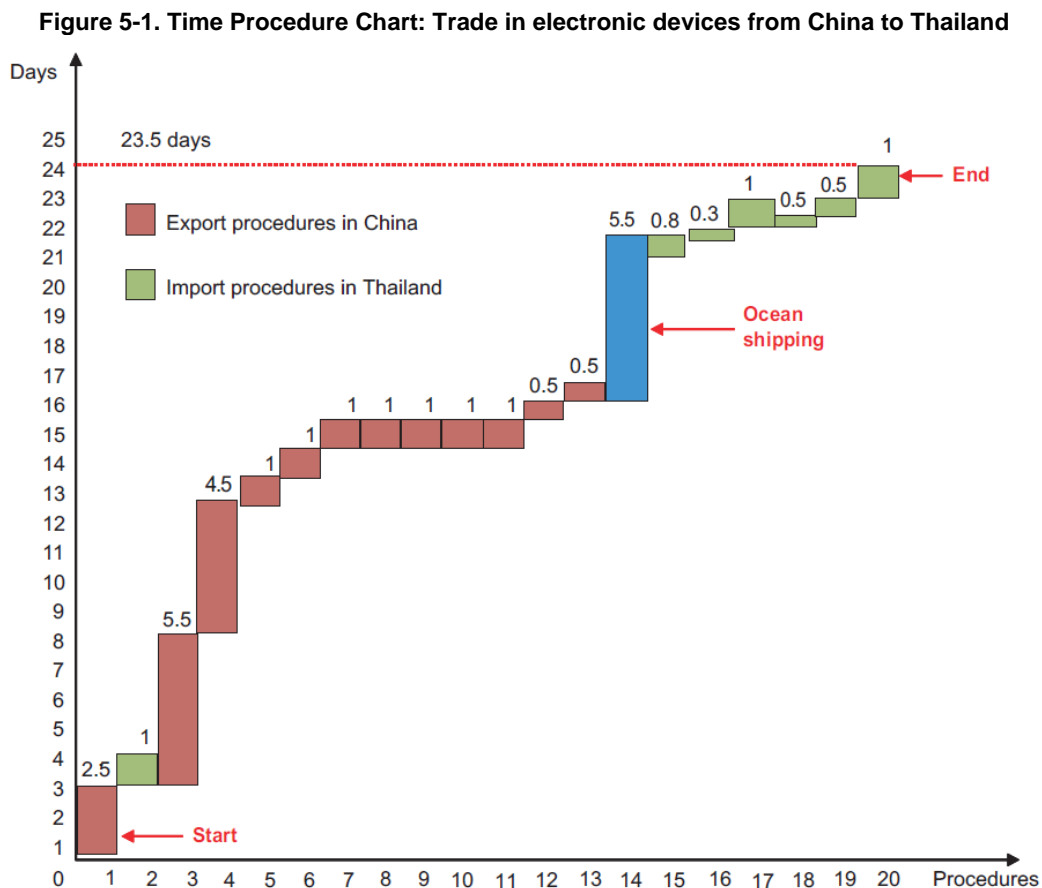


5. CONCLUDING REMARKS

This Guide offers detailed insights on how to conduct a business process analysis. The BPA is a useful tool to analyse various business processes in different product-specific trade procedures such as export, import, or related logistics. The results of the BPA can be used to induce policy change through the provision of a clear and precise “as-is” condition analysis. Bottlenecks and inefficiencies in trade procedures and processes can be identified more easily and used as the basis for the development of well-targeted policy recommendations.

The benefits of using this methodology are obvious: through using a unified modeling language, processes and procedures become comparable not only between products (of the same country) but also between countries. In addition, it allows re-constructing and analysing supply chains across various countries by combining the BPA results for the production for one specific product across trading partners (e.g. from the import of raw materials or parts and components, to the export of the final product). The following Figure 5-1 provides an example of combining the results of two “domestic” BPA’s where the red rectangles show the export procedures of electronic devices in China and the green rectangles the import procedures for Thailand.



Source: ESCAP. (2011). *Trade Facilitation in Asia and the Pacific: An Analysis of Import and Export Processes*. Studies in Trade and Investment, No. 71. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. New York.

It is further recommended to combine the business process analysis method with the time-cost-distance method often used in transport facilitation and corridor analysis studies. Such an approach would allow for a more precise understanding and evaluation of the various bottlenecks associated with competing modes of transport operating on the same route or alternate transit routes.