# Developing Economic Zones for Sustainable Development

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## SEZs are becoming an increasingly popular tool for promoting

•		1975	1986	1995	19	97 2003	,
•	Countries	25	47	73	93	116	
•	Zones	79	176	500	845	>3000	
•	Employment (1	million)	)	2	22.5	42	

In 2019, 5383 with 500 in pipeline across 147 countries.

### Most are in Asia.....

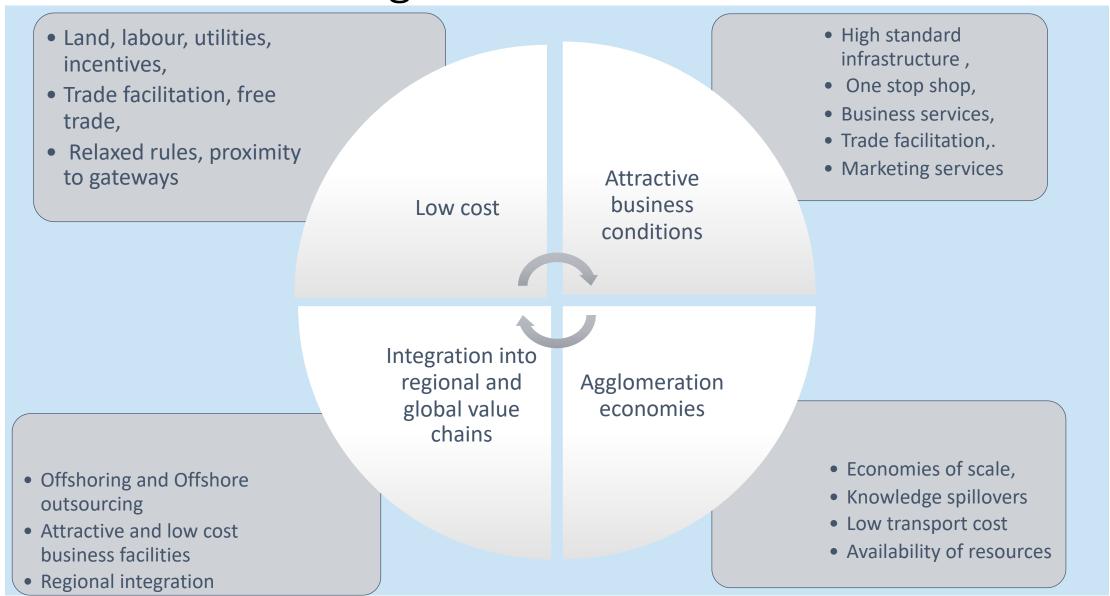
	Total number of SEZs	of which under development	Additional SEZs planned	
World	5 383	474	507	
Developed economies	374	5		
Europe	105	5		
North America	262			
Developing economies	4 772	451	502	
Asia	4 046	371	419	
East Asia	2 645	13		
China	2 543	13		
South-East Asia	737	167	235	
South Asia	456	167	184	
India	373	142	61	
West Asia	208	24		
Africa	237	51	53	
Latin America and the Caribbean	486	28	24	
Transition economies	237	18	5	
Memorandum				
LDCs	173	54	140	
LLDCs	146	22	37	
SIDS	33	8	10	

Source: UNCTAD.

Note:

Zones are counted on the basis of their establishment by law. They exclude 8,368 single-enterprise zones (free points) found in 18 economies. SEZs in other developed economies (Australia, Israel, Japan and New Zealand) and in Oceania were counted towards the respective economic group's aggregate and the global total. Data for those individual economies are available in the web annex table.

# SEZs promote economic activity, employment and investment through various channels



### SEZs a tool of structural transformation:

Shift from primary to non primary sectors and low to high value added

activities **Employment** Investment Better allocation of **Human** capital resources development SEZs as catalysts of Economy of scale Efficiency structural transformation Technology Smart transfers through FDI industrialization and trade **Urbanisation** Regional integration

## But, There could be economic, social and environment costs

#### Economic

- Intense competition
- Risk of not attracting additional investment
- Cost of exchequer
- Risk of few spill-overs



#### **Environmental**

- Low environmental standards
- Unsustainable production
- Environment degradation
- Urban sprawls



#### Social

Low labor standards
Labour exploitation
Lack of social amenities
poor living conditions

# It calls for SEZs to ensure sustainable development

 Balanced and integrated development of SEZs covering three dimensions:

- Economic,
- social and
- environmental.

