Digitalization and AI-Powered Transparency on Trade-Related Regulations for Gender-Sensitive Policymaking in Africa

UNCTAD Data Collection & Dissemination

GAIN Project Start-up meeting
15 October 2026, Windhoek, Namibia

Ms. Seul LEE; Ms. Chi Le NGO

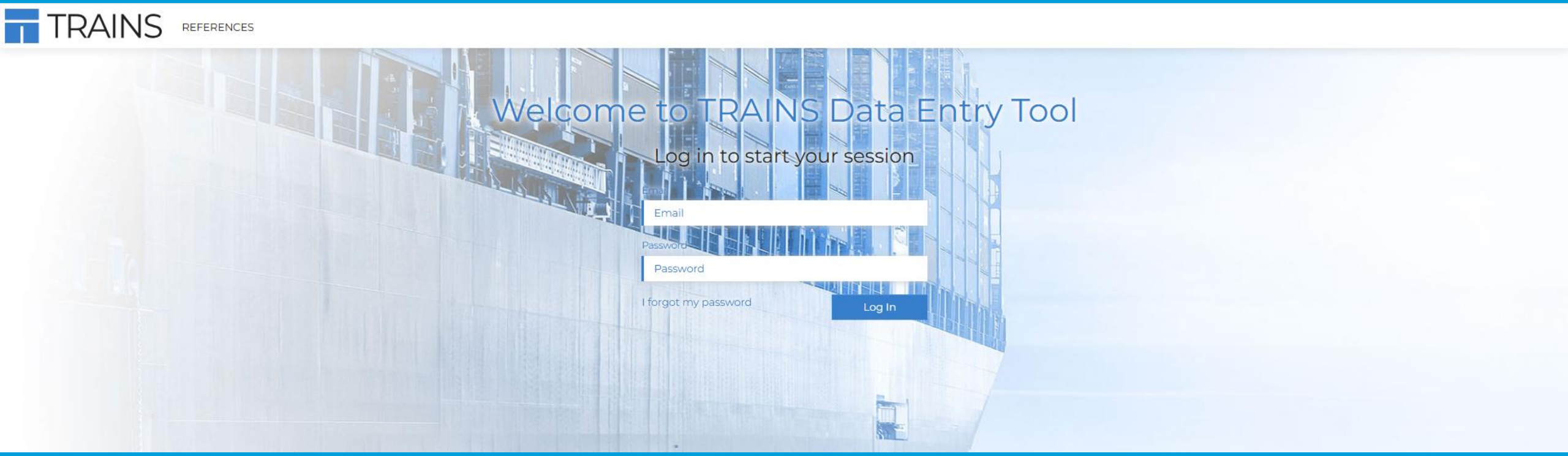
UN trade & development UNCTAD

What has UNCTAD done?

- For **transparency**, collect and publish trade-related regulations including NTMs.
- Collection w/ gov’ts through **TRAINS Data Entry Tool**
- Publication for the public through **TRAINS Online**

-> Increase efficiency with AI and support national portals

- Research and analysis, policy support, and capacity building activities for various topics including **gender**, climate change, etc.



