

ADB Initiatives and Capacity Building Activities Towards Paperless Supply Chains

Jayant Menon

**Lead Economist, Trade and Regional Cooperation
Office of Regional Economic Integration
Asian Development Bank**

jmenon@adb.org

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Overview of Initiatives

- **ADB support is being provided at the national, sub-regional, and regional levels, as part of initiatives in trade facilitation**
- **Assistance features a mix of the following:**
 - i. Knowledge work and training
 - ii. Adoption of internationally accepted standards, reforms in the legal framework
 - iii. Time release studies (TRS) and business process analysis
 - iv. Simplification/automation of trade and customs procedures and documents
 - v. Establishment of national single windows (NSWs)
 - vi. Interoperability of NSWs to facilitate cross-border paperless trade
- (i) – (iv) are important preparatory stages for the implementation of paperless supply chains.

Examples of Key Initiatives

- Subregional programs
- Japan Trade Facilitation Initiative (JTFI)
- ADB's knowledge products and training initiatives on paperless trade
- ADB's partnerships with other development institutions

ADB's Subregional Programs: GMS

- Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) Program: One of ADB's largest and most successful programs to date.
- Key Initiatives on Paperless Supply Chains:
 - ✓ Trade Facilitation Support for ASEAN Economic Community Blueprint Implementation: Supports the creation of NSWs through improvement and modernization of border agencies operations. TRS conducted in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia and Thailand.
 - ✓ Support for Implementing the Action Plan for Transport and Trade Facilitation in the Greater Mekong Subregion. Aims to improve border management, transit procedures, and implementation of traffic rights in the GMS corridors.
 - ✓ Core Agriculture Support Program (CASP I and II). Priority areas include cross-border supply chain of eco-friendly products and paperless trade.

ADB's Subregional Programs: CAREC

- Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC): Promotes regional cooperation in four priority areas: transport, trade facilitation, energy, and trade policy
- Key Initiatives on Paperless Supply Chains:
 - ✓ Regional Improvement of Border Services (RIBS) Project: Supports the construction and renovation of border crossing points and improvement of NSW facilities.
 - ✓ Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring (CPMM): Measures and monitors the performance of six priority CAREC corridors. CPMM identifies sources of excessive cost and delay encountered by goods in transit.

ADB's Subregional Programs: SASEC

- South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC): Project-based initiative that promotes economic cooperation through the enhancement of cross-border connectivity and trade facilitation.
- Key Initiative on Paperless Supply Chains: The SASEC Trade Facilitation Program
 - ✓ ADB's largest intervention to date in customs modernization (\$48 million).
 - ✓ Program will help Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal adopt an international customs administration protocol, upgrade existing automated customs management systems, and establish web-based electronic trade portals.

The Japan Trade Facilitation Initiative (JTFI)

- Government of Japan has contributed \$25 million to support trade facilitation in Asia from 2011-2015, through the ADB-administered Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction.
- Initiative aims to enable seamless trade flows between Japan and Asian countries and involves the cooperation of ADB, WCO, JICA and the Customs and Tariff Bureau of JMOF.

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