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FIRST INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR NATIONAL TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEES

Boosting capacities and partnerships for implementation

PREMIER FORUM INTERNATIONAL SUR LES COMITÉS NATIONAUX DE FACILITATION DES ÉCHANGES

Renforcement des capacités et des partenariats pour la mise en œuvre

23-27 January / Janvier 2017

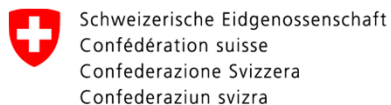
Technical assistance for the implementation of Trade Facilitation reforms

Shamika N. Sirimanne

Director, Division on Technology and Logistics (DTL) UNCTAD

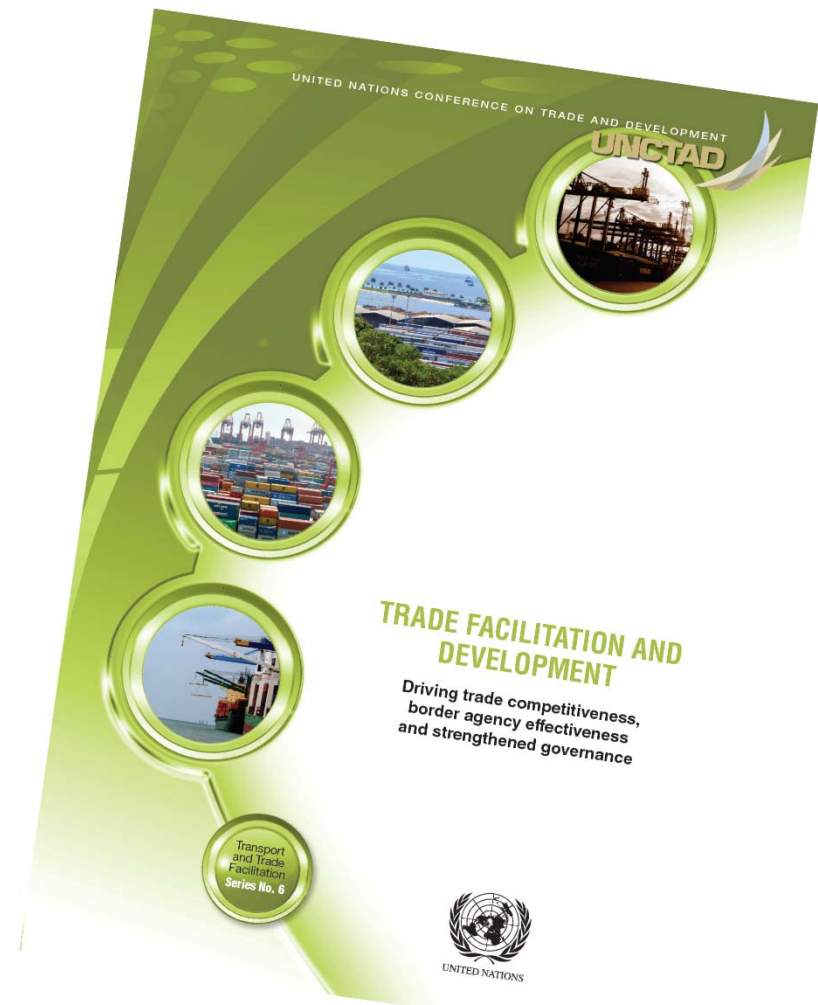


With support of / Avec l'appui de



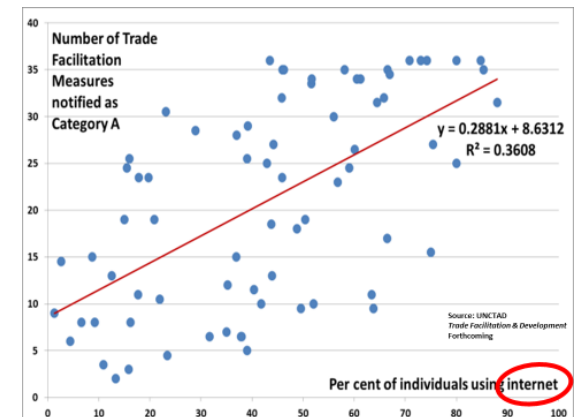
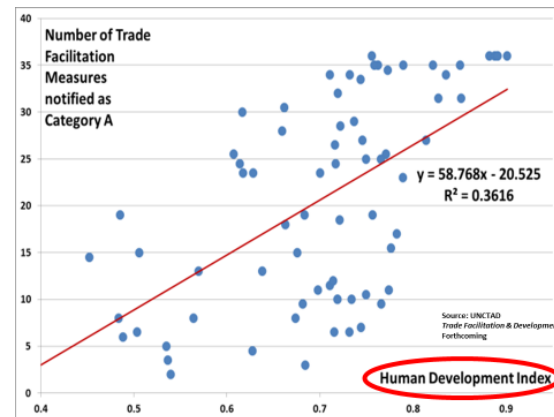
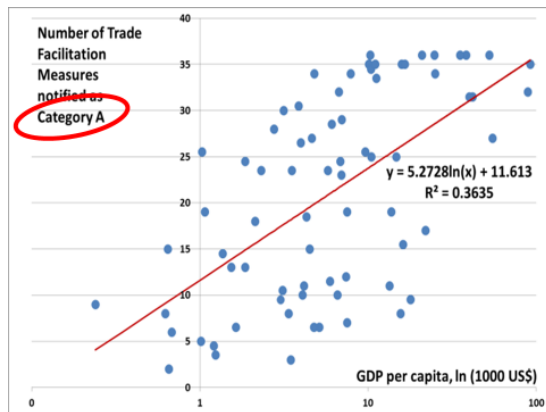
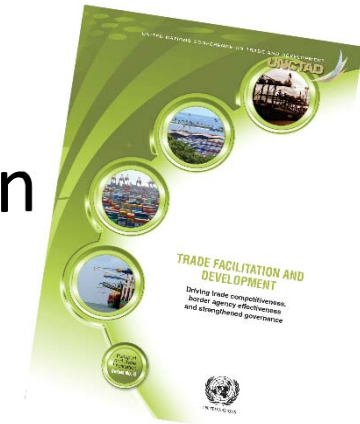
Trade Facilitation and Development

- Trade Facilitation is ever **more important** for developing countries.
- Yet, Trade Facilitation is also **more difficult** to implement for them than for developed economies



Trade Facilitation and Development

- More developed countries have advanced more in the implementation of trade facilitation reforms



Trade Facilitation and Development

We support
Trade Facilitation
because it is good for

- Trade
- Revenue collection
- Enforcement
- Human and institutional capacity development and the formalization of the informal sector



Trade Facilitation at UNCTAD

Research	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building	Consensus Building
Studies on Trade Facilitation implementation, institutional setting and development	Gap analysis and advisory services to prepare for the implementation of the Bali Trade Facilitation Agreement	Multi-year and Ad-Hoc Expert Meetings
Technical Notes	Empowerment Programme for National Trade Facilitation Committees	Hosting round tables on transit and trade facilitation implementation in RTAs
Repository on National Trade Facilitation Committees	Training workshops on Trade Facilitation and Transit	Regional collaboration for example in the Eastern African Community



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UNCTAD activities in Trade Facilitation

