

Single Window Development and Implementation

Experience of the Russian Federation

Workshop on United Nations electronic documents for
Single Window Facilities in Asia and the Pacific

10-14 December 2007
Bangkok, Thailand

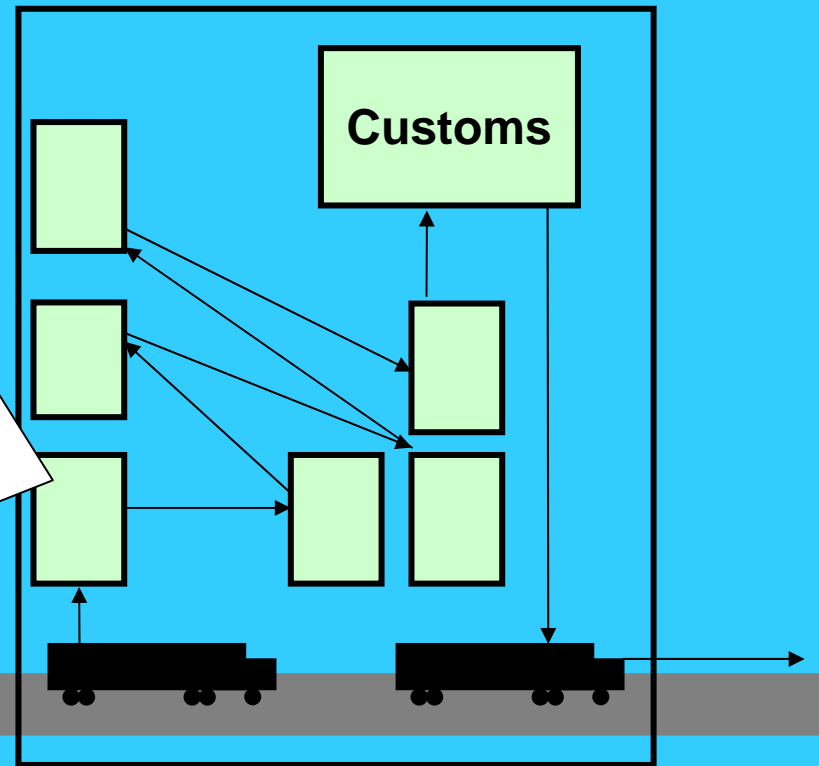
What is Russian Customs Border today?

- 62 000 km
- 16 neighbour countries
- 9 time-zones
- 413 cross-border check-points mostly built and equipped in mid-90-es or earlier
- border control system established in early 90-es
- 63752 customs officers
- foreign trade turnover of nearly \$500 000 000 000 a year
- 80 000 000 people and 12 000 000 vehicles cross the border annually

Existing approach to the border control

With respect to all the foreign trade risks there are 7 controlling agencies operate in the cross-border checkpoint:

- Customs;
- Border control;
- Transport control;
- Migration;
- Veterinary;
- Agricultural;
- Quarantine.



Existing approach to the border control

Weak points

- Long term of inspection (varies from 20-30 minutes to several hours)
- Long queues (approximately 24 hours in the queue to cross the Russian-Finnish border, queues up to 1500 trucks, sometimes more than 1 week of expectation)
- Priority to physical control (up to 120% of goods until goods are released for free circulation)
- Low effectiveness
- Low transparency and predictability for traders and forwarders
- High corruption and other criminal risks
- High traders and consumers losses (for example, €90 bln. a year for Finnish companies; approximately €400 a day for one vehicle waiting at the check-point to be released)
- High budget losses (Customs estimates \$210 for 3-hour physical inspection compared to \$12 for non-intrusive scanner inspection within 10 minutes; Ministry of Transport reports losses of \$300 mln. in 2006)

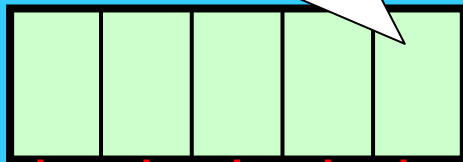
Tasks

- Simplify cross-border control for traders
- Improve cross-border control efficiency
- Reduce the extension of cross-border procedures
- Cut costs both for the state and for business
- Minimize corruption risks
- Avoid duplication of functions among authorities
- Improve transparency and predictability
- Upgrade procedures to international standards
- Improve transit attractiveness of the Russian Federation

Single Window concept - 2006

Immigration, Veterinary, Transport,
Agricultural, Quarantine .

