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 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.

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.

**WCO Capacity Building Progress Report 2019**
Volume of Activity on corridor (2019)

- **53,573** Transit Declarations
- **74%** Albania to Kosovo
- **26%** Kosovo to Albania
- **1,140,139** Total transiting goods’ weight (T (Tonnes))

Volume of Activity in Albania (2019)

- **301,450** Import Declarations
- **89,781** Export Declarations
- **150,005** Transit Declarations

**Exports**
- **2.7** Billion US$

**Imports**
- **5.9** Billion US$

Customs annual revenue evolution (Million leke)
- 2016: 149
- 2017: 159
- 2018: 162
- 2019: 165

Volume of Activity in Kosovo (2019)

- **258,820** Import Declarations
- **33,030** Export Declarations
- **442** Men
- **569** Women

Persons Trained in Kosovo
- **127**