



WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION



TFAF

Trade Facilitation
Agreement **Facility**

TFA FACILITY REPORT

TO THE WTO TRADE FACILITATION
COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 12-13, 2019

WTO Participated as Resource Person in:



World Customs Organization
Organisation Mondiale des Douanes

WCO TFA Working Group Meeting – October 22-23, 2018



ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

ADB meeting – Bangkok – October 30-31, 2018- ADB Inter-Subregional WTO TFA Knowledge-sharing Forum

BORDER AGENCY COOPERATION WORKSHOP SOUTH AFRICA NOVEMBER 14-16, 2018

Regional workshop for English speaking Southern African countries.

85 participants from 13 countries, (6 LDCs).

Goal: improve border agency cooperation in implementing the TFA at the national and regional levels to facilitate safe trade. Attention was also given to issues in LLDCs and transit countries with a focus on the TFA and the Vienna Program of Action. And TFA notification requirements.

Organized & delivered by TFAF, STDF, WBG, WCO, IPPC, CODEX, OIE & UNHORLLS. It was funded by Facility, WBG, and the OIE.

Participant top take aways:

- NTFs need to have a 'whole of government' approach
- Need to provide training on the TFA for traders so they can be fully involved
- Risk management coordination amongst agencies- and training on risk - are essential because of the different approaches, mandates and risks of the different agencies.





250 participants from 44 African countries
Organized and funded by TFAF, UNCTAD, WBG,
WCO, ITC & the Global Alliance. Plus UNECA, UNECE and
donor partners.

Goal: members of African NTFCs to share best
practices/issues in the operation of their committees.

Participants: trade, customs, national donor coordinator,
private sector – NTFC chair.

Participants reported top take aways as:

Some NTFCs lack of a legal basis and political backing –
Many NTFCs lack of sustainable funding
Notes: private sector uniquely combines technical
expertise and partnership in reform, role in monitoring
implementation and are the end user/beneficiary of the
TFA.



ADDIS ABABA

November 27-29, 2018

African Forum for National Trade Facilitation Committees



A 2 day national workshop was held in Saint Kitts and Nevis to help government officials and private sector better understand the TFA; in particular their category C provisions, with a focus on a better understanding of the TFA notifications – and when they are due. Presented by WTO, officials from the St Kitts and Nevis National Trade Facilitation Committee, the OECS Commission and GEA / CLADEC.



National Workshop for St. Kitts & Nevis

24-25 January 2019

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OECS



The WTO TFA: Supporting Strategic and Effective Implementation in CARICOM

Organized by **CARICOM OECS TFAF**
Funded by **TFAF**

28 January- 1st February 2019
St Lucia

CARICOM Regional

A regional workshop for 14 CARICOM countries. Participants from customs, trade, agriculture, standards, private sector.

Focus: TFA notifications, the top category C provisions in the region, and border agency co-operation.
Inaugural meeting of a regional trade facilitation committee led by CARICOM and OECS.

Main event take aways reported by the participants:

- The urgency of the transparency and ABC-related notification deadlines
- The importance and value of full implementation of the TFA
- The ongoing need for systematic/formalized border agency co-operation
- The vital nature of NTFC roadmaps/action plans
- The relevance of the regional approach
- The pleasant surprise that transparency notifications are quite straight forward





The TFAF's primary function is helping developing and least developed country (LDC) Members to gain access to TFA implementation assistance. If a Member is unable to find the assistance it needs to implement one of its notified Category C commitments, it can - through an Expression of Interest - request that the Facility assist in identifying donor partners on its behalf. In this context, a TFAF grant should be considered when assistance remains unavailable through other channels

Here's how TFAF Grants can help with implementation of the TFA:



TFAF Grants provide developing and Least Developed Country (LDC) Members of the WTO an additional avenue of support to implement TFA provisions when they have been unable to access assistance elsewhere



The TFAF Secretariat works in close cooperation with Members and with other international organizations and therefore has access to a large pool of TFA implementation experts who can advise on how to strengthen applications and implement the projects funded



Project Preparation Grants (PPGs), up to a maximum value of \$30,000 can cover the costs of hiring experts to help design and apply for larger-scale TFA implementation projects



Project Implementation Grants (PGs), up to a maximum value of \$200,000 can cover the costs of hiring experts to design the necessary new procedures and draft new laws to implement TFA provisions



Before applying for PPGs or PGs, all applicants must complete an online expression of interest that establishes a basic description of a Member's TFA implementation status and needs. Expressions of interest are then circulated to all donor organizations which can then step in to help or approve an application for PPG and / or a PG assistance. A win-win situation



The online TFAF Grant application process has been designed to be clear and straightforward with the TFAF Secretariat team available to offer support and answer questions. PPG-funded expertise can even be used to complete the PG application process



Expressions of Interest and PPG applications are processed on an ongoing basis, with PG applications reviewed quarterly by an evaluation committee. All requests are answered promptly and projects implemented swiftly



Trade Facilitation Agreement Facility

Grant Program



TFAF Grant Program

APPLY

The TFAF will provide two types of grants to developing and LDC Members who have been unable to access support for their Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) commitments through regular channels and who meet the following criteria:

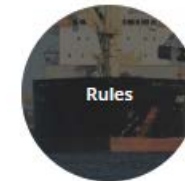
- The Member has ratified the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) Protocol of Amendment and deposited its Instrument of Acceptance with the WTO
- The Member has officially notified its category C provisions, as defined in Article 14 of the TFA
- The Member is not subject to administrative measures

Project Preparation Grants

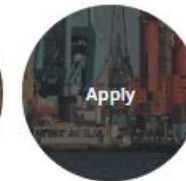
Project preparation grants will be available in circumstances where a Member requires additional support to successfully apply for assistance to implement their category C provisions. Assistance provided under the project preparation grant will be up to a maximum value of US\$30,000.

Project Implementation Grants

Project implementation grants will be available for implementation of applicants' specific category C provisions of the Trade Facilitation Agreement. Assistance provided under the project implementation grants will be up to a maximum value of US\$200,000.



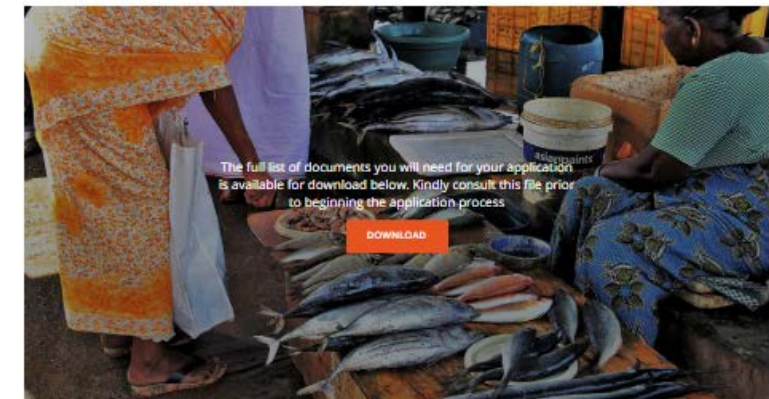
Rules



Apply



Guidelines



The full list of documents you will need for your application is available for download below. Kindly consult this file prior to beginning the application process

DOWNLOAD



THANK YOU

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