Single
integrated
automatic
information
system



Special
zone

Customs &
Border control

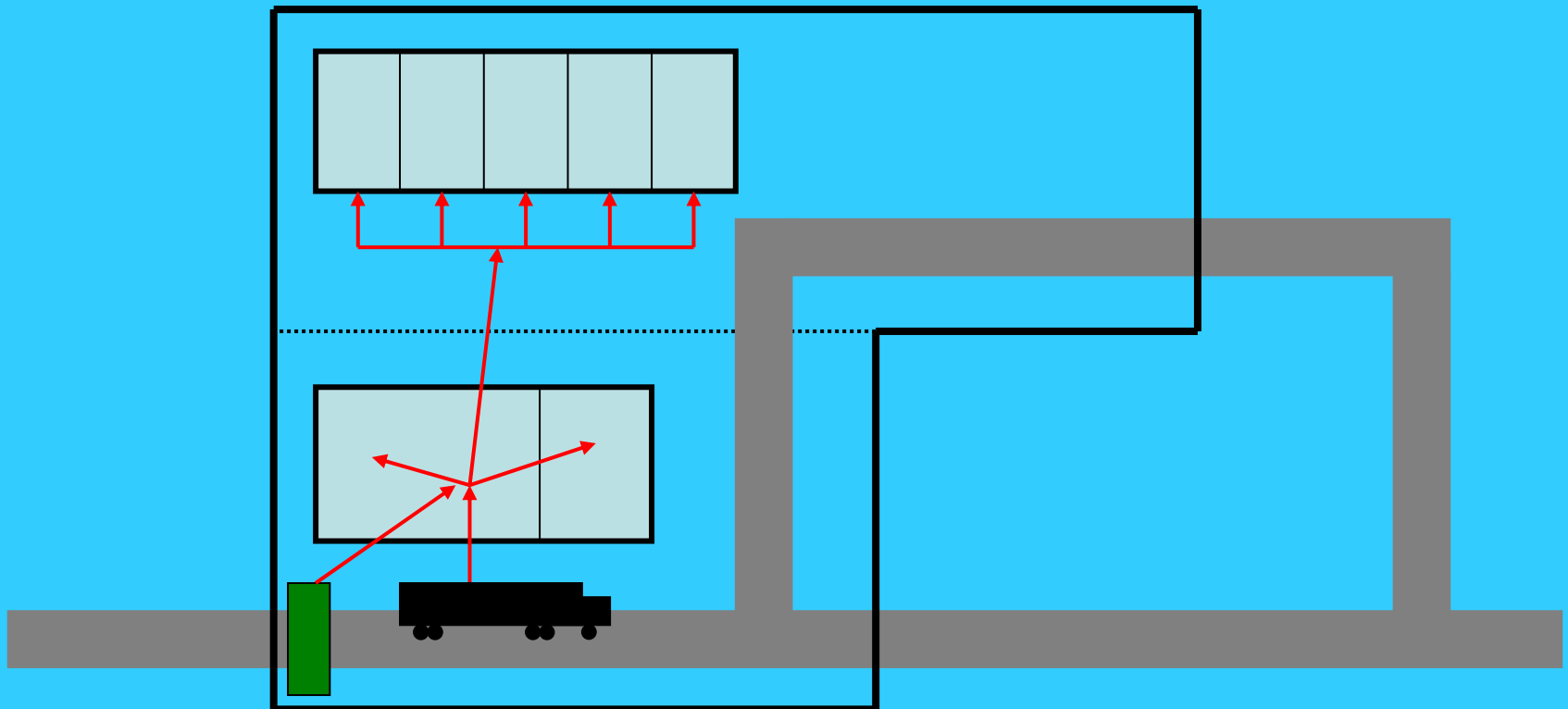
Initial control zone

Scanners



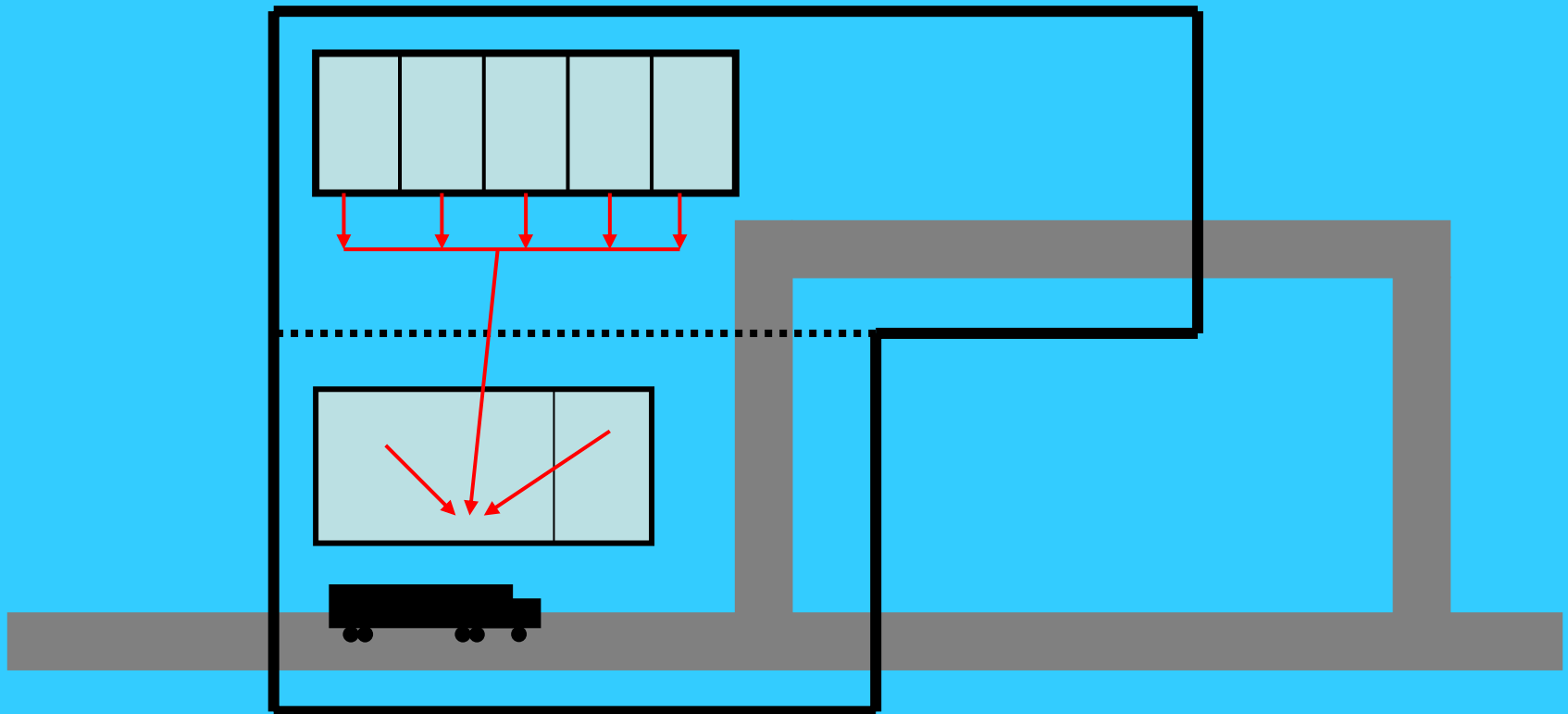
Single Window concept - 2006

Customs officer receives declaration from driver and information from entry scanners and delivers it via intranet to all agencies for analysis.



