

World Bank Group Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency



THE WORLD BANK



Zambia Investment Climate Program II

Trade Logistics – Implementation of ASYCUDA WORLD

Market Failure – Trade

- Zambia ranks 153 among 183 countries according to the Trading Across Borders Doing Business indicator (Source WB Doing Business Ranking 2014)
- High cost to import/export
- Lengthy import/export procedures.
- Cumbersome trade procedures

- Lack of automated trade transaction processing systems
- Lack of inter-agency coordination in inspection
- Lack of use of risk management systems.
- Effect: high input costs impacts on the country's competitiveness

Objective of Trade logistics Program

Improve access to international markets and reducing business costs by streamlining import/export costs and procedures to achieve:

- Reduction of the time to export from 44 days (DB 2012) to 40 days and to import from 56 days (DB 2012) to 48 days
- Reduction of documents required for import clearance from 9 documents to 7 documents
- Reduction of the percentage of cargo inspections conducted by border clearance agencies from 80 percent to 60 percent.
- \$5 million in private sector savings (within 3 years of project end)

Implementing ASYCUDA World

- Zambia upgrading its automated systems for customs data from ASYCUDA ++ (Automated System for Customs Data) to ASYCUDA World
- AW is web based and offer enhanced functionalities that trade facilitation agencies can use to enhance their trade processes and procedures
- Provides web based online access and inter operability to other government, trade facilitation agencies and clearing agents.
- Allows traders and agencies to lodge documents electronically for processing and approval and make payments on goods imported and exported out of the country
- Provides for risk management and transit operations for customs and other border agencies.

Key Stakeholders

- Importers/exporters
- Clearing Agents
- All trade facilitation agencies ZRA, ZABS, RATSA etc. (about 16)
- Ministry of Finance
- Zambia Development Agency
- INTERPOL

Highlights/Achievements to date

Activities/Outputs

- P2P Learning Workshop on ASYCUDAWorld (Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Liberia, Rwanda, Grenada, Jordan)
- Business process reviews (BPR)
- ICT assessment of 16 Agencies
- Risk Management Assessment at ZABS and ZRA (better targeting, profiling)
- HS coding of regulated products
- Governance structure/Committee

Legal review

Outcomes:

- The time to import has reduced from 56 days to 49 days as measured by Doing Business 2014.
- The Certificate of origin is no longer a mandatorily requirement for clearance. As such DB 2014 shows only 8 documents now required for import clearance

Activities/Projected Results for January – June 2014

Intended output:

- Strengthen institutional framework (Governance structure/Committee)
- Improve operations profiles/targeting/selectivity/channels including in relation to existing IT system
- Training workshops

Intended outcome:

- Increased regional and international market access and penetration of Zambia products
- Enhanced effectiveness in supervision and better coordination between the border agencies

Challenges

- Trade facilitation agencies connectivity to ASYCUDA World
- Lack of ICT knowledge within trade facilitation agencies
- Inability to secure funding for the program
- Lack of ICT hardware

Expected Overall Outcome

- A more streamlined and efficient trade transaction system with reduced paperwork
- Reduction in time to trade: Measured through the trading across borders indicator
- Reduction in documents to trade: Measured through the no. of documents to trade indicator
- Reduction in Inspections/Increase in compliance: Measured through 'Percentage of cargo inspected conducted by border clearance agencies
- Reduced costs to comply with import/export requirements

END