



TIME RELEASE STUDY IN GHANA

USAID, through the Feed the Future Ghana Trade and Investment Activity supported the Ghana Revenue Authority Customs Division and trade stakeholders to conduct Ghana's first Time Release Study (TRS) in line with World Customs Organization methodology to assess customs clearance processes and the actual time for cargo clearance at four major locations (Tema Port, KIA, Paga and Aflao Borders). TRS launched on February 2024



BORDER FINDINGS

TEMA PORT

Average release time for **imports**: 10 days, 21 hours & 17 minutes to release cargo from customs control after berthing

Average **transit** (from berthing to release at Tema port) time: 13 days & 32 minutes

Average release time for **exports**: 1 day, 17 hours & 20 minutes

KIA

Average release time for **imports**: 7 days & 14 minutes

Average time for **courier goods release** from customs control after arrival of aircraft: 5 days, 12 hours & 39 minutes

Average release time for **exports**: 1 day, 7 hours & 45 minutes

PAGA BORDER

Average release time for **exports**: 1 day, 3 hours & 22 minutes

AFLAO BORDER

Average release time for **imports** (SGD): 2 hours & 44 minutes

AVERAGE TIME FOR APPROVAL OF LICENSES, PERMITS AND CERTIFICATES

Energy Commission: 3 days, 8 hours & 12 minutes

GNCCI: 4 days, 1 hour & 8 minutes

Environmental Protection Agency: 23 days, 18 hours & 2 minutes

Food and Drugs Authority: 12 days, 23 hours & 44 minutes

RECOMMENDATIONS



Enhance port systems and infrastructure



Improve and simplify the courier process at KIA



Building capacity of border stakeholders for improved cargo clearance.



Optimize cargo management and streamline clearance at the ports

KIA: Kotoka International Airport • SGD: Simplified Goods Declaration - clearance plan designed for small scale cross-border traders with import transactions below \$3000 • GNCCI: Ghana National Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Details of the report can be sourced from: www.gra.gov.gh/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Ghana-Customs-Time-Release-2023.pdf

USAID works with trade stakeholders to reduce the time, effort, and cost of trading across borders by 40%.