



ACTIVITY FACT SHEET

Southern Africa Trade Hub – Trade Facilitation

Presidential/USAID Initiatives

African Competitiveness and Trade Expansion
Feed the Future

Funding Level

\$83.7 million

Duration

2010 – 2015

Geographic Scope

Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique,
Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia

Key Partners

- Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)
- National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)
- Department of Finance (DOF)
- Bureau of Customs (BOC)
- Department of Justice's Office of Competition, National Competitiveness Council (NCC)

Implementing Partners

AECOM International Development
Nathan Associates Inc.
Development Alternatives Inc. (DAI)

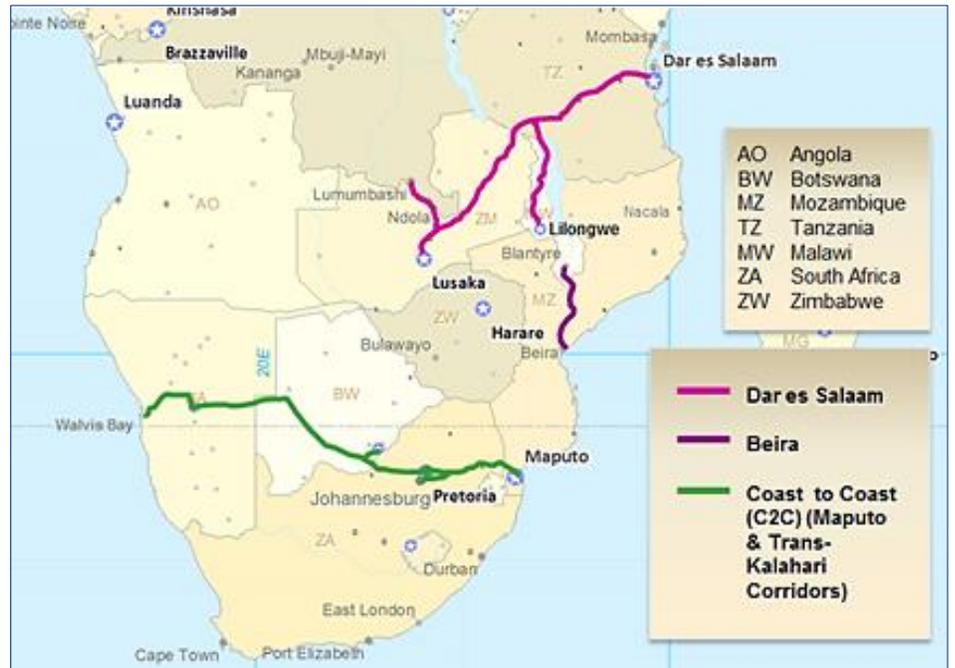
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OVERVIEW

With a team of regional and international experts based in Gaborone, Botswana, the Southern Africa Trade Hub provides targeted technical assistance to governments, the private sector and civil society organizations to advance regional trade within Southern Africa while incorporating gender integration, environment compliance and strategic outreach in all activities. The Southern Africa Trade Hub (SATH) supports the U.S. Government’s Feed the Future program and the African Competitiveness and Trade Expansion (ACTE) initiative.

USAID has been engaged in various regional integration and competitiveness efforts in Southern Africa for almost 20 years. USAID’s regional mission in Southern Africa created a Southern Africa Trade Hub in 2004 that has, under several generations of contracts, been USAID’s primary mechanism for support for regional integration and competitiveness.

FOCUS AREAS

The current SATH, as with predecessor programs, works in a number of areas, including:

- Trade and integration policy
- Trade facilitation and corridor development
- Institutional capacity building and support
- Competitiveness and business development
- Export and investment promotion
- Regional food security

In Southern Africa, trade costs as high as double the global average significantly constrain trade-based growth, limit product diversification and increase the price of consumer goods, including food. In an effort to help reduce the time and costs of importing and exporting, the SATH is promoting several modern trade facilitation tools throughout the region and assisting in their adoption.

WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation

In partnership with SADC, SATH supports SADC member states in identifying where donor assistance will best assist their efforts to comply with the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation.

One Stop Border Post

One Stop Border Post (OSBP) enables neighboring countries to coordinate import, export and transit processes so those transiting stop only once at either side of the border to undertake regulatory formalities for crossing. The SATH has supported Namibia and Botswana's efforts to develop OSBP between their countries.

National Single Window

National Single Window (NSW) connects trade-related stakeholders within a country via a single electronic data information exchange platform. Trade Hub efforts to promote NSWs through public-private partnerships (PPPs) have paid off in Malawi where a cabinet memo to implement NSW was adopted in February 2014 and laws are now being reviewed to facilitate implementation. In Botswana, a cabinet memo is ready to be submitted for cabinet approval. In Namibia, the signing of a Cabinet Document allows the SATH to continue to promote the concept through facilitating public and private sector engagement with the successful NSW in

Mozambique and providing information and analysis on NSWs' effectiveness in facilitating trade and competitiveness, improving risk assessment and increasing government revenue.

Partnership for Trade Facilitation

SATH's Partnership for Trade Facilitation (PTF) is a flexible funding mechanism designed to assist developing countries in the implementation of trade facilitation improvements and reforms. PTF works closely with government authorities to offer technical assistance and infrastructure investments that address barriers to trade and help countries comply with WTO regulations. Through PTF, the Trade Hub is supporting a Trade Repository that will serve as a consolidated resource for importers and exporters to obtain all information required to comply with regulatory obligations in multiple countries.

GOALS

- Reduce the time and cost of transporting goods across borders by deploying modern trade facilitation tools such as customs connectivity and national single windows in selected countries
- Strengthen the competitiveness of the grain, soy and groundnut value chains by reducing post-harvest losses, introducing better seeds and technologies, strengthening regional agricultural institutions and supporting trade and investment links
- Increase trade and investment in Southern Africa's textile and apparel sectors through the annual Source Africa trade show in Cape Town
- Increase capacity for regulating and enhancing the clean energy sector to increase investments
- Improve the regional trade, investment and integration enabling environment through regulatory reform and the promotion of harmonized standards

IMPACT

- Drafted—leading to adoption—key annexes of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Trade Protocol, including tariff phase-down schedules
- Monitored implementation of the SADC Free Trade Agreement resulting in member state compliance with commitments
- Piloted and facilitated adoption of the Single Administrative Document 500 for Customs in Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa