



Overview of *‘Capacity Support Report’*

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Overview of the Capacity Support Report

Main Objective

Timor-Leste's effort to assess the capacity needs of each ministry and line agency to meet the requirements of the key AEC Agreements.

The needs assessment focused on mapping out:

1. Current priorities of each ministry and line agency
2. Ongoing work of each ministry and line agency
3. Key areas of support necessary
4. How the work will relate to the key AEC agreements



Methodology

The Needs Assessment was conducted in the following process:

- **Preliminary review** of ministries' and line agencies' work plans and priorities for the next 2-3 years
- Conducted a **Capacity Support Workshop** on 7-8 July 2021 to: (i) discuss each agency's priorities, (ii) confirm their ongoing work to support ASEAN accession, and (iii) ascertain the support required to achieve these goals.
 - This was done through one-on-one agency consultations as well as plenary sessions.
- Incorporated findings into a **report**: Capacity Support for the journey towards accession to the ASEAN Economic Community.
 - Findings were further confirmed during the AEC Working Group on 22 July.

Findings of the Needs Assessment

AEC Agreements: A Work in Progress

- Many legal frameworks in place for AEC agreements **are already in place**, or are **seeking domestic approval**
- Some outstanding areas on harmonisation
- Support needed to move to **implementation** phase and/or boost **enforcement** e.g. border inspections, air/sea/land connectivity
- Capacity-building needed for **(i) knowledge transfer** and **(ii) enforcement/implementation skills** or **(iii) general human resource capacity**

National Priorities and Infrastructure

- There are requests for support in **drafting national plans** and **benchmarking and risk analysis** on impact on domestic sectors
- Many **infrastructure requirements** at legal drafting/approval phase or under construction e.g. ports, testing laboratories, others under consideration e.g. national airlines
- Strong recognition of the need for **sustainable economic development** e.g. boost market intelligence skills, economic feasibility studies in priority areas

Findings of the Needs Assessment

New and/or complex ASEAN agreements

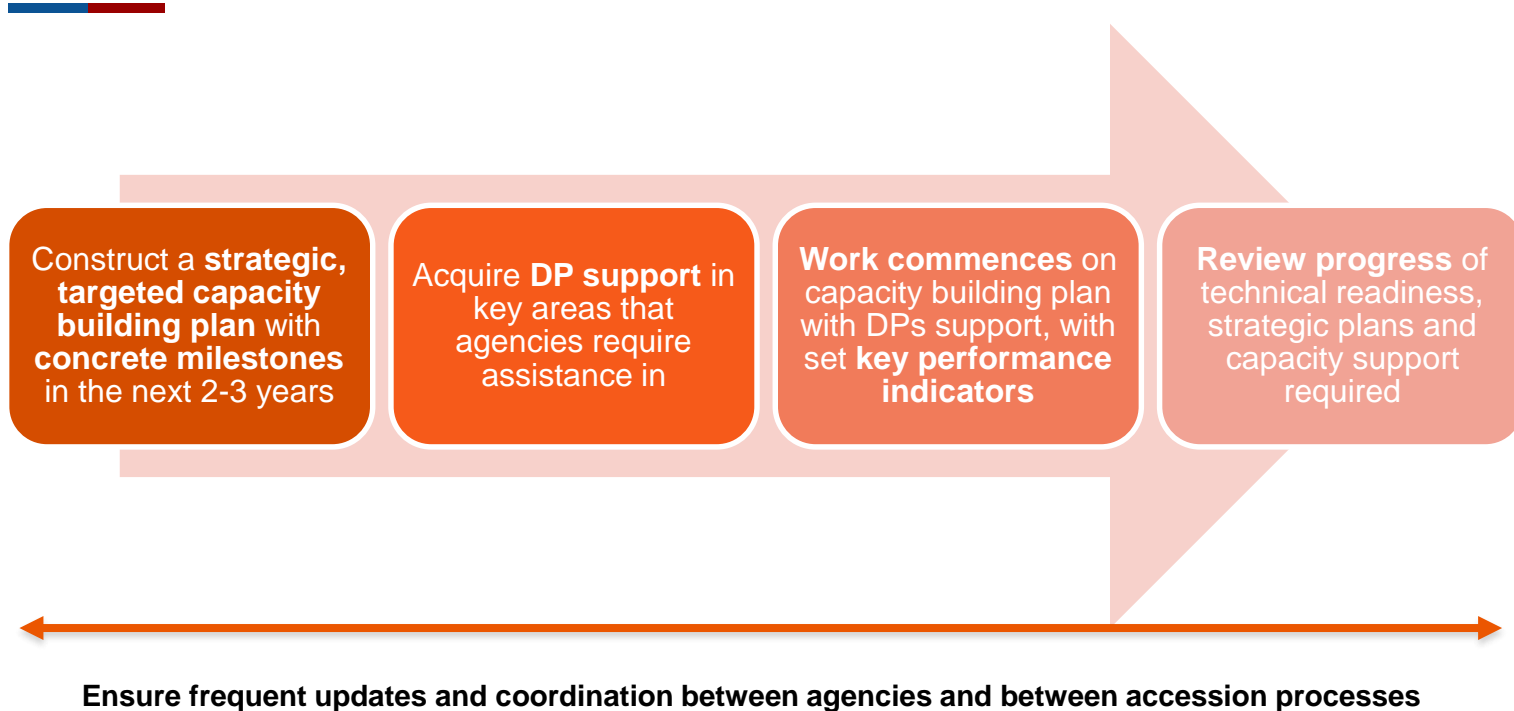
- Upcoming areas such Trade in Services, intellectual property, e-commerce, land laws, etc. are new to some agencies
- Requests for **greater understanding of specific agreements**, e.g. UN Multimodal Transport Convention, Agreement on the Preferential Shortlisting of ASEAN Contractors
- Requirements surrounding SPS and NTBs are **more complex and require more technical support, capacity-building and coordination**
- Requests for:
 - (i) Enabling infrastructure and capacity for int'l law, especially in trade and commercial issues;
 - (ii) Socialisation of tangible benefits of integration at WTO and ASEAN, both internally and externally;
 - (iii) Development of private sector across value chain, including SMEs, women entrepreneurs, access to regional/international marketplace, branding & marketing for exporters, etc.



Key Outcomes from the Development Partners' Meeting on Economic Integration and ASEAN (28 July 2021)

- Overall continued support for Timor-Leste's capacity-building efforts and accession journey
- Prioritisation of support is key
- Clear timelines and measurable outcomes of short- and long-term objectives
- Synchronisation between ASEAN, WTO and EPA accession processes

Looking Forward





Obrigado!

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