

Our Work

Our work on Trade Facilitation encompasses a range of knowledge products, data and diagnostic tools, and implementation toolkits – that aim to help developing countries improve their transportation and supply chain performance, thereby enhancing their overall competitiveness in trade.

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS:

- **TRADE AND TRANSIT FACILITATION FOR LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES:** Provides new knowledge and approaches to deal with the critically important area of transit.
- **LOGISTICS IN LAGGING REGIONS—OVERCOMING LOCAL BARRIERS TO GLOBAL CONNECTIVITY:** Identifies strategies to reduce logistics costs for small-scale producers in lagging regions in low and middle income countries.
- **CUSTOMS AND BORDER MANAGEMENT MODERNIZATION:** Provides policymakers with a practical guide to address border management reform and modernization issues.
- **CUSTOMS MODERNIZATION HANDBOOK:** Provides practical advice on Customs reform principles.
- **LOGISTICS SERVICES:** Studies regulatory policies that are conducive to the development of integrated logistics.
- **LOGISTICS COSTS AND COMPETITIVENESS:** Assesses the logistics costs and competitiveness of a country's transport system.

DATA, DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLKITS:

- **LOGISTICS PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:** An interactive benchmarking tool covering 155 countries that help countries identify the challenges and opportunities they face in logistics performance.
- **TRADE AND TRANSPORT FACILITATION ASSESSMENT:** Helps assess the inefficiencies of supply chains and identify competitiveness constraints. New version of tool already implemented in over 40 countries over the past 5 years.
- **CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT TOOLKIT:** A toolkit designed to help task teams assess and identify measures to improve and monitor the performance of international trade corridors.

Along with the Bank's Transport Unit:

- **SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY (SCS) GUIDE:** Describes all components of SCS with an emphasis on maritime containerized transport.
- **PORT REFORM TOOLKIT:** An effective decision support mechanism to policymakers in developing countries.



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Trade Logistics and Facilitation



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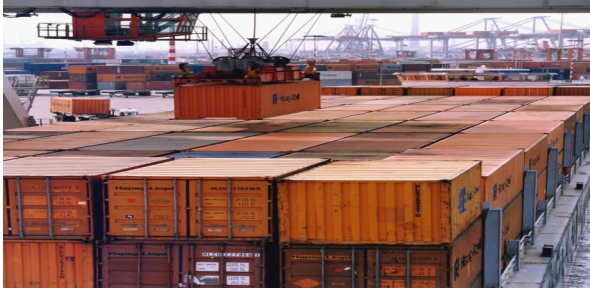
Our goal is to reduce the cost of trading throughout the supply chain by:

- Enhancing transport and logistics services;
- Improving border management and enhancing customs capacity; and
- Supporting efficient movement of goods through trade corridors.

Impediments to trade can be caused by inefficient trade logistics, procedures and infrastructure, making it difficult for countries to take advantage of new market opportunities or improvements in competitiveness at the firm level.

Trade facilitation involves improving the overall operations of global, regional and in-country supply chains. Reducing these barriers through improvements in border and behind-the-border operations, including transportation infrastructure, logistics operations, customs and border management procedures, are crucial for developing countries. This is particularly true for landlocked and post-conflict low-income countries.

We are a team of economists, transport, customs, and trade logistics and facilitation specialists who provide expertise and results-oriented advice. We are dedicated to improving trade facilitation and logistics in developing countries worldwide, and work alongside other teams within the World Bank group as well as the Bank's extensive network of partners towards that goal.



Trade Facilitation Projects

In Fiscal Year 2009, the World Bank provided US\$2.3bn for trade facilitation projects.

These projects focused on:

–Customs and Border Management: Improvement in border management in a broad sense - integration of customs, product standards, tax, rules of origin, implementation of IT systems and streamlining of documentary requirements.

–Trade Infrastructure Investment: Improvement in the management of key trade-related infrastructure, especially gateways, port efficiency, transport security, and multimodal facilities.

–Logistics and Transport Services: Improvement of the quality/professionalism of private logistics services, through technical/economic regulation and capacity building.

–Regional trade facilitation and trade corridors: including transit systems.

–Indicators: Performance monitoring and indicators: data on time, cost, and reliability along corridors.

–Action Plans: Development and implementation of comprehensive action plans.

Trade Facilitation Facility

The Trade Facilitation Facility (TFF), a \$40 million multi-donor trust fund launched in April 2009, helps developing countries improve their trade facilitation systems and reduce trade costs.

Recently funded TFF projects include the follow countries/regions: Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC); Cameroon; Lesotho; Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama); Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan); and Greater Mekong Sub region (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam).

It supports concrete improvements in trade facilitation systems, with initial emphasis on Africa/low-income countries.

Our Global Partnerships

We work collaboratively with a network of partners:

PRIVATE SECTOR ASSOCIATIONS: Global Express Association (GEA); International Air Cargo Association (TIACA); International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA); and International Road Transport Union (IRU).

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS: International Monetary Fund (IMF); International Trade Center (ITC); Organization for Economic Co-operation Development (OECD); Regional Development Banks; United Nations (UN) and its affiliates; World Customs Organization (WCO); World Economic Forum (WEF); and World Trade Organization. (WTO).

EXAMPLES OF OUR PARTNERSHIPS:

-In partnership with the WTO, WCO, IMF, OECD and UNCTAD, the **WTO Trade Facilitation Negotiations Support Program** has helped developing countries respond to the negotiating proposals by contributing to national needs assessments– in over 80 countries.

-The World Bank Group launched the **Global Facilitation Partnership for Transportation and Trade (GFPTT)** in 1999, a network of 250 public and private partners (core partners include the WCO, UNCTAD, UNECE, UNIDO, IRU, TIACA). Visit www.gfptt.org for more information.

-The World Bank launched the **Trade and Transit Facilitation Program** to address specific problems of overland transit trade, especially in the context of landlocked countries. It involves UNECE, IRU, and UNCTAD and supports the UN initiative for landlocked developing countries–the Almaty Programme of Actions.

-The **Aid for Trade Facilitation Public Private Partnership**, launched in October 2009, brings together World Bank and private sector expertise to design concrete products and solutions that promote meaningful trade facilitation reform in developing countries.