Data Collection – TRAINS Data Entry Tool

From regulations A-Z to relevant regulations

- From a central legal depository
- From ministries and agencies

1. Official one by central government

2. Mandatory

3. Affecting international trade in goods

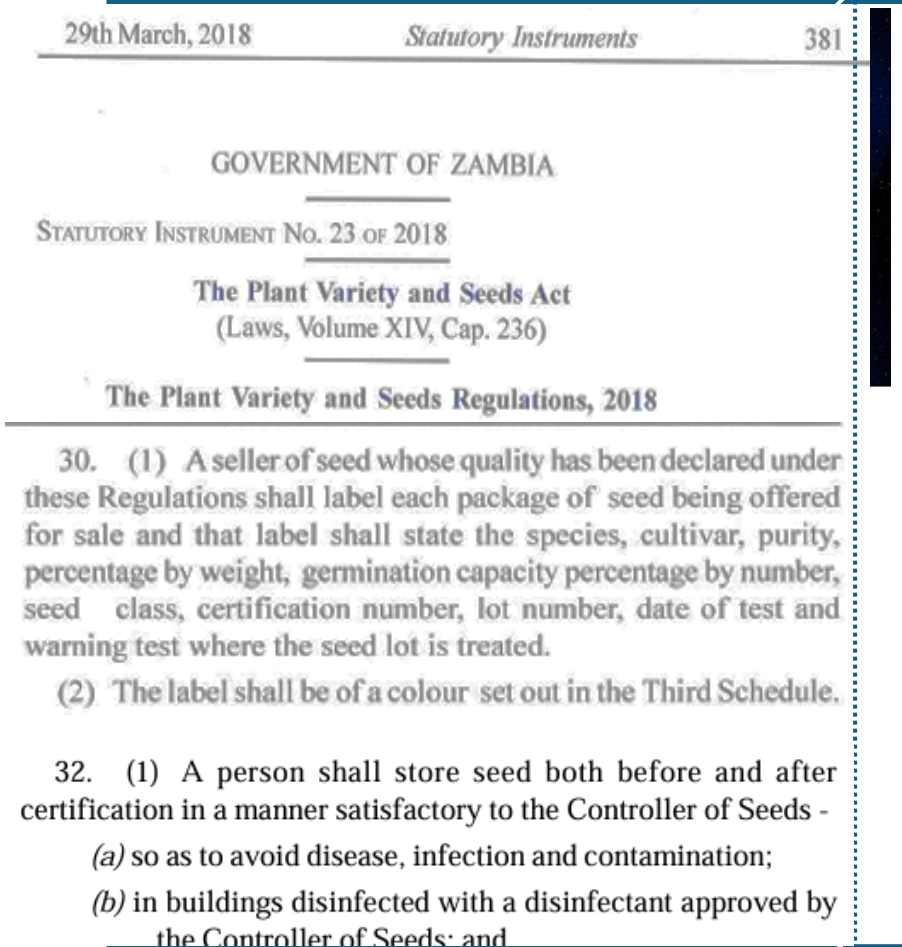
4. Currently in force

-> Trade-related regulations

From relevant regulations to NTM data

extensive projects in each country

1. Regulations



29th March, 2018 *Statutory Instruments* 381

GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA

STATUTORY INSTRUMENT No. 23 OF 2018

The Plant Variety and Seeds Act
(Laws, Volume XIV, Cap. 236)

The Plant Variety and Seeds Regulations, 2018

30. (1) A seller of seed whose quality has been declared under these Regulations shall label each package of seed being offered for sale and that label shall state the species, cultivar, purity, percentage by weight, germination capacity percentage by number, seed class, certification number, lot number, date of test and warning test where the seed lot is treated.

(2) The label shall be of a colour set out in the Third Schedule.

32. (1) A person shall store seed both before and after certification in a manner satisfactory to the Controller of Seeds -

(a) so as to avoid disease, infection and contamination;

(b) in buildings disinfected with a disinfectant approved by the Controller of Seeds; and

24’268 regulations

Cont.
extensive projects in each country

1. Regulations → 2. Measure coding

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34 SPS types and 24 TBT types.

24’268 regulations

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A31 labelling



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A64 transport and storage conditions



34 SPS types and 24 TBT types.

24’268 regulations → 103’895 measures

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extensive projects in each country

1. Regulations	2. Measure coding	3. Product coding

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34 SPS types and 24 TBT types.

sorghum seed 100710,
potato seed 070110,
coriander seeds 090921, cumin seeds 090931,
anise etc seeds 090961,
wheat 100111,
rye 100210,
barley 100310,
.....

24’268 regulations	103’895 measures

Cont.
extensive projects in each country

1. Regulations	2. Measure coding	3. Product coding

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barley 100310,
.....

Any number of **~5000 product codes** in the Harmonized System at 6 digits

24’268 regulations	103’895 measures	9’635’881 pairs

Cont.
extensive projects in each country

1. Regulations	2. Measure coding	3. Product coding	4. Partners
24’268 regulations	103’895 measures	9’635’881 pairs	98’257’215 obs

