

FINSIPRO - Trade Facilitation in Finland

**Regional Workshop on
SASEC National Trade Facilitation Committees**
Kathmandu 9.-10. October, 2013

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Agenda



- FINSIPRO – an Introduction
 - Organization & members
 - FINSIPRO on the global and national trade facilitation arena
 - Mission
 - Focus areas
 - National and International activities
 - Examples of work participated

FINSIPRO - Trade Facilitation in Finland

- FINSIPRO – Finnish National Trade Facilitation Body
- Established 27th December 1973 (among the oldest TF bodies in the World)
- Working group format
- Chaired by The Ministry of Labour and the Economy
- Working with issues related to Trade and Transport Facilitation both domestically and internationally
- Secretariat operated by TIEKE

FINSIPRO member organisations

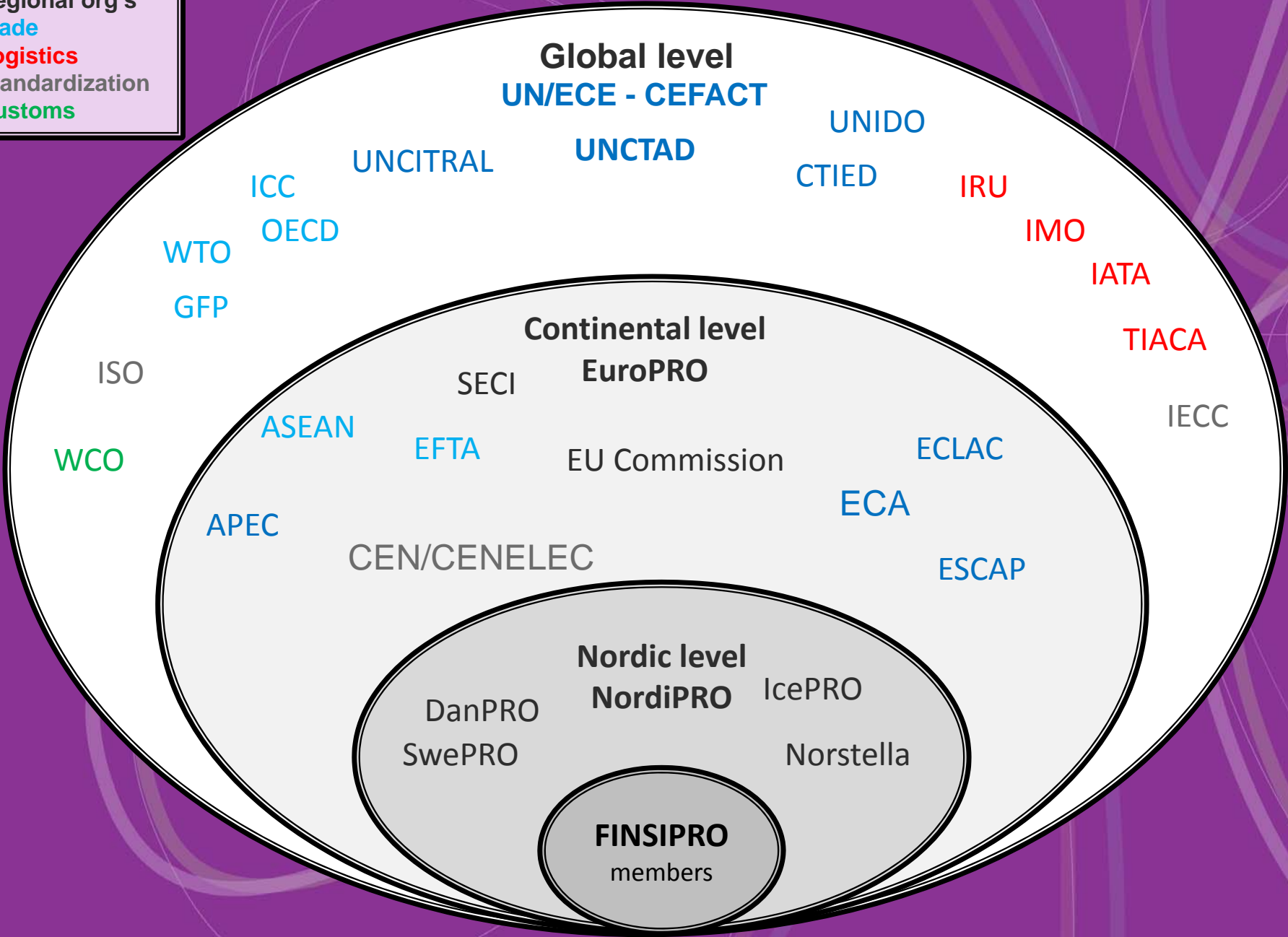
- **Ministry of Labour and the Economy* (chair)**
- **Ministry for Foreign Affairs**
- **Ministry of Transport and Telecommunication**
- **Finnish Customs**
- **Confederation of Finnish Industries**
- **Finnish Standards Association**
- **International Chamber of Commerce - Finland (ICC)**
- **Central Chamber of Commerce**
- **Finpro – (Foreign Trade Association)**
- **Finnish Commerce Federation**
- **Finnish Association of Purchasing and Logistics (LOGY)**
- **Federation of Finnish Financial Services (FFI)**
- **GS1 Finland**
- **TIEKE - Finnish Information Society Development Centre (secretariat)**

