



UNESCWA

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC & SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA

ESCWA implementation of the DA project on Aid for Trade

Regional Integration Section
Economic Development &
Globalization Division

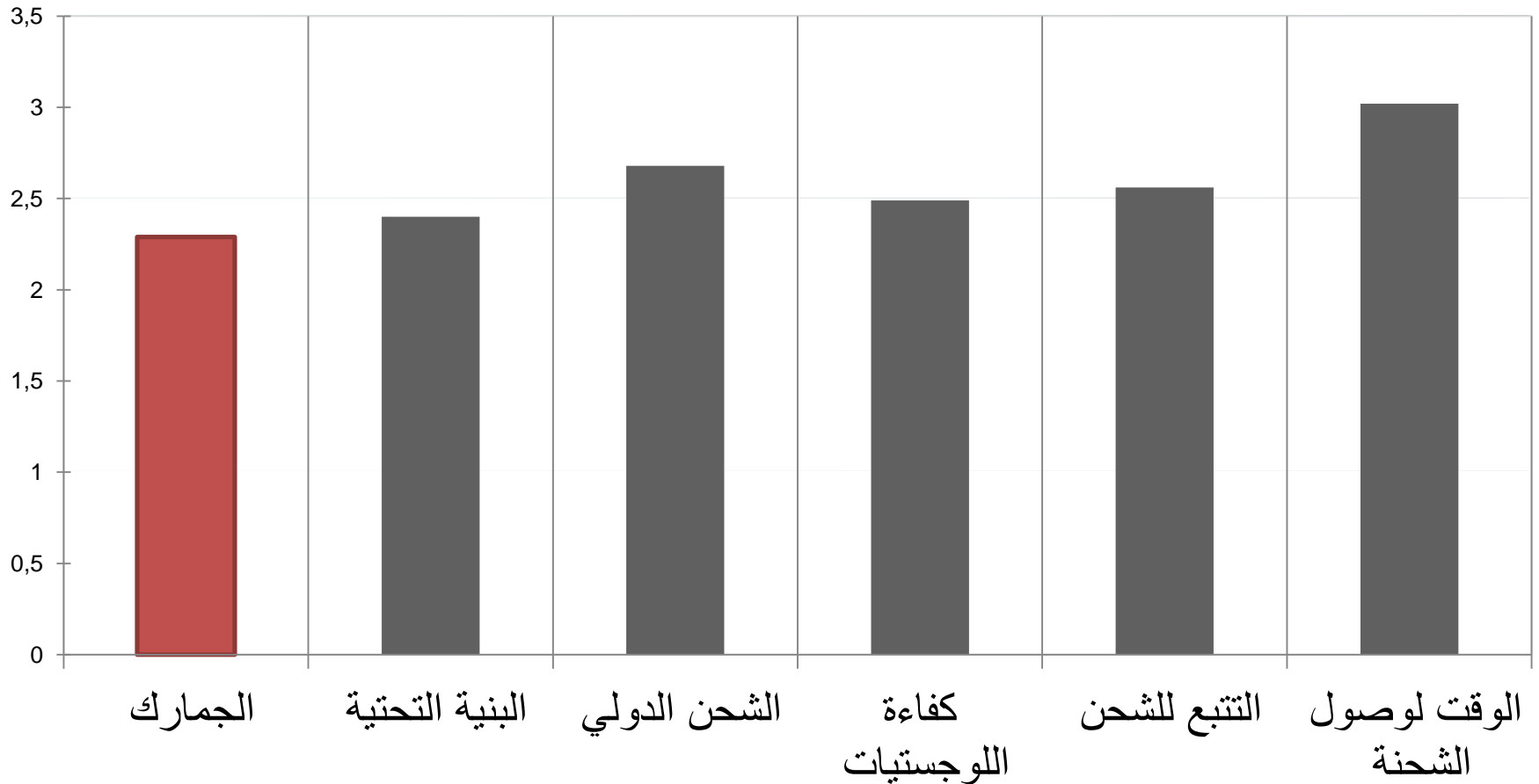




Background on the Arab region

- One of the lowest regions receiving AfT.
- One of the lowest regional trade rates.
- Low tariffs but high NTB.
- low productive capacities & High degree of similarities.
- Low PPP and FDI into trade related infrastructure.
- Customs union by 2015.

