

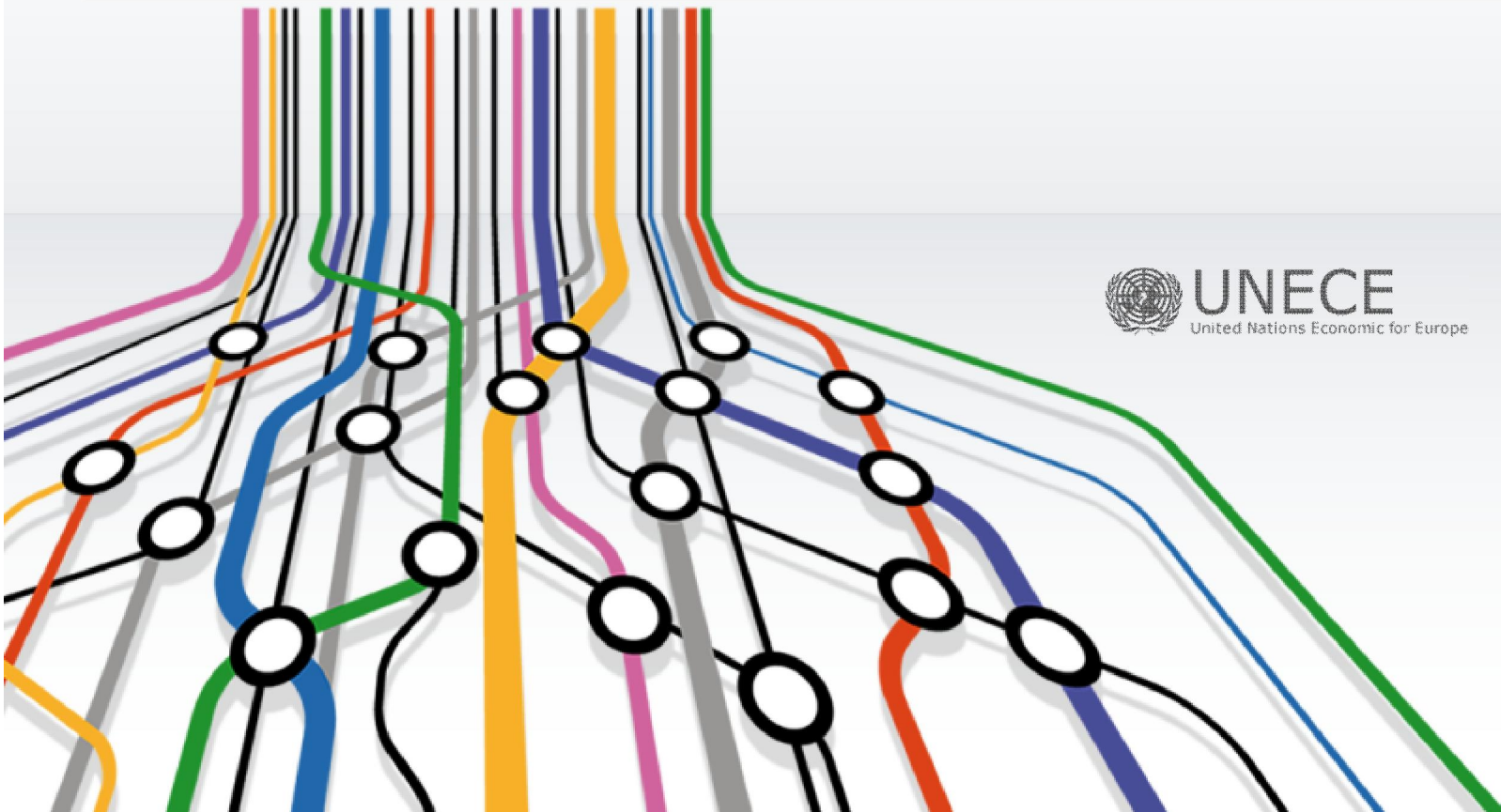
APTFF Capacity Building Workshop on Implementing Trade Facilitation Measures: Perishable Goods & Single Window

**26 September 2014, BITEC
Bangkok, Thailand**



Opportunities for trade in perishable goods: The WTO TFA and beyond

Bangkok, September 2014



In this presentation

- q Perishable Goods in the WTO TFA
- q Outlook: Trade Facilitation (Agreement) creating opportunities for trade in perishable goods
 - q UNNEXT Guide on agriculture Trade Facilitation
 - q Building a policy vision: Smarter Food Single Window
 - q Trade Facilitation to improve FFV exports in Greece

