

Senior Official's Meeting on Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation

Central and South Asia Transport and Trade Forum (CSATTF) and Afghanistan

Presented by
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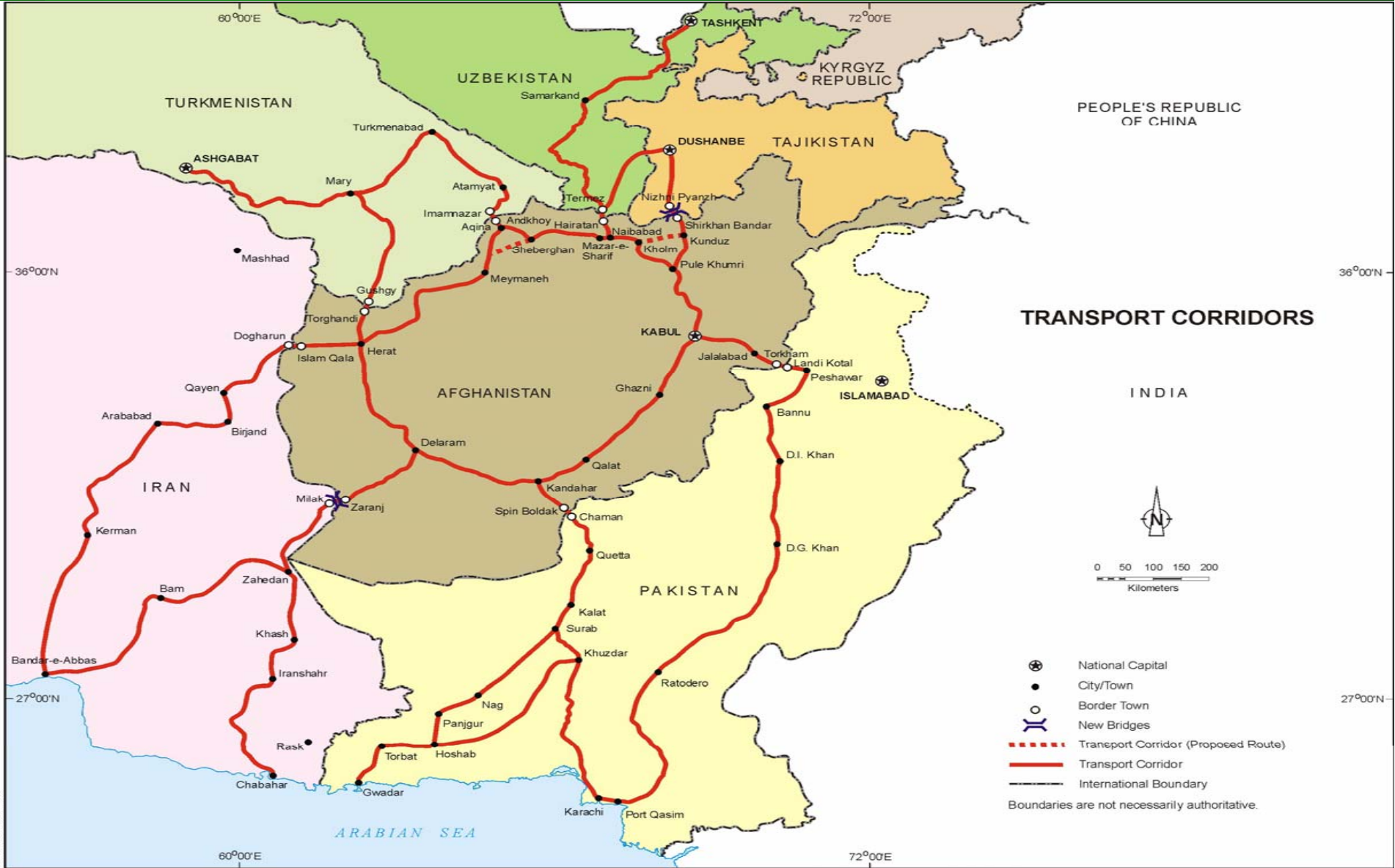
The CSATTF began in 2003 with assistance from ADB

- Aims to promote trade and transport facilitation among six countries: Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan
- Endeavors to strengthen linkages to create opportunities for sustained economic growth, peace and prosperity

CSATTF provides trade and transport link between

- Central and South Asia reviving the historic ties
- Central Asian Republics and warm water ports in Iran and Pakistan
- India and PRC on the one hand and India and Russia on the other

