

SOUTHERN AFRICA TRADE HUB



SUPPORTING SERVICES DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH IN SSA

Matthew Stern
DNA Economics

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Structure of Presentation

- Traditional areas of technical assistance for services
- Newer areas of technical assistance
- Technical assistance provided for services by the Southern African Trade Hub
- Main messages

Development Assistance in Services

- Traditional focus has been negotiations oriented
 - Services were relatively new to the multilateral trade system
 - Developing countries required assistance to get up to speed and deal with services issues in a wide range of fora
- Main activities:
 - Capacity building - focused primarily on Ministries of Trade
 - Research – focused primarily on collating information on the legislative framework



Newer Areas of Intervention

- Mainstreaming services into national development, industrial and export plans and strategies
- Private sector development
- Strengthening institutional capacity in trade promotion agencies to support services exports
- Regulatory capacity building for stakeholders beyond Ministries of Trade



SATH's Technical Assistance Activities

1. Support for SADC negotiations
2. Support for enhanced regulatory frameworks and decision-making processes

Activities

- Support for SADC negotiations

Road Transport

- Assisting with private sector consultations in Malawi and Tanzania as inputs into the Governments' negotiations position

Tourism

- Assisting with private sector consultations in Namibia, Tanzania and Botswana as inputs into Governments' negotiating position

Activities

- Enhancing Regulatory Capacity

Road Transport

- Undertaking regulatory impact assessments in South Africa and Namibia on aspects of their regulatory framework / bilateral road transport agreements

Main Messages

- Technical assistance needs to go beyond supporting services negotiations
- But services negotiations provide SSA member states with an opportunity to reconsider the regulatory framework governing their country and the region
- Development partners should work with SSA member states to articulate clear opportunities for regulatory reform (and assistance)



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Thank you!

Matthew Stern

matthew.stern@dnaeconomics.com

Natasha Ward

Trade in Services Advisor

nward@satradehub.org



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