

UNCTAD RAPID SCAN

of trade facilitation preparedness in times of crisis



UNCTAD aims to support Developing Countries and Least-Developed Countries (LDCs) to improve their national and/or regional capacity to better respond to future crises and ensure the minimum disruption to the flow of imports, exports, and goods in transit (especially essential goods), while ensuring compliance with controls such as Customs, health, sanitary etc.

Based on the good practices of trade facilitation measures, the Rapid Scan will provide a focused yet rapid look into the available national emergency regulations pertaining to trade facilitation and its application in times of crisis.

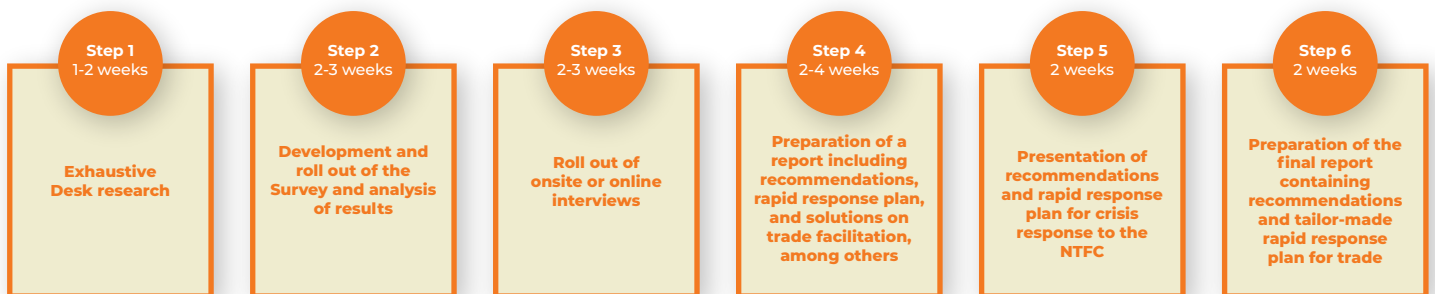


STEP-BY-STEP METHODOLOGY

Through an **adaptable methodology** developed by UNCTAD, and with substantive and specific input by the beneficiary country, the outcome of the rapid scan will consist of **tailor-made recommendations for recovery** vis-a-vis Covid-19 and **recommendations for preparedness** in case of future crises, including a Rapid Response Plan to be deployed.

To assist in this endeavour, **a national consultant based in the beneficiary country should be identified** by the beneficiary country and contracted by UNCTAD.

The following **step-by-step methodology** will be applied, where each step must be proactively and urgently carried out in sequence within limited time to ensure the rapidness criteria of the assessment.



In total, **all steps require about 11 to 16 weeks to complete**, depending on the actual situation and capacity of each country.

UNCTAD, together with the National Trade Facilitation Committees (NTFCs) and other relevant authorities, will review the following:

- Transit and Trade Facilitation **challenges faced during crisis**
- International trade related **regulations and measures**
- **Existence of national crisis** related regulations and international trade and transit measures
- **Implementation** of such regulations and measures
- **Impact** of the implementation (benefits and challenges)
- Relevant **regional regulations and measures**



“ The Rapid Scan revealed a lack of awareness by most stakeholders impacted by the regulatory measures put in place to facilitate trade in the wake of the various crises experienced in Zimbabwe, including Covid 19.

The Rapid Scan therefore highlighted the need for increased consultation and awareness as well as the need to consider a grace period prior to implementation of those regulatory measures.

The National Trade Facilitation Committee of Zimbabwe could be the mechanism to ensure that these consultations take place.

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