

# FY13 FIAS REFORM DESCRIPTIONS

*Projects Mapped to the World Bank Group Investment Climate Department*

Country	Reform Topic	Reform Description	Number of reforms	Doing Business Validated
EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA				
Kosovo	Construction Permits	Simplified construction permitting. New laws governing construction permitting require that permit fees be calculated on cost recovery principles. A new, unified building code establishes health and safety norms for construction. Other provisions eliminate or simplify a variety of approval procedures.	1	1
Kosovo	Property Transfers	Cost-recovery fee system. An amendment to property transfer law establishes registration fees based on cost-recovery principles. A number of operational improvements have reduced registration times from 33 to 28 days. Drafting and legalization fees for land agreements have been reduced and put under a schedule.	1	1
Kosovo	Starting a Business	Reducing hurdles for starting a business. A new law significantly reduces registration times through streamlining the procedures through one-stop shops, among other operational improvements. Twenty-seven one-stop shops have been established throughout Kosovo, demonstrably reducing the time it takes to obtain such key items as the business certificate, fiscal number, and VAT number. The law eliminates the pre-registration tax inspection by the Tax Administration of Kosovo, the notarization requirement for articles of incorporation, the Pristina Business License requirement for most businesses, and related technical inspection. All these result in savings in cost and time to start a business. A new regulation on fees, tariffs, and fines eliminates the business license and related technical inspection requirements for an estimated 85 percent of all businesses. The requirements continue to apply only to specifically listed activities.	1	1
Ukraine	Construction Permits	Simplifying construction permitting. Ukraine began implementing a law in late 2012 introducing a risk-based approval system that classifies construction projects based on complexity and significantly simplifies permitting for the less complex building projects. In these simpler categories, builders no longer need a construction permit but must give notice when construction commences. The law eliminates the requirement to obtain technical conditions from the Fire Safety Department and the Department of State Auto Inspection for smaller projects. It also simplifies project supervision by eliminating the requirement to obtain approvals from the State Enterprises and the State Inspectorate of Architecture and Construction Control in Kiev.  Simplifying ownership registration. A new property rights law took effect in January 2013 authorizing the State Registration Service of Ukraine to register ownership rights of real estate and to issue ownership certificates. Prior to this, an applicant had to undergo two separate procedures with two separate agencies. The law also sets a legal time limit of 14 business days for registering buildings, speeding the typical time needed to register a new warehouse.	1	1
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN				
Colombia	Enforcing Contracts	Time limit for setting commercial disputes. Colombia introduced a new General Procedure Code in July 2012 that sets a one-year time limit for decisions to be issued for commercial disputes, beginning from the date the defendant was served.	1	1
Colombia	Getting Electricity	Speeding access to electricity. Codensa, the electric utility in Bogota, set up a one-stop shop for builders that became fully operational in late 2012. Meanwhile, a resolution that took effect in July 2012 establishes the maximum delay for the utility to respond to a Solicitud de Factibilidad, or feasibility of service request.	1	1
Costa Rica	Construction Permits	The government established an electronic system for construction documents. Use of the platform became mandatory in March 2013. The system enables applicants to submit required documentation electronically, saving time, while also streamlining the approval process among relevant agencies, which can now review documentation in parallel through the electronic system. An executive decree establishes time limits for reviewing agencies: 15 days for commercial activities; 7 days for housing; and 30 days for condominiums and other buildings.	1	1
Costa Rica	Starting a Business	Online platform for business regulation. Crear Empresa, an online platform for business registration launched in February 2012, has gained wide use among entrepreneurs and reduced significantly the time to register a business. Costa Rica also eliminated the requirement to legalize accounting books and simplified the legalization of books.	1	1
El Salvador	Trade Logistics	One-stop shop for trade. El Salvador made trade easier by developing a new one-stop shop for exports and by implementing an electronic data interchange system. The number of days to export was reduced from 14 to 13.	1	1

