Regulatory and Procedural Barriers to Trade in the Republic of Tajikistan

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Regions
The capital city of Dushanbe and the country’s second largest city of Khujan, both of which are major industrial hubs.

Sectors
Strategic non-resource based sectors. These were selected in consultation with the Government based on their contribution to exports and income growth in general. Listed using the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) Revision 3 (top level):
• Food and live animals
• Beverages and tobacco
• Chemicals
• Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material
• Machinery and transport equipment
• Miscellaneous manufactured articles.
Broatest possible participation
The National Advisory Working Group

Chair
Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade

Members
- Ministry of Economic Development and Trade
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Transport
- Customs Service
- Tajikstandart
- State Committee for National Security
- State Centre for Sanitary Epidemiological Control under the Ministry of Health
- State Veterinary Inspection Service under the Ministry of Agriculture
- State Service for Phyto-sanitary and Quarantine Inspection under the Ministry of Agriculture
Brodest possible participation
The Private sector

- **Transport operators, logistics service companies**
  - Custom brokers
  - Association of customs brokers of Tajikistan
  - Freight forwarders
  - Truck operators

- **Market support institutions**
  - Chamber of Commerce and Industry
  - National Association Small and Medium Business

- **Traders**
### Evidence based
Desk research and face-to-face interviews

#### Desk study
- Previous studies
- Laws, policy documents and government decisions
- Development plans

#### Face-to-face interviews: representatives of Government & trade support institutions
- Officials from the National Advisory Working Group
- Logistics service providers, transport operations, trade and enterprise support associations

#### Face-to-Face interviews: 63 traders from priority sectors
- 60 Traders were approached by M-Vector in early 2013 using the UNECE traders questionnaire
Comprehensive Evaluation Methodology: Interplay between transport, trade facilitation, standardisation and technical regulation

Impact on behind and at the borders regulations and procedures

Cost of trade (financial and time wise)
First Analytical framework
Trade Facilitation and transport

BUY
SHIP
PAY

Prepare for export
Transport
Receive payment

Commercial Procedures
Transport Procedures
Regulatory Procedures
Financial Procedures
# Trade Facilitation and transport

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Issues</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Transport</td>
<td>• Quality and price of transport and logistical services</td>
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<td>2. Logistical services</td>
<td>• Regulations and laws</td>
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<td>• Administrative procedures</td>
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<td>• Institutional capacity of State agencies</td>
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<td>• Inter-agency cooperation</td>
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<td>• Development plans</td>
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<td>3. Customs clearance</td>
<td>• Administrative and regulatory procedures</td>
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<td>• Documentary requirements</td>
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<td>• Public-private sector dialogue and partnerships</td>
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<td>4. At the border control</td>
<td>• Development plans</td>
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Second Analytical Framework
Standardisation and Technical Regulation
Planning and implementation challenges facing regulators in ensuring product quality and safety:

- Quality of infrastructure (i.e. testing laboratories)
- Competence (expertise knowledge)
- Management methodologies,
- Regulatory framework
Due diligence

1. Follow-up interviews with stakeholders to gain further clarity over specific issues (Dushanbe, October 2013):

- Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (1)
- Customs Service (1)
- Tajikstandart (1)
- Traders (3)
- Freight forwarders (1)
- Customs brokers (1)

2. A business process analysis of cotton exports (exporting cotton was highlighted as particularly challenging during the follow-up interviews)

3. Stakeholders meeting (7 February 2014) to obtain detailed feedback from national stakeholders
Next Steps

1. Presenting the results of the study to the ECE member States during the Committee on Trade annual session (10-12 February 2014)

2. Revising the draft report as needed (March 2014)

3. Presenting the revised report to the National Advisory Working Group before final publication (April 2014)

4. Assist the Government in preparing project documents to implement key recommendations (February-May 2014)

5. Assist the Government in updating the Aid-for-Trade (AfT) national action matrix that was presented during the 2010 Baku Ministerial Conference for SPECA countries (February-March 2014)

6. Assist the Government in follow-up.