United Kingdom: Accelerate Trade Facilitation

Considerations for Sustainable Trade Facilitation Reform

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About Accelerate Trade Facilitation

- Dedicated UK-funded programme for trade facilitation reform since 2015
- Phase IV 2022-2025 (£4.2m)
  - Unique partnership: UK/UNCTAD/WCO
    - TFA-article specific capacity building
    - Organisational development reforms for Customs Administrations
    - Equipping NTFCs with tools and knowledge to drive internal reform
- Currently in partnership with 26 countries, working across 10 TFA articles
Overview of Support

- Capacity building activities directly link to specific TFA articles, including:
  - Risk Management (7.4)
  - Coordinated Border Management (8)
  - Time-Release Studies (7.6)
  - Authorised Operator (7.7)

- Supporting Organisational development, including:
  - Leadership Management Development
  - Human Resources Management
  - Gender Equality and Diversity assessments
  - Customs Integrity Diagnostics etc.

- Empowering National Trade Facilitation Committees to drive internal reform;
  - Comprehensive E-learning package
  - Advisory services regarding ratification, notifications and implementation
  - NTFC Secretariat and Chairperson specific coaching Reform Tracker project management tool for NTFCs (all articles)
  - Trade Facilitation Implementation Score
  - Business Process Analyses & simplification (coming soon)

- UK programme governance
- Leverages UK Gov expertise to deliver activity (HMRC and Border Force)
- Bilateral Customs-to-Customs support for agile assistance
Key factors supporting sustainability

- Needs-driven partnerships
- Commitment to inclusive reform
- Collaboration with Development Organisations
- Long-Term, sustained support
- Contextualised interventions
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<th>Challenges from a Donor Perspective</th>
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<td><strong>Sustainability</strong></td>
<td>Ensuring financial <em>and</em> institutional longevity</td>
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<td><strong>Outcomes</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrating causality and concrete outcomes</td>
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<td><strong>Coordination</strong></td>
<td><em>Further</em> coordination with Annex D+ organisations and donors</td>
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<td><strong>Balance</strong></td>
<td>Balancing focus on depth and breadth of TFA measures</td>
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<td><strong>Complexity</strong></td>
<td>Complexity of remaining TFA Category C measures</td>
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2023-24 Period: Upcoming Focus

- Advance Rulings (3)
- Pre-Arrival Processing (7.1)
- Risk Management (7.4)
- Post-Clearance Audit (7.5)
- Time-Release Studies (7.6)
- Authorised Operators (7.7)
- Expedited Shipments (7.8)
- Coordinated Border Management (8)
- Reform Tracker TFA Implementation
Thank you

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