

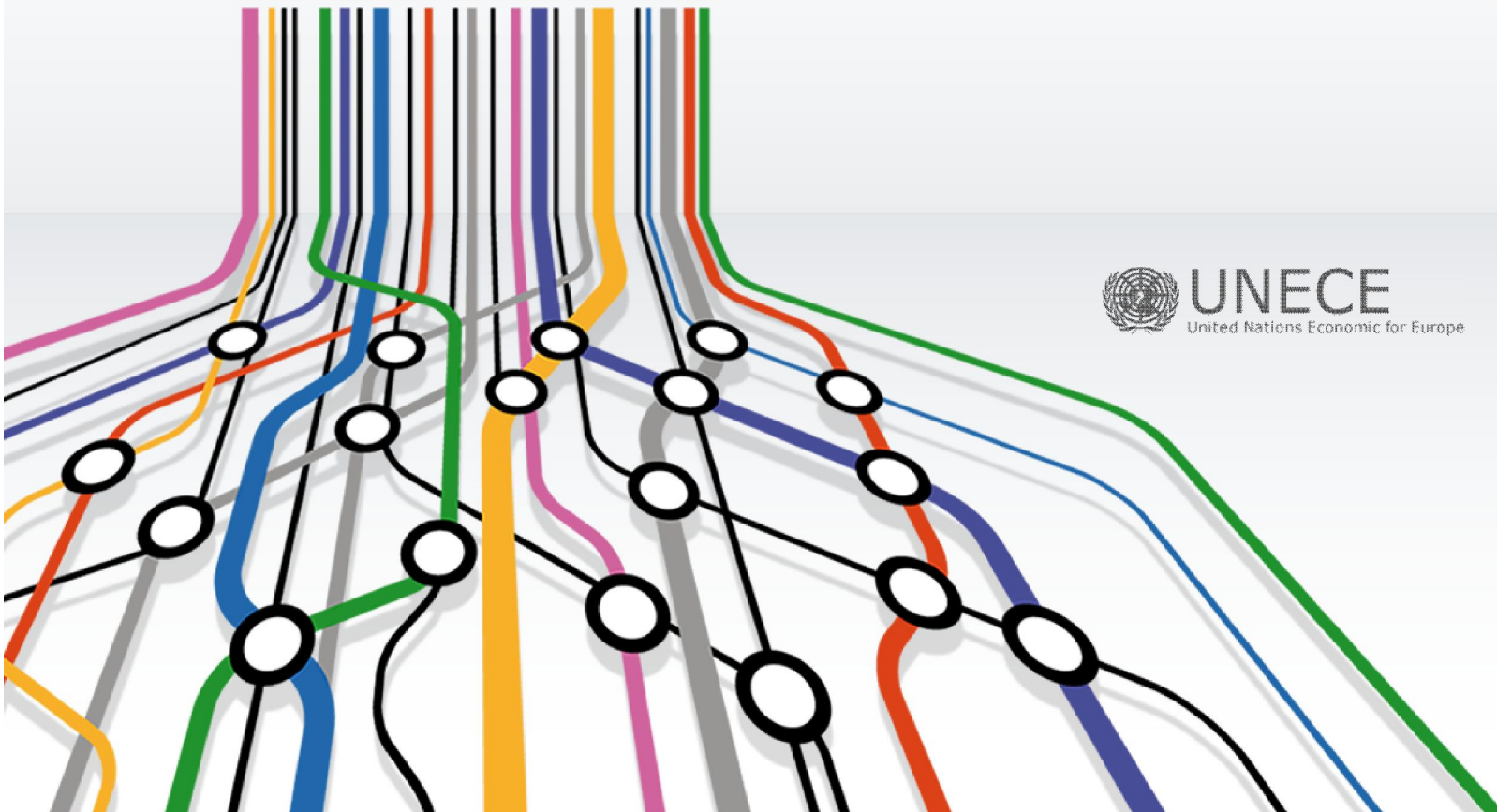
# **APTFF Capacity Building Workshop on Implementing Trade Facilitation Measures: Perishable Goods & Single Window**

