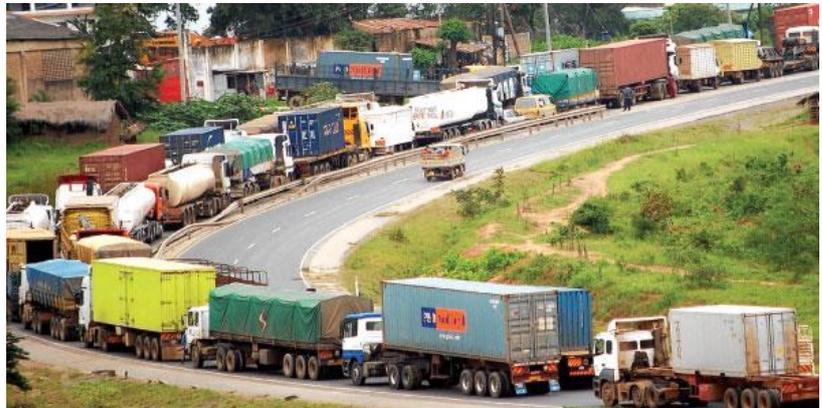


Kenya: National Electronic Single Window System Project

The challenge:

Trade facilitation procedures in Kenya are characterised as inefficient, lengthy and slow. There are many stakeholders who are involved in the cargo clearance processes, exchanging a number of documents amongst themselves which often contain similar details of information. These exchanges are mostly in hard copy form and



processing of information is carried out manually resulting in delays in cargo clearance, perennial congestion at the port, long truck queues at the border posts and high trade transaction costs, all of which create opportunities for corruption. This has led to a relatively high cost of doing business in Kenya, resulting in Kenya getting an overall ranking of 121 out of 183 economies in the 2013 World Bank Doing Business Report.

The solution:

ICF is working with the Kenya Trade Network Agency (KENTRADE) on the Kenya National Single Window Project which aims to reduce delays and lower costs associated with the clearance of goods. The project will set up an electronic platform for submission, receipt and processing of documents used for trade related cargo. The single window system will link 24 government departments involved in the cargo clearance process (including Kenya Revenue Authority, Kenya Bureau of Standards, Kenya Ports Authority, and Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Services) so that once the clearing agent has filled in the documents online, the system will distribute these documents to the relevant government agencies for processing and clearance. The single window will be the sole entry point for lodging all trade transaction documents in Kenya. It will be integrated with the National Payment System to provide a fully electronic solution to trade logistics in Kenya. The project will cost a total of US\$ 21.6m. Of this, ICF is providing US\$ 3.5m and the Government of Kenya is providing US\$ 18.1m.

Expected impact:

The project is expected to:

- reduce cargo dwell time at the Port of Mombasa from 8 days to 3 days; at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport from 5 days to 1 day; and at border posts from 2 days to 1 hour.
- reduce costs of doing business for both Government and the business community
- enhance Government's revenue collection
- increase transparency and effectiveness of official controls, and
- bring greater harmonisation and better sharing of data across government departments

Project duration: November 2012 – September 2014

The Investment Climate Facility for Africa is a grant providing organisation that works with African Governments to improve the environment in which businesses operate. ICF engages closely with implementing Government bodies throughout the life of the project. For more information about ICF please visit www.icfafrica.org