Trade facilitation: How does your country score?

Implementing the TFA and putting in place reforms that make border procedures more transparent and predictable have big implications for national competitiveness and growth. The first step to seeing how your country ranks is viewing whether they have ratified the TFA or notified the WTO of which implementation category they commit to. The running list of the formally submitted TFA ratifications can be found on the WTO's TFA Facility website. Also on the TFA Facility are the country notifications as well as a good description of what the A, B and C commitment categories mean.

Furthermore, there are various indexes that crunch a variety of trade-related data into country profiles and rankings which would also be a good way to chart your country's trade facilitation progress. The most interesting "go-to" indexes for business are:

- The World Economic Forum's Enabling Trade Report uses data from the ITC, UNCTAD, the World Bank and other public and private sources to highlight the most problematic factors for trade in each country and who the "best performers" are across criteria such as domestic market access and availability/quality of transport infrastructure.
- The World Bank, as part of its *Doing Business* project, records the time and cost associated with the logistical process of importing and exporting goods in 189 countries, looking specifically at three sets of procedures: documentary compliance, border compliance and domestic transport. This interactive database, entitled Trading Across Borders, can be viewed and played with online.
- The OECD Trade Facilitation Indicators cover the full spectrum of border procedure in an interactive map, looking at aspects such as advance rulings and transit guarantees across 163 countries. The Country Notes display how each country's trade facilitation performance has progressed between 2012-2015 and identifies key opportunities for reform.

Source: http://www.tradefacilitation.org/trade-facilitation-how-does-your-country-score.html