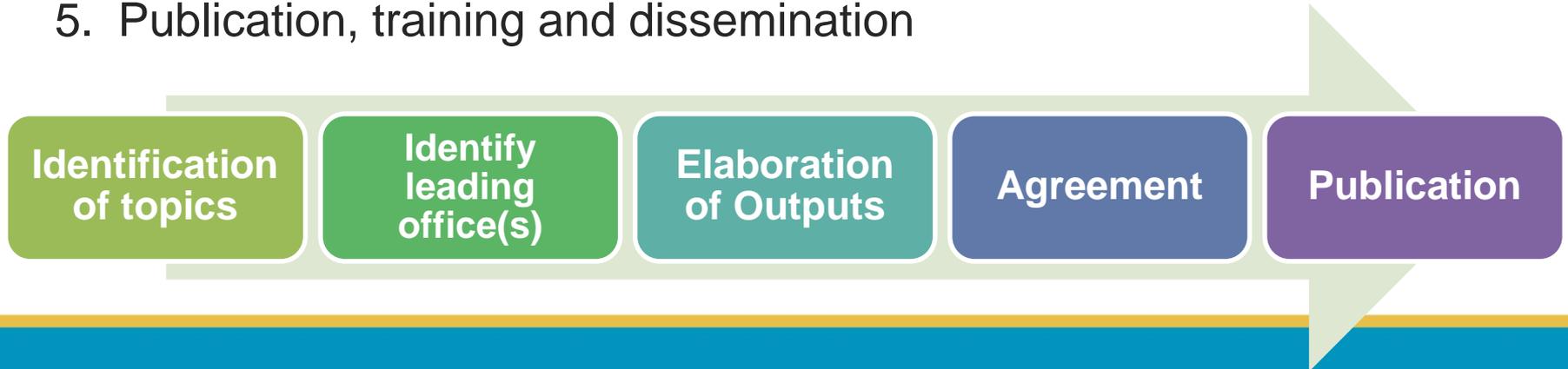
The Convergence Task Force will support the achievement of the project objectives, in particular by **contributing with expertise to the implementation of selected initiatives** under:

Work Package 2 - **Institutional strengthening and digitalisation**

Work Package 3 - **Convergence of law and practice**

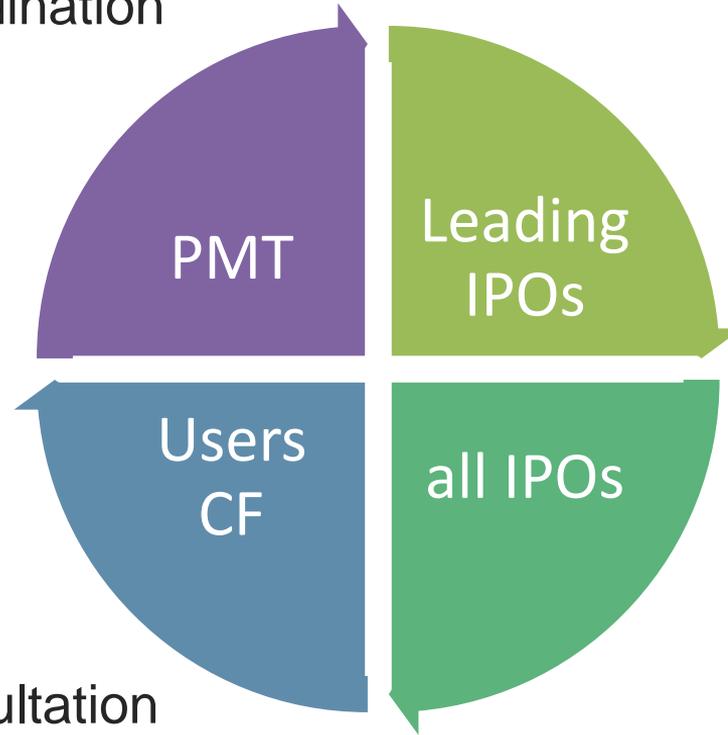
SIMPLIFIED PROCESS

1. Identification of relevant topics
2. Definition of work (scope, timelines, leading IPOs)
3. Elaboration of outputs (via exchange of emails or meetings)
 - By the PMT, leading office and external experts
4. Agreement on the output(s)
5. Publication, training and dissemination



STAKEHOLDERS AND ROLES

Coordination



Consultation

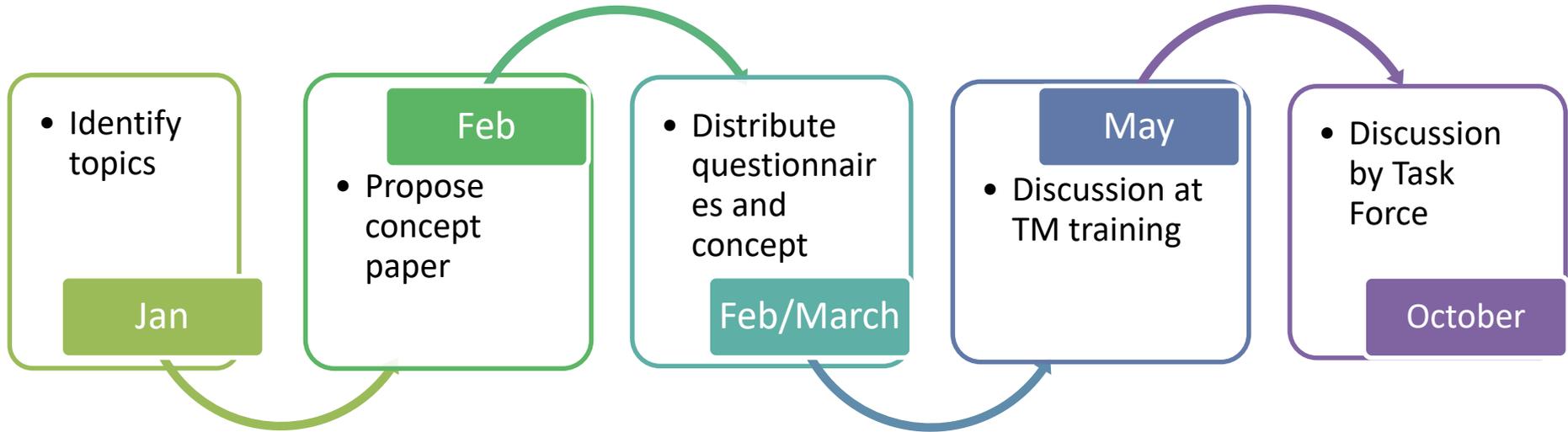
POSSIBLE AREAS OF WORK FOR THE TASK FORCE

	TOPIC / INITIATIVE	OUTPUT
1	Development of classification G&S database	Classification Database
2	Trade Mark examination practices	2020: topic TBC
3	Regional IP Portal	2020: Concept

(2) POSSIBLE TRADE MARK EXAMINATION TOPICS

- Classification of G&S
- Absolute grounds and figurative marks
- Scope of Protection of black and White marks
- Relative Grounds – Likelihood of confusion
- Convergence of graphical representations of designs

PROPOSED STEPS DURING AWP1





THANK YOU
GRACIAS
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