

Cross-Border Paperless Trade Toolkit

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WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DU COMMERCE
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United Nations
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What is Cross-Border Paperless Trade?

- ***Paperless trade*** – the digitalization of information flows required to trade.
- Can be:
 - Business to Business (B2B)
 - Business to Government (B2G)
 - Government to Government (G2G)
- Multiple paperless trade systems exist (e.g., electronic customs declarations; electronic port management systems; electronic single windows).



Why a CBPT Toolkit?

- CBPT could boost exports, reduce the time needed to export, cut costs, and reduce red tape.
- But limited implementation rate and limited guidance available
- **Objective:** To help drive adoption at a global level and help developing countries & LDCs enhance their capacity to trade.

“Even partial implementation of cross-border paperless trade measures could see an export increase of US\$ 36 billion annually.”



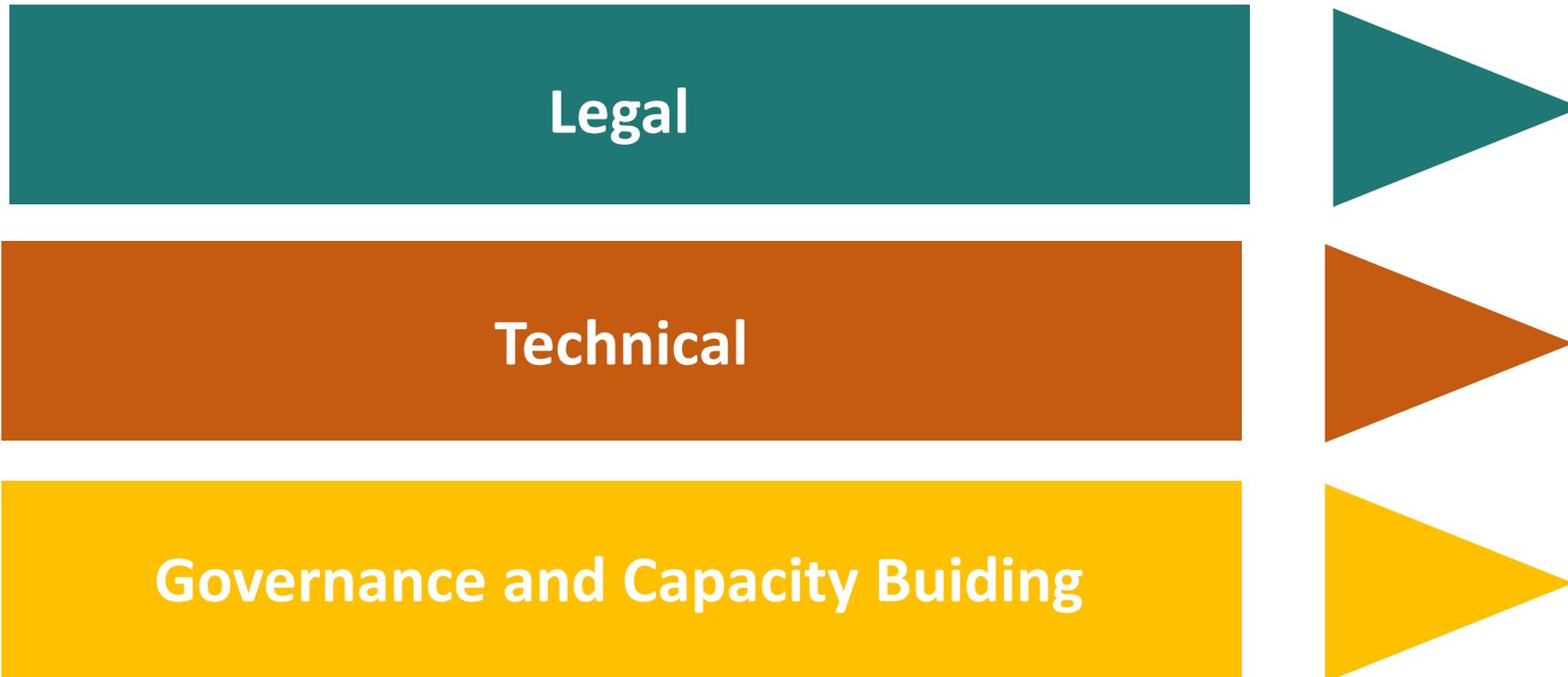
What is the CBPT Toolkit?

- The Cross-border Paperless Trade (CBPT) toolkit builds on UNESCAP work in support of the *Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-Border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific*
 - *Legal and Technical Readiness Checklists*
 - *Readiness Assessment Guide for Cross-border Paperless Trade for Asia and the Pacific*
- Provides general guidance by referring to the checklists and assessment guides.
- **The toolkit does not intend to assess the status of a paperless trade.**

“This toolkit aims at raising awareness of the technical and legal tools to be called upon to adopt cross-border paperless trade systems and national single windows (NSWs).”



Toolkit Structure



Toolkit Structure

Legal

- Legal Recognition of E-transactions and Documents
- Trust Services
- Data Governance
- Liability and Dispute Management



Toolkit Structure

Technical

- Digital Identity
- Electronic Payment
- Data Models and Semantics
- Communication protocols
- Connectivity
- Data Security



Toolkit Structure

**Governance
and Capacity
Building**

- **Governance**
- **Capacity Building for Paperless Trade System Users**



Beyond the Toolkit...

