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Juliet KABOHA

UNCTAD Senior Customs Expert
ASYCUDA Programme
East & Southern Africa Region
Kigali, Rwanda

ASYCUDA
PROGRAMME

Addressing Multifaceted Vulnerabilities

Trade and Transport
Facilitation

Geneva, November 2019

Outline

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ Some causes of vulnerability of Trade and Transport Facilitation
- ✓ Support from ASYCUDA Programme
- ✓ Initiatives to address Trade and Transport Vulnerabilities in Africa - COMESA Region
- ✓ How the Single Customs Territory (SCT) works
- ✓ ASYCUDA Applications used in Trade Facilitation
- ✓ Benefits of implementing ASYCUDA
- ✓ ASYCUDA Programme in Summary





Introduction

- ✓ Over the years, **Trade and Transport facilitation** has become enshrined in global business and is of **great interest to global leaders** due to the need to **reduce the cost of doing business** and create a conducive environment for **investment** and **economic growth**.
- ✓ Therefore, **Vulnerability of Trade and Transport facilitation** represents a major challenge for the **sustained** and **beneficial integration** of developing countries into international trade hence the **need to eliminate any impediments**.
- ✓ Equally, the **process of integration** can lead to **countries' vulnerability** on trade, finance, products, markets, suppliers, transport routes and infrastructure.
- ✓ As a result, it has become more apparent that **countries** should **promote** Trade and Transport facilitation **reforms** and **modernization initiatives** at national, regional and international levels.

Some Causes from a Customs & Border Agency perspective

Vulnerabilities of trade and transport tend to **arise from issues** that are **within the Customs and border agencies control**. Some of these include:

- **Undocumented** and **not harmonized** Customs procedures.
- Excessive **documentary** requirements
- Excessive **physical inspections** done
- Inadequate **knowledge** amongst Customs and border agency officers
- **Asymmetry of information** – procedures understood differently
- **Numerous border agencies** from which to obtain necessary clearances and exemptions
- Poor **maintenance of infrastructure** like computer equipment and networks
- Inadequate **capacity to manage** available IT infrastructure



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Automated **SY**stem for **CU**stoms **DA**ta