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Guatemala	Construction Permits	Reducing requirements for low-impact construction. An administrative resolution adopted by Guatemala in May 2012 establishes a simplified approval window for activities with minimal impact on the environment, including 39 different cases, such as storage warehouses. Qualified projects undergo an expedited permitting process.	1	1
Guatemala	Starting a Business	A single, simplified business registration form. Guatemala launched an online platform in March 2013 providing new companies with a single form to register with the commercial registry, the tax authority, the social security institute, and the Ministry of Labor, reducing the time required for an entrepreneur to obtain definitive registration, tax and social security numbers, as well as the authorization to print invoices.	1	1
Honduras	Industry-Specific Investment Climate	Honduras leveled the playing field for new entrants in agribusiness by eliminating discriminatory treatment of applicants and increasing transparency of the registration process for pesticides and fertilizers. More than 400 new products have been registered since the reform and prices have dropped by up to 9 percent for some pesticides. Previously, regulations on fertilizer and pesticide registration had constituted a key barrier for new competitors, with some firms waiting more than three years to enter the market while others were approved in less than 20 days. A new, expedited process for registering products now takes less than 90 days.	1	
Jamaica	Starting a Business	Saving a trip to the tax office. In October 2012, the Companies Office began electronic stamping of articles of incorporation. Company founders no longer need to visit the Stamp Duty and Transfer Tax Department to obtain this service prior to the incorporation of their limited liability companies.	1	1
Nicaragua	Starting a Business	One-stop shop for registration and licensing. In June 2012, the municipality of Managua made available a single document that allows simultaneous registration for sales taxes, social security, and the pre-municipal license at the one-stop shop. Payment of the pre-municipal license can be made at the one-stop shop.	1	1
Panama	Investor Protection	Transparency in major business transactions. In November 2012, the Securities Commission enacted a provision of law designed to increase the transparency of major acquisitions by public companies. The amendment requires that sale or acquisition of assets worth 10 percent or more of the value of the company be publicly disclosed, providing investors and the public with information relevant to origins and features of the transaction. The previous reporting threshold was 20 percent.	1	1
Panama	Starting a Business	Streamlining business entry. Beginning in April 2012, the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the municipality of Panama became interconnected through the online platform Panama Emprende, eliminating the need for entrepreneurs to visit the municipal offices to obtain a taxpayer number. Municipal taxpayer numbers are issued automatically along with the operations permit.	1	1
Trinidad and Tobago	Starting a Business	Eliminating business entry paperwork. Under a law that took effect in February 2013, businesses are no longer required to submit a separate statutory declaration of compliance before a certified commissioner of affidavits. Instead, this declaration is now part of the standard articles of incorporation form.	1	1
SOUTH ASIA				
Bangladesh	Industry-Specific Investment Climate	Lowering the carbon footprint in zones. The Low-carbon Export Processing Zone Guidelines provide industries in Bangladesh EPZs and other zones, as well as firms in these zones, with guidance on how to significantly lower their carbon footprint. It provides specific business friendly guides based on the project's technical evaluation of energy efficiency opportunities in the EPZs. The Low-carbon EPZ Roadmap is a policy document for the Bangladesh Export Processing Zone in Chittagong to reduce carbon emissions by a set percentage. The guidelines and roadmap have been adopted by the Bangladesh Export Processing Zone Authority. Industries in the Bangladesh Export Processing Zone in Chittagong voluntarily adopted many of the guidelines, generating \$4.6 million in investments in energy-saving technologies that will more than cover the costs of the upgrades.	1	
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA				
Benin	Starting a Business	Business entry improvements. Benin reforms in starting a business have reduced time to register a business from 31 to 15 days, cut the number of procedures to register a business from 5 to 4, and reduced the cost to register a business by 27 percent.	1	1
