



THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BARBADOS PORT COMMUNITY SYSTEM (PCS) PROJECT

ABOUT

The Establishment of a Barbados Port Community System (PCS) Project is a technology focused intervention to design and build a secure, intelligent, paperless, digital solution for use at the Port of Bridgetown. The system, called a Port Community System or PCS, will reside online and be accessible to public and private stakeholders processing cargo at the port. The PCS will eliminate unnecessary paperwork which can delay and burden cargo handling. It will improve efficiency at all stages of the process of manifesting, through vessel discharge and loading, customs clearance, port health formalities and delivery in and out of the terminal.

PROJECT BENEFITS

The PCS will integrate processes for the delivery and clearing of cargo containers, minimising delays associated with clearance. It will also create a more efficient payment process, enable the electronic processing of cargo and storage of data. A well-functioning and efficient port supported by a robust PCS will better facilitate trade and reduce the costs associated with shipping and business. The project which commenced in March 2021 will provide a wide range of improvements including:

- Increasing efficiency which will enable enhanced trade competitiveness
- Reducing the cost of imports and goods to local consumers
- Providing easy and efficient electronic data interchange among state agencies and clients of the port
- Creating the ability to re-use and centralise customs declarations for speedier dispatch
- Enabling the electronic handling of all information regarding clearance of containerised, general and bulk cargo
- Providing real time access to information for control, tracking and tracing through the logistics chain

- Accommodating the electronic processing of dangerous goods
- Improving administration, recording, monitoring, reporting, analysis of data using the platform
- Reducing time taken for clearance of goods and lowering costs for border compliance
- Improving documentary compliance through simplification, standardisation, rationalisation (reducing paperwork) and harmonisation of clearance processes, procedures and documentation by digitalisation while allowing for interoperability with other systems
- Contributing to sustainable transport logistics and support to meet global carbon reduction requirements
- Enabling information sharing between trade actors through a single platform as outlined in trade agreements Supporting the country's single electronic window.

EPA AND CSME STANDBY FACILITY

The project was approved for implementation by the EPA and CSME Standby Facility Steering Committee in 2020. The EPA and CSME Standby Facility is a EUR 8.75 million programme financed by the European Development Fund (EDF) being managed by CDB to support projects in Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, the Commonwealth of Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, St Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago (CARIFORUM). It is intended to build capacity in the region and better position businesses to trade within CARIFORUM and the European Union.