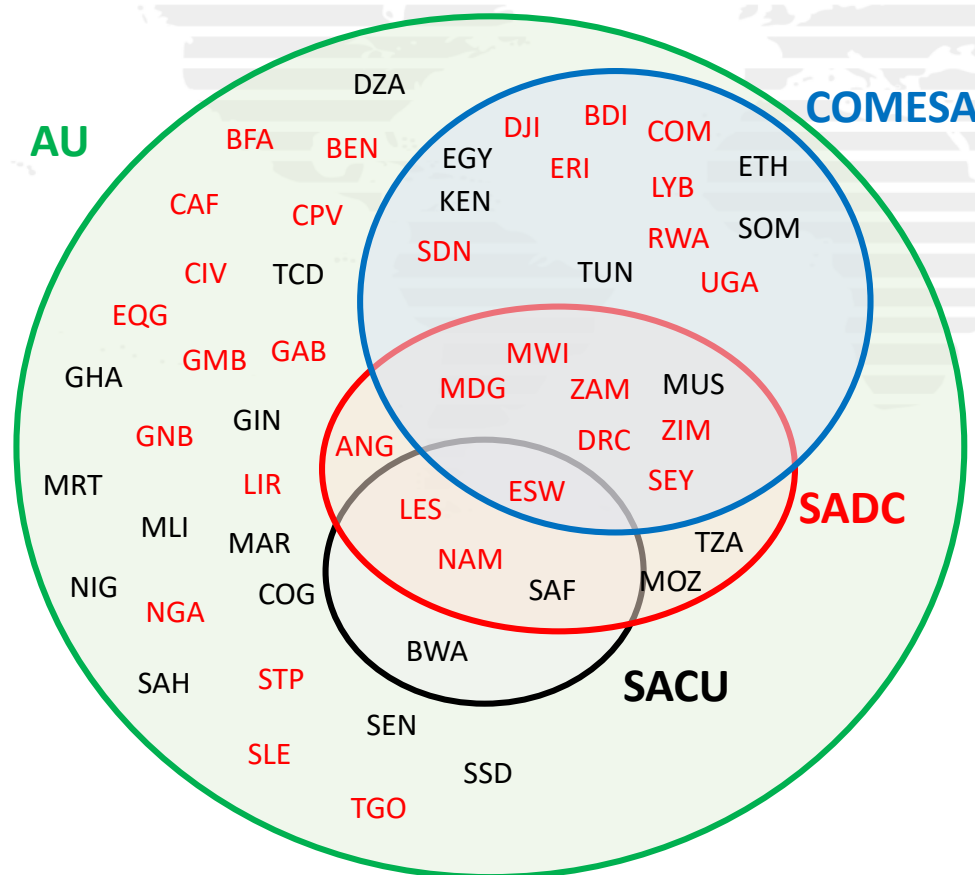
ASYCUDA

Customs
Management
System

Facilitating Trade



Agreement	Signing Countries
TFA	164 WTO member states – 145 have ratified , 35 African countries (July 2019)
Regional/National	COMESA, EAC, SADC, SACU Agreements, Bi-lateral Agreements, National Laws



Regional Organization	Number of Countries	ASYCUDA users
AU	54	61%
COMESA	21	76%
SADC	15	67%
EAC	6	50%
SACU	5	60%

