Workshop: Lessons Learned from 18 National Readiness Assessments for Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific
23 June 2023

ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Readiness Assessment for Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific

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Readiness assessments for cross-border paperless trade



Objective

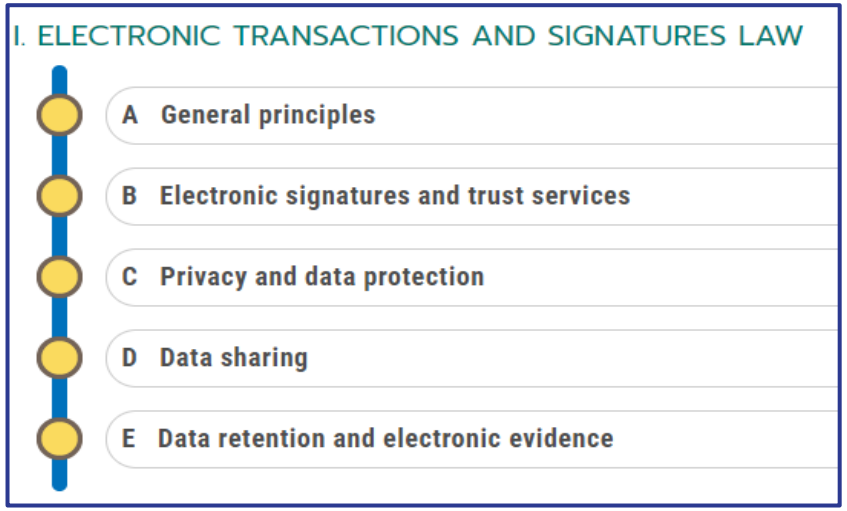
- Assessments of legal and technical readiness to identify where the country stands and analyze the gaps
- Leading to recommendations and individual action plans

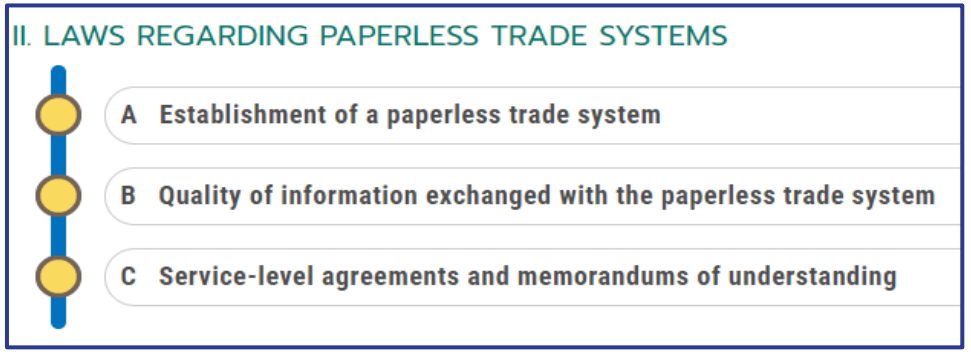
Basis: Article 12. Action plan of the Framework Agreement

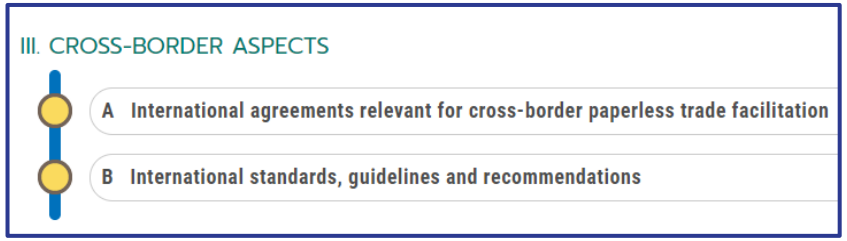
- ..."develop a comprehensive action plan, which shall include all concrete actions and measures with clear targets and implementation timelines necessary for creating a consistent, transparent and predictable environment for the implementation of the present Framework Agreement"
- "The implementation schedule for each Party shall be developed as part of the action plan based on a self-assessment of their readiness."

