

## Addressing LDCs' constraints in using international support measures

Briefing
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## Background

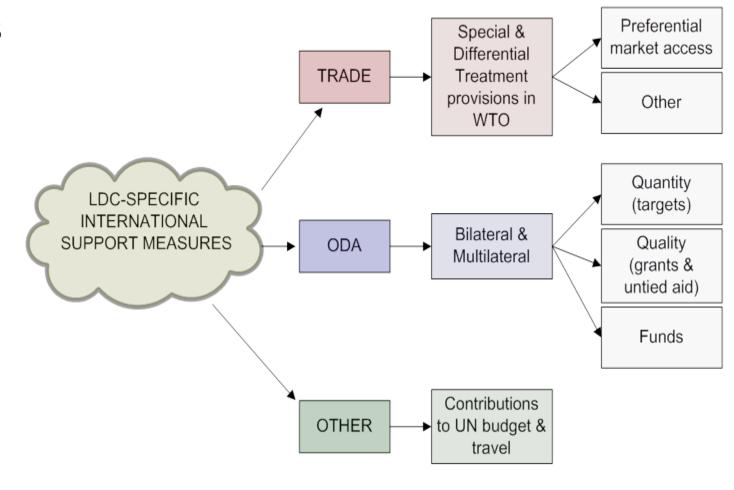


### Background: DESA capacity building activities

- LDCs are low-income countries suffering from structural handicaps to sustainable development
- Category allows for special International Support Measures to tackle specific problems
- However: limited use

Why????

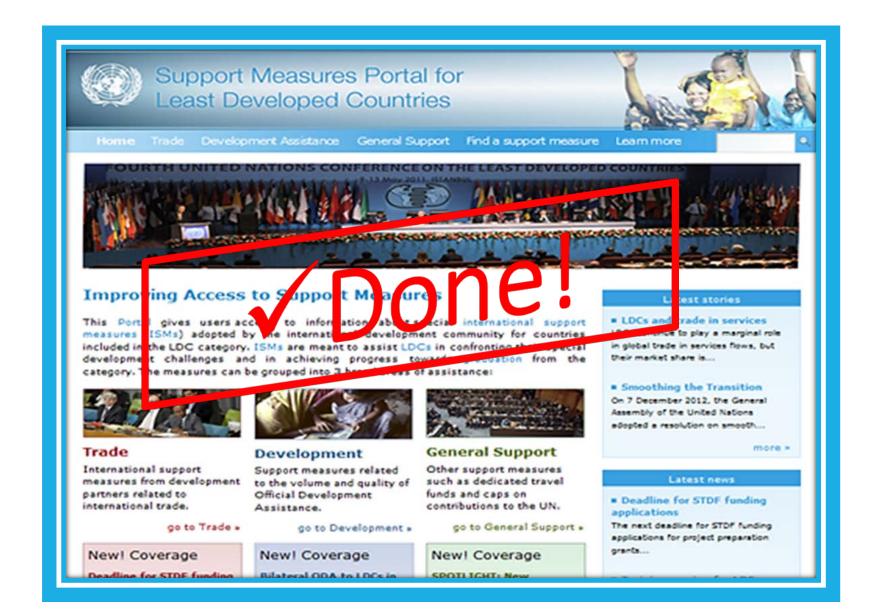
Limited awareness!







