

# **Regional Organizations Cooperation Mechanism for Trade Facilitation (ROC-TF) Annual Meeting**

## **Update from ESCAP**

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**UNCC, Bangkok, 23 September 2014**



# Outline

- Introduction to ESCAP
- UNNExT & its Trade Facilitation Tools
- Activity (Major) Highlights
- Major Publications



# Introduction to ESCAP

- Regional (Asia and the Pacific) Branch of the United Nations Secretariat
- 63 member countries covering Central, South, Southeast, East and South Pacific countries
- Mandate: Promote sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development in Asia and the Pacific
  - through facilitation of REGIONAL COOPERATION
- Areas covered: Trade and Investment, Transport, Macroeconomic Policy, Environment, Emerging Social issues, Information and Communication Technologies...
  - Trade and Investment: (1) Trade Facilitation; (2) Trade Policy; (3) Investment and Enterprise Development



- “*community of knowledge and practice to facilitate the implementation of single window and paperless trade in the region*”
  - Tools and guides development activities
  - Advocacy and Technical Training Workshops
  - Knowledge sharing and peer-to-peer support
- Secretariat provided by ESCAP, in collaboration with UNECE

**New web address:**  
**[unnexnext.unescap.org](http://unnexnext.unescap.org)**



# UNNExT Tools

## SINGLE WINDOW IMPLEMENTATION TOOLKIT

FOR TRADE FACILITATION



## Other Guides

- Integrated and sustainable **Trade and transport facilitation performance monitoring mechanism: BPA+**
  - <http://www.unescap.org/tid/unnext/tools/bpa+.pdf>
  - Developed in cooperation with ADB
- UNNExT policy guide on agrifood chain information management for **agrifood trade facilitation**
  - Developed in cooperation with FAO
- **Forthcoming (2015):**
  - UNNExT Guide on **paperless transit**
  - UNNExT Guide on facilitating **paperless trade for SMEs**

# Major Activities (1)

## UNNExT Masterclass on SW and paperless trade



The poster for the UNNExT Masterclass 2013 features a grid of blue squares containing various icons and text related to trade and technology, such as 'increase', 'growth', 'rise', 'Paperless', 'business', 'Trade', '\$', 'Single Window', and 'e-PORT'. In the center, three business professionals are depicted: two men standing and one woman sitting at a desk with a laptop. A large, stylized blue ribbon curves through the bottom of the grid, labeled 'Paperless Trade' and 'Single Window e-PORT'. The background is a light blue gradient with a subtle pattern of binary code.

**UNNExT Masterclass 2013: Implementing Single Window and Paperless Trade**

In Cooperation with Customs Cooperation Fund (CCF) Korea

With the Support of:

Logos of supporting organizations are displayed at the bottom: Korea Customs Service, ADB, giz (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH), World Bank, and UNCITRAL.

- 2-week intensive course
- Next class to be held on **12-23 January 2015** in RoK
- 2013 course based on the **UNNExT Single Window Implementation Toolkit for TF**
  - 23 participants from 10 developing countries
  - Participants sponsored by WCO, RoK, ESCAP, ADB, WB, GIZ

# Major Activities (2)

## ESCAP-World Bank Trade Cost Database (updated Aug. 2014)

Figure: Intra and extra regional comprehensive trade costs in the Asia-Pacific region, excluding tariff costs (2006-2011)

