



Knowledge Sharing Program on Promoting Regional Cooperation and Integration for Economic Corridor Development in the CAREC Region
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Georgia's Experience in Promoting Regional Cooperation and Integration and Economic Corridor Development

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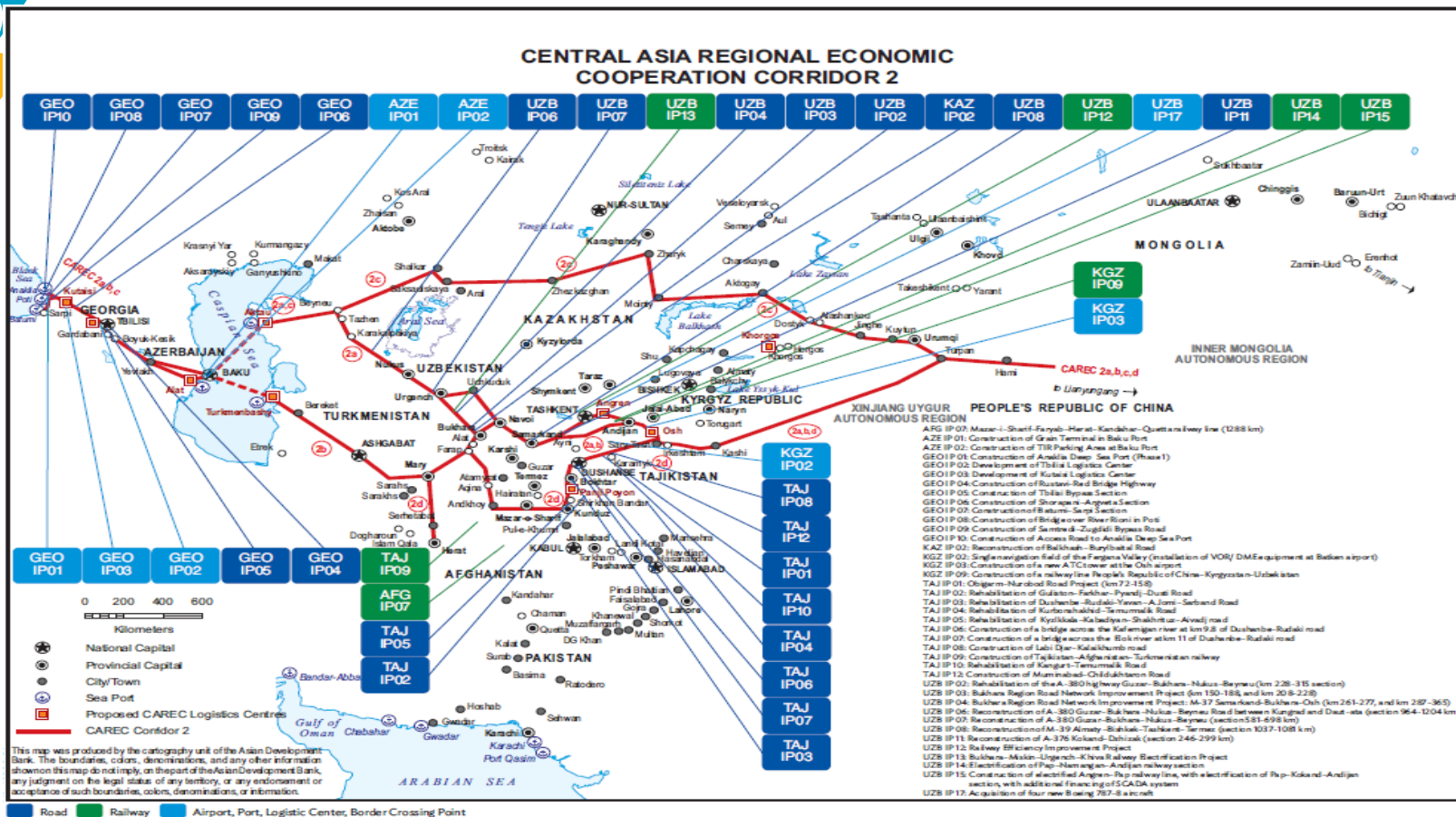




Outline

- The CAREC Program Fostering Regional Cooperation and Trade
- Georgia's Experience in Promoting RCI
- ADB Support for RCI in Georgia
- Potential of Armenia-Georgia Economic Corridor Development

The CAREC Program Fostering Regional Cooperation and Trade



Source: CAREC Secretariat

- CAREC is a partnership of 11 countries and development partners working together to promote development through cooperation, leading to accelerated growth and shared prosperity
- Georgia joined CAREC in 2016, aiming to develop into an important transit corridor for regional trade tapping its strategic geographic location linking Europe and Asia
- Georgia is fulfilling the chairmanship of CAREC in 2023





Georgia's Experience in Promoting RCI

- Georgia's successful customs and trade facilitation reforms have won worldwide acclaim.
- The government has an overall vision for Georgia to fully realize the transit potential of its strategic location at a crossroads of Europe and Asia.
- Two series of measures were initiated in this regard: creating a network of FTAs and expanding the country's road, rail, and sea traffic infrastructure
 - DCFTA with EU, FTAs with Turkey, PRC, numerous bilateral FTAs etc
- GEO trade and logistics facilities comprise rail, roads, ports, and pipeline infrastructure
- Georgia plays a key role in facilitating Middle Corridor development to respond to impact from Russian invasion of Ukraine

Source: Trans Caspian Corridor Development (USAID, 2022)



ADB Support for RCI in Georgia

ADB supports Georgia's trade and connectivity and turning Georgia into a gateway and modern hub for business, logistics, finance, trade, and tourism

- East-West and North-South highway projects
- Regional power transmission network
- Railway sector reform
- Airport sector reform
- Logistics cluster development in West Georgia
- Trade digitalization
- Joint BCP between Georgia and Azerbaijan
 - If successful, such an experiment may offer lessons for a more streamlined and efficient border crossing
- While Azerbaijan and Georgia are members of CAREC Program, Armenia is a strategic partner in ECD.
- ADB has adopted regional cooperation approach to the South Caucasus Region.
- TA was approved to support the improvement of cross-border railway services between Georgia and Armenia. TA assesses the economic potential of the Tbilisi–Yerevan rail corridor.



Potential of Armenia-Georgia Economic Corridor Development

- Economic corridors can boost regional competitiveness, through improved logistics infrastructure, reduced time and cost of trade, and enabling policies and investments for agglomeration effects
- ECD concept that ADB is advocating is the spatial approach of ECD, representing multisector and multidisciplinary approach of ECD. We also recognize that transport, trade, and logistics development are important elements for ECD.
- Potential of Armenia-Georgia ECD is being assessed with ADB support
 - Country and regional context reviewed
 - ECD framework proposed
 - Scope of cooperation (bilateral, regional, international) identified

Source: Trans Caspian Corridor Development (USAID, 2022)



Thank you.

