

# **Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation**

Sustainable Freight Transport Systems: Opportunities for Developing Countries

14-16 October 2015

## **SUSTAINABLE FREIGHT TRANSPORT SYSTEMS: OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

by

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Fourth Session



Sustainable Freight Transport Systems:  
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14 – 16 October 2015

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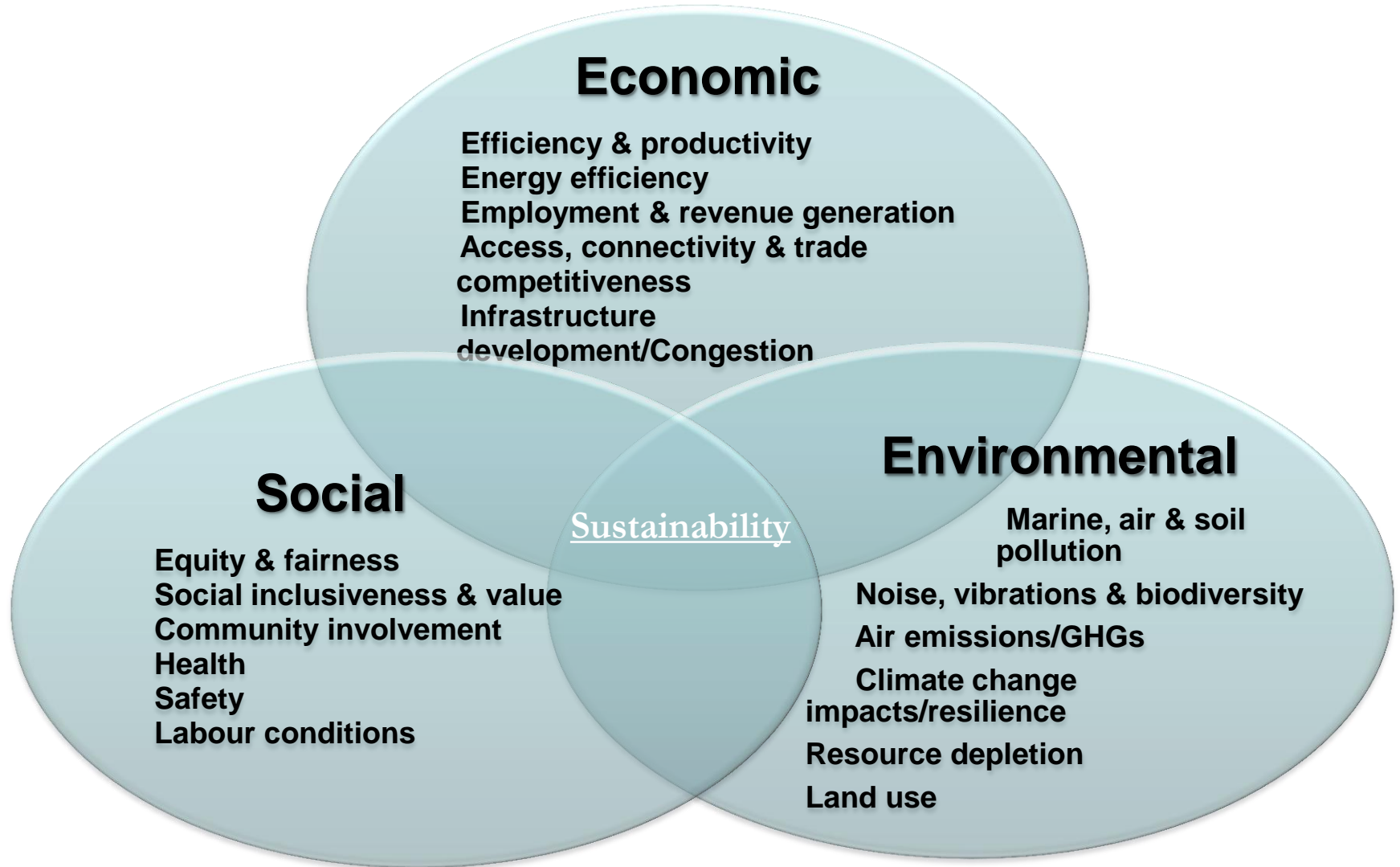
Division on Technology and Logistics

14 October 2015, Geneva

# Sustainability is not new to UNCTAD

- ❑ UNCTAD **historical mandate** and **long established expertise** in **transport & trade logistics**
- ❑ A **pioneer** in recognizing the **strategic importance of sustainability** in trade and development, including transport
- ❑ **Environmental sustainability** increasingly **mainstreamed** into **UNCTAD's work** on transport and trade logistics:
  - **Doha Mandate (2012):** UNCTAD to *"Assist developing countries, particularly LLDCs and transit developing countries, and some countries with economies in transition, to address challenges affecting their participation in trade from geographical constraints, with a view to improving transport systems and connections, designing and implementing resilient and sustainable transport systems, and enhancing transit infrastructure and trade facilitation solutions"* (para. 56.h).

