



Saves time, Saves funds, Saves lives



Meets the Need for Swift Processing of Humanitarian Aid in Crisis situation

To answer life-saving emergencies, UNCTAD and OCHA have partnered to develop a dedicated solution fully integrated with the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA) which is already deployed in over 100 countries, and compatible with any other international standards compliant automated customs systems. Its main objective is the facilitation and expedited processing of international relief in case of humanitarian crisis, natural disaster or complex emergencies.

The **Automated System for Relief Emergency Consignments** (ASYREC) provides for coordinated, efficient and facilitated imports of humanitarian relief. This is a tool of utmost importance for the humanitarian aid coordination mechanism, the Global Logistics Cluster, to ensure that the humanitarian response to an emergency crisis proves logistically

efficient and effective. The ultimate objective being to save lives.

Delays at the border with formalities may be long in some countries. In case of response to humanitarian crisis, the volume of maritime and air cargo may increase tenfold, and relief goods may be released too late, or even never reach the people in needs, as experienced in some recent cases.

ASYREC contributes to mitigating this and the potential for its deployment is now of over 20 vulnerable countries, and Nepal applied to be the first pilot country. In order to finalise the development of **ASYREC** based on the detailed requirements established by OCHA-UNCTAD and validated by the Department of Customs and the humanitarian aid community in Nepal, and to implement it, financial backing is required.

Approach



ASYREC provides the National Disaster Management Agencies, the border agencies and the humanitarian community in general with the required support to manage emergencies in phases:

Implementation



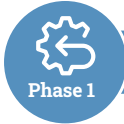
ASYREC is available to interested countries free of charge (at no costs, no license fees), within the framework of technical assistance agreements for provision of training and support during the customisation, testing, piloting and rollout of the national **ASYREC** system.

It involves the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), the customs department, the humanitarian aid community. The duration of such a technical assistance project is estimated at around six to twelve months. However, the effective duration of the project and the associated budget to cover cost of expertise, capacity building and deployment are subject to the specific conditions and requirements of the interested countries.

Benefits



- **ASYREC** is automatically activated by the affected country's request/acceptance of international assistance;
- Eligible actors / humanitarian donors are registered in the system, prior to any emergencies;
- Identified priorities are recorded in **ASYREC** at an early stage and updated during the disaster for effective control of unsolicited donations;
- Facilitated identification by Customs Administrations of humanitarian consignments and distinction from non-humanitarian shipments;
- Shipments of eligible operators and registered **ASYREC** end-users are processed with priority during the emergency, minimizing delays and reducing congestion at the border;
- Prioritize humanitarian consignments based on identified priority needs;
- Post-clearance audit controls and assessments of humanitarian operators' compliance performed by Customs and Disaster Management Agencies;
- Data from **ASYREC** transferred to LogIK (Logistics In-Kind) online database for cross border movement of emergency relief items, thus providing an accurate overview of incoming relief to member states and donors, and forming the basis for decision-making on what to donate and how to improve the planning of the international humanitarian response;
- Configurable to allow its implementation in any Member State, independent of the operational customs IT system, as an online system or as a standalone system where the customs IT system is not operational.



PREPAREDNESS

Phase 1

- Establish list of Emergency Relief Items, including respective HS codes;
- Set applicable Border/Customs procedures and simplifications, in line with the OCHA Model Customs Agreement;
- Self-registration of organisations involved in relief operations;
- Provide eligible organisations & humanitarian cargo: Simplified Customs Declarations, Relief from import duties; and Temporary Admission.



RESPONSE

Phase 2

- Register emergency initiation, duration of emergency, government priority relief items, including quantities; Activate list of eligible organisations;
- Pre-arrival lodgment of electronic customs declarations directly or through eligible organisations' representatives, with consignments flagged as humanitarian relief;
- Process arrival with coordination of controls, using risk-management techniques, through fully automated processing and release of goods by Customs.



RECOVERY

Phase 3

- Record the end of Emergency Procedure;
- Perform post-audit and assessment of humanitarian operators' compliance;
- Update list of priority items and eligible organisations as required.

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