Sierra Leone Customs progressively migrated to ASYCUDAWorld, temporarily running two systems in parallel, without disrupting the business environment

**Situation**

The migration from ASYCUDA++ to ASYCUDAWorld demanded a national project team fully dedicated to this purpose. Owing to resource limitations, the team assigned to the project was still managing services in the old system. There was an urgent need to optimize the available resources to achieve the project objective.

**Solution**

To optimize availability of resources without causing business disruptions, Customs opted for a progressive implementation of ASYCUDAWorld in Customs offices. Furthermore, Customs business processes were reviewed and redesigned to be simple, easy and uniform; and data, was migrated to ASYCUDAWorld.

**Result**

ASYCUDAWorld was implemented along with several added functionalities and designed to roll out a Single Window System by the end of 2020. The following were achieved in Sierra Leone incrementally as ASYCUDAWorld was rolled-out in 2019:

- Shortened Customs clearance time of commercial imports (27 hours in 2019)
- Paperless operations leading to significant savings in printing documents
- Electronic loading of manifests by shipping agents leading to reduced waiting time for clearance of imported goods
- Capture of declarations for petroleum and wet cargo, boosting Customs revenue and providing accurate data of petroleum products imports
- Systems notifications to different stakeholders to improve transparency
- Centralization of Customs offices in one server reducing maintenance and hardware costs
- Simplified monitoring of transit enabling end-to-end visibility of the exit of goods
- Reduced risks of diversion of consignments in transit into the domestic market of Sierra Leone.

**Increase of revenue**

*46% Increase of revenue in 2018–2019 following the progressive ASYCUDAWorld rollout*

This photo was taken before the COVID19 pandemic.

Sierra Leone's ASYCUDAWorld System was implemented along with added functionalities as demanded by the Management of the National Revenue Authority. It was also designed to roll out an Electronic Single Window System for clearance of goods through Customs.

*Jeneba J. Bangura, CPA, MPA, Deputy Commissioner-General NRA, Sierra Leone, West Africa*

**Partners:**

[Image of NRA and World Bank Group logos]
Total Number of Customs Offices

- 12 Total
- 5 Computerized
- 7 Paper-based

Volume of Activity (2019)

- 2,639 Customs Manifests
- 27,608 Customs Waybills
- 26,795 Import Declarations
- 1,013 Export Declarations
- 2,197 Transit Declarations

Exports (2019)
- 250 Million US$

Imports (2019)
- 1,160 Million US$

Customs annual revenue evolution (Million US$)

- 101 in 2017
- 130 in 2018
- 191 in 2019

Persons Trained

- 208 Men
- 270 Women
- 62 Women