2024 WCO Technology and Exhibition Conference

Session A2: *Advancing Customs Connectivity: The Present and Future of Information Exchange & Customs Cooperation*

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Outline

2024 WCO Technology & Exhibition Conference

|	
1	**Introduction**
2	**Customs System interconnectivity**
3	**One Stop Border Posts**
4	**Coordinated Border Management**
5	**Implementation challenges/Solutions**
6	**Implementation plans for next 5yrs**
7	**END/**

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Introduction (1/2)

❑ZRA, becoming a Data-driven organisation in undertaking its mandate.

❑Bulk Intelligence Data Analytics (BIDA) project; *provides a platform for easy data matching and analysis of tax compliance patterns*

❑Data Analytics Directorate established.

ZRA Vision

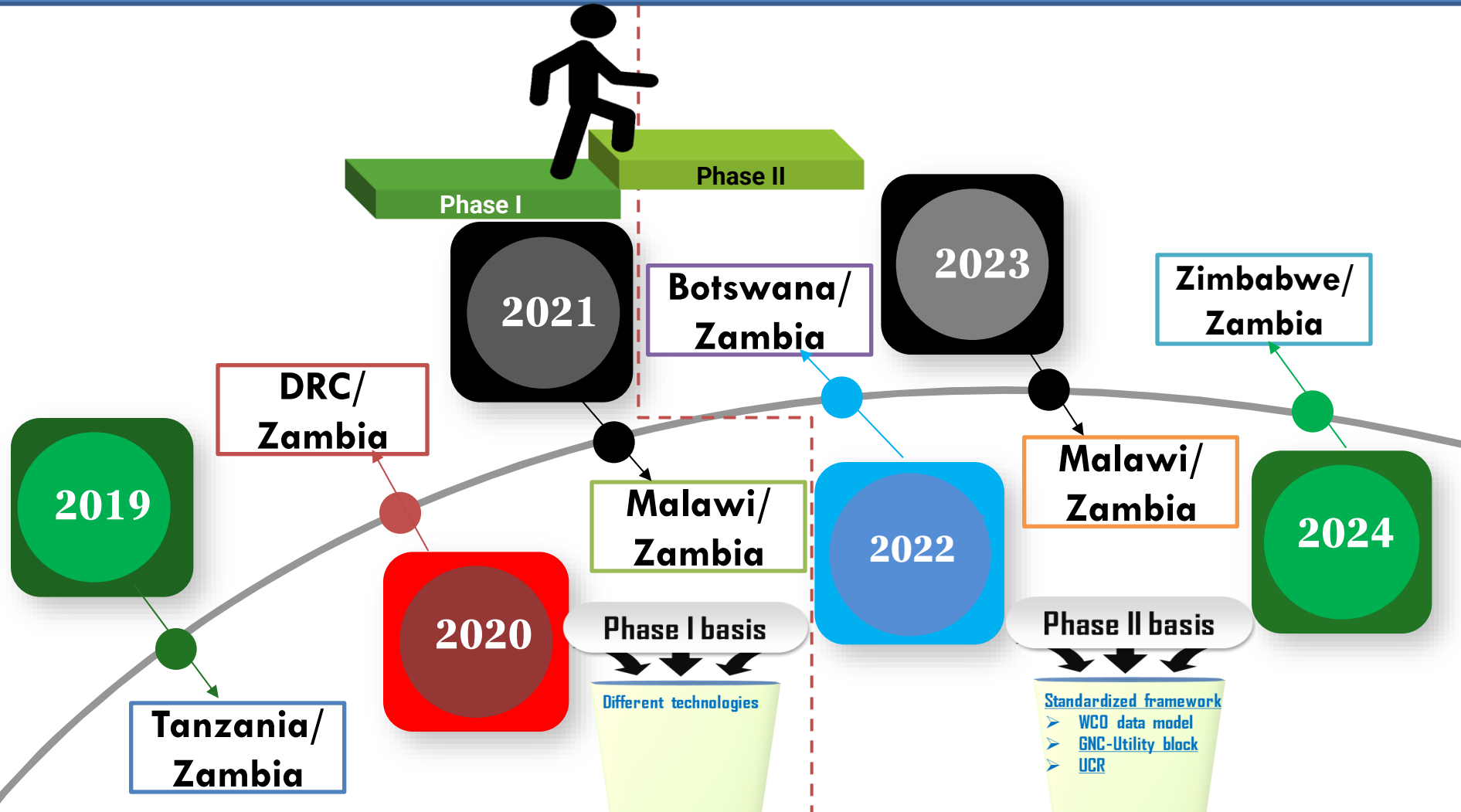A model of excellence in Revenue Administration and **trade facilitation**
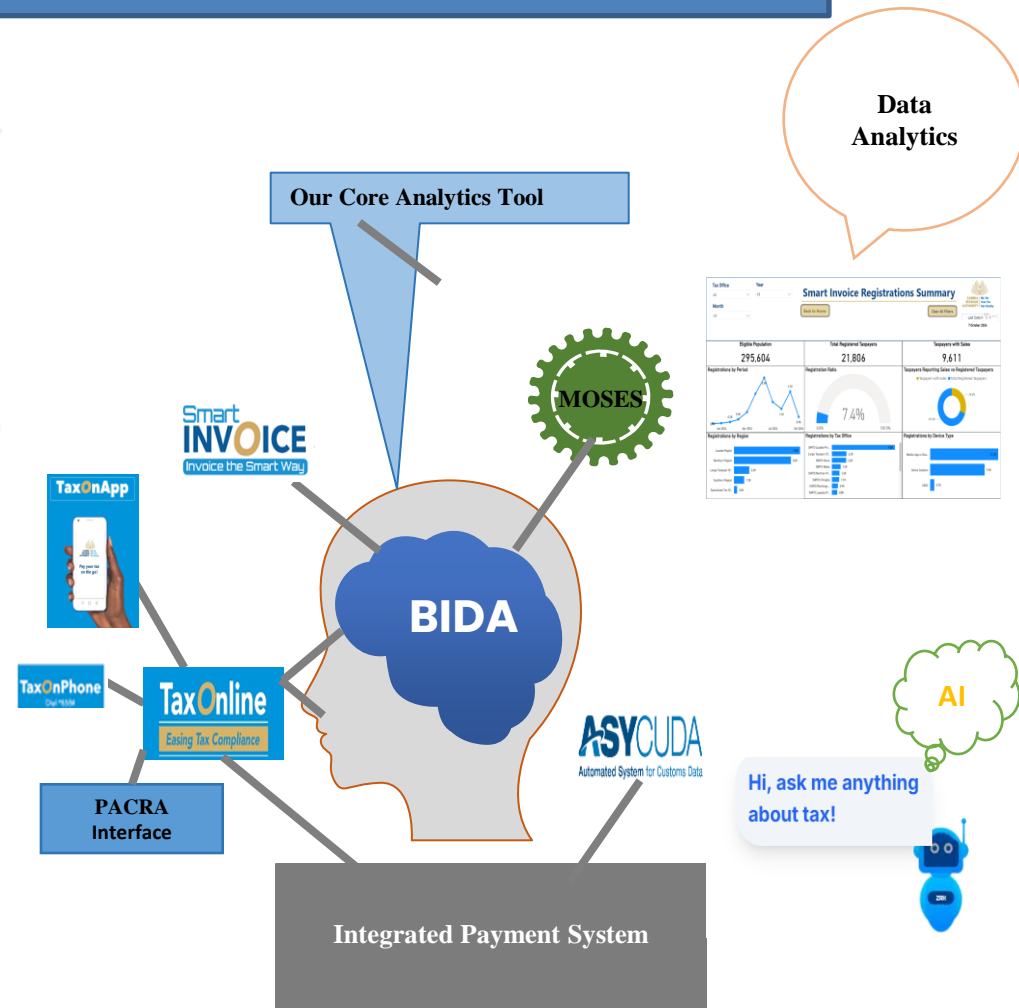
2024 Conference Mission

Ensure **trade facilitation,** border security, and the resilience of global supply chains and deploy innovative solutions supplemented by the support of a wide range of stakeholders

Status of Customs System interconnectivity
## *(WTO-TFA Article 12 – Customs Cooperation)*

Phase I

Phase II

2021

Botswana/ Zambia

2023

Zimbabwe/ Zambia

DRC/ Zambia

2019

Malawi/ Zambia

Malawi/ Zambia

2024

2022

Tanzania/ Zambia

2020

Phase I basis

Different technologies

Phase II basis

Standardized framework
➢ WCO data model
➢ GNC-Utility block
➢ UCR

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One Stop Border Post (1/2)
(WTO-TFA Article 8 – Border Agency Cooperation)