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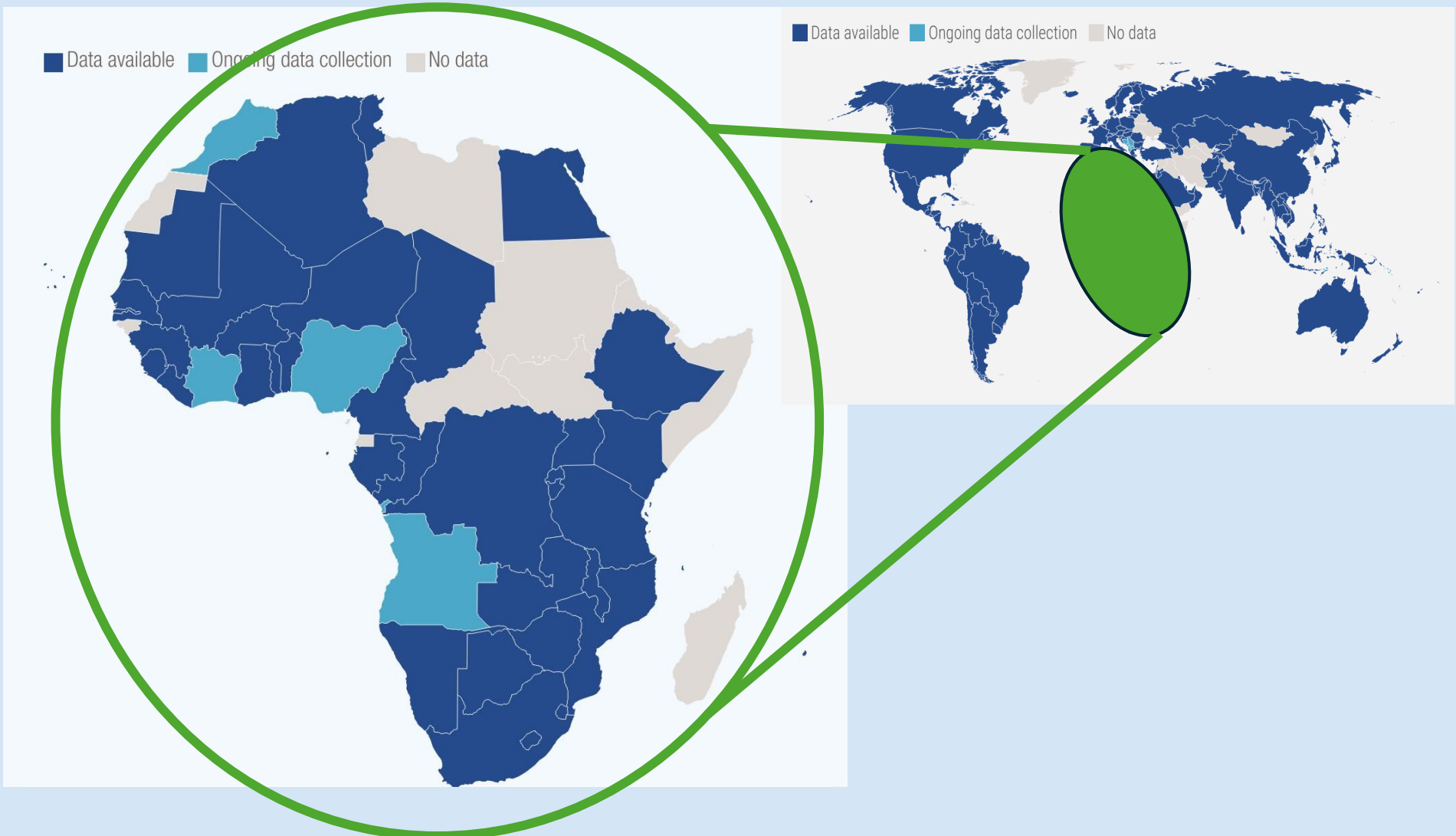
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.....