## www.un.org/ldcportal



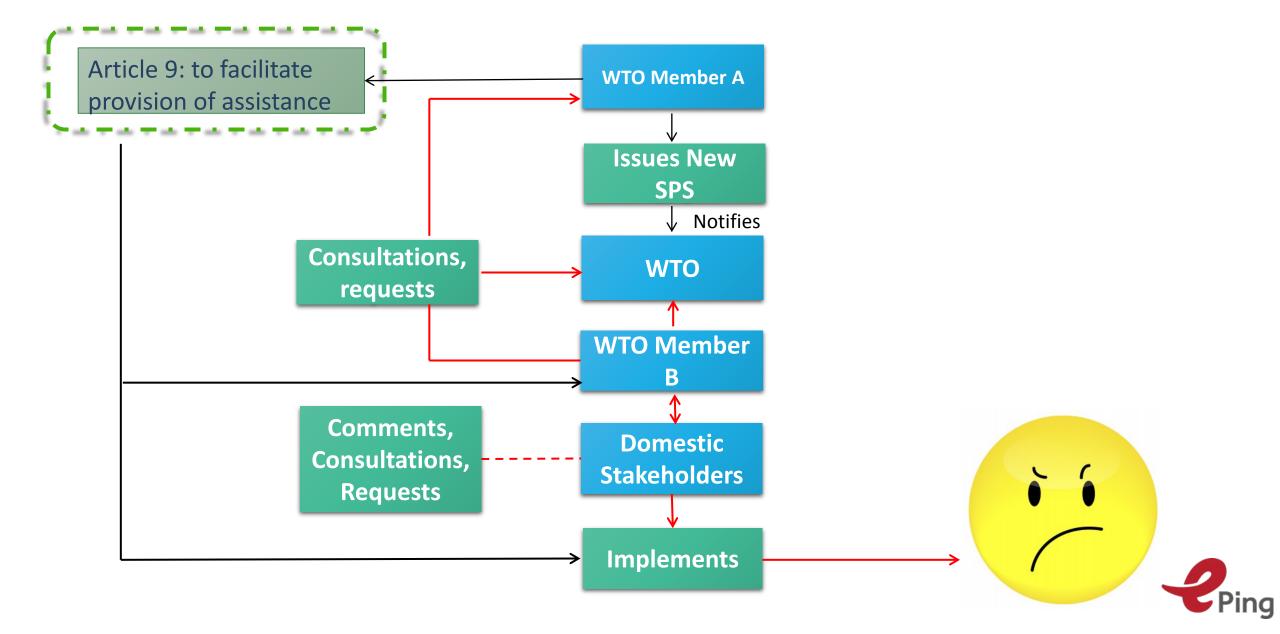


# Accessing International Support Measures requires more than awareness...





## An illustration: SPS Agreement



# ISM use requires productive and institutional capacity: constraints!

What are institutional constraints?

- Lack of information among stakeholders (country level: trade-related ministries, exporters, producers, standardization bodies, private sector)
- Communication and coordination failures (internal and external)
- Inappropriate institutional arrangements in and among government agencies and/or with partners
- Deficiencies related to human resources



## The project



# Removing institutional constraints in the utilization of trade-related ISMs

### Objective:

 Increase institutional capacity in LDCs to access and effectively use the trade-related ISMs

### **Expected accomplishments:**

- Improved capacity to
  - set priorities for accessing trade-related ISMs
  - tackle institutional constraints in accessing and sharing information on trade-related ISMs
- Feedback to intergovernmental processes

#### **Principles:**

- Building up: pilot countries participated in LDC portal initiative
- Staggered: sharing country experiences
- Avoiding duplication: delivering as one



### Project implementation

### Two phases:

- Diagnosis and validation: field studies and background research to detect institutional constraints
- Intervention: identification and implementation of measures to address constraints

#### Pilot countries:

 Uganda, the Gambia, Lesotho and Nepal

- Country context: identify priority exports & validation
- Matching ISMs with exports (SWOT + interviews)
- Prioritizing: surveys; CBA; selection Exports-ISMs combinations & validation
- Plan removal of institutional constraints
- Strengthen institutional capacity
- Increased access to ISMs



### Findings: common challenge

→ Communication gaps between public and private sector in SPS and TBT area

### Key concepts: SPS and TBT

→ SPS and TBT regulations define product requirements for imported goods:

• SPS: Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary (food, plants, health, etc.)



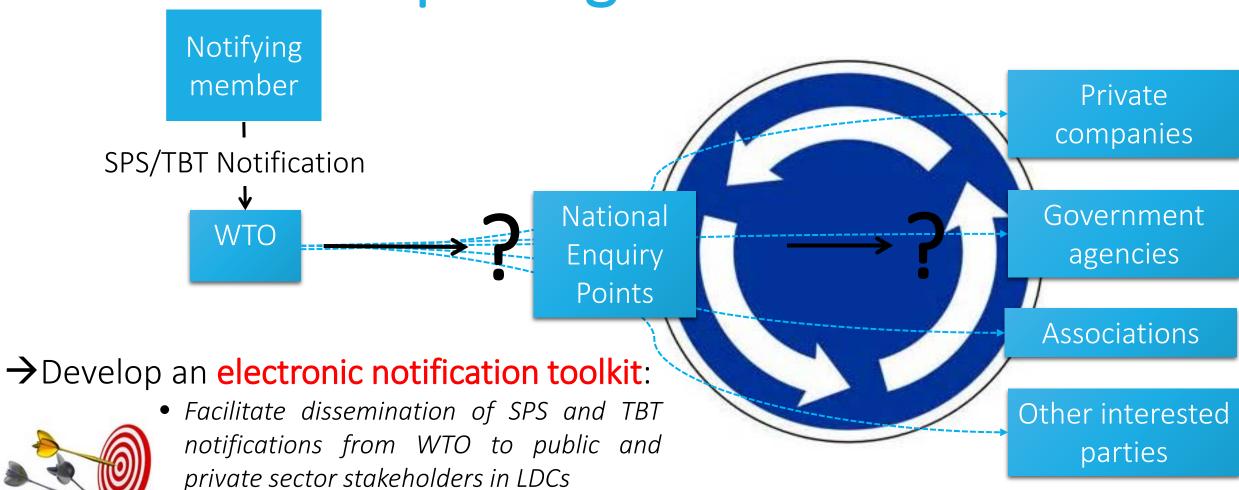
TBT: Technical Barriers to Trade (labeling, packaging, etc.)



