



Ministry of Industry and Commerce
Department of Planning and Cooperation
Foreign Aid Division
National Implementation Unit

Trade Facilitation Program: Key results

Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar NIU Exchange

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Outline

Strategy

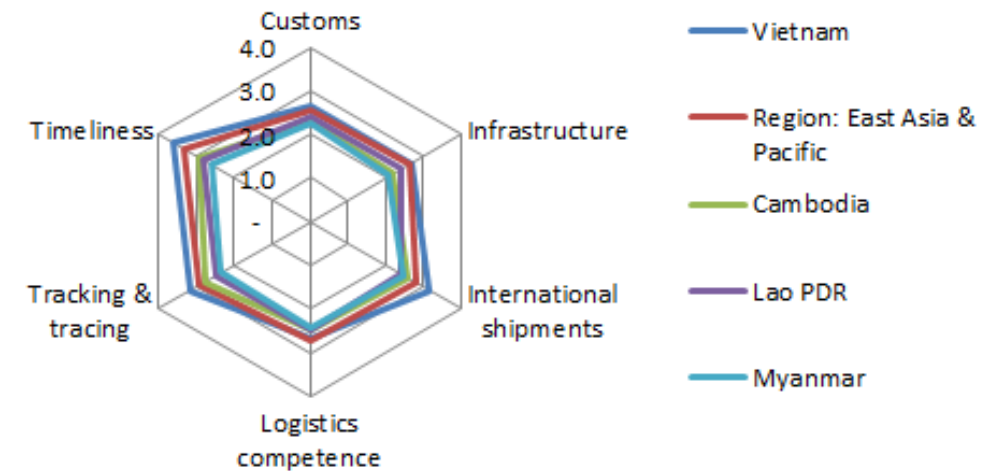
Coordination mechanism

Deliverables



An overview

- Improvement in LPI
- But weak performance in customs, infrastructure, logistics quality
- Higher logistics costs than neighbors
 - Large imbalance in trade flow
 - Shipping line practice