**26 September 2014, BITEC  
Bangkok, Thailand**



# Implementing Single Window: WTO TFA and beyond

**Bangkok, September 2014**



## In this presentation

- q SW provisions in the WTO TF Agreement
- q How countries see their priorities and needs

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- q SW provisions in the WTO TF Agreement
- q How countries see their priorities and needs
- q Single Window implementations
- q Same goal different approaches: SW Architectures
- q UNECE&ESCAP support to SW implementation



# Bali, 7 December 2013



# Article 10: The «Single Window» article

## Article 10: Formalities connected with importation and exportation and transit

10 Formalities connected with importation, exportation and transit	Formalities and docs. requirements	Review formalities and documentation requirements to minimize complexity of operations and simplify documentation requirements
	Acceptance of Copies	Acceptance by border regulatory agencies of paper or electronic copies of the required documentation
	Use of International Standards	Formalities, procedures and documentation requirements are based on international standards
	Single Window	Set-up a single entry point through which traders will submit, only once, information to all border agencies and through which agencies will submit their response back
	Pre shipment Inspection	No mandatory use of pre-shipment inspections for tariff classification and customs valuation



# Single Window in the WTO TF Agreement

## 4 Single Window

4.1. Members shall endeavour to establish or maintain a single window, enabling traders to *submit documentation* and/or data requirements for importation, exportation or transit of goods through a single entry point to the participating authorities or agencies.

After the examination by the participating authorities or agencies of the documentation and/or data, the results shall be notified to the applicants through the single window in a timely manner.

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# Single Window in the WTO TF Agreement

## 4 Single Window

4.1.

4.2. In cases where documentation and/or data requirements have already been received through the single window, the same documentation and/or data requirements shall not be requested by participating authorities or agencies except in urgent circumstances and other limited exceptions which are made public.

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# Single Window in the WTO TF Agreement

## 4 Single Window

4.1. .

4.2. ..

4.3 Members shall notify to the Committee the details of operation of the single window.

4.4 Members shall, to the extent possible and practical, use information technology to support the single window. In

## What disappeared from the text before it reached Bali

- [ [4.5 Members shall, where practicable, **use relevant international standards** [and practices] as a basis for the single window schemes.]
- 4.6 With regard to the scope of the participating authorities or agencies, and of the documentation and/or data requirements, Members [may] **[are encouraged to] implement the single window in a progressive manner** [[taking into account each Member's implementation capacity] [subject to their requesting for and receiving from other Member(s), the requisite technical assistance and capacity building]].

# Supporting provisions: Article 10.1 Formalities and Documentation Requirements

Calls on members to

- q Minimize incidence and complexity of formalities and documentation requirements
- q Review formalities with view of rapid release of goods

Relevance for SW

- q Any automation requires documentation and simplification of BP
- q Simplification and standardization of data requirements
- q Encourages a consultative process among stakeholders

Trade Facilitation instruments

- q Simplification of Business Processes
- q Simplification and alignment of trade document
- q Data standardization and data models

Tools: UNLK, UNTEDE, UNECE/ESCAP BPA



## Supporting provisions: 10.2 Acceptance of Copies

Calls on members to

- q Accept paper or electronic copies of supporting documents
- q Reuse of already received documents by other GA

Relevance for SW:

- q SW requires acceptance of electronic trade documents
- q Artice1 supports the transition from paper originals è paper copies è images of documents è EDI
- q Change of laws, regulations, and practice
- q Change management rather than change technology

Trade Facilitation instruments

- q Revised CEFAC1 Rec 14 Authentication of trade documents

## Supporting provisions: 10.3. Use of international standards

Calls on members to

- q Use international standards for documents and procedures
- q Participate in preparation/review of new standards

Relevance for SW:

- q Increased int' exchange of knowlge on SW development
- q Reduction of development costs
- q Standardization of data creates open interfaces
- q Allows integration of stakeholders and value added servies

Trade Facilitation instruments

- q Kyoto Convention, WCO Data Model, UN/EDIFACT, CEFACT Core Components

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## What is not included in this provision?