LPI by sub-category

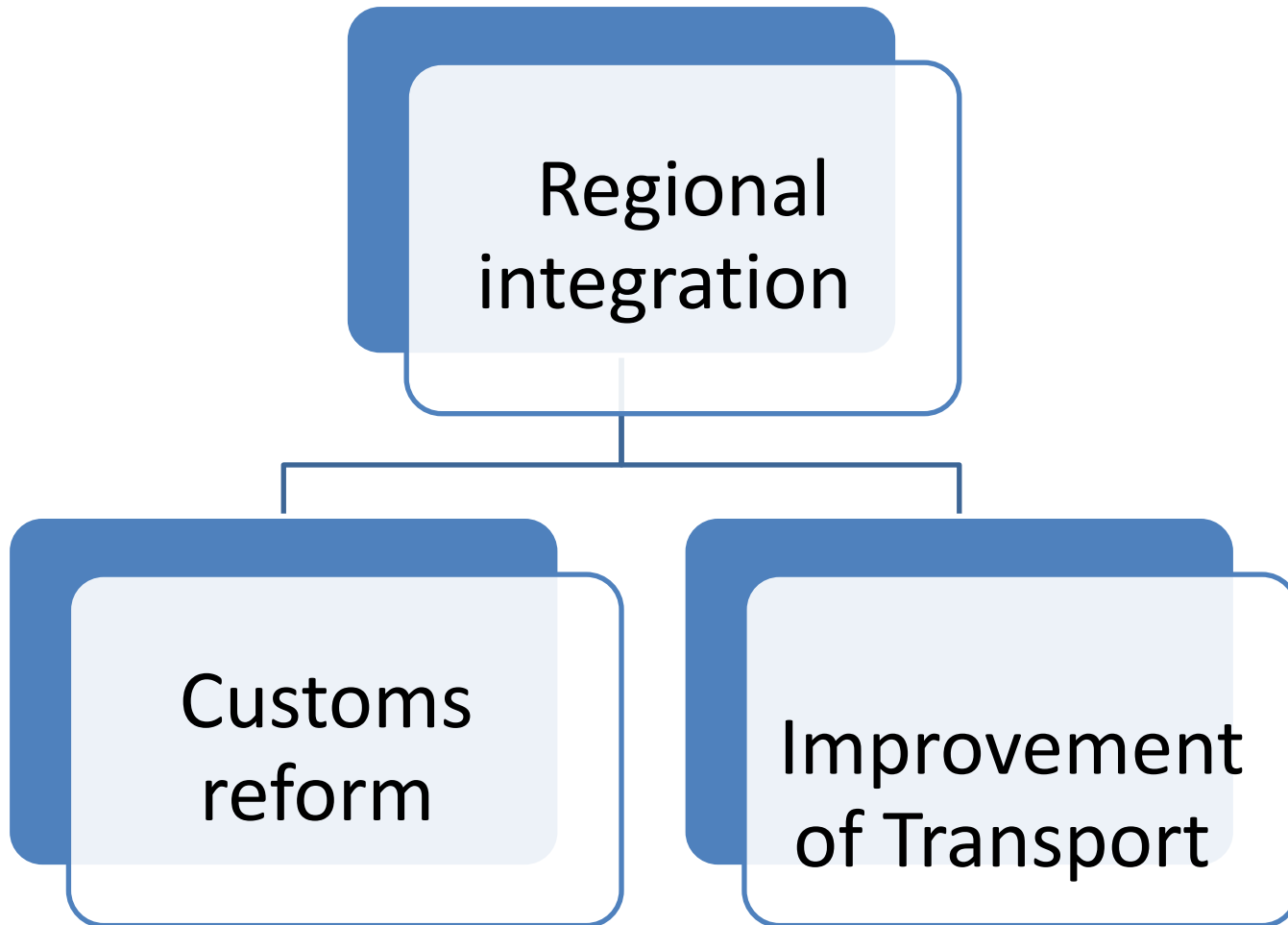




Transportation

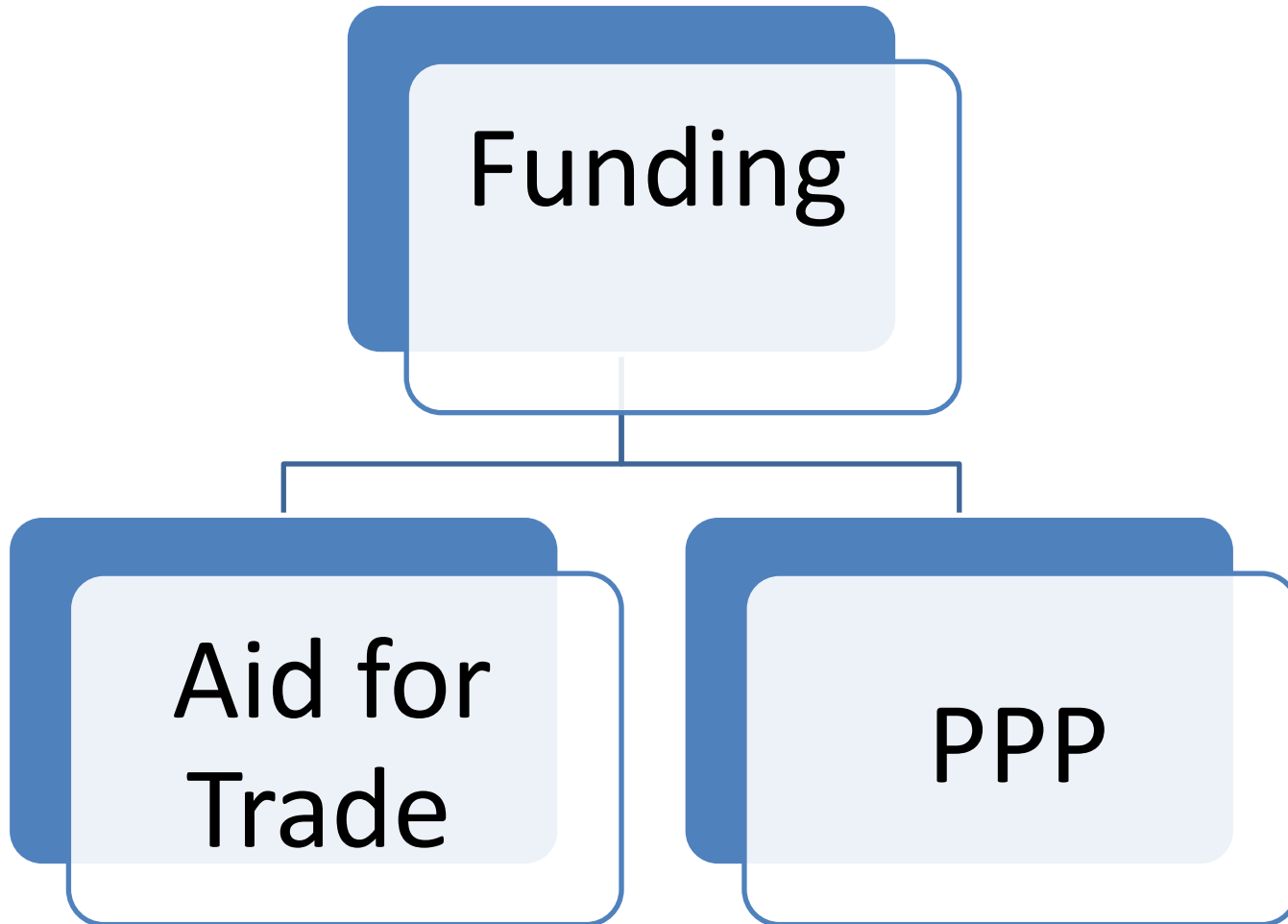
- little cost compared to many regions.
- Heavily depending on road transport.
- Lack of maritime and railways transport.
- 50% of the trip time spent at the boarder.
- Good international corridors.

ESCWA strategy 1





ESCWA strategy 2





Implementing the DA project

- **Five countries were selected.**
- **Lebanon, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia and Yemen.**
- **Countries were invited to submit their initial project proposals.**
- **Few project titles/concept notes received from countries.**



Missions to countries

- **Two missions to some countries and briefing for others over the phone.**
- **To explain the aid for trade initiative and seek project proposals.**
- **Few projects were identified that fall within the scope of aid for trade.**
- **Discussed with officials main components of typical proposals.**



Preparation stage

- Some guidance was provided to countries to develop their project proposals.
- Drafts received and reviewed by ESCWA staff.
- Comments were provided to countries and revision were requested.
- Revised drafts were received.
- Preparation for workshop started.



Workshop in Morocco, Oct 2013

- **Assisting Arab countries to leverage diverse forms of development finance to promote trade and development through an “investment for trade” approach.**



First workshop cont.

sharing knowledge and information on how the different countries are developing AfT projects towards enhancing intra-Arab trade and improving participation into the global trade system through the preparation and implementation of key bankable projects.



First workshop cont.

- Explaining the Nature and scope of aid for trade and bankable projects.
- Trends of aid for trade in the region and the world.
- Main views of donors (regional funding institutions).
- Guidelines for developing winning project proposals for bankable projects.



First workshop cont.

- **Presentation of project proposals by countries.**
- **Some of the projects will be presented by member countries in this session.**



EGM on M & E tools, Tunisia, December 2013

- **Discussing various M & E approaches.**
- **Explaining stages and factors for M & E setting.**
- **Sharing knowledge and information on the fundamental criteria and requirements for receiving AfT from bilateral and multilateral funding institutions.**



EGM on M & E tool, Tunisia cont.

- Showing a case of implementation of AfT project and M & E from the region.
- Sharing knowledge on the aid for trade initiative for Arab countries, history and implementation.
- In-depth discussion on the importance and process of developing the M & E matrix and process.



Future work

- **Further work with countries to enhance national capabilities to develop and implement aft bankable projects.**
- **Expand coverage to more countries and more officials.**
- **Deepening understanding of importance of trade and regional integration.**
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Future work cont.

- Promoting trade mainstreaming into development strategies
- Promoting more PPP to finance trade related infrastructure in the region.



Thank you

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