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BCCP STRUMYANI – BEROVO (KLEPALO)

NEWSLETTER



The creation of the new Border Crossing Point Strumyani – Berovo (Klepalo) is an important step in strengthening the cross-border cooperation between the two neighboring countries

On 8th October 2024 an Opening Flagship event was organised in Berovo to officially launch the project activities for the establishment of the new border crossing. The event featured addresses by Boban Nikolovski - Director General of the Customs Administration, Zlatko Perinski - Minister of Local Self-Government and Toni Jakimovski – Head of the Joint Secretariat of the Cross-Border Cooperation Programme with the Republic of Bulgaria.

Flagship Event



The total investment for the establishment of the border crossing is 11.1 million euros, of which 7.7 million euros is a grant through the EU's IPA 3 Cross-Border Cooperation Program, and the remaining funds are national cofinancing by North Macedonia and Bulgaria.

Why this is important for both countries

Customs Director General Nikolovski noted that this project is expected to enhance regional connectivity, boost the movement of people, promote economic relations, and strengthen trade ties between the two nations.

The launch of this long-awaited strategic project holds significant importance for both our country and the entire border region. The opening of the border crossing point Klepalo will bring substantial benefits to regional connectivity, improve communication between the two countries, and provide direct access to Bulgaria's Struma Highway, a key component of the trans-European transport network. This new border crossing will not only save time but also streamline the movement of people and goods between the countries, creating favorable conditions for economic development in the Maleshevo region, which has strong potential for tourism growth.



Public Profile

Interreg

Such projects reflect a shared vision for sustainable and integrated regional development. The Interreg program was created to foster cross-border cooperation and support the integration of regions through concrete projects that bring long-term benefits. The construction of the new border crossing point Strumyani – Berovo is an excellent example of this goal, enabling greater mobility of people and goods, strengthening economies and improving infrastructure on both sides of the border.

One Year On

Over the last twelve months a dedicated internal project team has been established within the Customs Administration. Throughout the year, this team has worked diligently to advance the project, ensuring that all necessary steps are taken to meet its objectives.

The project team has completed the recruitment of five experts to the key positions to the project. These experts have been contracted to support the Customs Administration to ensure the success of the project. These positions include a Procurement Expert, a Procurement observer, Technical, communication and visibility coordinator, Architect and Civil engineer. The Tender Dossier for Design works for the reconstruction will be published in the coming few weeks

"The project is co-funded by the EU through the Interreg VI-A IPA Bulgaria-North Macedonia 2021-2027 Programme, CCI No 2021TC16IPCB006. Strategic project "Establishment of a new Border cross check point Strumyani-Berovo (BCCP "Klepalo") between Bulgaria and North Macedonia", Contract N: ПД-02-29-115/17.11.2023."