Valerie Picard, Deputy Director, Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation

- The border is a shared responsibility between the public and private sectors: **public private partnership** should be the cornerstone of trade reforms, fully supported by the government and the private sector.

- Design projects to deliver a **reduction of time and cost of trade**, the outcomes that matter to business.

- Integrate **gender and MSME perspectives** into each step of program development and implementation.

- **Tightly scope** projects: working together in this way builds trust, delivers wins and paves the way for additional project components and future reforms.

- **Measurement** of time and cost reductions encourages others to take on the red tape that entangles trade.

- The examples of **Bangladesh, Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia & Thailand**
  - Digitalising selected processes at Bhomra Land Port, **Bangladesh** is expected to save truck drivers up to three days of wait time in moving goods across the busy border with India.
  - Digitalising **Cambodian** Customs processes for postal shipments for the benefit of MSMEs engaged in e-commerce.
  - Strengthening risk management in **Indonesia** to better control imports of fish and fishery products.
  - Introducing the IPPC ePhyto Solution in **Fiji** and **Thailand**.
Marlynne Hopper, Deputy Head, Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)

• Integrated approach to trade facilitation more important than ever after Covid-19

• Further strengthen dialogue and cooperation across government, and with private sector

• Build on the success of ePhyto to advance further SPS e-certification

• Use Good Regulatory Practices to ensure that SPS and other trade facilitation measures are fit for purpose

• Accelerate implementation of TF measures that benefit women and SMEs, especially in LDCs, SIDS
Jonathan Koh
• What the C-19 taught us for the post-pandemic economic recovery – resilient, flexible, contactless interactions, data sharing, change mindsets - accelerate digital transformation
• Crippling effect of global bottlenecks…. labour shortages, logistics capacity issues, inflation, shipping delays, fuel costs, depleted inventory levels, and demand peaks - a perfect storm?

• What’s needed –
  • greater regional interfaces / global cooperation – RCEP, digital economy partnerships, multilateral MRAs of AEOs,
  • more leverage of digital tools – AL/ML, IoT, Data analytics, RPA, Regional SWs + SW 2.0 (B2G+B2B), next-gen TF
  • more in-built sustainability in greener trade facilitation –
    • encourage decarbonization in transport,
    • discourage trade in goods/services having negative effects on the environment,
    • concerted push to eliminate paper-based requirements

• More capability-building and pathfinder projects for sustainable trade facilitation
  • Increased fundings for innovation / start-ups for trade facilitation + promote equal opportunities
  • More capacity building / industry training for workforce (in customs, mobility, goods control)
  • Revamp UNNext for next-gen TF, ensure experts are “experts”.

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