* Former ministry of Trade and Industry

FINSIPRO and Trade Facilitation on the Global Level

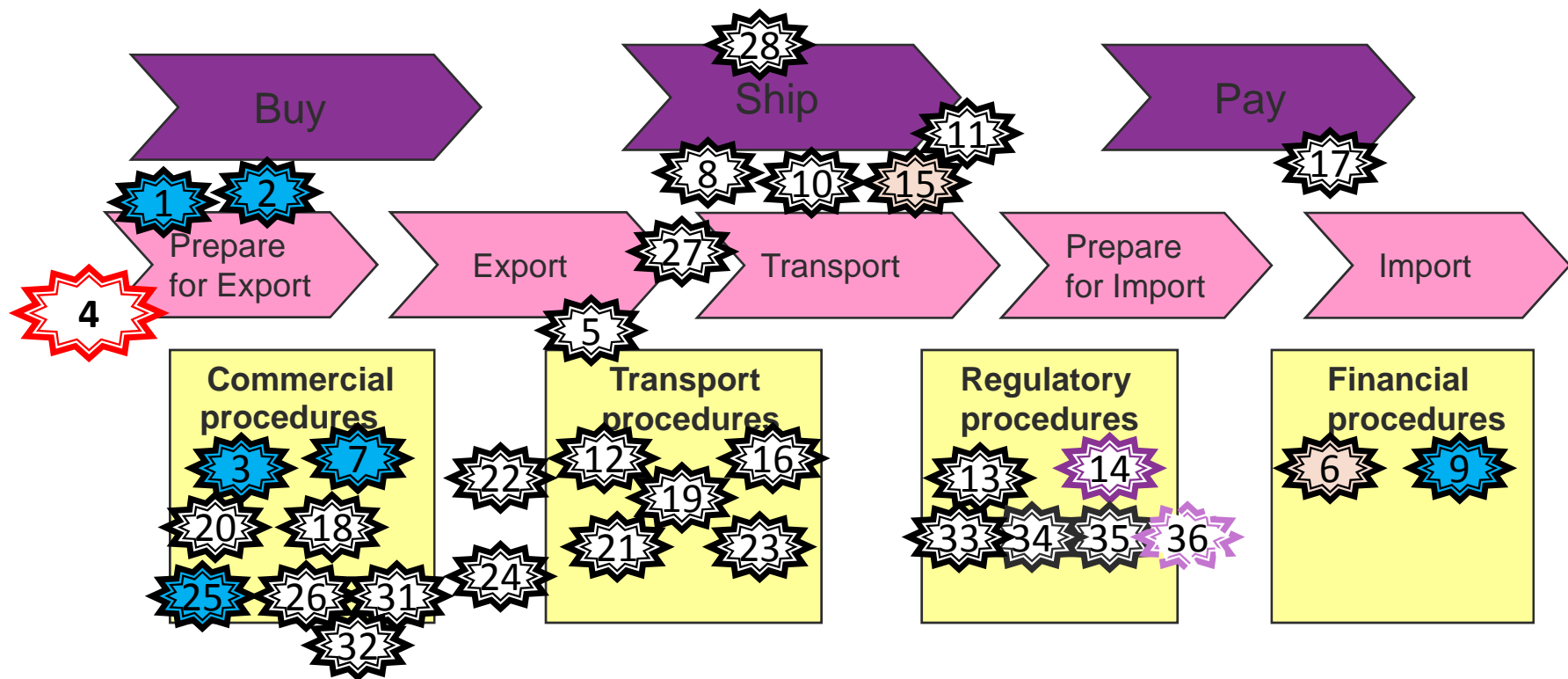
- Several organizations participating the work
 - Different stakeholder groups
 - Intergovernmental and private based organisations
 - Purely global and "semi global" organizations
- Different approaches, agendas and focuses
 - Sectoral or overall focuses
 - General Trade & Transport Facilitation
 - Process or technology based approach

