

World Customs Organization

WCO Data Strategy



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Objectives of this lecture

- presenting the background of the data strategy
- discussing the initiatives within the data strategy

Warning

The WCO data strategy is for an international organization, not for a Customs administration

Background

Five main challenges for the WCO

- ① prepare Customs for evidence-based decision and open governance
- ② mobilize Customs data with modern data science tools and methods
- ③ expand the uses of data, according to **all** Members' needs
- ④ avoid data divide with Customs community
- ⑤ make the WCO more data-driven and WCO data initiatives more coherent

Some preliminaries

What being data-driven is not

- data is not oil because it is not rare
- data analysis is not *business intelligence*
- data analytic is not IT



DATA STRATEGY

Data Sharing

- Open Customs Statistics
- Privacy-preserving Technologies
- Sandbox Datasets
- Data Portal

Communities of Practice

- Data Technique Workshops
- Data Governance Workshops
- Data Innovation Hub

Assistance in Transition to Data

- Capacity Building Framework on Data Analytics
- Data Culture for Leaders
- Pilot Projects
- Support to Statistics
- Training for Data Experts
- Data Culture for Secretariat

Implementation

- a working group on data and statistics
- cross-directorates initiatives

Concluding Remarks

- ① What is important is **Data** rather than tools
- ② Sharing statistics and aggregated data first - if we do not measure ourselves, others will do it for us
- ③ Paving the way to improve data sharing, given that legal constraints are evolving under the pressure of technology and needs
- ④ Sharing knowledge is critical and motivating in the field of data

Mikuriya, K., Cantens, T. (2021). If algorithms dream of Customs, do customs officials dream of algorithms? A manifesto for data mobilisation in Customs. *World Customs Journal*, 14(2), 3-22.

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