Cross – Border Clearances to facilitate the movement of Goods, Vehicles and People (*To fulfil exit and entry border formalities)*

Traditional Two-Stop Border Post
"Traffic in one direction stopping <u>twice</u> in <u>two</u> separate border facilities"
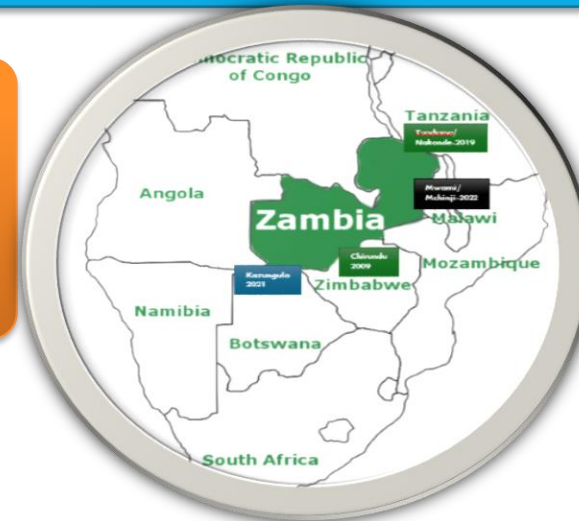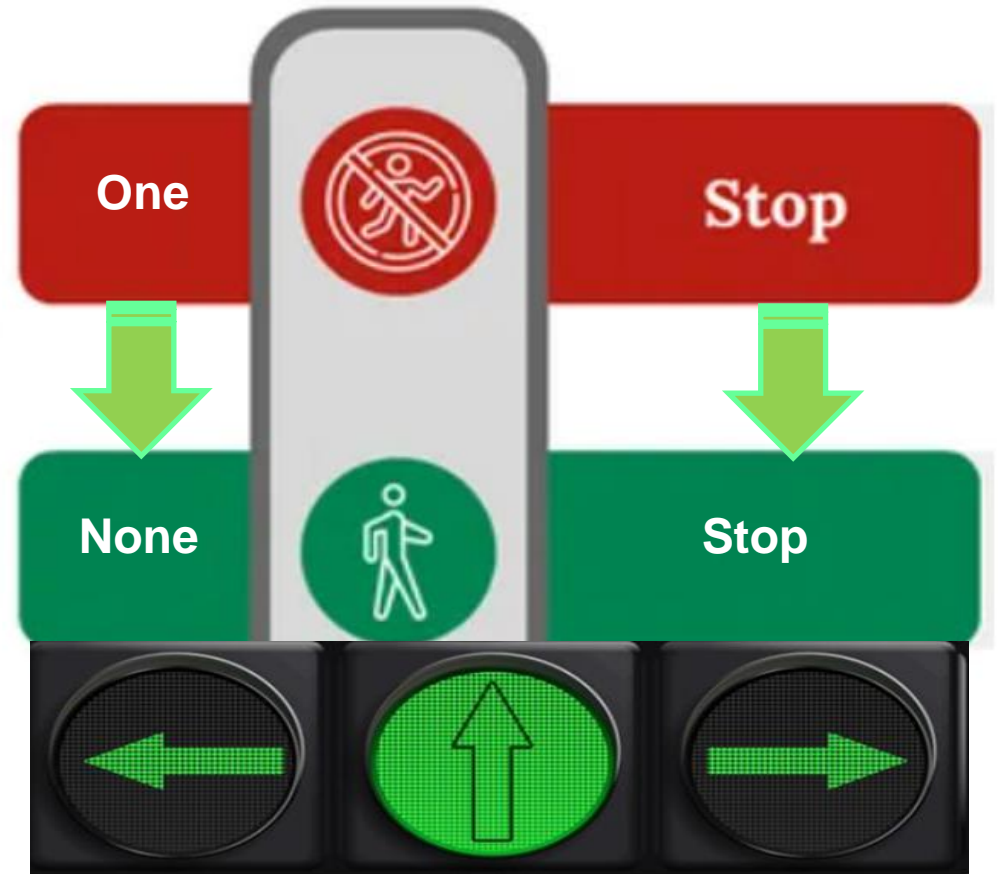
One Stop Border Post