UN organizations
 Regional org's
 Trade
 Logistics
 Standardization
 Customs



Trade Facilitation Playground in Finland

- International standards and trade facilitation recommendations are generally well accepted and adopted among Finnish authorities and business



FINSIPRO - Mission Statement

International trade procedures work aims to developing of affordable, international standards and recommendations based trade procedures and to promote their implementation and use.

FINSIPRO – workgroup act as the national trade facilitation organization. Its role is to promote cooperation between the authorities and trade in the trade facilitation work. FINSIPRO collects information on domestic and international trade procedures and share the results of its work to promote their utilization.

FINSIPRO support Finland's participation in international trade procedures development activities, in particular under the auspices of UN Economic Commission for Europe - UN/CEFACT, as well as in European and Nordic trade procedures organizations: EuroPro and NordiPRO.

FINSIPRO can also initiate and participate in the projects with in its remit.

FINSIPRO Focus Areas

- Trade Procedures
 - Border Crossing
 - Single Window
 - WTO agreements (on goods, services and intellectual property) in 2012 -13 especially the Russian membership in WTO
 - EU Digital market

- Technical solutions
 - The business process modelling
 - WCO data model

- Standards
 - Messages (EDIFACT and XML)
 - Codes
 - International Trade Model Law (UNCITRAL)
 - National Public Administration Recommendations (related to trade)

FINSIPRO Operation - Planning

- Mandate for 3 year periods (at a time)
 - Overall plan for the mandate period
- Annual Action Plan with specific themes
- Planning & Development team
 - Chair, ForMin, secreteriat

FINSIPRO operation - Tasks and Activities

- **Distribution of Trade Facilitation information to organizations**
 - Information on Trade Facilitation procedures
- **Coordination of national Trade Facilitation projects**
 - Encouraging the implementation of projects increasing and supporting the use of rational procedures in international trade and monitoring TF projects within different sectors
- **Monitoring of national and international Trade Facilitation work**
 - Participation and monitoring domestic projects (eg. in member organizations) and international work (UN/CEFACT, WTO, OECD etc.)

FINSIPRO operation - Tasks and Activities

- Distribution of Trade Facilitation information to organizations
 - Workgroup meetings (3-4 times/year)
 - Web pages
 - General TF info, List of TF Recommendations, TF service list with links, news, International meeting reports etc
 - English language pages
 - Aimed for Trade, Administration and FINSIPRO members
 - eMail list for information provision on international TF recommendations
 - Seminars on electronic invoicing international issues

FINSIPRO operation - Tasks and Activities

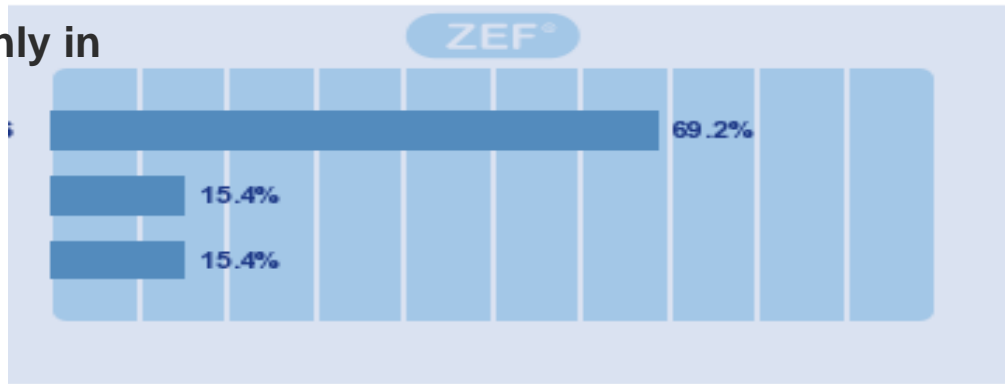
- National Trade Facilitation projects
 - Survey on awareness of TF recommendations among Finnish companies conducting foreign trade
 - Conducted in 1996, 2000 and 2010
 - Following results are from year 2010
 - Survey report (2010) with compendium of international trade facilitation recommendations (in Finnish) was published as Finnish Standards Association Handbook

