Launched in January 2019, the WCO ANTI-CORRUPTION AND INTEGRITY PROMOTION (A-CIP) PROGRAMME FOR CUSTOMS responds to the recognized high costs of corruption in Customs. The Programme aims at improving the business and law-enforcement environment for cross-border trade in selected WCO Member countries.

It does this by helping make changes to the operational and administrative context that restrict corrupt behavior and promote good governance in Customs services. These changes are guided by and in line with the ten key factors of the Revised Arusha Declaration concerning Good Governance and Integrity in Customs.

With €8 million from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), and €2.5 million from Canada, the WCO A-CIP Programme currently supports more than 20 beneficiary countries, from five different WCO regions.

Under the Bilateral Component — the Programme delivers technical assistance and capacity building to help selected WCO Member countries undertaking measures to implement priority areas of the Revised Arusha Declaration. For each administration, a multi-annual action plan is developed along with clear benchmarks and performance measurement criteria.

Under the Multilateral Component — the Programme creates an enabling environment for WCO Members to implement integrity measures by leveraging regional and international initiatives in parallel, and building WCO instruments and tools.

**Bilateral Component:** multi-year plans to help A-CIP partner administrations make progress in specific areas. **Multilateral Component:** development of the WCO institutional capacity and tools to support its Members.
INTEGRITY AS A CROSS-CUTTING ISSUE

The WCO A-CIP Programme complements other WCO initiatives in enforcement, security, and trade facilitation, such as the WCO Container Control Programme (CCP) as well as the WCO Mercator Programme. Its efforts align with the WCO’s Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC) and the World Trade Organization’s Trade Facilitation Agreement (WTO TFA), which call for transparency and predictability, promoting integrity and closing opportunities for corruption. The WCO A-CIP Programme supports this work, specifically through galvanizing activities and leading efforts to improve governance and integrity in Customs.

WCO CAPACITY BUILDING SUPPORT IN INTEGRITY AND COMBATING CORRUPTION

The WCO A-CIP Programme design has taken into account lessons learned from previous WCO programmes, as well as global experiences and insights into the challenges for technical assistance and capacity building in the fight against corruption. In particular, A-CIP activities leverage collective action, performance measurement, and data analysis as implementation principles for achieving results.

Specific attention has also been paid to incorporate parallel change activities both in the participating countries as well as globally, to ensure that A-CIP delivers results that complement ongoing and deeper reforms.

For more details, please contact a-cip@wcoomd.org

The WCO Revised Arusha Declaration helps countries meet their obligations under the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). It does this by taking into account specific institutional characteristics of Customs administrations while helping them align with articles of the Convention, including:

- Article 5: Preventive anti-corruption policies and practices
- Article 7: Public Sector
- Article 8: Codes of Conduct for Public Officials
- Article 10: Public Reporting
- Chapter VI: Technical Assistance and information Exchange