Benin	Trade Logistics	Easing barriers to trade. Trade reforms implemented in FY13 include elimination of the requirement for a packing list and customs release order, establishment of a system for managing shipping berth turnover and reducing berthing time, and implementation of measures to improve traffic inside and around the Cotonou Port, leading to lower transit delays from the warehouse to the seaport and making it easier for traders to arrange for road transportation.	1	1

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Burkina Faso	Trade Logistics	Connecting joint border customs clearance. Customs authorities in Burkina Faso and Togo have improved the border clearance system at their joint border post of Cinkance by connecting the countries' customs clearance systems, increasing cargo flows between Togo, Burkina Faso, and other countries using the corridor. For Burkina Faso, this reform is crucial because the corridor represents between 15 and 20 percent of the country's total trade volume. This reform will enhance the regional integration and ease development of the customs union in the region.	1	
Burundi	Construction Permits	Construction permitting at a single window. The Ministry of Planning and Habitat created a one-stop shop for construction permits in the city of Bujumbura in March 2013. The move places in one location all services for sewer, water, and landline connections and land registry. Construction permits, utility connections, and inspections can now be arranged at the same time at a single window. The total number of required procedures has been reduced from 21 to 15.	1	1
Burundi	Getting Electricity	Improved access to electricity. Burundi made getting electricity connection easier and cheaper by giving free will to sell or buy transformers and other equipment in the local or international market.	1	1
Burundi	Property Transfers	Property registration made easy. Burundi made it easier to transfer property by creating a one-stop shop for property registration, reducing the number of procedures from 8 to 5, and the number of days from 64 to 26. In March 2013, Burundi initiated a one-stop shop for property transfer, combining services of the municipality of Bujumbura, the Burundi Revenue Authority, and the Land Registry, and eliminating the need for multiple visits to different agencies. The regulation also sets a four-day time limit for processing all procedures. Previously, these procedures took 27 days.  The municipality of Bujumbura implemented a decision in April 2013 eliminating the cost of the non-encumbrance certificate for property transfer. The Land Registry issued a public notice in April 2013 stating that it would conduct inspections at the same time as the Burundi Revenue Authority in generating valuation reports.	1	1
Burundi	Starting a Business	Expedited business registration. Burundi made starting a business easier by allowing registration with the Ministry of Labor at a one-stop shop and expediting the process of obtaining the registration certificate. A decree issued in April 2013 allows entrepreneurs to register with the Ministry of Labor without visiting the ministry. The time to obtain the registration certificate at the one-stop shop was reduced from 32 to 3 days through such steps as elimination of the company seal requirement, as well as merging of the different registration procedures for the Ministry of Labor and Social Security.	1	1
Burundi	Tax Simplification and Compliance Management	New tax simplification laws. A new Law on Income Taxation took effect in January 2013, improving and simplifying tax policy and rationalizing tax rates and the tax base for small and medium-size enterprises. Among other improvements, the revised law abolished accounting requirements, filing, and payment of tax forfeiture for micro and small enterprises, eliminating a burden which fell heavily on the smallest firms. It also established exemptions for incomes at the subsistence level in agriculture, fishing, and livestock.  The law reduces the corporate income tax rate from 35 to 30 percent, aligning it with the personal income tax rate, which should improve clarity and understanding among businesses, in particular smaller firms, which sometimes have similar personal and business incomes. The new rate is aligned with rates in the East African Community countries.	1	1
Burundi	Trade Logistics	Reducing required documentation for trade. Burundi reduced the number of documents required to import from 11 to 10. Tax certificates may now be obtained free of charge.	1	1
Chad	Property Transfers	A reduction in property transfer tax. Chad adopted a law in 2013 reducing the property transfer tax from 17.9 percent of property value to 15.4 percent.	1	1
Congo, Dem. Rep	Starting a Business	Streamlined business entry. The Democratic Republic of Congo reduced the time required to start a business and eliminated a requirement that firms obtain a certificate confirming the location of their headquarters.	1	1
