



Customs Cooperation, Integrated Trade Facilitation, and CAREC 2020

CAREC Customs Cooperation
Committee Meeting

23 October 2012, Chengdu PRC



Trade Facilitation in CAREC

- Customs cooperation: where it all began
- investments by ADB and other development partners in Customs modernization, but...
- severe shortage of commensurate efforts to reform procedures, improve cooperation with other border management agencies, and respond to reasonable concerns raised by transport service providers



Making Progress, Moving Forward

What do we mean by commensurate efforts?

- Acceding to the Revised Kyoto Convention
- adopting key provisions of the World Trade Organization's Trade Facilitation negotiating text
- engaging other agencies and transport service providers in regular dialogue...
 - it's not difficult to make progress and move forward.

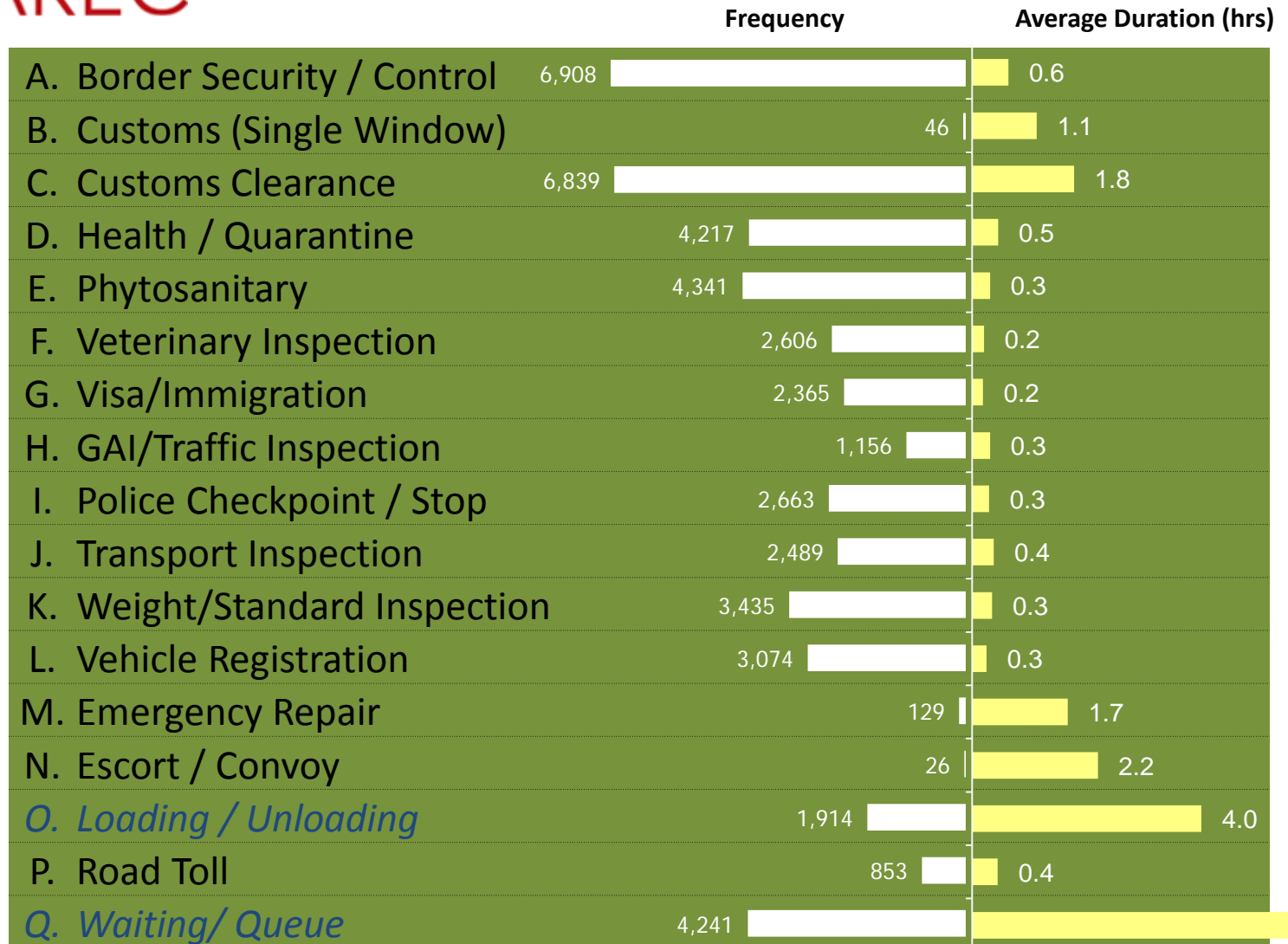


Increasing vs Impeding Trade

CAREC Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring demonstrates clearly that Border Crossing Points are THE bottleneck, and that Customs clearance is one of the principal causes of delays in completing border formalities....and extorting unofficial payments

