

Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum

Survey on Trade Facilitation and
Paperless Trade

Central and East Asia: Preliminary Results

Colombo, Sri Lanka

30-31 October 2012

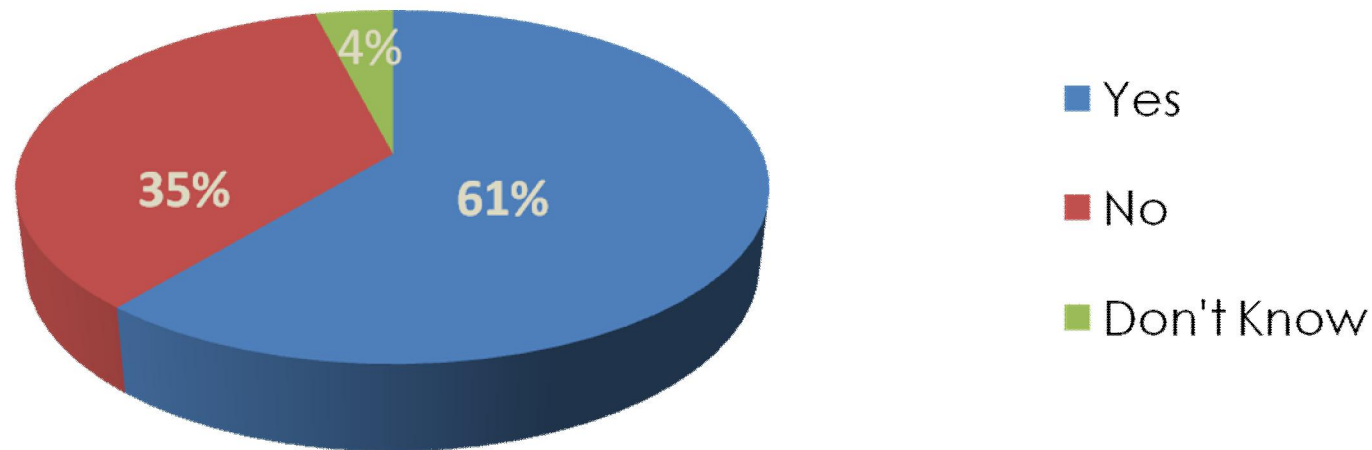
Survey Respondents

So far, there have been 46 respondents from 26 countries ...

South East Asia	South Asia	Central & East Asia
Cambodia	Afghanistan	Azerbaijan
Indonesia	Bangladesh	China
Lao PDR	Bhutan	Japan
Malaysia	India	Korea, Rep.
Myanmar	Maldives	Kyrgyz Republic
Philippines	Nepal	Mongolia
Singapore	Pakistan	Republic of Uzbekistan
Thailand	Sri Lanka	Russian Federation
Vietnam		Turkey

Trade Facilitation Measures

Does your country have a national trade facilitation body that promotes and implements trade facilitation and paperless trade in the country?



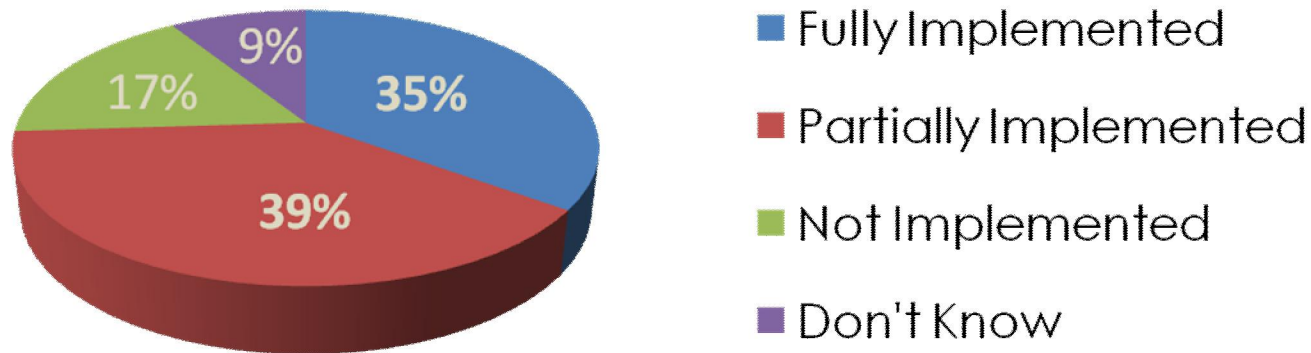
Who is the lead agency?

