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# **An Overview of USAID Trade and Customs Work in Central and South Asia**

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Central Asian Republics (CAR) Mission

CAREC Trade Group Coordinating Committee Meeting

Manila, The Philippines

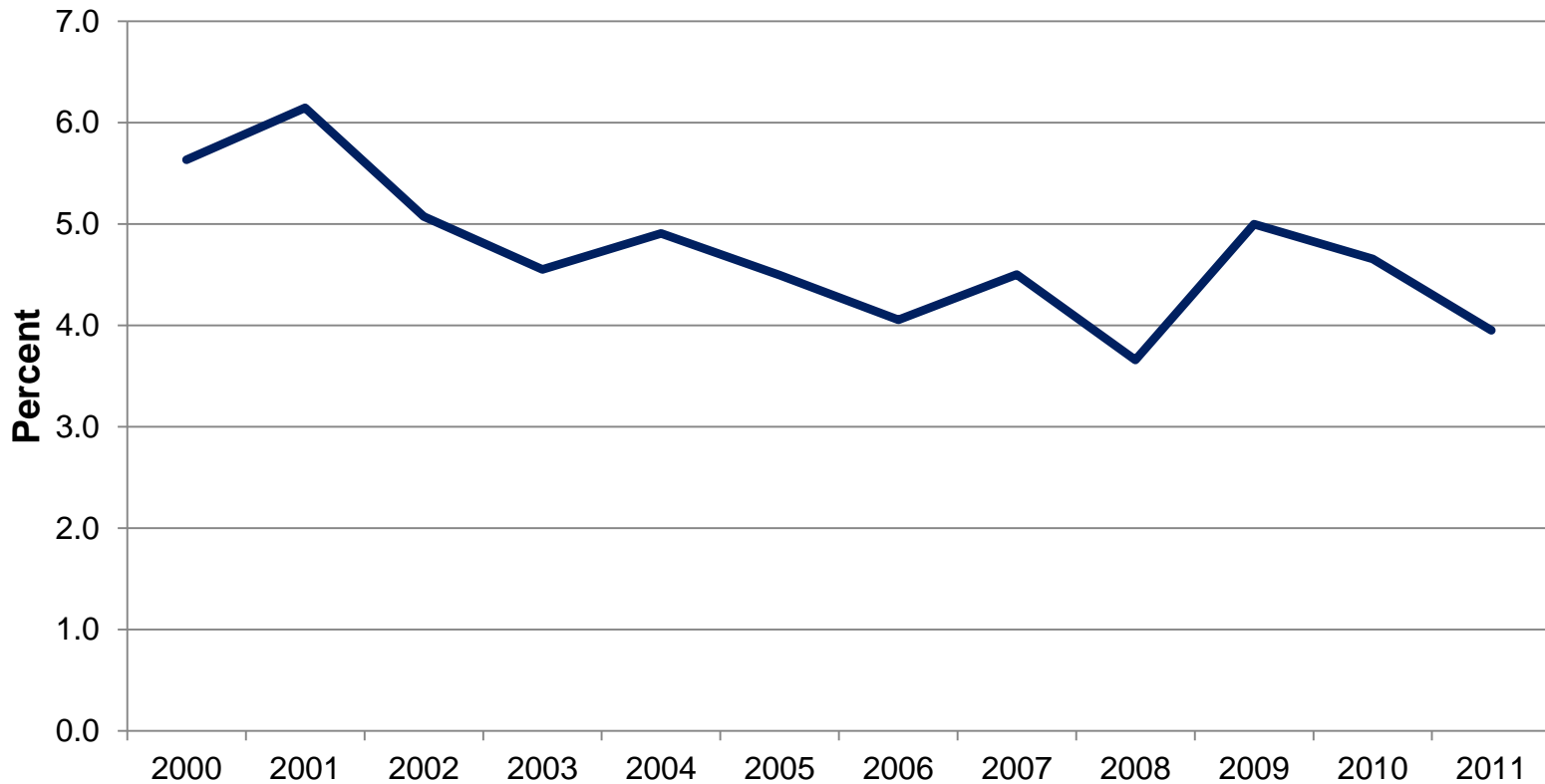
25 June 2014

# Presentation Outline

- Review of key trade facts in Central and South Asia
- Overview of USAID trade projects in Central and South Asia
- Review of USAID customs work in Central and South Asia