1 Research and analysis



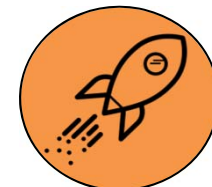
2 Technical assistance



3 Consensus building



4 Looking forward



UNCTAD activities in Trade Facilitation

1 Research and analysis



2 Technical assistance



3 Consensus building



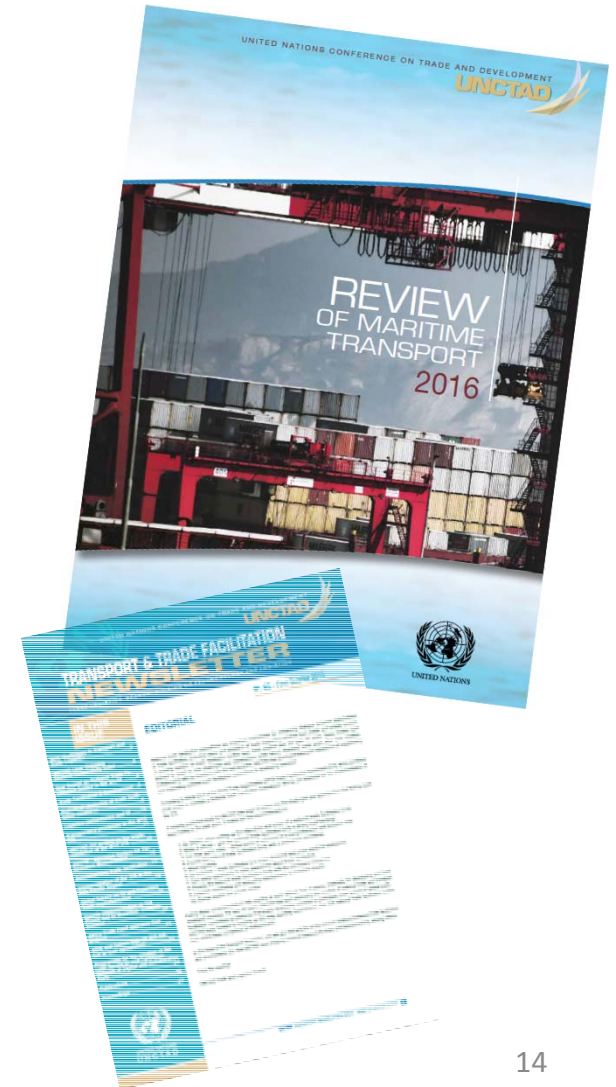
4 Looking forward



Research and Analysis



Review of Maritime Transport - UNCTAD's long-established true flagship publication: Maritime transport statistics and trends. The quarterly **Transport and Trade Facilitation Newsletter** provides information on latest events and publications + it features selected topical articles.



Research and Analysis



Research on implementation costs, National TF Committees, development implications, Technical Notes, Trade Facilitation in RTAs, and more



Research and Analysis



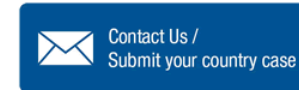
Empowerment Program
for National Trade
Facilitation Bodies



Resources for Trade
Facilitation Bodies



Different Types of Trade
Facilitation Bodies

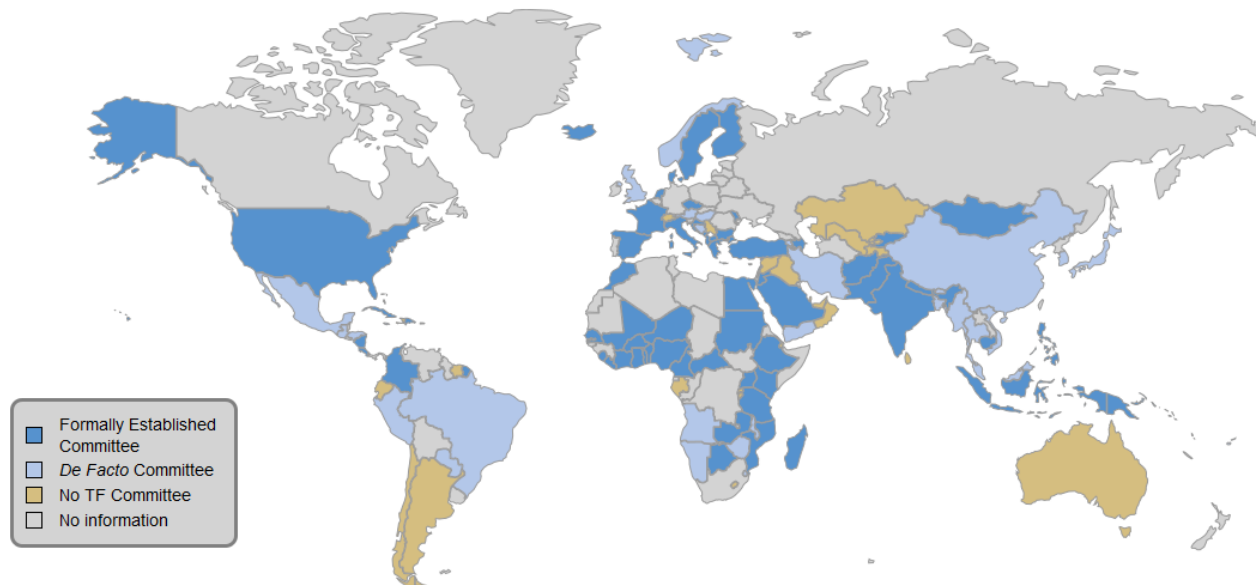


Contact Us /
Submit your country case

Select a country on this list or click on a country on the map to access relevant information

