

The Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program



What is CAREC?

Partnership

- **10 countries and 6 Multilateral Institutions**
 - Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, P.R.China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
 - ADB, EBRD, IMF, IsDB, UNDP, World Bank
- **ADB serves as the CAREC Secretariat.**

Action and results oriented

- Strategies and action plans
- Investment in transport, energy, and trade facilitation
- Promotion of capacity development and knowledge management



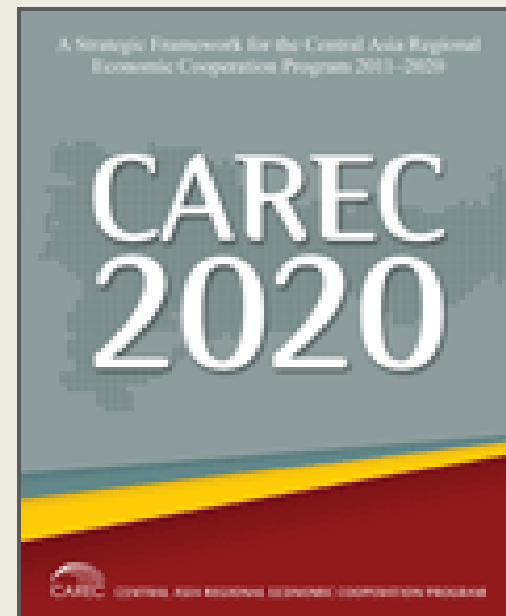
CAREC 2020: Focus, Action, Results

➤ Strategic objectives

- Expanded trade
- Improved competitiveness

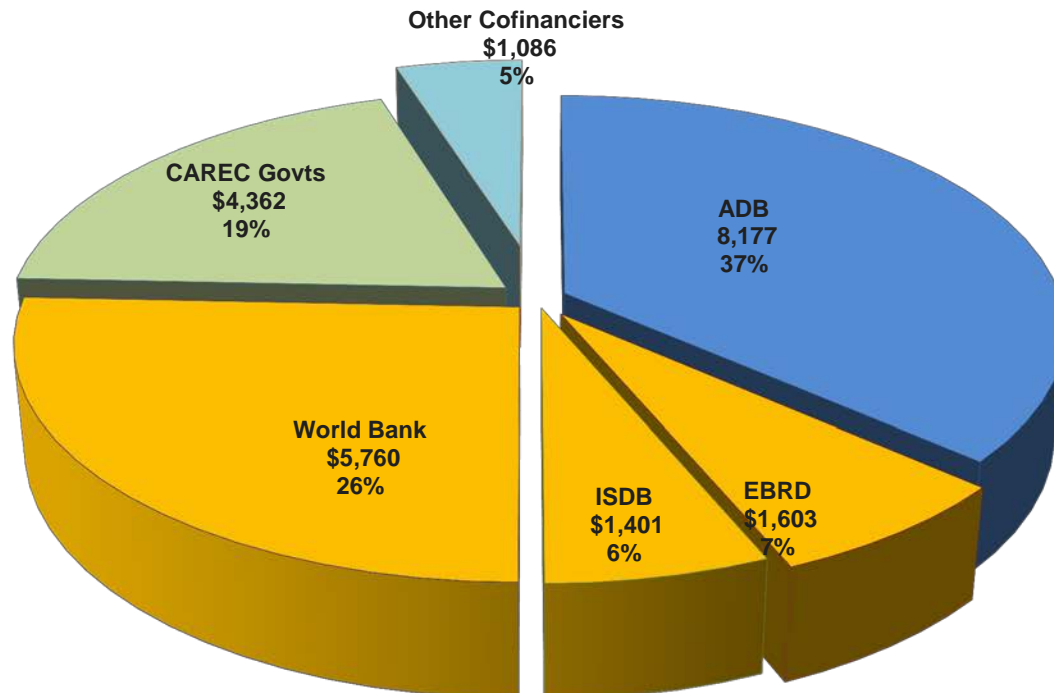
➤ Operational priorities

- ✓ ***4 priority sectors:***
 - transport
 - trade facilitation
 - trade policy
 - energy
- ✓ ***Economic Corridor Development***
- ✓ ***CAREC Institute***



CAREC Investments

CAREC Portfolio, by Financiers, cumulative 2001 - 2013



N.B. Data includes projects already approved in 2013 as well as those in pipeline for 2013 approval.

Over \$22 billion worth of CAREC-related investments have been made.

Trade Policy Cooperation in CAREC

- Main executing body: **CAREC Trade Policy Coordinating Committee**
- Sector guide documents: **two Trade Policy Strategic Action Plans**, with implementation periods spanning from 2008 to 2012 and from 2013 to 2017 respectively
- WTO Accession Status of CAREC Countries

5 acceded members (member since)	4 On-going Accession Negotiations	1 Potential Candidate
Pakistan (1 January, 1995) Mongolia (29 January, 1997) Kyrgyz (20 December, 1998) P.R.China (11 December, 2001) Tajikistan (2 March, 2013)	Afghanistan Azerbaijan Kazakhstan Uzbekistan	Turkmenistan



Two Trade Policy Strategic Action Plans

	Trade Policy Strategic Action Plan for 2008-2012	Trade Policy Strategic Action Plan for 2013-2017
Goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Achieving more trade openness prior to WTO accession ➤ Achieving WTO accession ➤ Capacity building on trade issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Achieving more trade openness prior to WTO accession ➤ WTO accession and post accession ➤ Make technical regulations on industrial goods and SPS measures consistent with the WTO TBT and SPS agreements ➤ Expansion of trade in services ➤ Capacity building and knowledge sharing on trade issues
Policy Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Supporting WTO accession ➤ Pre-accession tariffication of quantitative restrictions ➤ Pre-accession trade tax reductions and simplifications ➤ Capacity building and knowledge transfer activities ➤ Reducing barriers to transit and border trade 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ WTO accession and implementation of commitments ➤ Eliminate quantitative restraints on trade ➤ Simplify and liberalize the trade-tax regime ➤ SPS and TBT issues ➤ Expansion of trade in services ➤ Capacity building and knowledge sharing on trade issues
Results Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Specific performance indicators with reasonable timeframes were developed to measure the progress and results ➤ Trade Liberalization Index and Institutional Quality Index are under refining based on the circumstances of CAREC countries and CAREC Program 	

Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy (TTFS) 2020

VISION:

Countries work together towards establishing competitive corridors, facilitating movement of goods and people through the corridors, and providing sustainable, safe, user-friendly transport and trade networks.

3 OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

- *Develop Multimodal Corridor Network*
- *Improve Trade and Border Crossing Network*
- *Improve Operational and Institutional Effectiveness*



Thank you!

Asian Development Bank

<http://www.carecprogram.org/>

