

APTFF TRADE FACILITATION INNOVATION AWARDS CALL FOR CASE STUDIES

The Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum (APTFF) 2017¹ will showcase national and subregional innovations for trade facilitation and sustainable development. The Asia-Pacific region has long been a global leader and birthplace of significant innovations for trade facilitation, including for example, national single window facilities. The organization of this first competition is to help identify and raise awareness of innovative national or subregional trade facilitation efforts as many countries gear up for full implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement and seek new ways to reduce trade costs and to boost trade competitiveness.

ESCAP and ADB are inviting the submission of case studies on innovative implementation of trade facilitation agendas. National or Subregional Trade Facilitation Innovation case studies should feature either (1) implementation of innovative trade facilitation measures not specifically featured in the WTO TFA or other major global conventions or agreements, or (2) well-known trade facilitation measures implemented in an innovative manner, such that they have contributed to at least two of the three pillars of sustainable development agenda (economic, social and environmental pillars). Trade facilitation innovations based on ICT applications are welcome but other types of trade facilitation innovations, particularly “frugal” innovations and those targeting SMEs or agricultural sector, or enabling more inclusive implementation of trade facilitation reforms, are also welcome.

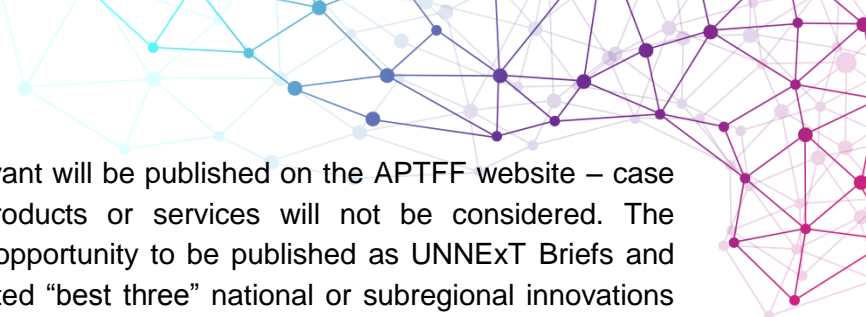
The submissions will be evaluated by the APTFF Secretariat as well as members of the UNNExT Advisory Committee and the General Secretariat of AFACT.

WHY SUBMIT A CASE STUDY?

Submitting a case study will help you to highlight the achievements of your subregion/country /government/agency/institution/office in trade facilitation.

The authors of the “best three” case studies on trade facilitation innovations will be invited to participate and present their case study during the APTFF 2017 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The APTFF Secretariat will cover the flight and accommodation of one of the author(s) for each faculty, as per UN and/or ADB regulations.

¹ UN ESCAP, ADB and the Coordinating Ministry of Economic Affairs Indonesia will organize the 8th Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum from the 5-8 September 2017 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation is the leading regional platform for the exchange of information, experiences and practice on trade facilitation. The APTFF has been organized by UN ESCAP and ADB and growing number of partners since 2009. The Forum attracts over 250 participants from over 30 countries.



All case studies received and deemed relevant will be published on the APTFF website – case studies promoting specific commercial products or services will not be considered. The successful submissions will also have the opportunity to be published as UNNExT Briefs and shared in the UNNExT network. The selected “best three” national or subregional innovations will receive an award and certificate.

WHAT TO SUBMIT?

Has your country adopted institutional practices that have increased the efficiency of cooperation between border agencies? Has your country implemented unique systems to provide SMEs with access to payment systems for cross-border trade? Have you developed transport and logistics solutions that are sustainable and cost-effective for cross-border trade? Has your country developed digital solutions that significantly cut the time and cost for traders? These are a few examples of potential trade facilitation innovations submissions.

You are invited to submit a brief case study of the trade facilitation innovation. This brief case study should include:

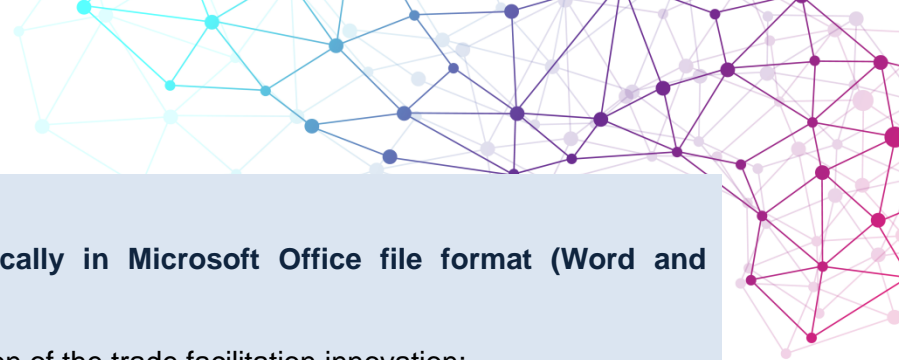
- Description of the measure/project, including:
 - The trade facilitation issue/area it has addressed;
 - Implementation timeline/process;
 - Key beneficiaries and stakeholders;
 - Current status of the project/innovation;
 - Cost-effectiveness of the measure/project.
- Why it is particularly innovative and effective?
- Which Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) it contributes to and how? (*Note: SDG 17 identifies Trade as a Means of Implementation of other SDGs, but the measure or innovation proposed may also be relevant to other SDGs*)².
- Examples and evidence of recognition and praise for the measure/project (you may provide testimonials from users, links and media clippings if available).

