Kosovo's Export Opportunities through GSP

Marideth Sandler Office of the U.S. Trade Representative Executive Office of the President March 2009







Overview of the U.S. GSP Program

How to increase Kosovo's use of duty-free opportunities available under GSP

U.S. and Kosovo Trade

 Kosovo became a U.S. GSP beneficiary in December 2008.

The U.S. wants to become a destination for more Kosovar exports through stronger trade.

How to export more to the U.S. from Kosovo: <u>through</u> Kosovo's use of GSP duty-free opportunities

Our goal is to help Kosovo's exporters use GSP to increase trade and to diversify Kosovo's exports.



 Gives enhanced access to U.S. for developing countries' products and expanded choices for U.S. industries and consumers

Provides duty-free treatment for over 3,400 types of products from 131 countries

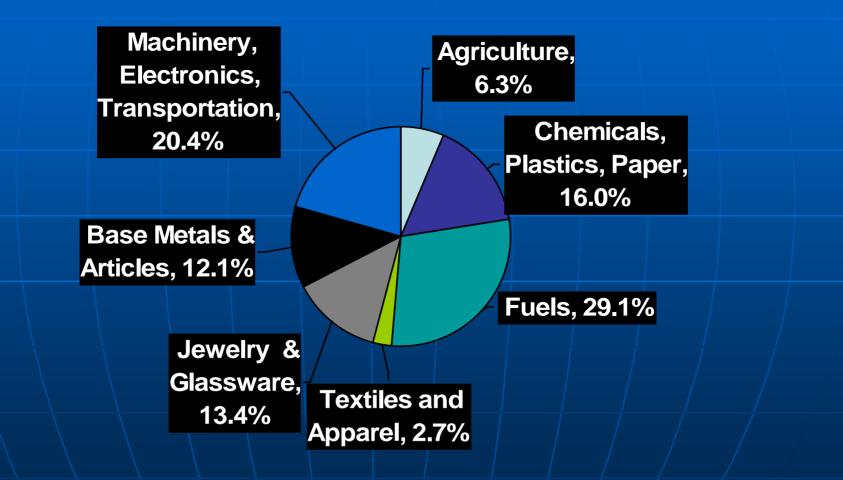
\$31.7 billion in total U.S. GSP imports (2008)

 The GSP program has been renewed through December 31, 2009.

GSP-Eligible Exports

Eligible: manufactured items and inputs, jewelry, electronics, some agricultural products, carpets, some textiles and apparel, chemicals, marble, and minerals Ineligible: most textiles and apparel, watches, footwear, handbags, luggage, gloves and leather goods

Exports entering the U.S. under GSP



<u>How to Qualify for Duty-Free</u> <u>Treatment under GSP</u>

1. Must be a GSP-eligible product

- 2. Must be exported into the U.S. directly from Kosovo or pass through another country on a through bill of lading
- 3. Must be a product of Kosovo
- 4. If the product includes imported input, the cost of the local content and processing must equal 35% of the product's price.

<u>Is my product eligible for duty-free</u> <u>treatment under GSP?</u>

The easiest way to find out is to go to: <u>http://dataweb.usitc.gov/scripts/tariff_current.asp</u>

Fill in the blank with:

- Any part of a product description. For example, "jam" OR
- The tariff number (four, six, or eight numbers). For example, 2007, 200799, or 20079925

Then click on "List Items"



U.S. importer MUST REQUEST duty-free treatment for the import

How? Importer writes an "A" before the tariff number on Customs entry form 7501

If importer forgets: can apply to U.S. Customs for refund

Make sure importer marks an "A" before the tariff number on the form!

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Remind the U.S. importer that your product is eligible for duty-free entry under GSP and to mark "A" on U.S. Customs Entry Form

 Keep good records (cost of production; where produced; if using imported components – where they are from and their cost)

<u>Phyto-sanitary & Sanitary</u> <u>Requirements</u>

- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates <u>all</u> food (except most beef and poultry), cosmetics, biologics, drugs & some electronics.
- Product requirements: pure & wholesome; safe to eat; produced under sanitary conditions; informative & truthful labels in English
- Importer files notice and bond to Customs, which contacts FDA: a test may be needed
- Bioterrorism Act: registry of foreign facilities with FDA, including producers, that export food

Ways to increase Kosovo's exports using GSP benefits

- 1. Identify potential exports by looking at products that are eligible for GSP duty-free treatment.
- Review what Kosovo is exporting globally that may be eligible for GSP duty-free treatment into the U.S.
- 3. Look at what Kosovo's neighbors are exporting to the U.S. under GSP.