Central and South Asia Road Transport Corridors



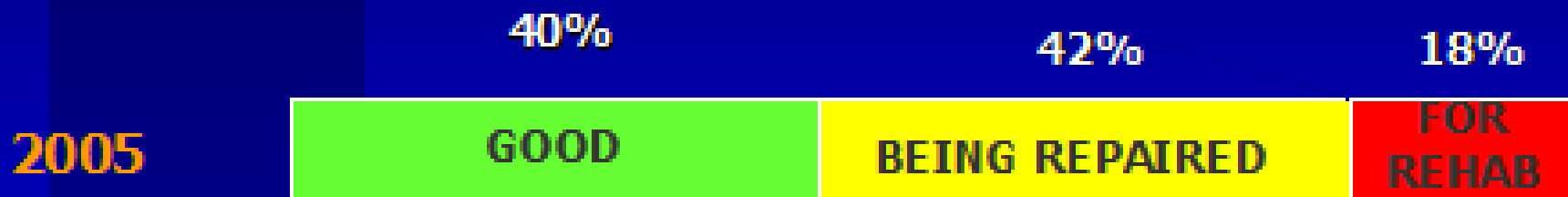
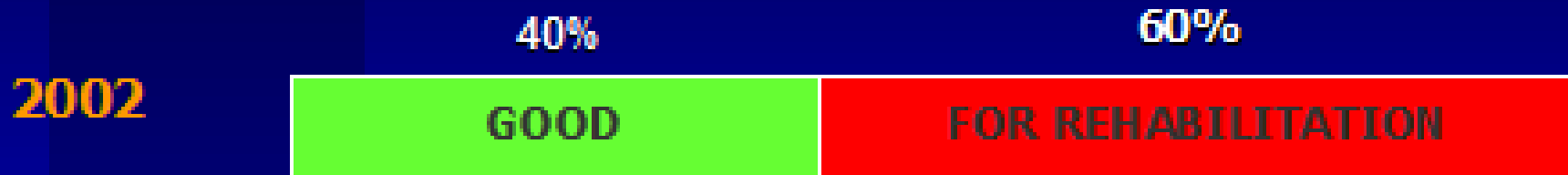
Benefits from Improved Connectivity

- Shortening physical trade routes – reducing costs
- Opening of new markets across the region
- Enabling region to become part of global trade and logistics system
- Attracting foreign and regional investment
- Improving intraregional and international trade

To achieve the vision CSATTF focusing on

- Physical infrastructure building
- Institutional reform
- Policy reform
- Improvement of Security

