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State Border Guard Republic of Latvia

## BORDER MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME IN CENTRAL ASIA - PHASE 9 (BOMCA 9)

[www.bomca-eu.org](http://www.bomca-eu.org)

<b>BOMCA 9 overall objective:</b>	To increase effectiveness and efficiency of border management in Central Asia by introducing advanced elements of the Integrated Border Management (IBM), assisting governments in developing and reforming their migration governance, mobility, and trade facilitation policies, strengthening capacities of Border and Migration Agencies, thus contributing to the security and economic development at national and regional level
<b>BOMCA 9 specific objectives:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ To sustain institutional development in the transition to more effective and efficient methods of border management, replicating best practices of the IBM paradigm</li> <li>✓ To develop legal and procedural instruments, as well as advanced practices to manage regular and irregular migration at borders, in compliance with international norms and standards</li> <li>✓ To introduce measures to increase the efficiency of border checks and procedures facilitating licit trade and transit of goods, and countering various forms of smuggling</li> </ul>
<b>Coverage:</b>	Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan)
<b>Beneficiaries:</b>	National border management and migration management authorities
<b>BOMCA 9 Implementing Consortium:</b>	Consortium of the EU Partners: <b>State Border Guard of Latvia</b> (Project Leader), Customs Department under the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania, Riga Technical University, Food and Veterinary Service of the Ministry of Agriculture of Latvia, State Revenue Service of the Republic of Latvia, and ICMPD. Associate partners: Immigration and Border Service of Portugal, Ministry of Interior of Hungary.
<b>Duration:</b>	15 June 2015 – 14 December 2019
<b>Budget:</b>	EUR 6 606 380

### Major accomplishments as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018:

BOMCA-9 has covered a comprehensive set of aspects of the IBM-oriented border management. In total **184 activities** were implemented by the end December 2018 in all Central Asia countries with engagement of **over 2 700 state officials** of beneficiary agencies and provided **equipment to 4 CA countries for over 207 000 EUR**.

1. Resumed functioning of the **Regional Platform of CA Border Guards and Customs Training Centres** with which the countries can sustain durable educational cooperation and advance their training processes with modern educational approaches. Building upon the training needs and best practices, the **exchanges of trainers and trainees** were organised among Training Institutions of CA Customs and Border Guards agencies (radiation control & dual-used goods, X-ray scanning, profiling at BCPs, K-9 management service)
2. Promoted introduction of **IBM elements into curriculum** of CA Border Guards and Customs higher educational and training institutions, and standardization of study programs with professional frameworks of FRONTEX, EC DG TAXUD, and WCO PICARD. Helped Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan higher education institutions preparing Customs specialists with evaluation of study programs against WCO criteria and preparation of accession package for **achieving WCO certification**.

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3. Launched the **Distance Learning system** for BG training institutions in **Kyrgyzstan** (Osh & Bishkek) and operationalized the Distance Learning system for CU higher military institute in **Uzbekistan**, enabling application of modern technologies into educational processes and networking (distance lectures) with the national and also the EU MS counterpart institutions.
4. Enhanced the **administrative management pillar** of border management agencies through the trainings and on-the-job practices on management of human resources, financial planning and control in compliance with international standards and EU best practices.
5. Assisted in the mid-term review and further upgrade of the **National IBM Strategies and their Action Plans for the period of 2012-2022 in Kyrgyzstan and for the period of 2010-2025 in Tajikistan**, generating recommendations to the priority areas of the IBM Action Plans in each of the countries.
6. Helped CA border management agencies to strengthen the principles of **law-enforcement ethics and professional standards** by targeted trainings covering work relations and environment, intra-service and inter-agency cooperation, anticorruption measures. Assisted Kyrgyzstan with update of the Action Plans on **eradication of systemic corruption** in three border management agencies (State Border Service, State Customs Service and State Inspection on Veterinary & Phytosanitary Security) that were further endorsed by the Government and transferred for implementation.
7. Supported CA state officials to attend **high level dialogues** in the frame of Central Asia Border Security Initiative (CABSI), Conference of Regional Cooperation on Border Security in CA (Issyk-Kul Initiative) International Border Police Conference (IBPC) and Almaty/ Budapest/ Prague Processes, as well as **study visits** to EU MS' professional agencies.
8. Assisted CA Border Guard Agencies in establishing/strengthening **identification and profiling mechanisms** and developing Methodology for identification of Foreign Terrorist Fighters at BCPs.
9. Developed recommendations to legal and instrumental procedures governing the **inter-agency and intra-service cooperation and information exchange**, strengthened capacities of management, frontline and patrolling staff on border checks, document security, "green" border surveillance techniques, investigative procedures, reporting and referral mechanisms, public service standards, responses to emergency situations, training of service dog, etc.
10. Undertaken assessment of existing legal acts of the Kyrgyz Republic in the field of **migration management and combating irregular migration** for further improvement of legislative framework.
11. Assisted CA Customs services in developing their **risk management systems** and investigation capacities, as well as new working tools for detection of goods smuggling and fraud, enhanced knowledge and skills in intellectual analysis for risk assessment, Customs cyber intelligence, criminal intelligence and encouraged for integration of risk management into the process of Customs controls.
12. Assisted CA **Phyto-Sanitary-Veterinary services in developing risk analysis** of imported animals, food and plants as well as working procedures for risk assessment.
13. Helped CA Customs services with advancing their policies towards the **electronic E-Customs environment** for import, export and transit operations by elaborating tailor-made IT strategies and Road-map guidelines for converting paper-based procedures into paperless Customs environment.
14. Assisted with improvement of practical skills of Customs and Law Enforcement units in **prevention and detection of illegal trafficking** of goods and means of transport, control of dual-use goods, protection of endangered species of animals and plants (CITES), protection of intellectual property rights (IPR).
15. Supported WTO candidates of CA with progressing **preparations for the WTO accession** by providing legal expertise and training on the measures to be implemented in the field of sanitary-phytosanitary requirements, customs valuation, tariff classification and origin.
16. Helped the CA Customs services improve and align the national legislation with the **provisions of Revised Kyoto Convention** and preparation for the accession to and/or implementing the Convention by providing tailor-made analysis and recommendations.

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17. Contributed to promoting the awareness of the EU Generalized Scheme of Preferences (**GSP+**) for **Kyrgyzstan** and strengthening knowledge of the state agencies on GSP+ provisions/ requirements, and preparations for introduction of the Registered Exporter System (REX) coming in force January 2019.
18. Supported the State Customs Committee in **revision of the Customs Code of the Republic of Uzbekistan** for simplification of customs procedures as per the norms of international conventions and agreements.

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