

# CAREC Common Agenda for Modernization of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures for Trade Facilitation

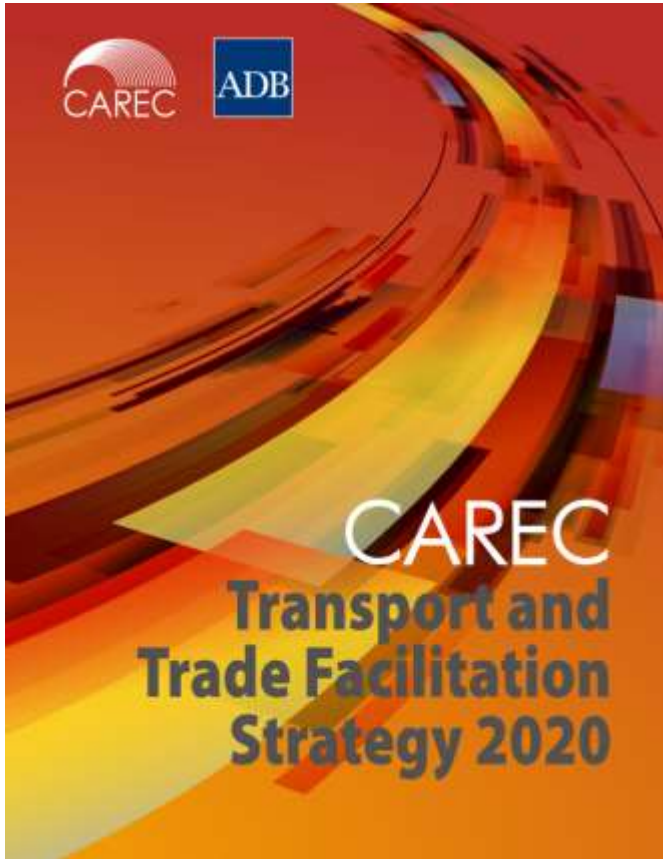


CAREC Senior Officials' Meeting  
Bangkok, Thailand  
17-18 June 2015



Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program

# I. Rationale



12<sup>th</sup> CAREC MC

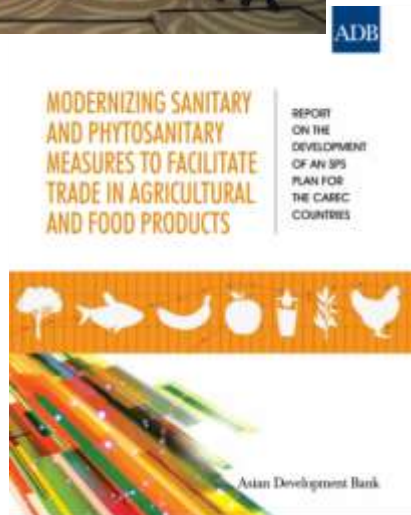
...advocates a regional initiative to harmonize and upgrade SPS measures to facilitate trade in agri-food products within and beyond the CAREC region

# CAREC Initiating Activities



CAREC SPS Workshop  
(July 2012, Bangkok)

CAREC SPS Publication  
(May 2013)



<http://www.adb.org/publications/modernizing-sps-measures-facilitate-trade-agricultural-and-food-products>