CSATTF PROGRESS in Physical Infrastructure



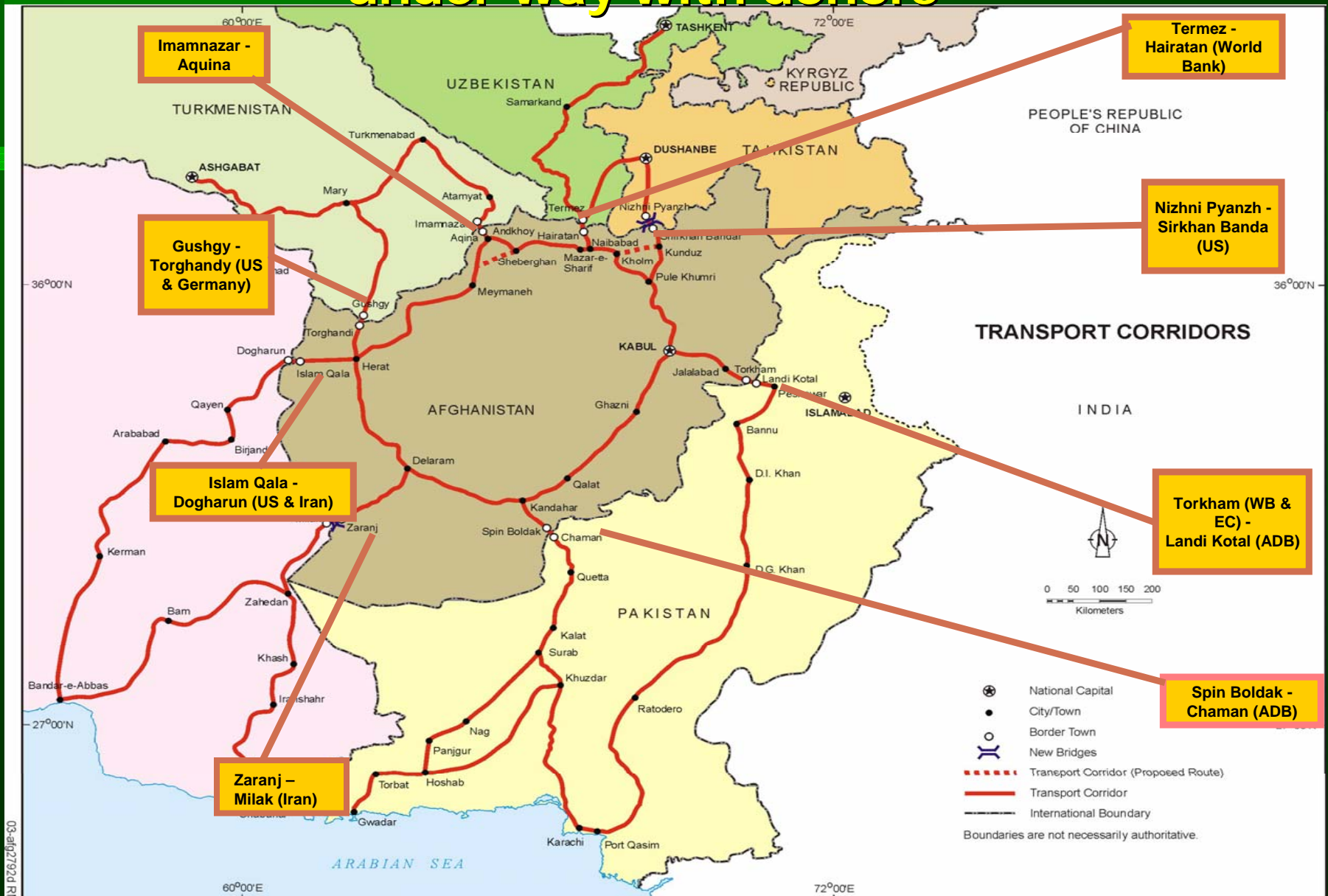
**ADB
Assistance**

983 km (36%)

HERAT – ISLAM QALA ROAD



Afghanistan's Border Points: Improvements under way with donors



Spin Boldak Border Gate



Torkham Border Gate



Islam Qala Border Gate



Torghandy Border Gate









CSATTF Progress: Institutional Reform

- Member countries are making determined efforts to mobilize financial, human and technical resources within an appropriate institutional set up for proper maintenance of roads
- Efforts are under way for customs modernization and automation and reforms of customs procedures and customs cooperation between members

CSATTF Progress: Policy Reform

- Increasingly budget policy of members is showing greater awareness of the need to allocate more funds for O & M and correspondingly tolls, taxes and fees are being collected to ensure at least partial cost recovery.
- Most member countries have reduced tariff and the number of bands and further rationalization of tariff is under way.
- Efforts are being made to facilitate cross border trade and transit but it is a difficult area and more needs to be accomplished

Synergy of CSATTF and CAREC

Goal	Development through cooperation
Instrument	Improved connectivity
Membership	
CSATTF	Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan
CAREC	Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, and Peoples Republic of China (Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan
Sector focus	
CSATTF	Transport, Trade and Human Development
CAREC	Transport, Trade, Energy, Human Development

Next Steps

- Build on synergy between and the potential for convergence of CSATTF and CAREC work programs
- Reorient an ongoing \$950,000 CSATTF technical assistance for Subregional Cooperation in South and Central Asia (Phase II) to ensure complementarity between CSATTF and CAREC activities and to cover non-CSATTF CAREC countries (i.e., Iran, Pakistan and Turkmenistan)

Proposed Change of Focus of CSATTF Technical Assistance (TA6299)

Within the framework of the overall scope of the CSATTF technical assistance new focus could be given to:

- assisting concerned countries in bilateral and multilateral trade negotiations
- supporting trade promotion and related capacity development activities in participating countries
- helping Afghanistan with the formulation of a regional cooperation strategy within the framework of its national development strategy
- providing expert assistance for improving regional civil aviation services, regulation, safety and security
- supporting strategy development for elimination of drugs, human trafficking and money laundering



***Thank you for your kind
attention***