

PRESENTATION ON ZTIP

13th October, 2026

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Understanding the Zambia Trade Information Portal (ZTIP)

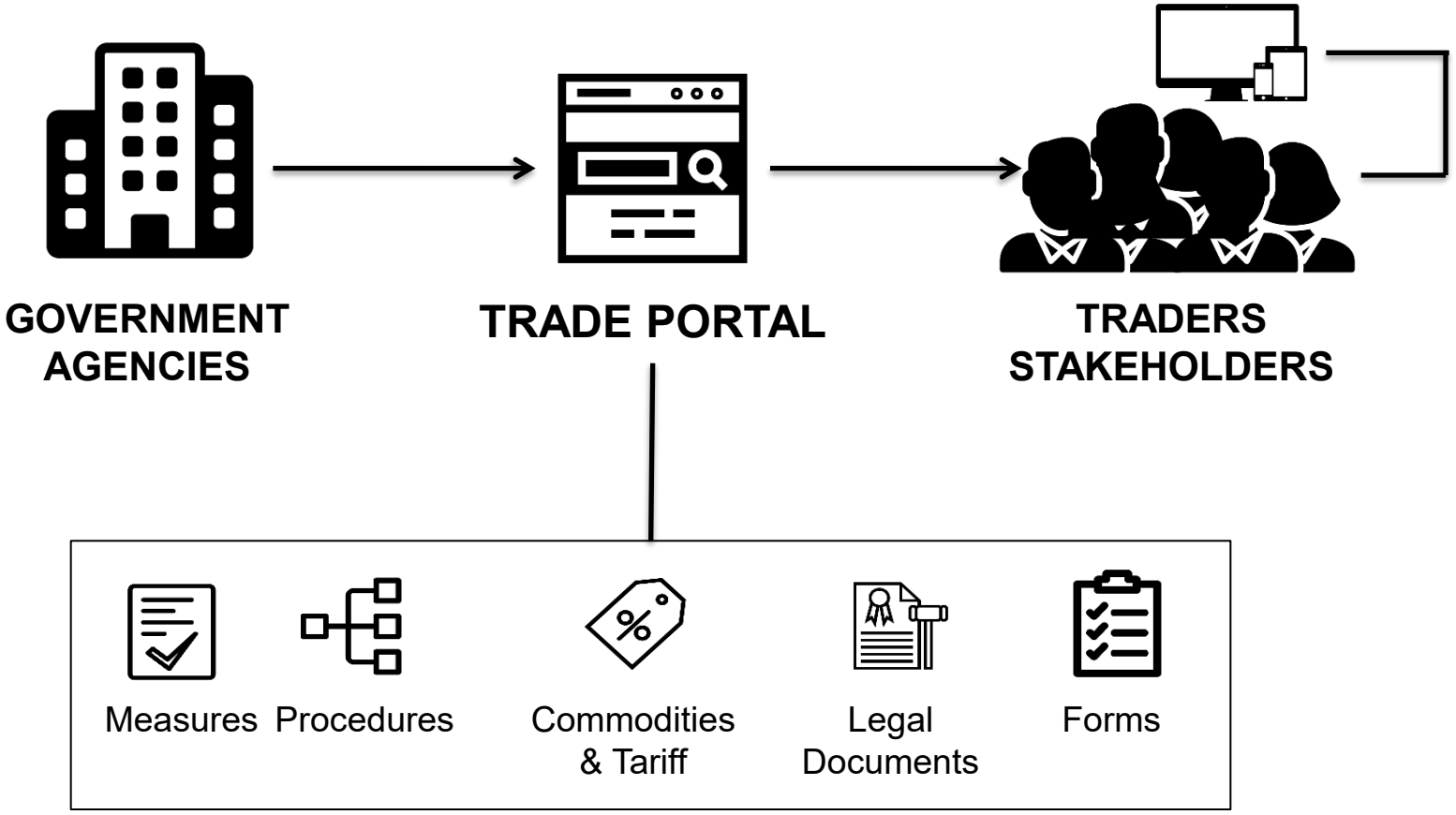
- ✓ **What** is a Trade Portal?
- ✓ **Why** a Trade Portal?
- ✓ **When** was the ZTIP launched?
- ✓ **How** does the ZTIP benefit Traders and the country?