Côte d'Ivoire	Construction Permits	Quicker, streamlined procedures. The number of days for delivering a construction permit was reduced from 474 to 364 days: electricity, water, and civil protection permit process was reduced from 7 to 5 days, the urbanism and sanitation visa was consolidated in one visa, treatment of dossier at the one-stop shop was reduced time from 200 to 90 days due to the introduction of an online client record mechanism. The team supported the Ministry in streamlining procedures at the Guichet Unique by helping develop new procedures and draft corresponding regulation.	1	1
Côte d'Ivoire	Enforcing Contracts	A website for the Commerce Tribunal. Cote d'Ivoire's Commerce Tribunal became functional in October 2012 and, as of March 2013, was publishing on its website key reference documents, statistics, and decisions rendered by the Tribunal. Trial and judgment proceedings now take no more than 30 days.	1	1

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Côte d'Ivoire	Property Transfers	Reduced property transfer tax. An ordinance that went into effect in May 2013 reduced the property transfer tax from 10 to 7 percent. The government also streamlined the registration process of new titles to simplify property transfers at the land registry. Applicants are no longer required to obtain a topographic survey to transfer property.	1	1
Djibouti	Starting a Business	Helping businesses get started. Djibouti eliminated minimum capital requirements that must be put up by new businesses, put in place efficiency reforms, and established a company registry, reducing the time new businesses must spend on required start-up procedures.	1	1
Gabon	Construction Permits	Streamlining construction permitting. Gabon has reduced the time required to obtain a construction permit and eliminated the requirement for businesses to have an on-site inspection before construction can begin.	1	1
Gabon	Starting a Business	Background checks for business founders eased. Gabon instituted a change in law eliminating the requirement that criminal records of founders of new businesses be provided. The law now requires founders to provide a sworn declaration.	1	1
Guinea	Trade Logistics	Guinea made trading across borders easier by improving port management systems. Since September 2012, the Conakry port has implemented a system of berthing windows — known as <i>fenêtres d'accostage</i> — whereby vessels have fixed weekly time-tables and given schedules to dock and unload their merchandise. This contrasts with the first-come, first-served system that was previously in place, and the new system has resulted in productivity gains and a reduction in layover time. The port now records 35 movements per hour compared to 15 prior to the new system.	1	1
Guinea-Bissau	Property Transfers	Staff increase to speed property transfers. Guinea-Bissau has increased the number of notaries available to process property transfers.	1	1
Malawi	Property Transfers	Reduced stamp duty. Malawi has made transferring property easier by reducing the stamp duty from 3 percent of property value to 1.5 percent.	1	1
Mauritania	Trade Logistics	Easing trade through risk-based inspections. Mauritania made cross-border trading easier by introducing a new risk-based inspection system using scanners.	1	1
Niger	Property Transfers	Reducing fees for property transfers. Niger has reduced registration fees for property transfers.	1	1
Niger	Starting a Business	Background checks for business founders eased. Niger now requires a sworn declaration by the business founder, replacing the requirement that founders provide copies of their criminal record.	1	1
Rwanda	Industry-Specific Investment Climate	Better prices for Greenleaf tea. The Greenleaf pricing reform approved by the government is showing positive impact, with farmers realizing higher prices for their Greenleaf crop in 2013 and, as a result, improving their livelihoods and productivity. By 2017, the government is committed to raising the prices farmers obtain to a level equal to 50 percent of the price of Greenleaf tea at auction. The new pricing is expected to increase the net income of over 60,000 farmers and will enable sustainability as the government embarks on an expansion plan to double tea exports from Rwanda by 2020.	1	
Rwanda	Construction Permits	An online platform for construction permitting. Rwanda implemented an online platform for requesting construction permits in February 2013, establishing a new fee schedule, reducing the number of procedures from 14 to 13, and cutting the average time to obtain a construction permit, down from 166 to 104 days.	1	1
