

Progress and challenges in the CAREC transport sector

Almaty

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CAREC Transport Strategy 2030

- Adopted in 2019, by the CAREC Ministerial Conference
- Although focused on transport, it remains aligned with the economic development and trade themes through the CAREC Strategy 2030
- Strongly aligned with CAREC strategic goals of improving connectivity and sustainability of transport systems and infrastructure
- High emphasis on quality and sustainability of transport projects rather than on volume and scale of infrastructure development and financing
- Knowledge products are demand driven and shall become high-level decision support tools for the CAREC DMCs
- Performance reporting will be more CAREC Corridor and country specific, complemented by analytical reports to support decision making both at the regional and national levels.

Key developments since 18th CAREC TSCC

- COVID-19 resulted in significant interruptions in global supply chains, affected transport operations and slowed down transport investment projects
- Aviation sector witnessed significant slowdown in 2020-21, but also almost marvelous recovery in some CAREC member countries in 2022
- Deep ocean rates skyrocketed which caused the modal shift of significant transcontinental traffic on the railway land bridges, including to the CAREC Corridor 2 (TRACECA or Middle Corridor)
- Average border crossing times on the CAREC Corridors reached their highest, while average speed of travel along the CAREC corridors – their lowest values. CAREC Transport authorities still provide insufficient attention to the cross-border transport.
- Attention to Road Safety remained high and further increased during the pandemic times. Now the focus is on capacity development and tangible projects with RS theme
- Role of principles and concepts of the Road Asset Management is steadily increasing in the national transportation policies and transport investment programs
- Substantially increased focus on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation by the key CAREC development partners

Strategic focus by pillar

- Cross-border Transport and Logistics
 - Supporting modern and risk-based land border crossing and ports procedures, technologies and infrastructure to increase speed and reduce cost of travel along the CAREC corridors (currently, border crossings reduce travel speed by road in more than 2 time, and by rail in 3 times)
- Road Assets Management Systems (RAMS)
 - Promoting and institutionalizing RAMS to increase road asset life cycle and reduce total cost of infrastructure vis-à-vis increasing quality of road network.
- Road Safety Management
 - The pillar is guided by its own strategy. Road Safety Engineering received a lot of development over the last few years. Other components of Road Safety Management are receiving more attention in the coming years.
- Railways
 - Guided by its own strategy to develop railways as a mode of choice – user-friendly, efficient, reliable, environmentally-friendly.
- Aviation
 - Significantly impacted by COVID-19. Based on the CAREC study, current focus is on the LCC development and facilitation of the aviation cargo operations.

Key Transport reports and training activities

- COVID-19 Aviation study and the webinars
- Ports and Logistics scoping study and the webinars
- Railway Sector Assessments
- CAREC Low Cost Carrier study (ongoing, for delivery in 2022)
- Decision Makers' Guide on Logistics Centers Development (final draft)
- Aviation Cargo study (ongoing, for delivery in 2023)
- Road Safety Report Card and compendium of Road Safety Engineering manuals with regional and national training activities
- RAMS and Road Funds assessments, with national tailored training activities

Thank you