

Customs Cluster

Land Modality

Enquiries

CDavis2@sars.gov.za

ERampal@sars.gov.za

Date

17 November 2023



South African Revenue Service

Lehae la SARS
299 Bronkhorst Street,
Nieuw Muckleneuk, 0181
Private Bag X923,
Pretoria, 0001

Dear Stakeholder

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN TRAVELLER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AT LAND BORDERS

The South African Revenue Service (SARS) commenced with the implementation of the South African Traveller Management System (SATMS) at all South African ports of entry in 2022 as part of the broader Customs Modernisation and SMART Border Programmes.

The implementation of the SATMS, which is a web-based system that enables travellers entering and leaving the country to pre-declare goods purchased, received or otherwise acquired and pay applicable taxes, also provides a modernised alternative to the current manual process where travellers complete a traveller card (TC01) at a border post, thus safeguarding the security of travellers' data and limiting the undesirable impact to the cost of doing business.

The declaration system has already been successfully implemented, through a pilot phase, at various South African airports and will continue to be implemented at selected sea ports and land borders. Furthermore, this implementation will be carried out at specified land ports in November 2023, namely the Beitbridge and Skilpadshek land borders.

SARS Customs has opted to follow this approach to ensure uninterrupted cross-border operations and to leverage on learning opportunities that arise from this pilot as part of the overall implementation road map.

The online declaration system seeks to make it easy for travellers to comply with the Customs legislative requirements by enabling them to pre-declare their goods prior to arriving in or departing from the Republic of South Africa. While the declaration is currently still completed on a voluntary basis, travellers entering or leaving the country through these land border posts are encouraged to complete and submit a traveller declaration before they enter or exit the country. The traveller declaration can be easily completed and submitted on any internet-connected smart device using the online traveller declaration system.

SARS Customs assures travellers that the implementation of this system is in the best interest of travellers and traders and will also aid in the attainment of the SARS Customs mandate, thus protecting our borders and facilitating legitimate trade.

For more information, kindly visit the traveller declaration webpage at [Traveller declaration | South African Revenue Service \(sars.gov.za\)](https://sars.gov.za/traveller-declaration).

Yours Sincerely,



VONANI NTLHABYANE

HEAD: CUSTOMS LAND MODALITY

17 NOVEMBER 2023