- The measure does not explicitly obligate countries to immediately establish a **fully-fledged** Single Window.
- The timeline would depend on **the level of sophistication** of the Single Window. That in turn depends on **level of integration** and information exchange **required** by the stakeholders of export, import and transit.
- The exception clause of "**urgent circumstances and other limited exceptions**" limiting the one-time submission of documents (4.2) could provide a backdoor for excessive document requirements.



Are countries prepared to implement the SW provision?

**UNCTAD Study:** The new frontier of competitiveness, implementing trade facilitation, 2014

**SW is the second least implemented measures of the WTO agreement, (according to a study)**

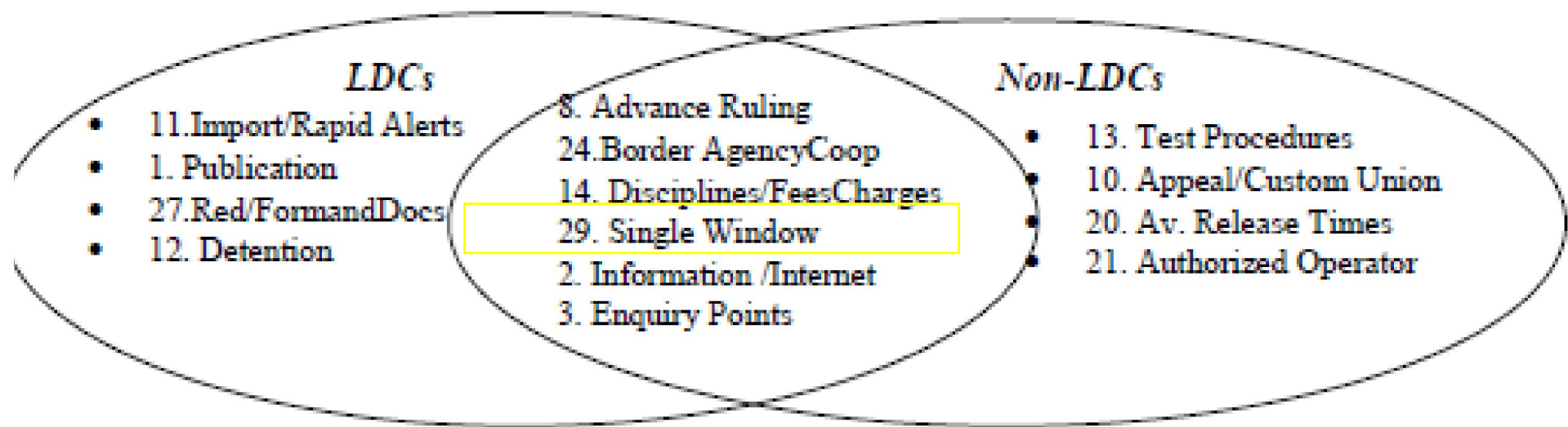
**Top 10 least implemented measures**

1. Information on Internet (measure 2)
2. Single window (measure 29)
3. Enquiry Points (measure 3)
4. Advance Ruling (measure 8)
5. Test Procedures (measure 13)
6. Disciplines on Fees/Charges (measure 14)
7. Av. Release Times (measure 20)
8. Authorized Operators (measure 21)
9. Border Agency Coop (measure 24)
10. Publication (measure 1)



## The difficulty of implementation is there for developing and LDCs alike

Figure 9. Top 10 least implemented measures for LDCs and non-LDCs



## Why this is the case?

- According to the same study, the **main reasons for non implementation** are:
  - q The existing legal framework
  - q Lack of resources
  - q Lack of interagency cooperation
  - q Lack of understanding on benefits of the measure
  - q ICT and Infrastructure issues


Table 2. Main reasons for non-implementation of trade facilitation measures (all countries)

Measure	Lack of understanding /knowledge of the measure	The existing legal framework	Lack of resources	ICT/ infr. issues	Lack of inter-agency cooperation	Lack of org. or inst. framework	Other
29. Single Window		X	X		X		



