



Programme

Trade Facilitation Innovations for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific

The 8th Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum will focus on innovations and digital solutions that can enhance trade facilitation implementation for inclusive and sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region. The Forum will look at how to rethink trade facilitation reform and employ innovations that can support global and regional trade facilitation agendas such as the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, the ASEAN Single Window and the Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific. The Forum will feature interactive and informative sessions allowing the participants to explore emerging technologies and trade facilitation solutions that extend beyond border procedures and encompass important innovations for logistics and finance. The Forum will also highlight trade facilitation innovations that can support digital trade and enhance agricultural supply chains.

5 September 2017

09:00 – 10:30 *Opening Session*

- *H.E. Mr. Edy Putra Irawady, Deputy Minister for Commerce and Industry, CMEA*
- *Mr. Riyadi Ida Bagus Salyo Subali, Expert Staff for Economic Development, Office of Governor of Special Region Yogyakarta, Indonesia*
- *Dr. Bambang Susantono, Vice President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, ADB*
- *Dr. Hong Joo Hahm, Deputy Executive Secretary for Programme, ESCAP*



Launch of the ADB-ESCAP Joint Publication “*Trade Facilitation and Better Connectivity for an Inclusive Asia and Pacific*”, Yasuyuki Sawada, Chief Economist and Director General, Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, ADB

10:30 – 11:00 Break

5 September 2017


11:00 – 12:30 *High Level Panel Discussion: Rethinking trade facilitation for sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region*

Recent global and regional events have brought trade facilitation implementation to the center stage. Trade facilitation is an essential means in reducing trade costs; enhancing trade efficiency and accessing global value chains. This panel will discuss some of the key ways in which trade facilitation innovations can help to deliver on sustainable development goals and regional integration objectives. Through sharing national and regional experiences, the panel will look at how we can rethink trade facilitation measures and incorporate innovations to enhance trade in the Asia-Pacific region.

Chair: *Yasuyuki Sawada, Chief Economist and Director General, Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, ADB*

Panelists:

- *H.E. Ms. Khadeeja Hussain, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economic Development, Maldives*

- 
- *H.E. Mr. Edy Putra Irawady, Deputy Minister for Commerce and Industry, CMEA*
 - *Mr. Ramsharan Chimoriya, Director General, Department of Customs, Nepal*
 - *Mr. Loo Leong Seng, Senior VP, CrimsonLogic, CTO, Global eTrade Services*
 - *Ms. Barbara Meynert, Senior Adviser, Fung Group*

12:30 – 14:00 ***Lunch***

5 September 2017

14:00 – 15:30 ***Session 1: Taking Stock of Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade in Asia-Pacific***

The WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement entered into force in February 2017. The TFA sets out provisions for expediting the movement, release and clearance of goods, as well as measures for cooperation between customs and other appropriate authorities on trade facilitation. This session will examine and evaluate the progress of trade facilitation implementation in Asia-Pacific and its subregions. It will elaborate on paperless trade and innovative trade facilitation initiatives that can be employed to support the implementation of the provision of the TFA and advance it further. It will also highlight some of the key prospects and opportunities for trade facilitation innovations that support and extend beyond TFA implementation.

Chair: *Hong Joo Hahm, Deputy Executive Secretary for Programme, ESCAP*



State of Play and Trends for Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade in Asia-Pacific

- *Yann Duval, Chief, a.i. Trade Policy and Facilitation Section, ESCAP and Kijin Kim, Economist, ADB*

After Entry into Force: Charting the direction for WTO TFA implementation

- *Dolores Halloran, Market Access Division, WTO*

Panelist:

- *Luc De Blieck, Deputy Director of the Procedures and Facilitation Sub-Directorate, WCO*
- *Evdokia Moise, Senior Trade Policy Analyst, OECD*
- *Prasith Suon, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Commerce*

15:30 – 16:00 *Break*

5 September 2017

16:00 – 17:30 ***Session 2: Governance and institutional innovations for trade facilitation implementation in Asia and the Pacific***

Institutional frameworks, regulatory efficiency and enabling policies determine how governments are able to execute their trade facilitation policies and agendas. Greater interagency cooperation and private-public sector collaboration are essential to effective trade facilitation implementation. This session will look at how to strengthen and utilize national institutions such as the national trade facilitation committees (NTFCs). The session will also present various models for enhancing the collaboration between the private and public sector organizations, including information-sharing systems, to achieve trade facilitation objectives.

