#### DIGITAL TRADE INTEGRATION: ROLE OF SOUTH-SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR COOPERATION

Case of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Sri Lanka

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# Research Objectives

- Expedite digital trade among SMEs through SSTC
- Inclusive regional and free trade agreements to enable digital trade integration
- Optimize inter-operability among public and private sector for digital uptake
- Challenges and opportunities for developing economies to learn and boost SSTC

# Research Methodology

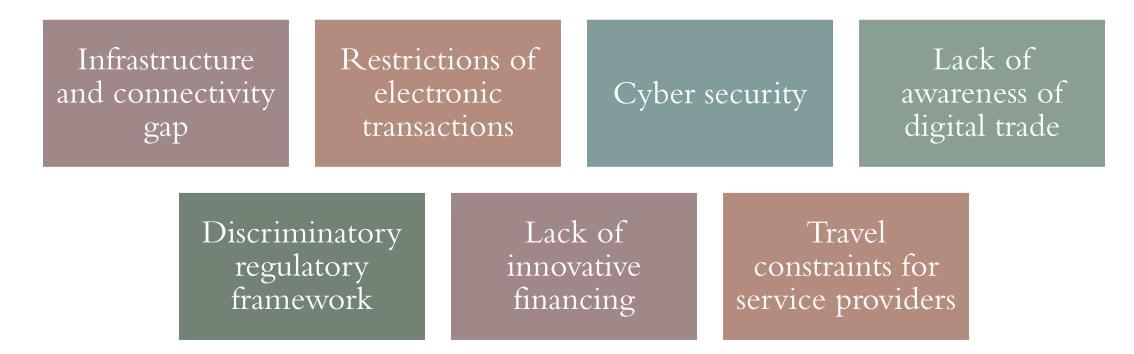
#### Use of mixed –methods approach

- a. Evaluate the existing gaps (definitional and classification)
- b. Application of SSTC in other countries
- c. Examine treatment of digital trade integration in trade agreements
- d. Survey of digital sector firms from all three countries

# Review of Trade Agreements

- Harmonization of standards
- Simplification of banking procedures
- Digital trade platforms
- Data protection, localization, transfer and sharing
- Online consumer protection
- E-commerce and digital payment
- Digital trade in domestic policies

## Pandemic Induced Risks to Digital Trade



Initiate tripartite working group

Improving digital eco-system

Ensure digital inclusion

Recommendations for Reforms in Domestic Policies

Women-in-trade are neglected

Country specific research to unfold the potential of SSTC

Financing of digital trade trade start-ups

Adoption of digital technologies at borders

Challenges in Bilateral and Regional Trade Securing electronic payment services

#### Adopting electronic authentication

Digital logistic mechanism

Electronic measures for trade-related data and documents

### Capacity-building Collaboration in programmes in IT data infrastructure Local and trade Recommendations taxes levied on for SSC and SSTC digital sector

Cross-border investment cooperation

Development of digital/trade occupation taxonomy

and ICT

Special financial

mechanism

## THANK YOU

