

Driving revenue collection through automated processes



BBD has contributed to a world-class and internationally acclaimed modernisation programme for a client involved in national revenue management, providing a platform for sustainable revenue collection.

In 2019, this client had more than 12,500 employees and trainees, dealt with 17.2 million tax returns submissions, processed 19.1 million payments and 7.1 million customs declarations, served 6.5 million customers at branches, and managed 8.3 million in- and outbound calls. The key numbers and transaction volumes at this client illustrate the nature and sheer scale of technological enablement required.

Objectives

The client required technology partners to help them tackle the modernisation challenge. Objectives of BBD's involvement in this challenge included the custom software development for:

- › Automation of revenue assessment and administration
- › Implementation of process controls
- › Adherence to compliance

Benefits

BBD played a key technology enablement role during the modernisation, in which the client realised the following benefits:

- › Effective revenue collection, which increased by more than 43% in 5 years
- › Cost efficiencies, evident in the cost to revenue ratio improving from 1.17% in 2009/10, to 0.93% in 2015/16, to 0.84% in 2018/19
- › Improved service to taxpayers through significantly shorter turnaround times, an example being average personal income tax assessment processing improving from 180 days in 2006, to an average of 0.22 days in 2019
- › Reduction in paper. Despite business growth the client managed to reduce the pieces of paper by an estimated 98% from 40,000,000 to 800,000 between 2006 and 2015 alone

Overview of the solution

BBD's long-standing partnership has enabled the client to become a very efficient public sector agency, saving on time and operational costs, all while improving taxpayer compliance. The programme has also delivered measurable business value on an annual basis.

At its core, the transformation provided for the automation of key processes to boost productivity and cost efficiencies, releasing people to focus on value-adding activities such as exception handling, enforcement and other tax-base broadening actions.

To ensure business continuity of the client's operations, solutions implemented are running in real-time mode.

Approach

The modernisation programme focused on organisational systems and processes, providing a platform for sustainable revenue collection through the following initiatives:

- › Delivery of significant business value, while leveraging existing technology investments (where feasible) through the updated design of the technical architecture for the modernised assessment programme, together with a roadmap focusing on modernised technical solutions
- › Implementation of BBD's business automation frameworks and accelerators. This message-oriented middleware switch functions as an orchestration engine that communicates with various systems in the client environment. These include legacy mainframes as well as more modern .NET and Java based systems. Functionality enabled by the processor spans electronic tax returns, forms, supporting document processing, letters, emails and SMSs



- › Enterprise-wide case management and workflow solutioning through the frameworks and accelerators, thereby effectively managing all business processes requiring user intervention or interaction. Functionality implemented comprises workflow cases, cash desk activities, letter processing, customs, contact centre integration, branch queue management, dashboards, tax submissions, legal processes, dispute handling, debt collection and audit processes
- › Analysis, design and development of management information system reporting to provide detailed daily operational metrics and statistics
- › Analysis, design and implementation of a national contact centre providing telephony integration for the client
- › This has led to improved metrics, quality of service, consistent first-time resolution of issues and significant cost saving
- › Analysis, design and implementation of databases, orchestrations and workflows to support the single registration of a legal entity and its respective tax products

- › Analysis, design and implementation of a series of mobile solutions to enable mobile registration, mobile e-filing, customs declarations, customs inspections and cash and carry audits
- › Business analysis of modernisation initiatives and projects (such as key business challenges and user requirements), together with draft functional specifications and designs to address these and reap optimal business benefits
- › Design and implementation of the personal income tax, corporate income tax, VAT and customs modernisation programme
- › High-volume processing solutions successfully analysed, designed, developed, integrated and deployed

This has been a demanding project, but due to BBD's co-shoring solution, we could utilise our distributed development model to quickly scale to the required large team comprising software engineers and business analysts – ensuring the delivery of ongoing business value for this public sector agency.

Impact of BBD's partnership

BBD has been a strategic modernisation partner for the client for over a decade, a period in which the agency achieved global recognition for its technology and innovation.

Out of BBD's current workforce, there is a pool of more than 100 individuals, who have a collective wealth of more than 450 years' experience at the client alone. These individuals bring deep technical expertise, as well as extensive domain knowledge in the areas of Tax, Customs and Excise, IVR / Customer Contact and Telephony solutions. The impact of this partnership is that the client has been able to significantly improve business turnaround times, from weeks to near-real time:



About BBD

BBD has been at the forefront of software development and application design solutions for nearly four decades. We've helped the likes of large-volume banks, government institutions, insurance companies and telecommunication firms get their mission-critical systems online and delivering... and we can do the same for you. We are an international company with a footprint in India, Netherlands, South Africa and the United Kingdom, and have over 800 highly skilled, motivated and experienced IT professionals.