

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

**Implementation of
the Trade Facilitation Agreement**

Presentation by

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Economic Affairs Officer
World Trade Organization



Objectives of the TFA



1. Expedite the movement, release and clearance of goods, including goods in transit
2. Improve cooperation between customs, and between customs and other authorities
3. Enhance technical assistance and build capacity for the implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement

TFA Online Resources













- www.tfafacility.org
- Explanation of the agreement, provision by provision
- Information on technical assistance provision, development partners and donor coordinators
- www.tfadatabase.org
- Ratification and notification guidance
- State-of-play for each Member

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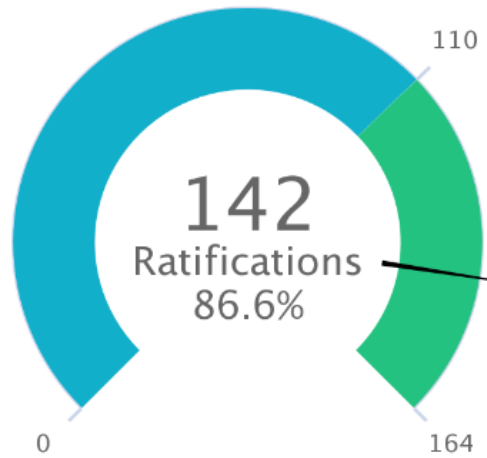
Section I

12 Articles with approximately 40 technical measures

 <p>Article 1 Publication & Availability of Information</p>	 <p>Article 5 Measures to Enhance Impartiality, Non-Discrimination & Transparency</p>	 <p>Article 9 Movement under Customs Control</p>
 <p>Article 2 Comment and Consultations</p>	 <p>Article 6 Disciplines on Fees and Charges</p>	 <p>Article 10 Import, Export & Transit Formalities</p>
 <p>Article 3 Advance Rulings</p>	 <p>Article 7 Release and Clearance of Goods</p>	 <p>Article 11 Freedom of transit</p>
 <p>Article 4 Procedures for Appeal or Review</p>	 <p>Article 8 Border Agency Cooperation</p>	 <p>Article 12 Customs Cooperation</p>

Ratifications

The TFA entered into force on 22 February 2017 when the WTO obtained the two-thirds acceptance from its 164 Members



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Notification Commitments

Category A Commitments

115 Members

- 86 developing country Members committed to implement TFA provisions immediately upon entry into force of the agreement, Feb 2017, and 29 least developed countries will do so by Feb 2018

Category B Commitments

78 Members

- 56 developing country Members and 22 LDC Members have committed to implement TFA provisions following a transition period determined by them

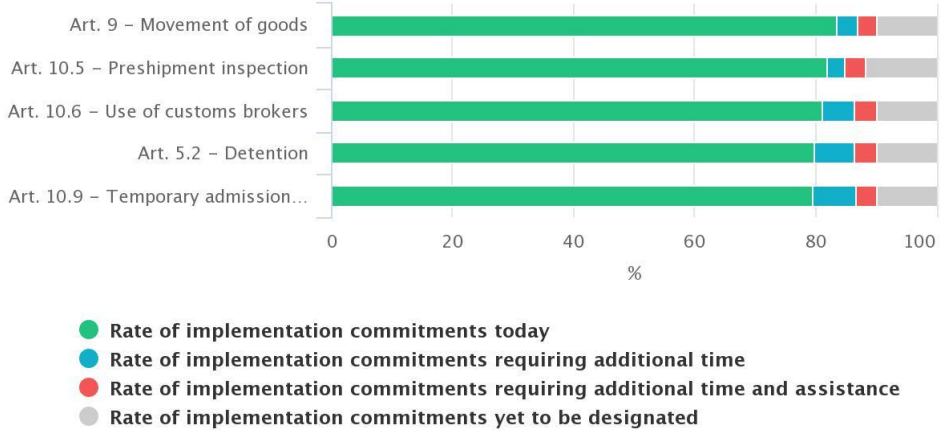
Category C Commitments

66 Members

- 45 developing country Members and 22 LDC Members have committed to implement TFA provisions following a self-determined transition period and receiving the necessary capacity-building support