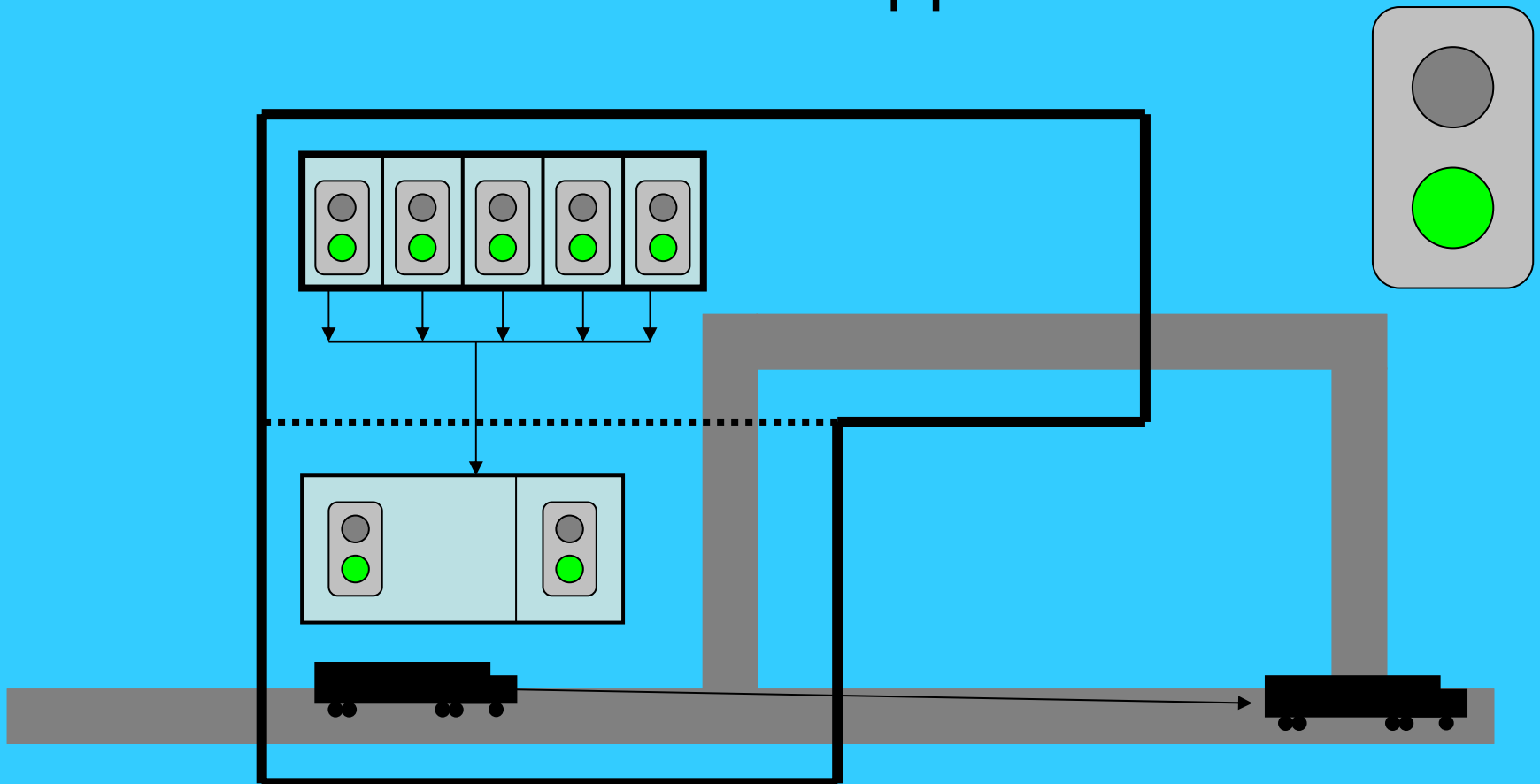
Single Window concept - 2006

All agencies give their reaction to the Customs officer so he could make final decision. Total time – 2-5 minutes.