Bali, 7 December 2013



Article 7 review: release & clearance of goods

7

Release and clearance of goods

Post- clearance audit

Ensure consignment documentation compliance after release of the goods

Average Release Times

Measure and publish periodically the average release time of goods

Authorized Operators

Provide additional facilitation to selected operators called 'authorized operators'

Expedited Shipments

Set-up up facilitative procedures to expedite release of air cargo

Perishable goods

Release within the shortest possible time (incl. outside standard business hours if required by circumstances)

Perishable Goods: Definition

Definition of Perishable Goods:

9 Perishable Goods¹⁰

9.1 With a view to preventing avoidable loss or deterioration of perishable goods, and provided all regulatory requirements have been met, each Member shall:

- a. provide for the release of perishable goods under normal circumstances within the shortest possible time; and

For the purposes of this provision, perishable goods are goods that **rapidly decay** due to their **natural characteristics**, in particular in the **absence of appropriate storage conditions**.

Perishable Goods: Release

9.1 With a view to preventing avoidable loss or deterioration of perishable goods, and provided all regulatory requirements have been met, each Member shall:

- a. provide for the release of perishable goods under normal circumstances within the shortest possible time; and
- b. provide for the release of perishable goods, in exceptional circumstances where it would be appropriate to do so, outside the business hours of customs and other relevant authorities.

9.2 Each Member shall give appropriate priority to perishable goods when scheduling any examinations that may be required.

Perishable Goods: Storage facilities pending release of PG

9.3 Each Member shall either arrange, or allow an importer to arrange, for the **proper storage** of perishable goods **pending their release**. The Member **may require** that any storage facilities arranged by the importer have been **approved** or designated by its **relevant authorities**.

The **movement** of the goods **to those storage facilities**, including authorizations for the operator moving the goods, **may be subject to the approval**, where required, of the relevant **authorities**.

The Member **shall, where practicable** and consistent with domestic legislation, **upon the request of the importer**, provide for any **procedures** necessary for **release** to take place **at those storage facilities**.

Perishable Goods: inform about reasons for delay

9.4 In cases of **significant delay** in the **release** of perishable goods, and **upon written request**, the importing Member shall, **to the extent practicable**, provide a **communication on the reasons** for the delay.

Perishable Goods: Minimizing complexity of documents and formalities

ARTICLE 10: FORMALITIES CONNECTED WITH IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION AND TRANSIT

1 Formalities and Documentation Requirements

1.1. With a view to **minimizing the incidence and complexity** of import, export, and transit **formalities** and of decreasing and simplifying import, export and transit **documentation requirements** and taking into account the legitimate policy objectives and other factors such as changed circumstances, **relevant new** information and **business practices**, **availability of techniques and technology**, international best practices and inputs from interested parties, each Member shall review such formalities and documentation requirements, and, based on the results of the review, **ensure**, as appropriate, that such **formalities and documentation requirements**:

a. are adopted and/or applied with a view to a **rapid release** and clearance of goods, particularly **perishable goods**;

...

UNECE Standards for WTO TFA Agriculture Trade

UN/CEFACT:

- q General TF and eBusiness Standards
- q XML for Sanitary and Phytosanitary certificates (eCERT)
- q Agriculture PDA (animal traceability, fisheries, eLabs,...)

Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7)

- q Internationally agreed commercial quality standards for agricultural produce
- q Close collaboration with FAO, WHO and WTO
- q Many countries integrate WP.7 standards in national legislation

Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6)

- q Risk management in supply chains, best practice for regulatory compliance

In this presentation

Q Perishable Goods in the WTO TFA

Q Outlook: Can Trade Facilitation (Agreement) create opportunities for trade in perishable goods

Q UNNEXT Guide on agriculture Trade Facilitation

Q Building a Policy vision: Smarter food Single Window

Q Example Greece

Trade Facilitation and opportunities for Perishable Goods

Perishable goods are «trade facilitation sensitive»: TFA and TF in general have a leverage effect on trade in perishable goods

There are TF concepts that can change the game for perishable goods:

- q Use of risk management concepts (selectivity)
- q Information technology and sharing
- q Stakeholder collaboration
- q Use of logistics providers
- q Integration of SMEs and smallholders

If the TFA significantly facilitates the supply chain, what will change for trade on perishable goods:

Can we create new products, invent new supply chains, deliver to new markets?

