



**HORN OF AFRICA  
INITIATIVE**

**JUBA, 15 SEPTEMBER 2022**

**HOAI REGIONAL TRADE  
FACILITATION ROADMAP  
DEEPENING REGIONAL  
INTEGRATION AND  
PROMOTING COOPERATION**

- **Nairobi workshop 6-7 April 2022:** National Delegations (NDs) of 4 HoAI countries adopt a **consolidated matrix** of short/medium term priority actions needed to facilitate trade and increase regional integration in the Horn.
- **12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the HoAI Finance Ministers of April 21<sup>st</sup>:** the matrix is endorsed by the Ministers and DPs. The HoAI Secretariat is directed to develop a strategy for guiding the HoAI countries to advance the proposed reforms by identifying specific objectives, timelines, responsibilities and technical assistance needed for their implementation.
- **30 June 2022:** The TF Roadmap is validated by the NDs and presented to the HoAI Ministers together with a **Joint Ministerial Declaration** that defines the Governance Structure for the implementation of reforms. Both documents are approved and adopted at the end of the Ministerial Meeting

## TRADE FACILITATION JOINT MINISTERIAL DECLARATION

### WE HEREBY DECLARE:

**The adoption** of the Regional Trade Facilitation Roadmap for the Horn of Africa Initiative as a framework of action for strengthening trade facilitation in the HoA region;

**Our highest commitment** to continue the work for implementing the Roadmap with the support of Developing Partners and within the existing regional, multilateral and bilateral agreements to which our States are signatories;

**The appointment** a Regional Trade Facilitation Task Force comprising the HoAI national thematic leaders for Trade and representatives from other authorities in our respective States who will be responsible for the preparation of specific concept notes to be submitted to the Developing Partners for launch of programmes and projects aimed at supporting the implementation of the activities described in the Roadmap;

TO THIS END, WE FURTHER:

**Encourage** cooperation among our Ministries and other government authorities of the HoAI Member States responsible for trade-, customs- and transport-related matters, by putting in place the necessary policy coordination actions needed for the implementation of the Roadmap by leveraging on the support of the Development Partners through the HoAI Secretariat;

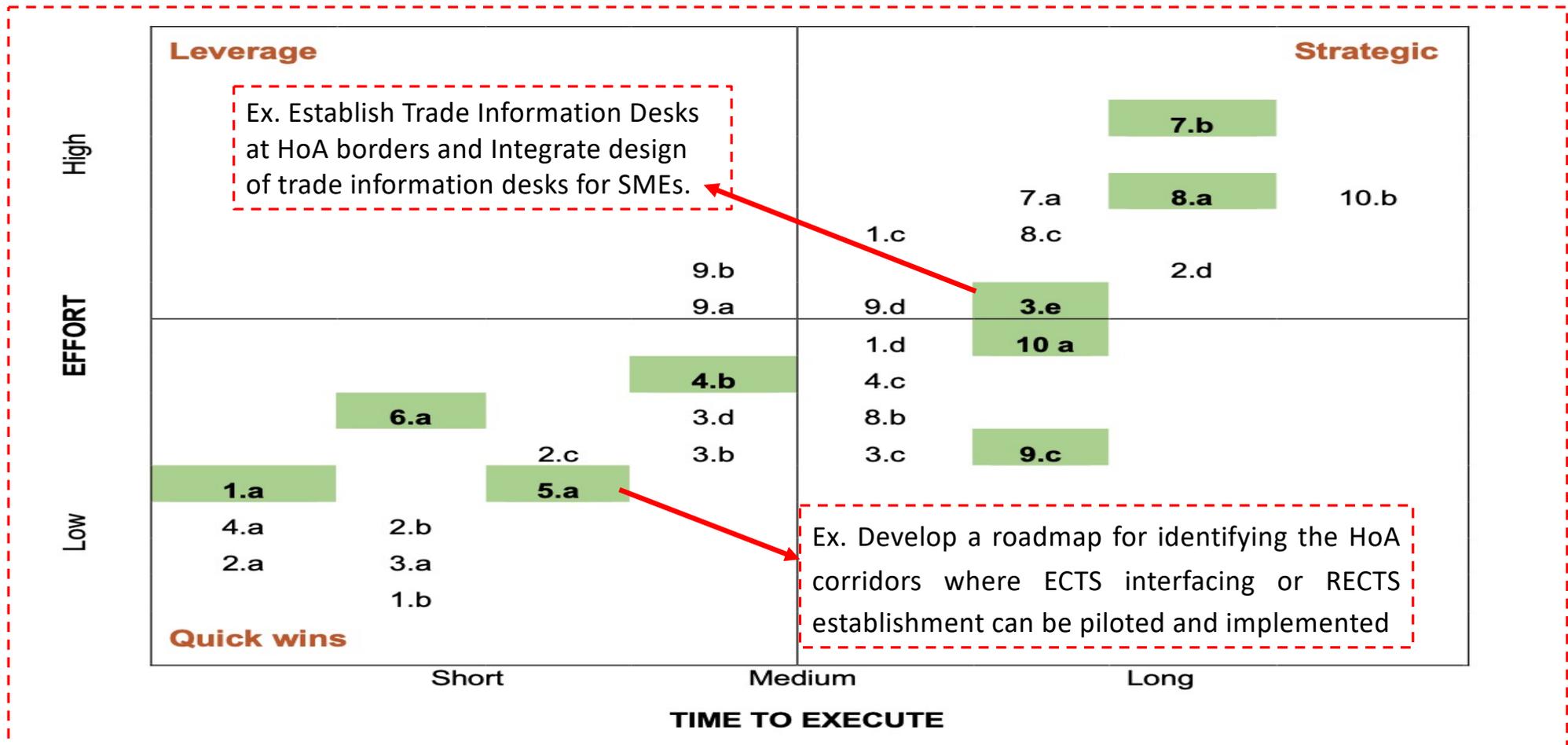
**Call upon** the Development Partners to support the implementation of the HoAI Regional Trade Facilitation roadmap through the mobilization of the financial and technical assistance needed for undertaking the soft policy improvements needed to optimize trade facilitation and strengthen regional integration in the Horn of Africa.