Customs: Cambodia, Japan, Korea Republic, Myanmar, Russian Federation, Thailand, Turkey and Singapore

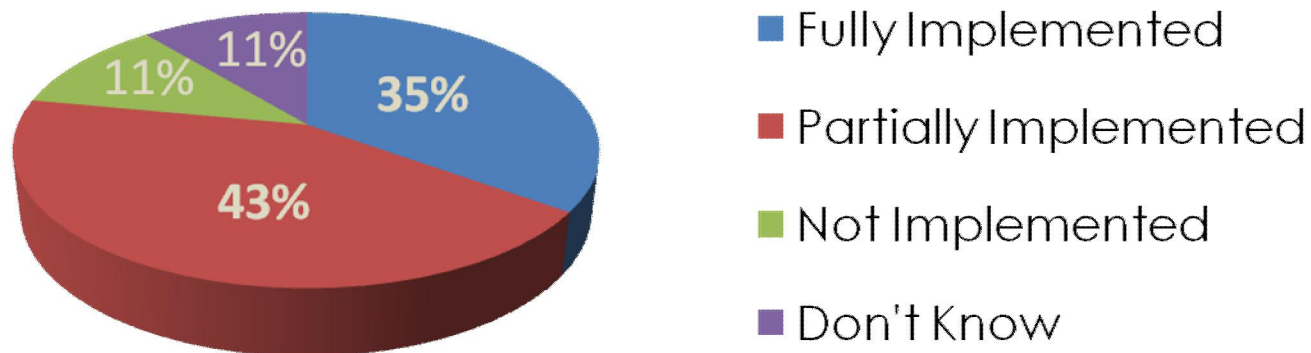
Ministry of Economy/Commerce/Trade: Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyz Republic, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines and Sri Lanka,

Trade Facilitation Measures

Does your country have a Risk Management programme?



Does your country have a Post-Clearance Audit programme?



National Single Window

Does your country have a National Single Window (NSW)?



Several countries do not yet have a NSW or under development ...