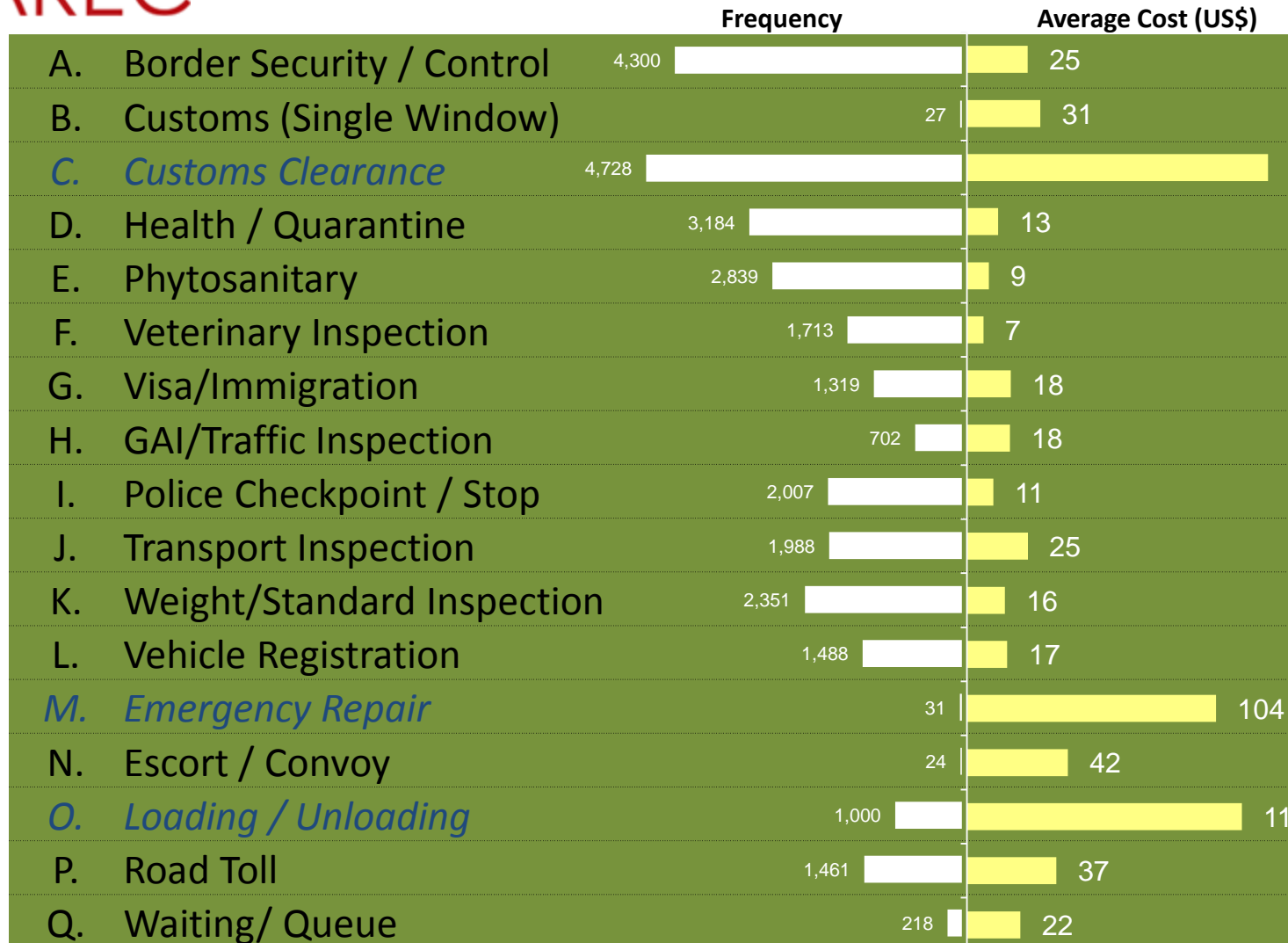


Increasing vs Impeding Trade





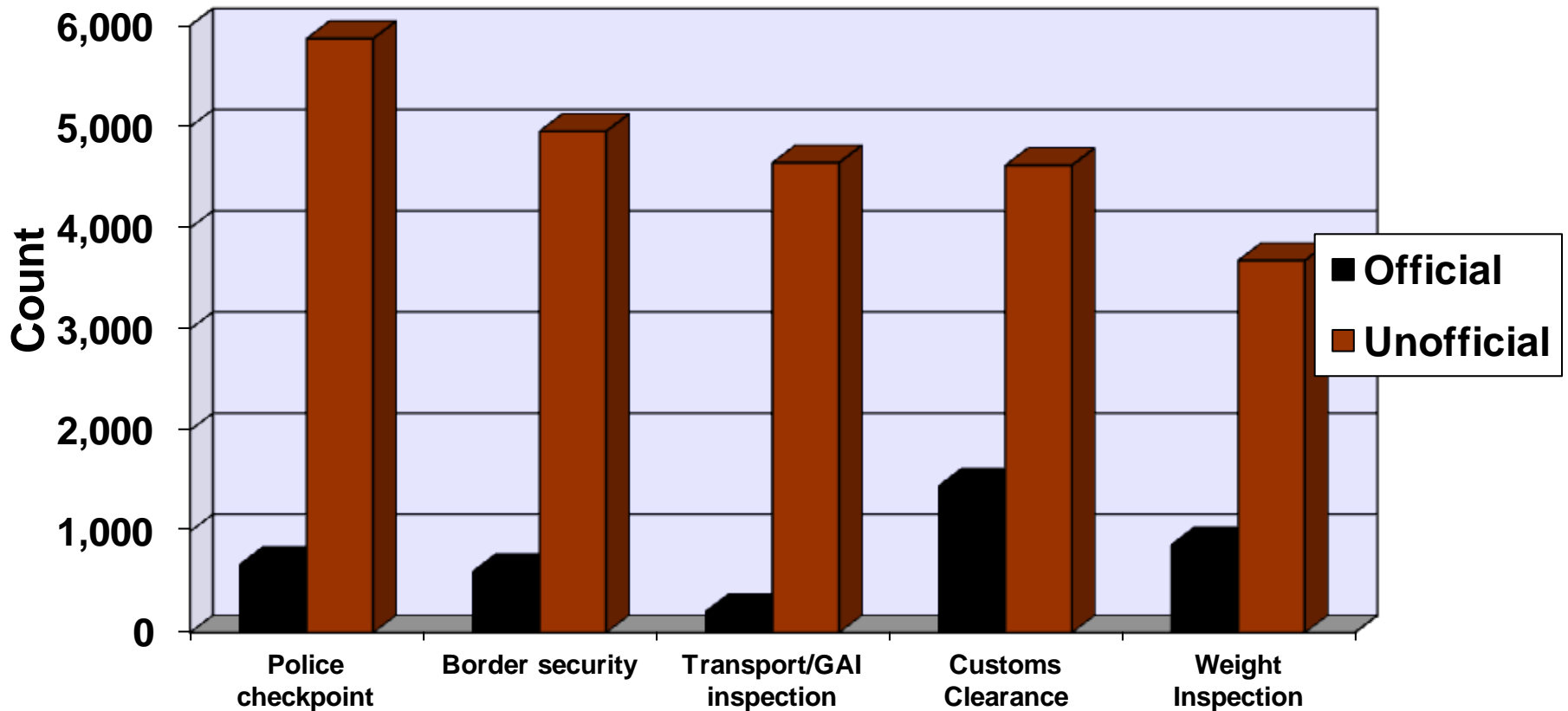
Increasing vs Impeding Trade





Increasing vs Impeding Trade

Top Five Activities Involving Unofficial Payments





New Priorities

trade expansion and improving competitiveness = new strategic objectives for CAREC

What needs to be done?

minimize the time taken to clear vehicles and goods for border crossing by:

