

# Logistics Digitalization in the Context of COVID-19: Turkish Experience

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# **COVID-19 AND TURKISH LOSTICS INDUSTRY**

#### March 2020 onwards:

- Closed border crossings
- ★ 14-day quarantine for truck drivers
- Re-routing of truck traffic
- Buffer zones for trade
- Cancelled flights
- Blank sailings
- Container frequency increased in ports
- Contactless trade facilitated by freight trains

#### **LESSONS LEARNED**

- Logistics industry is as significant as health industry.
  - Medical equipment needs to be transported
  - Global roll-out of vaccines
- A quick learner: Turkish logistics industry, faced with uncertainty, quickly adjusted itself to a new environment and proved to be successful
- Need for alternatives of providers and markets
- Digitalization of operations: UTIKAD's recommendation on digitalization of D/O processes
- Flow of information is vital: <a href="https://www.utikad.org.tr/Covid-19">https://www.utikad.org.tr/Covid-19</a>
- State-led digitalization?
  - Acceptance of digital certificate of origin

Future became today when faced with necessity

## IMPROVING RESILIENCE IN LOGISTICS

- UTIKAD's Project: Turkish Digital Logistics Platform
- ♦ A work-in-progress by UTIKAD's Innovation Focus Group
- For all the shareholders in logistics industry
- All modes of transportation: Air, Ocean, Road, Intermodal
- ◆ A unifying platform for all digital platforms in logistics industry
- From as-is to to-be
- A concept report is completed.
- Workshops for receiving feedback from future users
- Proof of Concept

# TURKISH DIGITAL LOGISTICS PLATFORM

- Bringing together public and private sectors: carrier, exporter, importer, freight forwarder, customs authority and other regulatory bodies, port management, financial institutions.
- Many shareholders have their own digital systems which are in isolation from each other. Customs Authority: a data silo.
- Many paper-based processes can be digitalized.
- Expected outcomes:

Increased productivity

Increased visibility

Capacity optimization

Data analysis

Time saving

Reduced transaction costs

Quick interaction among parties

### **CHALLENGES AHEAD?**

- Resistance from users: the industry is largely composed of SMEs.
- A fragmented structure of many parties: from airlines to ft SaiAHEA31?0313 0 Td[0093







