



CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda 2030

Midterm Review

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Measuring CAREC 2030 Progress

CAREC 2030 Program Results Framework

Endorsed by the 19th Ministerial Conference in Dec 2020

CAREC Program's Development Effectiveness Review (DEfR)

Using PRF, once every three years, next review in 2024

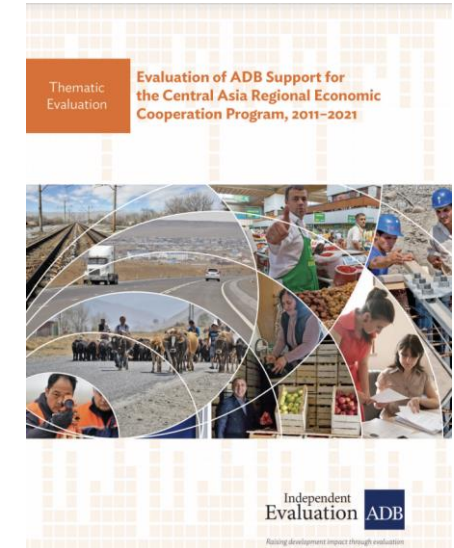
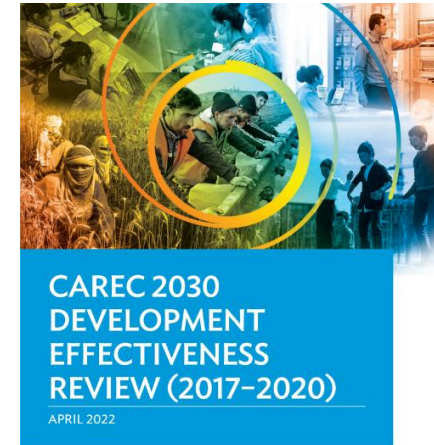
CAREC Sector Progress Reports *Yearly*

ADB Independent Thematic Evaluation

Completed in May 2023

CAREC 2030 Strategy Mid-Term Review

To be undertaken in 2024



**CAREC 2030
Program Results Framework**
Impact: Sustainable Economic Development and
Shared Prosperity for the CAREC Region



Independent Evaluation of ADB Support for the CAREC Program

Key Findings

Significant progress in helping improve connectivity in CAREC

Modest contribution in improving regional economic competitiveness and promoting diversification

Continuing challenges in removing bottlenecks and barriers to trade, time and costs in crossing borders hinder trade and investment flows as well as market and value chain integration.

As CAREC Program expands into new non-infrastructure sectors, and regional public goods such as climate change takes greater priority, resources face increased pressure

5 Key Recommendations

Strengthen support for **investment climate** and **trade policy** reforms to promote economic diversification across the CAREC subregion

Increase support for **modernization** of border crossing points and customs processes

