

Transforming the Northern Corridor into Economic Development Corridor

## Northern Corridor Time Release Study Newsletter

Welcome to the first in a series of Newsletters covering the Northern Corridor Time Release Study (NC-TRS) Project.

This Newsletter is designed to keep Stakeholders and interested parties up to date with developments and next steps in the NC-TRS.

It will be published regularly as the NC-TRS enters its most critical phase.

The NC-TRS was commissioned under the strategic guidance of Northern Corridor Integration Projects to assist in measuring the impact and progress of the ongoing implementation of Single Customs Territory procedures in the region.

The project is now entering its critical data collection and analysis phase. This phase will lay the foundations for the Time Release Study's findings.

A TRS is a systematic and standard method to measure the aver-

age time taken for the release and physical movement of cargoes, detailing each step or intervention in a border procedure. It uses a World Customs Organisation (WCO) methodology and facilitates the measurement and benchmarking of performance of border crossing routines, and for identifying the benefits of change and areas for improvement.

## **KEY MILESTONES TO DATE**

To date, the key focus of the NC-TRS has been the mapping of key business processess in Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi.

The mapping of business processes in one of the most critical elements in the WCO TRS process. As the name suggests, business process mapping provides the 'map' against which the time for the movement and processing of shipments can be measured.

In addition, a number of key meetings have been held with both Public and Private Sector representatives in a number



of Northern Corridor member economies.

At the same time, the design of the TRS data collection phase is nearing completion.

## WHAT IS HAPPENING NEXT?

The most immediate actions will be to complete the business process mapping in South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

With the business process mapping completed, the design for the TRS data collection phase can be finalised.

Meetings and briefings with national Border Management Agencies and Private Sector trade participants will also continue.

For any question on the NC-TRS that you would like answered, please contact us at *ttca@ttcanc.org*.



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