

EXPORT CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE FACILITATION PROJECT

PROJECT MEETING, MAY 2, 2024

8 PM BANGKOK (BKK) / 9 PM SINGAPORE (SGT) / 3 PM CENTRAL EUROPEAN TIME (CET) / 9 AM WASHINGTON, D.C. (EDT)

Attendance

Present:	Excused absence:
1. Kevin Atkinson	Aleksandr Orel
2. Aleksei Bondarenko	Amadou Mbaye Diop
3. Abhay Pandey	Birgit Viohl
4. Anthony Lie	Craig Atkinson
5. Bismark Sitorus	Daniele Tumietto
6. Geert Rensen	Fadzly Moftar
7. Hanane Becha	Faith Mbakhwa
8. Jon Walden	Joseph Potvin
9. Jonathan Koh	Kefelegn Aragie Tesema
10. Laraib Ghaffar	Kevin Too
11. Max Tay	Martin Palmer
12. N.K. Redkar	Nikolai Masoni
13. Prasadi Boomawalage	Nurbek Maksutov
14. Solomonraj Joseph	Purushottam Ojh
15. Sujeevan Perera	ROSE RONO
16. Trevor O'regan	Sandip Jadhav
17. Virginie Bohl	Shylet Taurai Nyabeze (Mrs.)
18. Vishal Shrivastava	

Agenda of the meeting

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks, Kevin Atkinson, TPF Domain Coordinator •
2. Introduction to the Project, Aleksei Bondarenko, project lead
3. Participant Introductions
5. Discussion on how to better gather information about existing challenges in export control and compliance procedures
 - questionnaire elaboration
 - volunteers nomination for each type of the questionnaire
6. Planning the Next Steps (5 minutes)
 - outline the focus for the next meeting in June to discuss questionnaires and its circulation

Details of the discussion

- 1. Welcome and Opening Remarks (5 minutes)**
Kevin Atkinson, TPF Domain Coordinator

- Kevin Atkinson welcomed all participants to the kickoff meeting, emphasizing the importance of their contributions and collaboration for the success of the project.

2. Introduction to the Project (10 minutes)

Presenter: Aleksei Bondarenko, Project Lead

- **Objectives:** Aleksei outlined the project's main goals, which include developing a comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by different stakeholders in international trade and proposing actionable solutions.
- **Scope:** The project will focus on collecting and analyzing data from various actors in the supply chain, including traders, service providers, and financial institutions.
- **Alignment with SDGs:** Aleksei highlighted how the project aligns with Sustainable Development Goals 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

3. Participant Introductions (20 minutes)

- Each participant provided a brief introduction, sharing their expertise and the contributions they expect to make to the project.

4. Discussion on How to Better Gather Information About Existing Challenges (10 minutes)

- **Questionnaire Elaboration:** Participants discussed strategies for effectively developing questionnaires that would capture the nuanced challenges each stakeholder group faces.
- **Questionnaire Groups:** Participants agreed to develop questionnaires grouped into categories for 1) financial institutions, 2) service providers and intermediaries, 3) exporting businesses and traders, and 4) government agencies in order to specifically address and gather detailed insights into the unique challenges and regulatory impacts each of these key stakeholders faces in international trade and supply chain management.
- **Volunteer Nomination:** Volunteers were identified for each type of questionnaire:
 - Financial Institutions: **Antony Lie**, Abhay P, Geert Rensen
 - Service Providers: **Solomoraj Joseph**, Antony Lie
 - Exporting Businesses and Traders: **Jon Walden**, Sujeevan Parera
 - Government Agencies: **Prasadi Boomawalage**, Antony Lie, Sujeevan Parera

1. Other points discussed:

Geert Rensen emphasized the importance of including freight forwarders in the questionnaire process, noting that they often face significant fines and regulatory challenges. He highlighted the need for detailed knowledge about the goods being shipped and how regulations affect different scenarios.

Antony Lie proposed creating subsets of people who could collaborate on specific parts of the questionnaire, particularly for financial institutions. He discussed his experience with audit and risk in banking, which could contribute significantly to understanding compliance and export controls in financial services.

Jon Walden discussed the necessity of involving logistic departments in the questionnaire related to exporting businesses and traders, based on his experiences with traders in different economic situations. He suggested that their insight could be particularly valuable in understanding the practical challenges these actors face.

Solomoraj Joseph spoke about the potential contributions from service providers, drawing from his experience with implementing systems and understanding the operational challenges in this sector. He suggested focusing on the key concerns that service providers have regarding policy implementation.

Prasadi Boomawalage offered insights into regulatory and governmental aspects, proposing that the questionnaire also include considerations for how traders, export businesses, and regulatory

bodies intersect. Her idea was to ensure that the questionnaire captures the regulatory challenges and government interactions that impact the trade environment.

Jonathan Koh and **N.K.** discussed the broader implications of the project, including the need to address trust deficits in international trade. They emphasized the importance of creating a comprehensive approach that includes not just the commercial players but also the regulatory and financial frameworks that support or hinder trade.

- **Virginie Bohl** proposed including issues related to medical and humanitarian goods in the project. This focus would allow the project to address specific challenges and regulatory constraints impacting the delivery and trade of critical supplies, which is particularly relevant given the complex legal and logistical frameworks these goods often navigate.

6. Planning the Next Steps

- **Next Meeting:** The focus for the next meeting in June was outlined, which will discuss the finalized questionnaires and plans for their circulation.

Action Points:

1. Volunteer Recruitment:

- **Action:** All participants who wish to volunteer should express their interest by emailing Aleksei to their preferred questionnaire group (financial institutions, service providers and intermediaries, exporting businesses and traders, or government agencies).
- **Deadline:** Please confirm your participation and chosen group by May 15.

2. Guidance on Questionnaire Development:

- **Action:** Aleksei will arrange a guidance session for the expert groups to provide frameworks for questionnaire development.
- **Date:** Guidance session to be held on May 20.

3. Finalization of Questionnaire Drafts:

- **Action:** Each group must finalize their draft of the questionnaire, incorporating feedback from the guidance session and any additional insights gathered.
- **Deadline:** Completed drafts to be submitted by June 10 for review and consolidation.

4. Next meeting: is set for June 14, 2024