Rwanda	Investor Protection	Smoother resolution of insolvency. The government made resolving insolvency easier by: clarifying the commencement standards for insolvency; preventing the separation of assets from the insolvency estate during reorganization proceedings; setting clear limits for the submission of a reorganization plan; and implementing an automatic stay of creditors' enforcement actions. A new insolvency law became effective in May 2013. Among its provisions, the law clarifies the commencement standards for insolvency, allowing cessation of payments as well as over-indebtedness as grounds for debtors to file for insolvency. It introduces an automatic stay provision for a period of up to six months, applicable to all creditors' claims in cases in which the debtor shows intent to submit a reorganization plan. The law also sets a three-month time limit for the submission of a reorganization plan and gives secured creditors priority over unsecured creditors with claims arising prior to the insolvency case.	1	1
Rwanda	Property Transfers	Easing tax clearance documentation in property transfers. Rwanda eliminated the procedure and the fee for obtaining a tax clearance certificate.	1	1
Rwanda	Resolving Insolvency	Easing resolution of insolvency. Rwanda made resolving insolvency easier by clarifying the commencement standards for insolvency, preventing the separation of assets from the insolvent estate during reorganization proceedings, setting clear limits for the submission of a reorganization plan, and implementing an automatic stay of creditors' enforcement actions.	1	1

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Country	Reform Topic	Reform Description	Number of reforms	Doing Business Validated
Rwanda	Starting a Business	One-stop shop for starting a business. Rwanda has accelerated the process of issuing a registration certificate at its one-stop shop for business registration.	1	1
Rwanda	Trade Logistics	Unclogging the trade system. Rwanda introduced an electronic single window at the border, reducing time required to clear exports from 29 to 26 days, and the time to import from 31 to 30 days.	1	1
Senegal	Property Transfers	Reducing the property transfer tax. Senegal adopted a tax law decreasing the property transfer tax to 10 percent.	1	1
Swaziland	Starting a Business	Easier business start-up. Swaziland shortened the administrative processing times of registration of new businesses and obtaining the trading license. The Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Trade and the Swaziland Investment Promotion Agency launched the Swaziland Investment Road Map 2013 in April 2012. As a result of ongoing administrative reforms including computerization and the streamlining of the Registry and the Ministry of Commerce, Industry & Trade, the time it takes to register and obtain a trading license have been reduced.	1	1
Swaziland	Trade Logistics	Streamlined trade process. The Swaziland Revenue Authority allows certification to be done at the same time as customs clearance and under the same roof. The new process also allows blank certificates to be issued to manufacturers and exporters for each shipment by the clearing agent. These are submitted to the Swaziland Revenue Authority for stamping along with the other export documents. As a result, the time to obtain a certificate of origin has been reduced.	1	1
Togo	Starting a Business	Speeding the process of business entry. Introduction of a one-stop shop improved the workflow for company registration by requiring that founders provide a sworn declaration at the time of registration rather than a copy of their criminal records. Reforms reduced the number of days needed to register a business from 38 to 19. The process was accelerated by bringing together all the agencies involved in the registration process—social security, tax administration, labor inspection, and so on—at the one-stop shop. The cost for business registration, excluding notary fees, was reduced as a result of a 50 percent cut in the registration fee.	1	1
Uganda	Licenses and Permits	Guidelines for trading licenses. Local government authorities simplified guidelines and forms for obtaining trading licenses, and they also reduced fees for obtaining such licenses by 25 percent.	1	
Uganda	Property Transfers	Online means to certify documents. Uganda introduced a new procedure (eStamp) to certify documents subject to stamp duty.	1	1
Grand Total			54	49

# FY13 FIAS REFORM DESCRIPTIONS

## Projects Mapped to Regional IFC Advisory Services Units

Country	Reform Topic	Reform Description	Number of reforms	Doing Business Validated
<b>EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC</b>				
Timor-Leste	Licenses and Permits	Exempting businesses from license requirements. The SERVE law (Services for Registration and Verification of Entrepreneurs), enacted in 2012, exempted half of businesses from the requirement to obtain a license, saving those businesses \$458,349 in compliance costs annually. The streamlined requirement eliminated licensing renewal requirements, resulting in \$66,345 in annual savings for affected businesses. The law exempts business activities considered "low risk" from being licensed.	1	
<b>EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA</b>				