## ePing



# Solving lack of awareness & improving communication flows



Increase awareness and understanding of

SPS and TBT measures



CDP SECRETARIAT



## www.epingalert.org

#### **Users:**

- Public and private sector stakeholders
- National enquiry points (NEP)



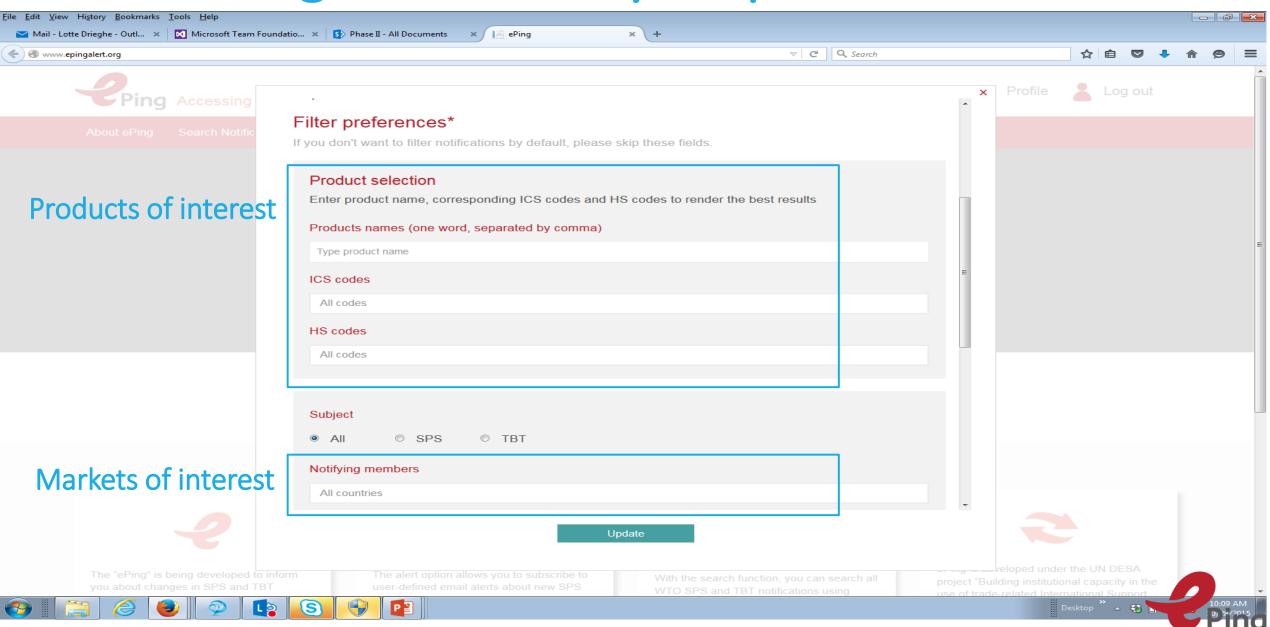
### Users' functionalities



- Register preferences / filters
- Receive notification alerts by email
  - Search notifications
  - Upload related documents
    - Discuss notifications
  - Find Enquiry Point contact details
    - Send/Receive messages



### Register and set your preferences



### Receiving daily/weekly email alerts



https://outlook.office365.com/owa/projection.aspx

#### ePing Alert - 28/10/2015



To: Lotte Drieghe; ...

