



Trade Facilitation in CAREC: A 10-year CPMM Perspective

17 August 2022, 13:00-15:30 Manila time, via [Zoom](#)

Register at: <https://adb-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEpdOispj0sEtBQbTLsiwP3UbF05z9DI8bR>

Meeting ID: 954 3148 6684 | Passcode: CPMM1234

Draft Agenda

17 Aug	Session
	Moderator: Ms. Zulfia Karimova , Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist, EAPF, EARD
13:00-13:15	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ms. Teresa Kho, Director General, East Asia Department, ADBMr. Yevgeniy Zhukov, Director General, Central and West Asia Department, ADB
	Video and Group Photo
13:15-13:50	Session 1 Trade Facilitation in CAREC: A 10-year CPMM Perspective <i>The study identifies significant trade facilitation initiatives and development in CAREC countries, with evidence from the CAREC Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring (CPMM) data. The study also highlights recommendations and forward-looking insights that address impediments and gaps. The study marks the ten years of implementation of the CPMM mechanism and underscores its value in influencing investment decision-making and in assessing the impact of policy implementation.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ms. Zulfia Karimova, Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist, EAPF, EARDMr. Max Ee, CPMM Consultant CPMM Success Stories: Case of Pakistan <ul style="list-style-type: none">Mr. Ilhom Abdulloev, Research and Knowledge Connectivity Specialist, CAREC Institute
13:50-15:20	Session 2 Presentations: Call for Research Proposals <i>Following a call for research proposals that employ the CPMM database on topics that include, but are not limited to, trade, regional cooperation and integration, and global value chains, selected studies will show how CPMM data can be used for policy formulation in the region and for deepening academic research in relevant areas. (10 minutes each presenter)</i> Moderator: Mr. Iskandar Abdullaev , Deputy Director 2, CAREC Institute Analysis of the Impact of Trade Costs on exports of final and intermediate goods at micro and macro sectoral level in Central Asia Presentation: Ms. Alfinura Sharafeyeva , Adjunct Fellow, School of Economics and Public Policy, University of Adelaide Discussant: Mr. Peter Rosenkranz, Financial Sector Specialist, EAPF, EARD The effects of lockdowns on time to clear goods at the border of the CAREC countries during the COVID-19 pandemic

Presentation: Mr. **Kijin Kim**, Senior Economist, Regional Cooperation and Integration Division (ERCI), Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department (ERCD), ADB

Mr. **Jerome Abesamis**, Economic Analyst (Consultant), ERCD

Discussant: Ms. Lilia Aleksanyan, Economist, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division, CWRD

Trade Facilitation, Infrastructure, and International Trade in Central Asian Countries

Presentation: Mr. **Kamalbek Karymshakov**, Vice-Rector, Associate Professor, Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

Discussant: Mr. Jules Hugot, Economist, Macroeconomics Research Division, ERCD

Geographical Proximity and Trade Impacts in the CAREC region

Presentation: Mr. **Ghulam Samad**, Senior Research Specialist, Research Division, CAREC Institute

Discussant: Mr. Kijin Kim, Senior Economist, ERCI, ERCD

Non-tariff measures and time and costs at border crossing points of perishable goods: Impact on CAREC intra-regional trade

Presentation: Ms. **Dorothea Ramizo**, Associate Economics Officer, Office of the Director General (EAOD), East Asia Department, ADB

Discussant: Mr. Rolando Avendano, Economist, ERCI, ERCD

Q & A

10 min paper presentation followed by 5 min discussion, and 10 min for Q & A from the floor

Closing Remarks and Way Forward

15:20-15:30

- Ms. **Akiko Terada-Hagiwara**, Principal Economist, EAOD , EARD

Draft Concept Note

I. Background

The CAREC countries are mostly landlocked and exhibit the following characteristics: (i) limited integration to global value chains, (ii) lower level of regional integration, (iii) narrow range of export commodities and trading partners, (iv) relatively low value-add processing thus difficult to perform upward value migration, and (v) systematic impediments that result in 'friction' for cross-border movement of goods. These challenges could be attributed to both trade policy and facilitation impediments, resulting in friction when goods move across borders. Restrictions imposed due to trade tariffs, vehicle specifications, SPS standards and documentary compliance increase the time and cost to ship items. Border-crossing procedures that are cumbersome, non-transparent and under-equipped with technologies and tools are equivalent to adding significant distance in the supply chain. Thus, despite physical proximity between an origin and destination, the time and cost to transport the goods could still be comparatively higher.

Evidence shows great progress in CAREC trade and transport facilitation in the last 10 years. Customs and border management adopted more risk management measures, streamlined border control procedures, and strived towards greater data sharing among CAREC neighbors. National single windows were adopted or under consideration. More CAREC countries entered into WTO agreements, while others became observers. Moreover, the container express train from East Asia to Europe was a significant development that shortened the economic distance, offering a transport mode much cheaper than air and much faster than ocean.

The CAREC initiative Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring (CPMM) has observed the development and provided empirical evidence of the region's transport and trade facilitation for the past decade. It is an empirical tool designed to assess the efficiency of the CAREC six priority transport corridors which link the region's key economic hubs to each other and connect landlocked CAREC countries to Eurasian and global markets. Over the years, CPMM time and cost data proved beneficial in assessing and measuring the efficiency of the CAREC corridors through its reports and various studies citing CPMM data and findings.

II. Key Objectives

The Asian Development Bank's (ADB) East Asia Department is organizing a conference to be held in August 2022. The overall objective of the conference is to launch a study that identifies significant trade facilitation initiatives and development in CAREC countries, with evidence from the CAREC Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring (CPMM) data. The conference also aims to present selected studies that employ CPMM data and demonstrate how it can be used for policy formulation in the region and for deepening academic research in relevant areas.

III. Target Participants

This conference will gather leading academics, policymakers, and international organizations to discuss the studies and policy implications related to CAREC transport and trade facilitation and how CPMM data and findings can be used to support policy formulation in the region.