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Republic of Uzbekistan

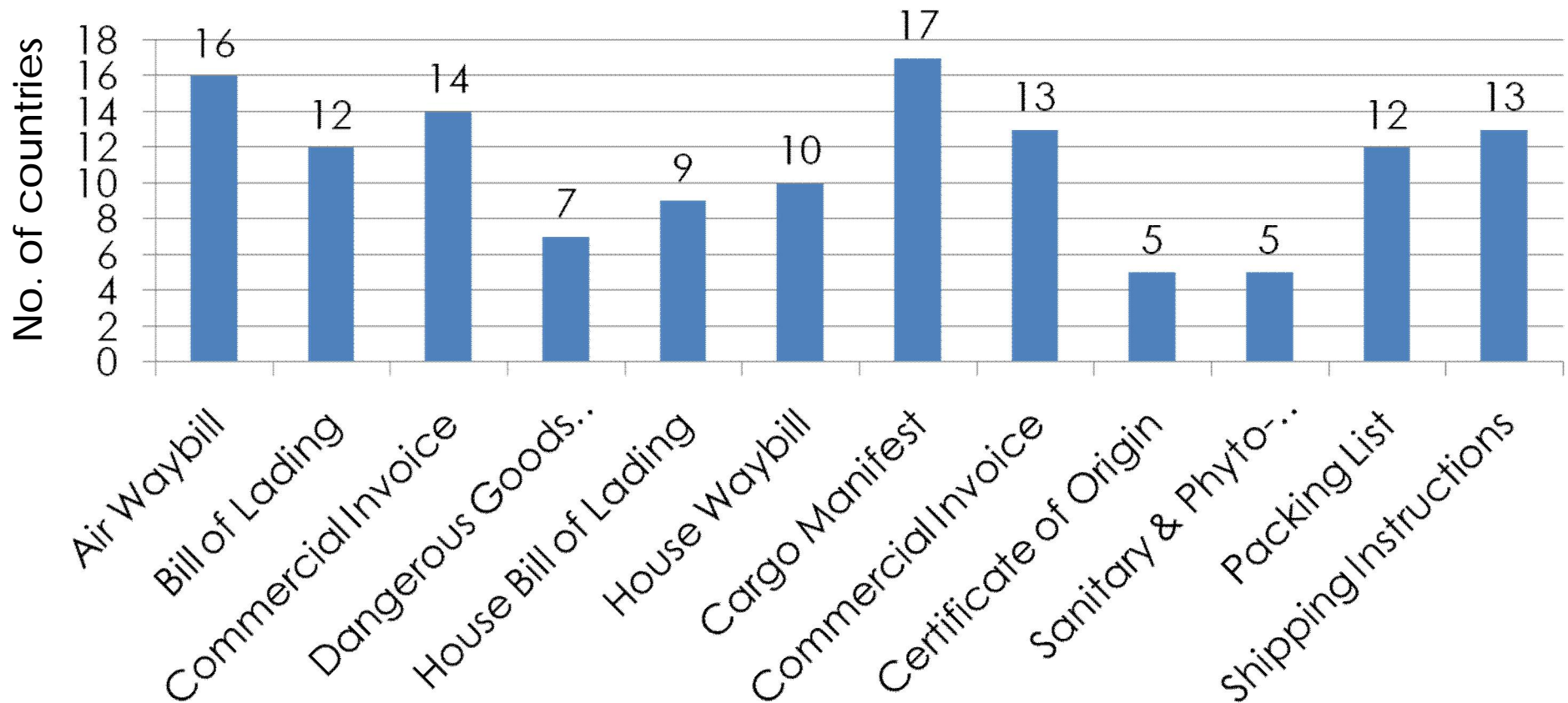
In some countries, 100% of Customs declarations are routed via the NSW ...

India, Korea Republic, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand

Towards Cross-Border Paperless Trade

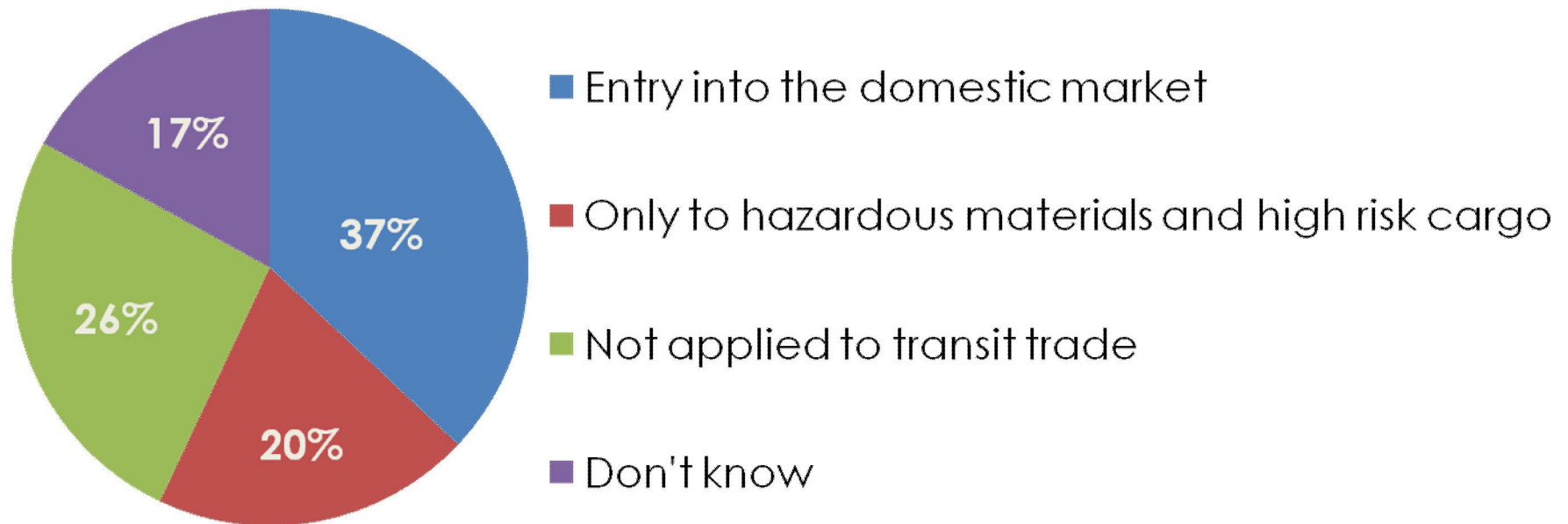
To the best of your knowledge, how are the following documents exchanged between traders in your country and their overseas counterparts/partners?

