

Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program



Modernization of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures under the CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda (CITA) 2030

The initiative is supported by [TA 9500: Modernizing Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures to Facilitate Trade](#), co-funded by the People's Republic of China Poverty Reduction and Regional Cooperation Fund and Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund.

Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures—a priority area in CAREC 2030 strategy



Trade, Tourism, &
Economic
Corridors Cluster



Agriculture &
Water Cluster

- help countries implement the **WTO SPS agreement**, align SPS measures with international standards
- build capacity to improve product quality and diversity, improve linkages
- support **transboundary animal disease control**
- develop a **CAREC food safety network** and a common quality control system

Common challenges in CAREC countries



Uncoordinated policies and unrealized **potential for integration**



Inadequate SPS capacity to **facilitate safe trade**



Untapped market access **for agriculture exports**

Plant Health

- Inadequate understanding of import phytosanitary requirements and pest risks from trade
- Lack of pest distribution data as basis for regulated pest lists
- Inadequate capacity for risk-based inspection and border controls
- Electronic phytosanitary certification yet to be incorporated into single window, etc.

Animal Health

- Lack of animal identification – prerequisite for disease surveillance & control strategy, zoning
- Lack of policy coordination
- Inadequate secondary legislation

Food Safety

- Inadequate legislation and capacity to adopt risk-based food safety measures such as hazard analysis critical control points (HACCP)
- Need to develop food traceability system
- Achieving balance between risk mitigation and trade facilitation

