Policy gaps, lapse enforcement, and vulnerabilities in supply chains can be exploited by bad actors for the illicit trafficking of dangerous materials, including “dual-use” items that can be used to develop weapons of mass destruction. These vulnerabilities can undermine countries’ abilities to effectively facilitate regional and international trade.

STEP examines the intersection of WMD non-proliferation and trade by engaging partner countries with critical global trade ecosystems in identifying, analyzing, and securing supply chains involving “dual-use” chemical / biological / radiological / nuclear (CBRN) materials.

Stimson Center experts, in collaboration with trade analytics firm NTELX, interface with local public and private stakeholders in partner countries to “dissect” dual-use supply chains by mapping operational and information flows, convening critical government and industry stakeholders, and reviewing regulatory infrastructure.

STEP helps governments and industry acknowledge the symbiosis between local trade and economic development, and global commitments under key nonproliferation mechanisms (i.e. UNSCR 1540). Through this in-depth analysis, STEP offers operational- and policy-level recommendations that strengthen supply chain security while enhancing trade efficiency.

Policy gaps, lapse enforcement, and vulnerabilities in supply chains can be exploited by bad actors for the illicit trafficking of dangerous materials, including “dual-use” items that can be used to develop weapons of mass destruction. These vulnerabilities can undermine countries’ abilities to effectively facilitate regional and international trade.
Beginning in 2019, the STEP team partnered with the Philippine Strategic Trade Management Office (STMO) to develop operational maps, industry outreach resources, and inter-agency coordination strategies to implement the recently passed Strategic Trade Management Act (STMA). By providing these tools, STEP assisted STMO in executing plans to begin export licensing for the country. (Work on imports and transshipment are forthcoming.)

Moreover, STEP facilitated dialogue among select government and industry representatives from the Southeast Asia region to consider recommendations and build consensus on strengthening linkages between security commitments under UNSCR 1540 and trade and economic development goals in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals for the region. These projects have received financial support from Global Affairs Canada and the United States Department of Energy.

**Southeast Asia**

**PHILIPPINES**

Beginning in 2019, the STEP team partnered with the Philippine Strategic Trade Management Office (STMO) to develop operational maps, industry outreach resources, and inter-agency coordination strategies to implement the recently passed Strategic Trade Management Act (STMA). By providing these tools, STEP assisted STMO in executing plans to begin export licensing for the country. (Work on imports and transshipment are forthcoming.)

Moreover, STEP facilitated dialogue among select government and industry representatives from the Southeast Asia region to consider recommendations and build consensus on strengthening linkages between security commitments under UNSCR 1540 and trade and economic development goals in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals for the region. These projects have received financial support from Global Affairs Canada and the United States Department of Energy. For more information, please contact: step@stimson.org

Visit the Stimson Center website: stimson.org