Even if developing countries are aware of the difficulty of implementing a SW, **to develop a SW is a key priority for the majority of countries** (in comparison to other WTO provisions)

Table 3. Trade facilitation measures by level of priority (all countries)<sup>5</sup>

10 measures with highest priority	
1. Uniform Forms Doc (measure 33)	
2. Risk Management (measure 18)	
3. Single Window (measure 29)	
4. Post-clearance Audit (measure 19)	
5. Border Agency Coop (measure 24)	
6. Publication (measure 1)	
7. Red Form and Docs (measure 27)	
8. Int Standards (measure 28)	
9. Enquiry Points (measure 3)	
10. Test Procedures (measure 13)	

## Estimated time of implementation

**Countries estimate that implementing a SW will take on average 3 to 4 years**

**Table 4. Top 10 measures with the highest estimated implementation times**

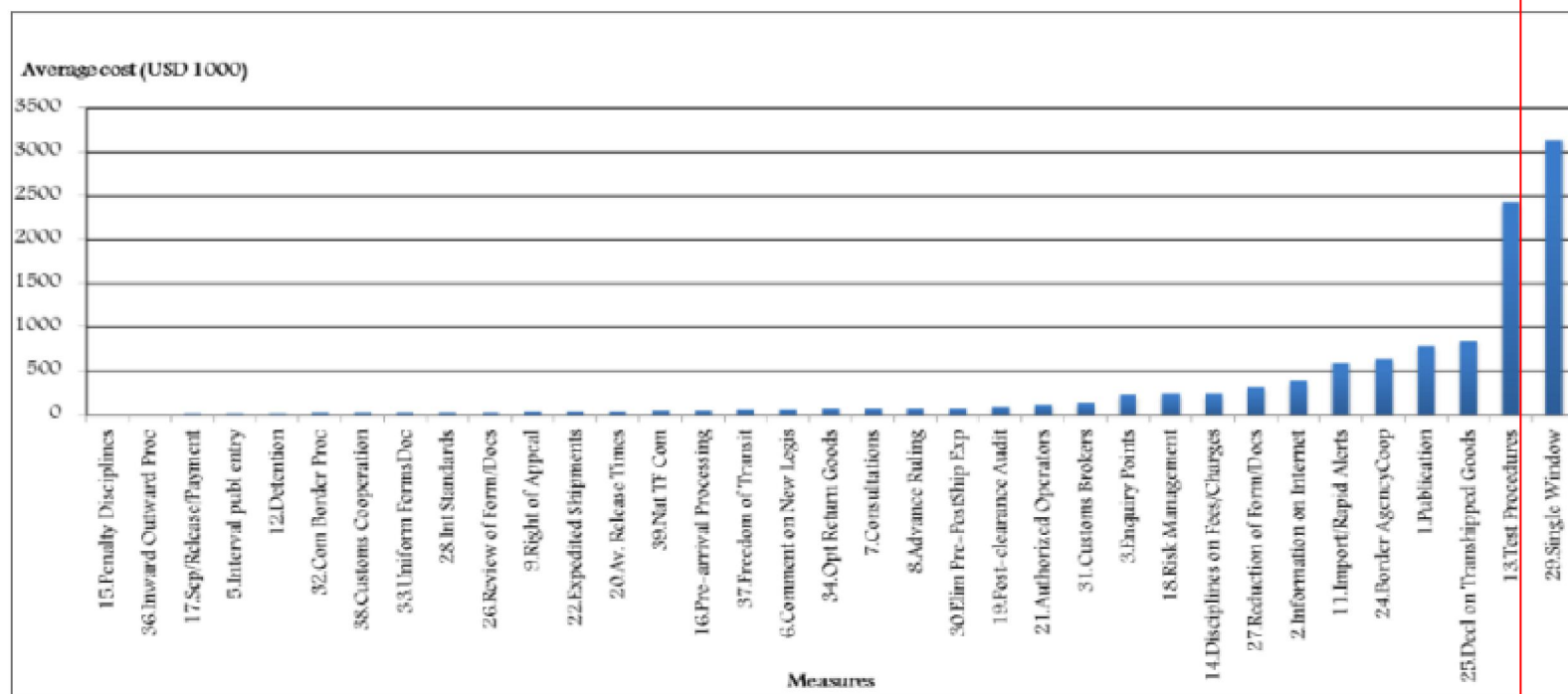
- |   |
|---|
| 1. Appeal in Custom Union (measure 10)          |
| 2. Freedom of Transit (measure 37)              |
| 3. Border Agency Coop (measure 24)              |
| 4. Decl on Transhipped Goods (measure 25)       |
| 5. Single Window (measure 29)                   |
| 6. Customs Brokers (measure 31)                 |
| 7. Disciplines on Fees and Charges (measure 14) |
| 8. Test Procedures (measure 13)                 |
| 9. Import/Rapid Alerts (measure 11)             |
| 10. Penalty Disciplines (measure 15)            |



