

UNCTAD Multi-year Expert Meeting on  
**TRADE, SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT**  
**Water and Sanitation, Energy and Food-related Logistics Services**  
Geneva, 7-8 May 2018

**Trade in logistics services and food losses reduction:  
Enhancing Trade in Food-related Logistics and Exporting Opportunities in Africa**

by

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# **TRADE IN LOGISTICS SERVICES AND FOOD LOSSES REDUCTION:**

## **ENHANCING TRADE IN FOOD-RELATED LOGISTICS AND EXPORTING OPPORTUNITIES IN AFRICA**

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# Outline

- 1. ROLE OF TRADE LOGISTICS IN AFRICA
- 2. CHALLENGES TO REDUCE FOOD LOSSES
- 3. ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE TRADE AND FOOD RELATED LOGISTICS
- 4. ONGOING INITIATIVES IN AFRICA
- 5. RECOMMENDATIONS
- 6. CONCLUSION

# 1. ROLE OF TRADE LOGISTICS IN AFRICA

- Nine(9) Trans African Highways(TAH) constitute the backbone of Trade Logistics in Africa. They;
  - ✓ are Transports Corridors or Trade Routes : road, rail, pipeline, inland waterways, logistics hub and transport services
  - ✓ Connect the continent with Sea Ports
  - ✓ Link the continent with the Rest of the World via Shipping Lines
  - ✓ Link the Centres of Production and Consumption ( Intra region and mostly Inter Regions)
  - ✓ Integrate markets ( Intra Economies and Inter Economies)
  - ✓ **Carry the Trade**



## 2. CHALLENGES TO REDUCE FOOD LOSSES

**1/3 Food produced is lost and the big proportion is lost throughout the supply chains ( Lost by producers or in distribution).**

**Therefore, reducing food losses are facing challenges related to: Logistics, economics and socio-politics factors.**

- **Logistics challenges** are: lack or inefficient infrastructure and equipment, distribution gaps, unfitting stores capacity and inventory management, non optimized delivery & routes ( i.e. usage of some metrics as solutions – Unctad-Liner shipping connectivity Index)

## 2. CHALLENGES .....

CONT ...

- **Economic challenges** are: high costs, delays due to inefficiencies, poor quality of data vs. lack of predictability, financial crisis affecting producers and consumers, distortion of local markets
- **Socio- politics challenges** are: cultural, institutional and local context

# 3. ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE TRADE AND FOOD RELATED LOGISTICS

**SDG 12.3: Ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns**

**Reducing food losses**, requires to develop sustainable transport along the trade routes by **implementing strategies that integrate the 3 pillars:**

- **Economic – efficiency and competitiveness**
- **Social - inclusivity**
- **Environment – green logistics**

# 3. ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE TRADE AND FOOD RELATED LOGISTICS

cont. ...

## 1<sup>st</sup> Pillar-Economic

- ✓ Develop safe, efficient and competitive transport infrastructure
- ✓ Offer required storage capacities and transit services
- ✓ Conclude regional transit agreements to foster cooperation and partnership on food related logistics
- ✓ Facilitate and reduce customs & administrative procedures
- ✓ Enhance seamless movement of food across the trade routes (i.e. Smart corridors, use new technologies, big data management, etc.)
- ✓ Collate Data for food losses analysis



# 3. ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE TRADE AND FOOD RELATED LOGISTICS

... cont. ...

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Pillar - Social

- **Unlocking linkages between Centres of production and distribution : from production and post-production to processing, distribution and consumption**
- **Focus on intra regional food trade: women in cross border food and rural trade , SMEs, Health dimension and cross border communicable diseases along the trade routes**

**(i.e Epidemic outreach vs. Supply chain)**

- **Collaborate between stakeholders to promote initiatives on reduction of food losses**
- **Foster food's accessibility & Safety measures**
- **Ensure food's affordability – alleviate poverty**

# 3. ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE TRADE AND FOOD RELATED LOGISTICS

cont. ...

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Pillar - Environment

### Promote green logistics

- Reduce use of chemical and fertilizers.
- Improve the fuel efficiency of food transportation and
- Use of green means of transport
- Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions that contribute to climate change

## 4. ONGOING INITIATIVES TO ENHANCE TRADE LOGISTICS IN AFRICA

- Development of Infrastructure Master Plan ( i.e. PIDA - TAH)
- Development of food storage facilities ( Grain Bulk at Sea Ports level, Containerization for frozen food,... )
- Automation of customs & administrative procedures
- Integration of Systems under Electronic Single Windows(ESWs)
- Implementation of Electronic Cargo Tracking Systems
- Migration to ASYCUDA World underway by Customs Authorities
- Use of High Speed Weigh In Motion Weighbridges(HSWIM)
- Development of Transport Observatories and Data Management Systems susceptible to monitor the trade route performance and food losses

## 5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Implement regional transit agreements to foster partnership and cooperation
- Enhance food related Trade Logistics capacities
- Implement specific and practical measures for food related logistics
- Ensure efficiency of import & export processes for perishables goods
- Develop policies and regulations that guarantee transparency
- Collect and analyze trade related data to improve the predictability of food related logistics supply chain

## **6. CONCLUSION:**

### **Partnership & leveraging**

- Advocating for shift of traffic to more sustainable freight transport systems/modes
  - Enhancing storage capacities and management
  - Collaboration & mobilizing financial support
  - promoting best practices & showcasing successful efforts
- 
- × **To achieve above recommendations, this needs for:**
    - **partnership at national, regional and international level:**
    - **Leveraging on existing initiatives with achievable targets and timeline: legal framework, policies, planning, operations, investments**
      - **i.e. leveraging on IT initiatives( Smart Corridor), food related logistics efficiency, Data collection & monitoring**
  - × **Create awareness, best practices and capacity building**



**Thank you  
for your attention**