One of the important goals of the European Union is to improve its competitiveness in international trade. To achieve this goal, the EU should lower the administrative burden while at the same time deliver increased security and control of trade. The ITAIDE project will provide tools and approaches to overcome this major challenge and dilemma facing European governments today.

ITAIDE's overall goal is to provide support for the adoption and intelligent design of e-government procedures to improve the way taxation and customs information is exchanged between businesses and governments.
To achieve this goal, ITAIDE will create an integrated set of development tools for the introduction of e-customs and e-taxation across technical, procedural and organizational network layers. This will aid governments in developing and implementing the strategic European objectives of Single-Window Access Points (SWA) and Authorized Economic Operators (AEO), leading to significant reductions in the administrative burden and hence a reduction of costs. Single-Window Access Points will enable businesses to exchange information with relevant public administration offices through a single point of online access. Authorized Economic Operator businesses will be certified to carry out certain customs and taxation related activities within and outside the European Community. For these AEO companies, simplified customs and taxation procedures will apply.
ITAIDE expected results

1. **Canonical information model.** The canonical information model for electronic trade documents based on existing international standards from UN/CEFACT, World Customs Organization, and EU-DG Taxation & Customs, will form the basis of a reference model for enabling interoperable exchange of data between the different e-customs applications throughout Europe.

2. **Control procedure redesign methodology e³-Control.** This methodology will ensure that redesign will lead to simplified electronic trade and customs procedures (a key concern for businesses) and at the same time enhance control and security requirements (a key concern for public organizations).

3. **Network collaboration model.** Identifies the key organizational and socio-political aspects to be accounted for, in order to successfully negotiate, develop and introduce proposed e-customs innovations for adoption by all affected actors.

4. **Proof of concept by Living Lab demonstrators.** Living Labs centred on four different types of industries employ innovative technologies (e.g. container security, tracking devices, electronic invoice, data pools, etc) to demonstrate the operation of simplified electronic customs procedures implemented through interoperating business systems, e-customs systems, legacy systems and work practices.
ITAIDE Benefits
The ITAIDE project will deliver benefits to businesses as well as governments across a broad range of issues:

- Reduce administrative burden for businesses.
- Provide greater transparency and accessibility of business data in the supply chain for improved security.
- Improve efficiency of European governments, through simplified customs and taxation practices.
- Increase pan-European interoperability between customs and taxation information systems.
- Provide a procedure redesign methodology with intelligent support tools to support the transformation from paper-based to electronic customs and taxation.
- Provide policies for organisational network building that align objectives for procedure redesign between governments and businesses.
- Support integration of new member countries in the enlarged Europe by facilitating the introduction of e-customs.
- Support the development of work on Single-Window Access and Authorized Economic Operator with organisations such as the UN/CEFACT, World Customs Organization, EU-DG-Taxation and Customs.
ITAIDE Figures and Participants
- **Duration:** 4.5 years (January 2006 – June 2010)
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- Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (Coordinator)
- Copenhagen Business School
- The Netherlands Tax & Customs Administration
- Danish Central Customs and Tax Administration
- Finnish Tax Administration
- IBM
- Nordea Bank
- Lappeenranta City
- Project Business
- Result Maker
- SAP
- United Nations/Economic Commission for Europe
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