Region	ASEAN-4	East Asia-3	North and Central Asia	Developing Pacific Islands	SAARC-4	AUS-NZL	EU-3	USA
ASEAN-4	77.09%	76.77%	386.70%	263.29%	124.44%	98.68%	111.25%	83.61%
	(10.10%)	(7.73%)	(5.58%)	(31.28%)	(2.24%)	(2.38%)	(8.49%)	(12.98%)
East Asia-3	76.77%	52.06%	219.98%	268.15%	124.38%	91.22%	86.45%	63.16%
	(7.73%)	(-7.91%)	(-10.86%)	(36.04%)	(1.87%)	(-2.27%)	(-4.30%)	(-0.96%)
North and Central Asia	386.70%	219.98%	141.06%	307.87%	270.16%	323.44%	165.97%	188.57%
	(5.58%)	(-10.86%)	(-0.13%)	(16.59%)	(-9.54%)	(-4.54%)	(-3.01%)	(1.81%)
Pacific island developing economies	263.29%	268.15%	307.87%	106.85%	342.34%	137.32%	326.77%	227.79%
	(31.28%)	(36.04%)	(16.59%)	(-30.62%)	(13.25%)	(48.36%)	(38.12%)	(19.20%)
SAARC-4	124.44%	124.38%	270.16%	342.34%	106.82%	144.29%	114.14%	106.80%
	(2.24%)	(1.87%)	(-9.54%)	(13.25%)	(3.74%)	(4.70%)	(6.82%)	(7.89%)
AUS-NZL	98.68%	91.22%	323.44%	137.32%	144.29%	53.86%	109.91%	96.53%
	(2.38%)	(-2.27%)	(-4.54%)	(48.36%)	(4.70%)	(3.76%)	(0.52%)	(2.41%)
EU-3	111.25%	86.45%	165.97%	326.77%	114.14%	109.91%	46.04%	67.01%
	(8.49%)	(-4.30%)	(-3.01%)	(38.12%)	(6.82%)	(0.52%)	(-0.19%)	(0.79%)
USA	83.61%	63.16%	188.57%	227.79%	106.80%	96.53%	67.01%	
	(12.98%)	(-0.96%)	(1.81%)	(19.20%)	(7.89%)	(2.41%)	(0.79%)	

Source: ESCAP-World Bank Trade Cost Database, available at: <http://www.unescap.org/tid/artnet/trade-costs.asp>



# Major Activities (2)

## Trade Process Analysis Database (test version Sep. 2014)

- Over 50 product and country specific import and export process cases are included, based on studies conducted since 2009.
- Data typically available for each trade process case, includes
  - number of steps/procedures involved,
  - stakeholders involved,
  - number and type of documents,
  - activity diagrams,
  - time and cost of the procedures, as well as
  - time-procedure chart.
- Enables TF practitioners to compare procedures across countries as a basis for making improvement

<p><b>Study Name</b> Export of Cassava and Maize in Cambodia</p> <p><b>Product</b> Cassava</p> <p><b>Name of Procedure</b> Arrange transport (shipping)</p> <p><b>Importing Countries</b> China</p> <p><b>Exporting Countries</b> Cambodia</p> <p><b>Time Required to Complete Procedure</b> Min. Time Required 2 Avg. Time Required Max. Time Required 3</p> <p><b>Cost Required to Complete Procedure</b> Min. Cost Avg. Cost USD 20.00 Max. Cost</p> <p><b>Number of documents required (Including Copies)</b> 2</p>	<p><b>Activity Diagram</b></p> <p><b>Input and criteria to enter/begin the business process</b> -Exporter is responsible for the delivery of the cargo to the specified port of exit/entry.</p> <p><b>Output criteria to exit the business process</b> -Transportation for moving cargo to port of exit and entry is arranged.</p>	<p><b>Activities and associated documentary requirements</b> 1 Exporter contacts carrier to reserve cargo space (vessel). 2 Carrier confirms the booking request by sending the exporter the draft Bill of Lading. 3 Exporter reviews the draft BL; if incorrect informs carrier to revise it, then, applies for cargo insurance (if required). 4 Insurance collects the premium and issues the policy. 5 Exporter schedules the delivery of the empty containers, collects the insurance policy.</p> <p><b>Related rules, laws and regulations</b></p> <p><b>Actors/participants</b> -Exporter -Carrier (shipping line) -Insurance Co. (if required)</p>
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<p><b>Study Name</b> An Analysis of Import-Export Procedures and Processes in China</p> <p><b>Product</b> Garments</p> <p><b>Name of Procedure</b> Arrange transport (shipping)</p> <p><b>Importing Countries</b> Japan</p> <p><b>Exporting Countries</b> China</p> <p><b>Time Required to Complete Procedure</b> Min. Time Required Avg. Time Required 1 Max. Time Required</p> <p><b>Cost Required to Complete Procedure</b> Min. Cost Avg. Cost 2000-3000RMB Max. Cost</p> <p><b>Number of documents required (Including Copies)</b> 1</p>	<p><b>Activity Diagram</b></p> <p><b>Input and criteria to enter/begin the business process</b> Order completed</p> <p><b>Output criteria to exit the business process</b> A shipping order is issued</p>	<p><b>Activities and associated documentary requirements</b> 1. When the order is close to completion, shipping arrangements need to be confirmed. 2. The company uses a customs broker to liaise with the shipping company. 3. The company provides the broker with some basic information, including the destination, quantity and date of shipment. 4. When a suitable vessel has been found, the broker makes a booking request and confirms the shipping details and shipping cost. 5. Finally, a shipping order is issued.</p> <p><b>Related rules, laws and regulations</b></p> <p><b>Actors/participants</b> - Exporter- Shipping Company- Customs Broker (报关行)</p>
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# Major Activities (3)