Modernized SPS Measures – support integration into the global economy

Strategic and Coordinated Approach



Policy Dialogue, Coordination, and Cooperation



CAREC Trade cluster

https://www.carecprogram.org/?page_id=13249

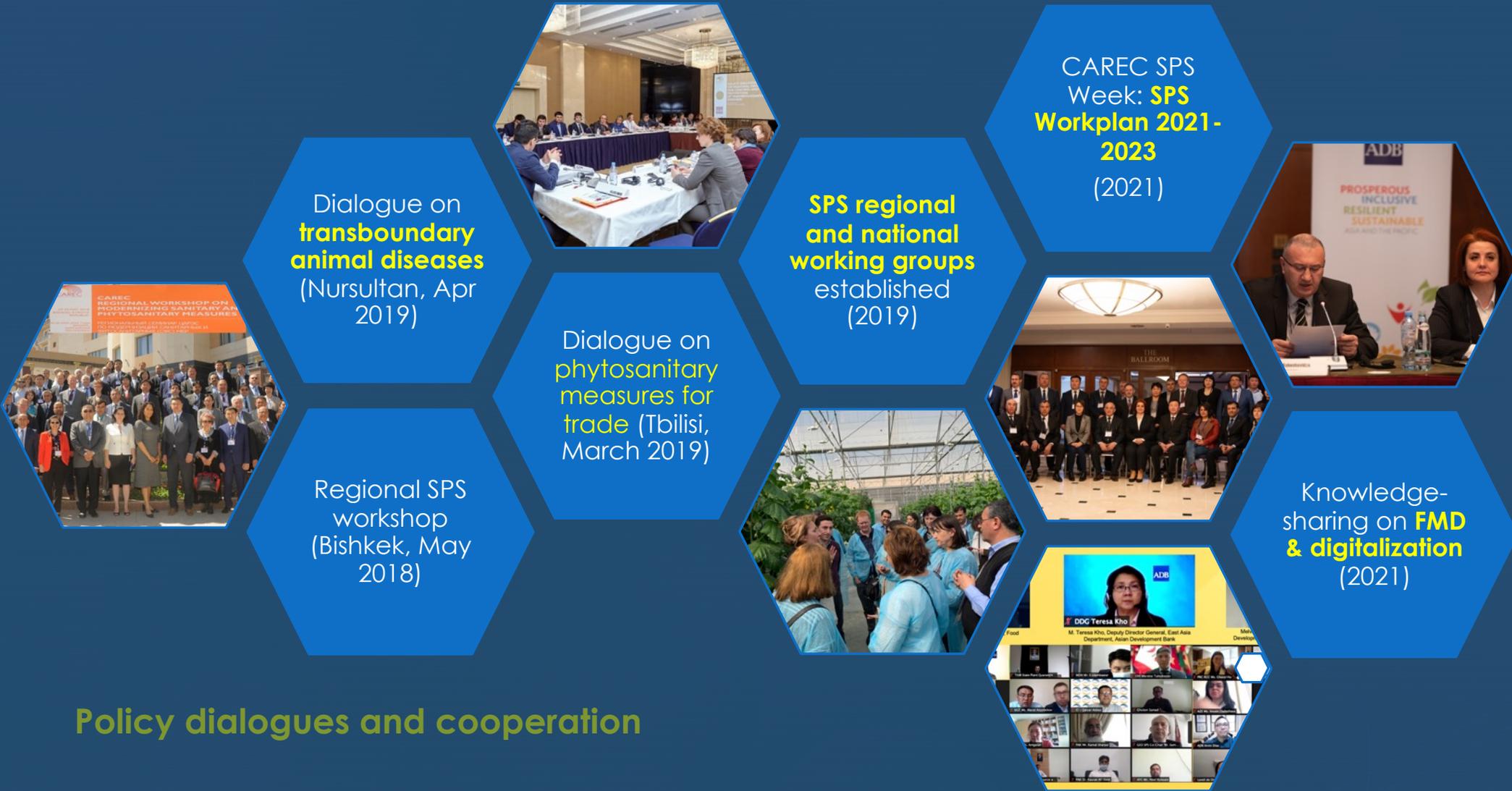


CAREC SPS Measures Week: *Facilitating Safe and Sustainable Trade in the CAREC Region* (April 2021)



