

16-17 April: 4th Regional Road Safety Engineering Workshop

Safer CAREC Roads: Moving the region forward in safety

Venue: Grand Hyatt Istanbul, Turkey

Background

1. Road safety is a key issue for Central Asian Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) member countries. All member countries have made a commitment to improving road safety through their support for the *CAREC Road Safety Strategy, 2017-2030* that was endorsed by the 15th CAREC Ministerial Conference in October 2016 in Islamabad, Pakistan. The strategy aims to reduce number of road crash fatalities on the CAREC road corridors by 50% by 2030 (compared to 2010). Under the ethos of “think regionally, act nationally”, the Strategy provides a benchmark for all CAREC member countries to address regional safety issues through tackling national road safety issues in their own jurisdictions.
2. A key area that is under the direct influence of decision makers responsible for CAREC road projects, is the “safer roads” pillar. This Regional workshop, the second on road safety engineering, follows a successful workshop in Dushanbe in August 2017 in which representatives of CAREC countries discussed their needs, ideas and resources in this evolving field.
3. This workshop is designed to take those ideas further and to help CAREC members to develop practical plans to advance the road safety engineering profession across the region.

Objectives of the Workshop

4. This regional workshop has the overall goal of accelerating the design, construction, management and maintenance of safer roads and highways, through use of road safety engineering principles and practices. With the title “Safer Roads; moving the region forward in safety”, the specific objectives of the workshop are to allow senior officials from road agencies in each CAREC member country to:
 - (i) Discuss and develop a plan, with priority actions for changes in policies and/or practices, that will advance road safety engineering in each CAREC nation.
 - (ii) Build understanding of best practice principles in road safety engineering. This will be broken down into four essential road safety engineering tasks:
 - a. Being proactive in road designs (road safety audits)
 - b. Treating hazardous road locations (blackspots)
 - c. Low cost ways to making road sides safer (roadside hazard management) and to improve pedestrian safety
 - d. Safer construction sites for workers and users (safety at road work sites)

- (iii) Provide an opportunity for experience sharing and collaboration in road safety engineering amongst countries within the region.

Expected Outputs

5. In support of the “safer roads” pillar in the CAREC Road Safety Strategy, the main output from this workshop will be a short Action Plan, drafted and agreed upon by CAREC member countries, as a practical, cost effective plan towards safer CAREC roads.

Day 1 (16 April)

0830	Registration
0900-0920	Welcome remarks Mr. Ezizgeldi Annamammedov, Deputy Minister of Finance and Economy, Turkmenistan Mr. James Leather, Chief of Transport Sector Group, ADB Ms. Debbie Cousins, Associate Director – Head ESD Operations, Environment and Sustainability Department, EBRD
0920-0930	Introduction to objectives and agenda of the RSE Workshop Mr. Kamel Bouhmad, Transport Specialist, CWTC, ADB
0930—1000	Introductory Safety Quiz Mr. Matt Chamberlain, EBRD Road Safety Consultant Mr. Phillip Jordan, ADB Road Safety Consultant
1000-1030	Setting the scene: How engineers can save lives on CAREC roads Presenter: Mr. Phillip Jordan, ADB Road Safety Consultant <i>An outline of the road safety engineering profession and what it has managed to achieve in many countries across the globe, and suggestions for what it can achieve for CAREC road agencies. Discussion will emphasize the importance of leadership in road safety engineering and how this can be developed – e.g. creating a lead agency, building political will, building the capacity of engineers, etc.</i>
1030-1100	Coffee/tea break and group photo
1100-1230	Session 1: Being proactive in road design – Road safety audits Presenter: Mr. Phillip Jordan, ADB Road Safety Consultant <i>Explanation of the road safety audit process, and discussion on how best to ensure effective road safety audits for your road projects. Presentation and workshop activity for participants to learn about the benefits of carrying out a road safety audit, and to note the key actions required to implement road safety audits. Examples will be given of some challenges that audits can present to national road agencies, as well as what is required to put audits into productive national action - such as national audit policies, training, etc.</i>
1230-1330	Lunch (Venue: Restaurant 34)

