

WTO TFA IMPLEMENTATION in Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC)

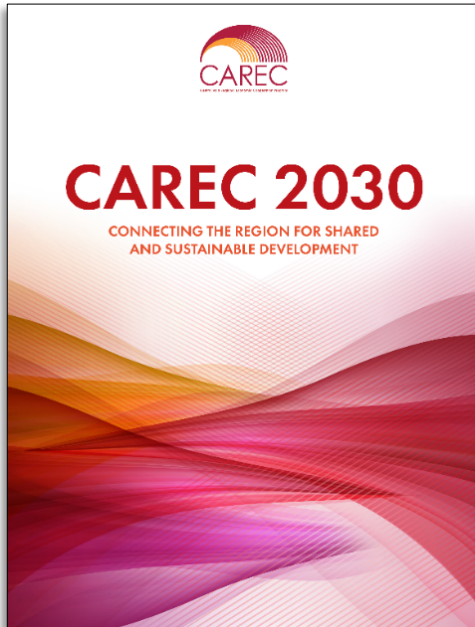
Session 3: Regional Cooperation and Trade Facilitation

ADB Inter-subregional Forum on
Enhanced Implementation of the WTO TFA
Bangkok, Thailand | 30 October 2018

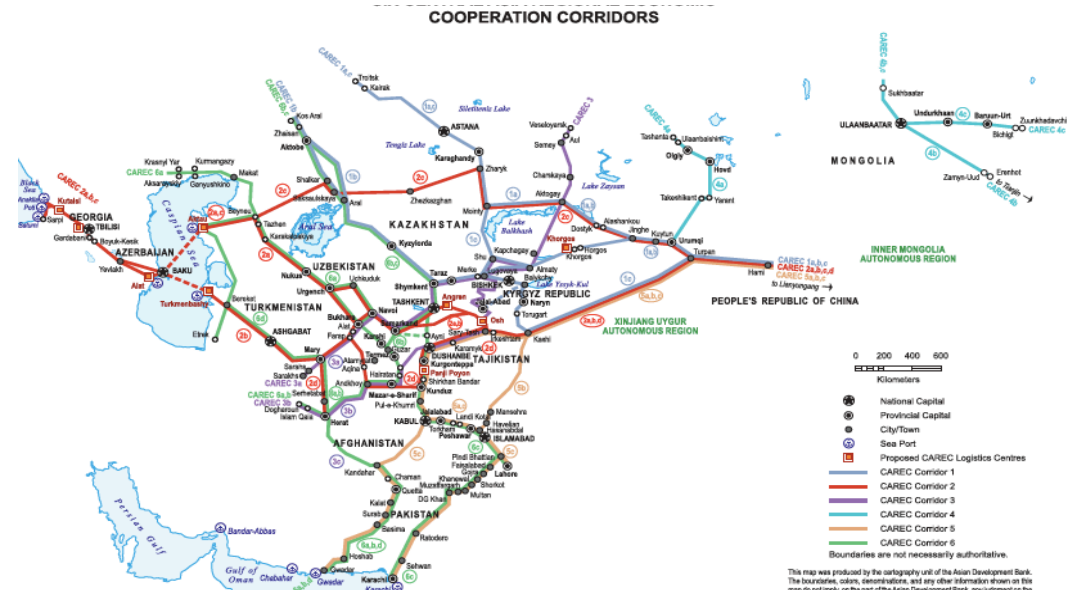


CAREC Program --

www.carecprogram.org



- An open and inclusive platform that connects people, policies, and projects for shared and sustainable development
- Mobilized more than \$31.5 billion investments since 2001
- CARE 2030 has 5 operational clusters: *economic and financial stability; trade, tourism, and economic corridors; infrastructure and economic connectivity; agriculture and water; human development*



Main Accomplishments in Trade, 2004-2017

TRADE POLICY

- WTO accession commitments implemented, trade-tax regime liberalized
- Trade policy capacity built, trade and investment regimes strengthened
- Diagnostic trade integration study
- Aid for Trade and enhancing competitiveness
- Trade efficiency of SMEs at key border crossing points