## Estimated cost of implementation

**SW is considered to be the most expensive measure to be implemented** with an average cost of approximately **USD 3 millions**.

Figure 25. Average costs of trade facilitation measures (thousands of \$)



## Need of technical assistance

**SW is the WTO provision where there is a bigger need for assistance.**

**Table 7. Top 10 measures with the highest estimated need for TACB**

- |  |
|--|
| 1. Single Window (measure 29)              |
| 2. Test Procedures (measure 13)            |
| 3. Information on Internet (measure 2)     |
| 4. Border Agency Coop (measure 24)         |
| 5. Advance Ruling (measure 8)              |
| 6. Enquiry Points(measure 3)               |
| 7. Disciplines on Fees/Charges(measure 14) |
| 8. Publication(measure 1)                  |
| 9. Reduction of Form/Docs (measure 27)     |
| 10. Risk Management (measure 18)           |





# Thank You

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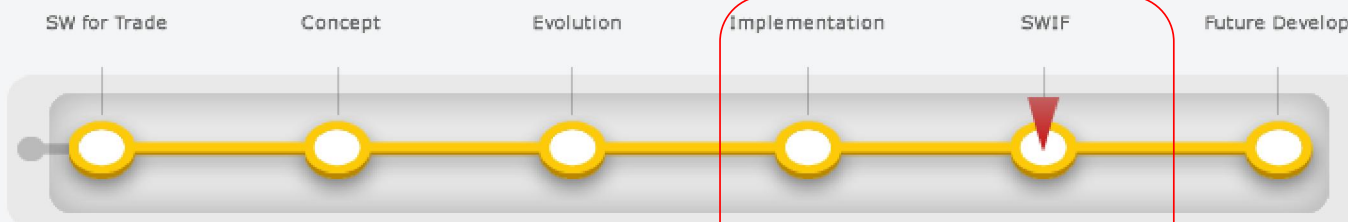
# UNECE and ESCAP Support to Single Window Implementation

## TRADE FACILITATION IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE



Home About Intro Domains **Itineraries** Instruments Organizations Case Stories Training English ▾