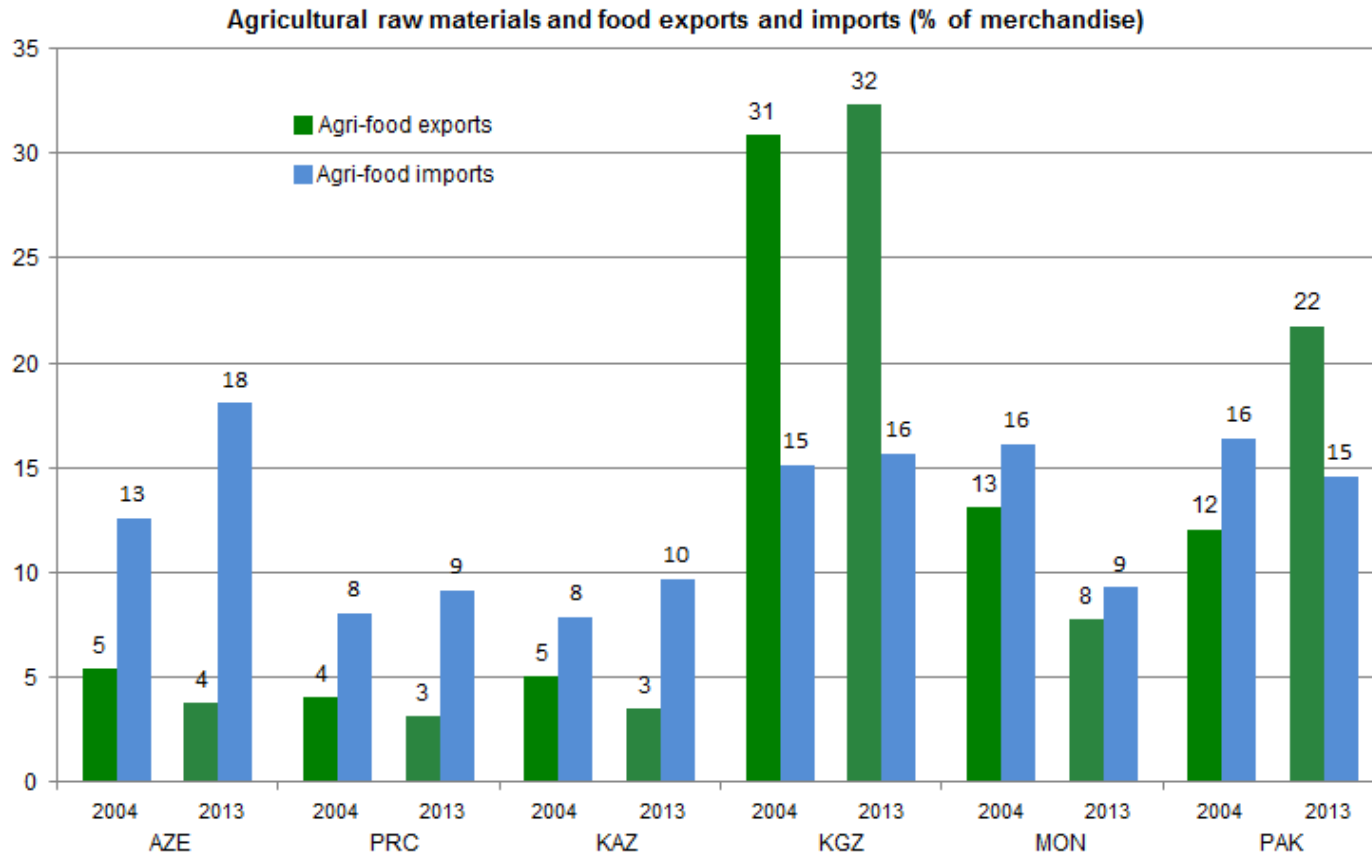
CAREC SPS Learning Opportunity  
(October 2014, Mongolia)

CAREC Learning Opportunity: Modernizing Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures to Expand Trade and Ensure Food Safety  
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia: 6-8 October 2014



Regional Technical Assistance:  
Promoting Cooperation in SPS  
Measures for CAREC  
(2013–2015)

# Why SPS is important for CAREC



Source: World Development Indicators

## II. Objectives

- promote concerted reforms and modernization of SPS measures consistent with international standards to facilitate safe trade; and
- identify and prioritize investment needs