Top 5 measures with highest implementation rate

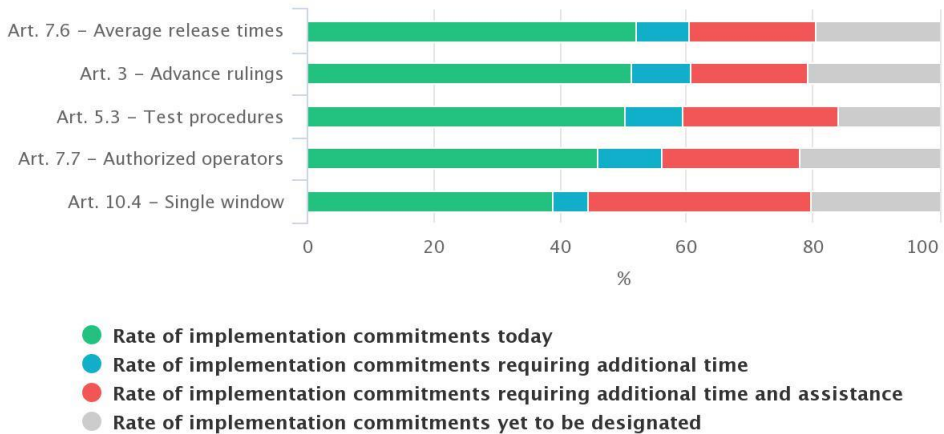
Based on implementation commitments by all WTO Members



