

# **ESCAP Report to 2016 AFACT Steering Committee Meeting**

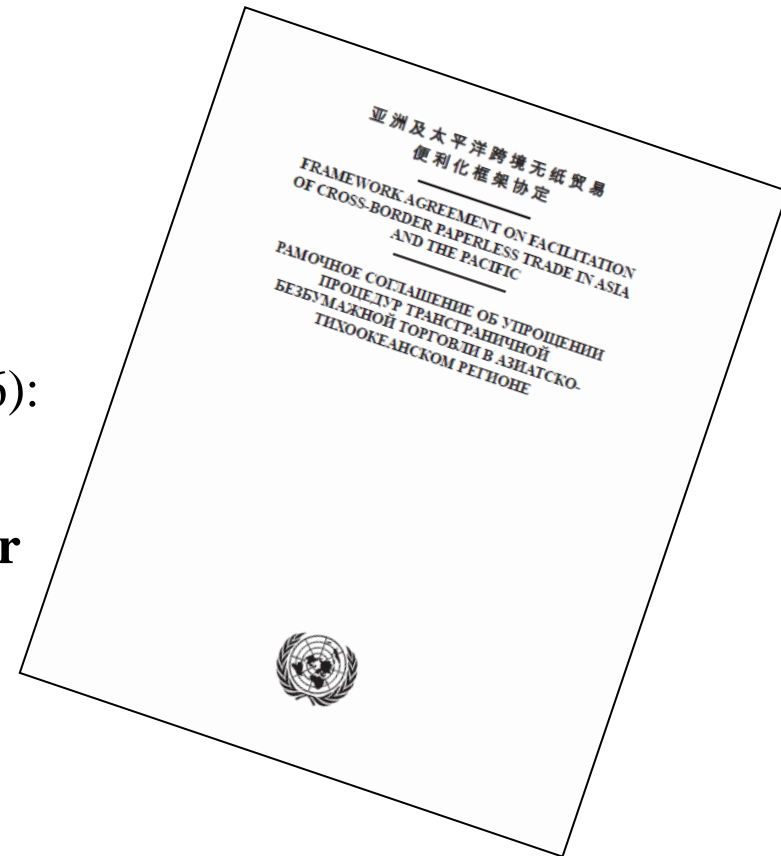
**7-9 November 2016  
Tokyo, Japan**

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Trade, Investment and Innovation Division  
United Nations ESCAP**

# Update on ESCAP Work Programmes and Projects

## (1) Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific

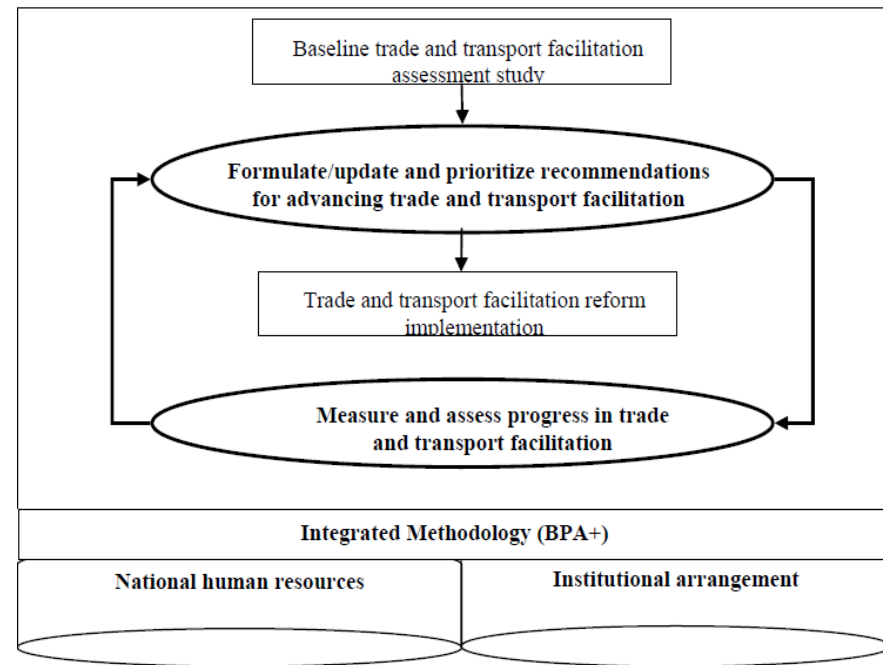
- ❖ **A UN treaty developed by ESCAP members**
  - Finalized by 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Interim Intergovernmental Steering Group (March 2016)
  - Adopted by ESCAP Commission (May 2016): Commission resolution 72/4
- ❖ **Opened for becoming a party from 1 October 2016**
  - open to member states of the ESCAP (53 countries)



# Update on ESCAP Work Programmes and Projects

## (2) Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism (TTFMM)

- ❑ A guidance on establishing a sustainable trade and transport facilitation monitoring mechanism
- ❑ Project implementation in three countries (Bhutan, Bangladesh and Nepal): finalization in process.
- ❑ Currently in the process of being developed as an UN/CEFACT Recommendation  
(<https://www2.unece.org/cefact/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=9603750>)



