

Multiyear Expert Meeting on

**Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade
Facilitation, Seventh session:
Trade facilitation and transit in support
of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable
Development**

7 to 9 May 2019

**Trade Facilitation in regional integration:
a tool for achieving SDGs**

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Trade Facilitation in regional integration: a tool for achieving SDGs

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Division on Technology and Logistics
MYEM, 7 May 2019



I. Trade Facilitation and SDGs

II. Trade Facilitation and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

III. Trade Facilitation: a tool to deepen regional integration





Linkages between Trade Facilitation and SDGs

Two correlations:

- Positive correlation btw trade facilitation and GDP per capita
- Positive correlation btw trade facilitation and Human Development Index (HDI)

The image shows the cover of a report titled "TRADE FACILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT" by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The cover features a green background with a vertical line of five circular images showing various trade-related scenes: a port, a factory, a city, a ship, and a person. The text on the cover includes "UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT UNCTAD" at the top, "TRADE FACILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT" in the center, and "Driving trade competitiveness, border agency effectiveness and strengthened governance" at the bottom. The UNCTAD logo is also present at the bottom right.

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WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement in the SDGs

- **SDG 8 - Targets 8.2, 8.3:** Decent work and economic growth through higher levels of economic productivity and formalization and growth of MSMEs
- **SDG 9 - Targets 9.1, 9.a and 9.c:** Access to infrastructure and technology, Access to internet
- **SDG 10 – Target 10.b:** Reduced inequalities
- **SDG 16 - Targets 16.9, 16.10, 16.15:** Public Access to information, Reduce corruption, and Ensure responsive, inclusive decision making at all levels
- **SDG 17:** Promote public, public-private and civil society partnerships

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WTO TFA and the Goal 17:

- **TFA Art. 3: Advance Rulings**

17.10: Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system [...]

17.14: Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development

- **TFA Art. 6: Disciplines on Fees and Charges**

17.1: Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries [...]

- **TFA Art. 10: Formalities**

17.11: Significantly increase the exports of developing countries

- **TFA Art. 23.2: NTFC**

17.17: Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships [...]

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National Trade Facilitation Committees: A successful Public-Private Partnership

- WTO TFA Obligation to set up a coordinating mechanism (TFA Art 23.2)

2 National Committee on Trade Facilitation

Each Member shall establish and/or maintain a national committee on trade facilitation or designate an existing mechanism to facilitate both domestic coordination and implementation of the provisions of this Agreement.

- NTFCs are composed of public / private stakeholders
- UNCTAD Empowerment Program for NTFCs

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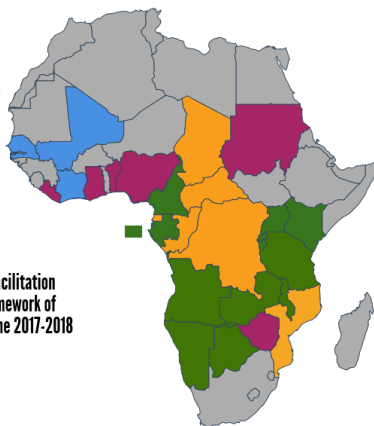


UNCTAD Empowerment Program for NTFCs in Africa



in Africa

- Empowerment Programme completed
- Empowerment Programme started in 2017-2018
- Support to National Trade Facilitation Committees outside the framework of the Empowerment Programme 2017-2018
- Empowerment Programme starting in 2019



- UNCTAD has assisted the NTFCs in 22 African countries since 2016 and 6 more will be added next year (five ECCAS countries and Mozambique)
- We support the TF processes at all levels (CFTA, RECs, National)

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Promoting regional integration

- Increased intra-regional trade and economic diversification
- Improved harmonization / transparency
- Role of the RECs vs « hyperglobalization »
- Regional value chains



TFA encourages partnership and cooperation and deepens regional integration through :

- Inter-agency collaboration
- Customs cooperation
- Regional collaboration to set up enquiry points
- Single Window
- Transit trade

 Improve trade efficiency and competitiveness



Best practices of SDG 17 in TF at regional level:

UNCTAD Cooperation with the EAC since 2014 (*GIZ and TradeMark EA Funding*)

East African Community

- Population: 172 million
- Customs Union, Single Customs Territory and a Common Market
- Total GDP: USD 172.2 billion (2017)



UNCTAD support to EAC TF Institutional Framework (NTFCs and RCTF)

May 2015: EAC Sub-Committee on Trade Facilitation



UNCTAD Support to EAC

Dec. 2018: Adoption of the EAC Ministerial Declaration on Trade Facilitation



Conclusion

Trade Facilitation: a tool for more regional integration and partnerships

TF Reforms contribute to regional schemes to improve trade efficiency and competitiveness and intra-regional trade

(ex: AfCFTA)

