

# Cross-Border Paperless Trade in Azerbaijan

---

## Ongoing initiatives

*Ali Aliyev*

*The State Customs Committee*

*Republic of Azerbaijan*

# Outline

---

- Paperless Trade Environment
  - Cross-border Initiatives
  - Next on Cross-Border Paperless Trade
-

# How to facilitate trade further?

---

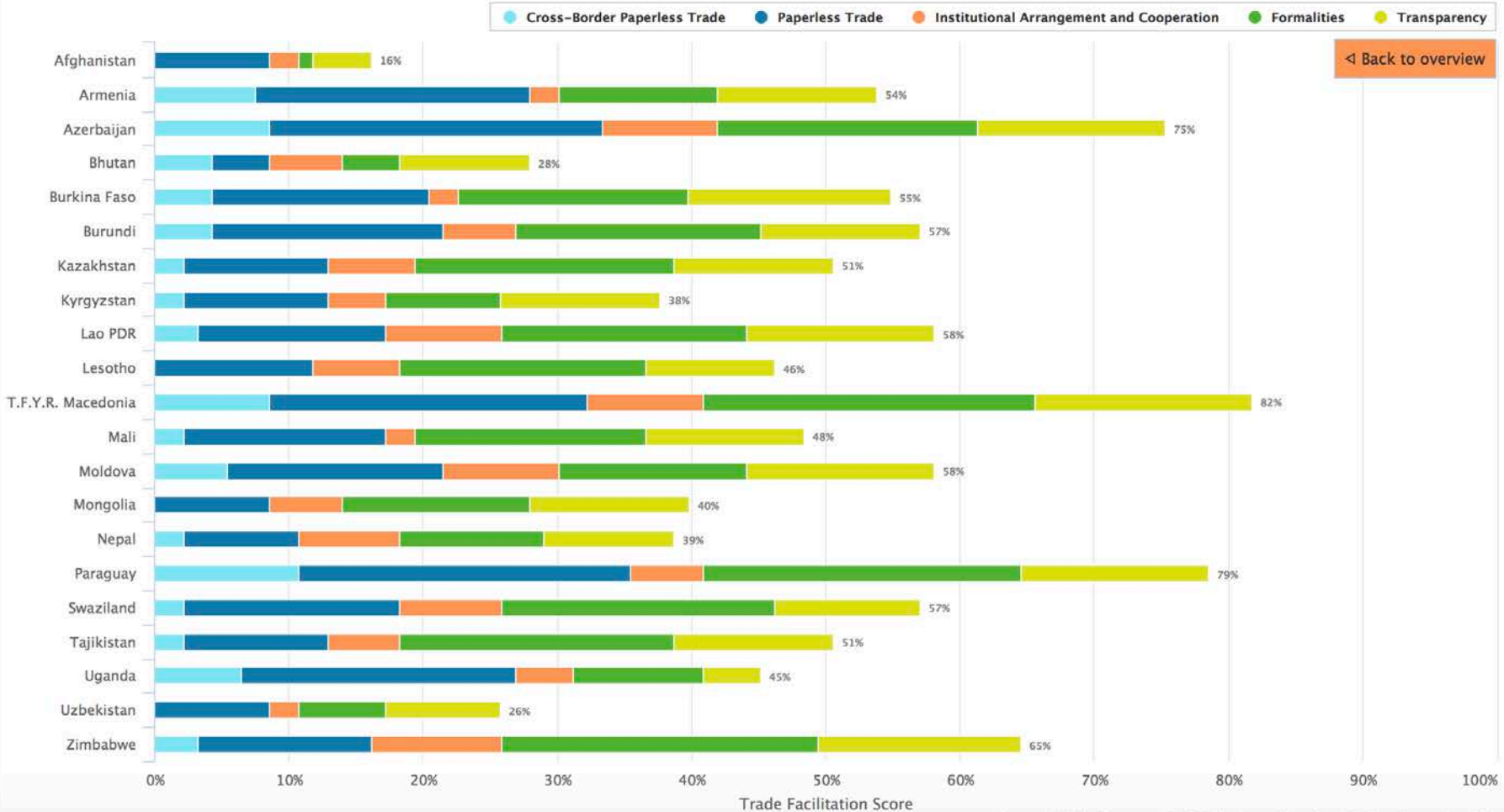
- Implement WTO TFA commitments in advance
- Take an integrated supply chain approach

Customs-Commercial-Transport-Other Regulatory-Payments

- Benefit from Multilateral and Bilateral Initiatives
-

# Study Results

Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade Implementation



[< Back to overview](#)

Source: UN Global Survey on Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade Implementation 2017

# Study Findings

---

Azerbaijan increased its overall implementation of trade facilitation measures from 52% in 2015 to 75.3% in 2017.

Its level of implementation is significantly higher than the level of Asia-Pacific (50.4%) and the level of North and Central Asia (51.8%).

Among the six core groups of trade facilitation measures, **the most implemented** in Azerbaijan is “Institutional arrangement and cooperation” measures (88.9%).