Armenia	Industry-Specific Investment Climate	Improved food inspection system. A government decree adopted in February 2013 established a risk-based inspection methodology for imported food. Food imports with high health risks will require documents, sampling, and laboratory examination. In low-risk categories, only document checking will be conducted.	1	
Armenia	Inspections	Bringing inspections in line with international standards. The risk-based inspection methodology that entered into force in February 2013 divides entities into the following three categories: high, medium, and low risk, with low-risk food products inspected no more than once in five years; medium risk no more than once in three years; and high risk no more than once per year. In addition to simplifying inspection activities, the methodology establishes a system that is consistent with international standards, a change that could prove highly beneficial to Armenian producers.	1	
Armenia	Tax Simplification and Compliance Management	Simplifying tax calculations. The government approved a new law on turnover tax for 2013 benefiting smaller entities with a simplified tax calculation to help reduce their tax burden. The measure aims to create a more favorable business environment, clarify and simplify the taxation system, eliminate misinterpretation of the law, make the system more efficient, and reduce opportunities for tax evasion.	1	
Belarus	Inspections	Improving the inspection system. An October 2012 decree seeks to improve the risk-based inspection system and reduce the number of overall inspections and the number of scheduled inspections of bona fide businesses. Absent a violation of the law, scheduled inspections will be conducted no more than once every five years, regardless of the risk group of such businesses. The measure steps up preventive efforts through training events and roundtables with businesses to raise awareness of the importance of compliance and provide information about typical violations and how to correct or prevent them. The number of scheduled inspections decreased by 20.1 percent in the first six months of 2013 compared to inspections in the same period of 2012.	1	
Moldova	Inspections	Modernized inspections process. The government instituted reform of inspection bodies, leading to a reduction from 64 to 33 in the number of authorities initiating inspections. A risk-based inspections system has been adopted. The reform included creation of an oversight authority at the level of the State Chancellery and of an inspection e-registry with credentialed access to stakeholders from the private and public sectors. A new law sets up clear and straightforward processes and procedures for planned inspections repeated inspections, and unplanned inspections, and it sets clear deadlines and appeal procedures.	1	
Moldova	Resolving Insolvency	Simplified insolvency process. A sweeping new Law on Insolvency institutes a number of reforms designed to speed and simplify the process of closing a business due to insolvency, an important ingredient in helping economies clear obstacles to growth by shedding businesses that are failing. The law establishes rules governing the duration of procedures, the rights and obligations of parties, priority of claims and the cost of procedures. It also shifts most technical responsibilities from a judge to an administration practitioner. Businesses can now seek an accelerated restructuring or reorganization without going through a preliminary procedure in cases where the business is in trouble but still able to cover debts. Decisions of the insolvency court are final in all but a few exceptions, replacing a cumbersome procedure for filing objections that slowed resolution to a crawl. Now there are fixed maximum time limits for the duration of certain phases.	1	1
<b>LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN</b>				
Haiti	Special Economic Zones	Strengthening economic zones in Haiti. In 2012, Haitian President Michel Martelly signed into law a measure strengthening the Free Zones Law of July 2002 to include implementation of regulations related to environmental, social, and construction standards.	1	



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SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA				
Burkina Faso	Licenses and Permits	Regulating modern medical clinics. A decree in FY13 set conditions for opening and operating modern and traditional medical establishments. An absence of regulations had allowed private actors to operate informally. Under the new system, these establishments will be formalized, leading to improved services delivered from modern clinics. More than 32 businesses have been formalized since the decree.	1	
Cameroon	Construction Permits	Faster construction permitting. On the recommendation of the Cameroon Business Forum, an organization established by IFC, the government has implemented reforms that have reduced the time to obtain a construction permit from 147 to 139 days. The time involved in approving a project upon completion has been reduced from 45 to 30 days.	1	1