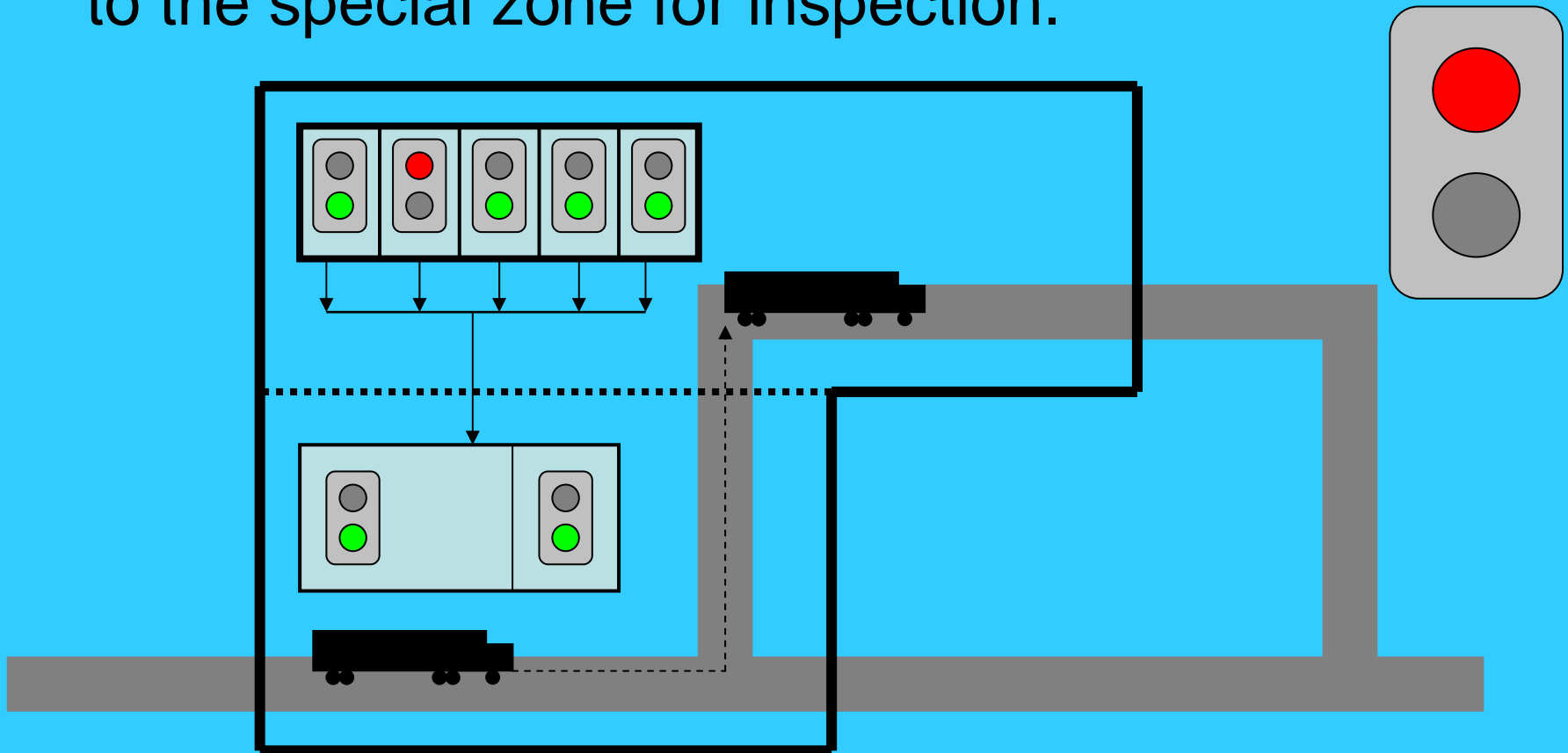
Single Window concept - 2006

No risks found. Release approved.