## Central Asia Intra-Regional Trade



Source: IMF, *Direction of Trade Statistics* (exports – KG, KZ, TJ, TK, UZ only)



## Doing Business Report 2014 – Trade Component World Ranking

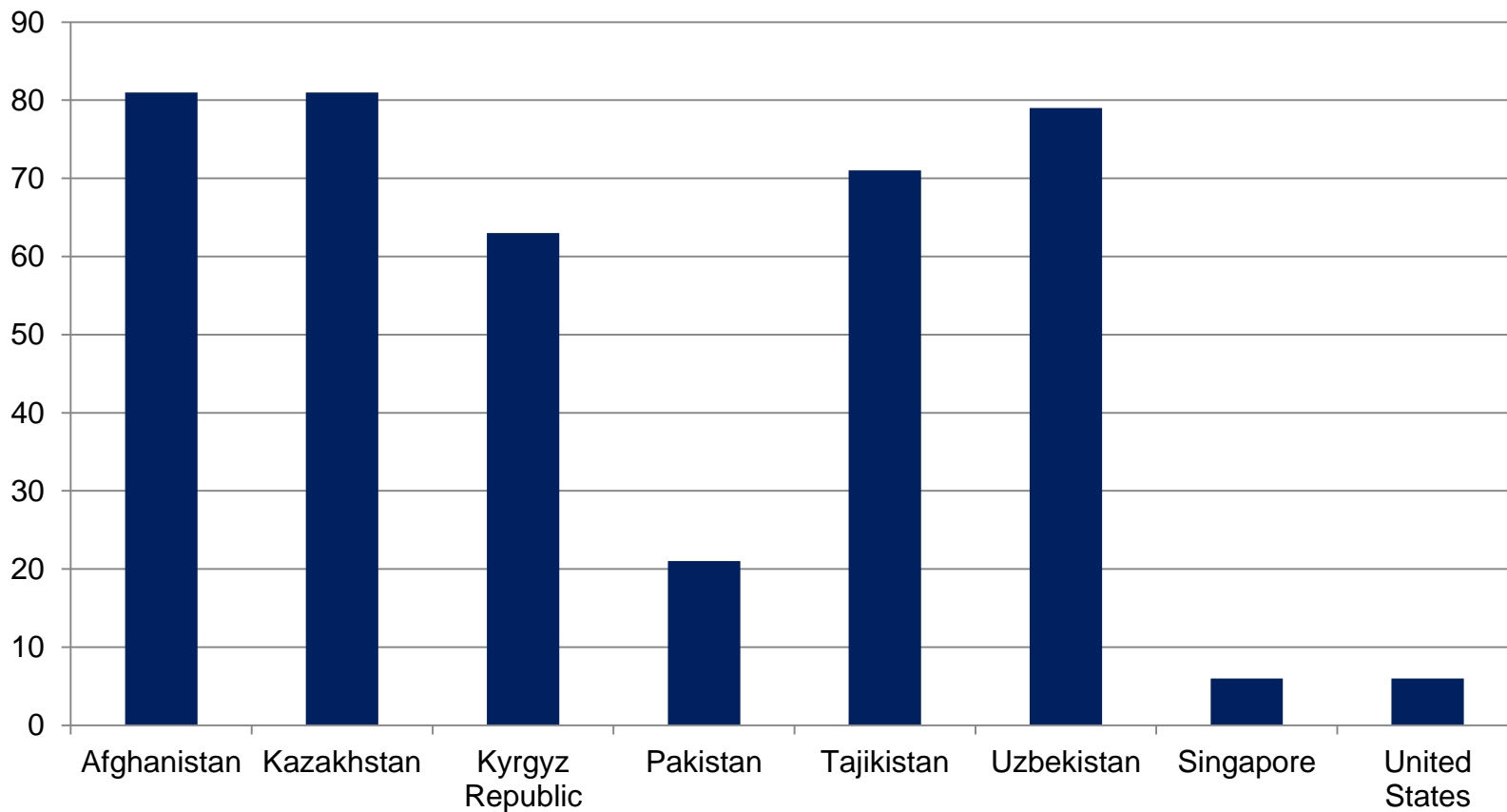
Country	Ranking
Afghanistan	184
Kazakhstan	186
Kyrgyz Republic	182
Pakistan	91
Tajikistan	188
Uzbekistan	189
Singapore	1
United States	22