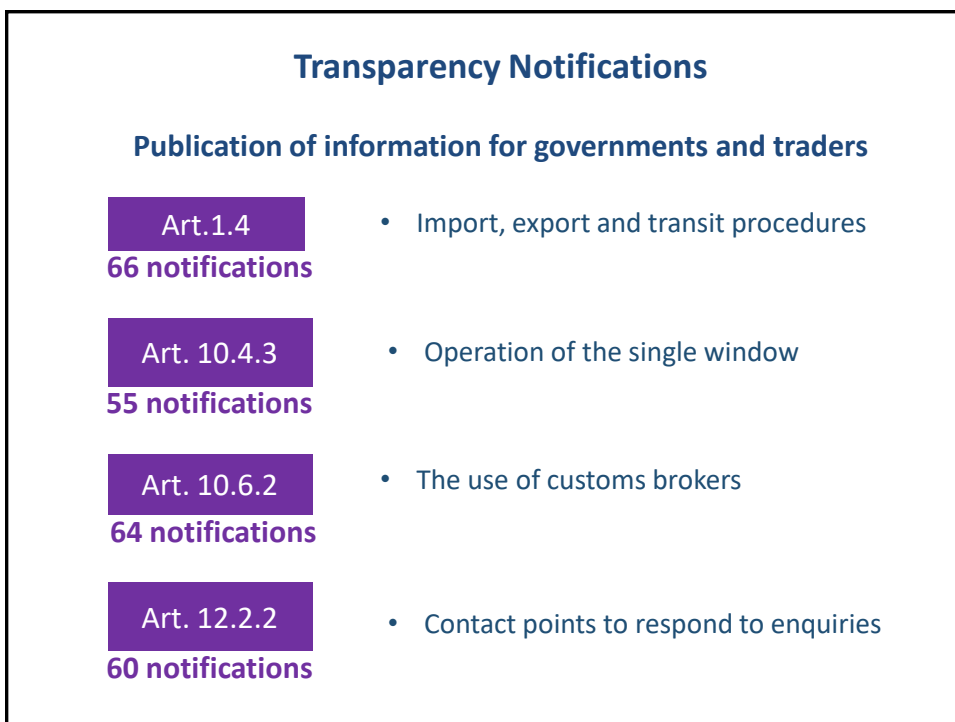
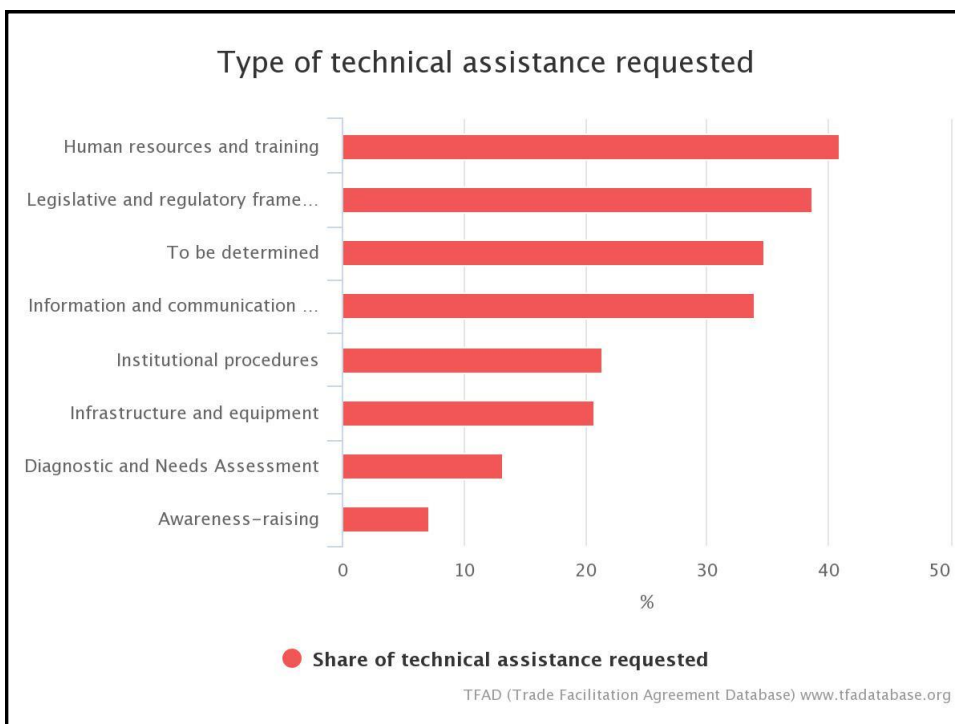
TFAD (Trade Facilitation Agreement Database) www.tfadatabase.org

