Establishing a Single Window – Itinerary
Establishing a Single Window (SW) - Itinerary

What to keep in mind for a SW project?
How to best approach it?
• Introduction: Single Window for Trade
• Single Window Concept
• Single Window Evolution
• Single Window Implementation
• Future Developments
Trade facilitation and the international political agenda

More than **2000 trade facilitation (TF) reforms** all over the world in the last 8 years. Why?

- From **tariff barriers** to **non-tariff barriers**
- Emergence of **global value chains**
- Need for more **efficient, simple and transparent trade transactions**
- Evidence of **benefits**…

...+ **4% international trade**

...- **1 day to export/import**

&

...- **4 days to export/import**

...+ **0.1 % GDP per capita growth rate**

Single Window: a growing trend

“Single Windows are important drivers for the simplification, harmonization and automation of trade procedures”

2005: in 20 economies

2010: in 49 economies

2012: in 71 economies

2015: in 100 economies & some regions (ASEAN)?

“A Single Window is a facility that allows parties involved in trade and transport to lodge standardized information and documents with a single entry point to fulfill all import, export, and transit-related regulatory requirements.

If information is electronic, then individual data elements should only be submitted once”.

UNECE Recommendation 33

http://www.unece.org/cefact/single_window/welcome.htm
The Single Window environment

FROM

Current situation for Government and Traders

TRADER

Electronic

Paper

Transport

Customs

Agriculture

Health Dept

TO

A “Single Window” environment

TRADER

Electronic

Paper

Transport

Customs

Agriculture

Health Dept
A national Single Window architecture...
The Single Window evolution

Single Window today: one term, many meanings

Many information systems for global supply chains: e-Customs, PCS, Government agency systems, National logistics systems…

SW as a network of systems

Objective is collaboration of stakeholders and simplification of procedures

SW planning as a challenge
1. Introduction

2. Group Work –
   Policy & Institutional Aspects; Legal & Regulatory Framework; BPA; Docs simplification & Info exchange

3. Plenary: Group presentations

4. Plenary Debriefing –
   Case Studies; Discussion
Establishing a SW: What does it help?

Single Window Implementation
- UNECE Rec. 33, 34, 35
- UNECE SW repository
- UNNEt Guide on SW
- WCO Compendium on SW

Cross Border Data Exchange
- Data Models (e.g. WCO Data Model)
- UN XML, UN EDIFACT

National Data Harmonization
- UNTDED, UNCTDS, UN CCL
- UN LOCODE and code lists
- UNECE Rec. 34
- UNNEt Guide on Data Harmonization

Document Simplification and Standardization
- UN Layout Key, Master Document
- UNTDED, TF Toolkit and Forms Repository

Business Process Analysis
- Revised Kyoto Convention
- UN/CEFACT International Supply Chain Reference model
- Unified Modeling Methodology (UMM)
- UNNEt Guide on Business Process Analysis

Legal and Institutional Framework
- UNECE Rec. 4, 18 & 35
- UNCITRAL Model Laws on Electronic Commerce and on Electronic Signature
- UN Convention on the Use of Electronic Communications in International Contracts

Policy Planning
- UNECE Rec. 4, 18 & 33
- WCO Compendium on SW
The SW Implementation Framework (SWIF)

SWIF is an holistic and systematic framework for the planning and implementation of SW projects:

- Decomposition of SW challenges into 10 key components
- SW development cycle

Step-wise SW project management phases:

- Inception phase, detailed feasibility phase, planning phase, implementation oversight phase, and feedback phase
Referring to World Bank’s Index (www.doingbusiness.org)

Vision

- Many Document Requirements
- Complicated Trade Procedures
- Laws and Regulations
- Many Stakeholders
- Many different ICT systems
- Regional Connectivity
- System Development
- Barriers in Interoperability
- People and Business In-Readiness
- Inadequacy in Technology Infrastructure
- Lack of Understanding
- Compliance Governance
- Change Management
- Conflict of Interest
- Standards
- Difficulty in trade data exchange
- Connectivity within the country

Reality

- achieving trade transaction cost and time reduction goals

...Many challenges to be tackled to transform Vision into Reality!

Why SWIF?

Vision

e.g. of APEC member economies

25% better, faster, cheaper trading across border* within 5 years (2011-2015)

* Referring to World Bank’s Index (www.doingbusiness.org)
Decomposing the SW challenges into ten key components

1. Stakeholders’ needs and requirements
2. Single Window Vision and Political Will
3. Stakeholders Collaboration
4. Business Process Analysis
5. Data Harmonization and Documents
6. Service Functions (Applications Architecture)
7. Technical Standards and Interoperability
8. Legal Infrastructure
10. IT Infrastructure and IT Solutions

Vision

e.g. APEC-Thailand, Chinese Taipei:
25% better, faster, cheaper trading across border within 5 years

From the “As-Is” conditions (architectures) of all these components

Reality

achieving trade transaction cost and time reduction goals

Migrating to the target “To-Be” architectures of all these 10 components

* Referring to World Bank’s Index (www.doingbusiness.org)
The project management process

Source: UNNExT SW Project Implementation Guide
Relevant provisions in the WTO TF negotiating text

- **Art. 10.2**
  - Reduction/Limitation of Documentation Requirements

- **Art. 10.4**
  - Use of International Standards (UN layout key; UN Trade Data Elements Directory; and the WCO Data Model)

- **Art. 10.5**
  - Single Window (Involvement of all relevant authorities/agencies; use of IT, use of relevant international standards; progressive approach)

- **Art. 14**
  - National Committees on Trade Facilitation

UNECE’s Work for SWs

- Policy Rec.s
- Standards
- Guidelines, Briefs, Case Studies
- Capacity Building & Technical assistance
Costs & Benefits of SWs: Evidence

**Senegal**
- **Costs:** 6 Mln USD (operation & maintenance 1.75 Mln year)
- **Benefits:**
  - Export times - from 22 to 11 days
  - Customs revenue - from USD 625 Mln a year (2005) to 1.2 Bln a year (2011)

**Mozambique**
- **Costs:** 15 Mln USD
- **Benefits:**
  - Clearance times - from 3 days to few hours

**Thaïland**
- **Costs:** 7.5 Mln USD
- **Benefits:**
  - Cost to export – from 848 USD in 2007 to 585 USD in 2013
  - Savings on logistic costs USD 1.5 Bln per year

**Equador**
- **Costs:** 15.8 Mln USD
- **Benefits:**
  - Faster exports times – 60% reduction
  - Savings (projected) on admin costs USD 12 Mln per year

Lessons learned

- SWs seen as a process of reform and innovation
- Main objective is simplification and collaboration
- Automation is a means, not an end
- From central SW towards networks for information management in SC
- Countries need to plan the evolution of their SW systems
Moving forward…

Policy Rec. 36 on SW Interoperability
Rev. Policy Rec. 4 on TF Committees
Study on SWs and Port Community Systems
Strategic framework for info exchange in SCs

Thinking ahead…?

Connecting SW of developing and developed economies
Sharing info though whole value chain
From a data push to a data pull concept
Thank you!

For more see Establishing a Single Window Itinerary: http://tfig.unece.org/contents/itinerary-02-start.html