- adopting best practice,
- modernizing procedures,
- operating border crossing points 24/7, and
- eliminating bribery and corruption

CAREC Customs services, by working together with one another (and with other border management agencies), can become part of the solution rather than part of the problem

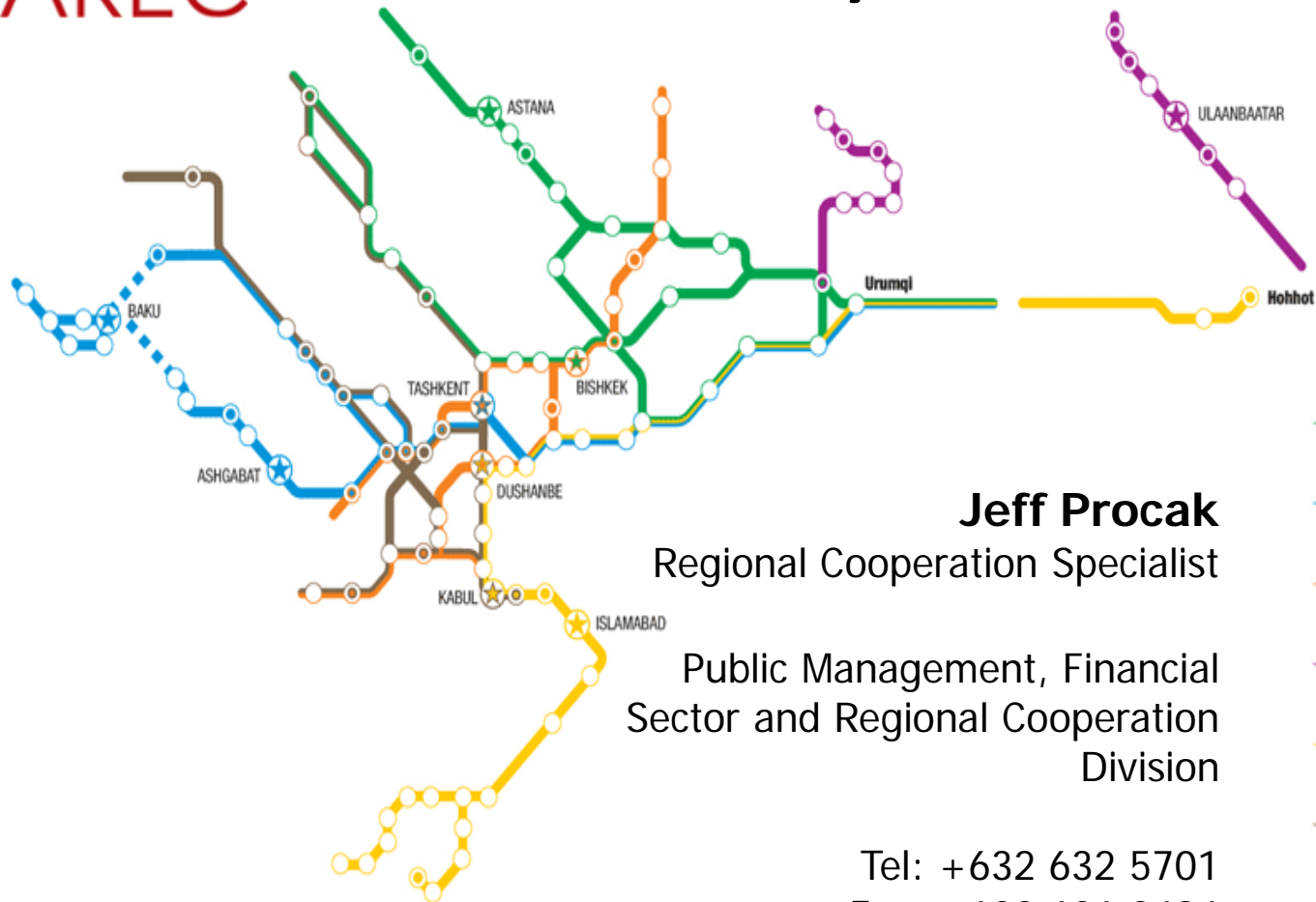


Customs Providing Solutions

The way forward is clear: Customs in the 21st Century and WCO's statement to the G20 present measures that Customs can take to facilitate trade



Thank you



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