### Establishing a Single Window **itinerary**:



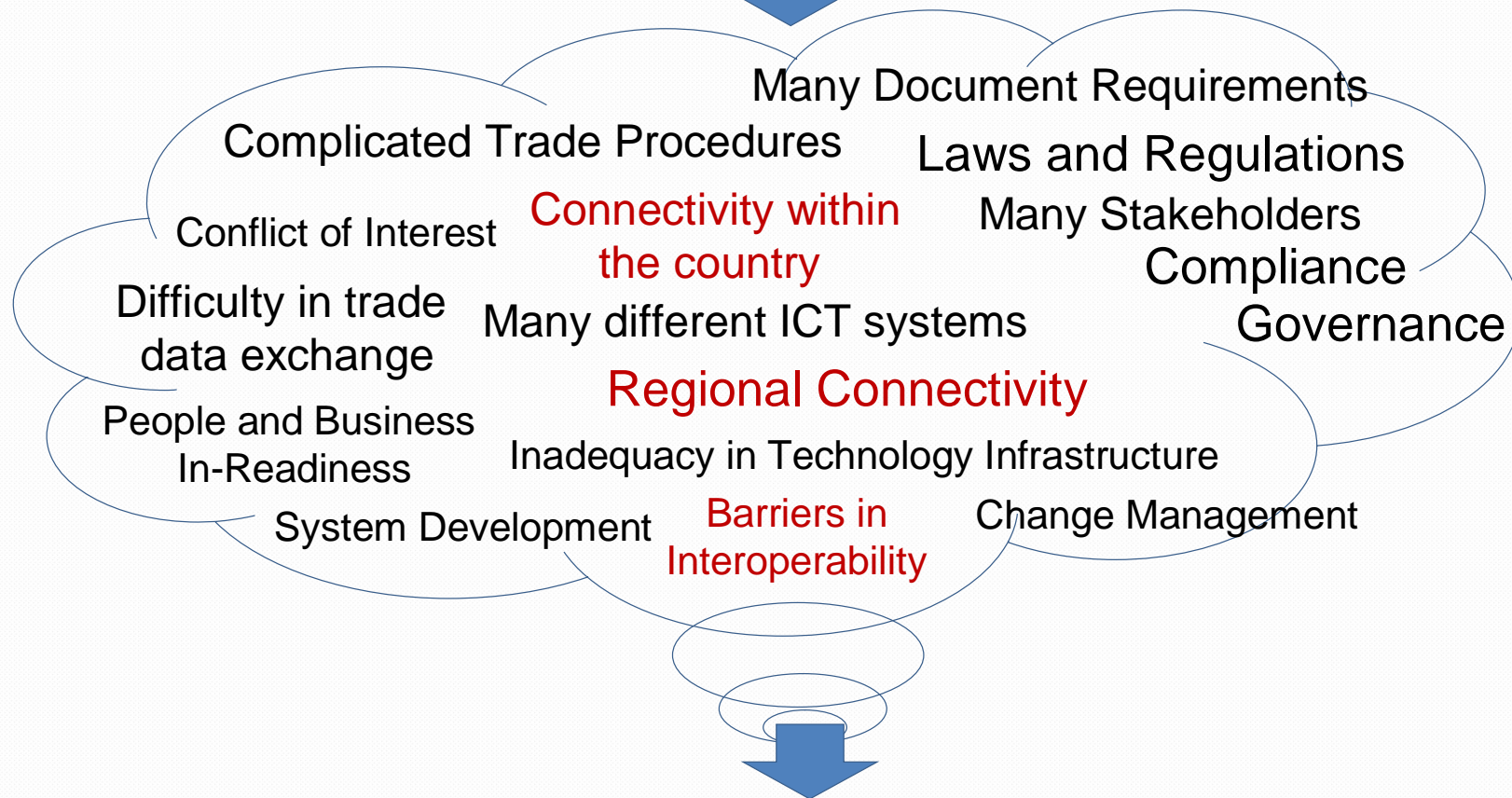
Step 5. Read about an implementation framework that guides you through the design of a Single Window project.

ITINERARY



# Implementation: from vision to operation

## Single Window Vision



## Single Window Operation

# UNECE & ESCAP

## **WHAT? UN/CEFACT Trade Facilitation Standards and Recommendations**

- q Technical standards for Single Window: UN Layout Key, EDIFACT, ebXML, ...
- q Recommendations to policy makers: Rec to establish a SW, to simplify data, to establish TF Committees,, ..

