

CAREC: Midterm Review of the Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy and Implementation Action Plan

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I. Rationale

- CAREC Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy (the Strategy) endorsed by CAREC countries in 2007 aims to support the CAREC's goal of development.
- The Strategy entails a time-bound implementation action plan (the Action Plan) that was endorsed by CAREC countries in 2008.
- The Action Plan focuses on (i) about 24,000 kilometers (km) of road, 20,000 km of railways, and 28 border crossing points along CAREC corridors; 2 ports and a shipping route and 41 airports with international air service.
- The Strategy and the Action Plan request a midterm review to be conducted during 2013–2014 to refine the two documents, as necessary, for effective implementation in the remaining period.
- In addition, the midterm review is needed to identify the CAREC corridors for the two new participating countries: Pakistan and Turkmenistan.

II. Objective and Outputs

- The midterm review of the Strategy and Action Plan aims to further guide cooperation activities among CAREC countries on the development of an efficient, integrated, sustainable, affordable, and safe transport network in the region.
- The midterm review will have two outputs: (i) an analytical review of the implementation progress, and (ii) an updated and refined Strategy and Action Plan.

III. Methodology and Key Activities

- Implemented by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in 2 Phases during October 2012–September 2013.
- Phase I (October 2012–March 2013) will undertake a stock-take review of the Strategy and implementation progress of the Action Plan.
- Based on the outcome of Phase I, an updated and refined Strategy and Action Plan will be developed in Phase II (April–September 2013).

IV. Cost and Financing

- The total cost is estimated at \$1,500,000 equivalent.
- ADB will finance the midterm review through a regional TA grant.

V. Implementation Arrangements

- Require 41 person-months of international consulting inputs to be provided by an international consulting firm.
- National consultants in selected CAREC countries may be engaged for up to 80 person-months to support international consultants' work.

VI. Implementation Schedule

Activity	Timeline
Submit Proposal and Terms of Reference to TSCC For Endorsement	W2 May
TA Approval Procedures	May-June
Management Approval	W3 June
Advance Procurement of Consultants	May
Contract Award to Consultants	September
Mobilization of Consultants	Sep/Oct
Report the TA Implementation Activities to Senior Officials' Meeting and Ministerial Conference on CAREC	June/November