Introduction to ADB’s Trade Facilitation TA

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ADB’s support for trade facilitation

• ADB has supported trade facilitation over the years as a means to increase investment and trade

• Trade facilitation as a key component of ADB’s subregional programs

• Since 1994, ADB has played been active in the evolution of these regional and subregional initiatives.

• ADB has promoted good practices in trade facilitation through a series of partnerships with other international organizations.
Examples: Trade Facilitation-related projects
- Southeast Asia Dept. (SERD), ADB

- REG50172: Regional ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) Support Program—Programmatic Approach and PBLs loans2.
- REG50172-002 RCDTA: Support to the AEC
- Trade Strategy for Southeast Asia DMCs
- TA 8707-REG: Strengthening Trade Facilitation in the GMS through Partnerships with the Private Sector.
- TA-8709 REG: Strengthening Institutional Knowledge and Capacity of Customs Administrations for Trade Facilitation within ASEAN.
TA 9258-REG: Support for Trade Facilitation in Asia and the Pacific

- **Output 1:** Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forums (APTFF) successfully conducted in 2017 and 2019.

- **Output 2:** Roundtable meeting successfully conducted in 2018.

- **Output 3:** Trade negotiation and trade facilitation policy formulation and implementation skills of developing member country officials enhanced.

- **Output 4:** Research study report published and disseminated
Previous studies about the benefits of trade facilitation

- No universal definition of trade facilitation.
- Reflecting the diversity of its definition, most studies differ in terms of what TF measures they cover.
- The methodology to measure the effects of TF also vary.
- Based on the studies surveyed, reported benefits from TF could be significant but quite varied.
- Going forward, there is a need to come up with a more standardized framework and to develop data sources that could be used to analyze TF benefits.
Thank you