Mandate

In October, 2015 the Central American Strategy for Trade Facilitation and competitiveness was approved by the Council of Ministers of Economic Integration (COMIECO). This regional effort derives from a mandate of the Summit of Central American Presidents, which recognizes the positive impact of trade facilitation.

Through the Mandate of Punta Cana, the Central American Presidents instructed “the Council of Ministers of Economic Integration to adopt and implement a Central American Strategy for Trade Facilitation and Competitiveness emphasizing the Coordinated Border Management, in coordination with sectoral councils and competent authorities.”

Central American Strategy for Trade Facilitation and Competitiveness

Coordinated Border Management (CBM) aims to promote coordination of public sector agencies and the private sector to improve procedures for tax collection, control and security in points of entry (border crossings, ports, and airports) and facilitate the transit of goods and people, in a framework supportive of efficacy in control and efficiency in the use of resources.

Five Priority Measures

1. Anticipatory transmission of documents for cargo
2. Single conduction of migration control in country of departure
3. Electronic system for the emission and transmission of Phyto and zoo sanitary certificates
4. Registry of cargo units with Radio Frequency (RFID) devices
5. Installation of cameras in border crossings
Central American Commerce Digital Platform

Pairs of countries and pairs of borders model

National Trade Facilitation Committees

crosscutting issues

Information interoperability

Border community and security

Comprehensive regional risk management

Adoption of International standards

Authorized Economic Operators

Infrastructure and equipment

Integration of procedures and control

Quarantine control

THE MEDIUM AND LONG TERM MEASURES

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIVE PRIORITY MEASURES

COORDINATION SCHEMES

1. Central American Commerce Digital Platform: SIECA is working on the implementation of the Digital Platform, which is divided into 3 phases.

2. Pairs of countries and pairs of borders model: each border has its own characteristics and particularities.

3. National Trade Facilitation Committees: The Trade Facilitation Agreement of the WTO mandates the incorporation of this Committees, in order to manage and monitor the improvements of trade facilitation and compliance with the Agreement.