

We Cross Borders

International Conference

“Trade facilitation and enhancement of security between the neighboring
customs administrations”

Maja Baric

Sladjana Damjanoska

Monday, October 30th 2023, Thessaloniki



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
DECENTRALISED ADMINISTRATION
OF MACEDONIA - THRACE



Project co-funded by the European Union and
National Funds of the participating countries

Cooperation between customs administrations - Legal base

- **Stabilisation and Association Agreement** with European Community (Protocol 5 mutual cooperation in customs matter)

- signed a bilateral **Memorandum of Understanding** on electronic data exchange, between the Customs Administration of the Republic of North Macedonia and the Independent Authority for Public Revenue of the Hellenic Republic, 7th July 2022 at Thessaloniki Connectivity Forum



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
DECENTRALISED ADMINISTRATION
OF MACEDONIA - THRACE



Project co-funded by the European Union and National Funds of the participating countries

Sustainable trade and transport

- Established the first operational Green Lane with EU member state, at road border crossing point North Macedonia - Greece),
- at BCP Bogorodica- Evzoni (July 2022
- „Green Lane” for sensitive goods that have priority treatment (food products - meat, vegetables, medical equipment, medicines - exactly determined by tariff numbers)
- Exchange of pre arrival information using the CEFTA SEED platform (on a trial bases)



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
DECENTRALISED ADMINISTRATION
OF MACEDONIA - THRACE



Project co-funded by the European Union and
National Funds of the participating countries

Facilitating international trade

- **New Computerized Transit System** –RNM member of European transit system since 2015; significantly release the trade with EU and EFTA States;

-**implementation of the Mutual recognition of Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) programs on national level and in the region, (Serbia and Albania)** one of the key concepts for facilitating international trade

-Initiated to established the AEO program with EU

-Established joint border crossings - **One Stop Shop concept**, already successful and fully in operation at the border crossing Tabanovce–

Presevo with Serbia (corridor X) and at the border crossing Kafasan –
Qaftane with Albania.

Borders safety and security

- Exchange Customs Information Lists for excise and sensitive goods (since 2003)
- new System for video surveillance and registration of license plates (CCTV & ANPR) –financed with a loan from the World Bank within the Western Balkan Trade and Transport Facilitation Project - in function in 2025.
- new weighbridge provided through with this program



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
DECENTRALISED ADMINISTRATION
OF MACEDONIA - THRACE



Project co-funded by the European Union and
National Funds of the participating countries

New Border Crossing point Limos – Markova Noga

- Construction of New Border Crossing Point Limos – Markova Noga on the border with the Republic of Greece - in the Prespa region;
- the implementation should start at the end of 2023;
- coordination with the competent institutions from the Greek side;
- the estimated value of the project is around 2 million eur;
- finance with EU Funds.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
DECENTRALISED ADMINISTRATION
OF MACEDONIA - THRACE



Project co-funded by the European Union and
National Funds of the participating countries

Cooperation – on central and operational level

Bilateral cooperation - bilateral meetings held April 2019 and March 2022 between delegations of the Customs Administrations of the Republic of North Macedonia and the Republic of Greece);

BC Bogorodica – Evzoni; BC Medjitlija and Niki, BC Dojran and Dojrani -daily communication for: exchange of information, administrative and other assistance, and especially facilitating the flow of passengers and vehicles;

Established direct operational communication for the exchange of information on daily bases between the departments for control and investigations from Skopje and Thessaloniki



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

DECENTRALISED ADMINISTRATION
OF CUSTOMS



Improved border crossing time at Border

Crossing Bogorodica - Evzoni

The recent **Time Release Study**, conducted in 2022 according to the methodology of the World Customs Organization shows a significant reduction in customs clearance time at both border and inland customs offices.

According to this Study, the most significant reduction in processing time was found in the transit procedures at the Bogorodica border crossing, the average transit time was reduced from 64 to 7 minutes, which is 9 times less compared to 2015.

The results of the study show that Customs is on the right track and this is a motive for more intensive work on the already started activities to facilitate trade and the competitiveness of the economic operators.

Upgrades on the Border Crossing Bogorodica - Evzoni

Trade facilitation means enhanced competitiveness in national and international markets due to reduction in delays and costs which are achieved with predictable and efficient movement of goods across borders.

The Project WeCrossBorders contributes the intention for good trade facilitation.



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
DECENTRALISED ADMINISTRATION
OF MACEDONIA - THRACE



Project co-funded by the European Union and
National Funds of the participating countries

Upgrades on the Border Crossing Bogorodica - Evzoni

The benefits of the Project:

- cooperation
- knowledge sharing and knowledge transfer
- improved infrastructure on the border crossing
- space for future improvements



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
DECENTRALISED ADMINISTRATION
OF MACEDONIA - THRACE



Project co-funded by the European Union and
National Funds of the participating countries