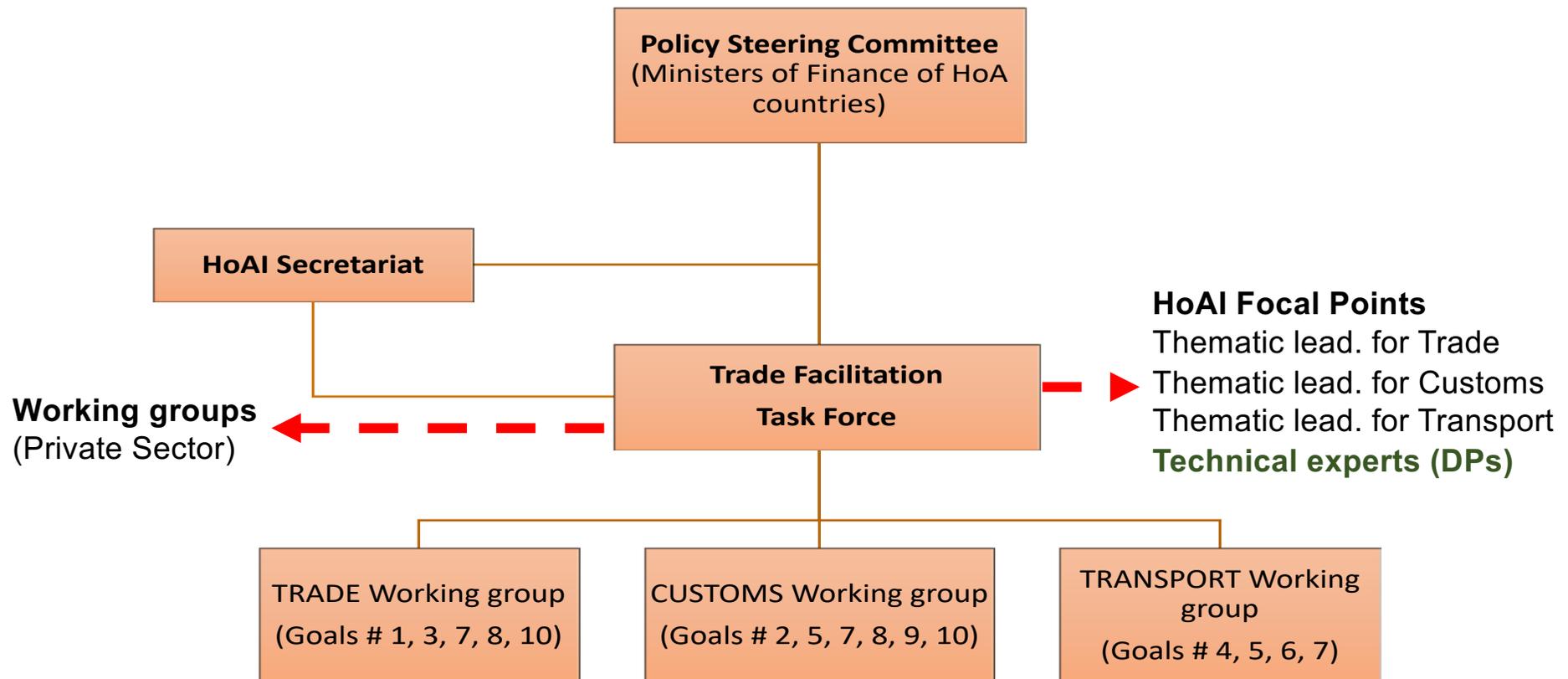
## • HOAI TRADE FACILITATION ROADMAP OBJECTIVES