Some outcomes from the Survey

Line of Business & Markets

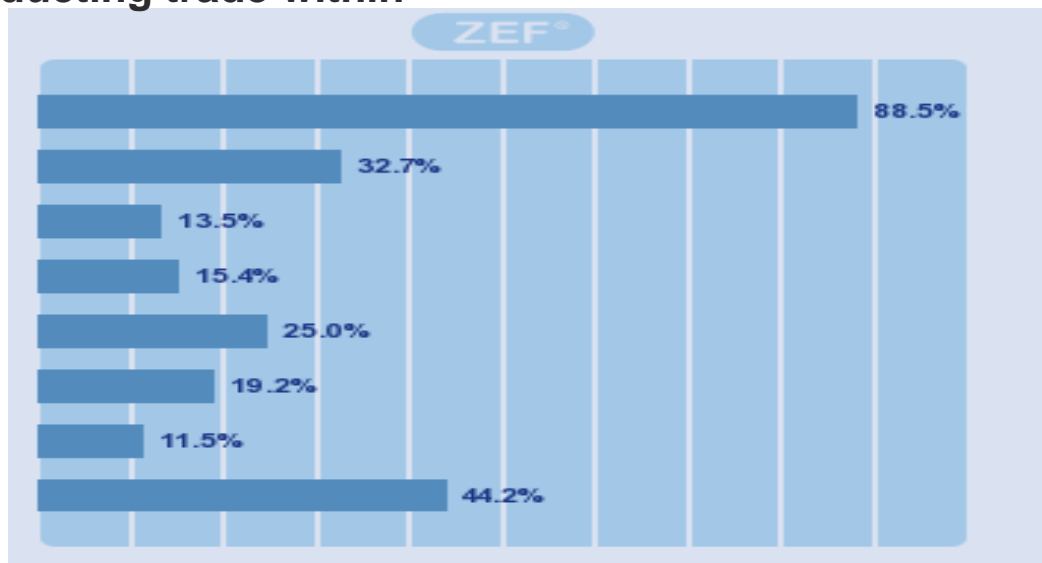
The company is mainly in

- Exports
- Import
- Services for Foreign Trade



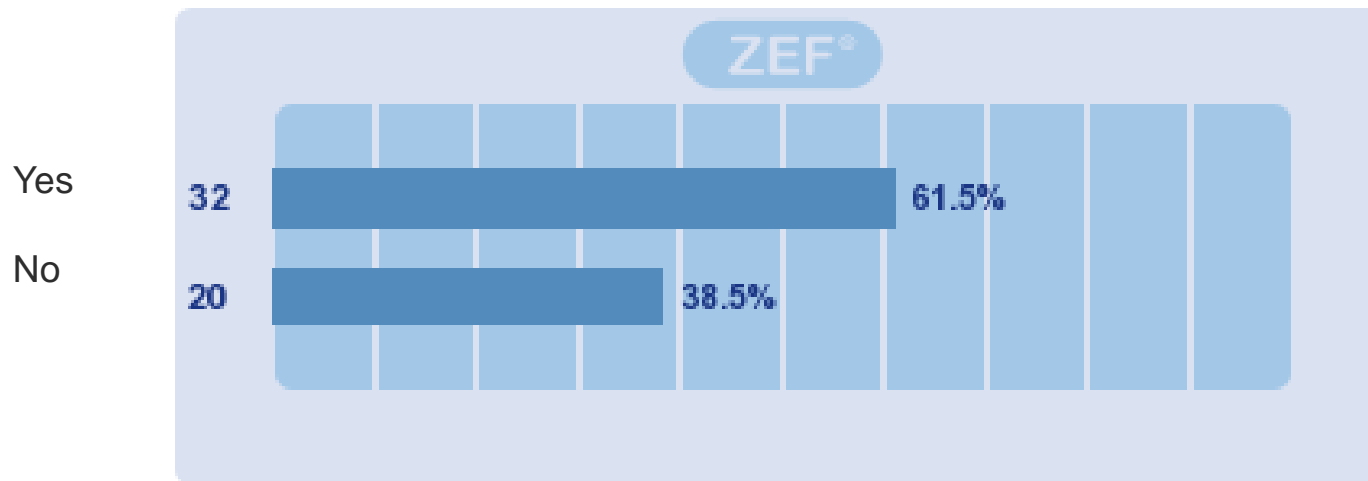
The Company is conducting trade within

- EU
- Asia & Oceania
- South America
- Africa
- China
- Middle East
- North America
- Russia



