



# Expanding Myanmar's Exports through the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) Program



Deputy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
Executive Office of the President
December 2016

**USAID-funded Private Sector Development Activity** 





# **Presentation Summary**

Overview of the U.S. GSP Program

Myanmar's GSP-eligible exports to the U.S.

How to increase Myanmar's use of duty-free opportunities





# **GSP Program**

- Enhanced access to U.S. market
- Expanded choices for U.S. industries & consumers
- Provides duty-free treatment for about 5,000 products from Myanmar and 122 other countries
- \$17.7 billion in total U.S. GSP imports (2015)
- GSP program authorized through December 2017







## **GSP Program: Eligible Products**

## Eligible

- Many manufactured items & inputs
- Jewelry
- Many agricultural products
- Travel Goods:
   Luggage, handbags, back packs, wallets, pocket goods
- Carpets

## Ineligible

- Most textiles & apparel
- Watches
- Footwear
- Some gloves & leather goods







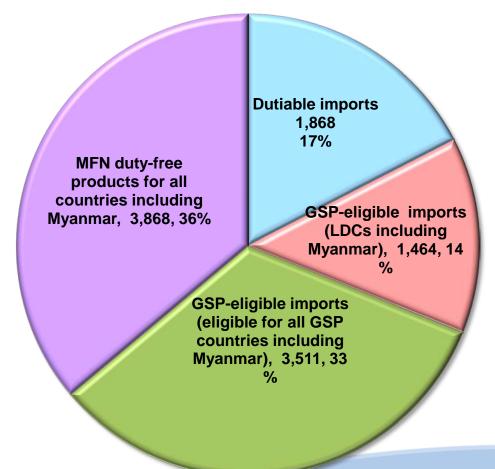








## How many products are eligible for duty-free treatment?









# History of Myanmar GSP

- Myanmar was designated a GSP beneficiary in 1976 when the program was created.
- The US suspended Myanmar from GSP on July 1, 1989.
- Myanmar requested reinstatement in the GSP program in 2013.
- The US determined that Myanmar has made sufficient progress to be eligible for restoration of GSP benefits.
- Myanmar needs to remain in compliance with all GSP criteria, including worker rights, to maintain GSP eligibility.





## U.S. and Myanmar Trade in 2015

- U.S. imports from Myanmar:
- GSP eligible imports: \$37 million (26% of total \$142 million imports);
- This is in addition to MFN duty free: \$50 million (35% of imports)





# Top GSP eligible imports by Harmonized Tariff Schedule chapter from Myanmar in 2015

HTS chapter & Product description	Maximum GSP tariff advantage	Total GSP Value
Chapter 42-Travel goods, handbags, pocket goods	20.00%	\$26,974,852
Chapter 7-Dried beans, lentils and peas	4.9 cents/kg	\$4,898,908
Chapter 4-Honey	1.9 cents/kg	\$2,672,431
Chapter 20-Preserved fruits and vegetables	22.00%	\$552,482
Chapter 76-Articles of aluminum	2.50%	\$527,466





## How to Qualify for Duty-Free Treatment under GSP

Must be a GSP-eligible product

Must be a product or growth of Myanmar according to US Customs Rules

If using inputs from another country (other than GSP ASEAN members), local content & processing must be ≥ 35% of the value

Must import directly into the U.S. w/o entering commerce of another country

Benefit must be claimed by importer

Keep production/accounting records to assist importer to verify GSP claim

**USAID-funded Private Sector Development Activity** 





# Is my product eligible for duty-free treatment under GSP?

The easiest way to find out is to go to:

http://dataweb.usitc.gov/scripts/tariff current.asp

#### List of GSP-eligible products at:

 https://ustr.gov/issue-areas/tradedevelopment/preference-programs/generalized-systempreferences-gsp/gsp-program-i-0







#### United States International Trade Commission

be the s

USITC Home > DataWeb > USITC Tariff Database

#### Contact US

DataWeb Assistance

#### Tariff and Trade DataWeb

- Trade DataWeb Login
- DataWeb FAQ
- DataWeb How To

#### Classification Systems

- Tariff Search Tool
- Classification Systems
- Commodity Translation Wizard
- Description Lookup

#### **Trade Data Reports**

- Graphs of Trends
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- Trade by Geographic Regions
- Trade by Partner Country
- AVE Duties 1891-2015

#### **Tariff Database**

- HTS Online Reference Tool
- Tariff Database
- Tariff Programs
- Tariff DataBase Tables 1997-2016
- Future Tariffs Lookup
- World Tariff Sources

#### Other External Links

Customs Rulings (CROSS)

#### :: 2016 U.S. Tariff and Trade Data for a specific product

Tariff data current through February 25, 2016. This site includes pla year-to-date) import data!