New UNNEXT Guide TF for agri-food trade

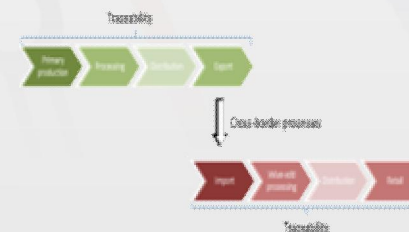
How can we improve trade in agriculture produce using Trade Facilitation?

Role of information management to enhance food safety, sustainability and efficiency

Smarter Food Single Window

- q Stakeholder collaboration
- q Authorized exporter scheme
- q Paperless licenses and certificates
- q Integrated Risk Management
- q Use information technology for T&T

A GUIDE ON INFORMATION
MANAGEMENT IN AGRICULTURAL
CHAINS FOR TRADE
FACILITATION



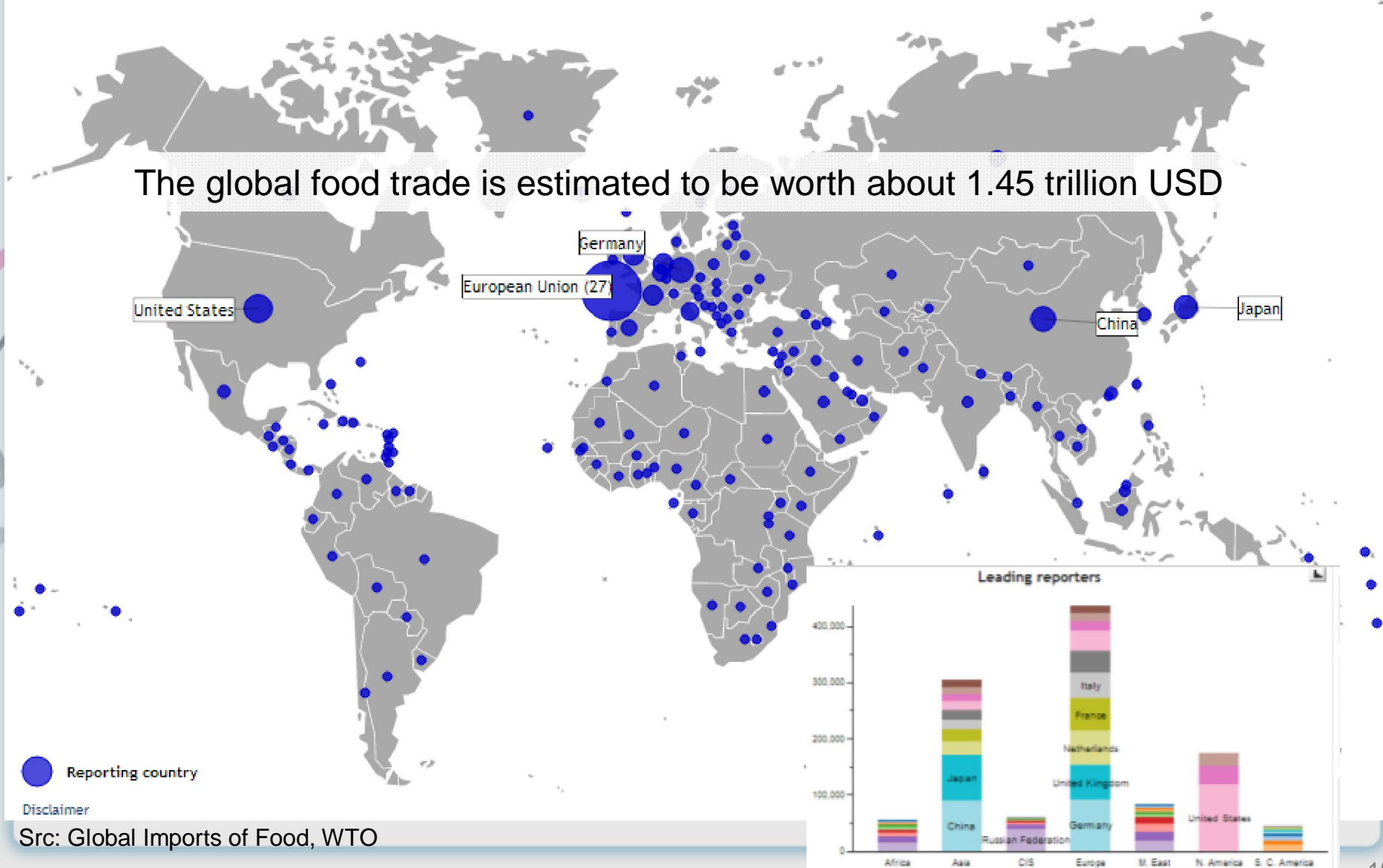
Facilitating Fresh Fruit and Vegetable exports: Example of Greece

A close-up photograph of many green apples, likely Granny Smiths, filling the frame. The apples are piled together, showing their characteristic green color and some natural blemishes.