Bottom 5 measures with lowest implementation rate

Based on implementation commitments by all WTO Members



TFAD (Trade Facilitation Agreement Database) www.tfadatabase.org



Technical assistance and capacity-building support

Notifications

Art. 22.1

15 notifications received

- Donor Members are required to notify the support that they provide for TF capacity-building

Art. 22.2

8 notifications received


- Donor Members are required to notify the process and mechanisms that should be followed in order to request assistance

Art. 22.3

9 notifications received

- Developing and LDC Members seeking Technical Assistance must provide details of their contact point(s) of the office(s) responsible for coordinating and prioritizing assistance and support

Notification guidance

 <p>TFA NOTIFICATIONS GUIDE</p>	<p>DONOR NOTIFICATIONS</p> <p>ARTICLE 22: INFORMATION ON ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING</p> <p>1. Information on TACB submitted in the preceding 12 months and, where available, submitted in the next 12 months</p> <p>(a) A description of the TACB;</p> <p>(b) The status and amount committed/financed;</p> <p>(c) Processes for disbursement;</p> <p>(d) The beneficiary/ies and/or region;</p> <p>(e) The implementing agency in the Member requesting TACB</p> <p>2017: February 22, 2017 & annually thereafter</p> <p>2. Donor Members assisting developing and LDC Members can submit:</p> <p>(a) Contact points of their agencies responsible for providing TACB to TFA implementation where practicable; contact points in the implementing agency where the TACB will be provided;</p> <p>(b) Information on the process and mechanisms for requesting TACB</p> <p>Article 22.3: Developing and LDC Member (single office) responsible for coordinating and prioritizing TACB</p>	<p>TRANSPARENCY NOTIFICATIONS</p> <p>Article 1.6: Member (state(s)) for publication of Article 1.6 information</p> <p>Uniform resource locators of website(s) in Article 1.6.1</p> <p>The contact information of the enquiry points in Article 1.6.1</p> <p>Article 10: 10.1.2 Details of operation of the single window</p> <p>10.1.3 Measures on the use of customs borders and inland transport modalities</p> <p>Article 12: 12.3.4 Customs cooperation – contact point for information exchange</p> 	<p>ABC NOTIFICATION TIMELINE FOR DEVELOPING MEMBERS</p> <p>Due:</p> <p>22 February 2017 A, B, C Category notifications Provide indicative data for Category B Provide indicative data for Category C Provide TACB requirements for Category C</p> <p>22 February 2018 Provide definitive data for Category B Provide TACB arrangements with donors for Category C</p> <p>22 August 2019 Provide definitive data for Category C Provide progress on TACB for Category C</p> <p>See TFA Article 18 for further details</p>		<p>ABC NOTIFICATION TIMELINE FOR LDC'S</p> <p>Due:</p> <p>22 February 2018 A, B, C Category notifications May provide indicative data for Category B</p> <p>22 February 2019 Provide TACB requirements for Category C</p> <p>22 February 2020 Provide definitive data for Category B Provide TACB requirements for Category C</p> <p>22 February 2021 Provide indicative data for Category C Provide TACB arrangements with donors for Category C</p> <p>22 August 2022 Provide definitive data for Category C Provide progress on TACB for Category C</p> <p>See TFA Article 18 for further details</p>
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TFAF Website Member Contact Points & Profiles

Botswana

TRADE FACILITATION AGREEMENT RATIFIED: JUNE 18, 2015 VIEW NOTIFICATIONS PRESENTED UNDER THE TFA

COORDINATOR(S) OF NATIONAL TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE:

GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL(S) RESPONSIBLE TO COORDINATE WITH DONORS:

Ms. Lesedi KGOTLELE
 Deputy Director- Department of International Trade
 Private Bag 0073
 Gaborone
 Botswana
 Telephone: +267 368 5300
 Fax: +267 318 8380
 E-Mail: lkgotlele@gov.bw

GENEVA DELEGATE(S):

ADDITIONAL CONTACT(S):

Information Extracted from Article 22 Notification

INFORMATION REGARDING BOTSWANA

Description of the assistance	Committed / Disbursed	Beneficiaries	Implementing agencies	Pro
2015				
United States of America				
Border and related agencies capacity building	Disbursed USD 946144	Africa Sub-Saharan	US Agency for International Development (USAID)	Aut http
Publication and trade promotion	Disbursed USD 250000	Africa Sub-Saharan	US Agency for International Development (USAID)	Aut http
Publication and trade promotion	Disbursed USD 327278	Africa Sub-Saharan	US Agency for International Development (USAID)	Aut http
NCTF and private sector engagement and capacity building	Disbursed USD 4018671	Africa Sub-Saharan	US Agency for International	Aut http

Article 22.2 - Canada



Process and mechanisms for requesting assistance

Developing countries seeking assistance should contact the relevant Canadian government office abroad. Contact information can be accessed through the following link:
<http://international.gc.ca/world-monde/country-pays/index.aspx?lang=eng>

Contact Points

Information regarding Canada's international assistance can be accessed through the following link:
http://international.gc.ca/world-monde/issues_development-enjeux_developpement/priorities-priorites/index.aspx?lang=eng

