



National Validation workshop on Baseline Study of Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism (TTFMM)

Thimphu, Bhutan
3-4 August 2016

Draft Programme
As of 17 July 2016

Background:

ADB and UNESCAP have assisted Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal to establish sustainable Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanisms (TTFMM) since 2014, in close collaboration with the relevant national trade facilitation committees and/or lead agencies. TTFMM provides a country with the micro-level data it needs to monitor and prioritize implementation of trade and transport facilitation reforms in a sustainable manner. It is expected that the coordinated and harmonised implementation of the mechanisms will enhance trade facilitation among South Asian Sub-regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) countries and to facilitate the effective implementation of the recently agreed Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, and Nepal (BBIN) Motor Vehicle Agreement.

ADB and UNESCAP, in collaboration with local host organizations and the WCO, organised a series of national workshops in Phuentsholing, Bhutan, Dhulikhel, Nepal, and Dhaka, Bangladesh in 2014 to enhance the capacity of policy makers and relevant stakeholders in implementing TTFMM and preparing for the TTFMM baseline studies. One concrete outcome of these meetings includes, amongst others, the identification of products and corridors for the TTFMM baseline studies. A sub-regional meeting was organised in Wuhan, China in October 2015 to evaluate the progress made and discuss the next steps. Following successful discussions at the workshop of all technical details related to the implementation of the TTFMM baseline studies in Bangkok during 13-15 January 2016, the study team visited Kolkata during 15-17 March 2016 to collect further information on TTFMM.

The study teams from Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal have largely completed data collection and are ready to present the preliminary study results to the stakeholders for the purpose of validation.

Scope of the studies:

- Kolkata–Jaigoan–Phuentsholing–Thimphu for the export of ferro silicon, import of motor vehicles; and
- Thimphu–Phuentsholing–Jaigoan–Chenggrabandha–Burimari–Dhaka for import of table and kitchen ware and export of cardamom.

Business Process Analysis (BPA) of trade procedures and Time-Cost-Distance/ Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring have been applied to analyze trade and transport procedures. Time Release Study (TRS) has been carried out at Phuentsholing to examine the border crossing times.



Purposes of the workshop:

The workshop is aimed to validate the preliminary study results and findings, so that the study report and TTFMM database can be finalized subsequent to the workshop. The workshop may also bring the following benefits: 1). The national stakeholders would deepen their understanding of TTFMM; and 2). The TTFMM study results will serve as fundamental baseline for monitoring the development BBIN.

3 August 2016

08.30-09.00	Registration
09.00 – 09.20	Opening and introduction of the workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senior government official(s) from lead trade facilitation agency and/or NTFC• Representative(s) from ADB/ESCAP
09.20 – 09.45	Session 1. Overview of the TTFMM baseline studies and its importance (especially in the context of BBIN)
09.45 – 11.00	Session 2. Validation of Use-Case Diagrams
11.00 – 11.15	Tea / Coffee Break
11.15 - 13.00	Session 3. Validation of Activity Diagrams and process descriptions (1)
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 1700	Session 4. Validation of Activity Diagrams and process descriptions (2) (a tea/coffee break can be arranged during the session)

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09.00 – 11.00	Session 5. Validation of BPA database, indicators, time-procedure charts and cost-procedure charts
11.00 – 11.15	Tea / Coffee Break
11.15 - 13.00	Session 6. Validation of Time Release Studies
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 1530	Session 7. Validation of Time-Cost-Distance Results
15.30 – 15.45	Tea/Coffee break
15.45 - 16.45	Session 8. Validation of key Recommendations for improving/simplifying trade procedures
16.45 – 17.00	Way forward and Conclusions