The entries for the trade facilitation can be submitted under (but not limited to) the following categories:

- Cost-effective trade facilitation measures;
- Institutional innovations for trade facilitation;
- Innovations in trade facilitation monitoring and data collection;
- Innovative trade facilitation measures for agricultural trade;
- Innovations for logistics;
- Innovations for trade finance and payment systems;
- Emerging technologies and digital solutions for trade facilitation.

² <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>





Entries must be submitted electronically in Microsoft Office file format (Word and PowerPoint) as well PDF format.

- Up to 5 page case study description of the trade facilitation innovation;
- PowerPoint presentation (no more than 8 slides);
- Please provide links and references for more information about the innovation.

Deadline for Submission: 5 July 2017

Kindly send your submissions to: aptff@un.org with copy to agyeben@un.org and arosario@adb.org

SELECTION CRITERIA

The trade facilitation innovation will be evaluated according the following criteria:

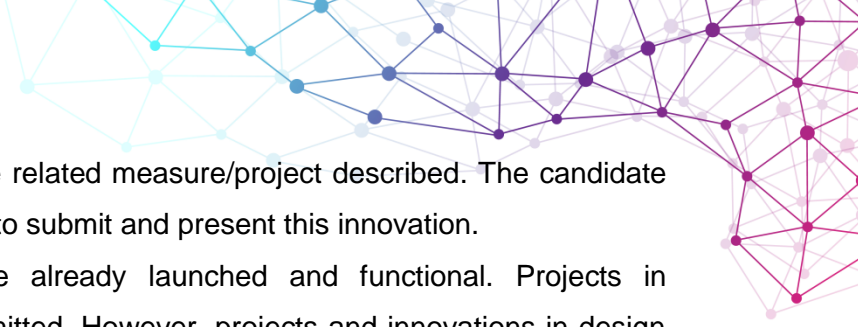
- Relevance of the measure/project to the simplification and streamlining of international trade processes (broadly defined here as covering commercial, transport, regulatory and payment procedures);
- Relevance and applicability to other countries;
- Potential in reducing trade costs;
- Potential in increasing SME engagement in trade;
- The creativity and effectiveness in how the innovation serves the key beneficiaries;
- Involvement of the key stakeholders in the design and the implementation of the innovation;
- Possibilities to scale and expand the innovation to serve more stakeholders;
- Linkage with sustainable development (social and environmental pillars in particular).
-

ELIGIBILITY

- The trade facilitation innovation must have originated from/ be implemented in one of ESCAP and ADB members (see list)³.
- At least one of the co-author(s) submitting the case study must be from the national organization(s) responsible for implementing the trade facilitation innovation and/or

³ List of eligible members and associate members: Afghanistan; Armenia; American Samoa; Australia; Azerbaijan; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; China; Cook Islands; Fiji; French Polynesia; Georgia; Guam; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Iran; Japan; Kazakhstan; Kiribati; Republic of Korea; Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Kyrgyzstan; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Macao, China; Malaysia; Maldives; Marshall Islands; Federated States of Micronesia; Mongolia; Myanmar; Nauru; Nepal; New Caledonia; New Zealand; Niue; Northern Mariana Islands; Pakistan; Palau; Papua New Guinea; The Philippines; The Russian Federation; Samoa; Singapore; Solomon Islands; Sri Lanka; Taipei; China; Tajikistan; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Tonga; Turkey; Turkmenistan; Tuvalu; Uzbekistan; Vanuatu; Viet Nam.





involved in the implementation of the related measure/project described. The candidate should seek the adequate clearance to submit and present this innovation.

- The submitted innovation must be already launched and functional. Projects in testing/pilot phase may also be submitted. However, projects and innovations in design phase are not eligible for submission.

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

- By submitting the case study, the candidate grants the APTFF Secretariat permission to publish and disseminate the case study;
- The APTFF Secretariat is not responsible for any loss of intellectual property rights that may result from submitting the case study;
- The APTFF Secretariat will verify the case studies and is not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate information contained in the submitted case studies;
- The APTFF Secretariat does not provide any remuneration or compensation for submission of the case studies;
- The selected case study/innovation must be submitted to the APTFF Secretariat by the deadline.