Beans

staged tariff reductions (where applicable) and 3-year (plus

Enter either the first part of an HTS category number up to 8 dig. 3., "8501" or "850110"—, or any part of a product description—e.g. "howing or "articho"—(without the "quotes"!) The earch is not case-sensitive, so the results for "Bovine" will

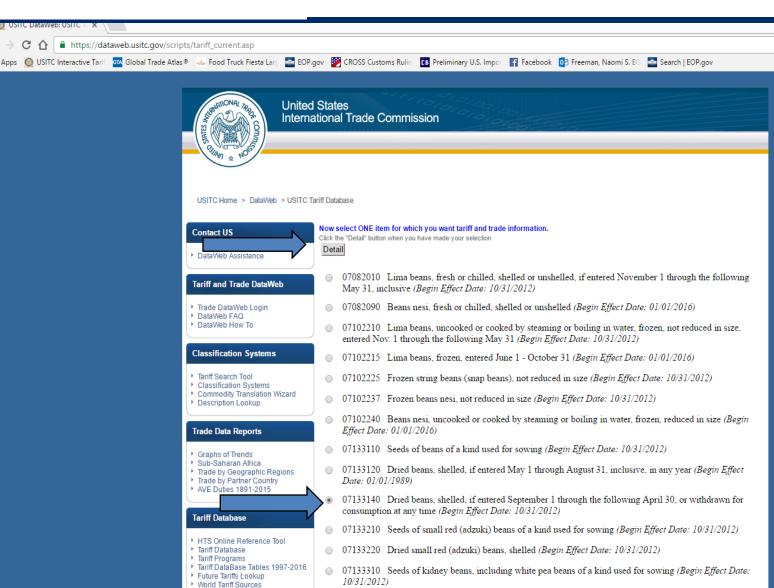
*User note:* While the USITC publishes the HTS, the U.S. Customs Service interprets it. Contact the Customs offices with questions about how potential importations should be classified.

List items

In the brief item descriptions, the abbreviation "NESOI" means not otherwise specified or included.







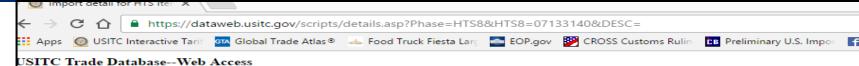
07133320 Dried kidney beans, including white pea beans, shelled, if entered May 1 through August 31,

inclusive, in any year (Begin Effect Date: 10/31/2012)