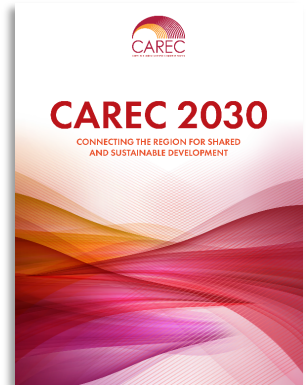
CUSTOMS COOPERATION

- Customs reform and modernization
- Single window development
- Coordinated/Integrated Border Management, Joint Customs Control
- Regional transit trade facilitation
- Work with private sector: CAREC Federation of Carriers and Freight Forwarder Associations (CFCFA)
- Corridor Performance Monitoring and Measurement (CPMM)

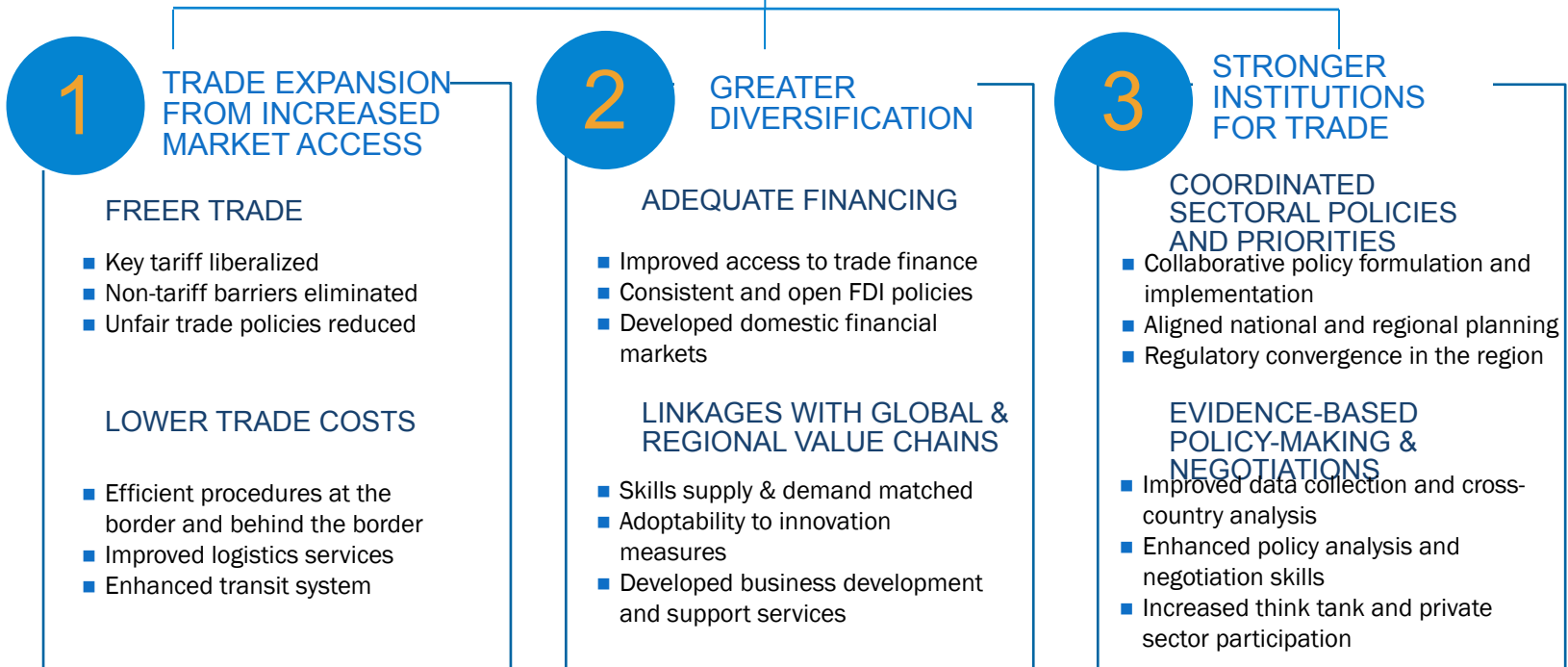
INTEGRATED TRADE FACILITATION

- Regional Improvement of Border Services (RIBS)
- Regional Upgrades of SPS Measures for Trade (RUST)
- Logistics development
- Trade corridor improvement
- Industrial park development

CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda 2030



CAREC COUNTRIES ARE MORE INTEGRATED IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY



