

OSCE-UNECE

Handbook of Best Practices at Border Crossings – A Trade and Transport Facilitation Perspective

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and

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**REGIONAL SEMINAR AND PRACTICAL TRAINING ON TRADE AND
TRANSPORT FACILITATION IN TRACECA, CHISINAU, 5-8 November 2012**

OSCE's mission statement

To work for **stability**, **prosperity** and **democracy** in 56 States through political dialogue about shared values and through practical work that makes a lasting difference.





OSCE Transport Mandate

- **Ministerial Council Decision No. 12/06 on *Future Transport Dialogue in the OSCE* (Brussels, 2006)**
- **Ministerial Council Decision No. 11/11 on *Strengthening Transport Dialogue in the OSCE* (Vilnius, 2011)**
- **Economic and Environmental Forum cycles in 2006, 2008, 2010 and 2011**



Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe

Examples of OSCE Support

- **Regional & national capacity-building/awareness raising activities** on the *UNECE Harmonization Convention, WCO SAFE Framework of Standards* and *Revised Kyoto Convention*: Moscow, Belgrade (2006), Almaty, Tbilisi, Kyiv (2007), Astana, Balkanabat, Ashgabat, Tashkent (2009), Skopje (2011), Dushanbe (2012)
- **EATL, TEM & TER Meetings**: Tashkent, Turkmenbashy, Vienna (2010), Almaty and Astrakhan (2011)
- **OSCE Border Management Staff College** in Dushanbe, since 2009

**OSCE/UNECE HANDBOOK OF BEST PRACTICES AT BORDERS
RELEASED IN FEBRUARY 2012**



Relevance for the OSCE region

- Out of **31 landlocked developing countries globally, 9 are OSCE participating States, 2 are OSCE Partners for Co-operation**

Closest distance from the sea (km): Kazakhstan (3,750), Kyrgyz Republic (3,600), Tajikistan (3,100), Uzbekistan (2,950), Turkmenistan (1,700), Azerbaijan (870), Armenia (693), Belarus (623), Moldova (170)

- According to IRU NELTI: **40% of inland transport time is lost at borders and in customs procedures**



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Overall Goals

- Allowing for the **exchange of national experiences and expertise**
- Providing **concrete guidance** and access to **practical examples**
- To become a **reference document** and a **source of inspiration** for national policy makers

AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH

Russian edition to be published by early 2013



Important considerations

- **Balance** (security and facilitation; between concepts; geographical)
- **Focussed** (on trade and transport)
- **Innovative** (benchmarking)
- **Challenges** (diversity of the contents, vast amount of references)



Handbook content

- **9 chapters and 2 Annexes**
- **265 pages** in total, over **120** international best practice examples and case studies
- Original version in **English, Russian translation** under preparation **+ other languages**
- Funding from the Governments of **Belgium, Finland, France, Kazakhstan and the U.S.**



Chapter 1

“Trade and Customs: The International Legal Framework”

- Overview of key conventions, tools and standards (incl. the WTO Agreements, the UNECE Harmonization Convention, the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards and Revised Kyoto Convention)



Chapter 2

“From Domestic to International Co-operation”

- Inter-agency co-operation both domestically and internationally
- Presents concepts such as: IBM, Coordinated Border Management, Collaborative Border Management, Single Window and One-Stop Border Crossings



Chapter 3

“Balancing Security with Trade Facilitation and Developing Partnerships with Private Industry”

- Border security measures
- Methods to facilitate trade and establishing partnerships between trade and government
- Need to adopt a balanced approach!



Chapter 4

“Processing of Freight: Policies for Control, Clearance and Transit”

- Examines border and customs control policies
- Introduces concepts such as inland clearance, pre-registration and advance information programmes, customs transit regimes etc.
- A key chapter particularly for LLDCs



Chapter 5

“Risk Management and Selectivity”

- Need to step away from traditional transaction per transaction checks and physical inspection techniques
- Introduce instead **risk-based management approaches** allowing to distinguish compliant and legitimate business from potentially non-compliant ones



Chapter 6

“Options for the Design of Border Crossing Points”

- Presents lay-out, construction, renovation, repair and maintenance practices
- Distinguishes between requirements for large and small BCPs and explores options for PPPs



Chapter 7

“ICT and Non-Intrusive Inspection”