CAREC SPS Work Plan 2021–2023

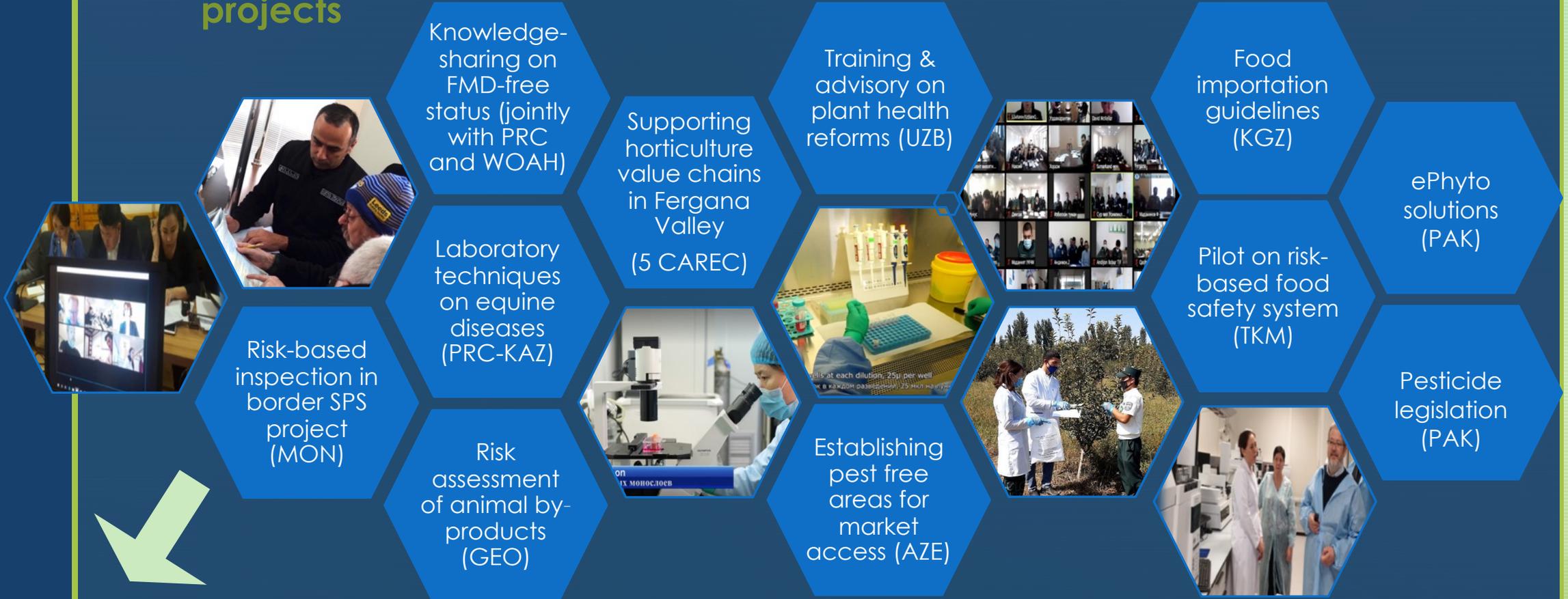
Progress of Implementation



Policy dialogues and cooperation

Progress of Implementation

Supporting investment projects



Mongolia: Regional Upgrades of SPS Measures for Trade Project

 **Upgrading of labs and border inspection facilities**

 **Aligning SPS with international standards**

 **Adopting risk-based inspection**

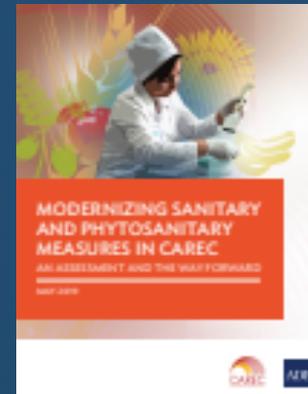
Capacity building and advisory

Knowledge Products and Services

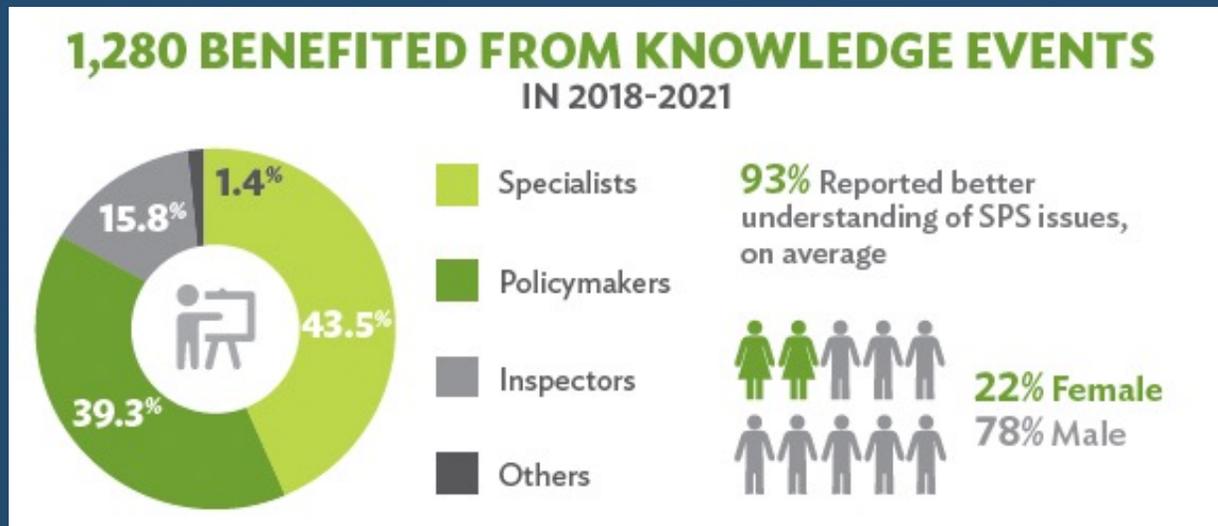
ADB-CAREC Institute e-learning modules



Research and policy briefs



Laboratory procedures demonstration videos



SPS Priorities under the CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda 2030's Rolling Strategic Action Plan 2022–2024: *Strengthening SPS Measures*

Regional Policy Dialogue

OneHealth Approach



Digitalization

Business process analysis for migrating to ePhyto



Capacity-building

Risk assessment and inspection



Feasibility studies

Upgrade of laboratories



Border infrastructure

Cooperation mechanism

Mutual recognition of procedures



Institutional

SPS Regional Working Group



Cooperation Framework for Agricultural Development and Food Security in the CAREC Region

- Development Objective: productive, resilient and sustainable agriculture and enhanced food security in the region. The Framework prioritizes and guides CAREC activities
- Harnessing of trade in food products is one focus area
 - Modernization of SPS measures still to be undertaken under CITA 2030
- ADB TA approved by April 2023 to support:
 - implementation of priority activities
 - preparation of Strategy for Agricultural Development and Food Security in CAREC
 - identification of business opportunities for investment projects

Thank you!

Visit: https://www.carecprogram.org/?page_id=18102



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MODERNIZING SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS) MEASURES TO FACILITATE TRADE

in Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) countries

CHALLENGES

- Uncoordinated policies and unrealized potential for integration
- Inadequate SPS capacity to facilitate safe trade
- Untapped market access for agriculture exports

POLICY COORDINATION AND COOPERATION

- SPS National Working Groups**: Develop national SPS strategies and priority action plans
- SPS Regional Working Group**: Oversees CAREC Common Agenda for Modernization of SPS Measure for Trade

INVESTMENT PROJECTS

Mongolia: Regional Upgrades of SPS Measures for Trade Project

- Upgrading of labs and border inspection facilities
- Aligning SPS with international standards
- Adopting risk-based inspection

CAPACITY BUILDING AND ADVISORY SUPPORT

6 high-level dialogues, 7 regional and 7 national workshops on:

- Risk management
- Border controls
- Animal disease management
- E-certificates
- Food safety standards
- Laboratory facilities
- Plant pest surveillance

1,280 BENEFITED FROM KNOWLEDGE EVENTS IN 2018-2021

Category	Percentage
Specialists	15.8%
Inspectors	39.3%
Others	43.5%
Policy makers	1.4%

93% Reported better understanding of SPS issues, on average

22% Female
78% Male

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

- Report on SPS Capacity Assessment in CAREC
- Policy brief on Expanding Agri-Trade in Central Asia through Electronic Certificates
- E-learning module on Digital SPS Certification