

Why a Single Window?

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Trade facilitation at the WTO

World Trade Organisation does:

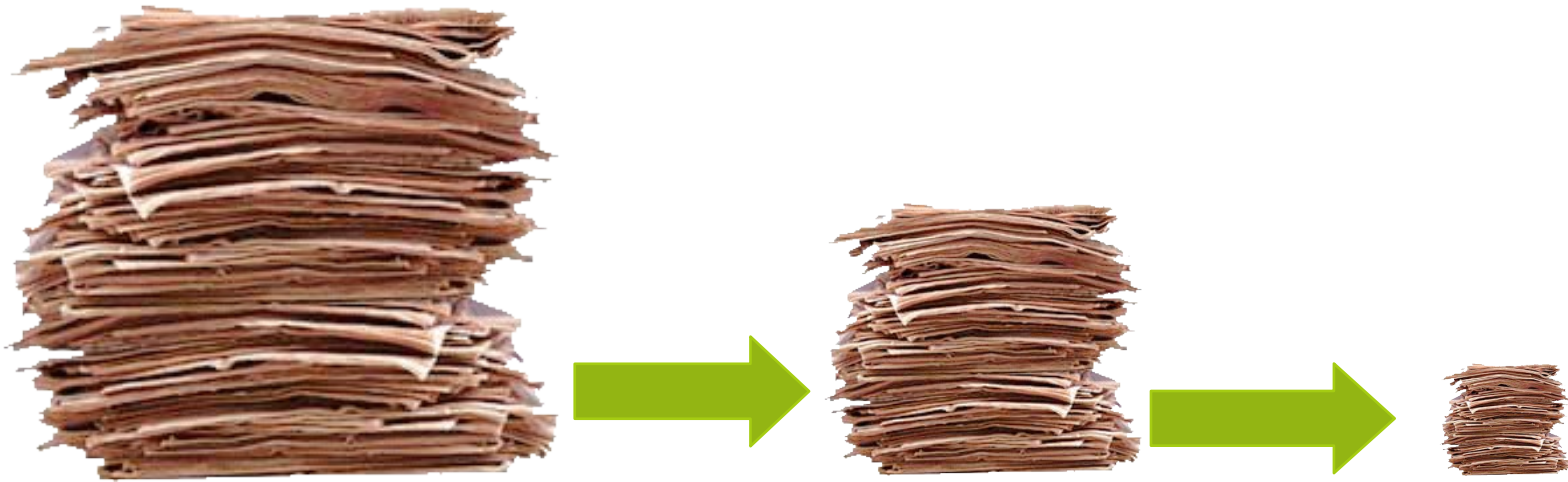
- Set rules on trade related aspects
- Is a negotiating body for tariff reduction of goods and market openings for services
- Is a fora to address trade injustices and unfair treatment in the Dispute Settlement Mechanism

Trade facilitation is part of WTO scope

- how countries administer their trade regulations, how they provide trade related information, and how do they treat transit traffic

Why the negotiations on TF?

“ Need for further expediting the movement, release and clearance of goods including goods in transit and the need for enhanced technical assistance and capacity