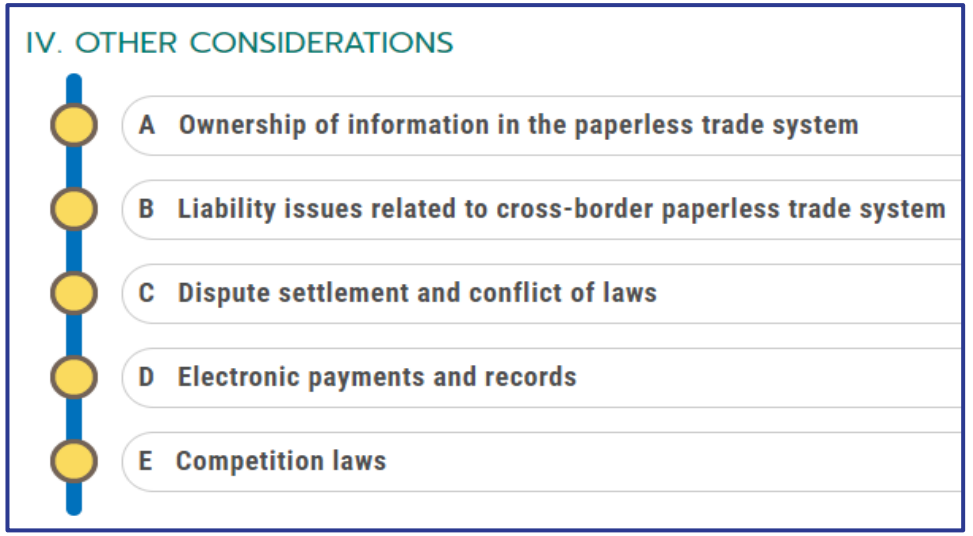
https://www.unescap.org/our-work/trade-investment-innovation/trade-facilitation-digital-trade/paperless-trade