## Global Survey on Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade Implementation

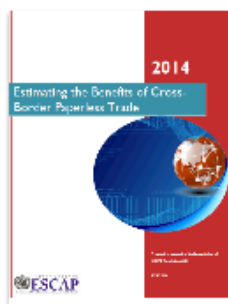
- **Objective:** to assess the progress made in implementing trade facilitation and paperless trade measures in Asia and the Pacific.
- Based on ESCAP regional survey 2013
- Jointly implemented by all 5 UN regional commissions in cooperation with OECD
  - Cooperation with ROC-TF members still welcome
- **Main components of the survey includes**
  - **WTO related trade facilitation measures**
  - **Paperless trade measures**
  - **Key challenges for implementation**



## Other Major Activities (4)

- On-going negotiations and development of a **Regional Arrangement on the Facilitation of Cross-Border Paperless Trade**
  - First intergovernmental meeting on the text held in April 2014
  - Intergovernmental Steering Committee established Aug. 2014
- Series of national workshops on **Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism** in SASEC countries
  - Implementation of mechanism on-going in SASEC LDCs
- Series of national workshops on **Electronic Traceability for Agricultural Trade Facilitation** (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal in 2014) + study tour and regional workshop

# Recent TF Publications (2014)



## Estimating the Benefits of Cross-Border Paperless Trade

24 Jun 2014

Books

This report estimates the possible economic benefits—export gains, and cost savings—from partial or full implementation of cross-border paperless trade facilitation measures. Simulation results suggest that cross-border paperless trade has significant potential to reduce trade costs and boost trade in the Asia-Pacific region.



## Trade facilitation potential of Asian transit agreements in the context of the WTO

1 Jan 2014

Working paper series

This paper examines how freedom of transit and transit facilitation are addressed in trade and transport (as well as transit-specific) agreements in the ESCAP region. The objective is to identify good practices and understand the extent to which existing agreements meet the transit facilitation provisions set out in the draft text of the WTO trade facilitation agreement (TFA).



## Impacts of trade facilitation measures on poverty and inclusive growth: Case studies from Asia

20 Dec 2013

Books

Edited by Ravi Ratnayake, Rajan Sudesh Ratna, Martina Francesca Ferracane and Yann Duval.

In the post-crisis world, new drivers of growth are required to drive further reductions in poverty. This new book from the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT) examines



# Recent TF Publications (2014)



## Impact of Trade Facilitation on Foreign Direct Investment

29 Aug 2014

Working paper series

Countries that implement trade facilitation reforms and enhance trade efficiency and connectivity are generally expected to attract more foreign direct investments. This paper is a first attempt to quantify the potential impact of trade facilitation on FDI flows. Using a unique bilateral dataset on FDI flows covering both OECD and developing economies in Asia and the Pacific, we estimate gravity models of FDI featuring relevant trade costs and trade facilitation indicators.



## Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade Implementation: 2013/14 Asia-Pacific Update

27 Jun 2014

Working paper series

The Trade Facilitation Agreement adopted by the WTO member countries at the Bali Ministerial Conference in December 2013 highlights the importance of trade facilitation for international trade and the global economy. This paper provides a unique set of data on the progress made by 29 countries in Asia and the Pacific in implementing various trade facilitation and paperless trade



**Enabling participation of SMEs in international trade and production networks: Trade facilitation, trade finance and communication technology.** by Yann Duval, Chortip Utoktham, ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 146, July 2014





Thank you

