UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

UNCTAD

Afghanistan
Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessment

UNITED NATIONS

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

UNCTAD

Afghanistan
Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessment

UNITED NATIONS

© 2019, United Nations

This work is available open access by complying with the Creative Commons licence created for intergovernmental organizations, available at http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/igo/.

The findings, interpretations and conclusions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations, its officials or Member States.

The designation employed and the presentation of material on any map in this work do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Photocopies and reproductions of excerpts are allowed with proper credits.

This publication has been edited externally.

United Nations publication issued by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2019/5

eISBN: 978-92-1-003970-3

NOTE

Within the UNCTAD Division on Technology and Logistics, the ICT Policy Section carries out policy-oriented analytical work on the development implications of information and communication technologies (ICTs) and e-commerce. It is responsible for the preparation of the Information Economy Report (IER) as well as thematic studies on ICT for Development.

The ICT Policy Section promotes international dialogue on issues related to ICTs for development and contributes to building developing countries' capacities to measure the information economy and to design and implement relevant policies and legal frameworks. It also monitors the global state of e-commerce legislation (unctad.org/cyberlawtracker). Since 2016, the section has coordinated a multi-stakeholders' initiative entitled eTrade for all (etradeforall.org), which aims to improve the ability of developing countries, particularly least developed countries (LDCs), to use and benefit from e-commerce.

Reference to companies and their activities should not be construed as an endorsement by UNCTAD of those companies or their activities.

The following symbols have been used in the tables:

Two dots (..) indicate that data are not available or are not separately reported. Rows in tables have been omitted in those cases where no data are available for any of the elements in the row;

A dash (-) indicates that the item is equal to zero or its value is negligible;

Reference to "dollars" (US$) means United States of America dollars, unless otherwise indicated;

Reference to "AFN" means Afghanistan Afghani, unless otherwise indicated; 1 AFN = 0.13 US$ (October 26, 2018).

Details and percentages in tables do not necessarily add up to the totals because of rounding.

PREFACE

The eTrade for all Initiative, launched at the fourteenth Ministerial Conference of UNCTAD in July 2016, is a practical example of how to harness the digital economy in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, notably Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 5, 8, 9, and 17. The initiative seeks to raise awareness, enhance synergies, and increase the scale of existing and new efforts by the development community to strengthen the ability of developing countries to engage in and benefit from e-commerce by addressing seven relevant policy areas:

- E-commerce readiness assessment and strategy formulation
- ICT infrastructure and services
- Trade logistics and trade facilitation
- Payment solutions
- Legal and regulatory frameworks
- E-commerce skills development
- Access to financing

As part of the initiative, demand-driven assessments are envisaged to provide a basic analysis of the current e-commerce situation in the countries concerned, and to identify opportunities and barriers. The resulting reports will serve as a valuable input to these countries' involvement in various discussions related to e-commerce and digital trade, such as in the context of the UNCTAD Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy. It may furthermore help LDCs to identify areas in which they could benefit from assistance by partners of eTrade for all.

The Afghanistan Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessment is the sixteenth such assessment conducted by UNCTAD since the launch of the Programme in 2017.

The country's development trajectory continues to face significant risks and volatility. The Government's efforts to promote economic growth, and to develop the public sector infrastructure to adequately cater to the needs of citizens and businesses, are still hampered by the uncertain security climate.

Despite a challenging environment, the digital economy has demonstrated important signs of growth. The ICT sector is maturing rapidly, and e-commerce activity has ramped up. This assessment comes at an opportune time for the country to take stock of the e-commerce ecosystem and implement the recommendations to help support the ecosystem.

With the eTrade for all partners, UNCTAD is committed to continue supporting Afghanistan in its resolve to harness the potential of e-commerce for its development.

Shamika N. Sirimanne
Director, Division on Technology and Logistics, UNCTAD

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessment for Afghanistan was prepared by Rahul Bhatnagar in close collaboration with a team comprising Cécile Barayre, Marian Pletosu and Dominic Leong, under the overall guidance of Torbjörn Fredriksson. An UNCTAD team comprising of two national consultants Malyar Jabarkhel and Saleem Ahmadzai lent valuable technical and coordination-based support. UNCTAD's ASYCUDA field coordinator in Afghanistan, Reza Mohammadi was instrumental in providing guidance on project management matters.

Profound gratitude goes out to H.E. Ms. Kamila Sidiqi, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Industry and Commerce (MOIC); Mr. Mir Sayed Saeedy, Director General of International Trade, MOIC, Mr. Baraimal Jeryan, Director for Trade Policy Analysis and Trade Promotion, General Directorate of International Trade, MOIC, for championing the assessment in Afghanistan.

In Geneva, UNCTAD is grateful for the stewardship of this initiative by H.E. Mr. Mohammad Qurban Haqjo, Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the World Trade Organization (WTO), and for the guidance of Mr. Sulaiman Satari, Counsellor for Legal Affairs, Permanent Mission of Afghanistan to the WTO.

The assessment benefited from inputs from more than 30 stakeholders in both public and private sectors, through interviews and the eTrade for all online surveys.

Comments and inputs provided by the following eTrade for all partner agencies' experts have substantially improved the final report: James Howe, Jean-Sébastien Roure (ITC); Olivier Boussard (UPU); Luca Castellani (UNCITRAL).

Desktop publishing was prepared by Keel Chan and the cover was designed by Magali Studer. The document was externally edited by Nancy Biersteker.

Funding for this report was kindly provided by the Government of Germany.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NOTE III

PREFACE IV

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS V

ABBREVIATIONS VII

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 1

METHODOLOGY 3

SUMMARY OF MAIN FINDINGS AND MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS 4

FINDINGS UNDER THE SEVEN ETRADE FOR ALL POLICY AREAS 6

1. E-COMMERCE READINESS ASSESSMENTS AND STRATEGY FORMULATION 6
2. ICT INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES 12
3. TRADE LOGISTICS AND TRADE FACILITATION 18
4. PAYMENT SOLUTIONS 22
5. LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK 29
6. E-COMMERCE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT 31
7. ACCESS TO FINANCING 34

CONCLUSION 37

THE WAY FORWARD: ACTION MATRIX 38

Annex I: Afghanistan country profile on etradeforall.org 45

Annex II: Bibliography and websites used 47

Annex III: List of UNCTAD Rapid eTrade Readiness Assessments of LDCs 48

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_8930