Kosovo's Current Exports

- In January 2009, Kosovo exported \$33,000 in fuel oil to the United States. It is not eligible for GSP.
- But Kosovo already exports certain products elsewhere that may be eligible for GSP duty-free treatment into the United States.
- The following slide highlights several categories of exports that include GSP-eligible products.

Current Exports to the EU that may be GSP-eligible into the U.S. Beverages such as waters and fruit juices Mineral and chemical products Machinery, appliances, and electric products Base metals and products of base metals Transportation equipment

<u>GSP-eligible wood items of</u> <u>export interest to Kosovo</u>

- Plywood sheets: can save 8% duty
 Baskets/bags of willow: 5.8%
- Wood forks & spoons: 5.3%
- Wood walking sticks, handles, parts: 5.2%
- Wood tools & handles: 5.1%
- Wood doors: 4.8%
- Inlaid wood articles: 3.2%
- Wood windows & frames: 3.2%
- Wood tableware/kitchenware: 3.2%
- Wood statues & ornaments: 3.2%
- Parts of wood footwear: 2.6%

<u>GSP-eligible wood items of</u> <u>export interest to Kosovo</u>

- Wood cases & boxes (large): 10.7%
- Wood pallets: 10.7%
- Wood blinds & shutters: 5.1%-10.7%
- Wood building materials: saves 3.2 to 8% in duties
- Assembled wood flooring panels: 3.2%-8%
- Wood chests & cases: 4.3%
- Wood frames for paintings/mirrors/etc: 3.9%
- Wood tubs: 3.2%
- Builders' joinery & carpentry: 3.2%

Neighboring Countries' Use GSP

(2008)

Croatia (#23):

\$69.7 million in exports entered the U.S. under GSP – 26% of all exports to the U.S.

Macedonia (#30):

\$32 million in exports entered the United States (U.S.) under GSP – 43% of all of its exports to the U.S.

<u>Products Exported by Kosovo's</u> <u>Neighbors under GSP</u>

- Dried fennel, marjoram & tarragon (saved 1.9%)
- Spices (saved 1.9%)
- Vegetable fats and oils (saved 3.2%)
- Mineral & other waters (saved 0.2 0.26 cts/l)
- Sauces and preparations (saved 6.4%)
- Chewing gum (saved 4%)
- Soups, broths & preparations (saved 3.2%)
- Jams (saved 5.6%)
- Frozen raspberries, loganberries, black currents and gooseberries (saved 4.5%)
- Frozen blackberries, mulberries, currants (saved 9%)

<u>Products Exported by Kosovo's</u> <u>Neighbors under GSP</u>

- Furskin apparel and accessories (saved 4%)
- Ferrosilicon manganese (saved 3.9%)
- Copper-zinc alloy tubes & pipes (saved 1.4%)
- Drilling machines (saved 4.2%)
- Parts for measuring & regulating instruments (saved 1.7%)
- Metal armored safes, doors, lockers (saved 3.8%)
- Miscellaneous lead articles (saved 3%)
- Gold necklaces & other jewelry (saved 5.5%)

For GSP Information in Kosovo:

U.S. Embassy in Pristina:

- http://pristina.usembassy.gov/
- Valerie Bilgri Holm <u>Bilgri-HolmVK@state.gov</u>

 Foreign Agricultural Service:
 Hoa Nguyen (Sofia): <u>Hoa.Huynh@fas.usda.gov</u>

For Further Information

- Office of the U.S. Trade Representative GSP Website: <u>http://www.ustr.gov/Trade_Development/Preference_Programs/GSP/Section_Index.html</u>
- Customs & Border Protection: http://www.customs.gov/xp/cgov/import/
 - CUSTOMS FORM 7501: <u>https://forms.customs.gov/customsrf/getformharness.asp</u> ?formName=cf-7501-form.xft
 - <u>http://www.customs.treas.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/</u> <u>publications/</u>

For Further Information

U.S. Tariff Schedule:

http://www.usitc.gov/tata/hts

U.S. Department of Commerce Trade Information Center:

- <u>http://www.trade.gov/td/tic/</u>
- Email counseling: tic@ita.doc.gov



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OR go to http://www.unctad.org and type in "GSP" in the search window in the top right corner of the home page







Falemenderit! Hvala!



