# ASYCUDA (DECLARANT MODULE)

## What is ASYCUDA, who created, why and who uses it?

The [UNCTAD Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA)](); is an integrated customs management system for international trade and transport operations in a modern automated environment.

Advanced software applications are designed and developed for customs administrations and the trade community to comply with international standards when fulfilling import, export and transit related procedures.

Through its ASYCUDA programme, UNCTAD aims at:

- Modernizing customs operations and helping to improve revenue collection

- Facilitating trade efficiency and competitiveness by substantially reducing transaction time and costs

- Improving security by streamlining procedures of cargo control, transit of goods and clearance of goods

- Helping fight corruption by enhancing the transparency of transactions

- Promoting sustainable development by cutting down on the use of paper, through the use of electronic transactions and documents

**The Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA)** is a computerized customs management system that covers most foreign trade procedures. It handles manifests and customs declarations, along with accounting, transit and suspense procedures. It also generates trade data that can be used for statistical economic analysis. The **ASYCUDA** software is developed by UNCTAD.

**ASYCUDA** uses international codes and standards developed by the ISO (International Organization for Standardization), WCO (World Customs Organization) and United Nations. It can be configured to suit the national characteristics of individual customs regimes, national tariffs and legislation. **ASYCUDA** provides Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) between traders and customs using prevailing standards, such as XML.

ASYCUDA is in use throughout the Caribbean. All countries in CARICOM use ASYCUDA.

All goods exported from or imported to CARICOM are processed using ASYCUDA.