



Policy Dialogue on Regional Cooperation, Connectivity and Inclusive Development in South and South-West Asia

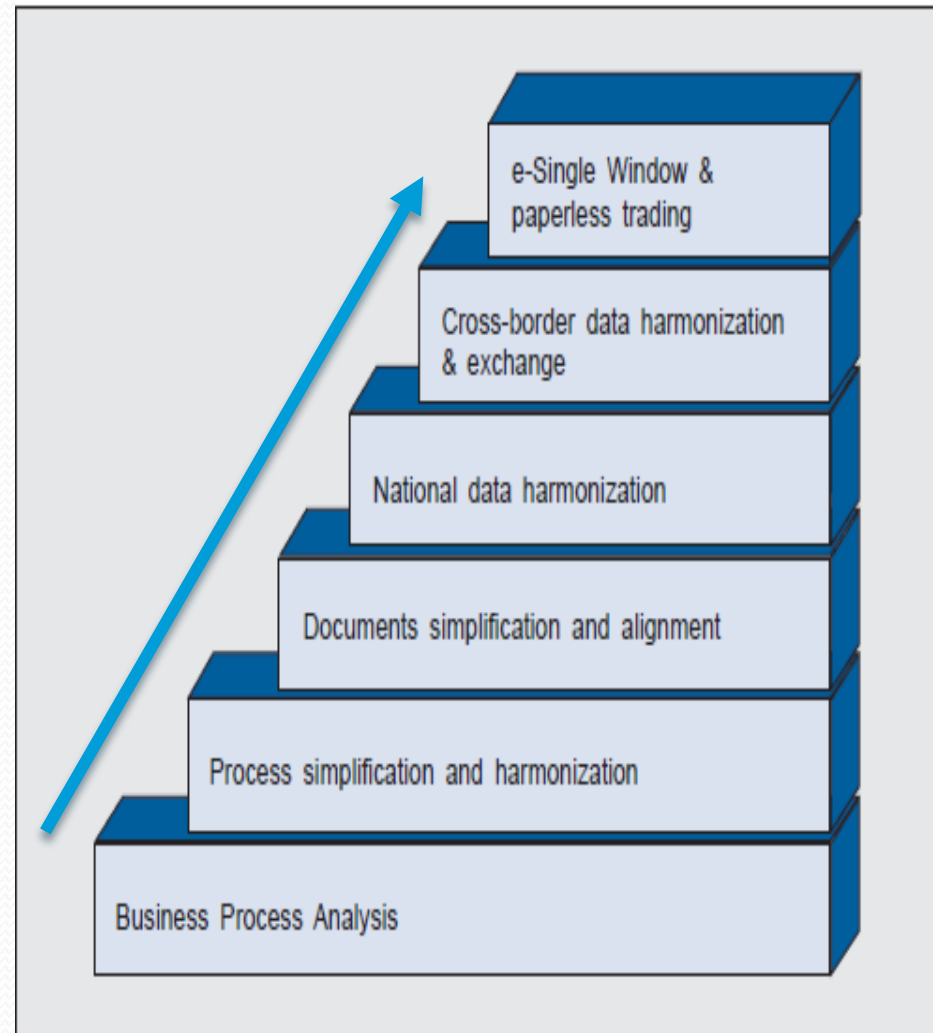
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Session 2 Strengthening Regional Connectivity, Transport and Trade Facilitation

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BPA to implement paperless trade

- BPA is the first technical step in preparing for paperless trade and SW.
- International model, universal methodology (UML)
- It provides
 - Inventory of processes, documents, data, parties, rules & regulations..
 - Description of the processes
 - Specifications for harmonizing data and development of electronic documents
 - Specifications to develop software for the automation of procedures
 - Business Models for operation of SW
 - A basis for maintenance and improvement