- 1330-1400 **UN Road Safety Conventions – are you using them correctly?**
 Presenter: Ms. Rebecca Huang, Economic Affairs Officer, UNECE
A presentation about the UN conventions and agreements can and should be used by CAREC member countries to enhance road safety. A presentation and discussion to identify areas for improvement in the use of UN Conventions at a national level. Some examples of common sign issues that impact on road safety in the CAREC countries will be presented.
- 1400-1445 **Improving Road Safety on TRACECA Corridor**
 Presenter: Mr. Anar Ismail, Land Transport Expert, TRACECA
- 1445-1545 **Roundtable Discussion 1: What needs to be done to create Safer CAREC Roads (and the Challenges in Achieving This)?**
 Facilitators: Mr. Matt Chamberlain, EBRD Road Safety Consultant and Mr. James Leather, Chief of Transport Sector Group, ADB
A discussion about the current challenges as well as opportunities and resources that can be harnessed, within an Action Plan, to make safer CAREC roads. This session will invite national representatives to discuss the important issue of designing roads for all road users, including vulnerable road users. There will be brief discussions of the priorities of each country, and the challenges each faces. A draft Action Plan will be produced during this session and will be revisited and refined before finalization in the last session on Day 2.
- 1545-1615 Coffee/tea break
- 1615-1745 **Session 2: Treating Hazardous locations with cost-effective countermeasures**
 Presenter: Mr. Phillip Jordan, ADB Road Safety Consultant
Most CAREC countries have numerous hazardous locations awaiting safety improvements. Low cost, high benefit engineering improvements can be readily installed, and safety can be enhanced, at such locations. Why are such hazardous locations permitted to exist? This session will highlight the treatments that can be applied at hazardous locations involving pedestrian collisions or run-off-road crashes. Many CAREC road users are killed or severely injured in pedestrian collisions or single-vehicle run-off-road crashes. This presentation offers a series of practical and low-cost options to improve pedestrian safety, as well as a strategy and practical ways to make CAREC roadsides safer.
- 1830-2030 Welcome Dinner (Venue: Mansion Room)

Day 2 (17 April)

- 0900-0915 Summary of the first day and objectives of the second day
 Mr. Kamel Bouhmad, Transport Specialist, ADB
- 0915-1030 **Session 3: Making Road Work Sites Safer**
 Presenter: Mr. Phillip Jordan, ADB Road Safety Consultant
Presentation and discussion on providing safer work sites on CAREC roads – for workers and road users
The risk of a serious crash in a road work zone is between 3-5 times greater than other parts of the road network. These risks are created by

engineers and must be mitigated by engineers. During this session, country teams will note the actions required to ensure safer road work sites on CAREC roads. Roadwork safety is a growing issue across the globe, and CAREC member countries will be encouraged to address this issue in their draft Action Plan.

1030-1100 Coffee/tea break

1100-1230 **Session 4: Treating “blackspots”: What is needed for successful blackspot programs?**

Presenter: Mr. Matt Chamberlain, EBRD Road Safety Consultant
Presentation and discussion on what is an effective blackspot program using some international “best practice” examples, and offering guidance on how such programs can be implemented in CAREC countries

During the session country teams will note the actions required to implement an effective national blackspot program or to improve an existing program. Examples of what may be required will be given to stimulate the discussion, such as policies, training, the importance of good crash data, ranking blackspots, cost/benefits, monitoring, and funding sources

1230-1330 Lunch (Venue: Restaurant 34)

1330-1500 **Roundtable Discussion 2: What will your country do to create Safer CAREC Roads?**

Facilitators: Mr. Phillip Jordan, ADB Road Safety Consultant and Ms. Debbie Cousins, Associate Director – Head ESD Operations, Environment and Sustainability Department, EBRD

*Agreement on priorities for national action plans for the next year
Based on the discussions over the two days, each country will put their proposed actions into an action plan that stipulates what they will do to produce safer roads. The coming year will be the priority. This will include how key learnings from the workshop will be disseminated at a national level, as well as actions required to review and change policy and practices, as well as standards related to road safety engineering nationally.*

1500 -1530 Coffee/tea break

1530-1600 **What’s next?**

Presentor: Mr. Kamel Bouhmad, Transport Specialist, ADB

1600-1630 **Summary of Proceedings (the Action Plan)**

Facilitated by ADB staff

1630-1700 **Closing Remarks**

Ms. Debbie Cousins, Associate Director – Head ESD Operations, Environment and Sustainability Department, EBRD

Mr. James Leather, Chief of Transport Sector Group, ADB

Mr. Ezizgeldi Annamammedov, Deputy Minister of Finance and Economy, Turkmenistan