### What are sustainable SEZs?

#### **Economic viability**

Employment generation, Investment (FDI), production, exports

#### Socially inclusive and just

where workers can fulfil their potential in dignity and equality

#### **Environmentally sustainable**

Healthy environment for all
Resource conservation (green
infrastructure)
Protection from degradation
Sustainable consumption and production.

## 17 Goals of sustainable development and SEZs: 5 Ps

#### People

End of poverty, food security, health, education, gender equality

#### **Partnership**

Global Partnerships through GVCs and RVcs

#### Sustainable SEZs

## Prosperity (Economically viable)

Full and productive
employment and decent
work for all.
Industrialization, Innovation
and Infrastructure

#### **Planet**

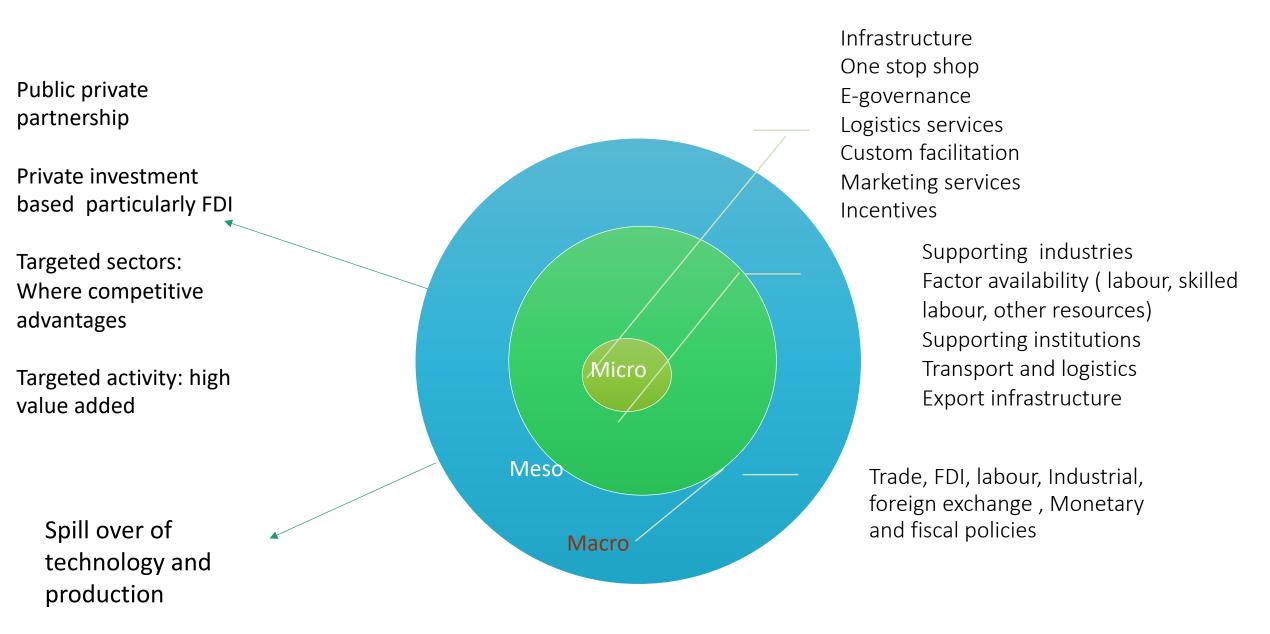
Conserve resources,
sustainable
Ecosystem
Sustainable
production
Sustainable cities

#### Peace

Peaceful and equal society,

Peaceful borders

### Enabling conditions to be economically viable



## Conditions for Socially inclusive:

- Maintain Labour standards
  - Working conditions for labor
  - Minimum wage standards
  - Living conditions
  - Gender equality
- Skill development plans within the zones
- Promotion of Small and medium enterprises