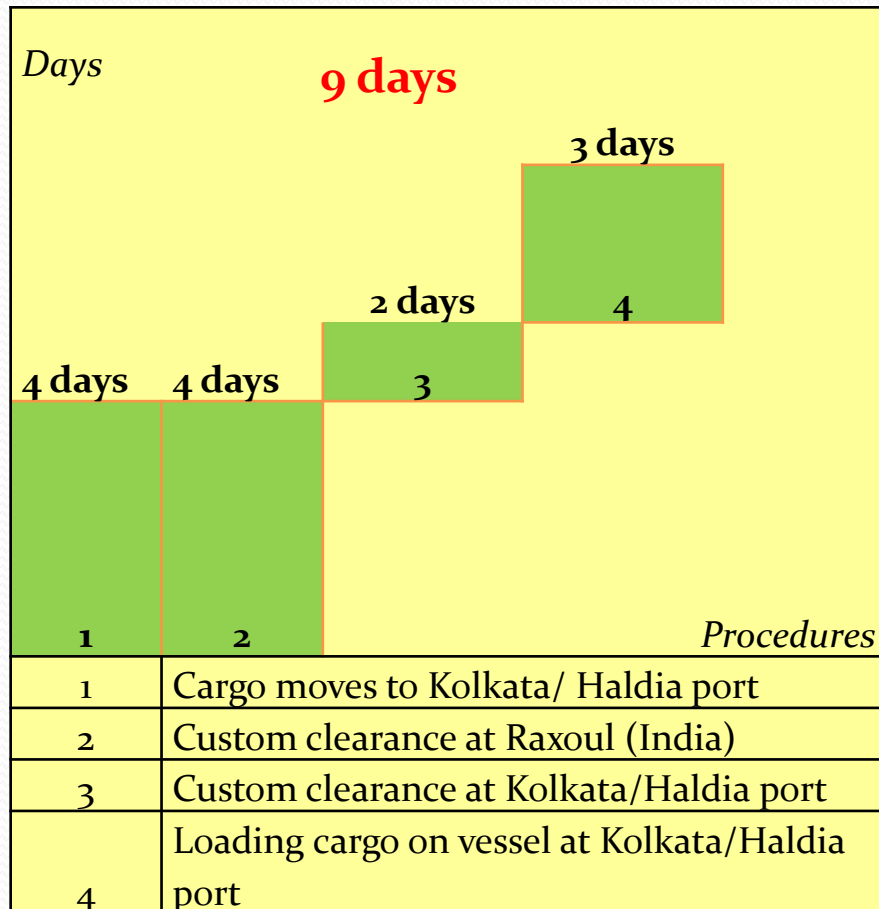


Study corridors

Corridor	Countries Linked	Distance, Total	Distance, Transit	Products Traded
Corridor 1 (Nepal corridor) Kakarvitta-Panitanki-Fulbari-Banglabandha	Nepal – India - Bangladesh	1152 km [#]	54 km	• Lentil • LAA*
Corridor 2 (Bhutan corridor) Phuentsholing-Jaigaon-Hasimara-Changrabandha-Burimari	Bhutan – India - Bangladesh	630 km [^]	115 km	• Orange • Fruit juice
Corridor 3 (Nepal corridor) Kathmandu-Birgunj-Raxaul - Kolkata	Nepal - India	1287 km ^{\$}	1047 km	• Carpet • CSO**