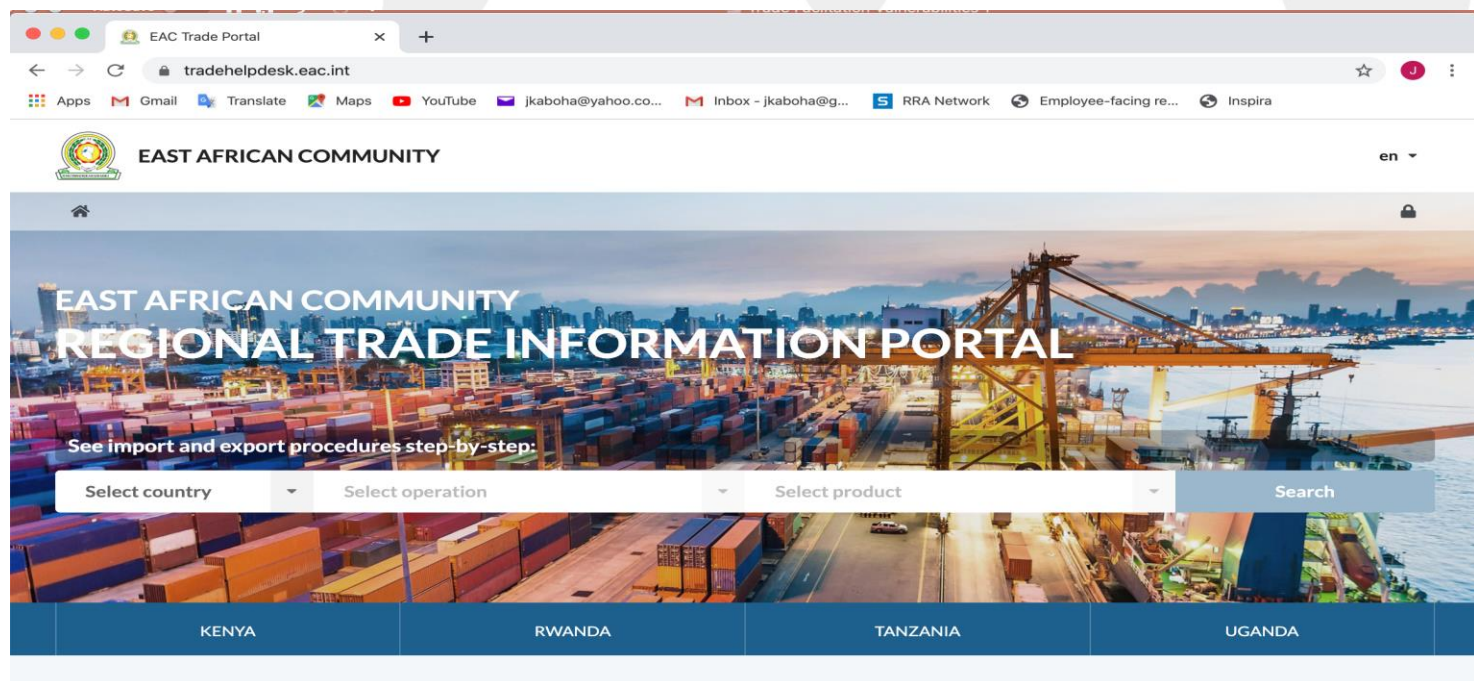
ASYCUDA Programme

- ❖ With the **support** of the **ASYCUDA Programme**, over time, countries are able to attain **solutions to most of the trade and transport facilitation vulnerabilities** they face whether its in the short, medium or long term.
- ❖ **ASYCUDA** which stands for **Automated SYstem CUstoms DAta** is the UNCTAD's largest technical assistance currently operating in about 100 countries worldwide.
- ❖ The programme provides **support** through **application of technology, processes** and **procedures** based on **international standards** derived from a number of international agreements, standards and best practice.
- ❖ Amongst the main **objectives** of the programme is to **build capacity** through **training** and **mentorship programs** plus supporting **change management** programs within Customs administrations and their stakeholders. This is done through:
 - ✓ Directly interaction with UNCTAD ASYCUDA in country experts
 - ✓ Regional Support Centres spread in different parts of the world e.g. COMESA
 - ✓ Meetings and workshops held to train/sensitize officers and stakeholders

Initiatives to address of Trade and Transport Facilitation in COMESA Region

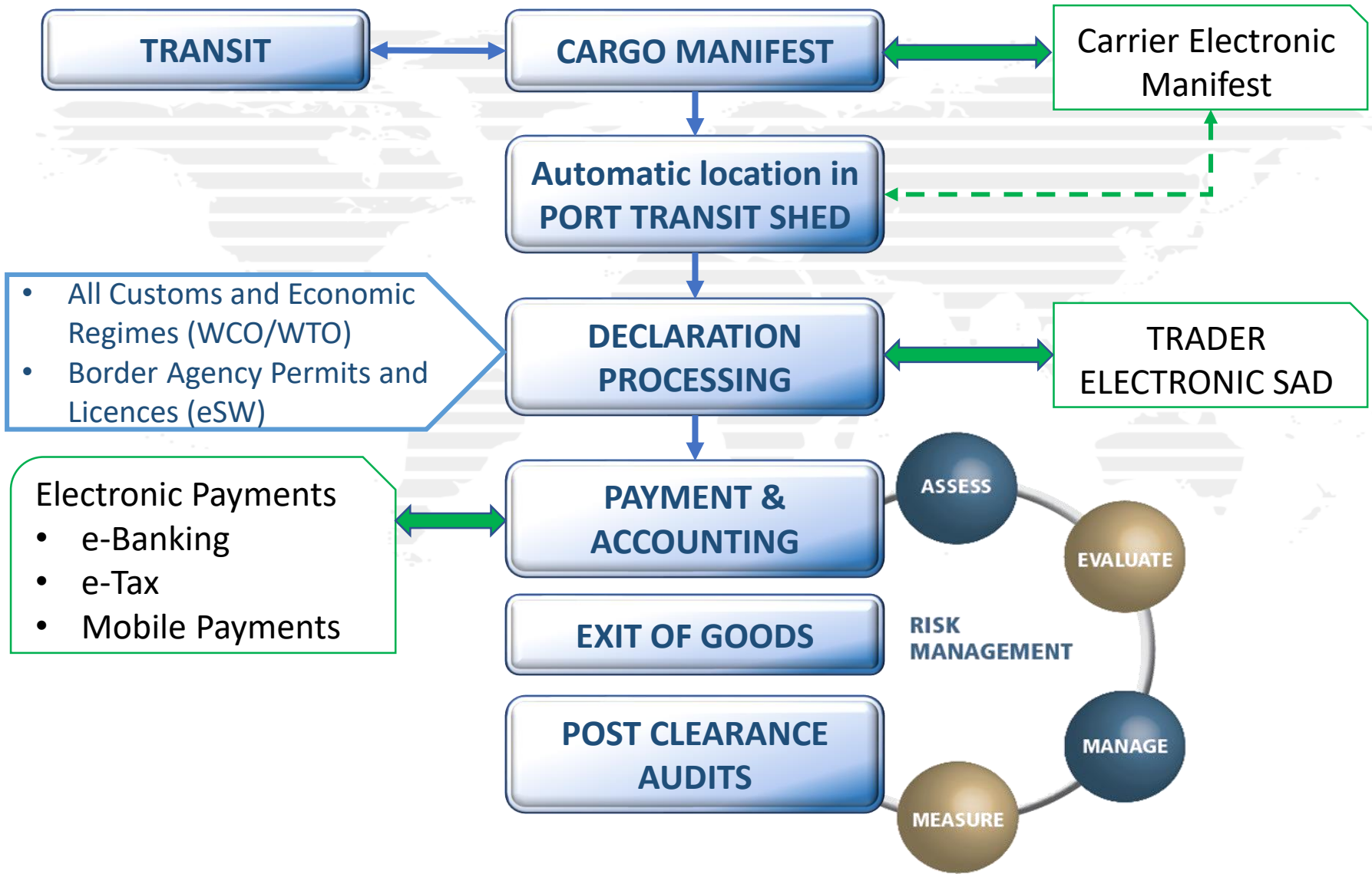
✓ Review of the Customs and border agency procedures

