

## **Rwanda**

### **Approach to TFA implementation**

To implement trade facilitation agreement -TFA, Rwanda:

- Has developed a concrete action plan offering a step-by-step guide of the process within a strictly defined timeline.
- Simplifies trade procedures and documentation where necessary and its integration into Rwanda's Trade Information Portal and the Electronic Single Window.

To achieve long term results on Trade Facilitation, Rwanda has decided to formulate a strategic planning framework namely the development of a National Trade Facilitation Roadmap. The roadmap sets the vision, the goals and the activities for the period of five years (2019to 2024) with the following vision: "By 2024 Rwanda will rank among the top 60 countries in Trading Across Borders as per the World Bank Doing Business Report Time and cost on trade procedures reduced by 10%, Thus contributing to trade growth by 17%".

To achieve the above vision, the following six goals were identified:

- Reduce the number of import and export related documents by 20%;
- Increase paperless trade system by 80%;
- Reduce time for imports and exports by 10% from 2019 baseline,
- Reduce cost for imports and exports by 10% from 2019 baseline,
- Reduce the number of NTBs affecting trade by 30%; and
- To leverage Rwanda's trade gains from regional and continental with an increased continental trade of 20%

Some objectives were defined to achieve the above goals and Rwanda Revenue Authority with the technical assistance and financial support from different partners is in the process of implementing the following:

- Undertake a documentation and procedures simplification processes with key national export and import agencies based on the findings of the business process analysis conducted by Ministry of trade and industry.
- Enhance the Electronic Single Window system by automating trade procedures (export, import and transit) to at least 80% by 2024
- Provide capacity building to the users of the Electronic Single Window.

- Fast track the automation and interface of systems (Bank systems, MINAGRI,RAB,NAEB,eSW,)
- Establish an automated Single Enquiry Point and ensure different portals are integrated into the Single Enquiry Point.
- Improve and ensure system network stability.
- Sensitize traders to join the Authorized Economic Operators scheme.
- Review and publication of the current public fees and charges on import and export services in view of reducing the cost.
- Put in place an online advance ruling system.
- Establish OSBP at border posts with high trade flows and operationalize them for 24/7
- Extend customs and border posts working hours.
- Introduce SMS reporting and feedback system for traders.
- Reduce the number of document approvals for imports and exports.
- Conduct awareness campaign with private sector on trade reforms and benefits of automation for trade facilitation.