Select a country

[Full list of TF committees](#)



Repository on National Trade Facilitation Committees,
jointly maintained with ITC and UNECE

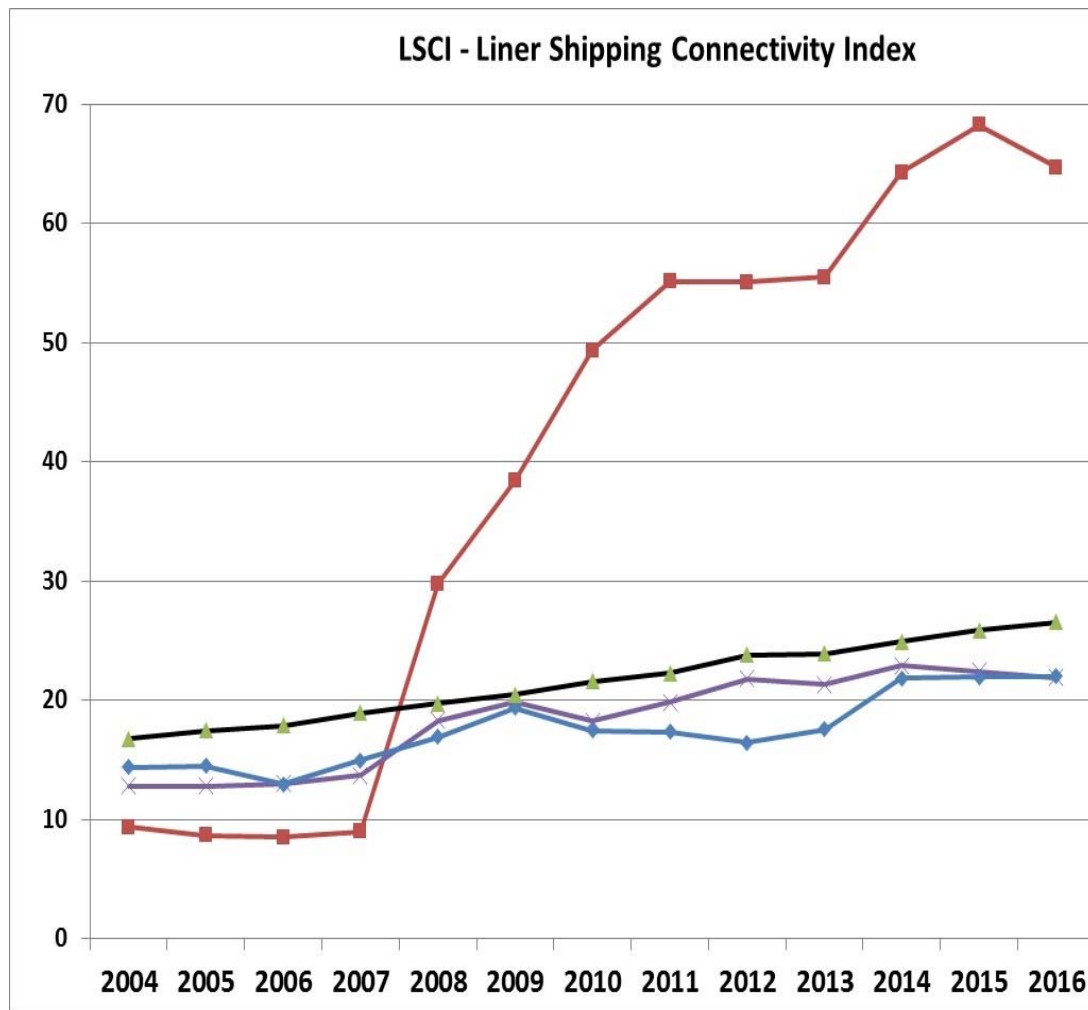
Research and Analysis



UNCTAD has continued and expanded its **on-line databases** aimed at supporting evidence-based research, technical cooperation and capacity-building in the area of transport and trade facilitation



Research and Analysis



UNCTAD's country-level Liner Shipping Connectivity Index (**LSCI**) 2016 has just been published in its 13th year.

