Lebanon Customs opted for a private cloud computing solution to host ASYCUDAWorld and related applications.

**Situation**

A 24/7 availability of ASYCUDAWorld is a main concern of Lebanese Customs. The data centre hosting it was outdated and there were risks of failure of Customs servers. The costs linked to the data centre for electricity, cooling and hardware maintenance were very high.

**Solution**

Lebanese Customs fully implemented private cloud computing inside the Customs premises without hiring any cloud provider. It was implemented over two data centres and allows for:

- Ease of creating new demilitarized zones for increased security
- Automatic relocation of any server without any human intervention
- Reduction of power consumption, cooling expenditure and maintenance cost
- Ease of allocation of resources (e.g. CPU, memory, storage, network)
- Protection from any unpredicted failure (e.g. power supply, server crash, network problems).

**Result**

The 2020 Beirut blast caused Lebanese Customs to lose half of its IT power, and archive of critical hard copy documents (manifests, declarations). Thanks to the blast-tolerant private Customs cloud, ASYCUDAWorld and electronic services kept running. Customs did not lose any data or transaction, and no servers needed to be recreated or reconfigured. Lebanese Customs was also able to retrieve its lost documents from ASYCUDAWorld. The system is expediting imports of humanitarian goods into the country and helping Customs authorities better manage increased incoming relief consignments.

*Shamika Sirimanne, UNCTAD’s Director of Division on Technology and Logistics*
Total Number of Customs Offices

- 24 Computerized
- 0 Paper-based

Volume of Activity (2019)
- 228,925 Import Declarations
- 68,713 Export Declarations

Exports (2019)
- 19.6 Billion US$

Imports (2019)
- 4.8 Billion US$

Customs annual revenue evolution (Billion Lebanese pound)
- 2016: 706
- 2017: 742
- 2018: 745

Lead time to export
- 2010: 3.5 Days
- 2016: 1 Day

Sources:
- UNCTADstat
- WCO Annual Report 2019–2020
- World Bank Collection of development indicators