## **HOW? UN Network of Experts (UNNEXT)**

- q Exchange of experiences and knowledge
- q Capacity building and advisory services
- q Implementation Guides



# UNNEXT Single Window Planning Guide

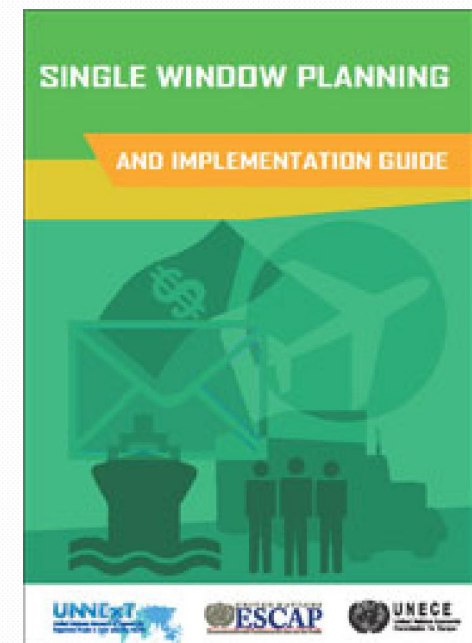
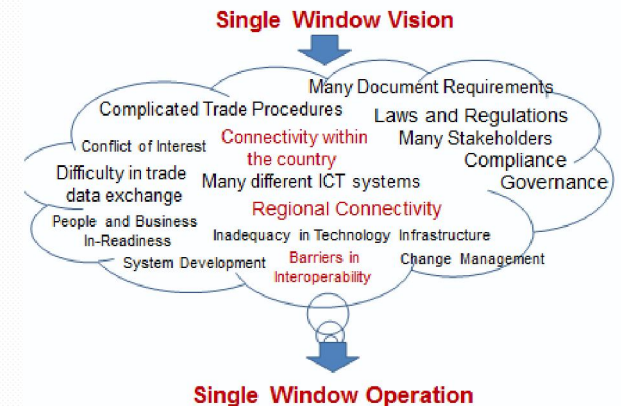
q A Guide to plan and manage a Single Window Project

q Enterprise Architecture

q Structured approach to design project phases, activities, outcomes

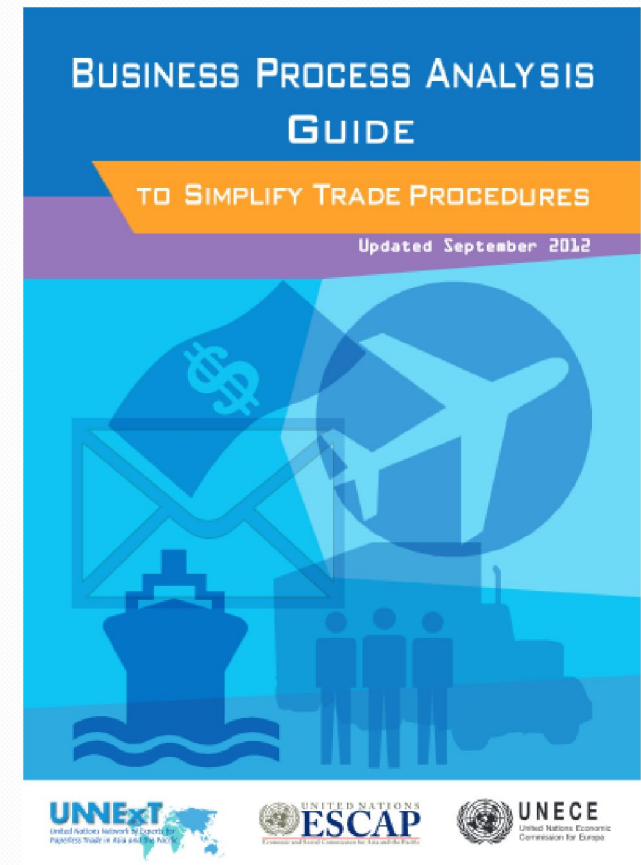
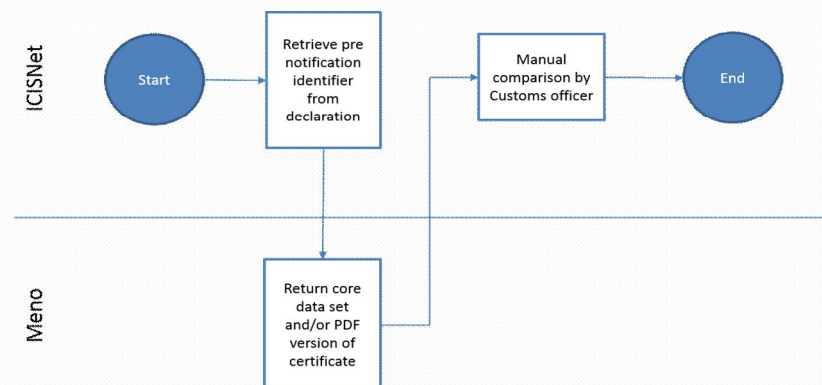
## Phases:

