

Challenges and Opportunities of TFA implementation in LDCs

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Outline

Major challenges

Some potential opportunities

Possible areas of cooperation

Major challenges

- Definitive date notification deadline (Category C: 22 August 2022)
- Meeting deadlines of implementing Category B measures: 10 LDCs (22 measures) shifted from Category B to Category C
- Gaps in technical and financial support
- Institutionalization of National Trade Facilitation Committee
- Bridging digital gaps & linking domestic business with cross-border trade.
- Insufficient trade infrastructure
- Transit related challenges: automation and harmonization, informal obstacles
- Capacity constraints of exporters to benefit from facilities in destination markets

Major Challenges ...

- Implementation of Category C measures especially in:

Border agency cooperation

Single window

Authorized operators

Risk management

Test procedures

Advanced ruling

Enquiry points

Electronic payment

- Effective matching of cooperation between donors and LDC members (significant additional support from DPs: resource, technological, institutional & human CB)
- Meeting notification obligation regularly
- LLDCs facing further difficulties (insufficient trade and ICT infrastructure)
- Harnessing potential benefits (2/3 benefits to go to the developing and LDCs)

Potential Opportunities

- LDCs fully committed to TFA implementation: Most notification obligation fulfilled
- Working on Category C measures (to notify the definitive dates)
- LDCs shifting from Category C to B (5 members, 18 measures including 11 by Nepal)
- Technical assistance requirements & periodic review report: good basis to proceed
- Linking TFA implementation with national development process: support from DPs
- Development partners' willingness to work in TFA implementation
- Positive multiplier impacts: NTFC, Customs reforms, E-governance, infrastructure
- Possibility of export promotion: harnessing estimated benefits

Possible areas of cooperation

- LDCs' notification on Categorization of measures: platform for partnership
- Notification on technical assistance requirement, basis to proceed: support needed especially in: a) Human resources and training, b) Legislative and regulatory framework, c) ICT, d) Infrastructure and equipment, e) Awareness raising, f) Institutional procedures, g) Diagnostic and needs assessment etc.
- Support in bridging digital divide: possible expansion to business community
- Implementation of Category C measures: joint responsibility, mobilization of additional support needed from donors

THANK YOU

