

SASEC Trade Facilitation Program

Trade Facilitation Strategic Framework

**Presentation at the ADB-WCO Workshop on
Revised Kyoto Convention Implementation
In Bhutan**

9-12 June 2014

Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division
South Asia Department
Asian Development Bank



SASEC: 4—2—6



2014: the Maldives and Sri Lanka

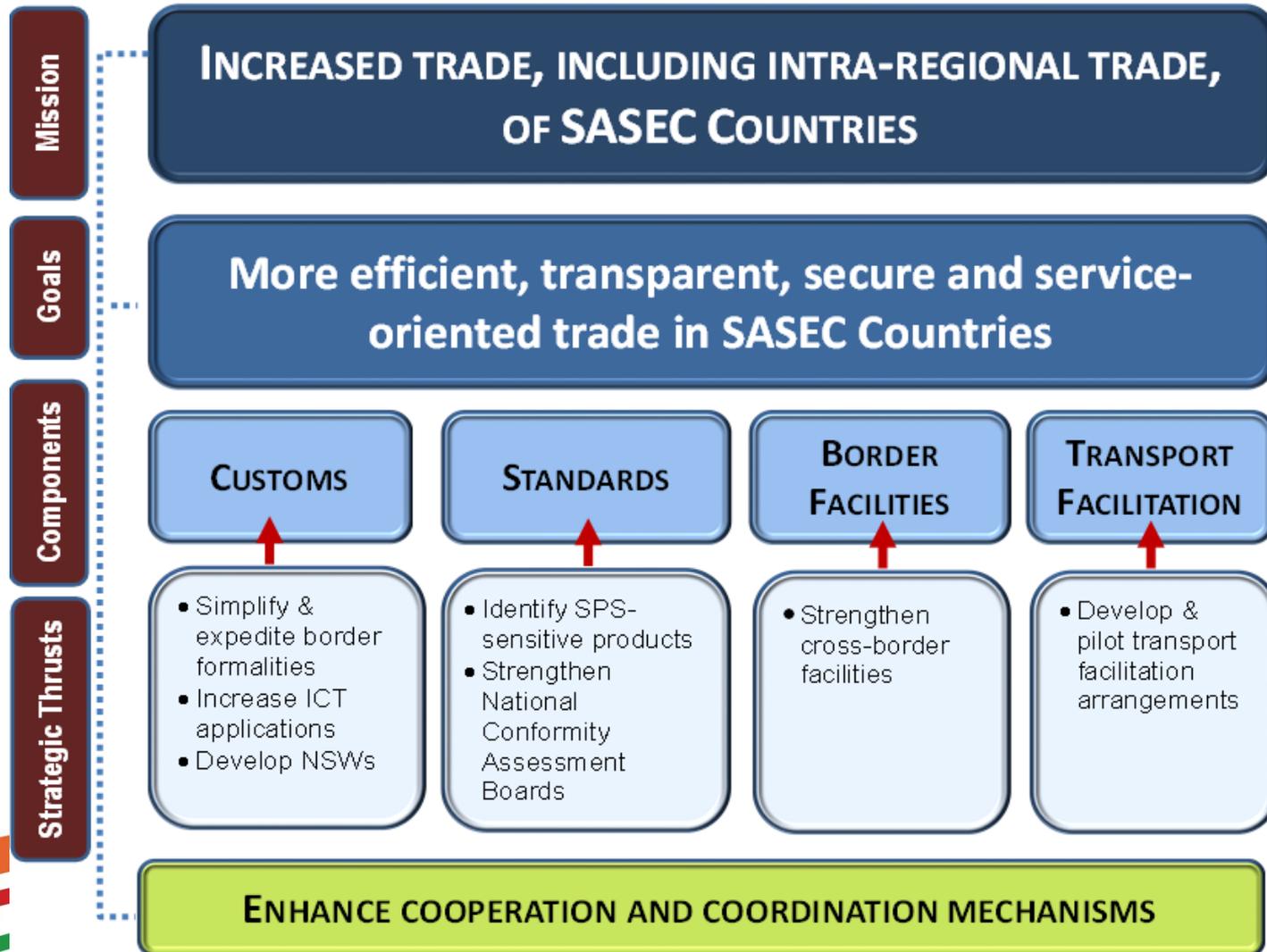
Outline of Presentation

- SASEC Regional Trade Facilitation Program
- SASEC Trade Facilitation Strategic Framework
- Implementation – Resources

SASEC Trade Facilitation Program

- \$48 million Regional Program
 - Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal
- Objectives
 - Improve regulations & procedures
 - Build modern and efficient institutions
 - Enhance transparency & accountability
 - Improve coordination among stakeholders
- Royal Kingdom of Bhutan
 - SASEC Trade Facilitation Loan/Grant
 - SASEC JFPR Technical Assistance

SASEC Trade Facilitation Strategic Framework



Pillar 1: Customs Modernization and Harmonization

- Strategic thrusts 1-3
 - Simplify and expedite border formalities to facilitate the movement of goods, vehicles, and people
 - Increase the application of ICT processing
 - Develop NSW system that links all border agencies with the trading community
- SASEC Customs Subgroup
 - Work Plan 2014-2016
 - Capacity Building Program
 - Collaboration with WCO

Pillar 2: Standards and Conformity Assessment Strengthening

- Strategic thrust 4
 - Identify SPS sensitive commodities
 - Strengthen National Conformity Assessment Boards

- SPS/TBT Brainstorming in November 2013
 - SASEC Trade Facilitation Week 2014
 - National & regional diagnostic studies
 - SPS Subgroup
 - Collaboration with UNESCAP

Pillar 3: Cross-Border Facilities Improvement

- Strategic thrust 5
 - Establish logistics facilities and services at major trade ports to facilitate trade
- Identification / Assessment of integrated check posts and land customs stations

Pillar 4: Transport Facilitation

- Strategic thrust 6
 - Develop and pilot bilateral transport facilitation arrangements for through transport
- Bhutan-India electronic tracking system pilot
 - Secure and Efficient Cross-border Transit Model Workshops in Thimphu and New Delhi
 - Kolkata-Jaigon-Phuentsholing/Thimphu
 - Collaboration with UNESCAP

Pillar 5: Institution and Capacity Building

- Strategic thrust 7
 - Develop and enhance institutional and human resources capacity
- Establish/strengthen trade portals
- Build capacity linked to organizational change
- Collaboration with technical partners

Implementation Support?

- Strategic underpinning at subregional level
 - SASEC platform
- Operational underpinning at national level
 - ADB country partnership strategy
 - National technical assistance
 - Participation in regional technical assistance
- Collaboration with WCO and other international organizations
- Commitment for the future

Thank You!

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