



Regional: Modernizing Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures to Facilitate Trade

Project Name	Modernizing Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures to Facilitate Trade
Project Number	49190-001
Country	RegionalAfghanistanAzerbaijanGeorgiaKazakhstanKyrgyz RepublicMongoliaPakistanChina, People's Republic ofTajikistanTurkmenistanUzbekistan
Project Status	Active
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance
Source of Funding / Amount	TA 9500-REG: Modernizing Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures to Facilitate Trade Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund US\$ 750,000.00 People's Republic of China Poverty Reduction and Regional Cooperation Fund US\$ 800,000.00
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth Regional integration
Drivers of Change	Knowledge solutions Partnerships Private sector development
Sector / Subsector	Industry and trade - Industry and trade sector development
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	No gender elements
Description	The TA will support the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Common Agenda for the Modernization of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures for Trade by (i) creating national bodies in each country and a regional body to lead the modernization process; (ii) developing regulations, procedures, and requirements that are aligned with international standards; and (iii) improving the capability of border agencies to implement these measures at selected common borders.
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>CAREC countries aim for economic growth through diversification and competitiveness, with strategies to develop agriculture-based value chains and improve quality through better services that incorporate sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures. However, SPS systems of some CAREC countries are complex and not aligned with the World Trade Organization (WTO) SPS Agreement or international standards; (ii) the absence of risk-based analysis, and (iii) inefficient SPS controls at border points. Furthermore, there are no coordinated or comprehensive national SPS strategies, resulting in ad hoc interventions and incoherent institutional arrangements.</p> <p>In 2015, CAREC endorsed the Common Agenda for Modernization of SPS Measures for Trade (CAST), a regionally agreed framework for priority actions to upgrade SPS measures and complement customs-related and trade-facilitating initiatives. CAST recognizes the need to revamp CAREC countries' SPS systems in a concerted manner in view of their similarity in agro-ecosystems, products, and agricultural practices.</p> <p>In October 2017, the 16th CAREC Ministerial Conference endorsed a new long-term strategy CAREC 2030. The strategy provides for continuing support to regional cooperation to facilitate trade including the promotion of regional trade in agriculture through alignment of SPS measures with international standards, capacity-building on product quality and diversity, and improvement of shipment linkages. This will help member countries integrate into regional and global value chains. Furthermore, CAREC 2030 will support transboundary animal disease control and the development of a food safety network and a common quality control system.</p>
Impact	Trade expanded and competitiveness improved Movement of people and goods along CAREC corridors and across borders made efficient
Project Outcome	
Description of Outcome	Sanitary and phytosanitary systems modernized
Progress Toward Outcome	
Implementation Progress	
Description of Project Outputs	National and regional SPS working groups organized National SPS measures substantially aligned with international standards Technical capacities on SPS measures at selected common borders improved

Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	<p>The TA was launched at the CAREC Regional Workshop on Modernizing Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures to Facilitate Trade held on 29-30 May 2018 in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic. More than 60 participants from SPS agencies and development partners attended the workshop. Outcomes include (i) preliminary mapping of legislative reform needs; (ii) deliberation on the creation of SPS National Working Groups (NWGs); (iii) initial prioritization of SPS technical assistance and investment projects; and (iv) potential collaboration including with the World Trade Organization (WTO) and other DPs for related initiatives.</p> <p>The workshop outcomes were reported at the inaugural meeting of Regional Trade Group in June 2018 which supported the establishment of regional SPS working group.</p> <p>A team of international consultants specializing in plant health, animal health and food safety were engaged supported by TA coordinator and national consultants from CAREC countries. Substantial progress has been achieved in terms of establishing the national working groups. Mongolia, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan received official government endorsement and other CAREC members are at advance stage in identifying their members.</p> <p>A mission to Mongolia was undertaken on 27-31 August 2018 to discuss the SPS NWG Terms of Reference (TOR) and formulation of the National SPS Strategy (5-year plan) and SPS Priority Action Plan (3-year plan); conduct workshop on SPS legislation and implementation; and assess laboratories and terminal inspection in Ulaanbaatar, among others. Relevant border authorities and personnel from border crossing points (BCPs) in Zamyn-Uud, Sukhbaatar and Darkhan-Uul also attended the workshop.</p> <p>A plan for reform has been prepared and some reviews underway on primary and secondary legislations on SPS taking into consideration countries identified priorities to align with international standards.</p>
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Geographical Location	Regional
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Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects

Involuntary Resettlement

Indigenous Peoples

Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation

During Project Design	<p>In 2015, CAREC endorsed the Common Agenda for Modernization of SPS Measures for Trade (CAST) a regionally agreed framework for priority actions to upgrade SPS measures and complement customs-related and trade-facilitating initiatives. In October 2017, the 16th CAREC Ministerial Conference endorsed a new long-term strategy CAREC 2030. The strategy provides for continuing support to regional cooperation to facilitate trade including the promotion of regional trade in agriculture through alignment of SPS measures with international standards, capacity-building on product quality and diversity, and improvement of shipment linkages. This will help member countries integrate into regional and global value chains. Furthermore, CAREC 2030 will support transboundary animal disease control and the development of a food safety network and a common quality control system.</p>
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During Project Implementation

Business Opportunities

Consulting Services	<p>The TA will require 17 person-months of international and 120 person-months of national consultant inputs. The level of effort will be intermittent. The international consultants will be experts in plant health, animal health, food safety or related fields, and knowledgeable about the SPS Agreement and international standards. National consultants shall be the focal points for each of the 11 countries, and will have degrees in management or related discipline, good command of English, and organizational skills. A project coordinator will ensure that the work of international and national consultants, SPS working groups, and the regional working group are synchronized and complement each other. The consultants will be engaged by ADB in accordance with ADB's Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time).</p>
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Responsible ADB Officer	Lazaro, Dorothea
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Responsible ADB Department	East Asia Department
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Responsible ADB Division	Public Mgt, Financial Sector and Regional Coop Division, EARD
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Executing Agencies	<p><i>Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines</i></p>
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Timetable

Concept Clearance	17 Mar 2017
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Fact Finding	02 May 2017 to 06 May 2017
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MRM	-
Approval	13 Feb 2018
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	27 Sep 2018

TA 9500-REG

Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
13 Feb 2018	-	13 Feb 2018	30 Sep 2020	-	-

Financing Plan/TA Utilization							Cumulative Disbursements	
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
750,000.00	800,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,550,000.00	13 Feb 2018	227,189.92

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/49190-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=49190-001
Date Generated	09 November 2018

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