**The least implemented** is “Cross-border paperless trade” measures (44.4%). For “Paperless trade”, Azerbaijan’s implementation is above both the regional and sub-regional averages.

---

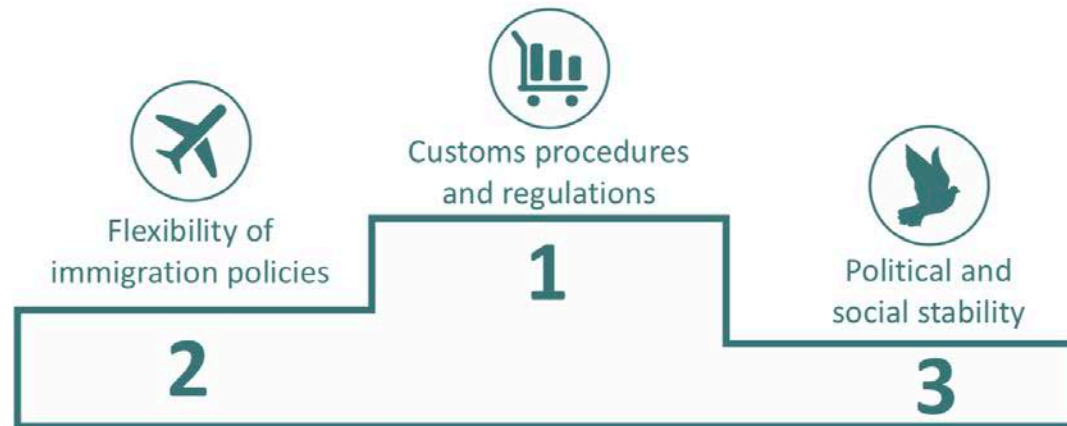
# Business Climate in Azerbaijan

The most remarkable positive trend is reported in the customs system, whereas productivity of employees is the factor with the most noticeable negative shift compared to 2016.

## EU Business Climate Report Azerbaijan 2017

Perceptions of EU Businesses active in Azerbaijan

### Top 3 positive trends



# Political Will

---

**Strategic Roadmaps** for development of national economy and main economic sectors (Dec 2016)

*The access of local products and services into the foreign markets shall be encouraged through **promotion of e-commerce solutions** by developing **e-commerce infrastructure** and **legal framework** in line with international standards.*

---

# Online Trade Platform

---

*“On additional measures for the strengthening of Azerbaijan’s position as a Digital Trade Hub and the expansion of foreign trade operations”*

Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan  
dated February 22, 2017

---



# What are we going to achieve?

---

Cross-border of exchange of data and documents is a strategic aim globally, but it will not happen immediately and operate perfectly, unless:

We aim to make it:

- ✓ Practical
- ✓ Tangible
- ✓ Achievable
- ✓ Incremental

**Do not invent another wheel!**

---

# Cross-Border Data Exchange

---

Protocols and technical provision documents among customs administrations on electronic exchange of pre-arrival information have been secured



# Good News

---

- e-Signatures to be mutually recognized under GUAM initiative, as well as among Turkic States and between Azerbaijan and Russian Federation
  - Georgia, Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan are to launch a unified electronic transit document under ADB supported project
  - EU NCTS is coming
  - Digital Trade Hub to be extended
-

# Study recommends

---

*"...Azerbaijan may focus its trade facilitation efforts in particular on full implementation of "Formalities" measures, as well as on moving towards "Cross-border paperless trade", in particular through active participation in the new regional UN treaty on cross-border paperless trade facilitation."*

---

# Recommendations

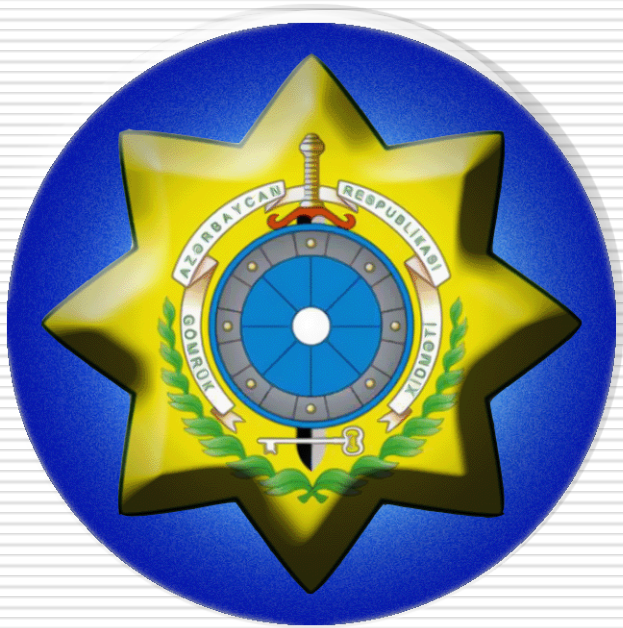
---

Start with simple:

- Promote Bilateral Initiatives to gain momentum
  - Promote mutual recognition of Trust Services
-

# Customs Service of Azerbaijan

---



Thank you !

[ali.aliyev@customs.gov.az](mailto:ali.aliyev@customs.gov.az)

---