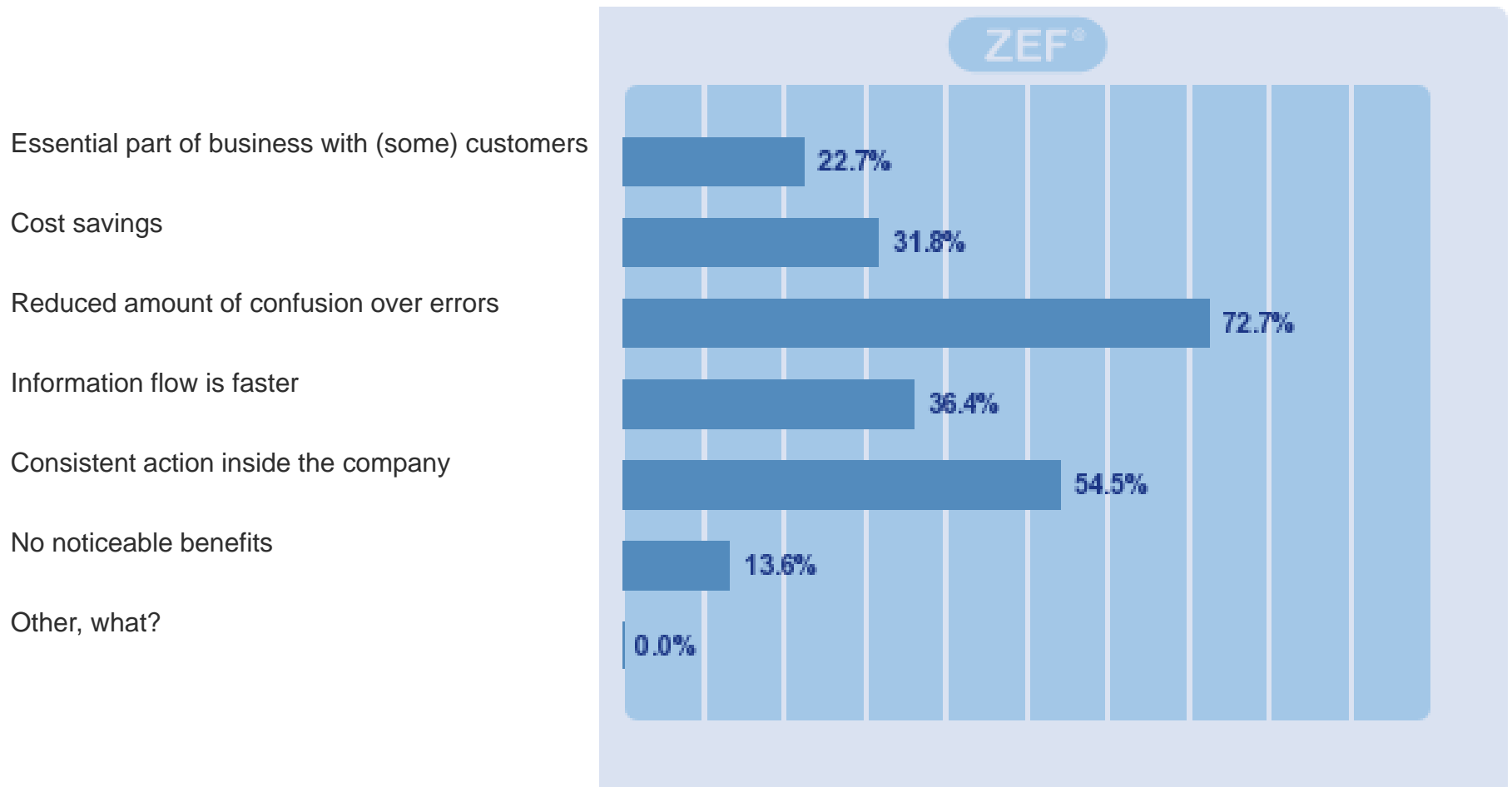
Awareness of International Standards and Trade Facilitation Recommendations

Is your company familiar with international trade related standards and the trade facilitation recommendations?



