

CONCLUSION

The four Central Asian countries have achieved different levels in border management. One common feature is that controlling agencies which can empower others to take on behalf their responsibilities have not done so. This applies to controlling agencies whose responsibilities can be paper-based without physical tests being carried out. Only Kazakhstan is looking towards reducing the number of controlling agencies to be housed at the border checkpoints. This could lead to efficiency and a development of a more effective clearance system.

The establishment of an Integrated Border Management methodology is a good concept which can be applied to the border management of the four countries. The countries are already involved in building up single windows, in particular, the Customs. Capacity building of officers to be empowered to take on additional responsibilities should not pose any obstacle. With a single window system in place, the gathering and analysis of information and intelligence could be speeded up.

The countries should look at implementing some of the measures listed for improving the facilitation of trade. Trade will remain one of the major elements for social and economic development. Potentially, the major transport corridors located within the territories of the four countries will present unique opportunities to be exploited. Thus the objectives of the countries should be to reassess their positions and revise their management approach at the border crossings.

Lastly, the existence of out-dated, ill-equipped facilities and lack of proper technical aids to facilitate examination at the borders should be seriously studied. The inadequacies should be remedied as a matter of priority.