SGS has developed all the tools and assistance for creating, implementing, assisting and improving an efficient approach for Fighting Illicit Trade (FIT).

The results for a country will be to improve the perception of customs duties, a better protection of the national economy as well as a stronger consumer protection (health and safety issues) and an efficient trade facilitation policy “controlling less but better”.

We offer an adaptable flexible approach for setting up a local efficient strategy which meets the highest international standards to get concrete results in the fight against illicit trade. We support the deployment of a best-in-class illegal trade department, including new techniques/tools and provide continuous support to the control authorities to ensure that fit-for-purpose controls are performed.

**OUR SERVICES INCLUDE**
- Diagnostics
- Capacity Building (CB)
- Accreditation
- Operating new techniques for Profiling & Targeting

**ADVANTAGES FOR GOVERNMENTS**
- Trade Facilitation, accelerating the customs clearance process;
- Attractivity for economic players, less but more efficient controls;
- Additional incomes taxes thanks to better controls;
- Protection of the population health and safety;
- Transfer of know-how and technicity;
- Develop capability at the control authorities;
- Accreditation of the staff and/or services in the fight against illicit trade.
DIAGNOSTIC
Our experts have developed a unique benchmark of 250 crucial points, which have been selected from major codes and international standards. The objective of the diagnostic mission is to benchmark the current structure responsible of the fight on illegal trade vis-à-vis the SGS standards based on international regulations and best-practices and to provide a framework towards continuous improvement.

TRAINING & SEMINARS
Once the right structure is in place, it is important to train the agents in charge of profiling transactions and identifying fraud up to the highest level. Illicit trade change and adapt continuously to the current controls performed, it is therefore crucial to understand that fighting illicit trade is an evolutionary problem. Having the resources trained with this mindset will ensure continuous results. To be effective, the training is a mix of theoretic and field experience.

OPERATIONAL SUPPORT
The operation at a national level consists of having a resource supporting the local teams for a defined period. It will ensure the practical implementation of the above-mentioned trainings in all targeted parts of the territory (ports, airports, land borders, postal sorting centres, etc.).

RISK ANALYSIS - TARGETING AND REMOTE INSPECTION
In our engagements with government administration, we aim to support operations and structures that are sustainable independently. In the process, we understand that specific temporary expertise may be required to the local teams to help them perform their tasks at the highest level. Our team of experts (profilers) review transport documents remotely to detect suspicious sea or air shipments thanks to very precise risk analysis criteria’s and will send their targets.

CERTIFICATION
EXPERTS CERTIFICATION
Local illegal trade experts are generally put into a lot of pressure by the different stakeholders: importers, private sectors (brand owners) and the media in general. Our certification objective tends to certify individuals that would take the role of leading locally such operations under a lot of pressure, as well as becoming the internal trainers for the teams.

DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATION
Based on the diagnostic scheme, SGS is developing a standard scheme for entities in charge of the fight of illegal trade. This certification will ensure that the up-to-date best practices are put in place in the operations vis-à-vis the government, the donors and the private sector (right holders).

OUR EXPERTS
• Accredited experts in the fight against illicit trade by the World Customs Organisation;
• IPR experts at US Department of Justice, EU Commission, World Trade Organisation and World Health Organisation.

FURTHER INFORMATION
To obtain further information on how SGS can help you for fighting illicit trade, please contact christophe.zimmermann@sgs.com