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**Business Regulatory, Investment,  
and Trade Environment Program  
(BRITE)**

# **The USAID BRITE Program**

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# Focus Areas

- **Improving tax administration** to reduce the burden of paying taxes while increasing revenue collection.
- **Facilitating trade** by reducing the time and cost of moving goods across borders.
- **Implementing high-impact regulatory reforms** to improve the business environment.
- Increasing awareness among key stakeholders of the reform process, objectives, and results through **strategic communications and increased public-private dialogue.**



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# Trade Facilitation

# Trade Facilitation: Overview of Objectives

- Improve the current legal framework for trade
- Increase transparency in application of trade and customs regulations
- Reduce time and cost of moving goods across borders and increase the volume of trade
- Foster improved dialogue between Customs, other trade regulating agencies, and the trade.

# Trade Facilitation: Major Focus Areas

- Support Moldova Customs Service to introduce improved **risk management** techniques focused on compliance and reducing controls at the point of clearance
  - Adopt a strategic risk management plan with specific targets; monthly performance reviews
  - Blue Lane introduced August 2015 to move more shipments into post-clearance control and speed the clearance process
  - Introduce improved analytical techniques to enhance risk profiling and targeting
  - Training in AEO pre-audit techniques; pre-audit guidance for Customs and the Trade in line with EU/int'l norms.

# Trade Facilitation: Major Focus Areas

- Streamline the import-export process by introducing **EU simplified procedures**
  - Developed the legal basis for simplified procedures
  - Support IT upgrades to implement simplified procedures
  - Promoting adoption of duty deferment with guarantees, initially for AEOs
  - Streamline selected customs regimes – inward processing, temporary admission, outward processing, warehousing, etc. and align them with EU standards
  - Develop internal procedures for customs officers
  - Assist MCS in implementing the procedure on reduced number of SAD supporting documents

# Trade Facilitation: Major Focus Areas

- Introducing full paperless processing – **E-Customs**
  - Developed the legal basis for paperless processing
  - Assist Customs to increase use of E-declarations (currently 40% for e-Export and 7% for e-Import)
  - Support IT upgrades to improve paperless processing
  - Develop and implement communications strategies for promoting e-Customs – focus is on ease of use, savings in time and cost, reducing direct contact with customs officers

# Trade Facilitation: Major Focus Areas

- Moving toward a **Single Window** environment
  - Inventory all trade-related (non-tariff) regulations, their legal basis and their application in practice
  - Support Customs in inter-agency committee to review all non-tariff trade regulations and assign to HS codes
  - Recommend streamlining and eliminating unnecessary, duplicative, and outdated restrictions, e.g. agency overlap
  - Update the integrated tariff of Moldova (TARIM) to incorporate all tariff and non-tariff requirements with full legal force. Align TARIM with EU TARIC
  - Promote TARIM as a trade facilitation tool



# Trade Facilitation: Major Focus Areas

- Promoting **improved communications** among Customs and the trade.
  - Ongoing support to the National Customs Consultative Committee.
  - Supported concept and design of new Customs web site.
  - Developed printed and web-based outreach materials on simplifications; how-to guides for trade.
  - Supported regional outreach efforts, e.g. nine seminars on Customs simplifications held in September/October 2015.
  - Surveys of the trade to solicit opinions and gauge level of impact.

## Trade Facilitation: Looking Forward – June 2016

- Support Moldova Customs to meet its obligations under the EU-Moldova Association Agreement and take full advantage of the DCFTA.
- Achieve full electronic (paperless) processing of customs declarations, supporting documents for all customs regimes, and other customs documents.
- Support Customs to upgrade ASYCUDA
- Fully implement EU simplified procedures for AEOs
- Achieve duty delay with guarantees, initially for AEOs.



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# Thank You

**USAID BRITE Moldova**

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