Rolling Strategic Action Plan

RSAP 2018-2020

Investment Projects
including Scoping Studies

Policy Dialogue
and Cooperation

Knowledge-Product
and Services

1. Increased Market Access

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|---|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Regional improvement of border services (RIBS) with customs automation2. National Single Window3. Pilot joint customs control (JCC) including e-manifest4. Establish new border crossing point (BCP) with JCC5. Regional upgrade of SPS for Trade (RUST); scoping; border SPS needs and cold chain; laboratory capacity6. CAREC Advanced Transit System (CATS) & information common exchange (ICE) pilot | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Develop regional/subregional animal and pest surveillance systems2. Potential mutual recognition of SPS certificates or accreditation3. Facilitated visa arrangements or special permits for traders and truck drivers, labor migrants or temporary movement of people4. Information-sharing on transit schemes (CATS, QTTA, NCTS) to promote implementation5. Customs-private sector dialogue on standards developed by private sector (CFCFA)6. Map technical barriers to trade (TBT) including conformity assessment procedures | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Implement Common Agenda for Modernization of SPS Measures for Trade (CAST)2. Support WTO accession and implementation3. WTO TFA implementation including inter-subregional forum4. Best practice seminar on paperless trading or e-certification5. Case study and best practice FTAs6. Study border trade development7. CAREC Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring (CPMM) |
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2. Greater Diversification

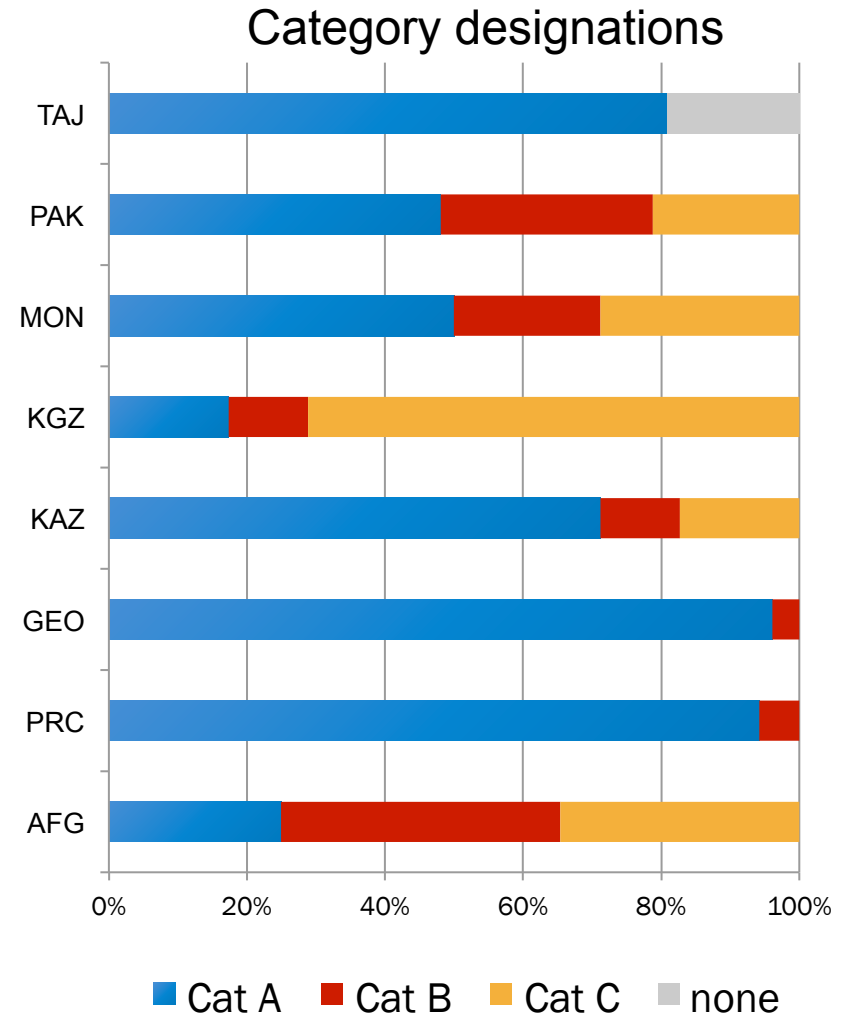
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Feasibility of special zones or cross-border economic zones2. Establish logistics centers3. Awareness and access to trade and supply chain finance, guarantees and expand PPP operations | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Investment forum on agriculture, tourism & technology2. Strategic planning or roadmaps for CITA implementation3. Explore sectoral or industrial clusters between CAREC countries | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Research to develop trade in services (finance, health, education, transport and tourism)2. Workshops or field visits on economic corridor development, cross-border cooperation centers3. Case study of value-chain development4. Seminar on regulatory framework/best practices on e-commerce and innovation |
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3. Stronger Institutions for trade