- Looks at the role of ICT in border management and the international regulatory environment
- Introduces WCO Data Model, the E-Single Window and other data technologies
- Highlights the importance of non-intrusive inspection methods



Chapter 8

“Human Resources Management”

- Overview of complexity of tasks that need to be performed by Customs and other agencies
- Increased focus on the use of IT
- Emphasizes the importance of ethical standards in the work of border personnel and the necessity to provide training on a permanent basis



Chapter 9

“Measuring Border Agency Performance: Options for Benchmarking”

- What gets measured gets managed!
- Overview of best practices in the implementation of performance management and benchmarking



Use of the handbook

PROMOTION AND VISIBILITY

- ***Official launch meetings at the OSCE Economic and Environmental Committee and the UNECE Inland Transport Committee***

Co-organised with UNECE, Vienna & Geneva, February/ March 2012

- ***OSCE-UNECE Handbook Side Event at the 2012 Summit of the International Transport Forum***

Leipzig/ Germany, May 2012

Leipzig, May 2012





Use of the handbook

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL TRAINING SEMINARS

- ***First regional training seminar on best practices at border crossings***

Co-organised with OSCE Border Management Staff College and UNECE, Dushanbe, July 2012

- ***Aim:*** to provide training on issues covered by the Handbook
- ***Participation:*** Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Moldova, Russia, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Ukraine

Dushanbe, July 2012



Dushanbe, July 2012



BCP at Nizhnii Panj, July 2012





Capacity building and awareness raising

FOCUS ON INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS, STANDARDS & CONCEPTS

- **WCO SAFE Framework**

*Seminar on the Implementation of an Authorised
Economic Operator (or trusted trader) programme*

September 2012, Dushanbe: OSCE Border Management
Staff College (BMSC) and WCO

Dushanbe, September 2012



Dushanbe, September 2012

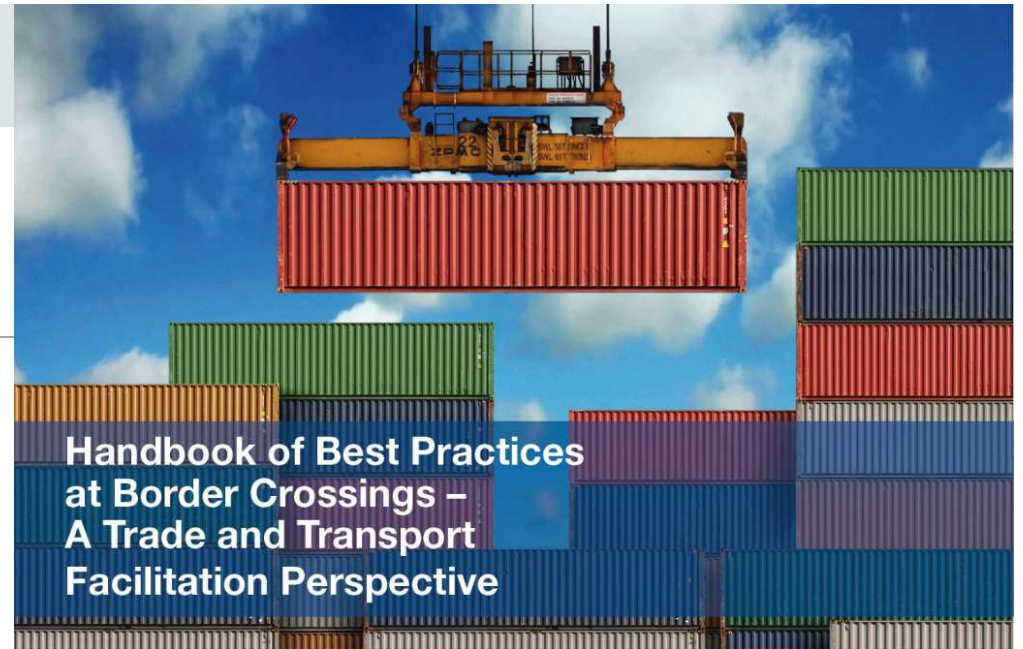




Road ahead

- **Further awareness raising and capacity building activities** are foreseen for **2012-2013**
- **Upon request of national authorities, OCEEA stands ready to provide tailor-made seminars** on specific chapters of the publication

Web-Access



OSCE Organization for Security and
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www.osce.org/eea/88200

www.unece.org/trans/publications/wp30/best_practices.html

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Thank you for your attention!

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