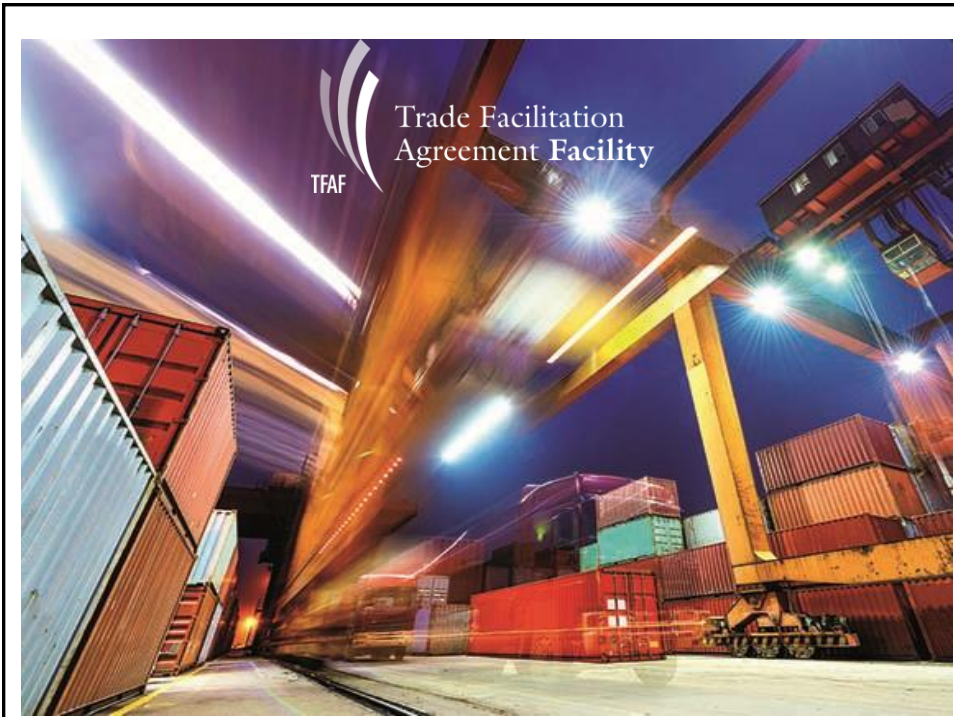
Transparency Notifications - Article 1.4(c)



Contact information of the enquiry points

Malawi Revenue Authority	http://www.mra.mw/ E-mail: mrhq@mra.mw Tel: +265 1 822 588	Inquiry Points
Malawi Investment and Trade Centre	http://www.mitc.mw/ E-mail: mitc@mitc.mw Tel: +265 1 770 800	Inquiry Points

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Background

- The WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement Facility (TFAF) was created **at the request of developing and least-developed country (LDC) Members** to help ensure that they receive the assistance they need to reap the full benefits of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), and to support the ultimate goal of **full implementation** of this new Agreement by all Members.
- The Facility was formally **launched on 22 July 2014**, by WTO Director-General Roberto Azevêdo and became operational on 27 November 2014, when Members adopted the Protocol of Amendment to insert the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement into Annex 1A of the WTO Agreement. The TFAF is housed within the Market Access Division of the WTO.
- 4.5 FTE staff members.
- 9 Donors:



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Primary goals

1. find assistance for implementation of the provisions of the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA),
2. ratify the TFA,
3. submit TFA Section II notifications within agreed deadlines, and
4. enhance the operation of their national trade facilitation committees.

NB: Request driven

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Activities to be funded in 2019

- A. Matchmaking and funding activities
 1. Matchmaking
 2. Grant Program
- B. Ratification, notification, implementation
 3. National Workshops
 4. Regional and sub-regional workshops
 5. National needs assessments...
- C. Implementation support and capacity building
 6. Dedicated thematic workshops
 7. TFAF Website
- D. Advocacy
 8. Advocacy

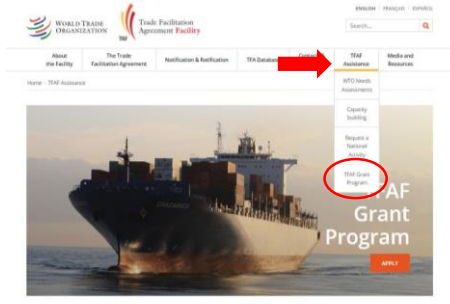
A.1. Matchmaking

- Notifications on www.tfadatabase.org
- Analysis of notifications on www.tfafacility.org
- Donor information (inc. Art 22) on www.tfafacility.org
- Dedicated sessions on accessing assistance included in all events
- Coordinate Annex D+
- Expression of Interest process

A.2. Grant Program

- Launched on 9 October at TF Committee meeting
- Expression of interest list in place
- Project Implementation Grants (PG) Selection Committee 2 donors and 2 developing country representatives
- Strong interest, but no eligible applications as yet