Other External Links







#### STIC Trade Database-- Web Access

#### US imports for consumption at Customs value for HTS8 07133140:

by sources, in descending value of 2015 imports

US uses "Burma" in statistics

	2013	2014	2015		2016		
Source			Percent January-S		September	Percent change YTD2015- YTD2016	
			of total	of totalthousand dollars			
All sources	\$ 14,028.4	\$ 16,067.3	\$ 17,343.3	100.0%	\$ 10,252.1	\$ 11,810.5	15.2%
China	\$ 4,952.2	\$ 4,267.8	\$ 4,629.9	26.7%	\$ 3,075.0	\$ 3,642.9	18.5%
Thailand	\$ 3,962.7	\$ 4,564.1	\$ 4,544.8	26.2%	\$ 2,490.9	\$ 2,588.1	3.9%
India	\$ 2,188.7	\$ 2,618.6	\$ 3,764.3	21.7%	\$ 2,056.1	\$ 2,406.8	17.1%
Australia	\$ 1,470.1	\$ 1,706.2	\$ 1,748.9	10.1%	\$ 1,087.0	\$ 554.5	-49.0%
Burma	\$ 508.5	\$ 1,022.9	\$ 1,721.9	9.9%	\$ 941.6	\$ 1,894.5	101.2%
United Arab Emirates	\$ 398.1	\$ 696.2	\$ 359.4	2.1%	\$ 303.2	\$ 312.0	2.9%
Sri Lanka	\$ 16.7	\$ 93.8	\$ 152.3	0.9%	\$ 0.0	\$ 245.6	
Mexico	\$ 73.3	\$ 812.4	\$ 117.5	0.7%	\$ 117.5	\$ 0.0	-100.0%
Canada	\$ 3.3	\$ 56.1	\$ 83.9	0.5%	\$ 33.0	\$ 15.7	-52.4%
Tanzania	\$ 132.0	\$ 41.2	\$ 33.8	0.2%	\$ 21.5	\$ 0.0	-100.0%
Singapore	\$ 38.3	\$ 0.0	\$ 32.9	0.2%	\$ 32.9	\$ 13.1	-60.2%
Argentina	\$ 67.0	\$ 61.4	\$ 32.1	0.2%	\$ 13.3	\$ 30.2	127.1%
Hong Kong	\$ 28.6	\$ 24.9	\$ 28.8	0.2%	\$ 19.8	\$ 16.2	-18.2%
Greece	\$ 32.1	\$ 31.2	\$ 28.7	0.2%	\$ 15.3	\$ 40.3	163.4%
Nicaragua	\$ 0.0	\$ 0.0	\$ 24.3	0.1%	\$ 24.3	\$ 0.0	-100.0%
Ukraine	\$ 0.0	\$ 0.0	\$ 7.2	0.0%	\$ 7.2	\$ 0.0	-100.0%
Taiwan	\$ 7.3	\$ 11.1	\$ 6.2	0.0%	\$ 6.2	\$ 2.4	-61.3%
Jordan	\$ 0.0	\$ 0.0	\$ 5.4	0.0%	\$ 0.0	\$ 0.0	





2016 O.S. Iarm and made Data for a specific product 2016 Tariff and Most Recent Annual U.S. Import Information

-	2016 Tariff and Most Recent Annual U.S. Import Information						
	HTS Number	07133140					
	Brief Description	Dried beans, shelled, if entered September 1 through the following April 30, or withdrawn for consumption at any time					
	Customs value of recent U.S. imports for consumption						
	Click for more detail on imports by source of tariff program or imports by U.S. Customs d imports by statistical suffix (HTS10)	2015 imports (thousand dollars) \$ 17,343.3					
		Tariff Treatment					
	Beginning Effective Date (most recent date a item's tariff treatment changed)	any part of this HTS	10/31/2012				
	Ending Effective Date (date <i>any</i> part of this scheduled for tariff treatment change)	HTS item is next	12/31/2050				
	1st Unit of Quantity (Q1)		Kilograms				
	2nd Unit of Quantity (Q2)						
		MFN Text Rate	0.3 cents/kg				
		Duty calculation	(Specific rate) times (Q1)				
	2016 Normal Trade Relations (NTR) duty rate (formerly known as the Most Favored Nation (MFN) duty rate)	Ad Valorem (percent of value) component	0%				
		Specific (per unit) component	\$0.003				
		Other duty component	\$0				
		Binding Status	Bound in World Trade Organization				
		COL2 Text Rate	6.6 cents/kg				
		Duty calculation	(Specific rate) times (Q1)				
	Column 2" (non-NTR) duty rate Applies to imports from a small number of countries that do not enjoy NTR duty status)	Ad Valorem (percent of value) component	0%				
		Specific (per unit) component	\$0.06				
		Other duty component	\$0				
Preferential (duty-free or reduced rate) tariff program applicability to this HTS item							
		Status	Eligible: code "A"				
	GSP (Generalized System of Preferences)	Countries Excluded from GSP eligibility on this item					
	Civil Aircraft Agreement Preference		Not eligible				
	Tariff concession on Dyes		Not eligible				
	CBL or CBERA (Caribbean Racin	Status	Eligible: code "E"				