- **Cross-Border Paperless Trade Database (with ICC DSI)**
 - Repository of trade-data exchange projects and services solutions, and legal and implementation instruments

The screenshot shows the website interface for the Cross-Border Paperless Trade Database. The header includes logos for ESCAP, ICC Digital Standards Initiative, and the database title. A navigation menu is present above a world map. The map displays several project connections between countries, with a central text box stating: "CROSS-BORDER PAPERLESS TRADE DATABASE" and "Accelerating progress towards trade/digitalization through knowledge sharing". Below the map, a "Latest Projects" section lists three projects:

Project Name	Operating Mode	Scope	Control Type
GACC and Mongolia Customs Administration eManifest electronic data exchange	Operating Bilateral	Bilateral	Regulatory/official control
Morpheus Network	Operating Global	Global	Commercial Transactions, Regulatory/official control
SGS eCert Platform	Operating Global	Global	Commercial Transactions, Forwarding and cargo handling, Transport, Regulatory/official control

<https://digitalizetrade.org/>

Beyond the Toolkit...

- **Readiness Assessment Guide for Cross-border Paperless Trade**
 - Interactive legal and technical guides with questions... and answers!

The image shows the homepage of the 'Readiness Assessment Guide for Cross-border Paperless Trade' website. The header features logos for ESCAP (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific), UNCITRAL (United Nations Commission on International Trade Law), and EIF (Enhanced Integrated Framework). The main navigation menu includes 'HOME', 'ABOUT', 'GUIDES', 'RESOURCES', and 'LANGUAGE'. The central banner displays a hand pointing at a digital interface with a bar chart showing a 78% increase and an upward-trending arrow. Below the banner, the title 'READINESS ASSESSMENT GUIDE FOR CROSS-BORDER PAPERLESS TRADE' is prominently displayed, followed by the subtitle 'Facilitating self-assessments of legal and technical readiness on cross-border paperless trade'. At the bottom, four action buttons are provided: 'DOWNLOAD THE CHECKLISTS' (with a download icon), 'PLAN THE ASSESSMENT' (with a notepad icon), 'FOLLOW THE GUIDES' (with a map icon), and 'TAKE QUICK ASSESSMENT' (with a magnifying glass icon).

<https://readiness.digitalizetrade.org/>

Technical checklist

A - PAPERLESS TRADE SYSTEM AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

- A1 Governance bodies
- A2 Level of automation
- A3 ICT Infrastructure for Paperless Trade
- A4 Security
- A5 Business process re-engineering
- A6 Data harmonization and standardization
- A7 Capacity building
- A8 Other Matters

B - NATIONAL STATUS TOWARDS CROSS-BORDER DATA EXCHANGE

- B1 Electronic systems
- B2 Single Window System
- B3 Business process re-engineering
- B4 Data harmonization and standardization
- B5 International transit
- B6 Awareness programme
- B7 Other matters

<https://readiness.digitalizetrade.org/>

Legal and technical guides

Navigating

Top
Menu

The screenshot displays the UN ESCAP website's 'Technical Readiness Assessment Guide' for 'CROSS-BORDER PAPERLESS TRADE'. The page is titled 'B2 SINGLE WINDOW SYSTEM' and includes a sub-section 'B2.1 If a single window system mentioned in A2.2 has been implemented, does it support cross-border data exchange?'. The page content is organized into sections: 'Background', 'Good Practices', and 'References and Case Studies'. A large blue arrow points to the 'Explanatory notes, good practices and references for each question' section on the left. A green 'Open All' button is visible in the top right corner of the content area.

UNITED NATIONS
ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

READINESS ASSESSMENT GUIDE FOR
CROSS-BORDER PAPERLESS TRADE

HOME ABOUT GUIDES RESOURCES LANGUAGE

Technical Guide

Home » Technical Readiness Assessment Guide

B2 SINGLE WINDOW SYSTEM Open All

B2.1 If a single window system mentioned in A2.2 has been implemented, does it support cross-border data exchange?

Background

A single window system is meant to connect systems of the stakeholders in the country via a single point of connectivity providing more efficient integration/interfacing. Likewise, a national single window is also meant to support cross-border data exchange. It acts as the national single point of connectivity which will ease integration/interfacing for cross-border data exchange with dialogue partners.

Good Practices

The single window system normally acts as the national single point of connectivity with all public and private stakeholders within the countries and also with dialogue partners. With the single point of connectivity, it eases integration and interfacing for cross-border data exchange. The country needs to engage with dialogue partners to discuss and agree on potential mutual benefits and challenges of cross-border electronic data exchange along value chains, namely information exchange between single windows. The challenges also focus on interoperability and suitable models between single windows to exchange and use information, in secure manner agreeing to a mutual recognition protocol, across borders without additional effort on the part of the users.

References and Case Studies

- Cross-border single window interoperability: a managerial guide (particularly on Chapter 4: D. Connectivity), <https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/CROSS->

On this page:

B2.1 Support of cross-border data exchange

B2.2 Function as the national single window

Explanatory notes, good practices and references for each question

Beyond the Toolkit...

- **The Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-Border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (CPTA)**
 - **A dedicated multilateral intergovernmental platform to facilitate implementation**
 - A set of General Principles to guide implementation
 - Consensus building on adoption and recognition of international standards
 - Capacity building and pilot projects
 - Tailored national action plans, and a joint regional action plan
 - **UN treaty open to all ESCAP and CAREC members**
 - Entered into force in 2021
 - **Azerbaijan, China, Mongolia and Turkmenistan already ratified**
 - 1st Standing Committee of parties to be held week of 12 December 2022

<https://www.unescap.org/projects/cpta>



Thank you!



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