What is a Trade Information Portal? (TIP)

- A **TIP is** a is a collection of all trade regulations enforced by the various government agencies that assist traders with all trade information they need to import, export or transit goods into, out of or through Zambia, respectively.
- The Trade Portal contains information from Govt. Agencies that administer/enforce trade regulations; these include requirements or any authorisation required when engaging in cross-border trade in specific goods – controlled goods

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What is a Trade Information Portal? – Cnt'd



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Controlled Goods

"Controlled goods" are goods, whose import into or the export from the Republic of **Zambia** is prohibited, restricted or otherwise **controlled** by an order made under regulation. Government has a responsibility to 'control' some goods in order to:

a. Safeguard/protect the nation's natural resources
   - ✓ Plants, Soil, environment, Domestic Animals, wild animals, etc

b. Protect Zambian citizens from any harmful substances

All these controls are administered/enforced via various legislation – Acts, SIs, Orders, Regulations, etc

Examples of Measures/Standards:

- ❖ Export Permit
- ❖ Import Permit
- ❖ Import/Export Ban
- ❖ Standards conformance

Why the Trade Information Portal (TIP)?

Two major reasons:

WTO TFA Article 1

Zambia ratified WTO TFA in December 2015. Article 1 provides for establishment of the TIP

"Each Member state shall publish, through the internet, trade information in a transparent, non-discriminatory and easily accessible manner in order to enable governments, traders, and other interested parties to become acquainted with them"

Why the Trade Information Portal (TIP)? – cnt'd

The Smart Zambia

Smart Zambia is an initiative established by Government in 2016 and is aimed at transforming the country through information technologies. The objective of the initiative is to improve Govt service delivery by:

1. Automating services of Govt agencies (in phases)
2. Interlinking automated platforms of various Govt agencies for effective service delivery

Examples:

- ✓ Linking payments of Govt services to the G-BUS, in phases: RTSA, ZP, etc
- ✓ Various online payment platforms - ZRA

Obtaining trade information also has to be smart

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When was the ZTIP implemented?

- ✓ Efforts to develop a TIP started as far back as 2017
- ✓ In earnest development & implementation of the ZTIP started in May 2019 with support from USAID using a toolkit provided by the World Bank
- ✓ Officially launched on 29th May 2020

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The key benefits of the Zambia Trade Information Portal include:

- ✓ Enhance transparency and an evened out playing field in the accessibility of trade information
- ✓ Reduced time and cost for Traders leading to
  - Reduced overall cost of doing business for the country
- ✓ Enhanced competitiveness of Zambian products through increased adherence to local and international standards
- ✓ Enhanced revenue collection through reduction in border delays
- ✓ In line with the 8NDP, the portal is a key tool for enabling access to market information. Enhanced trade facilitation leads to overall national development, faster delivery of raw materials & finished products - increased productivity and job creation

Status of ZTIP

As of 2026, the World Bank under the Zambia Agribusiness and Trade Project (ZATP II) Gave a No objection to upgrade the Trade Portal to the latest version.

The support will cover:

- ✓ Upgrade current ZTIP to the WBG's software Toolkit Version 3 (TK3)
- ✓ Training of MCTI – ZTIP administration personnel
- ✓ System Deployment and Handover
- ✓ Communications and Public Awareness Programme
- ✓ Post-Handover Technical Support

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Possible Collaborations

Proposed areas to explore with UNCTAD and partners:

1. **Revive the Ministry Library as a trade-law repository**
   Digitize and catalogue Acts, SIs and policy documents to verify NTM data and feed ZTIP

2. **NTM data collection and validation**
   Validate measures with agencies, set a regular update routine, and link ZTIP with TRAINS Online to avoid double entry

3. **AI-powered tools on ZTIP**
   Pilot a search assistant and simplified summaries of regulations, built on digitized and verified legal texts

4. **Gender-responsive trade data and content**
   Strengthen the library's gender collection, add gender-disaggregated trader data, and produce guides for women traders

5. **Capacity building and outreach**
   Train ZTIP administrators and library staff on NTMs, data management and AI tools; reach women traders and SMEs

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Thank you!

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