

3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the CAREC Regional Working Group  
on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Strategic Directions  
Planning and TA 9500 Closing Workshop

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Tbilisi

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**ePhyto Solution Through Pakistan Single Window**

Country Experience from Pakistan

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# Plant Protection – Legal and Administrative Framework

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- Ministry of National Food Security and Research
  - Department of Plant Protection
  - Animal Quarantine Department
- Legal Frameworks
  - WTO Agreement on SPS Measures (1995) : Food safety , animal and plant health , avoiding use of SPS for protectionism, justification of measures, harmonization of international standards, risk assessment, transparency
  - Pakistan Plant Quarantine Rules 2019
  - Pakistan Plant Quarantine Act 1976

# Role of Department of Plant Protection

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- Regulator of imports and exports of plants and plant related items
- Designated National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) under IPPC Convention
- Import Policy Order & Export Policy Order, 2022 under the Imports & Exports (Control) Act, 1950
- DPP regulates 760 & 740 tariff lines (up to 12 digit products) in imports and exports respectively



# Role and Functions of Pakistan Single Window

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Commitment under Trade Facilitation  
Agreement of WTO

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Automation and Integration of Trade Regulatory  
Functions

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To Ensure Regulatory Compliance ,  
Transparency and Harmonization of Regulatory  
Functions

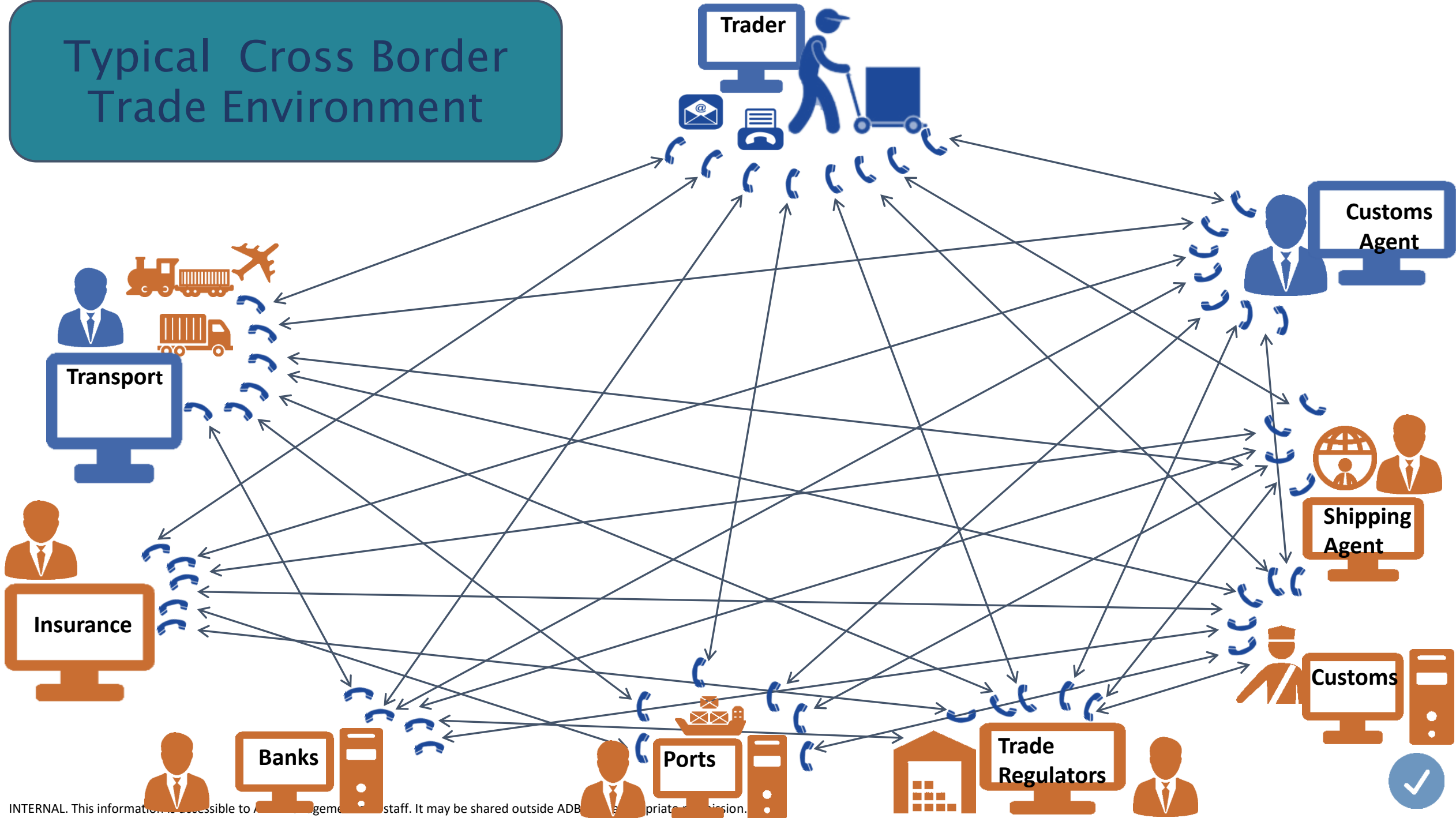
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Integration of Plant Protection Department and  
Animal Quarantine Department in PSW  
achieved