**The smarter food vision:
inclusive, safe, traceable**

Some simple facts: the origin of food

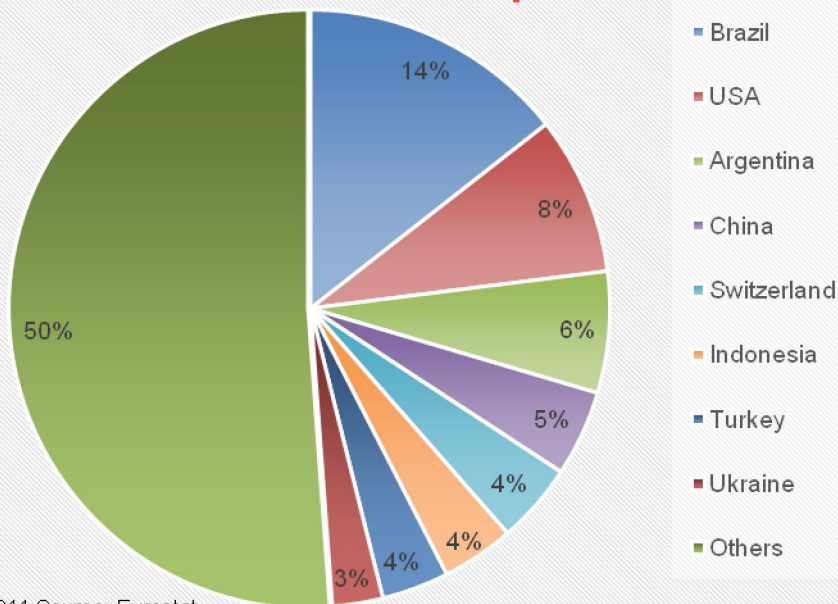
The global food trade is estimated to be worth about 1.45 trillion USD



One example: the European Union

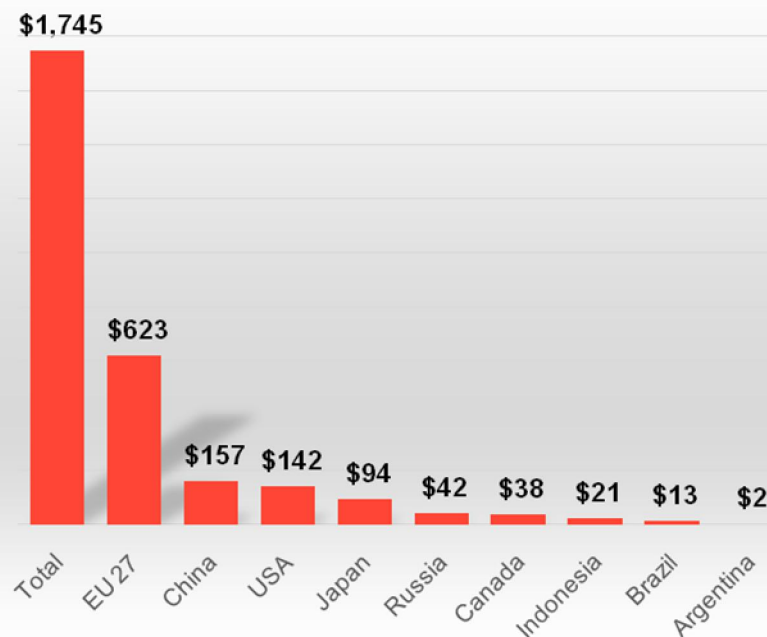
- The world's largest importer and exporter is the European Union
 - 36% of global imports
 - 38% of global exports

