

CICTE PROGRAM: CARGO AND CONTAINER SECURITY

Description

















The **Cargo and Container Security Program** seeks to strengthen the border security capacities of OAS Member States, particularly for those authorities responsible for securing and inspecting commercial cargo and conveyance crossing through marine, air and land-based ports of entry.

Additionally, the program aims to promote cooperation and information sharing between Customs, Border Police and other Law Enforcement and government agencies as well as other key stakeholders in the region by fostering opportunities for open dialogue.

Goals

- **Augment existing ability to assess and manage risk**, contributing to a more secure and efficient flow of goods across borders and through national ports of entry in OAS member states.
- **Increase the use of safe working procedures and personal protective equipment** to reduce injury and sustain capacity.
- **Strengthen national capacities to address security threats** that exploit potential vulnerabilities in the supply chain and the borders of OAS Member States.
- **Provide knowledge and skills to government officials** and security officers to combat the smuggling and trafficking of illicit goods contaminating the global supply chain more effectively.
- **Increase cooperation, communication, and national and international coordination** among customs and border security agencies, law enforcement and other government agencies and relevant actors.
- **Raise awareness of the risks** that terrorist and criminal organizations pose to the global supply chain and to the safety of citizens of OAS Member States.

Beneficiary countries

- | | |
|---|---|
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| Argentina | Haiti |
|  |  |
| Barbados | Honduras |
|  |  |
| Chile | Jamaica |
|  |  |
| Colombia | Mexico |
|  |  |
| Costa Rica | Panama |
|  |  |
| Dominican Republic | Peru |
|  |  |
| Guatemala | Trinidad and Tobago |



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Activities

- Provide technical analysis and assessment visits to determine needs and opportunities for collaboration.
- Deliver technical assistance through training courses for government officials and front-line officers tasked with securing and inspecting cargo and conveyance. Courses are offered as multi-agency whenever appropriate to promote cooperation and streamline processes. Topics may include:
 - o Commercial Cargo inspection at land, air and marine ports of entry.
 - o Conveyance examination (trucks, ships, trains, airplanes, etc.).
 - o Intermodal Container Contraband Examination.
 - o Recent trends in concealment and criminal modus operandi.
 - o Exploration of Case Studies and exchange of good working practices and lessons learned.
 - o Profiling of cargo and risk analysis.
 - o Health and Safety assessment, protective equipment, and safe-working procedures.
 - o Training in the use of detection, examination, and imaging equipment.
 - o Tabletop exercises, simulations and working groups, among others.



Support strategic priorities by drafting proposals and recommendations to optimize security and inspection procedures for cargo and conveyance in national ports of entry.

- Promote dialogue and information sharing between national and regional authorities and other key stakeholders through high-level meetings, webinars and both virtual and in-person conferences.



Results

562 officers

The Cargo-Sec team trained +562 officers in 13 countries from 2016 to 2024, focusing on 2 main thematic areas: Vessel Inspection (Marine ports of entry) and Cargo and Container Inspection (Marine and Land based Ports of entry).

Bi-National training

Delivery of Bi-National training courses on cargo and conveyance security delivered for Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Costa Rica, Chile and Peru.

Illicit goods seized

Increased number of illicit goods seized by participating customs and border security agencies, highlighting the efforts from participating institutions and raising awareness that smuggling of illicit goods through the supply is a great risk to the region.

Exchange good practices

Supported OAS Member States efforts to exchange good practices and lessons learned during the Covid-19 Pandemic to reduce the risk faced by frontline officers, ensuring the uninterrupted flow of cargo and goods through national ports of entry.

Empower women

Promoted national and regional efforts to empower women and reduce gender inequalities in participating Customs and Border Security Agencies.



Strategic partners

Government of Canada

Canada



Agencia Tributaria



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World Customs Organization
Organisation mondiale des douanes



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