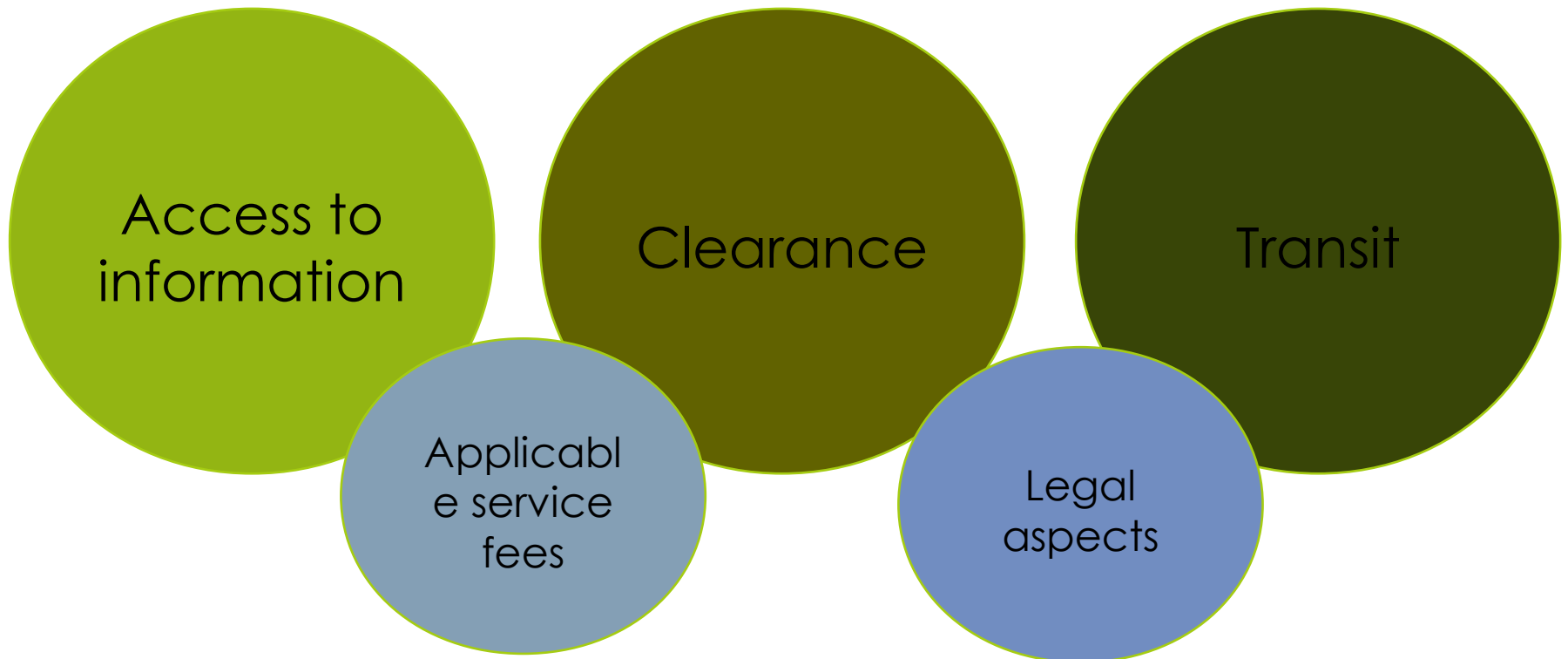


Less paper work !



Less waiting times !

Legally binding rules on TF



Clearance related proposals

- Single Window
- Others e.g. Risk management, Border Agency Cooperation, Expedited Shipments, Interdiction of mandatory PSI, Pre-arrival processing



Clearance

SW in the negotiations

- As early as 2005
- Early movers : Japan, Mongolia, Taiwan, Peru, Korea, EC, Turkey
- *“One-time submission”*
- *“present to one agency” (Customs)*
- *“Single Window” mechanism*
- *“Single Window approach”*

Is it for developing countries?

Does it require IT?

What is a Single Window?

What does a SW do?



4. Single window

- 4.1 Members shall, [where practicable] [endeavour to], establish or maintain a single window, enabling traders to submit documentation and/or data requirement for importation, exportation or transit of goods to a single entry point. [The single window shall undertake onward distribution of the aforementioned documentation and/or data requirements to the participating authorities or agencies.] After the examination by the participating authorities or agencies of the documentation and/or data, the results shall be notified to the applicants through the single window in a timely manner.
- 4.2 In cases where documentation and/or data requirements have already been received by the single window, the same documentation and/or data requirements shall [normally] not be requested by participating authorities or agencies except in urgent circumstances and other limited exceptions which are made public.

What does it say?

- Use of word *Single Window*
- Implementation is country's choice
- Description of functionalities:
 - ✓ Submit documents / data once
 - ✓ Notify trader of “inspection” results
 - ✓ {Not clear if agreement should provide more details (onward transmission)}
- IT and International Standards ? Possible

Why a Single Window ?