Comoros	Alternative Dispute Resolution	Accelerating use of ADR. The number of commercial judgment sessions has doubled and is expected to reduce the time required to resolve commercial disputes.	1	
Comoros	Starting a Business	Business entry paperwork reduction. The government reduced the number of procedures from 9 to 8 and the number of days required to start a business from 20 to 15.	1	1
Côte d'Ivoire	Starting a Business	Reducing fees for starting a business. Notary fees were reduced from \$760 to \$240 for documents relating to starting a business, and the publication charge has been cut from \$140 to \$30. These savings, significant for a small business in Africa, have been supplemented with the creation of a one-stop shop for business registration.	1	1
Guinea	Property Transfers	Lower rates for property transfers. A tax law passed in December 2012 that took effect for 2013 decreased the general business tax rate for property transfers from 10 to 5 percent. For industries, the rate declined from 10 to 2 percent.	1	1
Liberia	Starting a Business	Eliminating fees to start a business. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry issued an Administrative Notice in June 2012 canceling the business trade license fees previously payable at the Liberian Business Registry. This cancellation took effect as of June 27, 2012.	1	1
Mozambique	Inspections	Abolishment of pre-inspection procedures. The government enacted new commercial licensing regulations which have eliminated the need for pre-inspections for most businesses except food products and/or certain types of chemicals. Approved in May 2013, the new regulations have reduced the number of activities subject to inspections.	1	
Mozambique	Licenses and Permits	Reducing the cost of business compliance. In May 2013, the government enacted new commercial licensing regulations which harmonize fees, resulting in a reduction of about 9 percent overall in the compliance costs of business regulation. The changes range from a 73 percent cost reduction for certain licenses—from \$89 to \$24—to a cost increase of 165 percent for others—from \$9 to \$24.	1	
Mozambique	Tourism	Boosting tourism through simplified regulation. Tourism reforms enacted in February 2012 have yielded significant reductions in costs, time, and procedures in the licensing of tourism-related activities, including motels, guesthouses, bars, and coffee shops. The average cost for tourism-related licenses declined from \$724 to \$46, an 88 percent reduction, and the license is now valid indefinitely. The number of days required to comply with regulations for tourism-related activities has declined by 92 percent; the simplified license can be obtained on the same day upon submission of required documentation and payment of the applicable fee. The number of procedures needed to comply with regulations has declined by 33 percent. And tourism activities under the licensing regime no longer require pre-inspection.	1	
São Tomé and Príncipe	Trade Logistics	Electronic manifest for trade. In adopting an electronic manifest system for trade logistics based on the ASYCUDA World system, the government promulgated a decree that manifests can no longer be processed in handwritten form but must be processed exclusively through the system. This had an immediate and positive effect on customs duty revenues and related fees. Within the first two weeks of the application of the new system, revenues more than doubled against a very similar volume of trade. The results stem from much improved transparency in revenue collection and a reduction in corruption.	1	
Zambia	Starting a Business	Easing business entry through tax reform. The government's Value-Added Tax Order 2012, issued in December 2012, increased the VAT registration threshold as of January 1, 2013 and simplified registration formalities, making it easier to start a business. A reform action plan used to monitor the activities and risk contributed to the effort's success.	1	1

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Zambia	Trade Logistics	Applying international best practices to trade, Zambia implemented an improved risk management and compliance policy and institutional infrastructure. The system facilitates legitimate, low-risk trade and focuses control efforts on high or unknown risks. It also encourages voluntary compliance by providing information, assistance, and support to help businesses understand requirements. The system rewards highly compliant, low-risk clients through streamlined processing and related privileges. It enforces compliance through risk-based actions to deter, detect, and sanction violations and, over time, reduce interventions at the time of clearance while placing greater reliance on pre-arrival processing and post-clearance verification.	1	
GRAND TOTAL			21	7