

# UNECE Recent work on Single Window



Terminology for Single Window  
and other electronic platforms

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## Single Window definition

Recommendation 33 defines a Single Window as:

- 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**.

Parties involved in trade and transport

Standardized information and documents

Single entry point

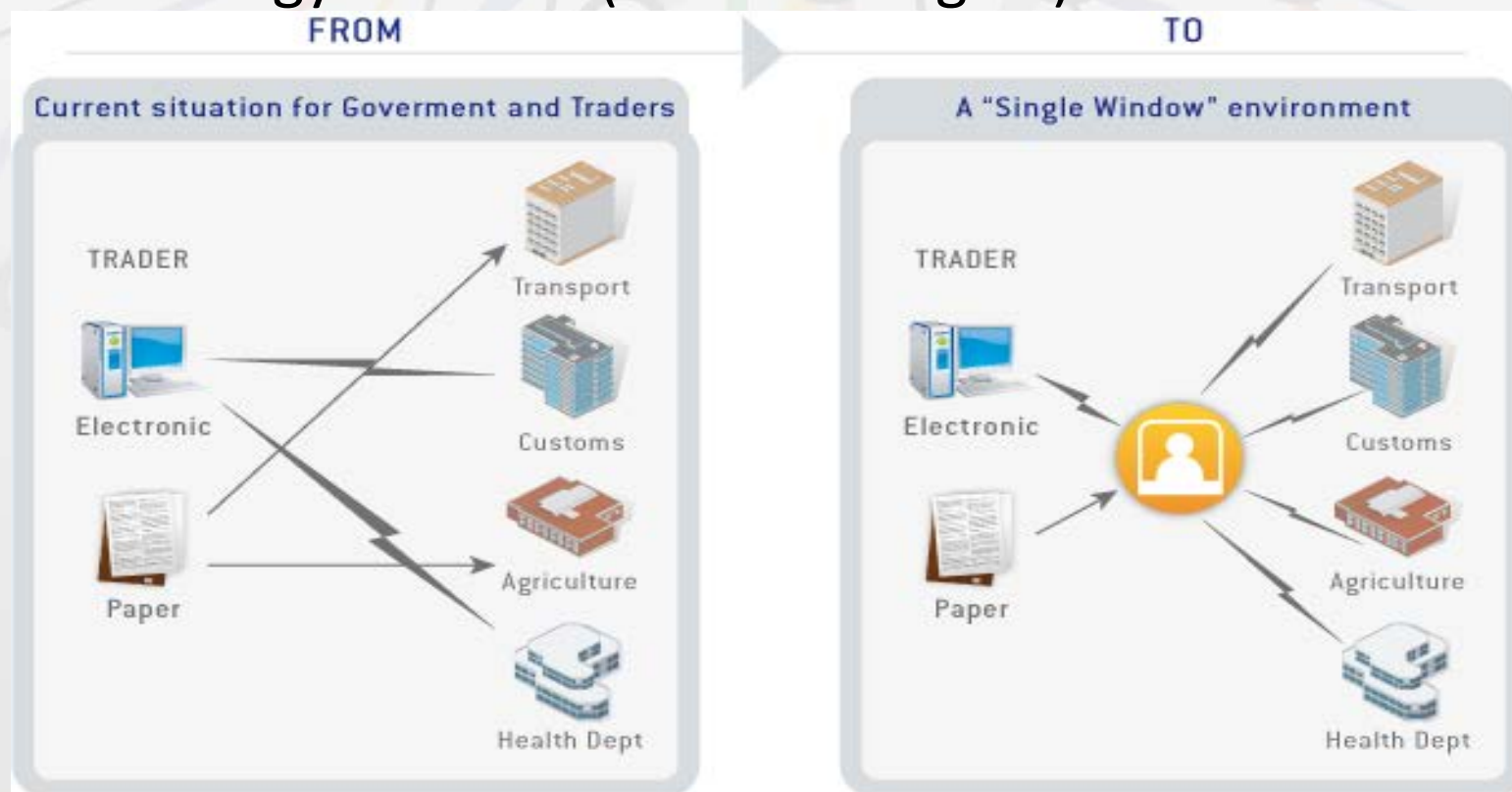
Regulatory requirements

Single submission of individual data elements

Source: "Recommendation and Guidelines on establishing a Single Window to enhance the efficient exchange of information between trade and government," Recommendation 33, United Nations, 2005  
[http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/cefact/recommendations/rec33/rec33\\_trd352e.pdf](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/cefact/recommendations/rec33/rec33_trd352e.pdf)

## Single Window definition

- Above all, Single Window is meant to be a TRADE FACILITATION mechanism
- A platform for collaboration between stakeholders
- Technology as a tool (**NOT** as the goal)



## Terminology for Single Window

- Economic operator defined as main actor
  - Single submission of data refers to economic operator
  - This operator should only need to provide information once to one platform
- ‘National’ Single Window (or ‘Regional’ SW)
  - Refers only to situations where no other SW exists nationally for trade
- If there are more than one SW in an economy
  - Avoid ‘Customs’ SW or ‘Maritime’ SW...
  - Use instead ‘SW for imports/exporters’ or ‘SW for maritime carriers’

## Other platforms contributing to trade facilitation

- Single Submission Portal
- Port Community System
- Cargo Community System
- Information Hub
- One-Stop Shop
- Coordinated Border Management
- One Stop Border Post
- Joint Border Crossing

*Can only be considered a SW if following is true:*

	Exclusive on the market for this type of operator	Standardized information and documents	Government mandate for Single Entry Point	Regulatory processes	Single submission point for individual data elements
Single Window	Must be	Must use	Must have	Must include	Must be



# Single Environment

- Single Submission Portal
  - Can be private sector; doesn't require government mandate; may include regulatory procedures...
  - Allows traders to submit information related to a specific activity in a single electronic platform
- Single Environment
  - Collaboration of multiple platforms that work collaboratively to aggregate data related to a transaction
- Single Submission Environment
  - Does not respond to the five point definition of Rec33
- Single Window Environment
  - Must respond to the five point definition of Rec33
  - (possibly not exclusive on the market; different access points can exist)