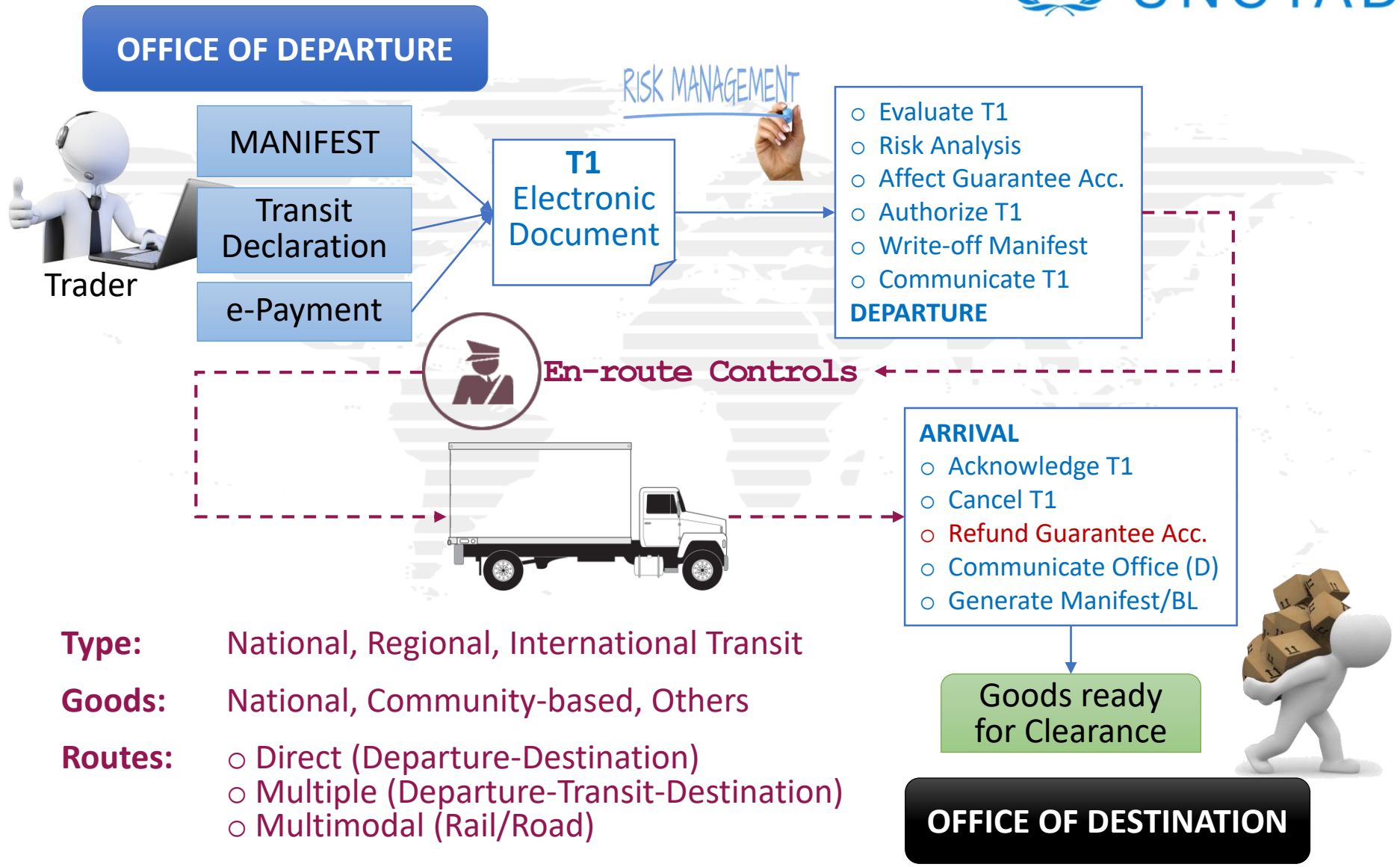
- Simplifying the Customs clearance process of based on international standards
- Reduction or elimination of excessive documentary requirements and encouraging a paperless environment
- Publishing the procedures and required process documents on National and Regional Trade Information Portals which are mandated by the TFA.



