



# CAREC National Consultation Workshops

Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

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# Trade Policy Coordinating Committee

Operations guided by Trade Policy Strategic Action Plan (TPSAP)

Key initiatives:

- 1) Capacity-development and knowledge sharing
- 2) Supporting accession to World Trade Organization (WTO)
- 3) Monitoring implementation of TPSAP

# Capacity development and knowledge sharing

- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development study on impact of Customs Union (presented at 17<sup>th</sup> TPCC meeting)
- World Bank study on Borderless Bazaar and Regional Integration in Central Asia (presented at 17<sup>th</sup> TPCC meeting)
- International Monetary Fund study on Trade and Trade Policies (presented at 16<sup>th</sup> TPCC meeting)

# Supporting WTO accession

- Proposed Technical Assistance on Strengthening Tajikistan's Trade and Investment Regime following its WTO Accession
- WTO Accession Knowledge-Sharing Program jointly sponsored by ADB and World Bank
  - 3 trainings held in 2012
  - Additional trainings planned for 2013

# Monitoring implementation of TPSAP

- Aggregate (average) for Trade Liberalization Index for end-2012 stands at 13.8, just above end-2011 figure (12.8), but well below the end-2012 target of 20.
- The above covers only 6 countries. Index to be updated as other country data come in.
- On a disaggregated level, KGZ remains in the lead (23), followed by AZE (17).

# Sector performance indicator

## CAREC Trade Liberalization Index

- Index based on country responses to questionnaires assessing progress in:
  - Eliminating quantitative restrictions on exports
  - Equalizing VAT and excise rates for imported and local goods
  - Eliminating other duties and charges, taxes and fees applied to imports and exports
  - Reducing average tariff rate

# Index of Institutional Quality as proposed additional indicator

Data sources:

- World Bank's Doing Business Survey
  - ✓ Ease of Trading Across Borders (procedures, time + cost to export & import)
  - ✓ Investor Protection index
  - ✓ Enforcement of Contracts (procedures, time, cost in % of claim)
- World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Report, Pillar 1 (Institutions)

**Thank you.**