- Across agencies
- Forces cooperation
- Reduces data and document requirements

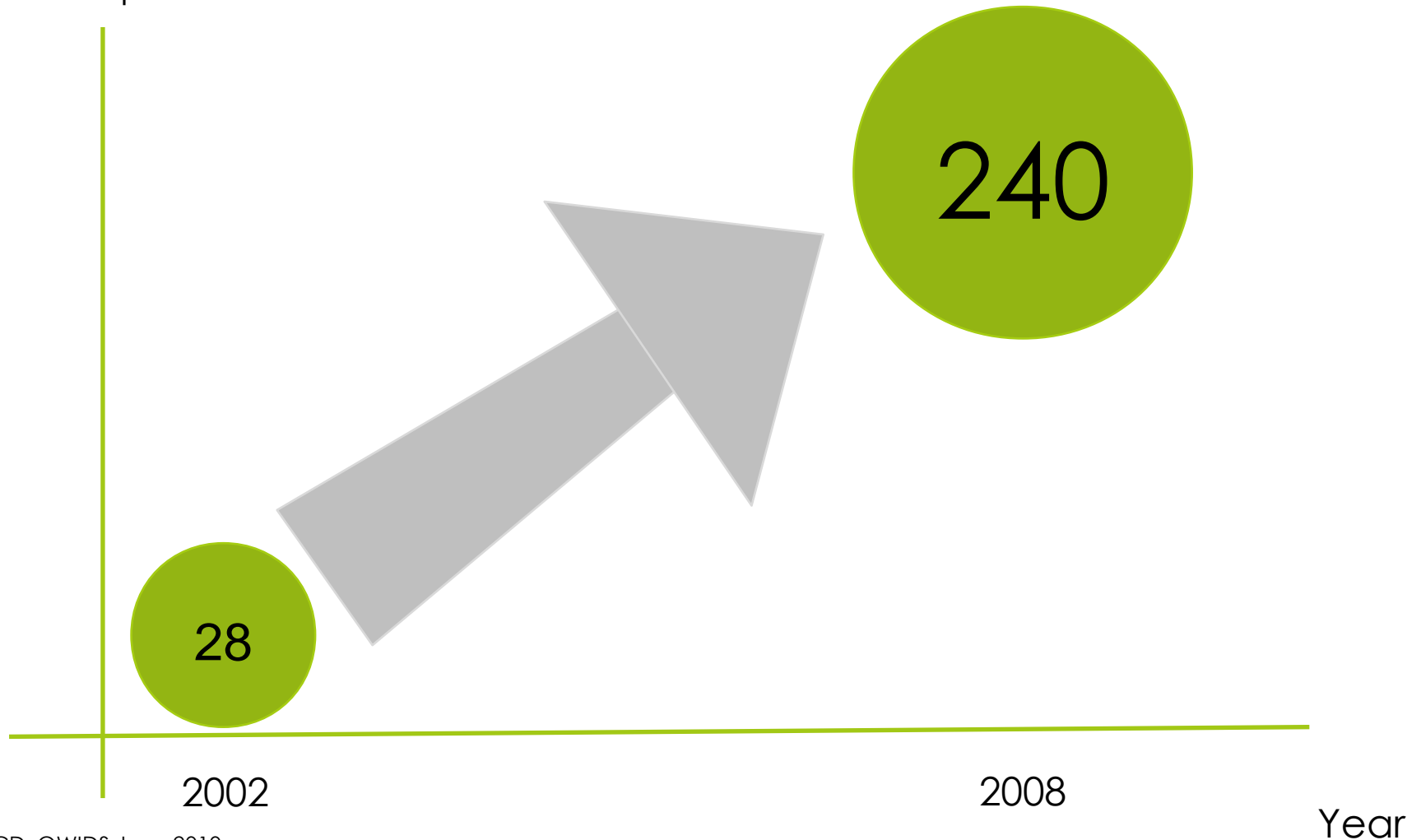
Implementation of the rules

- WTO text: Rule to prescribe a certain behavior
- Does not look at how countries get there
- Text will not define a new SW standard or functionalities

- WTO sets framework
- Rules need to be complemented by implementation knowledge and best practices

Support to TF has grown !