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Type: National, Regional, International Transit

Goods: National, Community-based, Others

Routes:

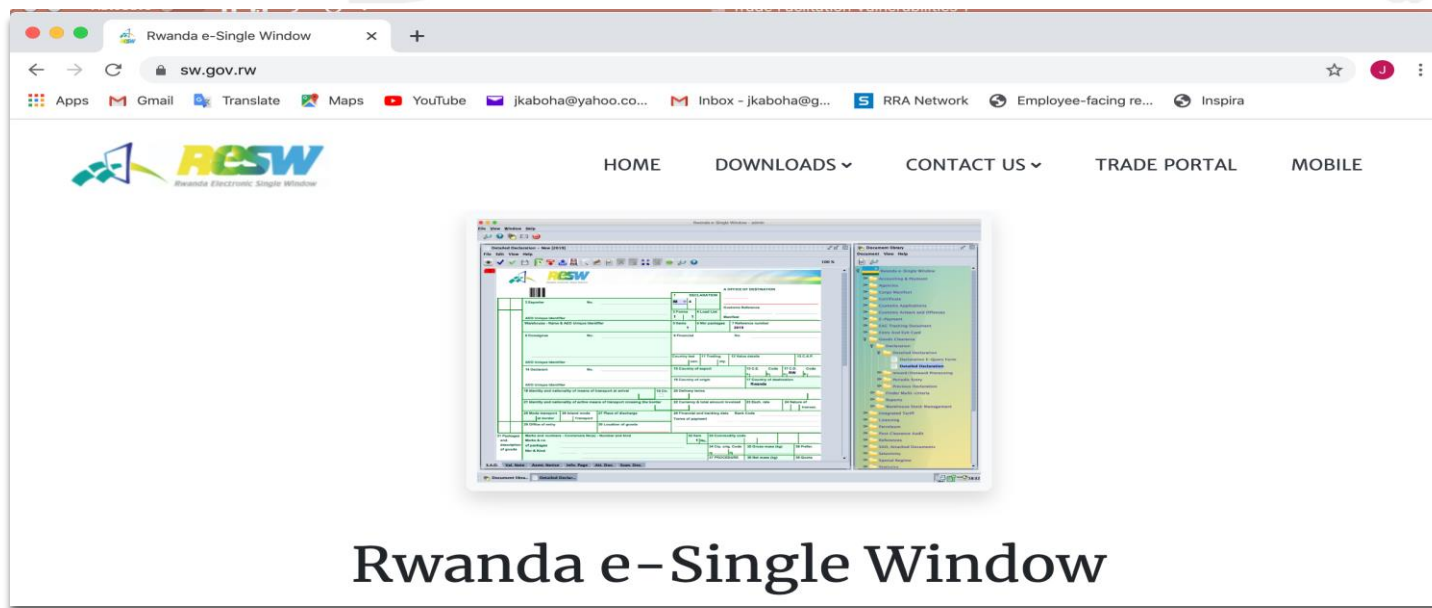
- Direct (Departure-Destination)
- Multiple (Departure-Transit-Destination)
- Multimodal (Rail/Road)

Link/use data/images of non-intrusive control systems



Addressing Vulnerabilities – Single Window Platforms

- ✓ Development of **Single Window Platforms** including border agencies and other Government Agencies through **harmonized processes and documents**
 - **Licences** issued for business registration, importation and exportation
 - **Permits** and **certificates** to permit importation and exportation of goods
 - Risk Management based clearance in ASYCUDA using the **Multi-Agency risk Management** to facilitate **faster clearance** of **low risk goods**
 - **Other certificates** like Certificates of Origin, Exemptions clearance, etc.