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## Doing Business Report 2014 – Number of Days to Export

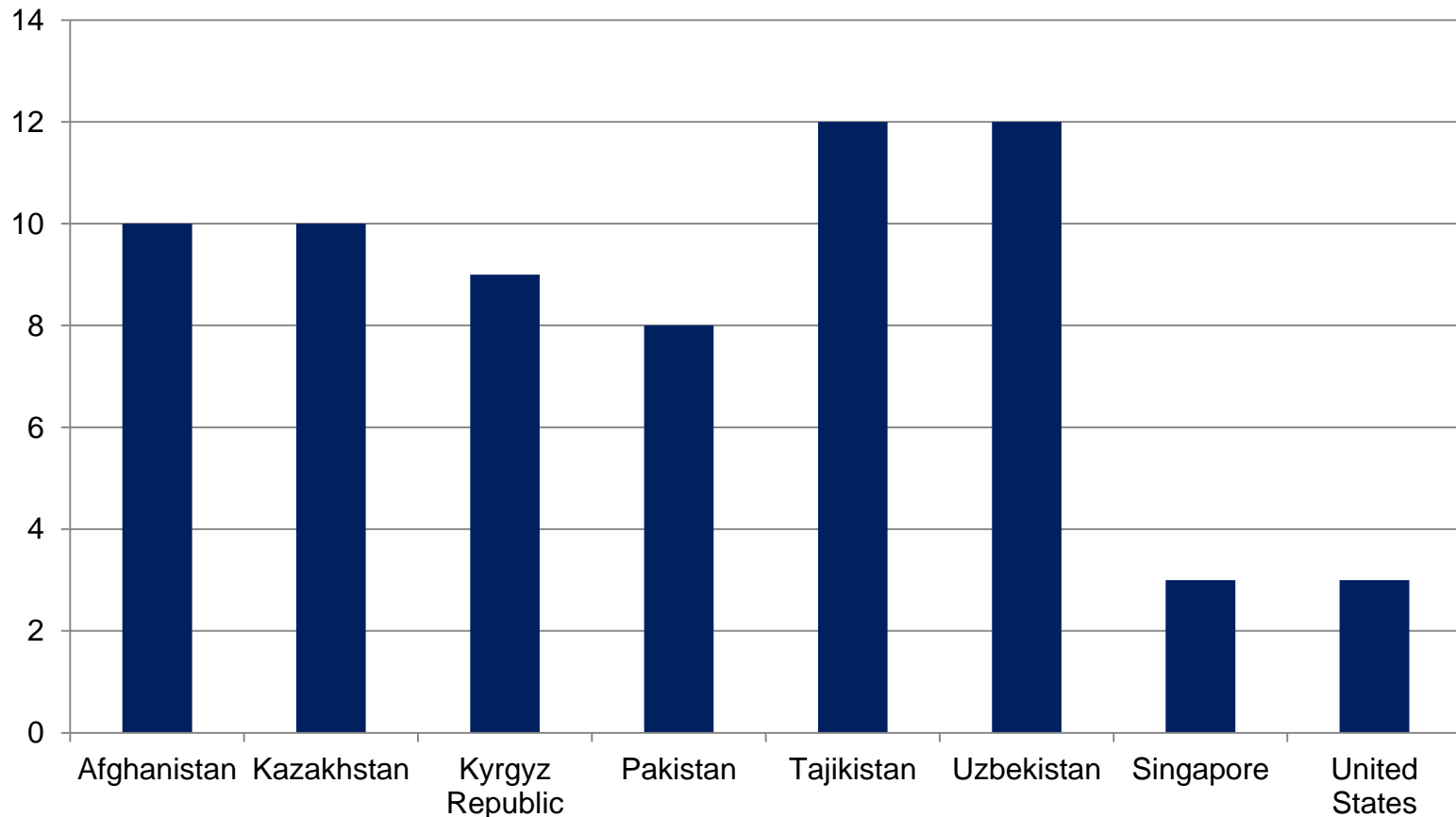




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## Doing Business Report 2014 – Number of Documents Required to Export





