TRADE FACILITATION AND EPHYTO

CAREC Conference on ePhyto
11-13 September 2023, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
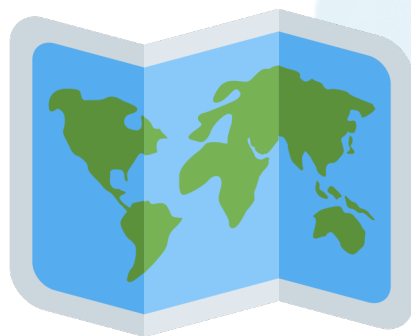
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WBG IS A MAJOR PROVIDER OF TRADE RELATED ASSISTANCE

- Analysis and diagnostics

- Advisory services

- Financing of trade infrastructure and institutional reform

- Research and data products

- Global advocacy and partnerships

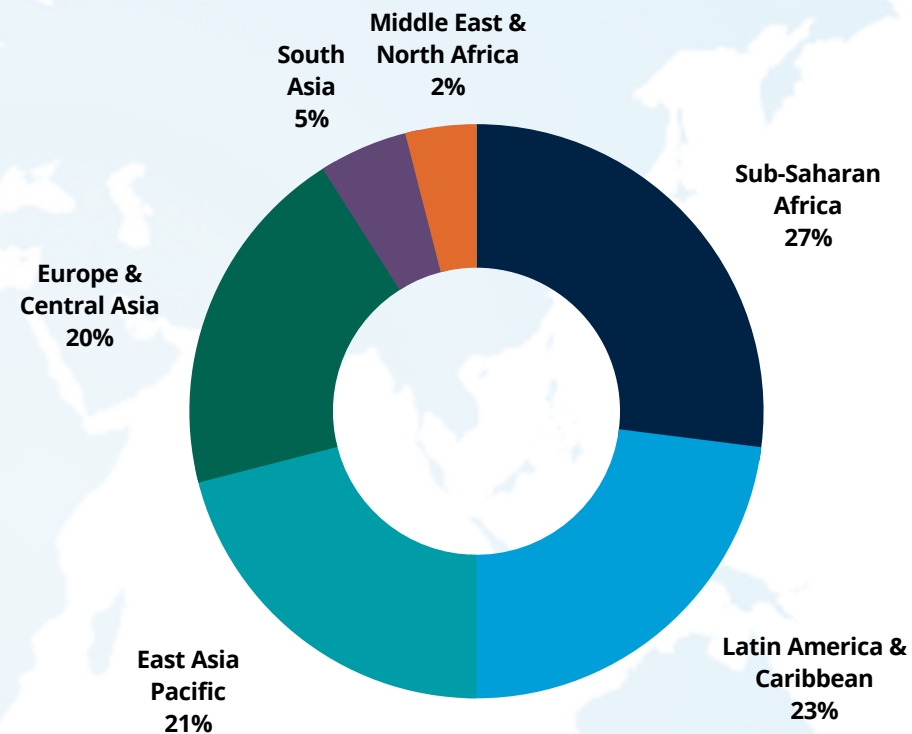- More than 120 customs, border management and trade facilitation projects over last 20 years

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WHERE WE WORK

56

The TFSP currently supports 56 countries across all regions

Regional breakdown:

South Asia 5%

Middle East & North Africa 2%

Sub-Saharan Africa 27%

Europe & Central Asia 20%

Latin America & Caribbean 23%

East Asia Pacific 21%

Largest share in Sub-Saharan Africa

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SPS AND TRADE

- Trade is important for food security and economic development
  - Access to inputs for production and quality affordable food
  - Efficient movement of commodities to market-places is essential
    - Maintaining quality
    - Developing economies are generally highly reliant on agricultural exports
    - Agricultural production often contributes to a large proportion of incomes
  - Inefficient movement of commodities affects prices, reduces quality and contributes to economic shocks
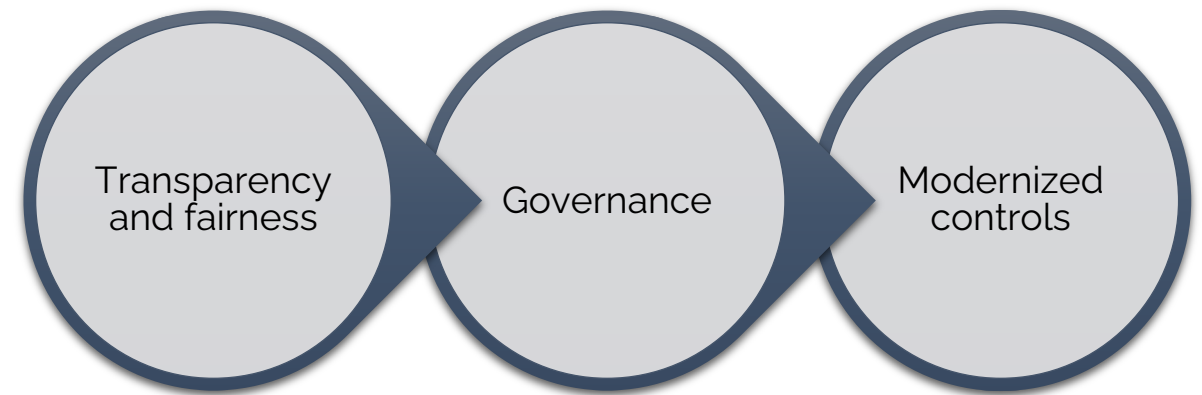
SPS MEASURES ARE IMPORTANT

- Transmission and spread of hazards have impacts on
  - Agricultural production
  - The environment and
  - Food value chains
  - Affect the health of consumers

