

# Identify and address obstacles to international trade

Trade regulations and procedures represent a major source of obstacles to international trade and a particular challenge for small and medium-sized enterprises in Seychelles.

Research and compliance with market rules, product analysis, certification for goods and data protection and localization requirements for services can hinder companies' competitiveness in the international market.

Policy makers do not always have a clear vision of the challenges businesses face, limiting development appropriate trade policies.

The Seychelles Trade Barriers Alert Mechanism (TOAM) aims to **facilitate the identification and removal of obstacles faced by traders** internationally.

### The TOAM allows:

- For companies to report challenges encountered online and directly alert responsible agencies;
- national and regional agencies to interact with businesses in order to resolve their problems effectively;
- policy makers and trade support institutions to access an up-to-date information base on the obstacles faced by the sector private sector and put in place the appropriate policies.

## The TOAM includes:

- An online platform and a mobile application which connect companies and relevant agencies allowing them to exchange information about trade obstacles;
- An institutional network that ensures the cooperation of the different actors involved in the identification and addressing problems reported through the online platform.

# The online platform

The TOAM platform offers a simple and intuitive interface allowing to

- encountered during the export or import of products and services so that the competent authorities can take the necessary corrective measures;
- receive email alerts on obstacles encountered by operators for the products, services and markets that interest you;
- consult the registered obstacle reports and understand which are the main concerns of commercial operators in their country and obstacles to international trade.

## The institutional network

The institutional network ensures the continuity of the communication between the public and private sector, established by the platform, and facilitates the improvement of the business environment in the country. The institutional network relies on:

- **Companies** who use the platform to report obstacles they face to relevant authorities;
- Public and semi-public agencies that, through their respective focal points, reply to reports submitted by trade operators;
- The National Focal Point who ensures, through the platform, the transmission of information between public and private actors to respect confidentiality.

## **LEARN MORE**

Anyone can sign up to be alerted to ongoing obstacles and solutions for the markets services and products of their interest. Registration to the TOAM platform is 100% free.

Connect now to TOAM to reach local authorities, who will help you overcome obstacles to your business success.



#### CONTACT

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