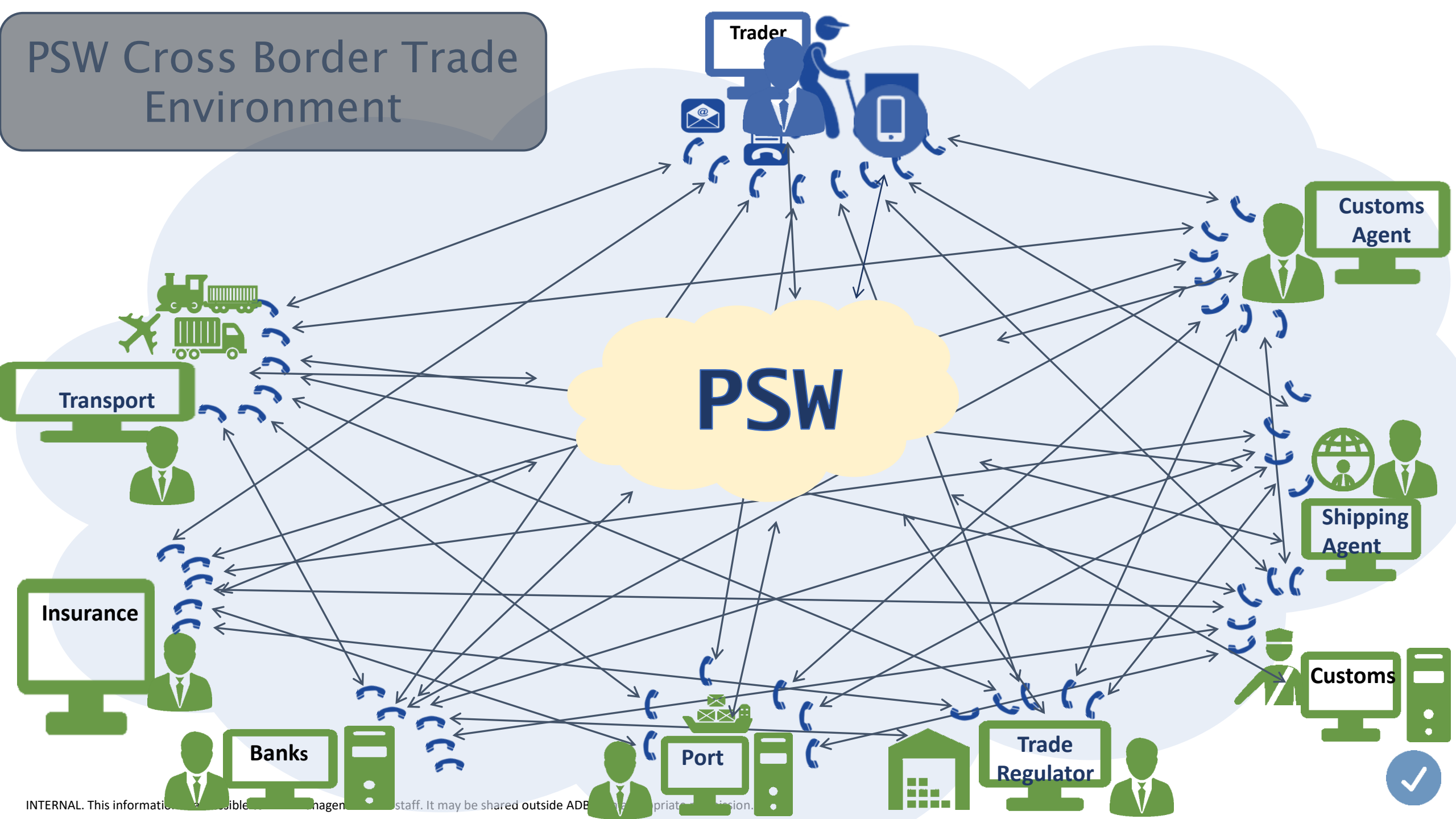
# Role and Functions of Pakistan Single Window

- **Electronic portal** that allows parties involved in cross border trade and transport to lodge standardized information and **documents using a single-entry point** to fulfill all import, export, and transit related regulatory requirements.
- Individual data elements for clearance and regulatory approvals need only to be **submitted once**
- **Trade Facilitation, lowering cost of business and time lowering time for regulatory compliance**

# Typical Cross Border Trade Environment



# PSW Cross Border Trade Environment



# Integration of Department of Plant Protection in PSW

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- Application, processing and issuance of Sanitary Certificate, Import Permit and Phytosanitary Certificate
- Application for DPP related Licenses, Permits , Certificates , Other Regulatory) documents through filing of Single Document
- Data elements to be submitted and mandatory documents to be uploaded once in PSW
- PSW has developed User Management System for Other Government Agencies (OGAs) including DPP
- User roles have been assigned and training of DPP personnel has been completed





