

MOLDOVA

ELECTRONIC PRE-ARRIVAL SYSTEM FOR FASTER CUSTOMS CLEARANCE



The Republic of Moldova expressed the need for faster electronic customs clearance. Thus, the project aimed to implement an electronic pre-arrival customs clearance system for express

consignments. The model based on the successful German Alliance projects in Montenegro and Serbia.

BACKGROUND

Since its independence, Moldova has pursued the objective of integration in the world economy through trade policy reforms. In 2001 Moldova was among the first post-Soviet countries joining the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

In recent years, the Customs Service has undertaken a process of modernisation in line with the requirements of the European Union. It is the

WHAT WE DID

The project was concluded in 2022. In 2023 the new system for Pre-Arrival Processing (PAP) of express consignments was integrated into the

objective to maximise efficiency in the customs clearance process. The Republic of Moldova has achieved significant progress with the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) implementation. Nevertheless, continuing the modernisation process plays an important role for Moldova's further economic development.

customs IT-system and tested. Customs currently works on a roadmap for the full roll-out with deployment by January 2024.



THE PROJECT AT A GLANCE

TITLE	Implementation of an Electronic Pre-Arrival Customs Clearance System
COMMISSIONED BY	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	National Customs Authority and private express operators
DURATION	March 2019 - June 2022

Project activities included:

- Baseline assessment of Customs IT system
- Specifying target model, developing new software module
- Testing and pilot implementation
- Developing IT system handbook for customs officers
- Study visit to and exchange with Slovenian Customs Administration
- Drafting recommendations for legal amendments, exchange with express operators to review practicality
- Adoption of the legislative changes by relevant authorities



Moldova is currently setting-up a similar procedure for the pre-arrival processing for postal consignments. They plan to go live with both solutions for express and postal shipments by January 2024.

Once the system will be used in practice, it is expected to immediately reduce the release

times for goods in category 1 and 2 significantly. These categories include correspondence and documents as well as low-value consignments for which no duties and taxes are collected. The direct data exchange between customs and the private sector will be enabled through a module of the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA¹).

EXPECTED BENEFITS



- The number of express shipments being released within one hour of their arrival are increased from current 11% to at least 65%
- 95% of customs officers dealing with customs clearance benefit from the IT solution for customs pre-arrival clearance for performance of their tasks.
- Local and international logistic companies in Moldova benefit from improvement of the customs clearance process.
- Increased trust and collaboration between public and private partners

The project was jointly implemented by the bilateral project Economic Policy Advice to the Moldovan Government and the German Alliance for Trade Facilitation in cooperation with the private sector partner DHL Express under the develoPPP programme.



¹ASYCUDA is an integrated customs management system for international trade and transport operations developed by the United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

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German Alliance for Trade Facilitation

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Köthener Straße 2, D-10963 Berlin, Germany



tradefacilitation@giz.de