NATION BUILDING

The partnership between the government of Timor Leste and UNCTAD coupled with the government's strong commitment to nation building contributes to reliable institutions.

SITUATION

Upon regaining independence in 2002, Timor-Leste quickly sought to put in place essential government institutions & services as part of its nation-building efforts. Despite initial success of the UNCTAD-assisted Customs Reform and Automation Project, challenges persisted due to changes in customs management and staff as well as instances of unrest and demonstrations that impacted the government's trade support services and operations.

SOLUTION

The Timor Leste government demonstrated long term commitment to develop its institutions and UNCTAD's ASYCUDA programme support led to a reliable and stable automated customs clearance environment. Though there were periods of setbacks, notably in 2006-2007, overall the automated customs clearance process has been maintained and further improved with only minor disruptions. It continues to contribute to the economic growth of the country.

RESULT

The success of the joint Government-ASYCUDA programme initiative(s) towards establishing a reliable customs clearance environment in Timor Leste was the result of the commitment by both government officials and leaders as well as ASYCUDA team members. Among the achievements are:

- Implementation of streamlined automated customs system ASYCUDA++ shortly after the country's independence;
- Restoration and maintenance of the online automated customs clearance process under difficult circumstances and a challenging security environment;
- Implementation of Phase 2 of the ASYCUDA project including strategic planning, trainings, process mapping and risk management;
- Deployment of ASYCUDAWorld as core platform of the e-government and national single window system.



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TIMOR LESTE

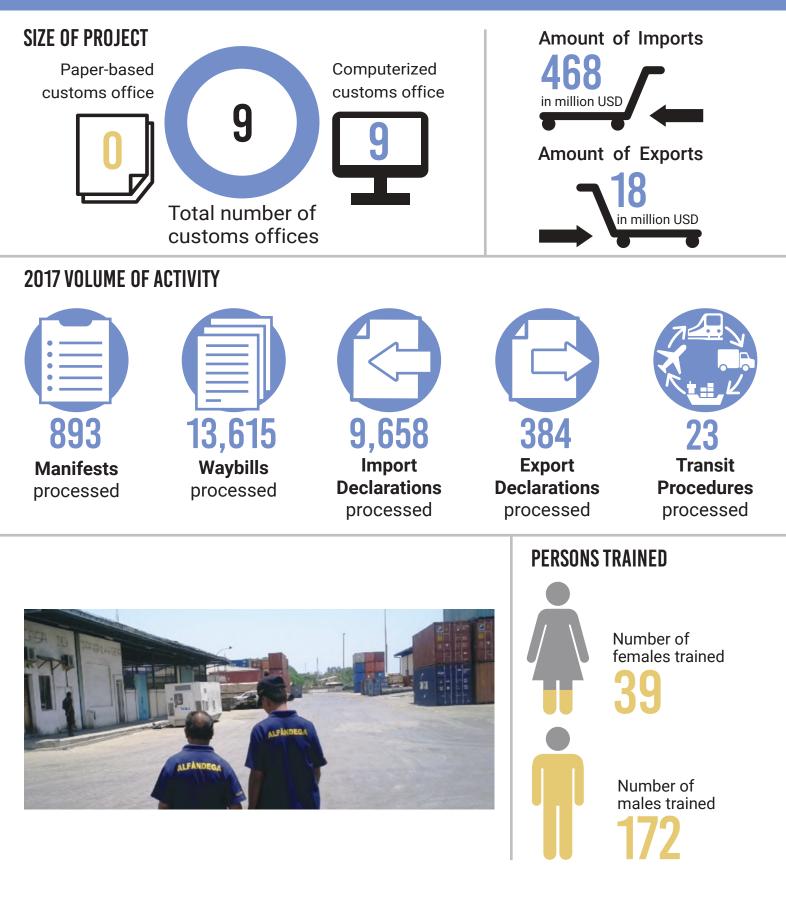
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Number of servers recovered by customs officers and members of the national project team during a period of unrest, which helped maintain continuity of the overall customs clearance operations

44 One of the critical areas of nation building is the strengthening of the institutions responsible for revenue collection to enable the young nation to be self-sufficient.**?**

NATION BUILDING







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