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# **Overview of USAID Trade Projects in Central and South Asia**



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## Summary of USAID Trade Projects

Item	REC	MEP	ATAR	PTP ; Follow-on Project
Total budget (\$ mil)	9.0	16.3	78.0	37.0 ; TBD
Years	2011-16	2011-16	2013-2017	2009-2014; 2015 - 2020
Countries				
Afghanistan	X		X	
Kazakhstan		X		
Kyrgyz Rep.	X		X	
Pakistan				X
Tajikistan	X		X	
Turkmenistan		X	X	
Uzbekistan	X		X	





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## **Regional Economic Cooperation (REC) Project – CAR Mission**

- Trains exporters and arranges B2B events
- Organizes Central Asia Trade Forum
- Strengthens women entrepreneur trade networks
- Supports Tajikistan WTO accession and follow-on
- Supports regional trade facilitation activities



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## **Macroeconomic Project (MEP) – CAR Mission**

- Primarily focused on economic governance activities in Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan
- Includes WTO accession support for Kazakhstan
- Supports regional trade liberalization efforts
  - USAID/CAR will hold first trade policy conference in Astana in 1-2 July 2014

## **Afghanistan Trade and Revenue (ATAR) Project – Afghanistan Mission**

- Strengthens Afghanistan's capacity to formulate and implement liberal policies for trade and investment
- Strengthens revenue generation through reforms and anti-corruption measures in customs and taxation
- Supports trade facilitation activities in 4 Central Asian countries (coordinated with REC project)



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## **Pakistan Trade Project (PTP) – Pakistan Mission**

- Addresses constraints for cross border trade
  - Facilitates cross border trade
  - Improves trade and transit facilitation
- Supports reform for improved trade environment
  - Reduces cost of trade
  - Increases trade volumes
  - Diversifies exports and imports
  - Increases participation of women
  - Increases regional trade



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# **Review of USAID Customs Work in Central and South Asia**

## Key Accomplishments to Date

- Streamlined customs procedures from 20+ steps to 12 at seven Afghan border crossing points
  - Reduced waits from 8 days in 2009 to 3.5 hours in 2013
  - Represents an annualized cost savings of \$38 million
- Trade conferences and B2B events have led to an estimated \$15-20 million new trade deals
  - 425 participants attended the CATF October 2013
- Helped Tajikistan become WTO member in 2013



# ATAR's Planned Project Presence

Afghanistan Trade and Revenue (ATAR) Project





## ATAR: Opportunities for Country Specific Support

<b>Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan</b>	<b>Turkmenistan</b>	<b>Uzbekistan</b>
Support ratification, implementation of Cross-Border Transport Agreement (CBTA)	Support negotiations, ratification of Transport and Transit Agreement with Afghanistan	Support negotiations, ratification of Transport and Transit Agreement with Afghanistan
Address key border crossing issues	Review customs policies for WTO compliance and other WTO support	Develop, implement action plan for Agreement and support key aspects
Help develop a National Quality System	Provide WTO support for customs requirements and other support, analysis as requested	Provide WTO support and analysis as requested





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## **Pakistan – Ongoing and Planned Activities Related to Customs Facilitation**

- Facilitates negotiation and implementation of Afghan Pakistan Transit Trade Agreement (APTТА, 2010)
- Implement Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) systems
- Support customs infrastructure improvements at border stations
- Implement insurance bond guarantee system under APTТА
- Introduce improved Customs Risk Management System
- Supports Pakistan Customs in planning Single Window System

## **Pakistan – Ongoing and Planned Activities Trade Facilitation Policy**

- Supports liberalization under South Asia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA)
- Supports normalization of trade relations between Pakistan and India
- Provides assistance on WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation
- Supports compliance with World Customs Organization's Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC)
- Supports Pakistan's roadmap for increasing regional trade with CAR
- Supports B2B networks for export diversification, regional trade
- Support increased women's participation in the trade sector

Thank You!

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