



Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor: Infrastructure and Trade

Jointly Organized by:

Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)

Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute

Webinar

16, 17 and 20 November 2020

3:50 – 6:15 PM Tokyo time / 6:50 – 9:15 AM London time

Investments in infrastructure are essential for the economic growth of developing countries. Such investments include not only investments in the development of new infrastructure, but also investments in quality improvements. Potential economic benefits of Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor include the increase of cross-border trade, GDP, investments, employment and decrease in transportation cost. Major barriers for infrastructure investments include long-term projects, high upfront cost, large scale, high risk and uncertain benefits. Benefits of infrastructure projects depend on many factors including population density, connectivity, access to complementary infrastructure, economic growth. Infrastructure investments in Central Asia, are challenged by low population density and large distances. Greater regional connectivity in Central Asia would create business opportunities for firms and increase access to markets and jobs for individuals. Trans-Caspian Corridor will allow participating countries to benefit not only from export and import activities, but also from transit. Selected papers presented at this joint ADBI-CAREC Institute workshop will be included in ADBI Working Paper Series and a book.

Day 1: 16 November (Monday) 15:50 - 18:15 (Tokyo time)

Introduction (Technical Guidance) and speakers' group photo

15:50-16:00 Dina Azhgaliyeva, Research Fellow, ADBI, Japan

Opening Session

Welcoming Remarks

16:00-16:10 Tetsushi Sonobe, Dean and CEO, ADBI, Japan

Iskandar Abdullaev, Deputy Director, CAREC Institute, People's Republic of China

Asset Management Aspects of Trans-Regional Transport Infrastructure

16:10-16:30 **Keynote Address:** Ian Greenwood, Principal Consultant, Greenwood Associates Infrastructure Consultants (GAIC), New Zealand

Session 1 Policy Development: Drivers and Barriers of Cross-Border

16:30-18:15 Connectivity

Chair: Yelena Kalyuzhnova, Vice Dean (International), Henley Business School, University of Reading, United Kingdom

Paper 1: Logistics Policy Analysis and Network Model Simulation for Cross-Border Transport in the Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor: the Kazakhstani Viewpoint

16:30-16:45 **Presenter:** Daisuke Watanabe, Associate Professor, Department of Logistics and Information Engineering, Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology, Japan

16:45-16:55 **Discussant:** Yelena Kalyuzhnova, Vice Dean (International), Henley Business School, University of Reading, United Kingdom

16:55-17:05 **Q&A**

Paper 2: The Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor Infrastructures in Globalizing Regional Economies: Baku-Tbilisi-Kars Railway Project

17:05-17:20 **Presenter:** Ulviyye Aydin, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Manisa Celal Bayar University, Turkey

17:20-17:30 **Discussant:** Daisuke Watanabe, Associate Professor, Department of Logistics and Information Engineering, Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology, Japan

17:30-17:40 **Q&A**

Paper 3: Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor: a Story of Ships, Trains and Pipelines

17:40-17:55 **Presenter:** Julian Lee, Oil Strategist, Bloomberg News, United Kingdom

17:55-18:05 **Discussant:** Ulviyye Aydin, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Manisa Celal Bayar University, Turkey

18:05-18:15 **Q&A**

Day 2: 17 November (Tuesday) 15:50 - 18:10 (Tokyo time)

Introduction (Technical Guidance) and speakers' group photo

15:50-16:00 Dina Azhgaliyeva, Research Fellow, ADBI, Japan

Session 2 Measuring Economic Impacts of Trans-Caspian Corridor I

16:00-17:00 **Chair:** Zulfia Karimova, Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist, EARD, ADB, Philippines

Paper 4: Regional Impact of the Trans-Caspian Infrastructure Improvement in the Era of Post COVID-19: A Computable General Equilibrium Analysis

16:00-16:15 **Presenter:** Zhenhua Chen, Assistant Professor, City and Regional Planning, The Ohio State University, United States

16:15-16:25 **Discussant:** Kenmei Tsubota, Associate Professor, Faculty of Global and Regional Studies, Toyo University, Japan