Source of EU food imports in %



2011 Source: Eurostat

Global food imports in billion USD



- The source is... the world



UNECE

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe



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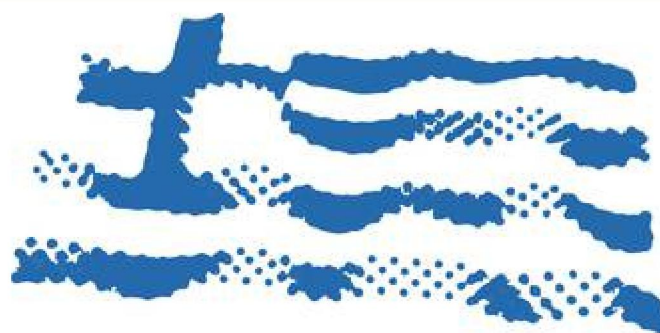
[Support to Greek Trade Facilitation Reform](#)

[Joint UNRCs Approach to Trade Facilitation](#)

[United Nations Network of Experts \(UNNExT\)](#)

[Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide](#)

[Trade Facilitation Implementation Training](#)



Support to the Greek Trade Facilitation Reform

[About the Project](#)

[Project Team Structure](#)

[Project Results](#)

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About the Project

In 2012, [UNECE supported the Greek Government](#)  to launch the [Greek Trade Facilitation Roadmap 2013-2014](#) , a holistic trade facilitation reform programme including key performance indicators (KPIs) to measure progress.

This Roadmap was approved by the Parliament and has become part of the lending agreement between Greece and the international donors. Its delivery is seen as a crucial milestone to establish trust in the Greek economy and to return to sustainable economic growth.

The Roadmap contains 25 specific reform programmes such as:

- substantive reform of Customs procedures and their automation,
- implementation of automate assessment and management of risks in import and export regulation,
- assessment of trade obstacles through process analysis,
- reform of agriculture trade procedures
- implementation of modern electronic business instruments including paperless trade

Greek Trade Facilitation Reform

- q National economic and social crisis in 2012
- q Holistic national TF reform programme:
 - q Policy vision for trade facilitation in Greece
 - q List of 25 key actions
 - q Goals, Key Performance Indicators, time-lines
 - q International expertise
 - q Resources

Approved by the Parliament End 2012 and
implemented in 2013/2014

Facilitating Export of Greek fresh fruit and vegetable



UNNExT

United Nations Network of Experts for
Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific

Brief No. 10, July 2014

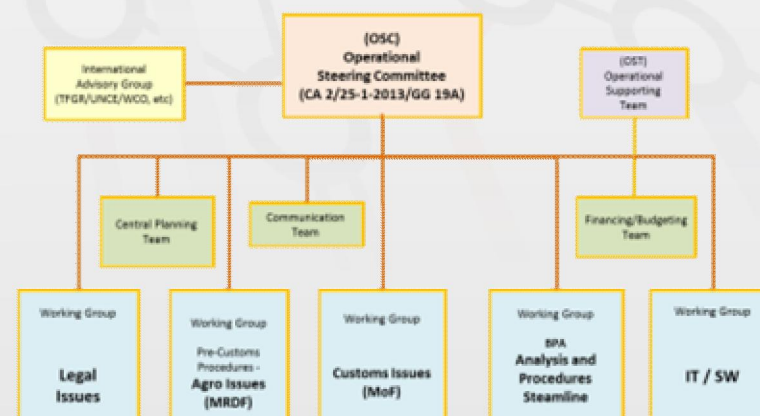
Smarter Food Greece

Trade facilitation for export opportunities in agricultural produce

Step 0: Improve the overall Trade Facilitation Environment

Facilitation of agriculture trade happens in a larger context

- q High level policy support
- q National Trade Facilitation Committee
- q Legal reforms
- q Customs automation
- q ePayment system
- q International expertise
- q ..



Step 3: Electronic document exchange

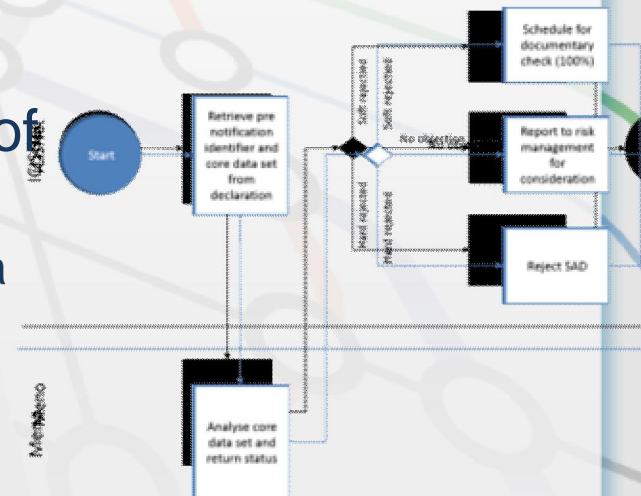
- ü Automated Customs management system
- ü Automated agriculture conformity system

Next: electronic exchange between Ministry of Agriculture and Customs

- q System specification: business processes, data structures, document flows, implementation plans,..

