



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

Project Name	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transport Facilitation																		
Project Number	48335-001																		
Country / Economy	Regional																		
Project Status	Closed																		
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance																		
Source of Funding / Amount	<table><tr><td colspan="2">TA 8789-REG: Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transport Facilitation</td></tr><tr><td>Technical Assistance Special Fund</td><td>US\$ 1.40 million</td></tr><tr><td>People's Republic of China Poverty Reduction and Regional Cooperation Fund</td><td>US\$ 400,000.00</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">TA 8789-REG: Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transport Facilitation (Supplementary)</td></tr><tr><td>Technical Assistance Special Fund</td><td>US\$ 750,000.00</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">TA 8789-REG: Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transport Facilitation (Supplementary)</td></tr><tr><td>Technical Assistance Special Fund</td><td>US\$ 200,000.00</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">TA 8789-REG: Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transport Facilitation (Supplementary)</td></tr><tr><td>Technical Assistance Special Fund</td><td>US\$ 300,000.00</td></tr></table>	TA 8789-REG: Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transport Facilitation		Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 1.40 million	People's Republic of China Poverty Reduction and Regional Cooperation Fund	US\$ 400,000.00	TA 8789-REG: Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transport Facilitation (Supplementary)		Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 750,000.00	TA 8789-REG: Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transport Facilitation (Supplementary)		Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 200,000.00	TA 8789-REG: Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: Knowledge Sharing and Services in Transport and Transport Facilitation (Supplementary)		Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 300,000.00
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Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 300,000.00																		
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth Regional integration																		
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships																		
Sector / Subsector	Transport / Transport policies and institutional development																		
Gender	No gender elements																		
Description	<p>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.</p>																		
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>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:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 provision has largely been one-off and silo-based, follow-up and operational linkages have been limited, and the organization and management of these knowledge resources poor thereby, constraining the effectiveness of these knowledge services. Going forward, there is a need for a knowledge management function to solicit good practices on these new TTFS 2020 priorities, index and catalog both past and new information, ensure dissemination of this knowledge in a form that is of operational use, and serve as an information broker to facilitate knowledge exchange between and among various stakeholders.</p>																		
Impact	Enhanced quality of TTFS 2020 implementation																		
Project Outcome																			
Description of Outcome	Enhanced capacities of CAREC countries for effective TTFS 2020 implementation in the areas of transport and transport facilitation																		
Progress Toward Outcome	In progress																		

Implementation Progress	
Description of Project Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Policy advisory and analytical work on selected TTFS 2020 topics conducted 2. Organization of knowledge on selected TTFS 2020 topics improved 3. Sharing of knowledge and experiences on selected TTFS 2020 topics enhanced 4. Skills and know-how for applying knowledge on selected TTFS 2020 topics in operational work strengthened
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	<p>A range of activities have been completed in support of the TA outcome. The TA facilitated the successful conduct of the 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th Transport Sector Coordinating Committee (TSCC) meetings held annually from 2015 to 2018 respectively. The rolling 3-year Transport Sector Work Plan was developed and endorsed at the CAREC National Focal Points (NFP) meetings in 2015-2017. The TA currently supports the following priority areas: (i) railways; (ii) transport facilitation, (iii) road asset management, (iv) road safety, and (v) aviation. In sum, the TA has so far achieved the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10 workshops/meetings held, with a total of about 500 participants - 80% of participants rated the workshops as excellent - Knowledge exchanged between all 11 countries of CAREC, and beyond - 5 knowledge products developed, and disseminated to an estimated 1,500 people <p>The TA supported the development and publication of Unlocking The Potential Of Railways: A Railway Strategy for CAREC, 2017-2030. The Strategy is available at https://www.adb.org/documents/railway-strategy-carec-2017-2030</p>
Geographical Location	Regional

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects	
Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	
During Project Design	The South-South Knowledge Cooperation Concept and Work Plan for Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) was endorsed by all CAREC member countries at two important events, namely, the 13th Transport Sector Coordinating Committee (TSCC) Meeting in Bishkek on 14-15 May 2014 and the Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) in Manila on 26-27 June 2014.
During Project Implementation	RETA implementation is driven through close consultation with CAREC member countries and development partners, and directly under guidance of the Transport Sector Coordinating Committee. The project team is also seeking opportunities to coordinate with different departments, regional cooperation initiatives or knowledge sharing platforms (for example, the Greater Mekong Sub-region, the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation, the Regional Knowledge Sharing Initiative, etc.) to organize joint knowledge events. Especially in the area of railways, the TA has supported three CAREC Railway Working Group meetings, resulting to the development and publication of "Unlocking The Potential Of Railways: A Railway Strategy for CAREC, 2017-2030".

Business Opportunities	
Consulting Services	TA activities require 156 person-months of consultant services, including sector specialists and resource persons (international, 31 person-months; national, 15 person-months), regional cooperation specialists (international, 8 person-months, intermittent), research officers (national, 54 person-months), coordination officers (national, 42 person-months, intermittent), and a GIS specialist (national, 6 person-months, intermittent). Given the diversity of topics, the independent nature of most individual assignments, and their short duration, consultants were recruited individually in accordance with ADB's Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time). Other activities to be financed by the TA include study tours, seminars, and workshops.

Responsible ADB Officer	Samukhin, Oleg
Responsible ADB Department	Central and West Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Transport and Communications Division, CWRD
Executing Agencies	Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines

Timetable	
Concept Clearance	12 Sep 2014
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	12 Dec 2014
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	25 Sep 2018

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Milestones					
Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
12 Dec 2014	-	12 Dec 2014	31 Dec 2018	31 Jul 2019	31 Oct 2019

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
2,650,000.00	400,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,050,000.00	17 Jun 2022	2,982,860.24

Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/48335-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=48335-001
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