Rwanda e-Single Window



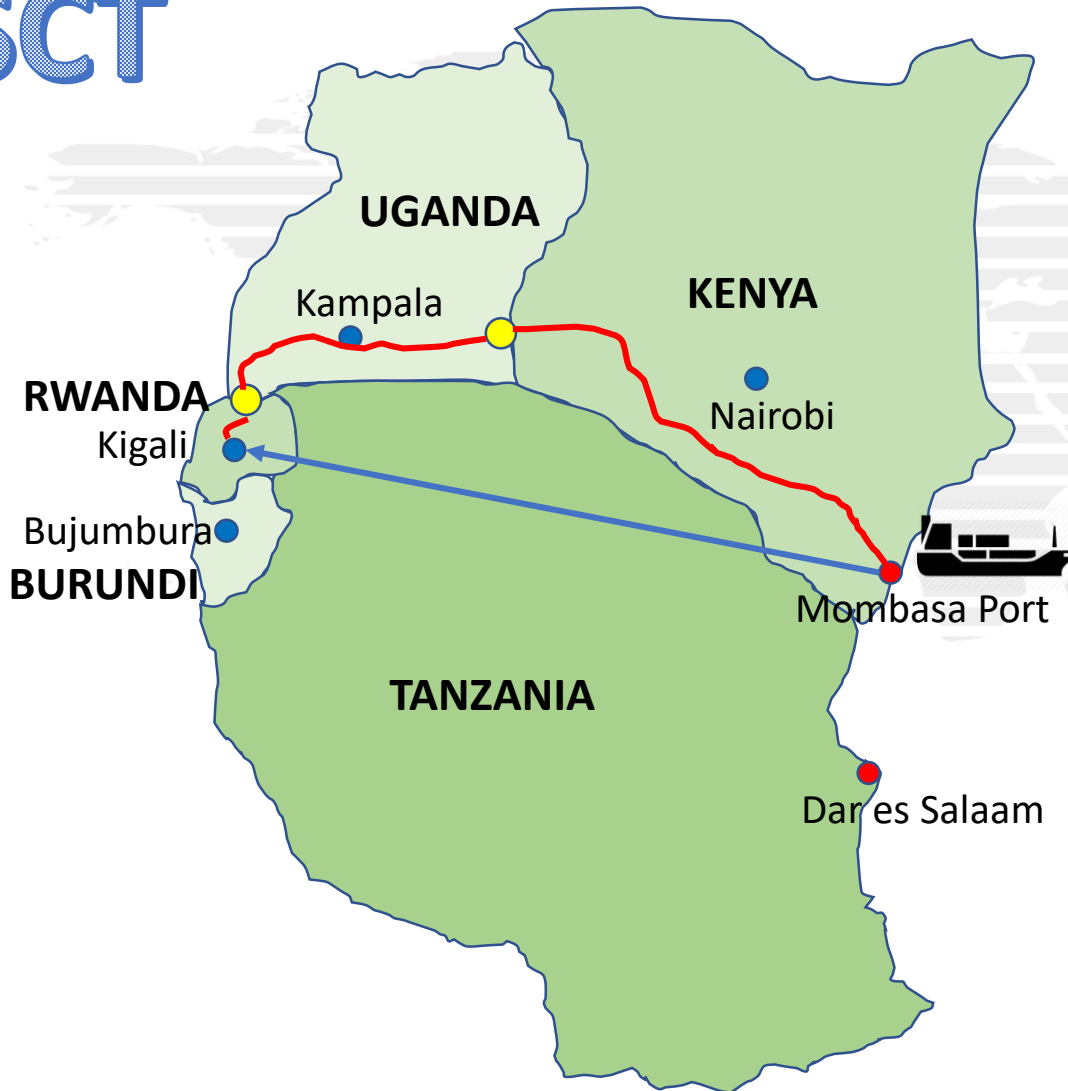
Addressing Vulnerabilities – Supporting Regional Programs

