



# Robert Ireland

## WCO Research Unit

[http://www.wcoomd.org/home\\_research.htm](http://www.wcoomd.org/home_research.htm)


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## WCO Research Conference

[Version française](#)

### Informality, International Trade and Customs

3-4 June, 2013

WCO Headquarters, Brussels, Belgium

#### Conference objectives:

Following the selection of the best abstracts submitted in response to the Call for Papers, the World Customs Organization (WCO) and the World Bank will host a Research Conference on the theme of informality related to international trade and border administration in Brussels, Belgium.

Four major areas will be discussed at the Conference:

1. Local importers of developing and emerging countries, their individual trajectories, practices and their relationships with the administrations controlling the borders, their organization as transnational commodities value chains and the relationships between these chains;
2. Economic, political, and social effects of the international movements of goods subject to informal practices;
3. The representations, official and unofficial practices of the border administrations in relation with what/who they name "informal";
4. The role of administrations and international/transnational organizations producing norms to regulate international trade flows, within an ideological framework influenced by corporations promoting self-government while the usual forms of national sovereignty remain in place.

Prof. Keith Hart will deliver a keynote address at the opening of the Conference.

#### Selection Committee:

- Keith Hart (University of London, University of Pretoria and University of Kwazulu-Natal, Durban);
- Thomas Cantens (World Customs Organization and Centre Norbert Elias Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales);
- Robert Ireland (World Customs Organization);
- Cristiana Panella (Royal Museum for Central Africa);
- Gael Raballand (World Bank).

#### More information

[Call for papers](#)

#### Sponsors

##### World Customs Organization



##### World Bank



##### Korea Customs Service


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WCO Research Conference  
Informality, International Trade and Customs  
June 3-4, 2013  
Brussels





# antiAtlas

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EXPOSITION  
DU 13/12 2017

*Reform by Numbers: Measurement Applied to Customs and Tax Administrations in Developing Countries* was written in the context of new and innovative policies for customs and tax administration reform. Eight chapters describe how measurement and various quantification techniques may be used to optimize the application of public resources, improve cross-border celerity, reduce corruption, and boost revenue. More than presenting best practices and due to the association of academics and practitioners, the case studies in this book explore the conditions under which measurement has been introduced and its effects on the administrative structure, as well as its relationship with political authorities and other users.

By analyzing the introduction of measurement to counter corruption and improve revenue collection in Cameroon, two chapters describe the extent to which the professional culture has changed and what effects have been noted on the public accountability of fiscal administrations. Two other chapters present experiments on the uses of quantification to develop risk analysis in Cameroon and Senegal. By using mirror analysis on the one hand and data mining on the other, these two examples highlight the importance of automated customs clearance systems that collect daily extensive data on users, commodities flows, and officials. One chapter develops the idea of measuring smuggling to improve the use of human and material resources in Algeria and nurture the questioning of the adaptation of a legal framework for the social context of populations living near borders. Finally, two examples of measurement policies, in France and in South Korea, enlighten the diversity of measurement, the specificities of developing countries, and the convergences between developing and developed countries on common issues such as trade facilitation and better use of public funds.



## DIRECTIONS IN DEVELOPMENT

### Trade

# Reform by Numbers

## *Measurement Applied to Customs and Tax Administrations in Developing Countries*

Thomas Cantens, Robert Ireland,  
and Gaël Raballand  
Editors

NOMENCLATURE AND  
CLASSIFICATION OF GOODS

VALUATION

ORIGIN

ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

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INTEGRITY

**RESEARCH**

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**Research Paper Series**

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Informality

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KEY ISSUES

## Research Paper Series

More Information



No.	Paper Title	Date	Authors
28	<a href="#">Transit Facilitation for Regional Economic Integration and Competitiveness</a>	April 2013	T. Yasui
27	<a href="#">What Happened to the Selected? Performance Measurement of the Korea Customs Service Selectivity System</a>	November 2012	C.R. Han and R. Ireland
26	<a href="#">The EU Aviation Emissions Policy and Border Tax Adjustments</a>	July 2012	R. Ireland
25	<a href="#">Compendium of AEO Programmes – 2012 Edition</a>	July 2012	M. Polner
24	<a href="#">The Time Release Study as a performance measurement tool for a supply chain and an international corridor</a>	June 2012	S. Matsuda
23	<a href="#">Customs Environmental Scan 2012</a>	June 2012	T. Yasui
22	<a href="#">Informal Trade Practices</a>	May 2012	T. Cantens
21	<a href="#">Performance Contracts for Customs Officers</a>	Dec. 2011	R. Ireland and T. Cantens





# ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013

