Mercator Programme

A Navigational Map for Trade Facilitation

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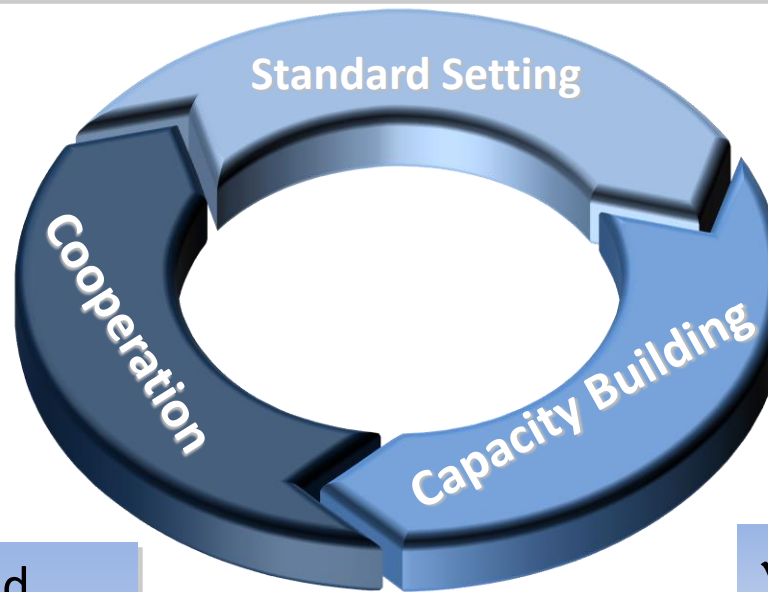
WCO Time Release Study

WCO tools for harmonized implementation

WCO TFA Working Group

3 Main Strengths of WCO

✓Capability and responsibility for global standard setting for Customs

Standard Setting

Cooperation

Capacity Building

✓Network of accredited experts from Customs Administrations
✓Cooperation with other international organizations and other agencies

✓Capacity Building / Technical Assistance delivery

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WTO TFA and WCO

December 2013 — The WTO concluded the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) at the Ministerial Conference at Bali.

December 2013 — The WCO adopted the Dublin Resolution to emphasize the WCO's commitment to the efficient implementation of TFA at the Policy Commission.

June 2014 — The WCO adopted **the Mercator Programme** to ensure its strategic initiative to support Trade Facilitation.

November 2014 — The WTO adopted a Protocol of Amendment to insert the new Agreement into the WTO Agreement.
(The TFA will enter into force once two-thirds of members have completed their domestic ratification process.)

February 2017 — The TFA entered into force on 22 February 2017.

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WTO TFA and WCO

WTO DG Roberto Azevêdo attended the WCO Council in June 2014. He congratulated the WCO on the creation of the new WCO Trade Facilitation Working Group and the launch the WCO Mercator Programme to support implementation of the TFA.

What is the TFA?

The WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement(TFA) contains 12 Articles regarding Trade Facilitation in Section I and special and differential (S&D) treatment for developing countries and Least-Developed Countries in Section II. It deals almost entirely with Customs-related topics but foresees cooperation with other agencies (CBM).

Section I
Art.1 Publication and availability of information
Art.2 Consultations
Art.3 Advance ruling
Art.4 Appeal/Review procedures
Art.5 Other measures for transparency etc.
Art.6 Fee, Charges and penalty
Art.7 Release and Clearance of goods
Art.8 Border Agency Cooperation
Art.9 Movement of goods intended for import
Art.10 Formalities
Art.11 Transit
Art.12 Customs cooperation

Section II
Special and Differential Treatment for Developing Countries and Least Developed Countries
o Rules about Categories A, B and C
o Assistance for Capacity Building
o Information to be submitted to the TF Committee

Section III
Institutional Arrangements and Final Provisions
o Committee on Trade Facilitation
o National Committee on Trade Facilitation
o Final provisions

Mercator Programme – Key Objectives

Tailor-made technical assistance and capacity building

Harmonized implementation based on WCO's global standards

Effective coordination among all stakeholders
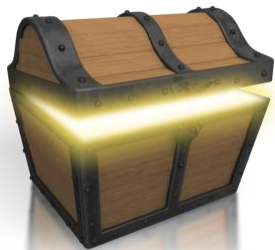
Beneficial for developing and least developed countries, all government agencies, donor institutions and private sector