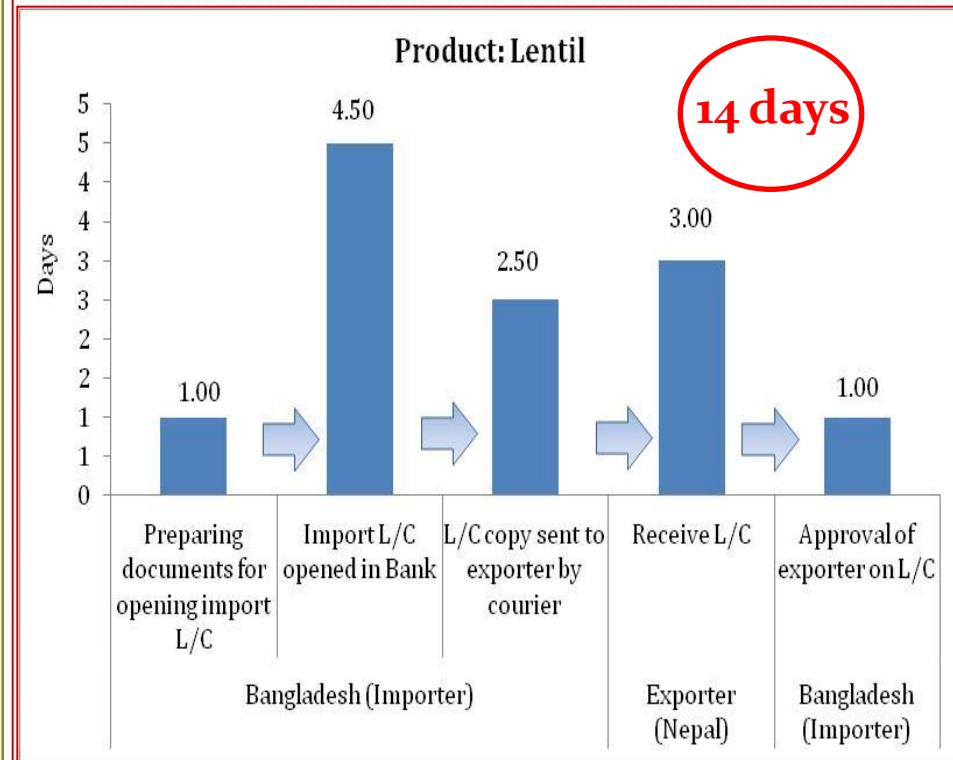
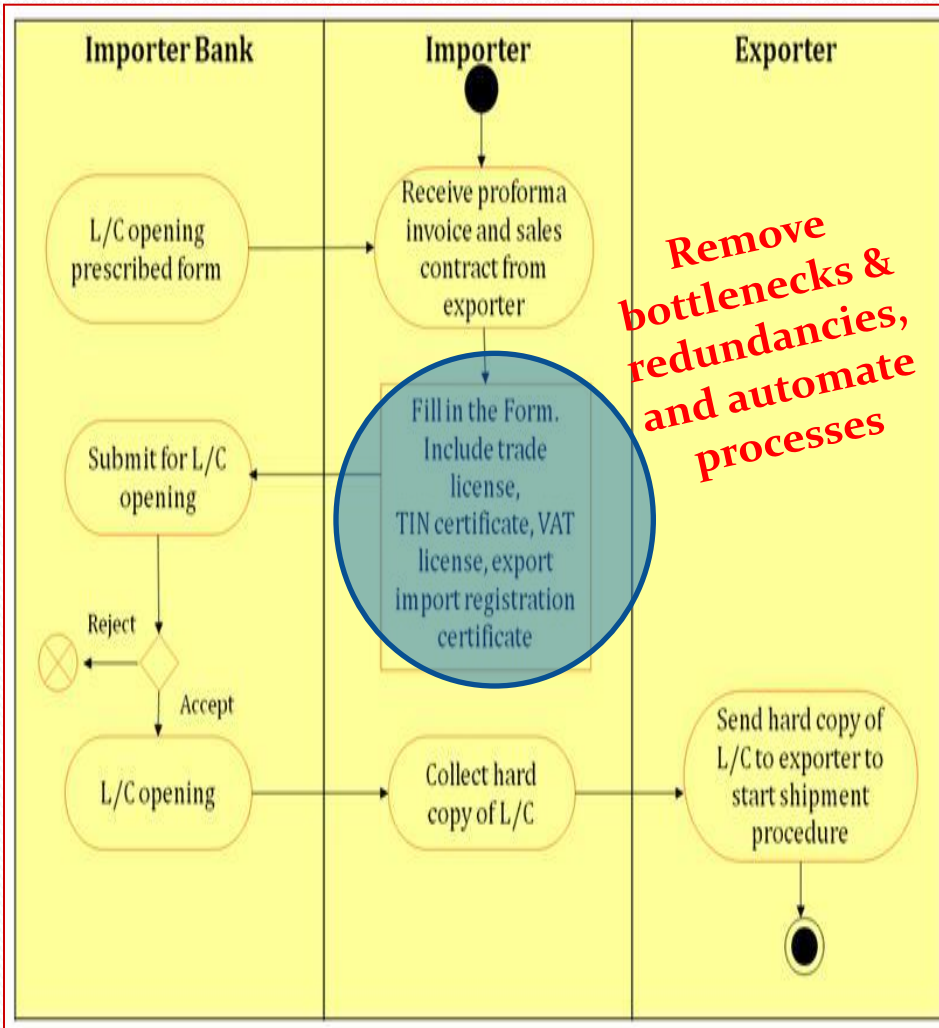
*Lead acid accumulator **Crude soya bean oil #Kathmandu to Dhaka. ^Thimpu to Dhaka
\$Kathmandu to Kolkata