## Environmentally sustainable

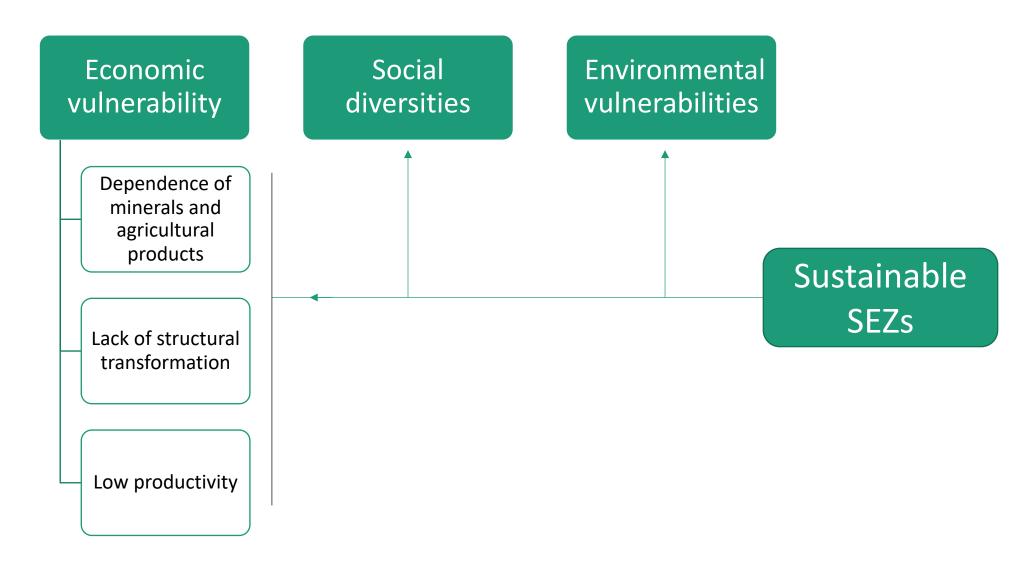
- Most ideal locations
- Environmental technologies and Environment friendly sectors
- Environment protecting infrastructure such as effluent treatment plants, waste disposal etc.
- Green infrastructure and utilities: Renewable energy, energy and water conservation, sustainable buildings, landscape
- Eco-industrial zones: Sustainable production through circular economy.
- Promotion of sustainable social infrastructure and cities.