Single Window concept - 2006

One of the agencies detected risks. Truck follows to the special zone for inspection.



Barriers to Single Window

- **Personnel** – lack of co-operation experience, adherence to old-fashioned methods of control based on physical inspection of goods
- **Administration** – agencies are reluctant about sharing competence, losing powers and accepting new responsibilities, changing internal control methods or unify existing methods with other agencies
- **Technologies** – different level of controlling agencies' equipment, which is impossible to integrate in to the common IT-system, lack of IT-products ready to support modern procedures (i.e. risk management), lack of non-intrusive detectors, scanners, other modern equipment, fear for uncontrolled information flow.
- **Infrastructure** – obsolete infrastructure, Government's inability to reconstruct or to improve privately owned cross-border check-points.
- **Legislation**
- **Finance**

Actions undertaken

Legislation

Single window concept is fixed in legal acts. State border Act, Customs Code and more than 10 other Federal laws improved with respect to the new approach.

Single administrative document based on EU standards substituted previously used customs declaration form

Drafts of several governmental acts prepared concerning common requirements for establishing, construction, reconstruction and equipment of cross-border check-points, co-operation methods, kinds of state control carried out in check-points and other vitally important aspects of the Single Window.

Several Federal strategies adopted by the Government establishing the strategy of the reform, responsibilities of Federal ministries and financial sources for the reform.

Several other acts of Government or President prepared and/or issued concerning different technical aspects of the reform.

Actions undertaken

Personnel

Several experiments have been carried out in north-western border in order to practice Single Window cooperation among agencies.

Authorities are involved in different seminars and special educational programs aimed on changing officers mentality and explaining new philosophy of border control.

Additional measures undertaken to improve personnel loyalty and to reduce corruption risks.

Several controlling agencies received additional staff in order to optimize their control technologies.

Actions undertaken

Infrastructure

The Government decided to redeem all privately-owned cross-border check-points to have an opportunity to reconstruct it in due time and manner.

The Ministry of Transport carried out the revision of all check-points to identify the real volume of work to be done.

The President created Federal agency for the state border equipment responsible for all matters connected with establishing, construction, equipment and running cross-border check-points

Actions undertaken

Finance

Single Window reform is financed from the following sources:

- Annual Federal budget
- Budget-based Federal strategies' funds
- World Bank credit for IT modernization
- EU grants for separate check-points
- Funds of intergovernmental programs carried out in co-operation with several CIS countries.

Actions undertaken

Technologies modernization

Single Window reform was set in connection with other earlier started IT-modernization strategies.

IT technologies are improved within the Customs IT modernization project based on the World Bank credit and in accordance with State Border Development and Customs Development federal strategies.

Several data storage and exchange systems are under construction including Integrated automated information system (MIAIS) and its special segment for cross-border purposes, United customs automated information system (EAIS) and other.

Non-intrusive detectors installation program was launched to equip 22 main cross-border check-points until 2010.

Additional measures to improve cross-border procedures

- Advance information via internet or authorized agencies
- Authorized economic operator
- Joint check points with neighbour countries
- Customs-to-customs co-operation
- Use of scanners and other non-intrusive detection equipment
- Further improvement of risk-management system

Thank You!

Contact Information

Mikhail Antipov

antipovmk@mail.ru

antipovmk@economy.gov.ru

+7 (495) 950 94 50

Additional Information

www.customs.ru

www.economy.gov.ru

www.unece.org