

TRADE AND REGULATORY REFORM FACT SHEET

Chemonics promotes trade capacity building, regulatory reform, and trade integration. Our programs strengthen governments' institutional capacities to reduce trade barriers, implement regional and bilateral trade agreements, reform border-crossing operations, and build the capacity of customs officials. We facilitate World Trade Organization accession and compliance; establishment of single windows; and improvements to competition policy, investor protection, and trade-related infrastructure to enable countries to benefit fully from trade agreements.

Project Portfolio Highlights

USAID Competitive Economy Program in Ukraine (CEP). CEP promotes a strong, diverse, and open economy by enhancing the business environment for small and medium enterprises, improving competitiveness in key industries, and enabling Ukraine to benefit from free trade agreements. To reduce barriers to trade, allow Ukrainian firms to benefit from international trade agreements, and promote transparency, CEP works to enhance government of Ukraine (GOU) participation in the World Trade Organization (WTO) and assist the GOU to achieve compliance with WTO and the Trade Facilitation Agreement. CEP also provides technical assistance to help Ukrainian firms meet the requirements of the European Union/Ukraine Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement so they can increase their exports to new markets.

Recently Closed Projects

Moldova Competitiveness Project (MCP).

Period of Performance: 09/30/2015 – 09/29/2020

MCP facilitated critical trade and investment opportunities, while supporting industries to cope with the COVID-induced crisis that disrupted value chains globally and domestically. MCP supported a total of 988 SMEs during the six years of the project, by helping them adopt new processes and technologies aligned to Western quality standards to increase their access to highly competitive regional and international markets such as the European Union, the United Kingdom, and countries in the Asia Pacific like China, Japan and South Korea. As a result of MCP's trade initiatives, during the six years of the project, domestic and export sales increased by \$527M in the winery, apparel, ICT, tourism and other targeted MCP sectors. In response to the COVID-19 economic downturn, MCP helped over 200 local businesses adopt e-commerce and digital marketing practices to enter the digital marketplace, unlock online sales, and increase their resilience to current and future global economic shocks.



Afghanistan Trade and Revenue Project (ATAR).

Period of Performance: 11/07/2013 – 02/28/2018

ATAR collaborated with the public and the private sectors in Afghanistan to promote trade through the reform of three critical areas: trade policy liberalization, regional trade integration, and customs reform. As a result of ATAR's support, Afghanistan became the 164th member of the WTO in July 2016, enhancing the stability, predictability, and transparency of the trade and business environment for the private sector. The ATAR project supported Afghanistan's WTO

post accession activities, while also assisting the government of Afghanistan in enhancing its trade integration with its neighbors in South and Central Asia. Since joining the WTO, Afghanistan has ratified the WTO's Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) and passed 25 complex trade-related laws that serve in building the foundation of a modern, vibrant trading regime. Through exposure at global trade events, ATAR helped Afghan traders negotiate millions of dollars in deals with international buyers. ATAR also succeeded in encouraging both the Afghanistan Customs Department (ACD) and Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) to rollout E-Pay at major customs sites in the regions in Afghanistan, providing traders with the option to pay their customs fees electronically rather than solely with cash. In the final year of the project, ATAR built upon its previous successes in order to shift focus to emphasize strategic export-led growth initiatives with the private sector.

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