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. ICT – establish one-stop shop/online trade policy, best practice and data portal2. Support to establish WCO accredited training centers | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Establish SPS working groups to implement CAST and develop national SPS strategies2. Enhanced implementation of WTO TFA (freedom of transit, AEOs, border management strategy and customs cooperation) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Capacity building for NCTFs, including training or advisory support2. Train on SPS regulations and international standards (CAST)3. Train on data collection, policy analysis and negotiations4. Improve research capacity and coordination of national think-tanks and CAREC Institute |
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2017 CAREC TFA Readiness Assessment

- CAREC countries vary in readiness to implement the TFA.
- About 50% of TFA Articles are designated as Category A by 6 CAREC countries.
- Provisions most commonly designated as Category A are also mandatory.
- Most countries have established or are establishing NCTFs.



Common TA Needs Notified to WTO

	Legislation	Institutional Mechanism or Procedures	Personnel Skills and Capacity	Technical and Other Needs
Publication and information through internet; enquiry points	Review existing legislation; Draft legislation	Map procedures and requirements; Streamline information; Develop regulations	Develop project and IT skills; Train on enquiry points	Web portal, information systems (infrastructure, hardware, software)
Advance ruling	Revise legislation	Develop procedures	Build institutional & personnel capacity	Awareness campaign
Pre-arrival processing	Conduct legal analysis	Technical interface of procedures	Train personnel of relevant agencies	Awareness campaign
Risk management	Review legislation; Analyze RMS institutional framework	Optimize and automate business processes; Develop integrated RMS, risk criteria	Train border agency officers in risk assessment	RMS design and IT support
Post-clearance audit	Review, formulate legislation for transfer pricing	Optimize and automate procedures	Train auditors; Build capacity on transfer pricing	IT support; Diagnostic analysis of PCA
Trade facilitation for authorized operators	Draft legislation	Design regulations, adopt international standards	Train, share EU experience	IT support; Exchange good practice; Awareness campaign
National border cooperation	Review and amend legislation	Optimize procedures; Hold regular inter country meetings	Train	Data exchange with other Customs; IT support; establish single window
Transit	Analyze and amend legislation	Develop regulations, mechanism, business process; comprehensive guarantee	Train Customs staff	IT support; Awareness policy Analyze international law and practice

Ongoing and Programmed Projects Related to TFA

- Consultations with private sector – [Art 2.2](#)
- Information common exchange (ICE) – [Art 7.1](#)
- Risk management – [Art 7.4](#)
- Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring (CPMM) and Time Release Study (TRS) – [Art 7.6](#)
- Authorized economic operator (AEO) programs – [Art 7.7](#)
- Joint Customs Control, Coordinated Border Management (e.g. Inner Mongolia, Xinjiang RCI) – [Art 8](#)
- Use of information and communication technology – [Art 10.2](#)
- Single Window; Regional Improvement of Border Services (RIBS) – [Art 10.4](#)
- CAREC Advanced Transit System (CATS) – [Art 11 and 12](#)
- Cross-Border Economic Zone (e.g. Mongolia) – [Art 12](#)

Key Lessons Learned...

- **Coordination, coordination, coordination**
 - National level; across borders; between customs administrations and development partners; and amongst development partners.
- **Subregional platforms enhance mutual understanding and enhance opportunities for interagency and public-private coordination**
 - Customs Cooperation Committee, CAREC Federation of Carriers and Freight Forwarders Association.
- **Diverse rate of TFA implementation across CAREC countries**
 - Need to accommodate all member countries' capacity and priorities/preferences.
- **Value of partnerships with expert knowledge partners**
 - Additional value – knowledge and consistent approaches.

Thank you!

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