Any number of **~5000 product codes** in the Harmonized System at 6 digits

All partners

Any applicable list of affected partners

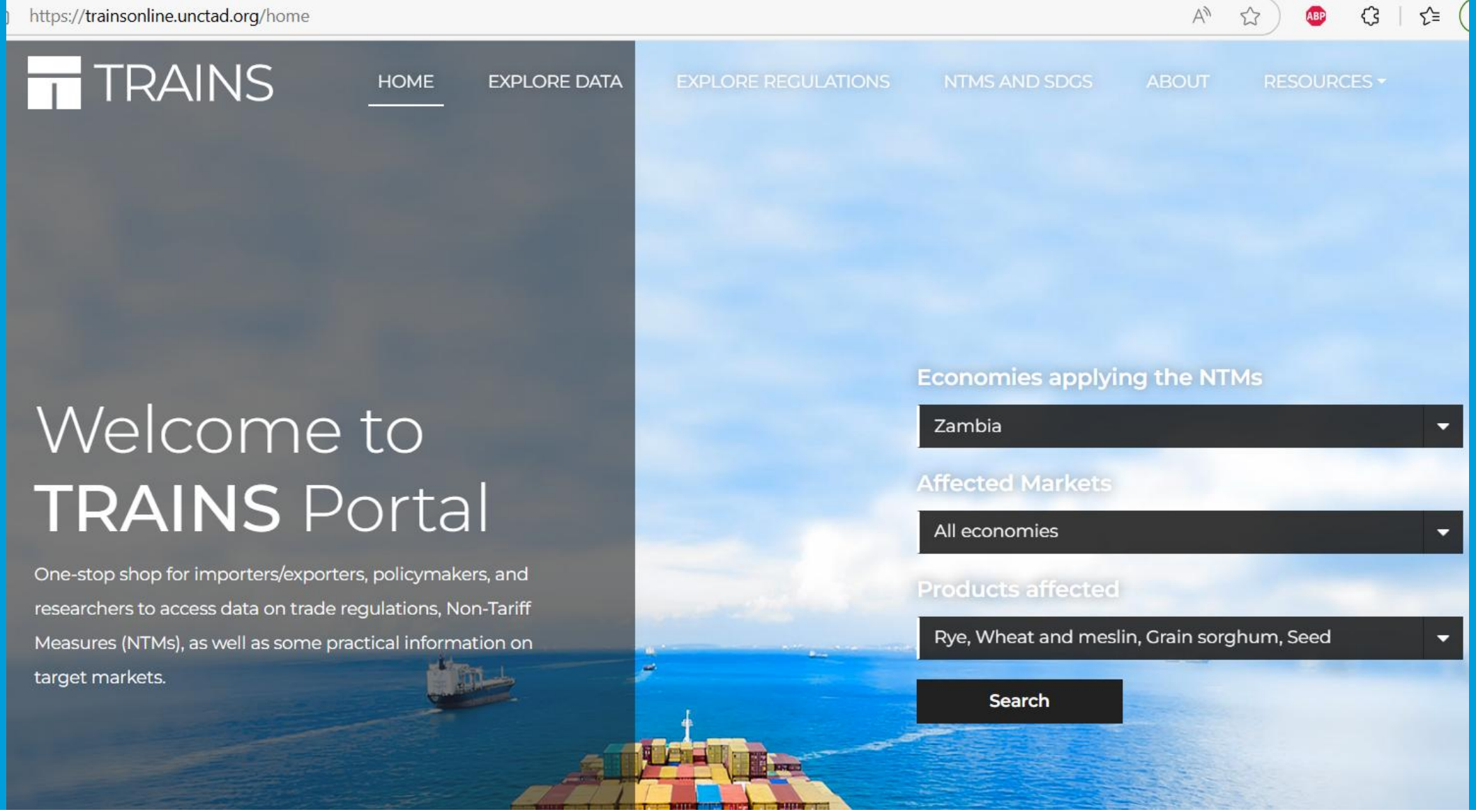
Global transparency initiative: already available in most countries



Same comprehensive data available at:

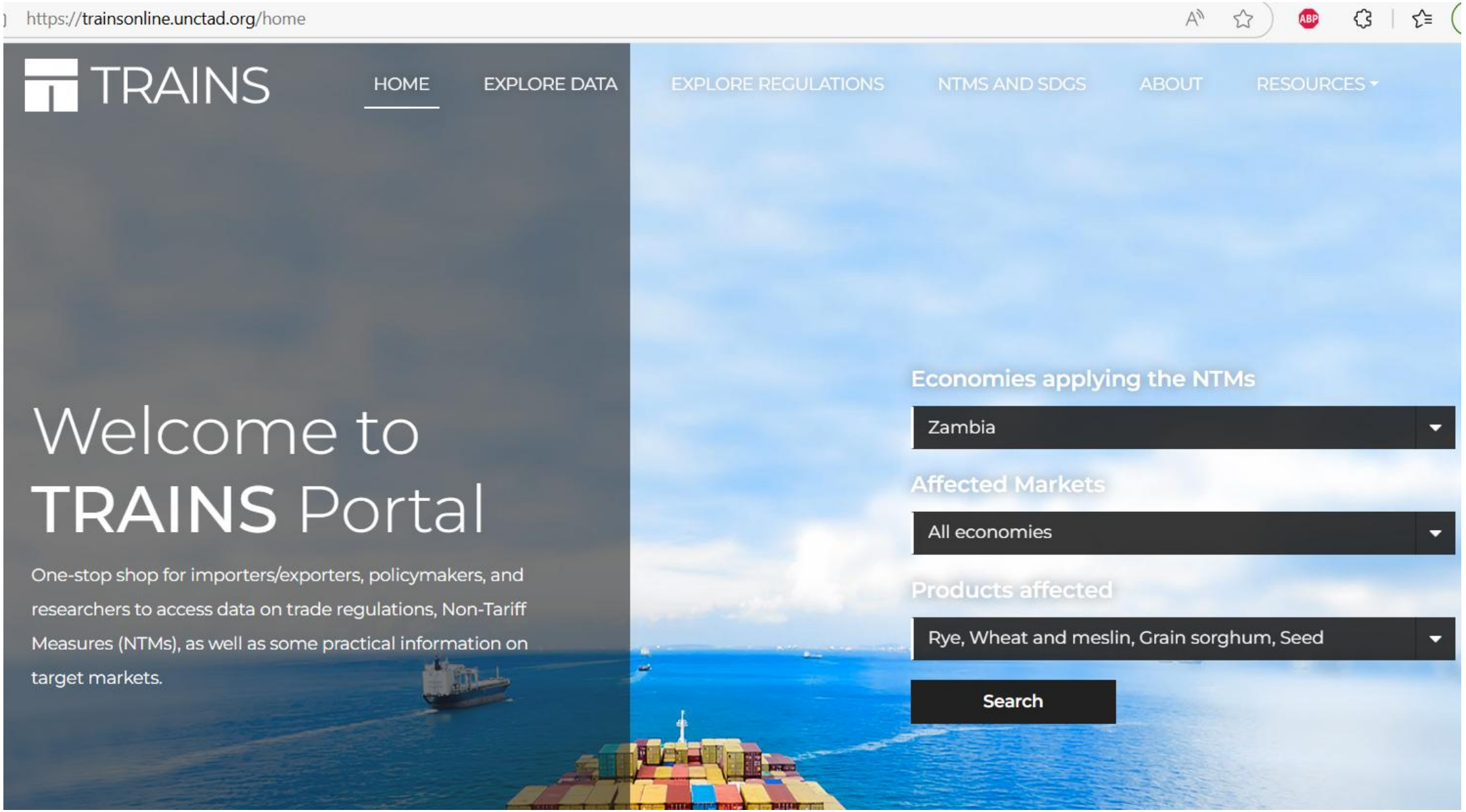
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  → for policy makers
- *globaltradehelpdesk.org*
  → for traders
- *macmap.org*
  → for traders
- *wits.worldbank.org*
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Economy i...	NTM code	NTM code description	Measure description	Hs code(s)	Issuing agency(ies)	Regulation title	Implement...	Official regulation document(s)
Zambia	A14	Authorization requirement for SPS reaso...	10. (1) A person shall not research on, develo...	01(Only g...	The National Biosafet...	The Biosafety Act, 2007	Apr 24, 2007	ZMB_Biosafety Act, 2007.pdf
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Zambia	A31	Labelling requirements	11.A consignment for importation shall be la...	01(Only g...	The National Biosafet...	The Biosafety (Geneti...	Jun 11, 2010	ZMB_Biosafety (Genetically Modifi
Zambia	F65	Import licence fee	27. The fees set out in the Second Schedule ...	02(Only g...	The National Biosafet...	The Biosafety (Geneti...	Jun 11, 2010	ZMB_Biosafety (Genetically Modifi
Zambia	A859	Traceability requirements, n.e.s.	13. A holder of a permit for the importation ...	02(Only g...	The National Biosafet...	The Biosafety (Geneti...	Jun 11, 2010	ZMB_Biosafety (Genetically Modifi
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Zambia	B15	Authorization requirement for importers	30. (1) A local supplier of prepackaged com...	0(Only pr...	Zambia Metrology Ag...	The Metrology Act, 20...	Apr 13, 2017	ZMB_Metrology Act, 2017.pdf
Zambia	B31	Labelling requirements	50. (1) A product that is sold in Zambia shall ...	0	The Competition and ...	The Competition and ...	Aug 16, 2010	ZMB_Competition and Consumer
Zambia	N9	Other (n.e.s)	7. (1) A plant breeder's right in respect of a pl...	06, 07, 08,...	The Ministry of Agricu...	The Plant Breeder's Ri...	Aug 31, 2007	ZMB_Plant Breeder's Rights Act, 2
Zambia	A14	Authorization requirement for SPS reaso...	17. (1) No person shall import seeds for sale- I...	070110, 07...	The Ministry of Agricu...	The Plant Variety and ...	Dec 1, 1968	ZMB_Plant Variety and Seeds Act.p
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Zambia	A64	Storage and transport conditions	32. (1) A person shall store seed both before ...	070110, 07...	The Ministry of Agricu...	The Plant Variety and ...	Mar 29, 2018	ZMB_Plant Variety and Seeds Regs
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Zambia	P21	Requirement to pass through specified ...	2. (1) Subject to the other provisions of this ...	0	Zambia Revenue Aut...	Customs and Excise (...	Jan 1, 1994	ZMB_ZMB_Customs and Excise Ac

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«« « 1 2 » »»

Preliminary results of trade-related regulations collected by AI

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Recommendations
- Legal text should be transferred to readily accessible guidance to businesses, how to access the market

Thank you

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https://unctad.org/ntm

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