Legal checklist

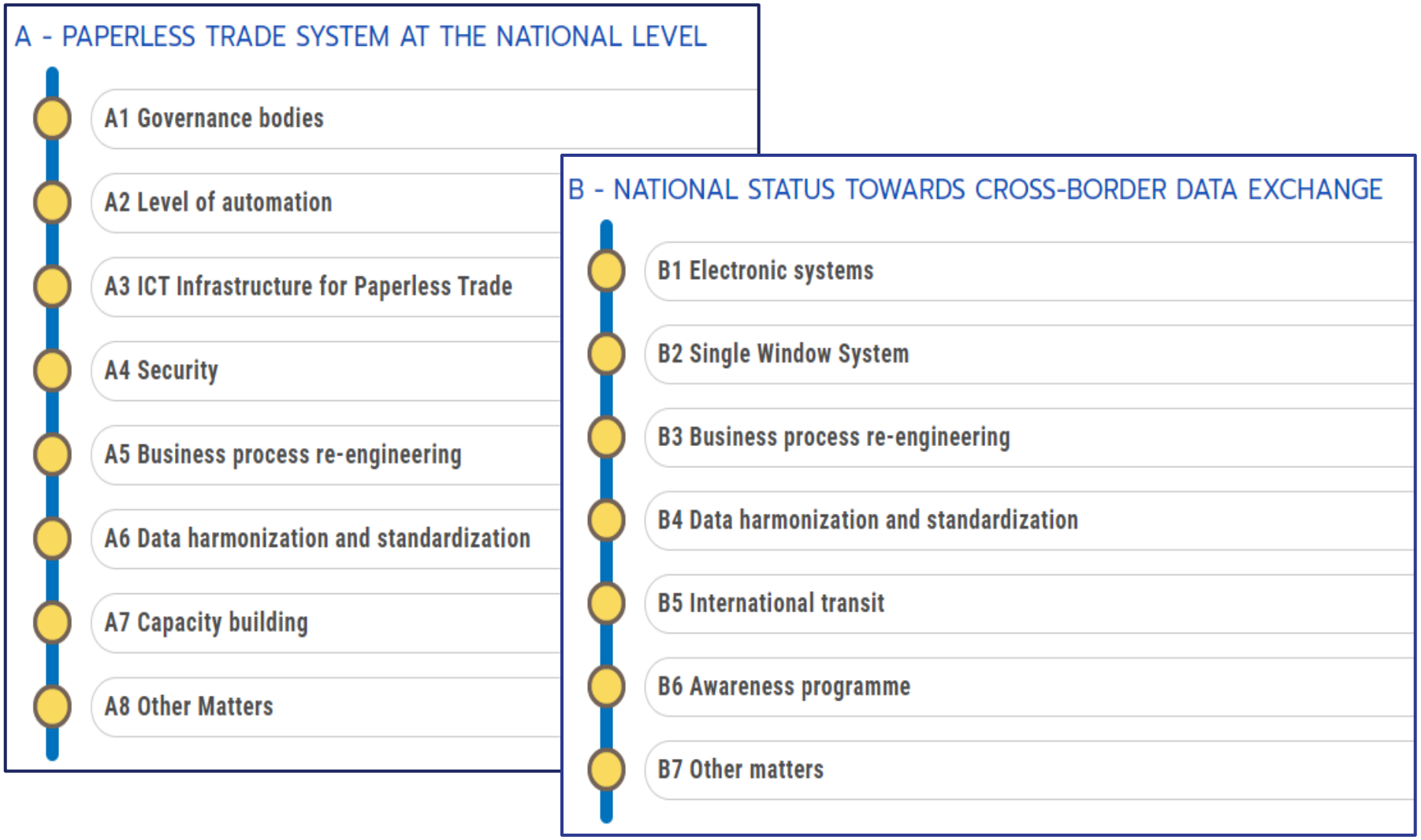








Technical checklist



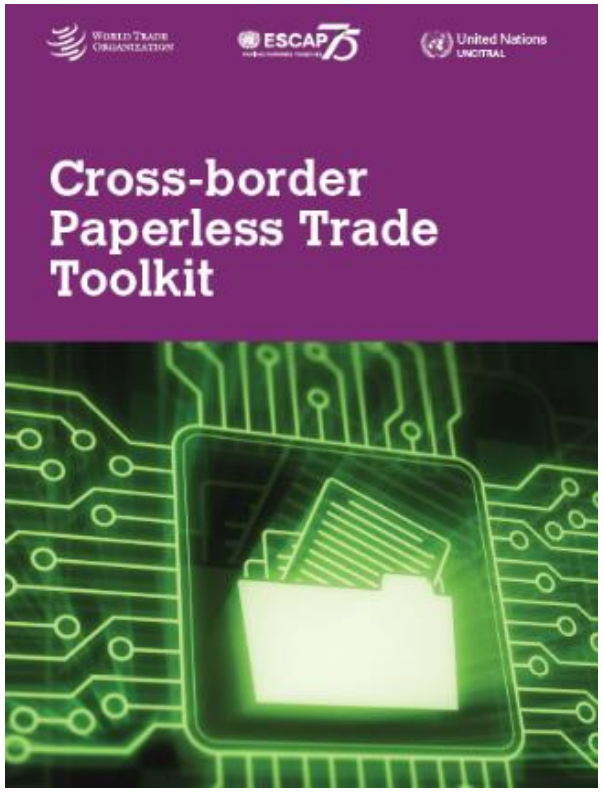
Utilized in…

Online Guide

Interactive guide incl. explanatory notes, good practices and references for each question

https://readiness.digitalizetrade.org/





CBPT Toolkit

ESCAP-UNCITRAL-WTO

Fully based on the Checklists and the Guide, extending outreach to global

https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/publications_e/paperlesstrade2022_e.htm

Currently…

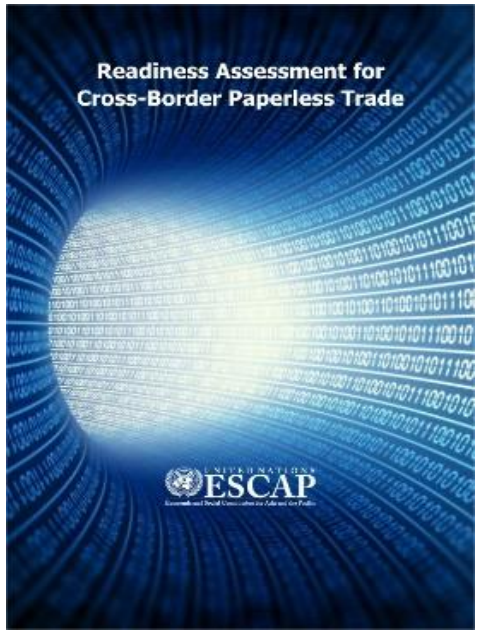
18 national readiness assessment studies completed

Central Asia (8)
Armenia (2019)
Azerbaijan (2022)
Georgia (2022)
Kazakhstan (2022)
Mongolia (2019)
Tajikistan (2023)
Turkmenistan (2022)
Uzbekistan (2019)

South-East Asia (6)
Cambodia (2020)
Lao PDR (2022)
Myanmar (2019)
Philippines (2022)
Timore Leste (2020)
Viet Nam (2022)

