

Updates - Regional Improvement of Border Services (RIBS) Project

**Mr. Jeff Procak, Regional Cooperation Specialist,
Public Management, Financial Sector and Regional
Cooperation Division, East Asia Department, ADB**

19 September 2011, Baku Azerbaijan

Rationale

- **Border crossing point (BCP) is the major bottleneck - more than three quarters of waiting time and two thirds of costs incurred at the BCPs**
- **Complex procedures and repeated submission of same import/export information cost time and money**
- **Modernizing BCPs and streamlining procedures at BCPs will have the most efficiency gains**

Regional Public Goods

BCP Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Benefits of BCP improvement on one side of the border cannot be fully materialized if the other side does not have similar matching investment• Focus on BCPs along CAREC Corridors
SW Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• National SWs can not achieve best results if traders and transporters have repeatedly to file declarations and manifests each time their cargo goes through a border• A regional platform linking national SWs will be necessary for CAREC

Components

BCP Improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• infrastructure upgrades and modernization of key BCPs• modern office and communication equipment, and installation of non-intrusive inspection equipment at BCPs• development of trade logistics facilities adjacent to BCPs
SW Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support national SW (NSW) development in selected CAREC member countries• Develop a regional platform for networking of single window schemes for the CAREC region<ul style="list-style-type: none">– PPP approach– Regional alliance of SW operators

Investment Criteria

- **strong country ownership**
- **accession to cross-border transit agreements**
- **readiness of project proposal and readiness for implementation**
- **technical and economic viability**
- **positive due diligence results and results of safeguard assessments**
- **effective functioning of national joint transport and trade facilitation committees (NJCcs)**
- **willingness of both sides to make complementary investments on a given BCP**

Project Preparation

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Team Leader – Ying Qian• Task Team 1 – BCP Infrastructure Investment (S. Mitra – Team 1 Manager)• Task Team 2 – SW Dev. and Trade Facilitation (Y. Zhang – Team 2 Manager)• Coordination: Almaty Office (Wang Hong) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• National Joint Transport and Trade Facilitation Committees<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Country Focal Point– Sector Focal Points– Project Focal Points | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PPTA consultants to conduct feasibility study for investment in<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Basic infrastructure upgrades and modernization of key BCPs;– Development of trade and transport logistics facilities at BCPs; and– National single window (NSW) development in selected countries and a CAREC regional platform networking of NSWs |
|--|--|--|

Updates

- R-PPTA approved January 2011
- NJC workshop in Bangkok, January 2011
- No-objection received from all 8 countries
- Project focal points appointed by all CAREC countries
- Lists of BCPs covered under RIBS submitted by 7 CAREC countries
- Portions of SWs of KGZ, MON and TAJ to be covered
- Consultants fielded in mid-May 2011
- Inception meeting, 9 June 2011, Baku
- Interim reports on BCP visits submitted; consultants have reviewed BCP investment needs in AZE, UZB, KGZ, TAJ, MON, KAZ, and PRC
- Visits to AFG BCPs are being planned
- Draft final report due 28 October
- Memoranda of Understanding being drafted

Project Timeline

Milestones	Expected Completion Date
R-PPTA approval	13 January 2011
R-PPTA Inception meeting	9 June 2011
R-PPTA Interim Report submitted	22 July 2011
R-PPTA Interim Report 2 submitted	26 August 2011
R-PPTA Draft Final Report due	28 October 2011
Negotiations	First Quarter 2012
Board Consideration	Second Quarter 2012
Signing of Loan Agreements	Third Quarter 2012
Loan effectiveness	Third Quarter 2012

Source: ADB Staff estimate

RIBS Project

- Road BCP pairs confirmed by both countries

Name	Corridor	Neighboring Country BCP
Hairaton (AFG)	3B, 6A, 6B	Ayraton (UZB)
Chaldybar (KGZ)	1C, 3B	Sypatay batyr (KAZ)
Alataw Shankou (PRC)	1A	Alakol' (KAZ)
Ceke (PRC)		Shiveekhuren (MON)
Karamik (TAJ)	3B, 5	Karamik (KGZ)
Dusti (TAJ)	3B	Sariasiya (UZB)
Oibek (UZB)	2A, 6C	Fotehobod (TAJ)
Yarant (MON)	4A	Takehiken (PRC)
Yallama (UZB)	3A	B. Konysbaeva (KAZ)
Dautota (UZB)	2A, 6A	Tazhen (KAZ)
Dustlik (UZB)	2	Dostuk (KGZ)
Sher Khan Bandar (AFG)	5, 6C	Nizhni Pianj (TAJ)
Ak-Zhol (KGZ)	3	Kordai (KAZ)

RIBS Project (Cont.)

- Rail BCP pairs confirmed by both countries

Name	Corridor	Neighboring Country BCP	
Alataw Shankou (PRC)	1A	Dostyk (KAZ)	
Savay (UZB)	3B	Kara Suu (KGZ)	
Bekabad (UZB)	2	Nau (TAJ)	
Galaba (UZB)	3B, 6A, 6B	Pakhtaabad (TAJ)	Hairaton (AFG)

Next Steps: Actions to be Taken

- **Planning BCPs**
 - Select BCPs to be included in RIBS 1
 - Confirm investment profile for each BCP
- **SW components**
 - Confirm investment needs for national SW
 - Linking national SWs
- **Loan documentation**
 - Memoranda of Understanding (Project Agreements)
 - Safeguard requirements
 - Coordinated/harmonized procurement plans
 - Project Administration Manuals
- **Next round: RIBS 2?**

Thank You

For more information:

- **Ying Qian (yqian@adb.org)**
Lead Regional Cooperation Specialist
Tel: +63-2-632-5945
- **Yuebin Zhang (yuebinzhang@adb.org)**
Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist
Tel: +63-2-632-6960
- **Jeff Procak (jtprocak@adb.org)**
Regional Cooperation Specialist
Tel: +63-2-632-5701

Asian Development Bank