The Index provides an indicator of a country's access to the global liner shipping network and thus to overseas markets for most manufactured goods.

UNCTAD activities in Trade Facilitation

1 Research and analysis



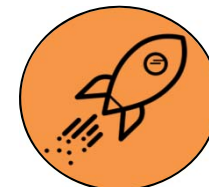
2 Technical assistance



3 Consensus building



4 Looking forward



Technical Assistance



UNCTAD contributes to several international **teaching** programmes, including universities, private sector conferences, regional programmes, as well as UNCTAD's own training programmes such as the P166 and the Port Training programme



Technical Assistance



UNCTAD assists numerous member countries in preparing for **implementation of the WTO TFA.**



Technical Assistance



UNCTAD, the German aid agency GIZ and Trade Mark East Africa collaborate to provide assistance for the Agreement on Trade Facilitation in the **East African Community** (EAC)



Technical Assistance



UNCTAD continued the **ASYCUDA** implementation, its largest technical assistance programme (presently 98 countries & territories, 113 since its inception).

- One new country: Kazakhstan
- In total, there were 60 operational ASYCUDA technical assistance projects.
- In 2015, UNCTAD staff and consultants undertook 300 support, training and advisory missions, including 225 training sessions, for an audience of more than 2000 participants.

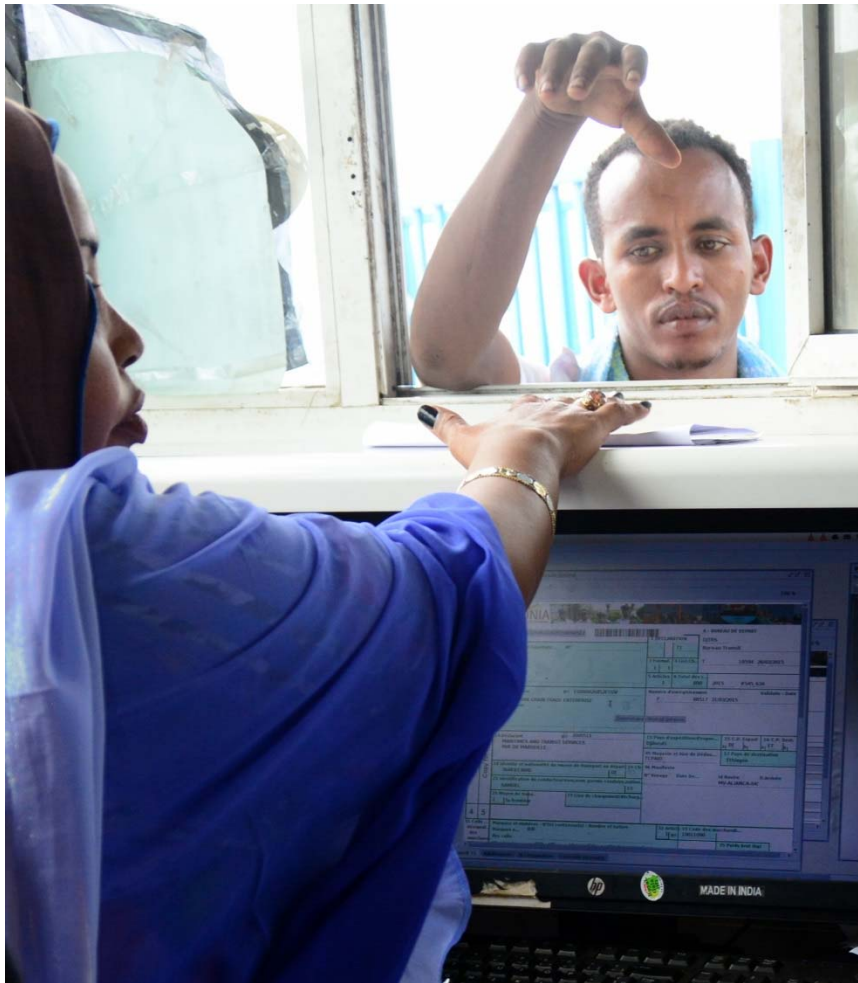
Technical Assistance



Installation of the
ASYCUDA
**Performance
Indicators Module**
in Liberia with the
assistance of the
World Customs
Organization and
funding from
Norway