Mercator Programme
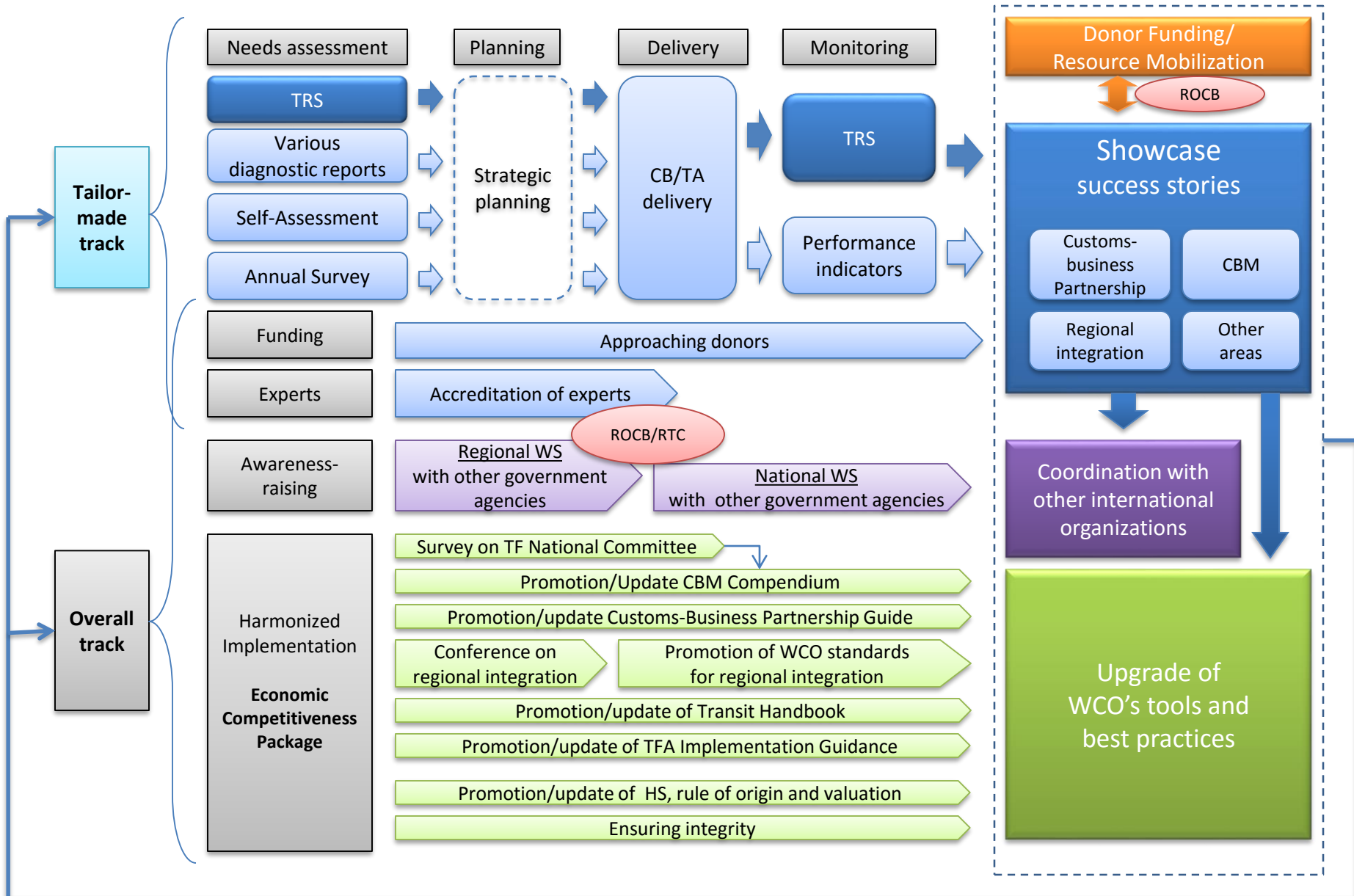
Survey on TF National Committee

The WCO is also actively supporting Members in the establishment and maintenance of TFA National Trade Facilitation Committees (NCTFs).
Based on a WCO survey regarding the TFA NCTFs, 34 Members have already either established a National Committee or designated an existing body to carry out this role.