# Sustainable freight transport: defining the concept





## **Some relevant recent work: R&A and CB**

**Research and Analysis:** including as disseminate in various **chapters of the RMT** and **non-recurrent reports**

**Consensus-Building:** Multi-year and Ad Hoc Expert Meetings, relevant Session of the Commission on Trade, UNCTAD XIII side event on SFT

## Some relevant recent work: TA and CB

### Technical Assistance:

1. **Multi-funded Trade Facilitation programme:** provide assistance towards the **implementation of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation**.
2. **Climate change impacts** on coastal transport infrastructure in the Caribbean: **enhancing the adaptive capacity of small island developing States** (2014-2017); UNDA-funded project.
3. **Building capacities** of developing countries to **shift towards sustainable freight transport** (2014-2017); UNDA-funded project.

## **Few words about the project**

**Building capacities** of developing countries to **shift towards sustainable freight transport** (2014-2017)

Key activities training toolkit, web platform, capacity building workshops, advisor services



## Transport Toolkit

Transport infrastructure and services, including shipping, ports, roads and railways are essential for global merchandise trade and related supply chains.

In accordance with its mandate, UNCTAD is carrying out work to help developing countries improve their transport systems and ensure better access to worldwide markets. In its intervention, UNCTAD is increasingly adopting a wider and multifaceted perspective that crosses modes and dimensions to better reflect the new realities and trends that are currently reshaping the transport sector landscape including growth in multimodal transport, extended supply chains and the growing importance of environmental sustainability objectives.

# Sustainable Transport Toolkit

The following toolkit aims to outline the principles of sustainable transport and the type of investments needed to develop the required infrastructure

It also provides guidance on possible financing mechanisms such as Public Private Partnerships.

### Areas of Work

- Transport Infrastructure and Services
- Policy and Legislation
- Trade Facilitation
- Customs Automation - ASYCUDA

### Studies and Reports

- Review of Maritime Transport (Series)
- Trade Facilitation - Technical Notes
- Transport, Trade Facilitation and Logistics
- UNCTAD Monographs on Port Management

### Newsletters

- Transport and Trade Facilitation Newsletter
- ASYCUDA Newsletter

### Data on Transport & Trade Logistics

- Trade Facilitation Bodies around the world
- Liner Shipping Connectivity Index
- World Merchant Fleet Statistics
- World Seaborne Trade







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## About our meeting today **UNCTAD**



- ❑ Draws largely on insights gained from existing work, including the guidance from previous expert meetings. It benefited also from the discussions and views shared with member states, partners and industry stakeholders
- ❑ The meeting is structured around five (5) substantive sessions and one final session for further discussions and closing:
  - Session 1:** sets the scene by defining key concepts and addressing relevant issues, challenges, opportunities
  - Session 2:** focus on policy, governmental and institutional driven-perspective in support of sustainable freight transport systems.
  - Session 3:** sets out selected industry/private sector-led initiatives, in support of sustainable freight transport systems
  - Session 4:** Discusses financing instruments and mechanisms
  - Session 5:** draws all together and examines the role of partnerships, collaborative approaches. It also aims to define the way forward.



## Where do we go from here?

It is hoped that discussions will help address some if not all of the following Issues:

1. How best to **address the challenges and seize the opportunities** associated with sustainable freight transport systems
2. **Identify relevant best practices** in the field
3. how to build on these successful examples, what are **the key measures/policies/tools and recommendations to ensure proper development and implementation** for developing countries
4. What are the **enabling factors**, including financing, technology, policies, capacity-building, data collection, research , information sharing , cooperation and partnerships
5. **Concrete next steps/proposals/priority action areas to ensure proper delivery and implementation of sustainable freight transport systems** in the context of 2030 ASD, the COP21, and beyond.



**Thank you for your attention**