- Global agricultural and food supply chains facilitate cross-border spread of hazards

- Society values protection from harm

- SPS measures are intended to reduce spread of hazards

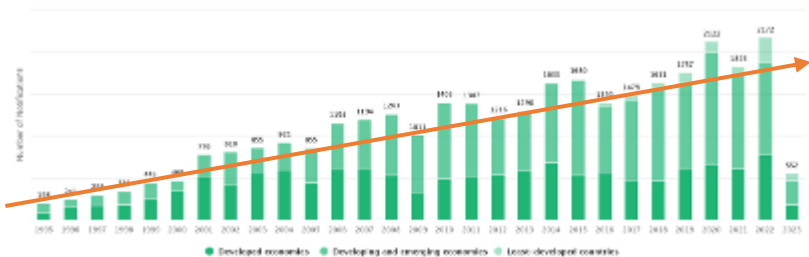Invasive insects cost a minimum of US$70.0 billion per year globally (Bradshaw et. al, 2016)

Unsafe food causes 600 million cases of foodborne illness and 420 000 deaths annually (WHO, 2023)

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TRADE FACILITATION

- Experience shows that the time/costs of processing of documents far outweighs other border activities

- Customs and other border interventions add to time and costs of trade

- Trade facilitation covers the full spectrum of border processes and procedures

Transparency and fairness → Governance → Modernized controls

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IN THE SPS CONTEXT WHY IS TRADE FACILITATION IMPORTANT?

SPS disputes since the 1995 (WTO, 2022)

Since 1995 SPS measures have increased more than 5-fold

In themselves NTMs/SPS measures are not necessarily barriers to trade.

Often procedures and processes of NTMs that are the barriers

The costs of goods are impacted by clearance procedures

Technical regulatory procedures can be

Difficult to meet

Unnecessary

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WBG TRADE FACILITATION PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Provision of technical assistance to developing countries
  - reform of laws, procedures, processes, systems, and consultative mechanisms
- Facilitation of knowledge sharing, peer-to-peer learning, and the measurement of progress and results.
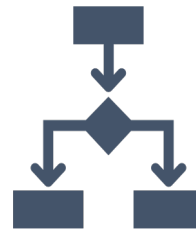
WBG TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SPS AGENCIES

Legislative reform

Modernization of legislation

- Inclusion of TFA concepts
- Alignment with international standards

Technical support to implementation

Africa & Pacific

Risk-based border management

Increase understanding and prioritization of risks

More effective use of resources to treat risks

Collaboration between border agencies

Analyze and support improvements in business process systems for data gathering and analysis

Implementation of second test procedures

Guidance on when/how confirmatory testing should be applied

Transparency of services

Incorporation of entire quality infrastructure

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WBG TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SPS AGENCIES

Support to NTFC and NTFC working groups

Establishment of work plans

Border collaboration and coordination

Simplification of processes

Coordination of interventions particularly through automated information exchange

Single Window implementation

Quarantine agency requirements/efficiencies

Measuring improvements in trade

Time-release studies

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IMPLEMENTING EPHYTO

- Driver of improvements in efficiency of trade and security of information
  - Expedite and increase effectiveness of government and trade processes
  - Remove the time and costs of manual processing of documents
  - Reduce fraudulent certificates
  - Increase importing country confidence in compliance
- Data and information for more effective risk management
  - Opportunity to undertake pre-arrival screening
  - Pre-plan interventions
  - Sharing of information between border agency to facilitate clearance processes

IMPLEMENTING EPHYTO – HOW WE WORK

- Coordinated approach aligned with TFA and whole of government objectives
    - Opportunity to leverage TFA initiatives to support NPPO
    - Ensure coordination with other government initiatives on digitization
    - Facilitate coordination between public and private sector objectives

- Business process analysis and reengineering
    - Focus on a whole of trade assessment
    - Analysis of all trade components to identify how/where/when NPPO documentary processes affect border processes

IMPLEMENTING EPHYTO – HOW WE WORK

- Analysis of mechanisms for exchange
  - NSWs
  - Existing or proposed business management systems
  - GeNS
  - Transition between options

- Support to change management and training of staff and traders

- Coordination with other national automation/digitization initiatives

- Support through technical and financial assistances when coordinated with WB financial operations
  - Analysis of implementation gaps and how best to address them (equipment, access to support services, etc.)

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PROJECTS

Completed

- Nepal, Cote D'Ivoire
- NSW connection to the hub
- Some back-office automation included in NSW development
- Cote D'Ivoire - since March 2023
  - 1,787 import ePhytos received from 9 countries
  - 9,544 export certificates to 41 countries.

Underway

- Burkina Faso – BPA analysis completed, NSW connection proposed
- Zambia – Implementation as part of Government management system
- Fiji – connecting GeNS to ASYCUDA to simplify clearances and improve information transfer
- Bangladesh – Analysis of existing system for connection to IPPC hub
- Malawi/Mozambique – Part of larger lending operation. Support to development of business management systems.

MOVING BEYOND

EPHYTO IS ONE OF MANY TRADE DOCUMENTS

OFTEN TRADERS REQUIRE MULTIPLE SPS DOCUMENTS (E.G. PHYTOSANITARY AND FOOD SAFETY CERTIFICATES) FOR A SINGLE SHIPMENT.

TO ACHIEVE TRADE BENEFITS THE MAJORITY OF AGRICULTURAL TRADE DOCUMENTS NEED TO BE DIGITIZED.

EPHYTO IS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW WELL THIS CAN BE ACHIEVED. VETERINARY AND FOOD SAFETY AUTHORITIES NEED TO COME TOGETHER TO FACILITATE THE CHANGE

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THANK YOU!