Technical Assistance



Several new MOUs and partnerships were initiated or signed, however funding or allocation of human resources is required to carry forward the initiatives. Such framework instruments can help ensure the **long-term sustainability** of the ASYCUDA Programme, and increase synergy among IOs

Technical Assistance



Together with colleagues in the Investment Division and at ITC, we develop comprehensive Trade Portals

The Trade Portal

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT
UNCTAD

THE TRADE PORTAL

IS BUILT ON THE BASIS OF THE REGULATIONS SYSTEM, AN ELECTRONIC TOOL DEVELOPED BY THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD) TO HELP GOVERNMENTS MAKE THEIR PROCEDURES FULLY TRANSPARENT AND FACILITATE BUSINESS, TRADE AND INVESTMENT. IT HAS BEEN USED IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES AND CITIES WORLDWIDE, SINCE 2005 (WWW.EREGULATIONS.ORG).

FROM THE USER'S POINT OF VIEW

- An online step-by-step guide to trade-related procedures
- A trade facilitation tool for transparency and simplification of procedures, forms, requirements, contacts available online

IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 1 OF THE WTO TRADING PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON TRADE FACILITATION THE TRADE PORTAL SHOWS ALL IMPORT, EXPORT AND TRANSIT PROCEDURES

MAIN BENEFITS

- Total transparency in rules and procedures, though detailed, practical and up-to-date descriptions of steps to go through, from the user's point of view.
- Facilitates the simplification of procedures. Field investigations undertaken to collect the information are an opportunity for government agencies to review and streamline procedures. Once they are clearly documented online, it becomes easy to identify unnecessary steps and requirements.
- Promotes public awareness of rules and procedures and stimulates public-private dialogue thereon.

EASY AND QUICK IMPLEMENTATION

Foreign trade procedures, including forms, requirements and contact data can be accessible online within a few months. Implementation steps are the following:

- Installation on a national server
- Training of national officers in collecting and registering information
- Set up of a permanent update mechanism associating all concerned government agencies
- Transfer of complete administration and technical documentation

Further assistance can be provided to simplify procedures and to create an electronic single window.

A TOTALLY CONFIGURABLE SYSTEM

The Trade Portal is a Content Management System (CMS). All texts, colors, pictures and logos of the public interface can be modified, procedures and all the corresponding data can be registered and updated, menus can be organized and administration rights can easily be configured from a password-protected administrative interface. System administration requires no computer expertise and can be mastered after few hours of training.

Information is displayed through a user-friendly, public website. Users can interact with the site and its administrators through email and online chat, for any inquiry, suggestion or complaint.

The system is installed on a local server or in the cloud, as decided by the recipient country. UNCTAD provides complete technical documentation. The source code is available upon request.

NATIONAL OWNERSHIP

User countries are granted an unlimited right to use the system and to configure it according to their needs. They decide freely which procedures they want to register and maintain full ownership of all information in the database.

GUIDANCE AND TRAINING IN INFORMATION COLLECTION

Detailed information on procedures is often not readily available. The challenge is to adequately reflect procedures as they are practiced (and not how they are thought to be). Building a comprehensive and orderly list of steps and requirements, for every step, the required data (contacts, forms, duration, legal basis, etc.) usually requires repeated field visits to all offices involved.