Lessons learned:

- q Time needed to build a joint project team
- q Electronic documents are NOT the equivalent of paper documents
- q Integration of processes between two agencies
- q Joint risk management process



Step 5: Benchmarking and best practice of FFV export

We have simplified and automated Greek FFV exports

Next: How to transform Trade Facilitation improvements into export opportunities?

Approach:

- q Stakeholder consultation
- q Assessment of the current situation of Greece
- q Comparing with EU best practice
- q SWOT analysis
- q Development of recommendations

EU advantage: *What can we learn from others?*

Pulling it together: A Strategy Greece

Fresh fruit and vegetable exports from Greece:
challenges

*Identification of hotspots
and potential solutions*

International benchmarking

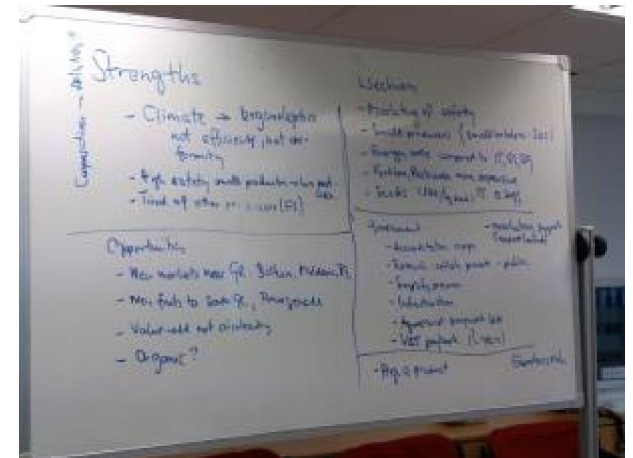
How do others cope?

Fresh fruit and vegetable exports from Greece:
solutions

Policy makers

Administration

Private sector



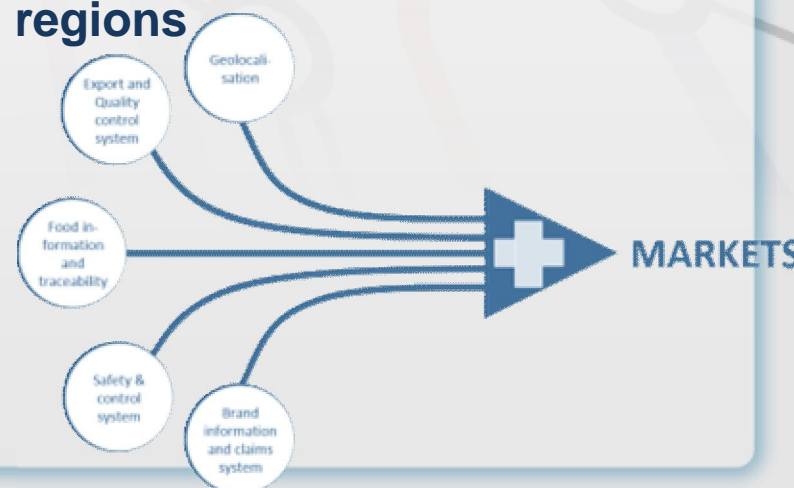
Step 5: Policy proposal: Greek Smarter Food

Concept for a *Greek Smarter Food Vision*

“..develop premium, IT-enabled brands and focus on delivering high value products, such as organic and socially aware products, to high income markets”

Cornerstones:

- q Risk management and paperless trade of Greek ministries
- q Quality of Greece Produce
- q Origin of Greece as a world class tourist destination
- q Tradition of Greek smallholders and regions



State Mid-2014

- q World Bank DoingBusiness.org: Greece international ranking in trade facilitation competitiveness improved **17 ranks** in one single year*
- q Agriculture:
 - ü Authorized exporter, electronic conformity certificate, Risk Management System(s), improvement inspections system, specification for paperless trade
 - ü Next: system for electronic document exchange, stakeholder discussion on smarter food vision

Thank You

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