

Border Trade Companion

Capstone 55 · TradeTech · Talodabi Academy

1 · Project overview

Preparation companion for one Nigerian cross-border trade corridor.

Deliverable	Full mobile MVP in Figma (not code)
Platform	Mobile app · Android-first · portrait
Screens	11 screens + 1 unhappy path (12 frames)
Features	3 core features
Bottom navigation	Routes · Checklist · Costs · Profile
Prototype	4 linked flows

Build order: Auth (screens 1–4) → nav tabs (5–8) → core flow (9–11) → unhappy path → link prototypes.

2 · Problem & primary user

Small Nigerian traders moving goods to nearby African markets rely on agents and old chat messages for route requirements. Rules, forms, and likely costs need visible sources and review dates.

Primary user

"Tunde, a 34-year-old clothing maker in Lagos preparing his first wholesale delivery to Cotonou."

Geographic scope: National-level

3 · Goals

User goal: Choose a route and complete a current preparation checklist before handing goods to a logistics partner.

Business goal: Trader associations, logistics partners, and export-support programs pay for route guidance.

Success: Trader selects a route and completes a source-dated document and cost checklist.

4 · Market context

QUESTION	ANSWER
Who pays	Trader associations, logistics partners, and export-support programs pay for route guidance.
Why not WhatsApp	Traders ask agents in chats, but requirements vary by route and old advice stays in circulation.
Design focus	Route-specific document checklist and cost worksheet with visible source and last-reviewed date.

Competitors to check:

- **Agent or clearing contact** (default)
- **Government trade pages** (fragmented)
- **Paper document checklist** (not route-aware)

5 · Validate before you design

Interview 3–5 people who match your primary user. Update this brief if interviews contradict it. Do not start hi-fi until you complete the confirmation below.

FIELD	YOUR ANSWER
Validated user (name, age, city)	
Problem in one sentence	
One interview quote	
Success metric for your test	
Primary colour and tone	
One competitor you checked	

Interview prompts

- "Walk me through the last time this happened."
- "What did you use instead? WhatsApp, paper, or nothing?"
- "What would make you trust this on a cheap Android phone?"
- "What would stop you from using this every week?"

6 · Features & scope

v1 · three features

1. Choose goods category and cross-border route
2. Complete a source-dated document checklist
3. Build a cost worksheet with confirmed and estimated items

Out of scope

- Customs clearance guarantee
- Cross-border payment processing
- Freight marketplace

7 • Screens

Design every row in wireframe, high-fidelity UI, and prototype (where the flow applies).

#	LAYER	SCREEN	WHAT TO SHOW
1	Auth	Splash Screen	App logo, name, and tagline for Border Trade Companion.
2	Auth	Onboarding (1 screen)	Explain the app in one sentence. One Get Started button.
3	Auth	Sign Up Screen	Name, phone number, state, and PIN. No email required.
4	Auth	Sign In Screen	Phone number and PIN. Forgot PIN link.
5	App shell	Routes (tab)	Nigeria-to-neighbour corridor cards with goods-category filters. Show bottom nav with Routes active.
6	App shell	Checklist (tab)	Route-specific documents with source link and last-reviewed date. Show bottom nav with Checklist active.
7	App shell	Costs (tab)	Worksheet separating official fee, logistics quote, and user estimate. Show bottom nav with Costs active.
8	App shell	Profile (tab)	Trader name, goods category, base city, and saved routes. Show bottom nav with Profile active.
9	Core flow	Route · Selected	Corridor and goods category selected. Show bottom nav on post-sign-in screens.
10	Core flow	Checklist · Ready	Source-dated requirements completed for the route. Show bottom nav on post-sign-in screens.
11	Core flow	Costs · Summary	Official, quoted, and estimated costs kept separate. Show bottom nav on post-sign-in screens.

Layers: Auth = 1–4 · App shell = 5–8 · Core flow = 9–11

8 · Prototype flows

Link these in Figma. Examiners should click through without your voice-over.

Flow 1 · App entry

Splash → Onboarding → Sign Up or Sign In → first main tab

Flow 2 · Core task (all three features)

Sign In → Routes tab → Route selected → Checklist tab → Ready → Costs tab

Core flow screens: Route · Selected · Checklist · Ready · Costs · Summary

Flow 3 · Navigation

Link every nav tab so examiners can tap each bottom nav item. Tabs: Routes · Checklist · Costs · Profile

Flow 4 · Unhappy path

Trigger the unhappy path edge case and link to that screen.

9 · Unhappy path

Design this as its own screen state (frame 12):

A requirement is under review. Show: Confirm with the named authority or licensed agent before travel.

Link in **Flow 4**.

10 · Design system

RULE	DETAIL
Colour	You choose. Keep it simple and readable.
Type	You choose. Keep body text easy to read on a phone.
Tone	Design for your user, not for a tech audience.

Reuse on every screen:

- Primary button (active and disabled states)

- Input field (empty, filled, and error states)
- Card or list item used across the app
- Navigation bar with correct labels and icons
- Empty state: what the screen looks like with no data

11 • Submit & defense

Deliverables

#	DELIVERABLE	WHAT GOOD LOOKS LIKE
1	Wireframes	Every screen in this brief, plus the unhappy path. Layout and labels clear.
2	High-fidelity UI	Same frames polished. You choose colour and type. Bottom nav on every post-sign-in screen.
3	Prototype	Four linked flows (entry, core task, navigation, unhappy path). Examiners can use the app without your voice-over.
4	AI prototype	Figma Make: at least 2 screens. Share link.
5	Case study (1 page)	Problem · User · Who pays · Competitors · Solution · One design decision
6	Presentation (6–8 slides)	Name · Problem · User · Solution · Key screens · Flow demo · One decision

Before you present

- ☐ Every screen designed in wireframe and hi-fi
- ☐ Unhappy path screen designed and linked in the prototype
- ☐ Four prototype flows linked end to end
- ☐ At least one empty state on a list tab
- ☐ Shared components reused: button, input, card or row, bottom nav
- ☐ Case study names who pays and one competitor you checked
- ☐ You can explain one design decision in critique (why, not what)
- ☐ Completed 5 user interviews or 1 usability test
- ☐ Checked at least one competitor listed under Market context