✓ Supporting Regional programs that facilitate the faster movement of goods including:

- ❖ Single Customs Territory (SCT) where documents are processed electronically and released from the country of destination prior to loading of goods and release from the Port.
- ❖ Regional Customs Transit Guarantee (RCTG) scheme that secures the revenue for goods along the regional transit routes and reduce costs of bonds
- ❖ Regional transit corridors between ASYCUDA or non-ASYCUDA countries.
- ❖ Electronic cargo tracking that monitors the movement of goods using electronic gadgets



SCT



❖ Ship at Mombasa Port

- Advanced e-Manifest (KEN)
- e-B/L info to Rwanda (Dest.)

❖ Clearance at Destination

- Trader assess Declaration
- Trader pay Duties (e-Payment)
- AW trigger Selectivity

✓ Green = Exit Note (KEN)

✓ Yellow = Doc Check (RWA)

✓ Blue = PCA (RWA)

✓ Red = Examination (KEN)

❖ Control of movement of goods

- e-Exit Note
- Automatic B/L Write-off
- New Unique e-Document
 - ✓ Transit (KE-UG-RW)
 - ✓ Final Regime
- Guarantee Control
 - ✓ Rules for National Guarantee
 - ✓ Rules for Regional Guarantee
 - ✓ Final Regime
 - ✓ Automatic Guarantee cancellation
- PCA using Risk Management

ASYCUDA: Applications for Trade Facilitation

- ✎ XML Cargo Manifest (All means of Transport)
- ✎ IATA Integration (Air Transport)
- ✎ Pre-arrival of goods
- ✎ Self Assessment (WCO)
- ✎ Electronic Payment
- ✎ Mobile Payments
- ✎ Simplified Declarations
- ✎ Mobile Declarations
- ✎ Risk Management (AEO, MARM)
- ✎ Valuation Database (Article VII WTO)
- ✎ Guarantee Management Integration (RCTG)
- ✎ Universal Postal Union (UPU) Integration
- ✎ CITES Permit Processes
- ✎ Relief and Emergency consignments
- ✎ E-Commerce - Clearance of express consignments
- ✎ Performance Measurement (ASYPM)



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Some Benefits of implementing ASYCUDA and related applications

- ✓ Increase in **Revenue Collection**
- ✓ Reduction of **clearance time** and hence the **costs of doing business**
- ✓ Better **cooperation between border agencies** through the Single Window platform or direct relations with Customs
- ✓ Increased **efficiency** from reduction of fraud related issues
- ✓ Improved **protection of society** through control of entry of restricted and prohibited goods



ASYCUDA: Programme summary in the world

PRESENCE

- 95+ COUNTRIES /5 CONTINENTS
- 4 REGIONAL CENTRES
- 19 LANGUAGES AND 10 ALPHABETS
- 20 CORE STAFF HQ-GVA
- 100+ EXPERTS IN THE FIELD

COLLABORATION

- Collaboration with other IGOs
- De-facto International Standards
 - WTO
 - WCO
 - UNECE
 - UNESCO
 - UPU
 - CITES
 - IATA
 - OCHA

OPERATIONS PER YEAR

- 15 MILLION CUSTOMS OPERATIONS
- 50 MILLION TRANSACTIONS
- 100,000 TRAINED USERS
- 22,000+ COMPUTERS
- 241 BILLION \$ CIF IMPORTS
- 230 BILLION \$ FOB EXPORTS

EXPERTISE

- 30+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
- 100+ NATIONAL & REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATIONS
- 60+ ACTIVE PROJECT
- 90+ ASYCUDA COUNTRIES



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- ❖ ASYCUDAWorld is the latest Version
 - ❖ At Least 1 Major ASYCUDA Release every year
 - ❖ Two ASYCUDA Newsletters published yearly
 - ❖ Periodic ASYCUDA Report



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Juliet KABOHA

UNCTAD Customs Advisor

ASYCUDA Programme

Kigali, Rwanda

Thank you!