

INTRODUCTION

Logistics, the services, knowledge and infrastructure that allow for the free movement of goods and people, is now recognized as a key driver of competitiveness and economic development. Efficient logistics systems are a precondition for regions, countries, cities and businesses to participate in the global economy, boost growth and improve livelihoods. Policy making has turned its attention to sustainable growth paths that value scarce resources, minimize environmental impacts and allow economies to prosper across generations. In this new integrated vision of development, Sustainable Logistics is a key nexus point.

To improve Sustainable Logistics practices in the developing world, private sector technologies and innovations, as well as governmental policies and academic knowledge need to be brought together.

The Government of the Netherlands and the World Bank have taken a first step in this direction and established the first Multi Donor Trust Fund for Sustainable Logistics (MDTF-SL) in September 2013. This funding, and the partnership with the Netherlands, provides a strong foundation and first step towards building a multi-national partnership capable of affecting a step-change in the way logistics strategies are pursued in developing countries.

GOALS

To fund activities on strategic themes in sustainable logistics that benefit low income and developing countries.

Studies, methodologies and tools generated by this initiative will guide developing country governments, rural producers, private agents and donors to put in motion processes for strengthening logistics in three thematic areas, or pillars: (I) Green supply chains, (II) Agro-logistics; and (III) Urban and port-city logistics.

Knowledge will be consolidated into a virtual knowledge portal and supported by a network of practitioners, academics and business professionals at the forefront of the sustainable logistics field.

Through these activities, the MDTF-SL will break ground by exploring innovative ideas that deliver practical solutions, methodologies and approaches in Sustainable Logistics.



Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Sustainable Logistics



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For further information about the MDTF-SL, additional application materials or other queries, please visit the Sustainable Logistics page on the World Bank website.

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/sustainabledevelopment/brief/sustainable-logistics-trust-fund>



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands



THE WORLD BANK



PILLAR I: GREEN SUPPLY CHAINS

The goal of this pillar is to support activities in low income and developing countries that contribute to the development of transport corridors and logistics services, while minimizing the carbon footprint and greenhouse gases associated with the delivery of goods.

By allowing for trade patterns and product value chains to be built sustainably, the “greening” of supply chains can improve the competitive positioning of developing country exports, particularly in industries and production value-chains monitored for their carbon footprints.



PILLAR II: AGRO-LOGISTICS

Activities financed will assist developing countries to strengthen food security programs and improve the competitiveness of agricultural exports by sustainably reducing logistics costs, and expanding market access for rural producers.

Studies, methodologies and tools developed under the Agro-Logistics pillar will assist governments, agricultural producers, distributors and other private agents to increase the efficiency of supply chains, improve the traceability and profitability of “green goods” and reduce food waste and other logistics costs.



PILLAR III: URBAN AND PORT-CITY LOGISTICS

The goal of this pillar is to finance activities that will assist developing countries in two areas; addressing urban congestion resulting from retail distribution of goods, and improving the sustainable design and operation of port-cities.

Activities under this pillar will concentrate on reducing congestion and pollution by focusing on the efficient distribution of goods in urban environments. Additional emphasis will be placed on the urban planning tools and investments required for port-cities to address sustainability issues endemic to densely populated economies serving as either a local or regional transport hubs.