Coordinated Border Management
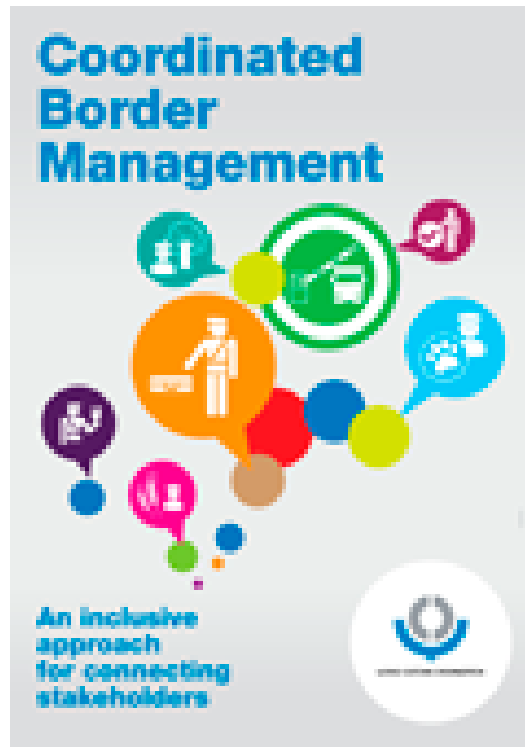
The 2015 International Customs Day heralded the launch of the WCO Year of Coordinated Border Management (CBM), a year in which Customs administrations are encouraged to actively promote the partnerships they have built to improve and expedite border processing.

Under the slogan "Coordinated Border Management - An inclusive approach for connecting stakeholders", we are signaling the international Customs community's aspiration to further enhance its collaboration, cooperation and working relationships with its many partners.

WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation:

Article 7.6

*Members are encouraged to measure and publish their average release time of goods periodically and in a consistent manner, using tools such as, inter alia, **the WCO Time Release Study**.*

TRS Implementation by Members

Asia Pacific (22)	Africa (14 + 3)	Other (9)
❖ Australia ❖ Lao PDR	❖ Angola	❖ Georgia
❖ Bhutan ❖ Malaysia	❖ Côte d'Ivoire	❖ Jamaica
❖ Brunei ❖ Mongolia	❖ Ethiopia	❖ Jordan
❖ Cambodia ❖ Myanmar	❖ Kenya	❖ Macedonia
❖ China ❖ Nepal	❖ Malawi	❖ Peru
❖ Fiji ❖ New Zealand	❖ Mozambique	❖ Poland
❖ India ❖ PNG	❖ Nigeria	❖ Sweden
❖ Indonesia ❖ Philippines	❖ Niger	❖ Timor Lest
❖ Japan ❖ Singapore	❖ Rwanda	❖ Uzbekistan
❖ Korea ❖ Sri Lanka	❖ Tanzania	
❖ Thailand	❖ Sudan	
❖ Viet Nam	❖ Swaziland	
	❖ Uganda	
	❖ Zambia	

❖ Kenya - Uganda
❖ Tanzania - Burundi
❖ Tanzania - Rwanda

WCO tools to support TFA

The WCO has developed a number of instruments and tools, which respond to Members' needs as regards TFA implementation. The WCO is continuing to develop and fine-tune an inter-active guidance tool designed to help Customs implement the TFA.

Examples of WCO tools
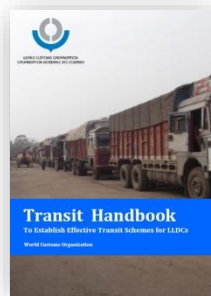
Transit Handbook

SAFE Framework of Standards

Time Release Study Guide

Single Window Compendium

Data Model
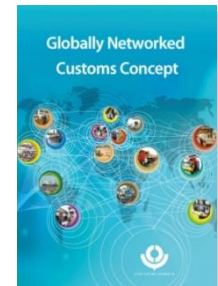
Globally Networked Customs

Risk Management Compendium
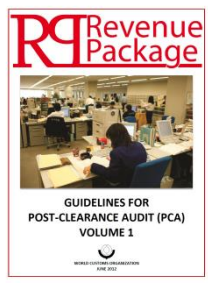
Post Clearance Audit Guidelines
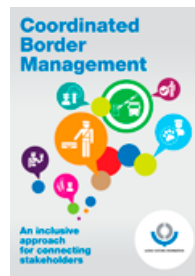
CBM Compendium

Project Map Database

Capacity Building Development Compendium

Customs Business Partnership Guidance

WCO Main Instrument to support TFA

Revised
Kyoto Convention

京都規約

Let's talk ...