National trade facilitation strategy

Primary objectives

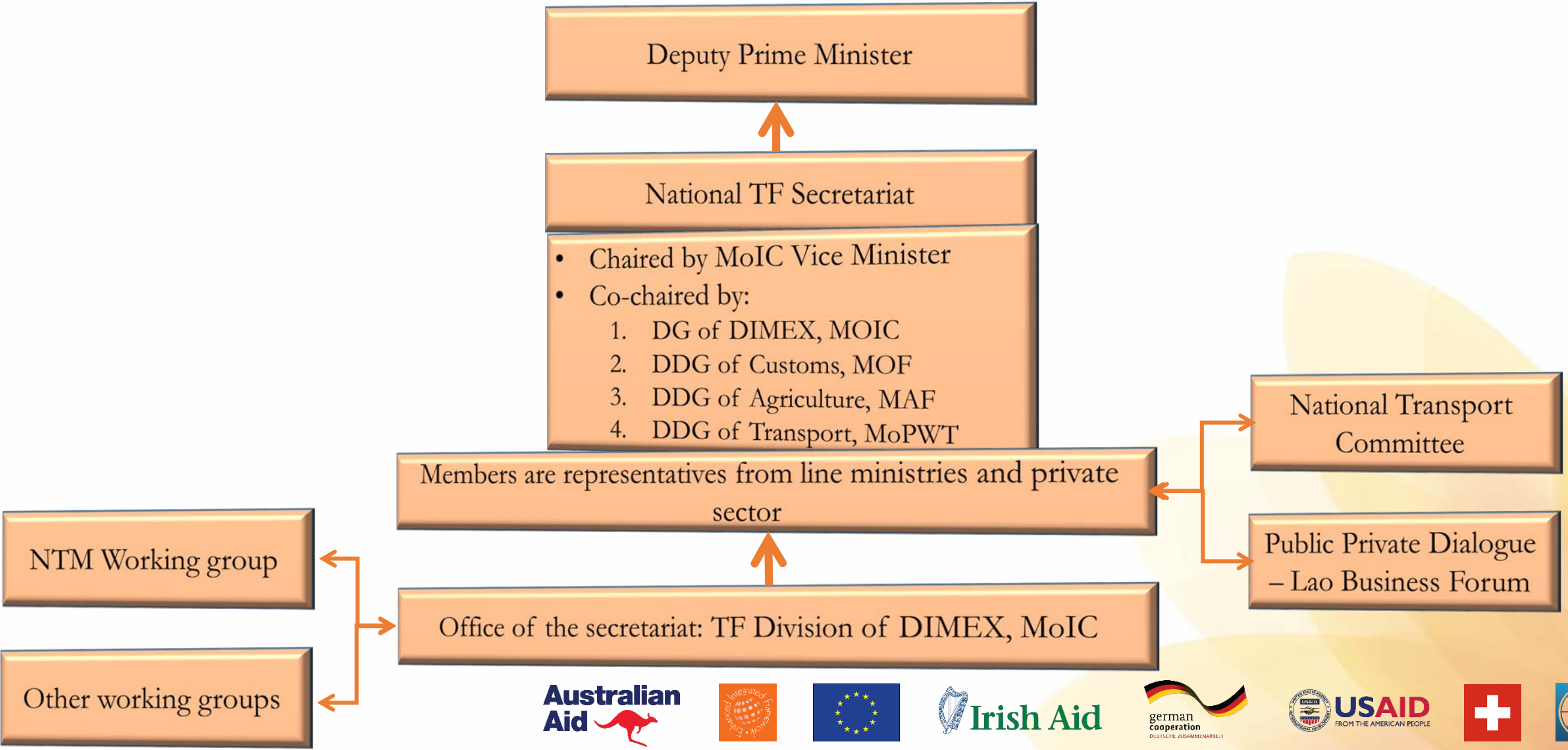
- To make international trade and customs procedures simple and easy; and
- To reduce the costs of trading, particularly to business

Guiding principles

1. Work towards simplifying, harmonising, standardising and modernising international trade and customs procedures
2. Implement best practice trade facilitation measures
3. Reduce the cost of cross-border and transit procedures
4. Implement international, regional, sub-regional and bilateral trade facilitation commitments
5. Help Lao PDR based business take full advantage of trade agreements
6. Ensure that rules and procedures are clear, easy to understand and accessible
7. Minimize service fees



Coordination structure



- A website that contains all regulatory trade related information, i.e.
 - All laws, regulations and other legal instruments
 - All license and permit requirements, prohibitions, restrictions, technical standards, SPS measures
 - Entire commodity classification and tariffs
 - All procedures for license/permit application and clearance
 - Copies of all forms
- All information is indexed, cross-referenced and dynamically presented

- Extensive plain language instructions
- Contact Form for queries targeted to specific agencies
- Help features
- Market access information
- Latest news, announcements, events and publications
- SPS and TBT Enquiry Points
- Value added subscription facilities
- Dual language (Lao and English)

Customs modernization

- Official customs law was promulgated in 1994 and improved over time to incorporate international conventions and practices
- Became a member of the World Customs Organization in 2007
- Made a stronger push toward full centralization of customs operations in accordance with the conditions of membership in the WTO and the AEC
- The backbone of this centralization was the adoption of the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA)
 - Part of a two-pronged customs modernization strategy to automate procedures and build the capacity of customs officials.