Benefits from Trade Facilitation

What benefits your company have gained by the use of standards/ trade facilitation recommendations?

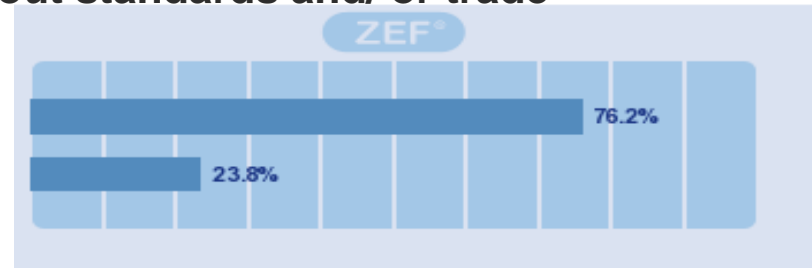


Finding Information on Trade Facilitation

Do your company search information about standards and/ or trade facilitation recommendations

Ad hoc

Long term basis



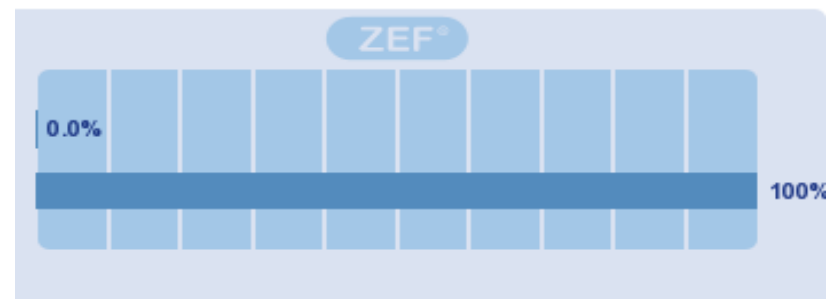
Has your company find it easy to get information about standards and trade facilitation recommendations?



Has the use of standards/trade facilitation recommendations caused to your company?

Yes

No



FINSIPRO operation - Tasks and Activities

- **Results and Action Points from Development Survey**
- FINSIPRO 's key benefit for the members is the information and material sharing on domestic and international trade procedures.
 - Knowledge of domestic trade organizations conduct operations both domestically and internationally
 - The discussions and contacts with national actors
- **Questions to development group:**
 - What are the means to intensify the utilization of international work outcome?
 - Targeted information -> which are the focus topics
 - Improving the dissemination of information (internal communication)
 - Connecting to the concrete work items (pragmatism)
 - Activating the participation of member organizations

FINSIPRO operation - Tasks and Activities

- Participation in the development of UN/ECE international trade facilitation recommendations
- Single Window Recommendation suite*

A facility that allows parties involved in trade and transport to lodge standardized information and documents with a single entry point to fulfill all import, export, and transit-related regulatory requirements. If information is electronic then individual data elements should only be submitted once.”

- **33 Recommendation and Guidelines on Establishing a Single Window**
- **34 Data Simplification and Standardization for International Trade**
- **35 Establishing a legal framework for international trade Single Window**
- **36 Single Window Interoperability (ongoing work)**

*FINSIPRO and its members have contributed in the work

More examples of activities*

- Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide (TFIG) published in autumn 2012 <http://tfig.unece.org/>
- Recommendation 14 - **Authentication of Trade Documents by Means Other than Signature** - revision project
- Recommendations for PPP and Consultation models under development
- A glossy of mBusiness published in March – receiving comments for further actions

* FINSIPRO and its members have contributed in the work

More examples of activities

- Why and how can a Trade Facilitation body boost International trade facilitation negotiations e.g. in WTO
 1. To create a Win-Win situation to all parties due more efficient trade
 2. Trade in/with developing and especially land-locked countries will benefit
 3. Finland/FINSIPRO supports finalizing the trade facilitation negotiations before Bali Ministerial conference (in December)
 4. FINSIPRO facilitates the collection and coordination of opinions of major Finnish stakeholders, including business, for TF negotiations

This could also be done in Nepalese TF committee due to Nepal's important role as coordinator for LDC's in TF negotiations.

Questions?

Thank you!