Deleted Items

Notifications.csv

Show all 1 attachment (9 KB) Download Save to OneDrive - United Nations Development Programme

#### Dear Lotte Drieghe,

The following new SPS and/or TBT notifications circulated by the WTO on 27/10/2015 match your ePing filters. To modify or update your profile or your filter preferences, please go to www.epingalert.org.

#### Registration filter

Notifier	Title, Symbol and Description of content	Products	Comment deadline	Links
Saudi Arabia Kinddom	The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia/The Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf Draft Technical Regulation for: G/SPS/N/SAU/184  This draft technical regulation applies to the improvers mixtures used for packaged Arabic coffee.	Prepackaged mixed improvers of Arabic coffee (ICS Code:	26/12/2015	<u>EN</u>
Singapore	<b>Draft Food (Amendment) Regulations 2015</b> <u>G/SPS/N/SGP/56</u> The Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority of Singapore (AVA) has completed a review of the Food Regulations and proposes the following amendments: a) To include a requirement that products labelled as "organic" (or similar terms) must be certified as	Food	26/12/2015	<u>EN</u>
Jordan	Ministry of Agriculture Decision dated 10 September 2015 number 4/4/26247 entitled "Measures recommended by the Plant G/SPS/N/JOR/36  The Ministry of Agriculture decided to impose a temporary ban on the importation of onions from the Netherlands. The new decision is based on phytosanitary measures concerning the imports of onions to prevent the introduction of the following	Onions	Emergency	<u>EN</u>
United Arab Emirates	Lifting of the temporary ban on the importation of domestic and wild birds and their products including poultry meat, <u>G/SPS/N/ARE/59</u> Regarding Follow-up report No. 4 (Final report) of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Ontario/Canada on 8 October 2015, the United Arab Emirates is lifting the ban on the importation of domestic and wild birds and their products including poultry	Live poultry (HS Code: 0105) and poultry products including	Emergency	<u>EN</u>
Chinese Taipei	<u>G/TBT/N/TPKM/221</u>			EN ES FR
United Arab Emirates	G/TBT/N/ARE/278			EN ES FR
United Arab Emirates	G/TBT/N/ARE/279			EN ES





















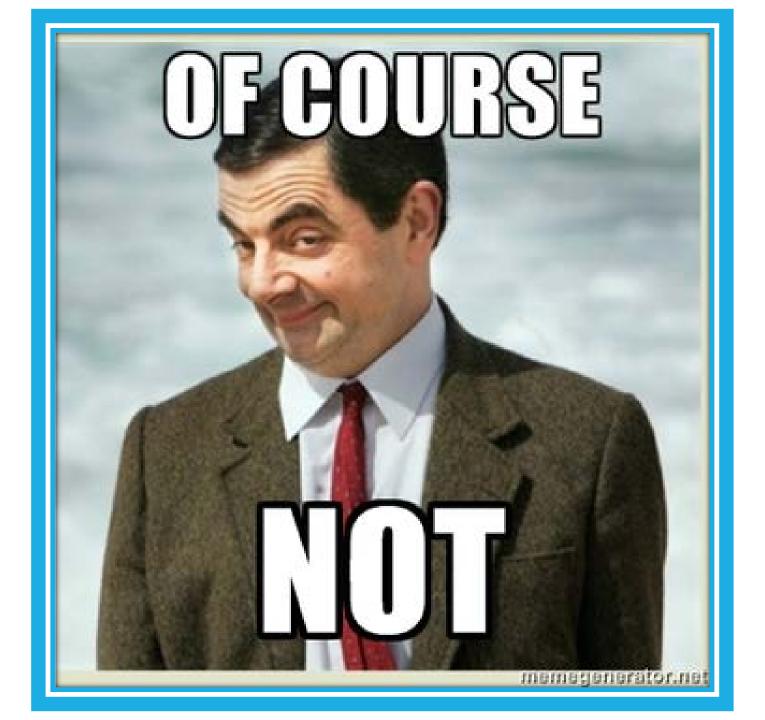
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Benefits of ePing







## Moving forward



### Tripartite co-operation on notification alert mechanism

- Build on ePing pilot
- Benefit from expertise of participating agencies
- Outreach and training
- ✓ Establish sustainable global notification alert system
- ✓ Work towards more integrated trade information systems





### Key dates for 2016

• June 2016: Launch at mid-term review of IPOA

•14 to 16 June 2016: WTO TBT Committee meeting – presentation by pilot countries

• 8 November 2016: Presentation during WTO TBT transparency workshop



## Thank you!

