



Please get in touch if you have any ideas on how the trade information portal may be developed to better serve you.

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LTIP is part of Lesotho's Trade Facilitation Programme under the auspices of the NTFC, led by MTI and implemented by LNDC.

Support for the LTIP is provided by the World Bank Group with funding from the Trade Facilitation Support Program (TFSP). The TFSP is funded by nine donor partners: Australia, Canada, the European Commission, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States, and the United Kingdom.

This initiative—implemented by IFC and the World Bank—provides assistance to countries seeking to align their trade practices with the World Trade Organization Trade Facilitation Agreement (WTO TFA).



LESOTHO

Trade Information Portal Project

The Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) is working on a project to implement an internet-based trade information portal to provide business information for exporters and importers.

Lesotho Trade Information Portal

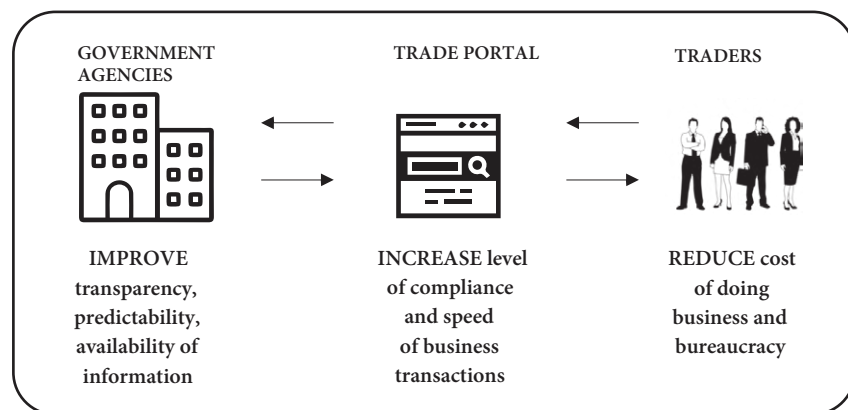
The Lesotho Trade Information Portal (LTIP) will be a comprehensive, authoritative source of regulatory information related to all cross-border transactions on a single, easily searchable platform. It will include helpful information from all government agencies which support international trade.

LTIP responds to the requirements of the World Trade Organisation's Trade Facilitation Agreement, ratified by the Government of Lesotho on the 4th January 2016 to support the growth of international trade. The LTIP is a World Bank Group software toolkit.



Why is the LTIP important?

The objective of the portal is to provide an accessible logical helpful window into Lesotho trade information and regulations.



Transparency attracts investment

Greater predictability for traders ensures that:

- It takes less time to discover information
- There is less likelihood of rejection because of wrong procedures
- There are less opportunities for mis-interpretation of laws and regulations.

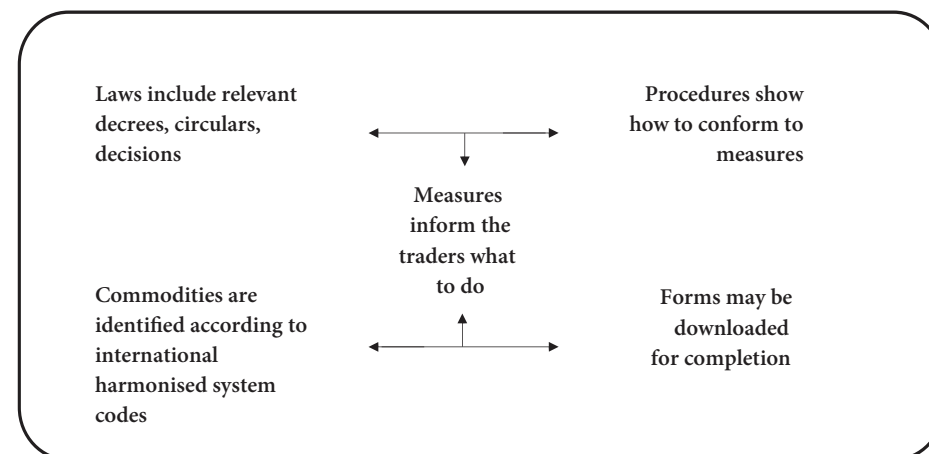
How will the LTIP be delivered?

Start: June 2020

Expected LTIP Launch: December 2020

The project team will meet with stakeholders to identify all regulations relating to international trade.

- **Border agencies:** workshops and presentations
- **Private sector:** focus groups
- **Government:** 1 to 1 meetings





Skyrock Falls Dam

How can you help?

We will ask government agencies and the private sector to validate our work. Since we all need to be comfortable that what we have done is correct, we will begin to give stakeholders access to the LTIP.

We will ask them to review what we have done before we go 'live'. We will provide training and support to help them do this.

We have a Project Steering Committee to represent all stakeholders to lead and guide the project to ensure a successful outcome:

- Lesotho National Trade Facilitation Committee
- Ministry of Trade and Industry
- Border agencies
- Chambers of Commerce and Trade organisations
- Lesotho National Farmers Union
- LTIP Team

How will we engage stakeholders?

We will create an LTIP user group to encourage the future development and maintenance of the portal.

We want to ensure long term LTIP sustainability. We will help establish a dedicated, enthusiastic team at LNDC that will be:

- Trained
- Budgeted
- Committed

We will depend on your help in the following area:

- Changes in procedure
- Advance notice
- Shared responsibility

We will encourage contributions from the business community.



Lesotho Wool Centre/ Lesotho Times

How can we measure success?

LTIP benefits:

- Improve the transparency, predictability and availability of information
- Increase the level of compliance to legislation and regulation
- Increase the speed at which business may be transacted
- Reduce the cost of doing business
- Reduce bureaucracy

How can these be measured?

The trading community is the customer. We will measure customer satisfaction by:

- Focus groups and 1 to 1 meetings
- Online survey
- Web statistic monitoring & reporting
- Feedback from steering committee and user group

We will measure satisfaction before the launch of LTIP and enable further surveys after the launch.

Who is involved?

All government agencies involved with cross border trade will be asked to contribute to the LTIP. These include:

- Lesotho Revenue Authority
- Lesotho National Dairy Board
- Ministry of Trade and Industry
- Ministry of Transport
- Ministry of Home Affairs
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Police
- Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
- Ministry of Small Business Development, Cooperatives and Marketing

The private sector will be represented by the following organisations that are part of the steering committee and user groups:

- Private sector associations
- Trade related associations
- Lesotho Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Lesotho National Farmers Union