



Session 1: Introduction of the Agenda and Updates on the Status of Implementation of the CATS/ICE Development Pilot Phase

6th Technical Working Group Meeting: CATS and ICE Implementation
8 – 9 September 2025, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

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6th Technical Working Group Meeting on CATS/ICE

MEETING AGENDA

- 9 Sessions
- Breakout session: Working group meetings i) Information and Communication and Technology (ICT) and (ii) Customs Control Facilitation in the afternoon of Day 1, 8 September

MEETING OBJECTIVES

- Comprehensive Review of CATS/ICE Pilot Activities to Date
- Planning and Launching the Last Round of CATS/ICE Parallel Testing
- Review of Key System Updates Since March 2025
- Defining the Next Steps in CATS/ICE Pilot and Eventful Launching



<https://www.carecprogram.org/?event=6th-technical-working-group-meeting-on-carec-advanced-transit-system-and-information-common-exchange-cats-ice-pilot-phase-implementation>

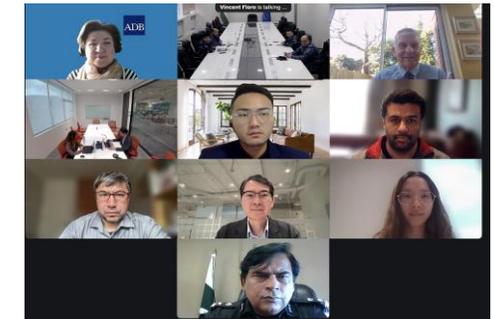
Major Activities Held in 2025

24th CAREC Customs Cooperation Committee Meeting (3-4 September; Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic)

- *The CCC noted significant progress in the implementation of the CATS pilot and acknowledged the valuable contributions of Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Uzbekistan towards advancing live operations.*
- *Prospective expansion of CATS/ICE, following expressions of interest from new members, with formalization expected at the upcoming 24th CAREC Ministerial Conference on 20 November in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic.*
- *Potential for alignment with EU and ASEAN systems and endorsed the development of an accession guide to encourage broader participation.*
- *Members concurred that active engagement with the private sector, further development of legal and technical frameworks, and operational preparedness are essential for the success of the system.*



5th Technical Working Group Meeting (12-13 March 2025; Baku, AZE)



Virtual: Legal Working Group Meeting; Country Consultation UZB (April 2025; virtual)

New ADB Technical Assistance to Support CATS/ICE Implementation

Project Name:	Implementing the CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda 2030 (Phase 2)
Nature of Activity:	Capacity Development, Policy Advice, Research and Development
Outputs:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Knowledge to expand, digitalize, and promote the greening of trade provided2. Projects that expand, digitalize, and promote the greening of trade supported3. Capacities of trade institutions for policy formulation, coordination, and implementation reinforced
Under Output 2:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Implement subregion-wide CAREC Advanced Transit System and Information Customs Exchange (CATS/ICE) and pilot expansion to remaining member countries2. Regional mapping of CAREC BCPs to assess applicability of green and smart border facilities based on the Border Efficiency for Sustainable Trade (BEST) and Regional Improvement of Border Services (RIBS) projects
Timeline	December 2024 – December 2030

Status Updates (i)

New TA supporting CATS/ICE activities

- Engagement of experts started in April 2025, including Mr. Aivaras Pigaga

Evaluation of the CATS/ICE Achievements, Workplan and Roadmap

- Evaluation of key milestones, progress, best practice and key lessons
- Outline of the detailed workplan until 2026
- Roadmap until 2030
- More details in Session 2

Status Updates (ii)

Multicountry Legal Agreement to Support the Implementation of CATS/ICE

- Draft submitted for domestic legal review on 10 July through the NFP office

Memorandum of Understanding

- Revised draft to extend validity and include other countries, shared to TWG members via email

Introduction video for CATS

- For information purposes and highlight the advantages and benefits of CATS