1. Reduce lengthy Customs and cargo handling time at Port of Kolkata in Corridor 3 through automation and modernization



- Port of Kolkata is a congested port.
- To ease congestion, faster loading and unloading at Kolkata port is essential.
- Cross-border automation between Customs is needed
 - Cross-border digital CTD
- Need for technical assistance and capacity building and training.

2. Faster opening of L/C account in bank with the help of ICT

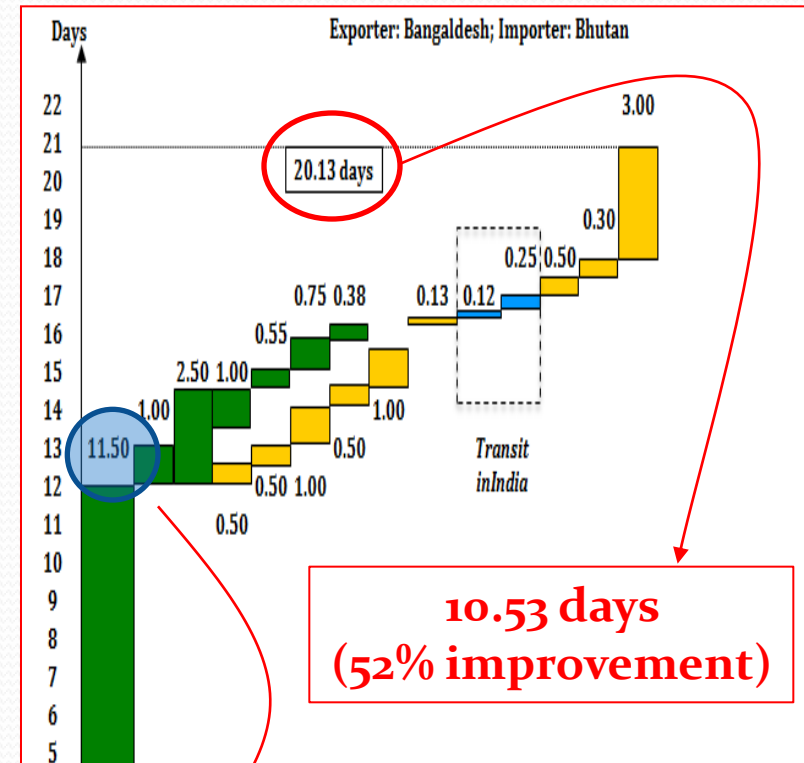


3. Synchronization of cross-border Customs in SASEC should be the priority objective.

- Customs should operate 24x7 basis
 - Birgunj Custom opens at 8 am whereas Raxaul Customs opens only at 10 am
- Full automation and link-up between Customs would reduce transaction time and cost
- Acceptance of cross-border Bill of Lading electronically ?
- Lead to paperless trade

4. Trade will be much faster with minimum process reengineering.

- Receiving order from buyer (Bhutan) takes 11.50 days in case export of fruit juice from Bangladesh. This procedure can easily be reduced to just a day or two with use of ICT.
- Post-shipment payment can be faster; which can save 2 days for each of the 3 countries in SASEC.
- By making submission of documents electronically, Bhutan can save over a week time.
- With application of ICT, opening of L/C



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