TMEA Trade Facilitation Overview

WTO/EU Trade Facilitation Workshop - 10 June 2014

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• About TMEA
• TMEA Trade Facilitation Support projects
• Needs Assessment – Challenges to ATF
• Partner - *Uganda Revenue Authority* *(URA)*
About TMEA

Vision: a united East Africa with flourishing trade, strong investment, and less poverty

Mission: to promote rapid advances in East Africa’s integration, trade and global competitiveness for all East Africans

How we work: through regional and country specific programmes aimed at achieving the EAC regional integration agenda
What are we?

- Trade and Markets East Africa (TMEA)
- Not for profit registered in all partner states
- Regional & National presence - branches in all 5 member states, Juba & Arusha
- Multi-donor – Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden, UK & USA
- Budget - $590m 2010 to 2017
TMEA’s Approach

- National implementation of regional policies
- Trade facilitation (‘software’) combined with trade infrastructure (‘hardware’)
- Fast & flexible demand-led approach
- Strong national and regional governance
- Focus on private sector engagement & dialogue
- Results and value for money driven
Increased Trade

- Increased physical access to markets
- Enhanced trade environment
- Improved business competitiveness

Increased Trade competitiveness in East Africa
High Transport & Trade Costs

Cost to Import & Export a Container

- Rwanda
- Burundi
- Uganda
- Kenya
- South Africa
- Tanzania
- China
- Singapore

Cost of importing a container vs. Cost of exporting a container

(Reference) Doing Business in Africa 2011
Expected Results by 2016

10% increase in the total value of exports from the EAC region

25% increase in intra-regional exports when compared to total exports in the region

15% reduction in average time to import or export a container from Mombasa or Dar es Salaam to Burundi or Rwanda

30% decrease in the average time a truck takes to cross selected borders

Value of benefits $17 billion - $34 return for every $1 invested

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TMEA trade facilitation projects

Objectives: Supporting interventions that facilitate trade and develop more efficient transport corridors

- Improvements in trade Infrastructure at Ports and Border Posts – 7 OSBPS and IBM
- Improvements in Customs management systems in Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and Kenya
- Single window projects in Rwanda and Uganda (design phase)
- Authorized Economic Operators programme in Uganda – rolling out to Rwanda and Burundi – presentation today;
- Standards harmonisation projects;
- Reduction of Non Tariff Barriers – including support to establishment of NTM institutional mechanisms
Needs Assessment – Changes to ATF implementation

• Supporting Needs Assessments
  ✓ in all the 5 Partner States to update the initial assessments and categorization into A, B & C,
  ✓ All the 5 Partner States looking for either financial and TA support;
  ✓ EAC Secretariat looking for similar support to identify gaps for compliance – esp. those of a regional nature – organising a regional workshop in July 2014

• Common challenges
  ✓ EAC partner states applying same customs law – although largely complying with the WTO ATF, it will require amendment to be fully compliant;
  ✓ Adjustment costs – legal and policy changes, IT related infrastructure and labs;
  ✓ Training costs;
  ✓ Making border agencies working together – cooperate & exchange information; and
  ✓ Private sector capacity to embrace voluntarily compliance
Thanks for your attention

Any questions?

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