Chair: *Rose McKenzie, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, South Asia Department, Asian Development Bank*



Ensuring sustainability of trade facilitation reform through NTFCs

- *Poul Hansen, OIC Chief, Trade Facilitation Section, UNCTAD*

Private and public sector collaboration for trade facilitation: innovative models and solutions

- *Oudet Souvannavong, Secretary General, GMS Business Forum*


Panelists:

- *Fernanda Borges, Head, Fiscal Reform Commission, Timor-Leste*
- *Kanika Y. Tomlinson, Legal Counsel, The Trade Board Limited, Jamaica*
- *Muwasiq M. Noor, Indonesia National Single Window (INSW) Operating Agency*
- *Brasukra G. Sudjana, Senior Officer, Trade Facilitation, The ASEAN Secretariat*

6 September 2017

09:00 – 10:30 *Session 3: Facilitating Trade Behind the Border: Creating an Enabling (Business) Environment for Cross-border trade*

Improving the domestic business environment has a significant impact on the efficiency of trade and export competitiveness. Poor transport infrastructure and logistics, weak regulatory capacity, inadequate contract enforcement mechanisms and limited access to trade finance are some of the structural/institutional barriers to enabling cross-border trade. Effective trade facilitation can also rely on effective business facilitation. This session will look at some innovative practices to address key behind-the-border measures, such as measures to enhance access to trade finance and credit and measures to improve logistics performance.



Chair: *Cyn-Young Park, Director, Regional Cooperation and Integration, Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, Asian Development Bank*

Strategies for creating an enabling regulatory environment for cross-border (digital) trade

- *Gloria Pasadilla, APEC Policy Support Unit*

Behind the Border Logistics Challenges and Measures in Indonesia

- *Henry Sandee, Senior Trade Specialist, World Bank*

Panelists:

- *Mohammad Saeed, Senior Trade Facilitation Adviser, International Trade Centre (ITC)*
- *Anar Suleymanov, First Deputy Chief, Head Department of Performance Measurement and Development Programs, State Customs Committee*
- *Hong Xue, Director, Beijing Normal University Institute for Internet Policy & Law*

10:30 – 11:00 Break

6 September 2017

11:00 – 12:30 Session 4: Strategies for Agriculture Trade Facilitation

Agricultural supply chains are considered as the most complex and costliest among supply chains. Bringing down agricultural trade costs is essential for sustainable development and enhancing participation in global value chains. The WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement calls for the release of perishable goods in the shortest time possible provided that all the regulatory requirements are met. This session will discuss measures and strategies that can help ensure compliance to regulatory requirements for trade in agricultural products while also expediting the movement of these goods across borders, including innovative solutions to meet SPS requirements and structural reforms and capacity needed to facilitate trade.



Chair: *Shashi Sareen, FAO Food Safety Advisor and UNNExT expert*

Managing risk, developing value chains and facilitating trade in agriculture

- *Kipp Sutton, Regional Agriculture Team Leader, USAID Regional Development Mission- Asia*

New technologies to enhance agricultural border clearance procedures and cross-border collaboration

- *Somnuk Keretho, Director, Institute for Information Technology Innovation, Kasetsart University*

Panelists:

- *Francis Lopez, President, InterCommerce PH*
- *Marlynn Hopper, STDF Secretariat, WTO*
- *Brasukra G. Sudjana, Senior Officer, Trade Facilitation, The ASEAN Secretariat*

12:30 – 14:00 ***Lunch***

6 September 2017

14:00 – 15:30 ***Session 5: E-commerce and digital trade: Emerging opportunities and challenges***

This session will showcase some trends in e-commerce, where ICT technologies have been utilized to enhance traditional trade logistics processes and facilitate warehousing, distribution and transportation of goods. It will look at digital solutions that allow for greater access to finance and payment systems including emerging technologies such as blockchain, the Internet of Things and big data. However, with the proliferation of digital technologies and the movement of electronic data and documents, a new crop of data privacy and security issues arise. This session will outline some of the key challenges and possible policy and regulatory interventions that can address these.



Chair: *Tasheen Khan, UNCEFACT Vice-Chair, India*

Innovations in seamless cross-border trade for e-Commerce

- *Sung Heun Ha (Rama), Director, Paperless Trade Business Team, Korea Trade Network (KTNET)*

Digital free trade zones and prospects for facilitating e-Commerce

- *Ho Thant Theang Laura, Senior Manager, Corporate Office, Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC)*

Panelists:

- *Sami Farhad, Senior Director, International Commercial Law, Alibaba Group*
- *Shantanu Godbole, Senior Technical Staff, IBM Center for Blockchain Innovation*
- *Luca Castellani, Secretary, UNCITRAL Working Group IV (Electronic Commerce)*

15:30 – 16:00 ***Break***

6 September 2017

16:00 – 17:00 ***Session 6: Subregional and National Innovations for Trade Facilitation Implementation in Asia and the Pacific***

Chair: *Mahmood Zargar, General Secretary, Asia-Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business*

This session will showcase and award selected case studies on national innovations for trade facilitation innovations.

The case studies have been submitted from across the Asia-Pacific region and the top three case studies were selected to present during the APTFF.

Award of certificates for national trade facilitation innovations

17:00 – 17:30 *Closing session*

**Additional information and resources for the Asia-Pacific Trade
Facilitation Forum are available here:**

<https://unnex.unescap.org/content/asia-pacific-trade-facilitation-forum-2017-5-8-september-2017-yogyakarta-indonesia>

