

## System Deployment in SIDS

ASYCUDA conducted a Proof-of-Concept study in Kiribati to develop a specific approach for the deployment of ASYCUDAWorld in Small Island Developing States' and smaller Customs administrations

**KIRIBATI** 

## • Situation

With the bigger economies in the Pacific (Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu) adopting ASYCUDA systems, misconception prevailed that ASYCUDA was "too complex" for Pacific SIDS (P-SIDS). While limited systems served their purpose for a time, most Customs administrations sought a more integrated automated system to support their operations as countries looked to establish trade agreements.



Customs administrations in the Pacific faced the same challenges brought by increasing volume of global trade, exacerbated by the absence of a commensurate increase in resources. The Oceania Customs Organization, gathering 25 countries, sought UNCTAD's assistance to conduct a Proof-of-Concept activity in a smaller Customs administration like Kiribati where the need for reform and automation should not be compromised by manpower, financial and technological constraints.



The Proof-of-Concept activity highlighted that many basic Customs procedures were not fully automated and often ran in parallel with manual processes. Findings indicated that the ASYCUDA system can support entire Customs clearance procedures in smaller Customs administrations where resources are limited. It is expected to increase efficiency and shorten time for clearance thanks to functionalities and features such as:

- Electronic remote lodgement of declarations
- · Linked declaration and manifest
- · Linked declaration and payment
- Customized management reports to meet Kiribati and regional formats.

In 2019, UNCTAD signed grant agreements with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia and New Zealand to deploy ASYCUDA in six P-SIDS, including Kiribati in 2021.

will deploy ASYCUDA under the PACER-Plus Agreement: Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Tonga and Tuvalu

This photo was taken before the COVID19 pandemic



ASYCUDA is proven to enhance many Customs administrations in the Pacific regions in their data quality, revenue collections, border security, trade facilitation and harmonization of information to be exchanged among their neighboring countries.

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