South Asia (2)
Bangladesh (2019)
Nepal (2020)

Pacific (2)
Tonga (2022)
Tuvalu (2023)



1 non Asia-Pacific

Mexico & planned for more

3 Updates

Bangladesh (w ADB), Nepal, Timor-Leste



Enhancement and Way Forward

Any member States can request for supporting the national readiness assessment study

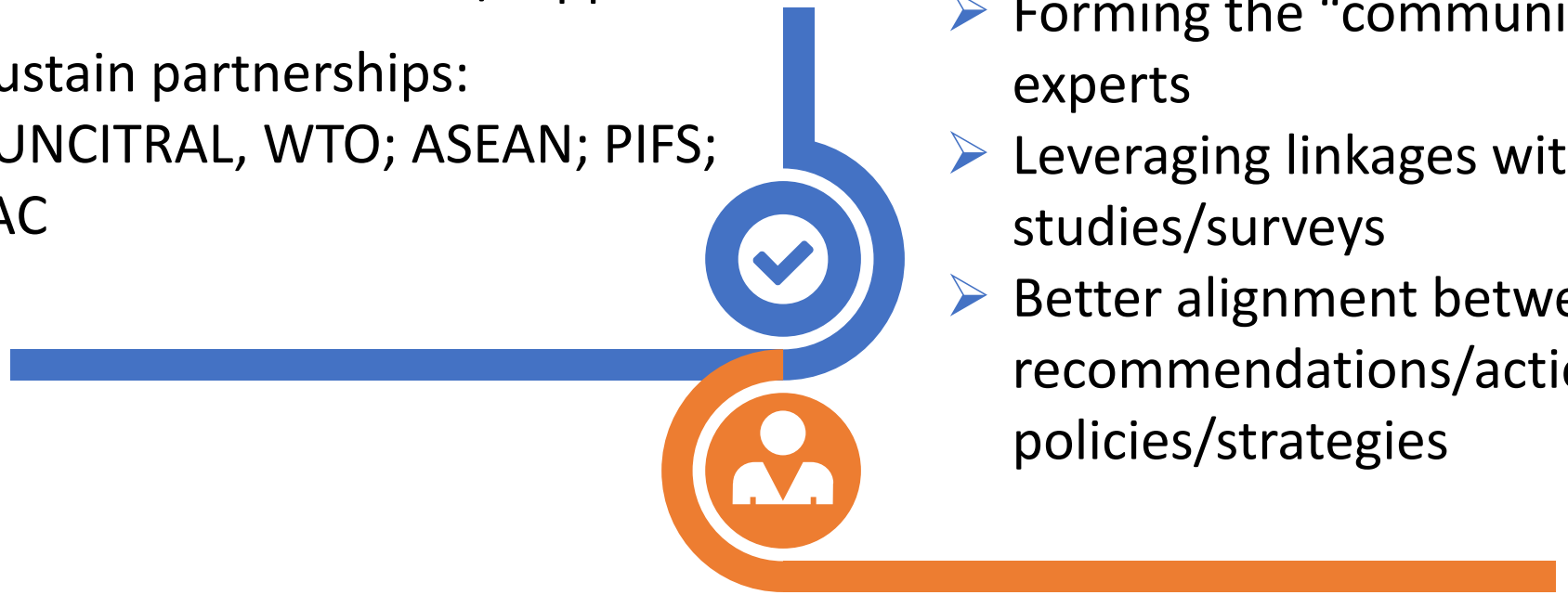
Good practices

- ✓ Enhance the solid foundation:

CPTA & Checklists & Tools

- ✓ Maintain virtual tools/support
- ✓ Sustain partnerships:

EIF, UNCITRAL, WTO; ASEAN; PIFS; ECLAC



Enhancement

- Utilizing readiness assessment studies for regional dialogues – CPTA
- Forming the “community of practice” of experts
- Leveraging linkages with other studies/surveys
- Better alignment between findings, recommendations/action plan, national policies/strategies

THANK YOU



Framework Agreement on Cross-Border Paperless Trade



UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation



United Nations Network of Experts for Paperless Trade and Transport in Asia and the Pacific (UNNExT)



E-Learning Series on Business Process Analysis for Trade Facilitation



Cross-Border Paperless Trade Readiness Assessment



Regional Organizations Cooperation Mechanism for Trade Facilitation (ROC-TF)

https://www.unescap.org/our-work/trade-investment-innovation/trade-facilitation-digital-trade