# III. Assessments

## A. Regulatory



## B. Laboratory Capacity

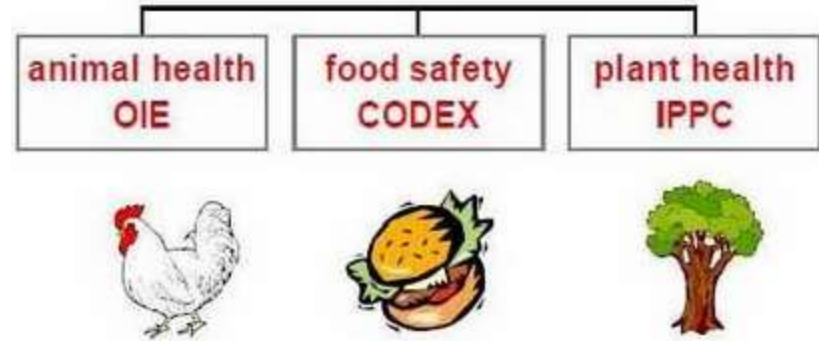
• ISO/IEC 17025 – Testing and Calibration

## C. SPS Border Services Management



# III.A. Regulatory Assessment

- Lacking comprehensive national strategy
- Slow compliance with the WTO SPS Agreement
- GOST standards



## III.B. Laboratory Capacity Assessment

- Lacking testing/sampling capacity
- Laboratories in poor condition, unable to implement surveillance, and early detection
- Lacking recommended standard equipment and/or procedures





# III.C. SPS Border Services Management Assessment

- SPS services have been dealt with in an ad hoc manner
- Lacking the capacity to prevent introduction of animal diseases and contaminated animal products
- Overlapping, excessive inspections and delays, inadequacy of general management



# III.C. SPS Border Services Management Assessment

- Hindered by technical deficiencies and **inadequate infrastructure**



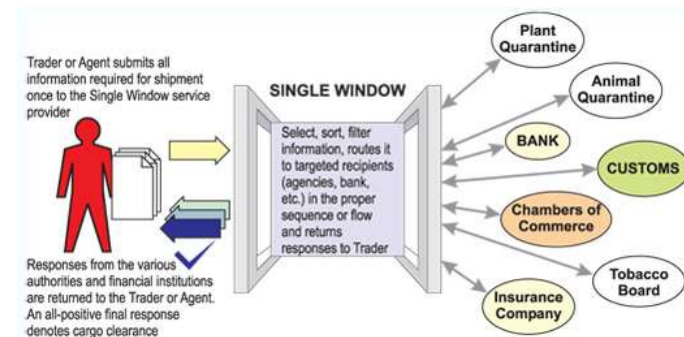
# IV. Key Recommendations

- Prepare a national strategy in accordance with international standards
- Establish risk-based categories and criteria
- Embark on central laboratories accreditation in accordance with ISO standards
- Consider regional laboratory for international exchange of information
- Upgrade laboratories, harmonize procedures, and provide training



# IV. Key Recommendations

- Raise awareness on economic benefits of compliance with SPS requirements
- Adoption of mutual recognition amongst CAREC countries
- Develop a border management strategy based on coordinated border management cooperation
- Establish a single electronic window ensuring active participation of SPS agencies



# V. Progress

## Mongolia: Regional Upgrades of SPS Measures for Trade Facilitation Project



### Outputs

- Upgrade central and regional laboratory capacity in 5 aimags
- Enhance border protection by upgrading SPS handling facilities and providing inspection equipment in 4 major BCPs
- Establish SPS data and document management system to avoid duplication of documents and for an efficient processing of agri-food products import and export
- Align SPS control and inspections with international standards

**Cost:** \$16 million (ADF)



## VI. Next Steps

1. Consider possible initiation of a Common Agenda for Modernization of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures for Trade Facilitation (CA-SPS) at the 14th Ministerial Conference
2. Report each country's feedback on the CA-SPS and determine the course of further actions at the special NFP meeting in August
3. Work with ADB and other development partners to formulate/implement investment and TA projects to modernize SPS measures





**SPS message for  
CAREC 2015:**

**Safer Food,  
Better Trade**



Thank You!  
Спасибо!

**Cristina Lozano**

Regional Cooperation Specialist

East Asia Department

Asian Development Bank

[clozano@adb.org](mailto:clozano@adb.org)