



Customs Reforms and Modernization & Transit Facilitation in Afghanistan

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Key Customs Priorities and Ongoing Reforms.



- Automation of Customs processes.
- Adoption of best Customs practices.
- Development and simplification of Customs procedures and regulations.
- Capacity building of Customs workforce.
- Integrity management.
- Building better image of department.
- Revenue enhancement & Community protection.

International Best Customs Practices Adopted.



- Legislation – Customs Code.
- Regulations- Valuation & Arbitration.
- Major Customs procedures developed like bonded carrier system, Security, Container sealing, Scanning, Warehousing, Appeals, Couriers imports, Rewards, Manifest clearance, Perishable goods, Exchange rate, Exemptions etc.
- Harmonized Classification System – Tariff (WCO).
- Single Administrative Document – SAD.
- Processes automation – ASYCUDA & Eurotrace.
- ASYCUDA transit module introduced replacing ilm-o-khabar.
- Customs website developed.
- Five Years Plan for Customs reforms.



Custom best practices in pipeline.

- Supply Chain Security Initiatives.
- Safe & Secure Trade lanes (Sealing / Tracking)
- WTO Membership.
- Passenger Traffic Rules (WCO).
- Advance Information Rule.
- WCO Framework for Standards (ANSA laboratory)
- Arusha Convention / WCO Integrity Standards.
- Risk Management.
- Full implementation of ASYCUDA.
- E-Customs & E-Commerce (AFACT membership).
- Electronic Data Interchange (EDI).

Geographical Advantages For Afghanistan



- Serves as “Land Bridge” between Central and South Asia.
- Possess lengthy common borders with Pakistan, Iran, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan & short borders with Uzbekistan and China.
- South-North Corridor (Afghanistan connects Central Asian Republics with Karachi port in the Arabian Sea).
- West-East Corridor (Afghanistan connects Central Asian Republics with Port of Bandar Abbas in the Persian Gulf).
- Vital link for TAP (Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan Proposed Gas Pipeline).

Afghanistan & Neighbours





Transit & Trade Facilitation.

