

Session 2: Strategic Direction

**Operationalizing the Comprehensive Action Plan:
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CAP: An On-going Process

Sector strategies:

- Cap outlines basic strategy elements
- Transport: strategy TA in 2007
- Energy: WB currently working with CAREC countries
- Trade: consultant's report, need to formulate a consensus document

Other:

- National development plans
- MI project pipeline updates
- Country views (Afg, Azb)

Annual updating:

- Reflecting new interests/developments

Strengthening the SOM and MC

Current process:

- country-based programming
- project versus strategic direction
- evolving role of SOM and MC

Challenge:

- mechanisms/incentives for operationalizing the CAP
- strategic management/direction by CAREC governments

Mainstreaming Regional Cooperation/Integration

CAREC as a catalyst, complementing the SCO/EurasEC:

- national development plans/public investment programs
- their regional dimensions and how they interrelate
- regional dimensions of MI country programming
- tracking non-CAREC regional initiatives

Mainstreaming Regional Cooperation/Integration

Measures for mainstreaming regional development:

- a knowledge, capacity-building pillar
- special project initiatives, to broaden and deepen CAREC Program
- sector strategies to guide transport, trade and energy initiatives
- business focus, involving a more integrated approach to regional development
- a strategic management process by Ministers/MIs

Strategic Management:

Proposed Strategic Management and Priorities Subcommittee:

- Identification of key regional needs/opportunities
- Management of cross-cutting issues (economic corridors, global value chains)
- Review of MI pipeline, country development plans
- Identification of gaps in CAREC Program
- Notional budget resource envelopes/resource prioritization
- Options for Ministerial consideration
- Committee supported by budget resources, sector steering committees and advisors
- Reporting to the SOM

Operationalizing the Two-Tier Approach to CAREC Activities

First-tier activities (transport, trade, energy):

- results-based frameworks
- integration (transport/trade; customs/ trade policy; energy markets)
- business focus (economic corridors, global value chains)

Operationalizing the Two-Tier Approach to CAREC Activities

Second-tier activities:

- selective interventions/not sector wide
- some are already well established (HIV/AIDS program)
- some are in progress but need further structuring (avian flu preparedness)
- some are new and require resource mobilization/structuring (CAREC Institute/research networks/training)
- CARECU to monitor and report upon second-tier activities

Building on Success

Practical results are accumulating:

- Broadening the Program selectively will add to the results
- Increased momentum is encouraging greater input/interest
- Institutional strengthening will facilitate strategic direction
- Increasing confidence in CAREC Program complementary to SCO/EurasEC