Your questions answered
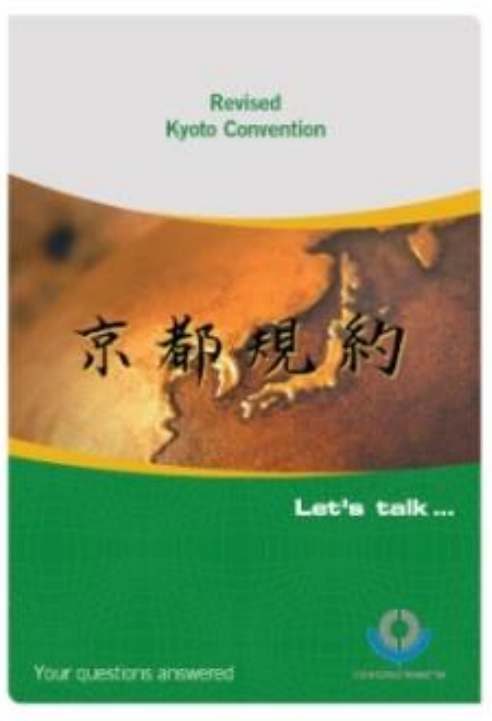
- The WCO Council adopted the revised Kyoto Convention in June 1999 as the blueprint for modern and efficient Customs procedures in the 21st century.

- Currently 108 Contracting Parties

- Was the basis for the TFA negotiations

CLiKC!
Customs Learning &
Knowledge Community

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WCO tools to support TFA

Example – Risk Management

The TFA obliges Members, to the extent possible, to adopt or maintain a risk management system for Customs control.
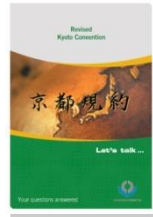
The RKC sets out principles of Customs risk management and the RKC Guidelines cover technical aspects of risk management and Customs control.
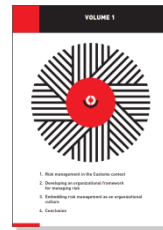
The Risk Management Compendium introduces detailed and technical information on risk management, based on practices and experiences of WCO Members.

Analysis of Section I

The Analysis of Section I complements the Implementation Guidance and provides more detailed information about the links between the TFA Section I provisions and the WCO instruments and tools and other WTO agreements (SPS and TBT), as well as IT implications.

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WCO tools to support TFA
Implementation Guidance

The WCO has launched on its website the WCO Implementation Guidance for the TFA to support WCO Members in their efforts to implement the TFA

TRADE
FACILITATION

WCO IMPLEMENTING
WTO TFA

http://www.wcoomd.org/en/topics/wco-implementing-the-wto-atf/atf.aspx

WCO tools to support TFA
Implementation Guidance

Implementation Guidance

The World Customs Organization (WCO), an intergovernmental organization specially mentioned in the Bali Ministerial Declarations, is highlighting its role in the implementation and administration of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation (ATF). The WCO, the centre of excellence on Customs matters world wide, is committed to the efficient implementation of the ATF.

Select an article below to view more infomation

TRADE FACILITATION

WCO IMPLEMENTING WTO ATF

Search articles:

Article 1
Publication and availability of information

Article 2
Opportunity to comment, information before entry into force and consultation

Article 3
Advance rulings

Article 4
Appeal or review procedures

Article 5
Other measures to enhance impartiality, non discrimination and transparency

Article 6
Disciplines on fees and charges imposed on or in connection with importation and exportation

Article 7
Release and clearance of goods

Article 8
Border agency cooperation

Article 9
Movement of goods under customs control intended for import

Article 10
Formalities connected with importation and exportation and transit

Article 11
Freedom of transit

Article 12
Customs cooperation

WCO tools to support TFA
Implementation Guidance

The Guidance presents the relevance of WCO instruments and tools such as the Revised Kyoto Convention for TFA implementation.

WCO tools for Article 7.7 (Authorized Operators)

- Revised Kyoto Convention
- SAFE Framework of Standards
- AEO Implementation Guidance
- AEO Compendium
- Model AEO Appeal Procedures
- AEO Benefits: Contribution from the WCO Private Sector Consultative Group
- The Authorized Economic Operator and the Small and Medium sized Enterprise (FAQ)
- Mutual Recognition Arrangement/Agreement Guidelines
- AEO Template

The Implementation Guidance introduces Members practices and experiences of implementing the TFA.

Members' experience regarding Article 10.4 (Single Window)

Effective Coordination - Working Group

The TFAWG is the platform for Members to share experiences regarding the implementation of the TFA among the WCO's 180 Members, coordinate with the donor community, engage with other international organizations and bodies, as well as with the private sector.

The WCO is ready to support the implementation of the TFA!

MORE INFORMATION

Procedures and Facilitation team of the WCO
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