# ePhyto Solution Through PSW

Integration of DPP and PSW

Next steps, linking PSW with ePhyto hub of IPPC

ADB help in Linking PSW with Hub

Exchange of Technical Information Already Achieved

Work Underway on Development of Technical Architecture for Linking with ePhyto Hub

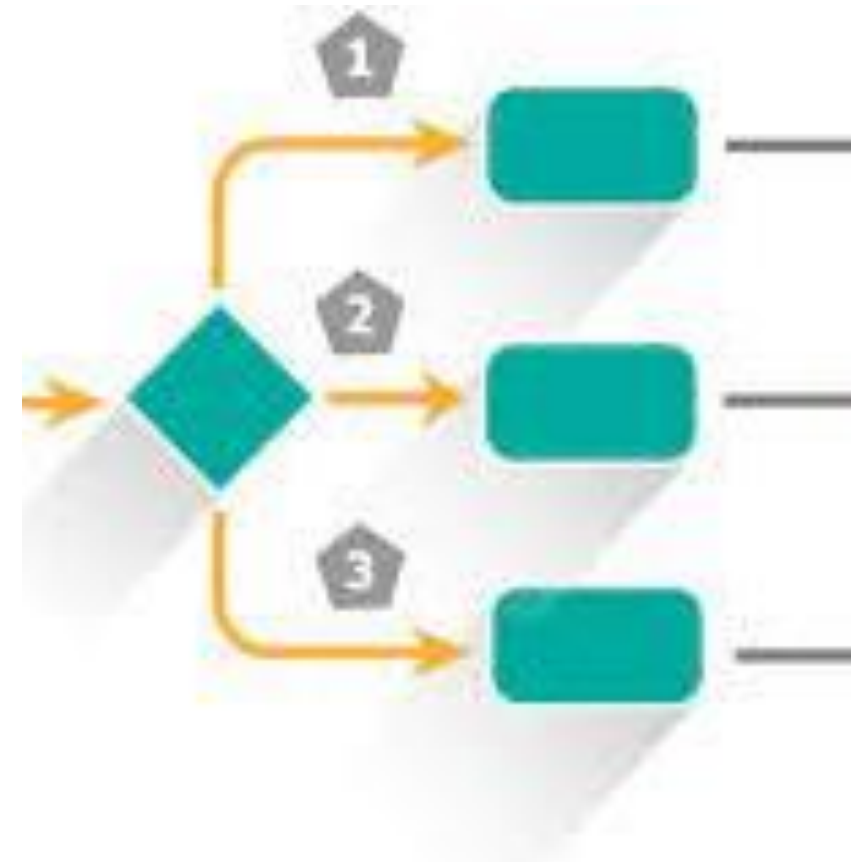
Target – Achieving Integration of PSW and ePhyto Hub by End of February 2022

# ePhyto Integration



# ePhyto Journey

- Exchange of e-phytos through IPPC's ePhyto HUB will be between Pakistan and other countries which are integrated with ePhyto Hub
- Process for exports:
  - PSW will share the Phytosanitary Certificates issued through its system to ePhyto Hub
  - The Hub will send the same to the importing country for release of the consignment
- Process for imports:
  - The ePhyto issued by the exporting country will be received through ePhyto HUB in the PSW system
  - The importer will be able to tag the ePhyto with his Single Declaration (SD)
  - Upon submission of SD, the tagged ePhyto will be visible to the DPP officer who will, subject to fulfillment of other regulatory requirements, issue a Release Order (RO) through PSW system



# Benefits of Ephyto through Single Window

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- Importers / exporters use already available PSW subscription
- Multiple regulators connected on same platform (banks, laboratories , customs etc)
- Saves cost and time, as all the required information submitted electronically
- Leveraging a robust technology platform already available
- Authentication, data archiving on long term basis
- Easier outreach



# Integration of Laboratory Services

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- Already Started
- On-Boarding of Labs Associated with PPD already started
- GMO Testing Lab of Agriculture Biotechnology Research Institute already electronically integrated with PSW, DPP in January 2023 .
- More Labs Getting Ready for Integration through PSW's Lab Management System
- Forward and Backward Integration Underway

# Benefits of ePhyto Hub Integration for Pakistan

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- Primarily an Agricultural Country (22.7 % of GDP and 37.4 % of Labour Force Employment)
- Agricultural Products Drivers of Economic Growth
- Compliance of Global Standards is an Imperative
- ePhyto Hub Invaluable Tool for Trade Facilitation and Market Access
- Protection against Risks Emanating from Global Trade
- Enabling SMEs to Become Part of International Trade



# Way Forward ....

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- Need for Enhanced Regulatory Framework for Animal and Plant Health to Reap Full Benefits
- Provide adequate protection against risks emanating from international trade in plant, animal and food products that could affect human, animal, and plant life and health.
- Enhance Pakistan's competitiveness in exporting its products to the world and benefit from market access opportunities.
- Improvement in Laboratory Services, Capacity Building of Regulators and Better Border Management
- Reducing Regulatory Compliance Burden Through Integration with Other Trade Regulators





Thank You