- The HoAI TF roadmap aims at achieving a more integrated Horn of Africa with coordinated public policy responses to the common development challenges that hamper the economic growth of its member states.
- TF reforms are aimed at ensuring better exploitation of economic corridors and amplify the impact of infrastructure investments planned under the HoAI.
- A higher level of trade integration between HoAI nations can reduce the possibility of conflicts and instability in the region as countries that are integrated and mutually dependent on each other in terms of trade are less willing to enter into a conflict, as the costs they would incur would be catastrophic.

## • STRATEGIC GOALS OVERVIEW

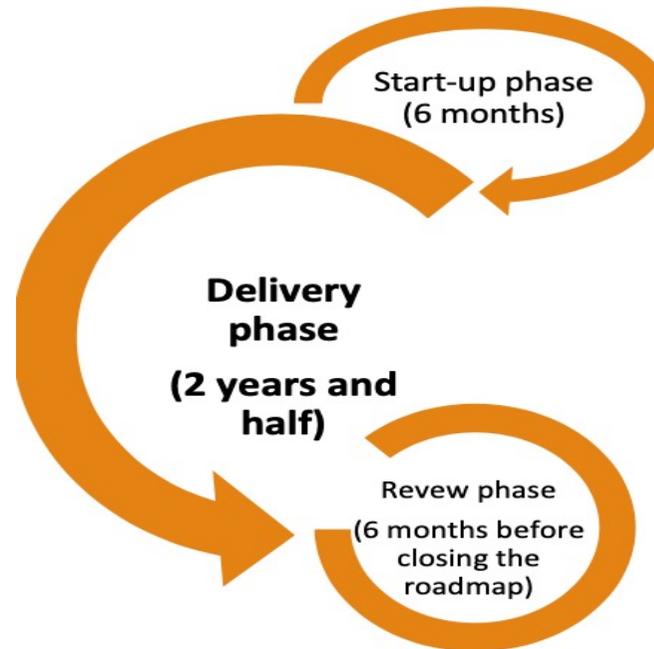
1. Strengthen collaboration mechanisms for NTBs identification/rep./resolution;
2. Develop joint or regional TRSs to identify bottlenecks in border proced.;
3. Facilitate small-scale cross-border traders and encourage formalization (TIDOs);
4. Facilitate circulation of trucks in HoA through harmonization of cross-b. permits;
5. Promote ECTSs along main trade corridors in the HoAI;
6. Monitor the usability of priority trade corridors through a Regional RMIS;
7. Developing intra-agency and inter-agency coordination practices;
8. Promoting data sharing and ICT integration between border agencies;
9. Developing dedicated fast-track lanes for trusted traders (AEOs);
10. Regional framework for use of digital (mobile) payments for customs duties & border agencies levies.





## ROADMAP IMPLEMENTATION

Preparation of **project concept notes** with budgetary estimates of financial assistance needed and dialogue with Developing Partners for the design and launch of TOR for the implementation of the Goals & Activities in the roadmap.



Establishment of the TF Task Force and working groups, hiring of technical experts to support the TF

Evaluating whether the Goals of the Roadmap have been met. Drafting of a new Roadmap for the following period (2026-2029).

## • WHAT'S NEXT?

1. **Addendum** to be added to the Ministerial Joint Declaration to be signed by the Minister of Finance of South Sudan;
2. Participation of South Sudan members to the TF works;
3. Development of project concept notes
4. The HoAI Secretariat submits the concepts notes to DPs for securing the required funds
5. Detailed TORs are launched and TA is provided for project implementation



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Thanks for your  
attention

HoAI Secretariat  
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