

The CAREC Common Agenda for the Modernization of SPS Measures for Trade Facilitation – *Overview and Moving Forward*

CAREC Regional Workshop on Modernizing Sanitary and
Phyosanitary Measures
Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic
29–30 May 2018



Agriculture is important sector in CAREC economy

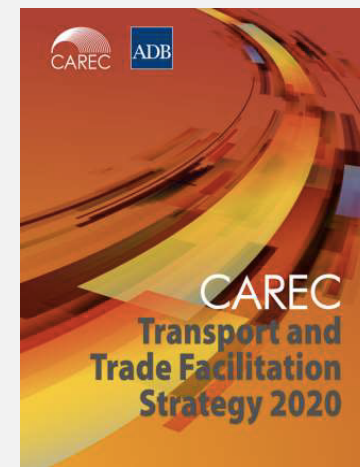
- agriculture value-added share to GDP at average of 13% (higher for AFG, PAK & UZB)
- 36% share of employment
- agricultural production in CAREC is significant to the world
 - 55% for vegetables & melons, 26% for live animals - sheep and goats
 - important for domestic consumption and export potential
 - incomes and consumption demand are increasing faster than agri-food production

Global food and agricultural trends

- food demand is increasing while patterns of food consumption are changing towards more livestock products, vegetable oils, and sugar
- growing population, more urbanization
- rising incomes and purchasing power
- more competition and diminishing natural resources, food price increases, changing patterns in agricultural trade

CAREC Common Agenda for Modernization of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures for Trade Facilitation (CAST)

- An initiative endorsed during the 14th Ministerial Conference in 2015
- To modernize SPS systems and strengthen cooperation in SPS measures to complement customs-related trade facilitation measures
- Part of ongoing integrated trade policy and trade facilitation programs



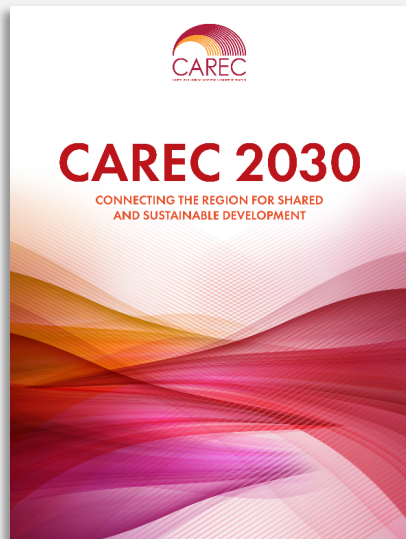
- regulatory assessment on SPS-related legislation and gaps in compliance with the principles and requirements of the WTO SPS Agreement
- laboratory assessment covering plant health, animal health, and food safety laboratories
- SPS border services management assessment – need for an efficient and effective border management system

- A national strategy to adopt and/or implement SPS measures in accordance with international standards
- Strategic and coordinated approach to modernizing SPS measures:
 - plant health
 - animal health
 - food safety
 - laboratory and border crossing point infrastructure
- Regular consultation dialogues including knowledge events on economic benefits of SPS upgrade

CAREC 2030 Strategy

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- endorsed at CAREC Ministerial Conference in October 2017
- identified priorities in SPS



Trade, Tourism, &
Economic
Corridors Cluster

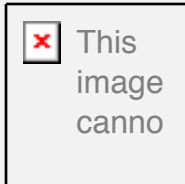


Agriculture &
Water
Cluster

- Special task to help member countries in implementing WTO SPS agreement
- Alignment of SPS measures with international standards
- Build capacity to improve product quality and diversity and shipment linkages
- Support for transboundary animal disease control
- development of a CAREC food safety network and a common quality control system

CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda 2030

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CAREC COUNTRIES ARE MORE INTEGRATED IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

A

TRADE EXPANSION FROM INCREASED MARKET ACCESS

FREER TRADE

- Key tariff liberalized
- Non-tariff barriers eliminated
- Unfair trade policies reduced

LOWER TRADE COSTS

- Efficient procedures at the border and behind the border
- Improved logistics services
- Enhanced transit system

B

GREATER DIVERSIFICATION

ADEQUATE FINANCING

- Improved access to trade finance
- Consistent and open FDI policies
- Developed domestic financial markets

LINKAGES WITH GLOBAL & REGIONAL VALUE CHAINS

- Skills supply & demand matched
- Adoptability to innovation measures
- Developed business development and support services

C

STRONGER INSTITUTIONS FOR TRADE

COORDINATED SECTORAL POLICIES AND PRIORITIES

- Collaborative policy formulation and implementation
- Aligned national and regional planning
- Regulatory convergence in the region

EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY-MAKING & NEGOTIATIONS

- Improved data collection and cross-country analysis
- Enhanced policy analysis and negotiation skills
- Increased think tank and private sector participation

Investment Projects

Policy Dialogue & Cooperation

Knowledge Product & Services

Institutional structure for CITA 2030

- **Regional Trade Group (RTG)** to be established to:
 - deliberate on trade policy and trade facilitation issues in a synergistic manner
 - comprise officials and experts from trade-related agencies
 - develop a trade strategy
- **Customs Cooperation Committee** to continue to carry out customs cooperation functions
- **Working groups** to be organized in new technical areas such as in sanitary and phytosanitary measures; technical barriers to trade

SPS related priorities under CITA 2030

- adoption of international standards
- mutual recognition of SPS certificates or accreditation
- modernization of SPS facilities – regional upgrade of SPS for Trade (MON, KGZ); border SPS needs assessment (PAK & AFG)
- establishment of green corridor
- exchange of information among trade authorities and use of technology – e-SPS, Single Window
- training of trainers on SPS regulations
- establishment of SPS working groups to implement CAST
- strengthen National Committee on Trade Facilitation

- Inputs for CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda 2030
- Sectoral report to Regional Trade Group and Senior Official Meeting in June 2018
- Deliverable for CAREC Ministerial Conference in November 2018
- Action plans, specific investment and capacity-building needs

Thank you.

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