No. of countries who exchange electronic documents



Transit Facilitation

When are quality controls or technical standards applied?



- 41% of respondents surveyed indicated that they did not have separate border-crossing facilities/infrastructure for transits
- Most of the respondents surveyed indicated that physical inspections are limited through risk assessment

Key Messages

- More than half of the 26 countries surveyed already have a national trade facilitation body in place
- Customs does not always have to be the “lead agency” to promote and implement a national trade facilitation strategy;
 - Ministries of Economy, Commerce or Trade often take the lead
 - Typically, Customs tend to take the lead in the development of a National Single Window
- Risk Management plays an essential role in trade facilitation, but it often requires a Post-Clearance Audit programme to be in place
- Very few countries have implemented what could be considered to be a “fully operational” National Single Window
 - ... but most countries already have an e-Customs system

Regional:

Central and East Asia

What the respondents say

Country	Trade Facilitation Body	e-Customs System	National Single Window
Azerbaijan	Yes (1). No(1)	Yes (2)	Yes (1), Under Dev. (1)
China	Yes (1), No (3)	Yes (4)	Under Dev. (1), No (3)
Japan	Yes (1)	Yes (1)	Yes (1)
Korea, Rep.	Yes (1)	Yes (1)	Yes (1)
Kyrgyz Republic	Yes (2)	No (2)	No (2)
Mongolia	Yes (1)	Yes (1)	Don't Know (1)
Republic of Uzbekistan	No (1)	Don't Know (1)	No (1)
Russian Federation	Yes (1)	Yes (1)	Under Dev. (1)
Turkey	Yes (1)	Yes (1)	Under Dev. (1)

Some Observations

■ Cross Border Paperless Trade

- This region seems to have the best legal framework to support the exchange of electronic documents
- Most of the respondents surveyed said that they are not engaged in any cross border paperless trade document or data exchange with other country

■ Transit Facilitation

- Most of the countries do not have periodic review of fees and charges

Issues & Challenges

■ Azerbaijan

- The need for Business Process Analysis to analyze, simplify and automate processes
- Integration of Customs Single Window with the National Single Window

■ China

- Keeping the balance between legal stability with necessary flexibility in the quickly-changing Internet environment
- Co-ordination of the regulatory system
- No major breakthroughs have been made in transport system technology

■ Mongolia

- There are many useful documents on Trade Facilitation (e.g. by the WTO, ADB, UNESCAP, UNECE etc), but they do not reach the target groups

Issues & Challenges

■ Republic of Uzbekistan

- Necessity to deepen and activate regional economic co-operation
- Increase the number of regional projects on facilitation of transportation and trade
- Increase the knowledge of entrepreneurs in the region in the field of logistics

■ Turkey

- Administrative regulation consists of a lot of stages like preparation, cooperation, consensus of all relevant agencies
- Implementation of new technology takes too long by many of the stakeholders

Recommendations

■ Regional

- Greater coordination with regional countries, especially the landlocked Central Asian States, is also required to facilitate trade in the Central Asian region
- The regional level cooperation could help to practice some trade facilitation initiatives like the electronic transmission of commercial documents, CO, bill of lading and manifest within the region.

■ International

- The development of a regional framework for Single Window projects
- Networking and exchange of best practice on the regional level
- A common methodology to assess SW success
- The countries of the region should establish joint activities to develop the electronic trade documents for regional network of customs data exchange and paperless trade

Thank You