- q Developing a vision
- q Masterplan
- q Analysis of processes
- q Development of electronic documents
- q Implementation
- q Review



# UNNEXT Business Process Analysis Guide

- q Systematic documentation of the Import and Export processes
- q Analysis of the «as-is» situation
- q identification of bottlenecks
- q Development of improved «to-be» processes

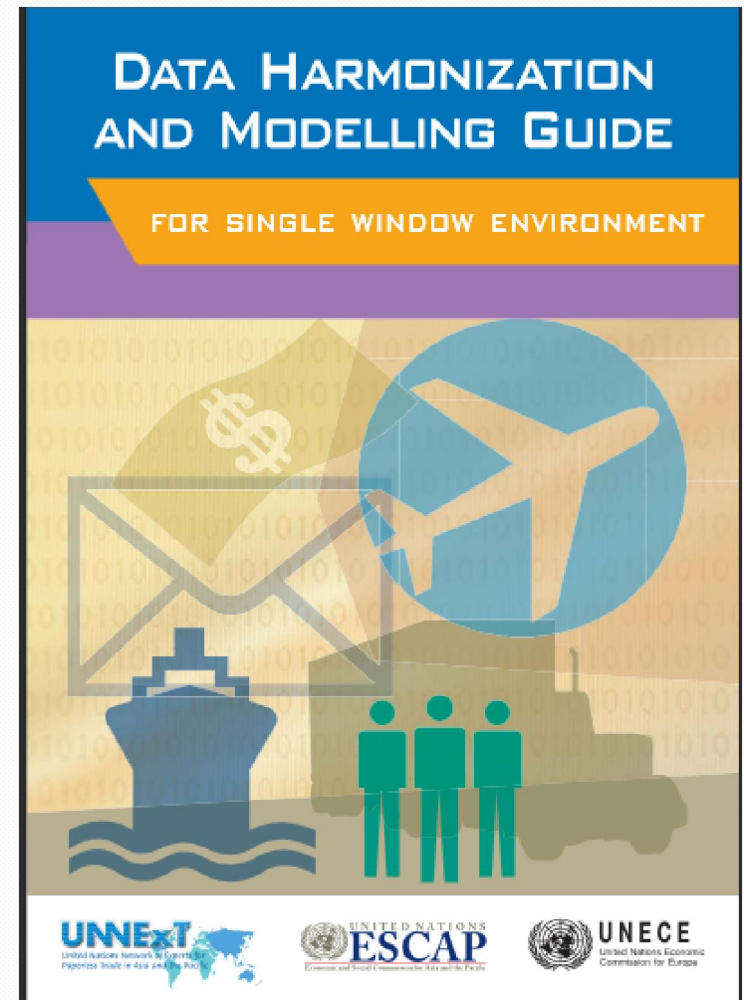


# UNNEXT Data Harmonization Guide

International standards and best practice for paperless trade

Stepwise approach:

- q Simplification of documents
- q Simplification of data
- q Standardization
- q electronic documents and paperless trade



# UN Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide (TFIG)

A Guide on trade facilitation instruments, tools and approaches

- q On-line training tool
- q High level overview
- q Links to detailed material

Content:

- q Standards
- q Recommendations
- q TF Organizations
- q Implementation approaches
- q Country experiences
- q [tfgig.unece.org](http://tfgig.unece.org)





# Thank You

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