## Relevance of sustainable SEZs: major exports of 5 Central Asian countries

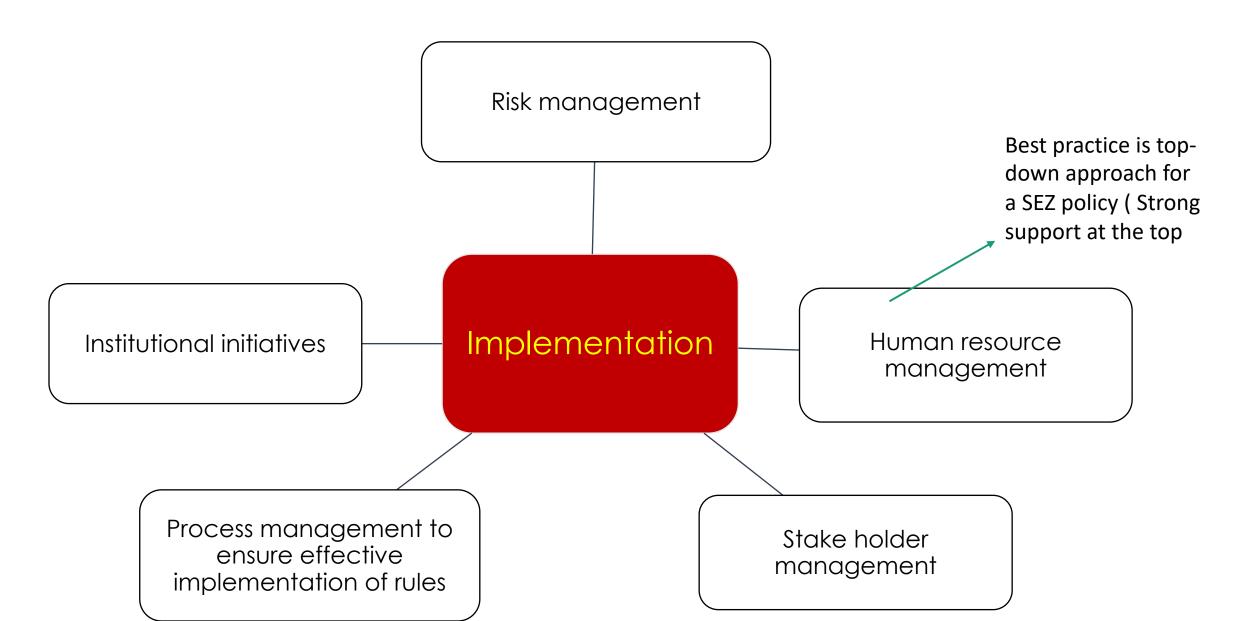
HS		2009		2018	
Code	Product label	Value (US\$ mn)	% Share	Value (US\$ mn)	% Share
	All products	47051.2	100.0	85274.0	100.0
27	Mineral fuels, oils and products of distillation	32253.0	68.5	55198.9	64.7
72	Iron and steel	2974.3	6.3	4498.5	5.3
07	Edible vegetables, roots and tubers	76.9	0.2	3420.3	4.0
74	Copper and articles	1551.9	3.3	3282.9	3.8
26	Ores, slag and ash	1733.8	3.7	2631.6	3.1
28	Inorganic chemicals	2152.5	4.6	2193.0	2.6
52	Cotton	340.4	0.7	1684.3	2.0
71	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones and metals	1487.4	3.2	1322.0	1.6
10	Cereals	679.4	1.4	1319.7	1.5
76	Aluminium and articles	197.2	0.4	865.3	1.0

Source: ITC Trade Map

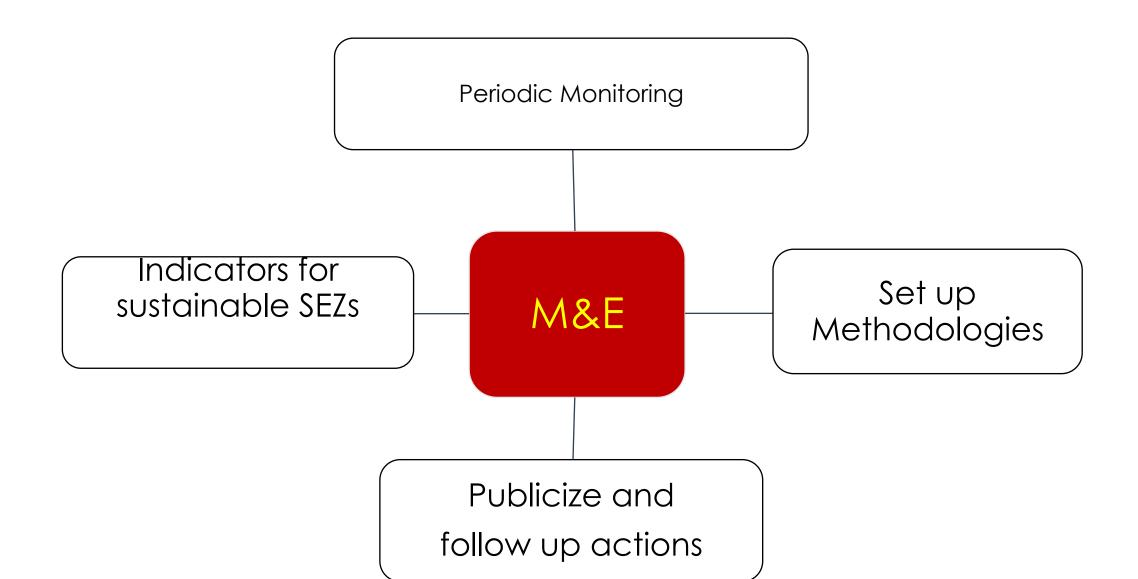
# Major challenges of the region and sustainable SEZs



## Implementation is a key



## Monitoring and Evaluation



## Thank You