UNCTAD can assist countries in developing adapted methodologies and in building the capacity to collect and maintain the information on procedures.

tradeportal.eregulations.org

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT
and Enterprise - Investment Capacity-Building Branch - Palais des Nations, 1211 Genève 10, Switzerland
eregulations.org

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1 Research and analysis



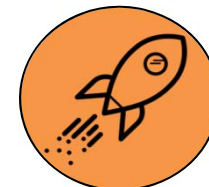
2 Technical assistance



3 Consensus building



4 Looking forward



Consensus Building



UNCTAD just last week co-hosted the steering group meeting of the **Global Facilitation Partnership** for Transportation and Trade (GFP). The meeting helped coordinate UNCTAD's technical assistance, aimed at implementing Trade Facilitation reforms, with other international players.



Consensus Building



UNCTAD contributes to the Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA) for Landlocked Developing Countries (**LLDCs**)



Consensus Building



Last but not least, we are proud to be co-hosting this important Forum on NTFCs, which we believe is an important contribution to strengthening the multilateral trading system

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1 Research and analysis



2 Technical assistance



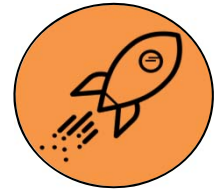
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The way forward

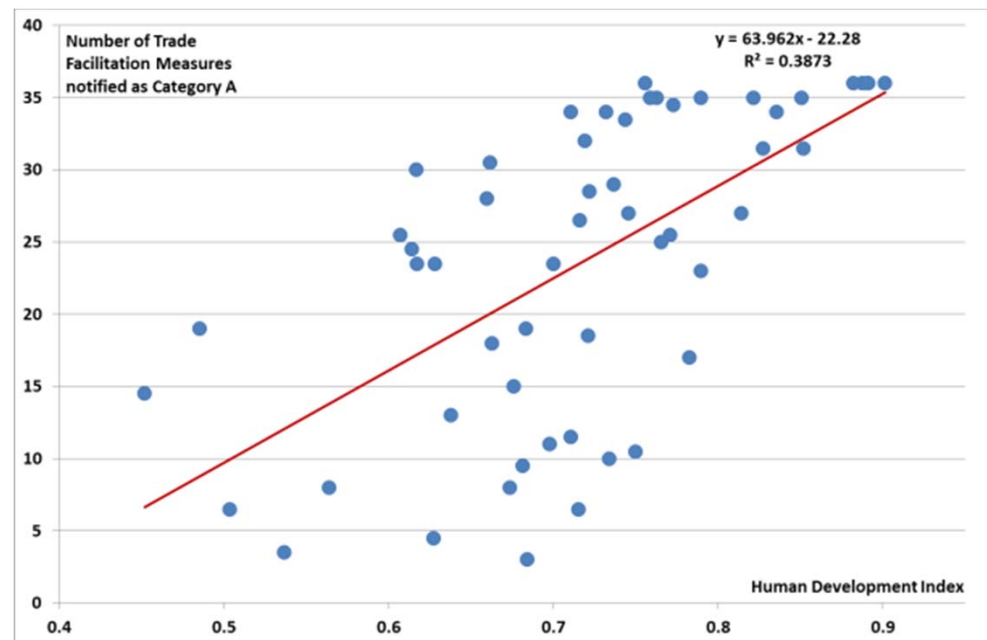


Research: Trade Logistics & Sustainable Development

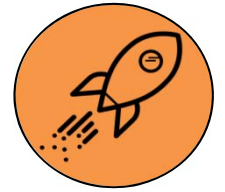


Trade facilitation reforms are key for the future development of nations.

At the same time, the necessary reforms and investment are difficult to undertake for many developing countries and LDCs. UNCTAD's research helps understand and identify the linkages, assisting policy makers and development partners to set the right priorities



The way forward



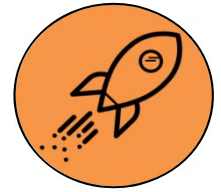
Technical Assistance: **Strengthen & Build Capacities**



Transport and trade facilitation reforms are increasingly complex. UNCTAD builds and strengthens national capacities, including through PPPs, national Trade Facilitation Committees, transport observatories et al.



The way forward



Consensus building: **Finding common grounds**



Trade Logistics is a key component of globalization. Consensus building at UNCTAD helps identify global solutions to serve as “global public goods”, formulate win-win outcomes and underscores the nexus between sustainable development and global/ regional standards and rules

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