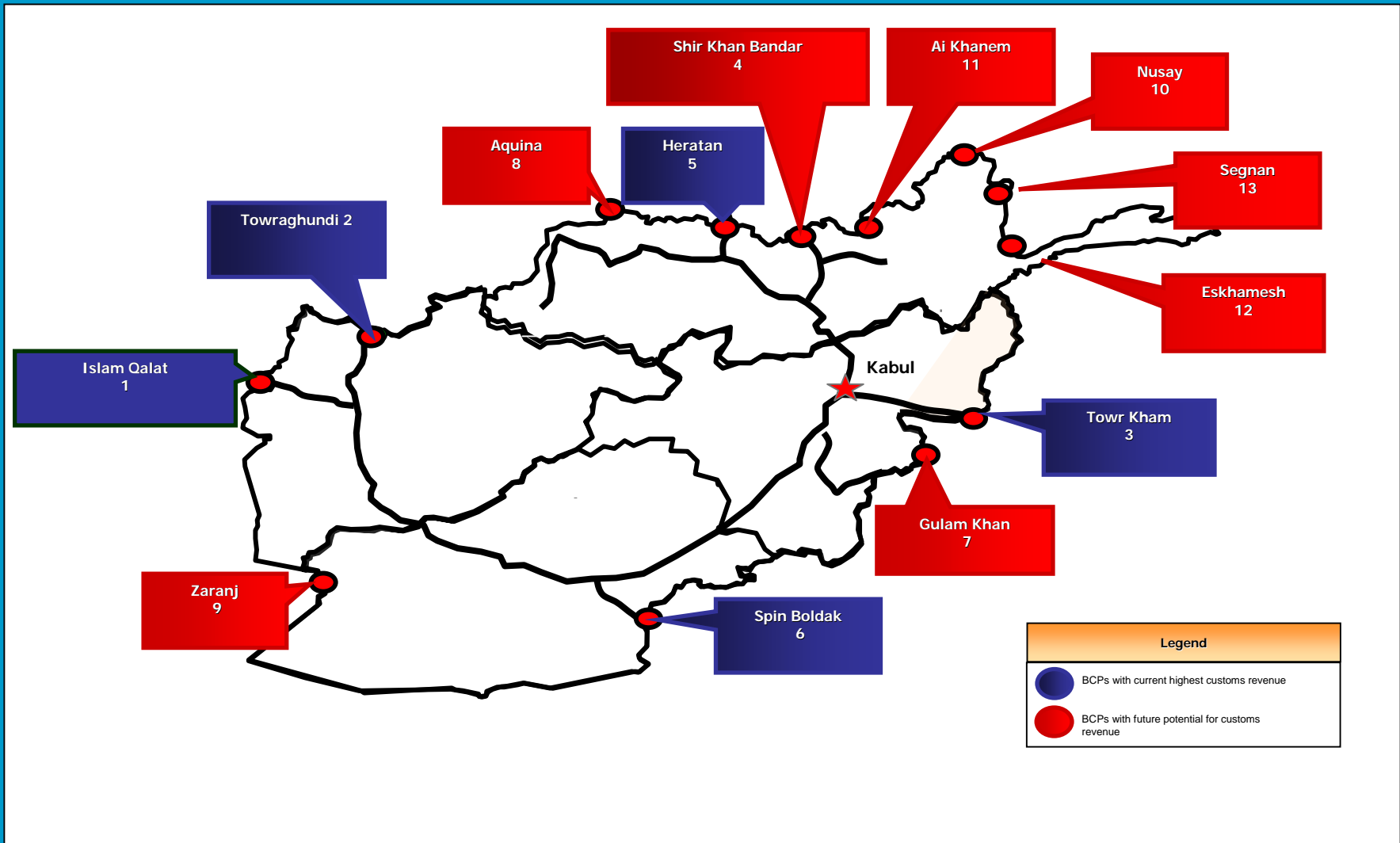
- Solving barriers to trade.
- Modernizing and updating transit agreements.
- Modernizing border port procedures.
- Reactivating TIR.
- Border Management Initiatives (BMI) for securing revenue and for facilitating trade.
- Proposed one window operations at key border crossing points.

Acquired Advantages. Post 9/11 Scenario.



- Afghanistan had signed bilateral and multilateral agreements on transit and transport with some ECO countries.
- Islam Qala-Herat-Kabul road constructed.
- Torkham-Jalalabad-Kabul road built.
- Hairathan-Mazar-Kabul road constructed.
- Torghundi-Herat road under construction.
- ASYCUDA transit module implemented at Torkham-Jalalabad-Kabul Corridor.
- All major border crossing points (13-BCPs) would be fully developed and automated.
- Plan to develop major ICDs is in advance stage. 8

Major Border Crossing Points (BCPs)





Our Commitment To Reforms.

- Developing Customs skills.
- Inter ministerial coordination. [MOU with MoC]
- Stakeholders involvement and workshops.
- Customs responding to international commitments and needs.
- Support to donors program.
- Addressing border management. [MOU with MoI]
- Image building domestically and internationally.
- Empowerment of regional directors.
- Elimination of provincial interference in Customs.
- Review of reforms under Five Years Plan.

Key Achievements



(statutes and documents implemented).

- New Constitution.
- New Customs Code/Act.
- Harmonized and rationalized Customs Tariff (HS Code).
- New banking laws and procedures.
- New law on domestic and foreign-private investment.
- Five Years Plan for Customs reforms.



2006 Action Plan.

- Tariff rationalization.
- Review of Customs Code.
- Selective relocation of Customs houses – to border points.
- Supply chain security (transit).
- Capacity development of Customs staff.
- Increased cooperation with other ministries.
- Automation of Customs process & full implementation of ASYCUDA.
- Construction of major border ports and ICDs.
- Procedures to underpin Customs Code.



THANKS