ALBANIA KOSOVO

Cross-Border Data Exchange

Kosovo and Albania sought UNCTAD's assistance to enhance their ASYCUDAWorld system to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of transit procedures

Situation

The port of Durres in Albania plays a key role in enabling trade flows between the Adriatic Sea and landlocked countries in the region, allowing them to connect to global supply chains.

The increase in bilateral trade and the use of seaports by economic operators from Kosovo has increased the need to undertake measures for to accelerate transit procedures. Kosovo and Albania signed an agreement on simplified procedures for border crossing and the elimination of double controls.

Solution

The new Common Transit System (CTS), developed by the Customs technical teams of both countries and ASYCUDA, consists of an ASYCUDAWorld module deployed in both countries, and includes:

- System-to-System exchange of electronic data
- One single transit operation covering all land transport
- Mutual recognition of guarantee system
- Mutual recognition of Customs controls and procedures, seals and stamps
- Notification Crossing Frontier (NCF)
- Common Management of Reference Data (technical and business code lists, system messages and notifications)
- Joint Customs controls at shared Border Crossing Point Morine-Vërmice.

Result

- Transit times at the border have been reduced to less than 5 minutes
- 53,573 transit procedures were registered in the corridor in 2019
- 85% of exports from Kosovo transiting by Albania were cleared within 30 minutes in 2019
- 48% of imports to Kosovo transiting by Albania were cleared within 30 minutes in 2019.

137,000

Trucks on average cross the Albania-Kosovo borders per year

"

The Common Transit System, through the automatic interconnection of electronic systems [i.e. ASYCUDAWorld], enables businesses to initiate a transit procedure in Albania or Kosovo and to end it in the other country, thus avoiding unnecessary border controls and significantly reducing time and cost for business.

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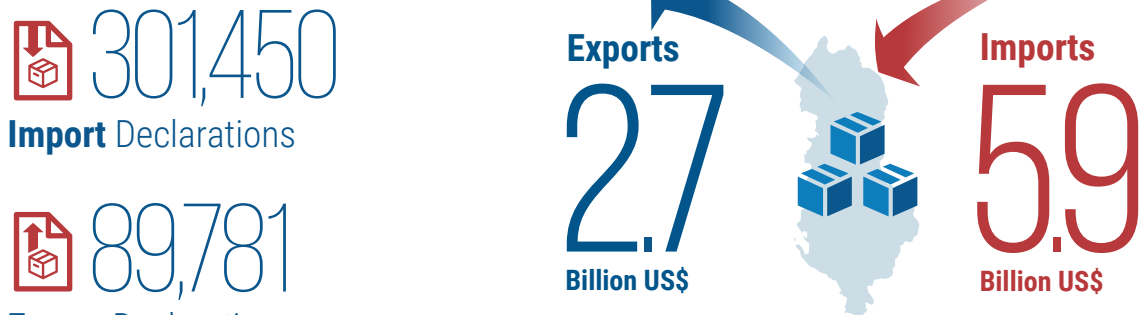*WCO Capacity Building Progress Report 2019*

Partners:

ALBANIA KOSOVO

Cross-Border Data Exchange

Volume of Activity on corridor (2019)

53,573
Transit Declarations

74% Albania to Kosovo — **26%** Kosovo to Albania

T (Tonnes) **1,140,139**
Total transiting goods' weight

Volume of Activity in Albania (2019)

301,450
Import Declarations

89,781
Export Declarations

150,005
Transit Declarations

Source: WCO Annual Report 2019-2020.

Exports **2.7** Billion US$

Imports **5.9** Billion US$

Source: UNCTADstat.

Customs annual **revenue evolution** (Million leke)

149 — 2016
159 — 2017
162 — 2018
165 — 2019

Volume of Activity in Kosovo (2019)

258,820
Import Declarations

33,030
Export Declarations

Men **442** — **569** — **127** **Women**
Persons Trained in Kosovo

Source: WCO Annual Report 2019-2020.