



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

THE 12TH CENTRAL ASIA TRADE FORUM
DIGITALIZATION OF CUSTOMS SERVICES:
PATHWAY TO PAPERLESS TRADE

October 12 – 13, 2022
NUR-SULTAN, KAZAKHSTAN
SHERATON NUR-SULTAN HOTEL

You are cordially invited to participate in the annual Central Asia Trade Forum, a flagship international event for advancing connectivity and trade.



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**CENTRAL ASIA
TRADE FORUM**

ABOUT THE FORUM

The introduction and implementation of digital customs can significantly speed trade processes and prevent unnecessary delays at border crossings, while ensuring customs procedures are carried out with the greatest possible efficiency. The function of customs has evolved from revenue collection, to undertaking trade facilitation missions, and maintaining cooperation between the numerous government agencies involved in clearance processes along the supply chain. Despite achievements made in digital transformation, paper-based procedures still dominate cross-border trade transactions.

Regional cooperation plays a crucial role in ensuring contacts are maintained, supply chains are restored, and goods are delivered. The main focus of the 12th Central Asia Trade Forum will be reviewing efforts taken to digitalize Central Asian customs administrations, as a pathway to paperless trade. Initiatives around the globe aim to replace paper-based customs procedures with electronic operations, creating efficient and modern customs environments. The Forum will bring together Central Asian customs administrations to discuss ongoing efforts in developing digital solutions and services, adopting enabling technologies (such as the use of big data, telematics and Cloud services), increasing operational performance, and facilitating reinvention of how customs administrations operate.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) will convene the 12th Central Asia Trade Forum on October 12-13, 2022, bringing together representatives from customs administrations of Central Asia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Singapore, the EU, and the United States. Beyond exploring the current level of digitalization among Central Asian customs administrations, the Forum will equip participants and involved government agencies with a wide range of best digital tools and technologies applied in other countries.

Please join us in person* at the 12th Central Asia Trade Forum.

PRELIMINARY LIST OF THEMES

- Customs Digital Reform Agenda: Latest Innovations and the Role of “Digital” Enforcement
- Accelerating Digitalization for Enhanced Transit and Trade Facilitation
- Trans-Caspian International Transport Route
- Global Supply Chain and Routes: New Trends
- Trade along the Transcaspian Corridor: Dynamic Development
- Multimodal Transport: Digital Platforms, Solutions

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For more information, visit www.catradeforum.org



[USAID's Trade Central Asia activity](#)

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* With livestreamed online sessions