

Enquiries

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Date

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South African Revenue Service

Lehae la SARS
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Dear Stakeholder

UPCOMING TIME RELEASE STUDIES (TRS) AT KEY BORDER POSTS

The South African Revenue Service (SARS), in collaboration with the Revenue Service Lesotho (RSL), will be conducting **Time Release Studies (TRS)** at selected border posts during May and June 2025. These studies form part of our ongoing commitment to enhancing the efficiency of cross-border trade and facilitating legitimate movement of goods and persons.

The TRS sessions are planned to take place as follows:

- **Maseru Bridge**
 - Capacity Building: 05–09 May 2025
 - TRS Execution: 12–16 May 2025
- **Ficksburg Border Post**
 - Capacity Building (without WCO handholding): 26–30 May 2025
 - TRS Execution: 02–06 June 2025

The **Time Release Study (TRS)**, developed by the World Customs Organization (WCO), is a globally recognised tool for measuring the time

taken for the release and clearance of goods—from their arrival at a port of entry to final clearance.

It provides valuable insights into trade flow dynamics and helps identify opportunities to streamline procedures and eliminate supply chain bottlenecks.

This initiative is a collaborative effort involving SARS and the Lesotho Revenue Service, Other Government Agencies (OGAs), and the National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC). It aims to support the effective implementation of the World Trade Organization's Trade Facilitation Agreement (WTO-TFA), benefiting both South Africa and its neighbouring countries.

We value your partnership and look forward to your continued support and engagement in this important initiative.

Yours Sincerely,



Beyers Theron

**Director: Customs Border Operations, Ports of Entry, Customs and Excise
Compliance**

29 April 2025