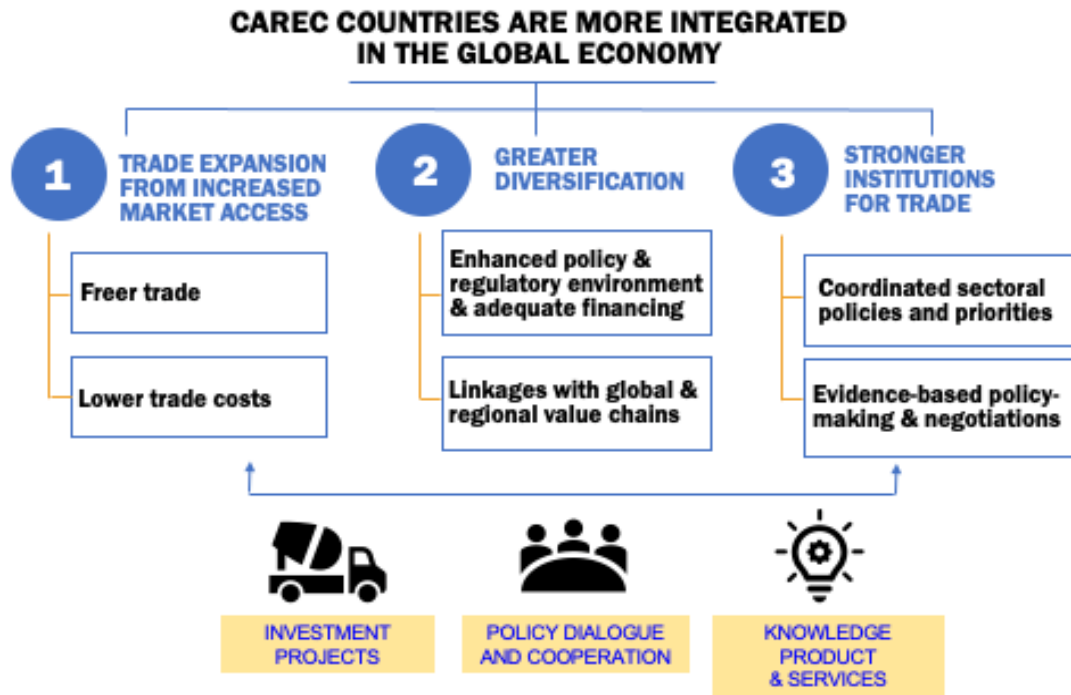
Give a higher priority to developing a **multimodal corridor network** by increasing support for the railway network and aviation

Use the CAREC platform to support **climate change** mitigation and adaptation in all sectors through regional cooperation.

Strengthen the CAREC Program's **results monitoring system** and tools.



CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda 2030 and Rolling Strategic Action Plan (RSAP)



CAREC = Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation, CFCFA = CAREC Federation of Carrier and Forwarder Associations, NCTF = national committee on trade facilitation, SPS = sanitary and phytosanitary, WCO = World Customs Organization, WTO = World Trade Organization.

CITA 2030

A three-year **Rolling Strategic Action Plan** (RSAP) translates CITA 2030 into practical and implementable periodic phases. RSAP lists investment projects and activities at regional and national levels, helps mobilize funding, and coordinates implementation with countries and development partners.

Regional Trade Group will coordinate RSAP update on an annual basis, to maintain its relevance and responsiveness to the changing global and regional trading paradigm, and emerging challenges and opportunities in the CAREC.

CITA's **institutional framework** is guided by strong country and development partner ownership, effective engagement with the private sector, and coordination with other stakeholders.

The progress of CITA and RSAP implementation will be **reported regularly** to the CAREC Ministerial Conference through the Senior Officials' Meeting and National Focal Points' Meeting.

A **results-based approach** will be used to monitor and evaluate CITA's progress and achievement in delivering results. CITA 2030 will be updated after a **midterm review in 2024**.



CITA Midterm Review

Objectives

- Make the necessary adjustments and ensure that the agenda is responsive to emerging needs and consistent with the evolving priorities of CAREC member countries.
- Provide forward-looking recommendations in terms of scope, approach, and mechanisms for achieving CITA's goals in 2030
- Feed into CAREC Program Midterm Review in 2024

Considerations

- Global and regional context (COVID-19 outbreak in 2020, extreme weather conditions, and the Russian invasion of Ukraine)

Timeline

- Inception paper in August 2023; Interim report in October 2023; Consultations and first draft report in January 2024



CITA Midterm Review

Potential Review Questions

- *How have global and regional events affected the region's trade prospects?*
- *How can CITA 2030 support sustainable post-COVID recovery of CAREC countries?*
- *What is the optimal investment and policy mix (i.e., provide adequate resources for physical infrastructure vis-a-vis soft components (e.g., skills, policies, reforms, systems and processes) to help CAREC economies diversify, expand markets, and improve trade performance*
- *How can CITA further promote safe, green and sustainable trade?*
- *How can CITA's institutional structure be more effective?*
- *How can CITA incentivize private sector participation particularly, in developing infrastructure and services sector for digital innovation, e-commerce, logistics, trade finance, et al?*
- *What mechanisms could help eliminate persistent obstacles to trade and help CAREC countries integrate with global value chains?*