

Selected projects



Albania

Joint border crossing point to Montenegro

Official title of the project

Construction of joint border crossing point at Murriqan/Sukobine

Country

Albania and Montenegro

Region/ City

Shkodra (Albania) / Montenegro

Sector

Integrated Border Management

Budget/EC contribution

1.1 million eur

Implementation period

February 2008 – February 2009

Expected results

Enhance cooperation between Albania and Montenegro; prevent illegal trafficking and migration; induce bona fide cross border movements of people and goods

Coordinator

Giulia Agrosi, task manager, operations section II, economic reform and infrastructure section, European Delegation to Albania

Beneficiary

The General Directorate Of Customs

Partners

Ministry Of Public Order/Albanian State Police Border Police Directorate, Ministry Of Finance, Directorate General For Customs

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Porous borders have long strained Albania's efforts to prevent illegal trafficking and cross border crime. An efficient integrated border management system has been identified as one of the top priorities in the Country Strategy Paper as well as a requirement for the liberalisation of visas with the EU. Moreover, regional stability and neighbourliness is crucial for the integration of the Western Balkans in the EU.

Part of a more comprehensive project aiming at the construction of 11 Border Crossing Points around Albania, the construction of the Murriqan / Sukobine border point, funded by the EC at the amount of 1.1 million EUR, began in April 2008 and is the first of its kind in the region.

The Joint Border Crossing Point, expected to be ready in February 2009, will be composed of one main building on two levels with separate offices (customs, police, veterinary and phytosanitary) for each nation and additional facilities for inspection and sequestration, disinfections, weighing of trucks etc.

Apart from enhancing cooperation between Albania and Montenegro, preventing cross border crime and improving the performance of border police, the Joint Border Point is also expected to alleviate the socio-economic conditions of the surrounding areas. Also, protection of the environment will be facilitated by the establishment of this joint unit, offering the two countries another area to cooperate in.

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