

## Non-Tariff Measures

Streamlining Non-Tariff Measures – A Toolkit for Policy Makers



DIRECTIONS IN DEVELOPMENT Trade

> Streamlining Non-Tariff Measures A Toolkit for Policy Makers

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#### Outline



# Why and How to address regulatory challenges

Toolkit to streamline NTMs

#### World Bank engagement on NTMs



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### Reforms are complex...

- Regulations aim to achieve legitimate policy objectives, but can have adverse economic impacts (particularly on SMEs)
- In-country, need to identify, and agree, on
  - what IS the national interest?
  - how to achieve this with regulations?
  - how to miminise negative effects?
- Need for shaping balanced regulation, not their removal → but how?
- Transparency, dialogue, and capacity are key



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# ... demand analytical capacity....

- For regulatory reform, capacity is needed at all levels (government, private sector, public) to **identify costs and benefits** 
  - Understand what current regulations/measures are (complex, legal documents)
  - Understand what the effect of these regulations is and how they benefit/hurt the domestic economy
  - **Prioritise** products for regulatory reform (strategic)
  - Identify and agree on broadly supported public policy objectives
  - Compare and balance different regulatory options to achieve these objectives (i.e. bans/taxes): including global or regional standards
  - **Design** effective regulations
  - **Enforce** regulations in the domestic economy



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## ...and increased coordination.

- To achieve such consensus and effective design it is critical to
  - increase transparency and access to information to all stakeholders
  - improve governance and decision making through internal and external consultations:
    - Inter-ministerial consultation around competitiveness
    - Consultation with the private sector and other stakeholders that might be affected by the regulation



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# Streamlining NTMs – a toolkit

- Governments are responsible for the standards/regulations they use, and their impact on (different actors in) society
- Legitimate policy objectives, so focus on "streamlining NTMs", not "eliminating NTBs"
- Offer a pragmatic and comprehensive approach to address the NTM agenda
  - Institutional Process (review / design)
  - Analytical tools and questionnaires
  - Data transparency
  - Case studies and international experience
- Introduce the culture of Regulatory Impact Assessment in policy making

 $\rightarrow$  Allow governments make informed and sound decision based on dialogue and use of **analytical tools for cost benefit analysis** 







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#### The toolkit – Knowledge and Technical Assistance





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