# Update on ESCAP Work Programmes and Projects

## (3) Capacity Building & Technical Assistance

- Agriculture TF ; TF for SMEs
- Single Window & paperless trade; WTO TFA



### SINGLE WINDOW IMPLEMENTATION TOOLKIT FOR TRADE FACILITATION



<https://unnnext.unescap.org/>

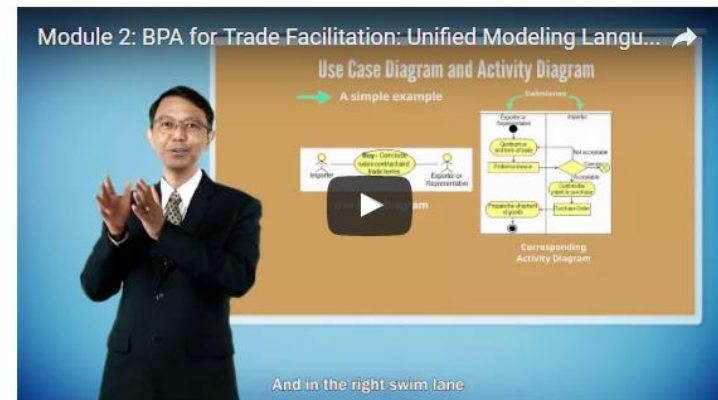
# Update on ESCAP Work Programmes and Projects

## (4) Launch of e-learning course on Business Process Analysis (BPA) for Trade Facilitation

- ❖ Online learning platform, based on UNNExT BPA Guide
- ❖ 6+1 video modules
- ❖ Testing and certification system
- ❖ Free of charge to use

### Module 2: BPA for Trade Facilitation - Unified Modeling Language

This video is the second Module of the ESCAP e-Learning Series: Business Process Analysis to Simplify Trade Procedures. In this module you will go through: a definition of what is Unified Modeling Language, its relevance for Business Analysis, a description of the Use Case and Activity Diagrams and some case examples to illustrate the concept of UML.



More information can be found in the UNNExT Guide on Business Process Analysis available on the UNNExT website.

<http://www.unescap.org/our-work/trade-investment-innovation/trade-facilitation/bpa-course>

# Update on ESCAP Work Programmes and Projects

## (5) Research & Analysis on Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade

- ❖ ESCAP-World Bank Trade Cost Database
- ❖ **Global Survey on Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade Implementation**
- ❖ Trade Process Analysis Database
  
- ❖ Policy analysis, e.g., impact of paperless trade implementation on trade costs

<http://www.unescap.org/our-work/trade-investment-innovation/trade-facilitation/publications>

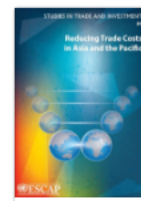
<https://unnex.unescap.org/databases>



**Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade: State of Play and The Way Forward for Asia and the Pacific**

15 Dec 2015  
Books

Trade facilitation (the simplification and harmonization of import, export, and transit procedures) including paperless trade (the use and exchange of electronic data and documents to support the trade transaction process), has taken increasing importance as evidenced by the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement reached in December 2013, as well as the growing number of regional and subregional initiatives aimed at facilitating the electronic exchange of information along international supply chains.



**Reducing Trade Costs in Asia-Pacific Developing Countries**

2 Dec 2015  
Books

Reducing Trade Costs in Asia-Pacific Developing Countries (Studies in Trade and Investment No. 84). International trade has been a major engine for economic growth and development in Asia and the Pacific. However, overall trade costs remain excessively high in many developing countries of the region. Part I of this publication provides an overview of trade costs in Asia and the Pacific, based on the most recent update of the ESCAP-World Bank Trade Cost Database. Policies and factors affecting international trade costs are identified.



**Trade Facilitation in Asia and the Pacific: Which Policies and Measures Affect Trade Costs the Most? 2015 Update**

1 Dec 2015  
Working paper series

How much of international trade costs can be mitigated through implementation of trade facilitation measures and policies? What measures and policies affect trade costs the most? This paper updates findings from Duval and Utoktham (2011), based on ESCAP-World Bank Trade Costs

# Recent and Upcoming Events in 2016

- ❑ National Validation workshops on Baseline Study of Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism (TTFMM) for Bhutan, Bangladesh and Nepal, July – August 2016
- ❑ 28<sup>th</sup> UN/CEFACT Forum, 26 – 30 September 2016, Bangkok
- ❑ Workshop on Implementation of e-SPS and Automation for Agriculture Trade Facilitation, 1-3 November 2016, Bangkok
- ❑ **Workshop on Implementing Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific, 24 - 25 November 2016, Bangkok**
- ❑ **Workshop on Promoting Cross-border Agricultural Trade for Sustainable Development, 28 – 30 November 2016, Bangkok**
- ❑ **International Seminar on Trade Facilitation in North East Asia, 13 December 2016, Incheon, RoK**

# ESCAP Work Programme

## On Trade Facilitation in 2017

### **Implementation of ESCAP Resolution 68/3, 70/6 and 72/4:**

- ✓ 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Interim Intergov Steering Group on CB Paperless TF and 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of its legal and technical working groups: 21-25 March 2017
- ✓ Support or becoming parties to the Framework Agreement

### **Other key events:**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> UNNExT Masterclass in Cheon-an, RoK, April 2017
- 8<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum: September 2017, Venue (tbc)

### **Follow-up on Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism (TTFMM)**

### **Updates of TF databases; Update of Global Survey on TF & Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific**



# ESCAP Work Programme On Trade Facilitation in 2017

## ❑ Field projects:

- **UNDA 9<sup>th</sup> Tranche project on agricultural trade facilitation (2014-17)**
- **Capacity Building for Trade Facilitation (RoK)**
- **Capacity building towards cross-border paperless trade for trade facilitation in Mongolia and East and Northeast Asia and Central Asia**
  - \* Activities: subregional BPA study, subregional workshop, pilot project on subregional cross-border paperless trade data exchange, etc.
- **Promoting regional best practices in the application of Single Windows systems for trade facilitation in Eurasian Economic Union and North and Central Asia**
  - \* Activities: study on regional SW best practice, development of SW interoperability guide, subregional workshops, etc.

**Thank you**