



PAGE 4: B.1) YOUR CASE STORY: TITLE AND DESCRIPTION

Q1: TITLE OF CASE STORY

Success story of implementing ASYCUDA++ in the Republic Yemen

Q2: CASE STORY ABSTRACT

The case story demonstrates how Aid-for -Trade embodied in introducing ASYCUDA++ to Yemen has not only saved time and money for the public when dealing with customs declarations and release of goods but also helped to raise customs revenues, provide timely and cost effective information for a host of other public sector institutions such as the Ministry of Finance, Central Bank , Central statistics Office and which helped them to formulate their policies and strategies based on information based on ASYCUDA++.

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Q3: LONG DESCRIPTION OF THE CASE STORY

The Automated System for Customs Data is a computerized system designed by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to administer a country's customs.

ASYCUDA ++ was first introduced to Yemen in the year 2000. DFID, UNDP and the government of Yemen contributed to financially to introducing the system to Yemen.

In 2001 ASYCUDA ++ was introduced to Sanaa Airport as a pilot project , in 2005 it was extended to Aden and by 2014 in had been installed in 20-24 customs entry points around the country.

The objective of ASYCUDA ++ was to modernize customs procedures and to mainstream documents. The system was operated under the supervision of operators some of whom were permanently stationed in Yemen and IT experts who came in and out of the country to train personal according to needs.

ASYCUDA made a huge difference in terms of saving time, money and effort; the number of signatures that were required per customs declaration prior to ASYDUDA averaged 26. Following the introduction of ASYCUDA, that figure went down to between 2 and 4 signatures.

It took about a week to one month to complete a declaration and release goods prior to ASYCUDA, following its installment, goods could be released within 4 hours as long as all other requisite documents were intact.

The system increased the level of revenues the Customs Authority generated due quicker customs release, decrease in the number of paper work, decrease in the workforce and bolstered its ability to obtain information.

ASYCUDA, which also referred to in Yemen as the automated system, provided accurate, timely and cost effective statistics to a host of beneficiaries. ASYDUDA was also beneficial for stakeholders for example; customs agent could lodge their Customs Declarations from their offices without having to attend in person and thus saved money and time when dealing with the customs offices.

The system enabled the Central Bank and Ministry of Finance to acquire accurate data about the movement of goods in and out of the country and enabled them to formulate financial and monetary policies based on sound information.

Asycuda enabled the Central Statistics office to acquire valuable and timely information about the volume of goods imported and exported into and out of the country.

The taxation office benefited from ASYDUDA by having access to the transactions conducted by the business community and thus enabled it to apply tax rates and General Sales Tax objectively.

There is no doubt that ASYCUDA has made a big difference to how the Customs Authority functions and is considered a success story that donors and their tax payers would be happy to know that their contribution made a difference to people's lives.

Posing challenges:

ASYCUDA is facing challenges in Yemen because of its decentralized nature. The Customs Authority which is the nerve center depends on ASYCUDA installed in the customs entry points for the bulk of its information and consequently difficulties in communications in Yemen whether the telephones or frequent electricity blackouts all constitute impediments to information collection. The Customs Authority is hoping that future future Aid for Trade includes upgrading of ASYCUDA ++ to ASYCUDA World which would resolve some the difficulties faced at the moment.

Q4: Please add here web links to project/programme materials.

www.customs.gov.ye

PUBLIC SECTOR CASE STORY TEMPLATE

Q5: YOUR CONTACT DETAILS	
Name:	mohammed
Ministry/Institution/Organization:	Ministry of Industry and Trade
Country:	Yemen
Email Address:	mohammed.humaid@gmail.com
Q6: FUNCTION	Public sector
Q7: FUNDING PARTNER Tick the appropriate box(es)	Multilateral organization
Q8: Additional information	
<p>The case story relates to the Customs Authority. I am the Enhanced Integrated Framework National Implementation Unit Coordinator.</p> <p>The source of the case story originated from the Customs Authority. for further information you may contact Mr. Fadhel al-Ban, the Director General of the Public Relations and International Cooperation at the Customs authority Email address (fadhil.alban@customs.gov.ye)</p>	
Q9: START DATE OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME	2001
Q10: STATUS OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME	Fully implemented
Q11: DURATION OR, IF ON-GOING, EXPECTED DURATION OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME	More than 5 years
Q12: COST OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME	Between US\$1 million and US\$5 million
Q13: Additional information	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q14: TYPE OF FUNDING FOR PROJECT/PROGRAMME	Grant

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Q15: PROJECT/PROGRAMME TYPE	Single country / customs territory
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Q16: SINGLE COUNTRY/CUSTOMS TERRITORY	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
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Q17: REGION (If the region does not appear in the drop down menu, please enter manually.)	North Africa and the Middle East
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Q18: MULTI-COUNTRY (Enter all countries or customs territories)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
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Q19: CASE STORY FOCUS Tick the appropriate box(es)	REDUCING TRADE COSTS FOR MERCHANDISE GOODS , REDUCING TRADE COSTS FOR SERVICES
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Q20: HOW SUCCESSFUL WAS THE PROJECT/PROGRAMME Tick the appropriate box(es)	Very successful
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Q21: WHAT WERE THE OUTPUTS OF THE PROJECT/PROGRAMME Tick the appropriate box(es)	Officials trained, Customs laws amended or updated, New customs procedures, New other border agency procedure, New border equipment (e.g. scanner), New border infrastructure (e.g. customs offices, storage, etc.)
Q22: Additional information (maximum 300 words)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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Q23: WHAT WERE THE OUTCOMES OF YOUR PROJECT/PROGRAMME Tick the appropriate box(es)	Reduction in ship dwell time, Reduction in customs clearance time, Reduction in other border agency clearance time , Reduction in cost of customs clearance , Increase in merchandise imports, Increase in merchandise exports, Increase in shipping volumes
Q24: Additional information(maximum 300 words)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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Q25: WHAT WERE THE IMPACTS OF THE PROJECT/PROGRAMME Tick the appropriate box(es)	Reduction in employment, Increase in remittances, Import market diversification, Increase in consumer welfare
Q26: Additional information(maximum 300 words)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

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Q27: LESSONS LEARNT Tick the appropriate box(es)	Importance of good project design, Importance of alignment with national priorities , Importance of alignment between different development partners in programming , Importance of engagement by private sector , Importance of agreeing clear project implementation responsibilities , Importance of agreeing clear project monitoring and evaluation process and procedures , Importance of agreed accountability frameworks , Importance of attention to long-term sustainability , Importance of political will and commitment by project partner
Q28: Additional information(maximum 300 words)	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q29: PROJECT OR PROGRAMME MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK Tick the appropriate box(es)	M&E framework used, Project baselines set, Simple before and after comparison