Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries on Trade and Transport
16-17 May 2018, Astana

Implementing Trade Facilitation
Mercator Programme
World Customs Organization (WCO)

- Only International Organization exclusively focused on Customs matters
- The international house of Customs...
Context

- WTO TFA implementation
- Securitisation of the supply chain
- Domestic Resource Mobilization
- E-commerce challenges
- Advancement of technology

Guiding principles for WCO CB

- Political will
- Ownership and commitment
- Holistic development
- Demand driven and responsive
- Partnerships
• Harmonized implementation based on the WCO’s global standards

• Tailor-made technical assistance and capacity building

• Effective coordination among all stakeholders

• **Principles and Objectives**

• The Mercator Programme was launched at the WCO Council in June 2014 as a strategic initiative to support the sustainable and effective implementation of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation
• **Overall Track**

The overall track is designed to encompass the full suite of WCO instruments and tools, while building global awareness of the TFA in concert with donor and implementation partners.

1. **Implementation partnership**

2. **Regional-level Awareness Raising**

3. **WCO Instruments and Tools**

4. **TFA Implementation Guidance**

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**Mercator Programme**

A Navigational Map for Trade Facilitation
Mercator Programme
A Navigational Map for Trade Facilitation

Tools and Instruments

- Revised Kyoto Convention
- SAFE Framework of Standards
- Time Release Study Guide
- Single Window Compendium
- Data Model
- Transit Handbook
- Revenue Package
- Post Clearance Audit Guidelines
- CBM Compendium
- NCTF Guidance
- CLiKC Customs Learning & Knowledge Community
- TFA e-Learning courses
- Customs Business Partnership Guidance
The Tailor-made track is designed to identify and support individual countries' needs, leveraging existing diagnostic and capacity building efforts, while coordinating with other development partners. It is premised on a Customs-to-Customs partnership model.

1. **Country-level engagements**
   - Needs assessments, planning and delivery

2. **Monitoring**
   - Time-release study and other indicators

3. **Donor engagement**
   - Growing suite of TFA-specific programmes (HMRC, Finland), partnerships with other development partners

4. **Accreditation of Experts**
   - Growing pool of MPA s from developed and developing countries
Tailor-Made Track

Accredited Experts
- WCO accredited experts are active Customs officers, contributed on an in-kind basis from WCO member administrations

Implementation Guide
- A navigational roadmap for implementing TFA provisions through the application of WCO instruments and tools

Training Packages
- WCO instruments and tools are supported by a wide range of in-person and electronic (e-learning) training packages

Multi-Year Support
- Multi-year commitments and iterative engagements
Tailor Made Support

International Commitments

National Priorities

Analysis / Scoping

Prioritization / Sequencing / Result Oriented Single National Development Agenda
The Mercator Programme
Taylor Made Track

- 33 Member administrations
- > 70 countries benefitted since the Programme launch
- Several WCO CB projects provide support under the tailor-made track
Capacity Building Activities in 2016/2017

492 Capacity Building support missions
> 130 Members involved
Expert Mobilisation and Management

- 15 accreditation events conducted
- Over 100 participants qualified for next stage
- Increased number of French, Russian and Spanish speaking experts
- Regular reporting of Experts’ management and deployment

- 80 MPAs (accredited and pre-accredited)
- Accreditation of Spanish-speaking MPAs in Aug 2017