Mill. US\$



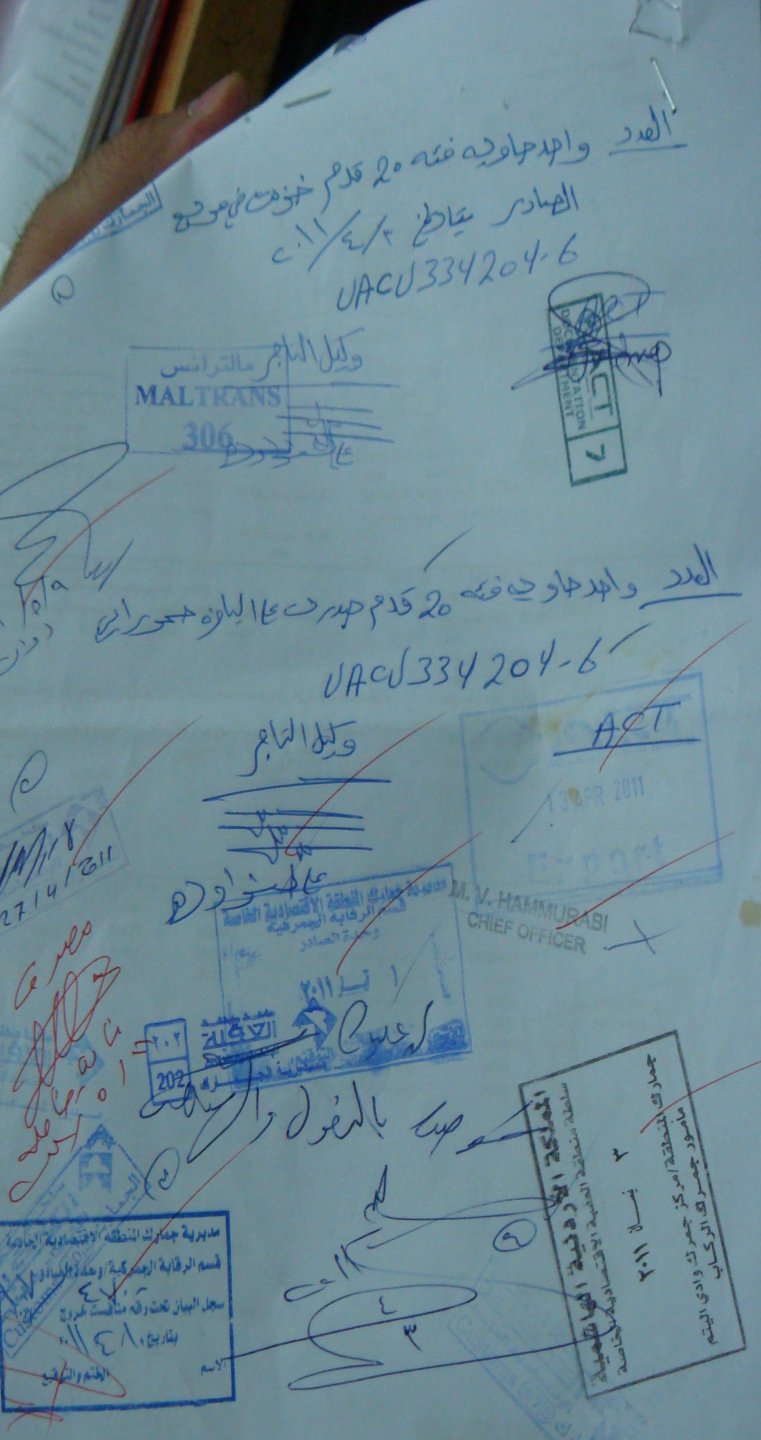
Implementation: meet reality

- SW may not be the solution for the problem
- Be serious about where you want to go with the SW

Be serious about what you want to obtain !