16:25-16:35 **Q&A**

CAREC Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring (CPMM):
Trade Impediments of CAREC Trans-Caspian Corridors
16:35-16:50 **Presenter:** Tamar Berdzenishvili, Senior Knowledge Management
Specialist, CAREC Institute, People's Republic of China
16:50-17:00 **Q&A**

Session 3 Measuring Economic Impacts of Trans-Caspian Corridor II

17:00-18:10 **Chair:** Dina Azhgaliyeva, Research Fellow, ADBI, Japan

Paper 5: Infrastructure and firm performance in CAREC countries: Cross-
Sectional Evidence at the Firm Level
17:00-17:15 **Presenter 1:** Kamalbek Karymshakov, Economist, Chief Economist Team,
CAREC Institute, People's Republic of China
Presenter 2: Naoyuki Yoshino, Professor Emeritus, Keio University, Japan
17:15-17:25 **Discussant:** Ghulam Samad, Senior Research Specialist, CAREC Institute,
People's Republic of China
17:25-17:35 **Q&A**

Paper 6: Corridor Developments for Transforming Central Asia: A Spatial
Computable General Equilibrium Model
17:35-17:50 **Presenter:** Kenmei Tsubota, Associate Professor, Faculty of Global and
Regional Studies, Toyo University, Japan
17:50-18:00 **Discussant:** Zhenhua Chen, Assistant Professor, City and Regional
Planning, The Ohio State University, United States
18:00-18:10 **Q&A**

Day 3: 20 November (Friday) 15:50 - 18:10 (Tokyo time)

Introduction (Technical Guidance) and speakers' group photo

15:50-16:00 Dina Azhgaliyeva, Research Fellow, ADBI, Japan

Session 4 Trans-Caspian International Transportation: What does the future hold?

16:00-17:45 **Chair:** Eisa Khan Ayoob Ayoobi, Chief of Capacity Building Division,
CAREC Institute, People's Republic of China

Paper 7: Trans-Caspian Trade Corridors: Present and Future
16:00-16:15 **Presenter:** Richard Pomfret, Professor of Economics, Institute for
International Trade, The University of Adelaide, Australia
16:15-16:25 **Discussant:** Kamalbek Karymshakov, Economist, Chief Economist Team,
CAREC Institute, People's Republic of China
16:25-16:35 **Q&A**

Paper 8: New corridors in Central Asia: Increased Connectivity and Improved Trade

16:35-16:50 **Presenter:** Iskandar Abdullaev, Deputy Director, CAREC Institute, People's Republic of China

16:50-17:00 **Discussant:** Richard Pomfret, Professor of Economics, Institute for International Trade, The University of Adelaide, Australia

17:00-17:10 **Q&A**

Paper 9: Middle Corridor—Policy Development and Trade Potential of the Trans-Caspian International Transport Route

17:10-17:25 **Presenter:** Tristan Kenderdine, Research Director, Future Risk, Tasmania

17:25-17:35 **Discussant:** Eisa Khan Ayoob Ayoobi, Chief of Capacity Building Division, CAREC Institute, People's Republic of China

17:35-17:45 **Q&A**

17:45-18:00 **Remarks about academic writing**

Dina Azhgaliyeva, Research fellow, ADBI, Japan

Yelena Kalyuzhnova, Vice Dean (International), Henley Business School, University of Reading, United Kingdom

Q&A

Closing Session

18:00-18:10 **Closing Remarks**

Peter Morgan, Senior Consulting Economist, Vice Chair of Research, ADBI, Japan

Iskandar Abdullaev, Deputy Director, CAREC Institute, People's Republic of China

Note:

Questions will be welcomed during the workshop. After the discussant's presentation, there will be a live discussion on each paper. If anyone wishes to ask questions live -please click 'raise hand'. Speakers, will need to click 'Participants', to see 'Raise hand'.

One may also use Q&A at the bottom of your screen to type your questions to the speakers during and after the presentation.