Traffic in one direction stopping <u>ONCE</u> in a <u>single facility</u> to fulfil both Exit & Entry border formalities.
**Operational OSBPs**: *Chirundu, Kazungula, Mwami/Mchinji & Nakonde/Tunduma*

One Stop Border Post None **Stop Border Post**; *ensuring seamless flow of trade and travel leveraging Technology & Pre-Arrival Processing*

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Coordinated Border Management
(WTO-TFA Article 8 – Border Agency Cooperation)

❑ 2023 Government Policy directive to implement CBM and began in January 2024 at Kazungula OSBP
  - ✓ Reduced to 6 agencies physically operating the border
  - ✓ Single Payment Point with Integrated Payment System *[POS, mobile & Card payments, and online payment options]*
  - ✓ Digitalised and automated border processes onto online Customs portal

❑ *World Bank Group* supported the development of the CBM model for Zambia

❑ *WCO Accelerated Trade Facilitation Programme* providing capacity building to develop Inter-Agency Standard Regulations framework for establishing Standard Operating Procedures and Data standardisation and Border Agency systems interconnectivity
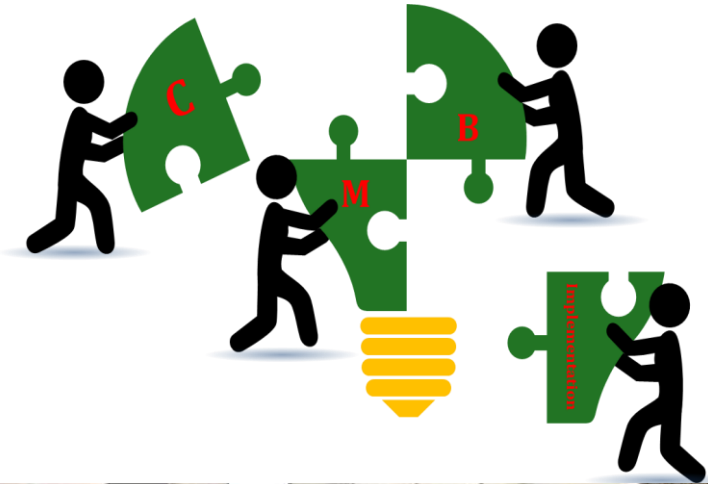
Challenges and the resolutions

💡 Challenges	Resolutions
1 Different Systems posing difficulties to interconnect	Standardization of data sets using WCO tools and instruments WCO Data Model, GNC Utility block.
2 OSBP Infrastructure development costly venture requiring more capital outlay	Developing basic infrastructure, more focus on technology*(ICT systems, online platforms)* .
3 Resistance by some border agencies in CBM implementation.	NTFC undertook extensive stakeholders' engagements and 'sold' CBM benefits
4 Legal hitches in information exchange , OSBP and CBM implementation	Used the Customs Mutual Assistance Agreements, Bilateral Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding

Implementations plans for next 5 years

Customs connectivity	One Stop Border Post vs. *None Stop Border Post*	Coordinated Border Management

❑**Bilateral systems interconnectivity:**
  1. Democratic Republic of Congo (Phase II)
  2. Eswatini
  3. Mozambique
  4. Namibia
  5. Rwanda
  6. South Africa
  7. Tanzania (Phase II)
❑ SADC Regional Customs Interconnectivity framework for member states based on WCO instruments and tools being advanced by SADC/WCO
❑ *= Already engaging*
❑ *= Not engaging yet*
	❑**Continue implementation** :
	
	1. DRC (Various border posts)
	
	2. Mozambique -Cassacatiza/Chanida
	
	3. Nakonde(Upgrading OSBP to Smart Border)
	
	4. Namibia – Katima Mulilo
	
	5. Tanzania – Kasenyi/Zombe
	
	❑**Advancing the <u>None Stop Border Post concept</u> in OSBP and 2-stop Border Posts**
		❑ Operationalize the developed Inter-Agency Standard Regulations framework
		❑ Border Agencies Systems interconnectivity to enable data exchange and coordinated information flow
		❑ Customize the Standard Operating Procedures to Railways and Airports
		❑ Implement automated simplified Passenger Clearance process integrated with payment options

Thank You

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