## GSP Eligible Textiles and Apparel

Silk fabrics and apparel including dresses, women's suits, scarves,

Hand-loomed cotton fabrics

Many types of gloves and mittens

National flags



Hand-loomed and hand-hooked carpets





# **GSP Eligible Travel Goods**

 23 HTS lines were added for Least Developed Countries on July 1, 2016. Your exports have been growing rapidly!







### HTS - 42029245: Travel, sports and similar bags with outer surface of plastic sheeting

Country	2014	2015	YTD 9/15	YTD 9/16		
Country	In Actual Dollars					
China	417,579,059	392,790,812	294,918,190	283,328,000		
Vietnam	70,790,477	65,560,231	53,189,230	43,786,668		
France	41,625,451	37,470,626	23,628,171	42,964,095		
Philippines	8,720,811	25,097,003	18,945,871	30,165,426		
Italy	4,758,052	7,061,399	3,746,083	8,142,136		
Cambodia	1,778,384	5,833,294	4,387,873	5,905,663		
	280,741	5,274,859	2,608,949	5,714,817		
Mexico	5,413,100	4,551,171	3,501,101	2,866,480		
Bangladesh	2,774,639	3,953,575	2,385,876	5,568,769		
Indonesia	4,593,666	3,734,169	2,640,517	5,676,959		
Spain	8,149,199	2,828,157	1,555,072	2,552,371		
Hong Kong	1,629,739	2,815,630	2,251,699	2,226,974		
Taiwan	1,436,514	934,304	676,949	701,280		
Costa Rica	330,674	639,974	438,813	239,504		
Korea	298,169	612,521	239,431	564,867		
United Kingdom	305,679	513,201	328,800	172,280		
Malaysia	10,443	465,097	464,829	1,186		







TOTAL	2014	2015	First 9 months of 2016
TOTAL	\$1,339,178	\$26,427,926	\$49,822,640





### **Beyond Duty savings:**

Exports from any country need to be *competitive*:

- Quality control
- Rapid order fulfillment
- Able to adjust to new requirements quickly
- High Labor Standards







## How to Increase Duty-Free Imports into the U.S.







# Identifying & Developing Potential U.S. Buyers

- Depends on size, sector, experience
- Understanding the US market
- What kind of relationship: agent, distributor, partner, join t venture
- Best leads: your own network!
- Trade shows







## **Petition Process to Add New Products**

Product must not be excluded by statute (e.g., apparel)

**Submit petition during Annual Review** 

Provide the information required by the regulations





# For Further Information

#### **GSP General Information:**

 https://ustr.gov/issue-areas/tradedevelopment/preference-programs/generalizedsystem-preference-gsp

U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Customs and Border Protection (CBP):

http://www.cbp.gov





# For Further Information

### **U.S. Tariff Schedule:**

- <a href="http://usitc.gov/tata/hts/bychapter/index.htm">http://usitc.gov/tata/hts/bychapter/index.htm</a>
- See esp. General Note 4.

### **U.S. Tariff Databases:**

• <a href="http://www.usitc.gov/tariff">http://www.usitc.gov/tariff</a> affairs/tariff</a> databases.htm





# For Further Information

### **U.S. Food and Drug Administration:**

http://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/FDABasicsforIndustry/default.h
 tm

### **Questions on GSP?**

• USTR contact: gsp@ustr.eop.gov or + 1-202-395-2974



# Worker Rights in Myanmar

- GSP eligibility criteria require that beneficiary countries are "taking steps to afford internationally recognized worker rights"
- "Internationally recognized worker rights" are defined as:
  - a) the right of association;
  - b) the right to organize and bargain collectively;
  - c) a prohibition on the use of any form of forced or compulsory labor;
  - d) a minimum age for the employment of children; and
  - e) acceptable conditions of work with respect to minimum wages, hours of work, and occupational safety and health.
- Beneficiary countries must also implement their commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.



# Worker Rights Looking Ahead

- Link between trade and labor as drivers of inclusive economic growth
- Avoiding a "race to the bottom" and the Initiative to Promote Fundamental Labor Rights and Practices in Myanmar
- Attracting increased investment and sourcing from Myanmar through labor reform
  - Labor Organizations Law
  - Settlement of Labor Disputes Law
  - Occupational Safety and Health Law
  - Elimination of Forced Labor



# High Labor Standards and Competitiveness

- Opportunity to build Myanmar's reputation as an ethical sourcing destination
- US buyers look to good labor standards to avoid reputational risk
- Workforce stability and increase in worker productivity





# Thank you!

