### United Kingdom: Accelerate Trade Facilitation

Considerations for Sustainable Trade Facilitation Reform

Christopher Dobson

Capacity Building Lead - HMRC





## About Accelerate Trade Facilitation

- Dedicated UK-funded programme for trade facilitation reform since 2015
- Phase IV 2022-2025 (£4.2m)
- Unique partnership: UK/UNCTAD/WCO
  - TFA-article specific capacity building
  - Organisational development reforms for Customs Administrations
  - Equipping NTFCs with tools and knowledge to drive internal reform
- Currently in partnership with 26 countries, working across 10 TFA articles



#### Overview of Support



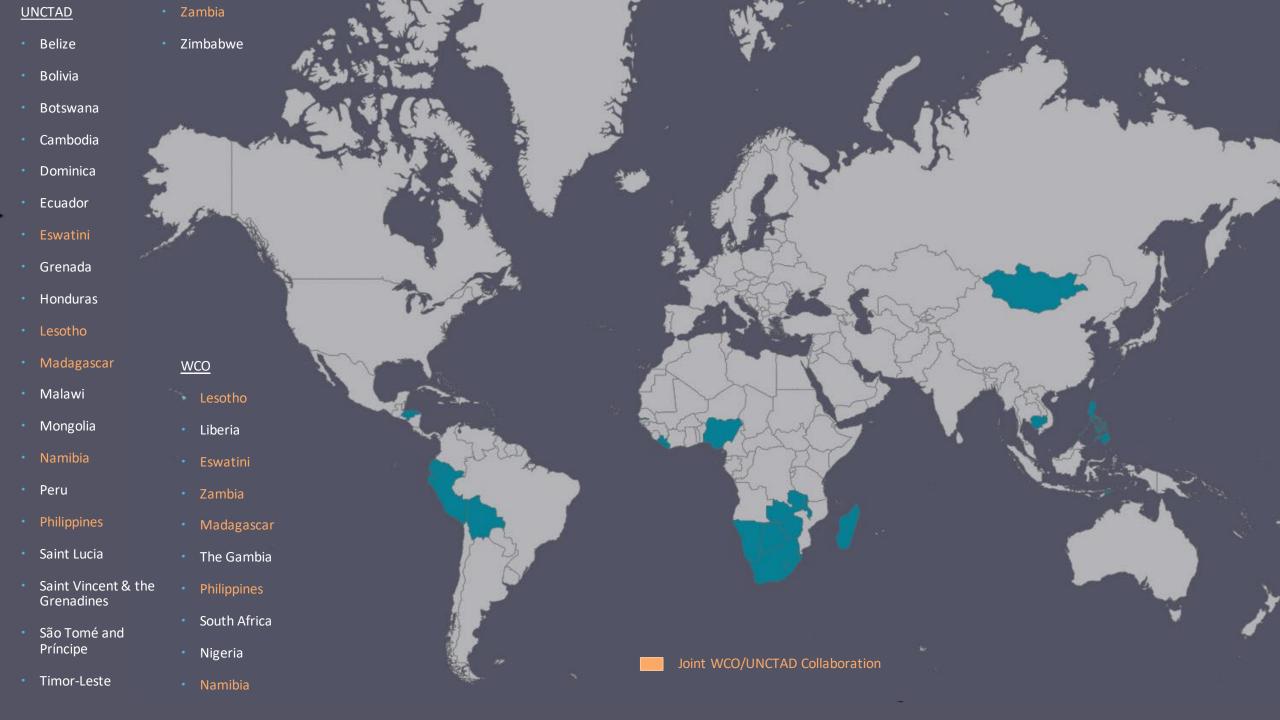
- Capacity building activities directly link to specific TFA articles, including;
  - Risk Management (7.4)
  - Coordinated Border Management (8)
  - Time-Release Studies (7.6)
  - Authorised Operator (7.7)
- Supporting Organisational development, including;
  - Leadership Management Development
  - Human Resources Management
  - Gender Equality and Diversity assessments
  - Customs Integrity Diagnostics etc.



- •Empowering National Trade Facilitation Committees to drive internal reform;
  - •Comprehensive E-learning package
  - Advisory services regarding ratification, notifications and implementation
  - •NTFC Secretariat and Chairperson specific coaching Reform Tracker project management tool for NTFCs (all articles)
  - •Trade Facilitation Implementation Score
  - Business Process Analyses & simplification (coming soon)



- UK programme governance
- Leverages UK Gov expertise to deliver activity (HMRC and Border Force)
- Bilateral Customs-to-Customs support for agile assistance



# Key factors supporting sustainability



Needs-driven partnerships



Commitment to inclusive reform



Collaboration with Development Organisations



Long-Term, sustained support



Contextualised interventions



# Challenges from a Donor Perspective

Sustainability	Ensuring financial <i>and</i> institutional longevity
Outcomes	Demonstrating causality and concrete outcomes
Coordination	Further coordination with Annex D+ organisations and donors
Balance	Balancing focus on depth and breadth of TFA measures
Complexity	Complexity of remaining TFA Category C measures



2023-24
Period:
Upcoming
Focus

Advance Rulings (3)	
Pre-Arrival Processing (7.1)	
Risk Management (7.4)	
Post-Clearance Audit (7.5)	
Time-Release Studies (7.6)	
Authorised Operators (7.7)	
Expedited Shipments (7.8)	
Coordinated Border Management (8)	
Reform Tracker TFA Implementation	



#### Thank you

Christopher.Dobson1@hmrc.gov.uk

