

INFORMATION SYSTEM ON NON-TARIFF BARRIERS TO TRADE IN CEFTA – CEFTA TRANSPARENCY PACK

BACKGROUND

Facilitation of trade through employing transparency tools is an on-going priority for CEFTA. The CEFTA structures had in previous years already undertaken substantial efforts to establish tools to increase transparency on non-tariff measures to trade.

This included the setting-up of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Database, the Market Access Barriers Database and the CEFTA Trade Portal. What was missing was an interlinked system allowing CEFTA Parties to notify each other on all types of trade-related measures and to analyse their impact on regional trade. Against this background, the CEFTA Parties decided to establish the “Transparency Pack” as an enhanced transparency tool.

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

Establish a transparency tool that enables CEFTA Parties to effectively address the most frequent market access barriers in the region.

ACTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

The main activities of the project entailed:

- Establishment of the “Transparency Pack” webpage as a tool for data management and enhanced transparency on information related to trade measures (www.ceftatransparency.com). The Transparency Pack interlinks four databases via a search function, i.e. Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Platform, Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Database, Market Access Database (MADB) and CEFTA Trade Portal



- Establishing, as part of the Transparency Pack, the TBT Platform and a notification tool which allows CEFTA Parties to notify each other on all types of trade related measures
- Training of CEFTA Contact Points and designated staff of relevant authorities to develop capacities on how to update and use the Transparency Pack tool.

IMPACT ON CEFTA

This project has had a substantial impact on both trade facilitation issues and transparency within CEFTA. The sophisticated upgrade of the original transparency tools allows CEFTA Parties to systemize the detection of trade irritants and to enhance the efficacy of tackling the most frequent and most trade-distortive market access barriers in the region. It has also improved the capacity of trade officials in the CEFTA Parties dealing with NTBs and trade disputes.

SUMMARY PROJECT INFORMATION

Dates:	May 2013 - February 2015
Budget:	€ 255,000
Partners:	GIZ, CEFTA
Financiers:	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
Beneficiaries:	Ministries responsible for trade and agriculture, technical agencies, private sector

CONTACT PERSON/FURTHER INFORMATION

Susanne Hartmann, GIZ Open Regional Fund Foreign Trade Promotion,
Sector Fund Manager ✉ susanne.hartmann@giz.de

Tanja Bošković, GIZ Open Regional Fund Foreign Trade Promotion,
Project Manager ✉ tanja.boskovic@giz.de

Liudmila Nistor-Mihajlova, Executive Assistant,
CEFTA Secretariat ✉ Liudmila.NistorMihajlova@cefta.int