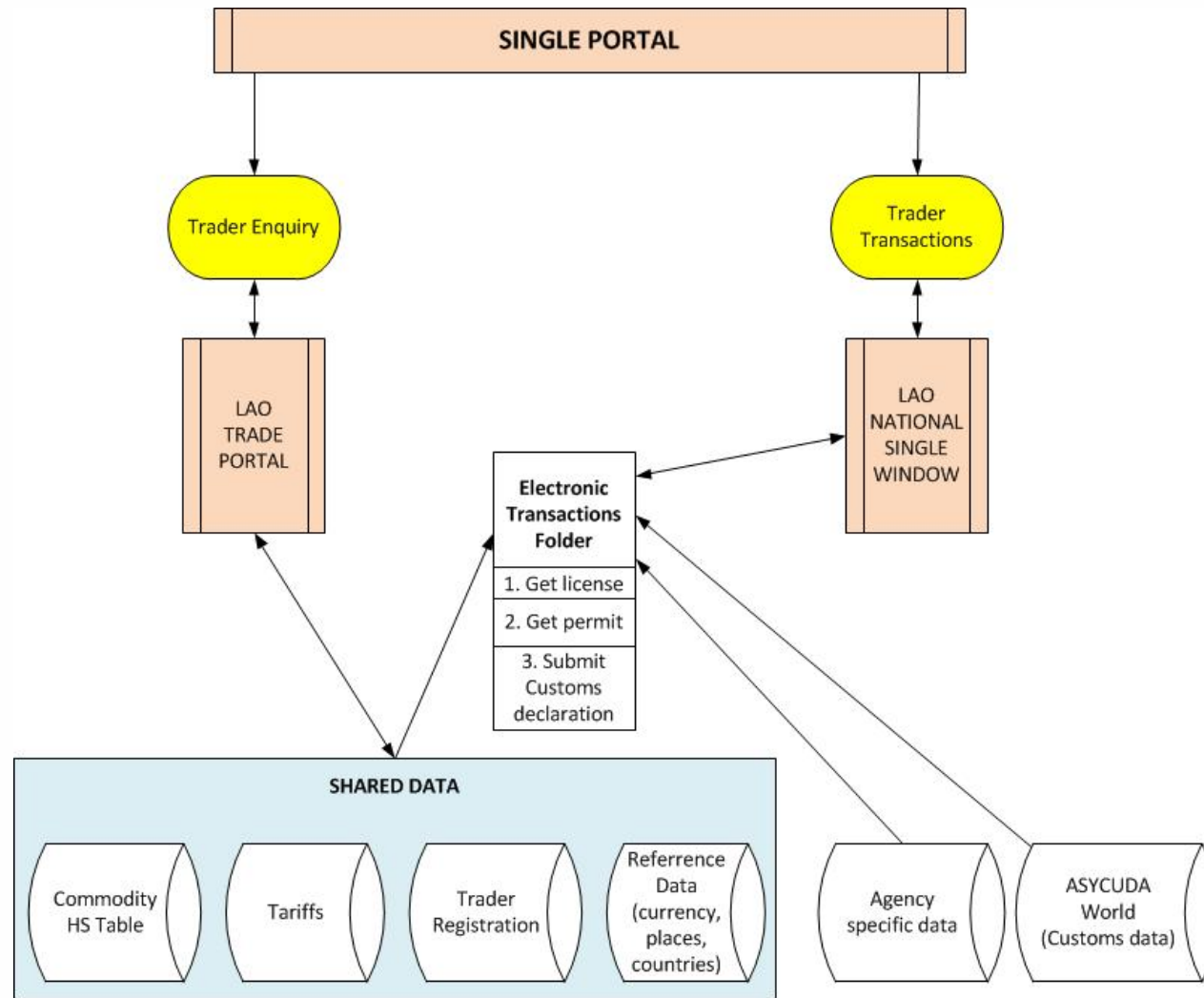


Customs modernization

- The ASYCUDA system is live in 21 checkpoints
- The system covers 99 percent of international trade
- Automated selectivity system in place
- Trade statistics are collected in real time
- ASYCUDA Kiosks established in major checkpoints
- Electronic payment system – Smart Tax established in 08 checkpoints



Vision of Integrated Trade Portal and LNSW





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Thank You for your attention!