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The screenshot shows the TFA Facility website. The navigation menu includes 'About the Facility', 'The Trade Facilitation Agreements', 'Notification & Registration', 'TFA Database', 'TFA Assistance', and 'Media and Resources'. A red arrow points to the 'TFA Assistance' menu item, which is expanded to show 'WTO Needs Assessment', 'Capacity Building', 'Request a Technical Assistance', and 'TFA Grant Program'. The 'TFA Grant Program' item is circled in red. Below the navigation is a banner for the 'TFA Grant Program' featuring a large cargo ship at sea. Below the banner, the text reads: 'The TFAF will provide two types of grants to developing and LDC Members who have been unable to access support for their Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) commitments through regular channels and who meet the following criteria:' followed by three bullet points. At the bottom, there are two sections: 'Project Preparation Grants' and 'Project Implementation Grants', each with a brief description of the grant types.

The TFAF will provide two types of grants to developing and LDC Members who have been unable to access support for their Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) commitments through regular channels and who meet the following criteria:

- The Member has signed the Trade Facilitation Agreements (TFA) Protocol of Arrangements and requested its instrument of Acceptance with the WTO
- The Member has already notified its Category C commitments, as defined in Article 10 of the TFA
- The Member is not subject to administrative measures

Project Preparation Grants
Project preparation grants will be available in circumstances where a Member requires additional support to successfully apply for assistance to implement their category C commitments. Assistance provided under the project preparation grant will be up to a maximum value of USD30,000.

Project Implementation Grants
Project implementation grants will be available for implementation of applicants' specific category C provisions of the Trade Facilitation Agreement. Assistance provided under the project implementation grant will be up to a maximum value of USD30,000.

<http://www.tfafacility.org/grant-program>

B.3. National workshops

Upon request, in the following areas:

- outstanding category A, B and C notifications;
- support national trade facilitation committees;
- workshops for Parliamentarians in countries that have not ratified;
- general national workshops (via requests made to TFAF or ITTC).
- Will include sessions on accessing assistance
- Will include introductions to TFAF grant program

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B. 4. Regional and Sub-regional Workshops

- Upon request, in the following areas:
- Border Agency cooperation to strengthen the NTFCs
- Organized with the STDF, World Bank Group, IPPC, OIE, UN-OHRLLS
- Speakers from WCO, UNCTAD, regional orgs
- Will include sessions on accessing assistance
- Will include introductions to TFAF grant program

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B.4. CARICOM January 2019

- 83 participants from 13 States including 1 LDC.
- 55% of participants women
- 73 of 83 participants completed feedback from (88%).
- Of those, 96% found that the workshop far exceeded (37%) or exceeded (62%) their expectations.

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CARICOM outcomes

- Since its conclusion, seven WTO Members (more than half of those) participating in the workshop have submitted a total of ten notifications with the WTO Trade Facilitation Committee.
- All seven Members had committed to notify in their feedback given in the workshop's concluding evaluation session and have subsequently followed through to send them in short order.

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B.5. Needs Assessments

- Mauritania end of March, notified 24 April
- We do not anticipate further requests;
- Remains available in case needed in the context of preparing notifications.

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C.6. Dedicated thematic workshops

- Organize and fund capital based officials at TFC meetings/dedicated session;
- Possible side events such as experience sharing;
- Need 3 months + for logistics
- Will include sessions on accessing assistance
- Will include introductions to TFAF grant program
- Recent example – October TF Committee – Positive feedback

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C.7. TFAF Website

www.tfafacility.org

- Continuous maintenance
- News and events to support stakeholder coordination
- Tools and resources to share best practices and provide practical assistance
- Activity requests and grant applications to ensure transparency and accessibility
- Supports delivery of activities:
www.tfafacility.org/workshops

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D.8. Advocacy

- Continue advocacy on TFA implementation and TFAF by participating in events that are organized by:
 - international or regional organizations,
 - industry/business groups
 - national governments,
 - aid organizations,
 - private sector or
 - academia

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