This is a fully automated clearance environment...

without e-documents and persistence of manual processes

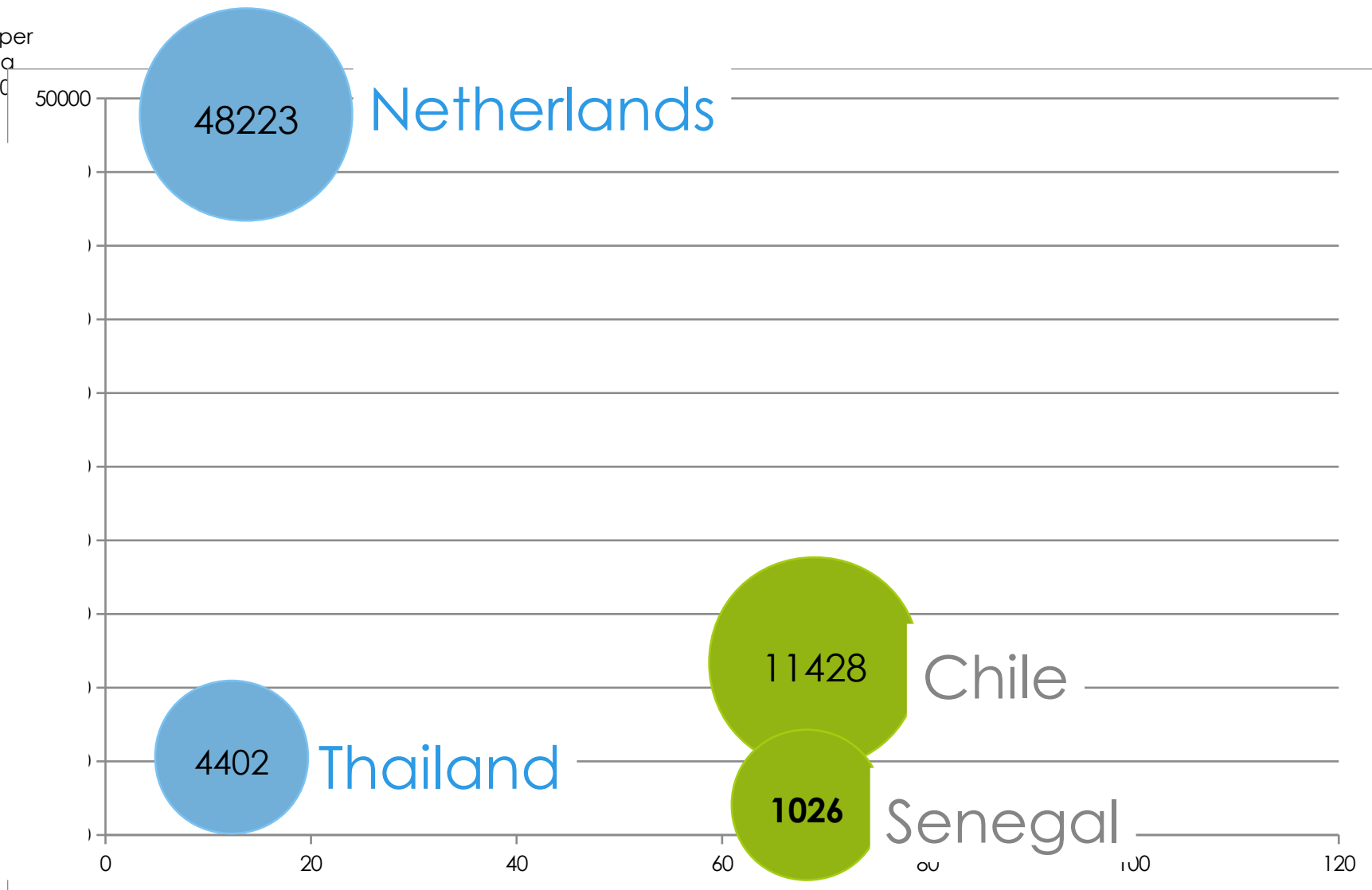


Implementation: meet reality

- SW may not be the solution for the problem
- Be serious about where you want to go with the SW
- Don't loose the objectives !

TF not only for big economic players!

GDP per capita
US\$ 20



Thank you !

Days to import