Early Warning System

ADB-48335-001

Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transpor

This project is still under review by the EWS. Project information and/or project analysis may be incomplete.

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Quick Facts

Financial Institutions	Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Status	Active
Bank Risk Rating	U
Voting Date	2014-12-12

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Project Description

DESCRIPTION

The Technical Assistance (TA) acts as a vehicle for generation, management and dissemination of knowledge aimed at strengthening the implementation of the CAREC Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy 2020 (TTFS2020). The focus areas of the TA are based on TTFS 2020 operational priorities, with an emphasis on those topics on which CAREC countries have limited to no experience, and where policy advisory inputs and knowledge support under the TA will add the most value. These include regional multimodal/intermodal connectivity (including regional logistics hubs and maritime links, Designated Rail Corridor services, coordinated border management, public-private partnerships, safety, asset management, user charges and cost recovery, and green freight and logistics. A key feature of the TA will be that of horizontal partnership and mutual benefit among participating countries, so a win-win situation can emerge as an outcome for all vested parties. There are several examples of successful south-south knowledge cooperation around the world, including in the CAREC context. For example, Kyrgyz Republic had provided guidance to Tajikistan in the World Trade Organization accession. More recently, the CAREC trade facilitation team at ADB is trying out twinning arrangements between countries that have acceded to the Revised Kyoto Convention and those that have not. Based on this, the TA will emphasize knowledge cooperation among CAREC countries and between CAREC countries and other regional cooperation initiatives. In doing so, the TA will provide a myriad of benefits for CAREC countries. It will facilitate learning and consensus-building on regional issues linked to effective TTFS 2020 implementation (e.g., harmonization of standards, designated rail corridor services); improve access to tested and adapted technology and tools without having to reinvent the wheel, and enable exchange of experience with countries that share similar constraints and opportunities. The TA will also allow participating countries to showcase their successes, and increase their visibility as emerging "centers of innovation", and encourage opportunities for inter-country partnerships.

PROJECT RATIONALE AND LINKAGE TO COUNTRY/REGIONAL STRATEGY

A refined CAREC Transport and Trade Facilitation Strategy 2020 (hereafter, TTFS 2020) was endorsed during the Twelfth Ministerial Conference on CAREC held in Astana on 23 and _24 October 2013. Compared to the original strategy, TTFS 2020 places a greater emphasis on multimodal corridor network development, trade and border crossing service improvements, and improvements to sustainability and quality of service, for improving trade and competitiveness. Against this backdrop, the TA will address the following issues:

For several CAREC countries, transport sector investments and programming have been focused on linear infrastructure development (especially roads) with inadequate consideration given to modal integration, nodal and non-linear infrastructure improvements, and sustainability issues. There is now growing interest in many CAREC countries to reorient their policy and programs in line with the aforementioned TTFS 2020 operational priorities. However, these CAREC countries are constrained, despite their interest, to effectively deliver on these new areas as they have inadequate know-how and capabilities (policy, regulatory, institutional) to plan and implement appropriate policies and programs in these areas. At the same time, there is a wealth of experience in other countries (including developing ones) in implementing policies and programs in these areas, which CAREC countries can benefit from. Hence, there is a need to step up both policy and advisory support and scale up knowledge transfer to CAREC countries so they can effectively deliver on these TTFS 2020 priorities.

Previously, a number of knowledge services have been provided to CAREC countries on some of the TTFS 2020 priority areas, including seminars, trainings, technical assistance, etc. by ADB and development partners. However, this knowledge service

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Investment Description

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)

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Contact Information

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF ADB

The Accountability Mechanism is an independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by an Asian Development Bank-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the Accountability Mechanism, they may investigate to assess whether the Asian Development Bank is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. You can learn more about the Accountability Mechanism and how to file a complaint at: http://www.adb.org/site/accountability-mechanism/main

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Bank Documents

- CAREC - Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transport Facilitation: Technical Assistance [Original Source
- Project Disclosure PDF [Original Source]

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Other Related Projects

- ADB-48335-002 Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transpor