

Enhancing Regional Harmonisation through Capacity Building in Weigh-in-Motion Instruments



Unified standards for Weigh-in-Motion (WIM) instruments reduce regulatory uncertainty and lower compliance costs across ASEAN. WIM instruments are roadside sensors that measure a vehicle's weight while it is still moving, providing the data that regulators need to enforce weight limits, protect road infrastructure and support fair trade.

The Regional Trade for Development (RT4D) initiative, through the AANZFTA Implementation Support Program (AISP), supported the AANZFTA Sub-Committee on Standards, Technical Regulations and Conformity Assessment Procedures (SC-STRACAP) to develop a practical pathway for harmonising WIM requirements across ASEAN.

Activities included research support and a practical regional workshop, which strengthened the knowledge and capacity of 50 participants from ASEAN Member States (AMS) and facilitated AMS consensus on a practical pathway for stronger harmonisation across the region.

This advances AANZFTA's goal of frictionless trade and safer transport corridors.

What Was Delivered?

Built understanding of approaches and priorities across AMS through research support.

Produced a **Background Paper**, developed in consultation with AMS, comparing international best practice with ASEAN and AMS technical and regulatory approaches.

Strengthened AMS knowledge and capacity through hands-on capacity building support.

- **Regional workshop in Kuala Lumpur (21–22 Aug 2024)**

Attended by 50 officials from nine AMS, aimed to increase knowledge and understanding of technical requirements and practical steps for the approval and verification of WIM instruments. This included a site-visit hands-on demonstration at the National Metrology Institute of Malaysia (NMI) on how to verify different types of WIM and interpret results accurately.

- **Facilitated alignment on next steps to harmonise WIM verification**

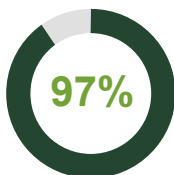
Developed a **Recommendations Report** that included practical next steps to foster stronger ASEAN harmonisation for pattern approval and verification for WIM instruments.



What were the Outcomes?

The project strengthened the knowledge and capacity of AMS metrology agencies and provided them with a clear roadmap toward improved harmonisation, increasing regulatory certainty and boosting confidence in cross-border enforcement.

Increased knowledge and capacity of participants



of participants found the workshop relevant to the work of their agency.



of participants reported increased understanding on the technical requirements and practical aspects of WIM approval and verification.



of participants reported they would apply what they learned as part of their work, indicating that capacity support is likely to lead to more effective WIM approval and verification practices across ASEAN.

Achieved regional consensus through SC-STRACAP's endorsement of a unified roadmap for WIM cooperation that includes:

- Development of an ASEAN-specific guideline for WIM pattern approval and verification that follows a single international standard and is tailored to local conditions and capacity.
- Launch of complementary capacity-building to promote regional uptake and oversight of the guidelines.

AISP funding to develop an ASEAN-specific guideline and related capacity building was prioritised by the SC-STRACAP and approved by the AANZFTA FJC under the most recent AISP Economic Cooperation Work Plan, ensuring activities remain relevant and beneficial to the needs of AMS.



About RT4D

The \$48.7million Regional Trade for Development (RT4D) initiative, funded by both the Governments of Australia and New Zealand, assists ASEAN Member States (AMS) in meeting their commitments and realising the advantages offered by the Agreement establishing the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA), and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). RT4D supports AMS in benefitting from an open, free and rules-based trading system.

Through the AANZFTA Implementation Support Program (AISP) and the RCEP Implementation Support Program (RISP), RT4D provides tailored support to enhance the capabilities of ASEAN Member States by strengthening skills, building networks, facilitating policy options and ensuring that trade benefits everyone, including Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), women and people with disabilities.

The Regional Trade for Development Initiative:

- provides ASEAN with access to world class technical expertise to support economic cooperation activities.
- delivers economic cooperation activities, working closely with ASEAN Member States and ASEAN Secretariat.
- has a strong focus on less developed ASEAN economies to ensure that it responds to the different needs and readiness of ASEAN.
- facilitates implementation of the provisions of selected FTAs to support inclusive development outcomes.



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