

**COOPERATION ARRANGEMENT**  
**BETWEEN**  
**ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK INSTITUTE**  
**AND**  
**CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION INSTITUTE**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a multilateral development bank, with a vision of an Asia and Pacific region free of poverty, and its mission is to help its developing member countries reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of their people. ADB is committed to reducing poverty through inclusive economic growth, environmentally sustainable growth, and regional integration. Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) is the think tank of ADB and manages the open access repository, Think-Asia.org, which aggregates knowledge products from contributing think tanks in the region.

Established in 2001, the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program is a committed partnership of 11 countries – Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, People’s Republic of China, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. It is supported by six multilateral institutions – ADB, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Monetary Fund, Islamic Development Bank, United Nations Development Programme, and the World Bank. The program is guided by CAREC 2020: A Strategic Framework, which was approved at the 10th CAREC Ministerial Conference in Baku in 2011. CAREC 2020 articulated its agenda cascading from a vision (“Good neighbors, good partners, good prospects”) and a goal (“Development through cooperation, leading to accelerated economic growth and shared prosperity”) to two strategic objectives (trade expansion and improved competitiveness) and seven operational priorities (transport, energy, trade facilitation, trade policy, economic corridors, the CAREC Institute, and second-tier areas).

The Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute (CI), which as an intergovernmental organization under the auspices of the Ministerial Conference of the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program, affirms its intention to work together with ADB and ADBI in areas of mutual interest on the basis of a non-exclusive partnership in the service of developing countries in the CAREC region through this Arrangement, herein after referred to as “the Arrangement”.

ADB, ADBI and CI are hereinafter jointly referred to as “Parties”, and separately as a “Party”.

**II. PURPOSE AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR ADB-ADBI-CI COOPERATION**

1. ADB, ADBI and CI seek to facilitate and strengthen collaboration, including cofinancing, and participation in agreed activities in connection with the priority areas of mutual interest, where relevant and feasible.
2. ADB, ADBI and CI cooperation will be guided by the following general principles:
  - (a) Full stakeholder participation from all CAREC member countries should be encouraged, consistent with available resources;

- (b) Results-oriented operations that are built on transparent and productive relationship among ADB, ADBI, CI, and CAREC member countries; and
  - (c) Any activities conducted under this Arrangement are subject to their inclusion in each organization's respective work program and budget framework and resource availability.
3. ADB, ADBI and CI plan to:
- (a) Share their knowledge of lessons learned and results of their broader development activities, including operational, research and capacity building, while CI and ADBI will share their research and capacity building related work;
  - (b) Jointly focus on the shared strategic and operational priorities of the three parties;
  - (c) Use the strengths and advantages of each party; and
  - (d) Introduce CI staff to ADB and ADBI operations and products to help CI in determining potential activities for collaboration with ADB and ADBI, as operationally relevant and appropriate.

### **III. AREAS OF COOPERATION**

4. The priority areas for joint activities under this Arrangement will be confirmed through mutual consultation between ADB, ADBI and CI, to be agreed upon and updated periodically, and may include joint workshops in development policy, management, and information exchange.

### **IV. FORMS OF COOPERATION**

5. ADB, ADBI and CI plan to work together through fruitful cooperation and close consultation in the following forms, namely:
- (a) Organization and conduct of conferences, meetings, workshops, seminars, trainings, and outreach activities;
  - (b) Preparation of joint studies, focusing on important aspects of regional and sub-regional cooperation and integration;
  - (c) Identification, development and implementation of joint research projects;
  - (d) Regular exchange of information, publications, analytical and statistical data, and knowledge products intended for general dissemination;
  - (e) Development policy research, work program development, capacity building activities, diagnostic studies, and analytical work; and
  - (f) Explore staff exchanges<sup>1</sup> between the two organizations through developmental assignments, as appropriate, for the mutual benefit of ADB, ADBI and CI. The staff exchange will cover specific fields including but not limited to strategy and policy formulation, economic research, knowledge management, and fostering closer work relations between the institutions.

### **V. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

6. ADB, ADBI and CI duly recognize that effective cooperation depends on open, comprehensive, and regular exchange of information at the institutional level. ADB, ADBI and

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<sup>1</sup> Short-term development assignments, varying from 2 to 6 month duration, shall be jointly discussed and agreed on a case-by-case basis between ADB, ADBI and CI. Any staff exchange arrangement shall be implemented under a separate written agreement, in accordance with policies and procedures of each Party.

CI aim to provide copies of requested publications, including links to soft copies, to each other, wherever feasible and appropriate.

## **VI. RECIPROCAL INVITATIONS**

7. ADB, ADBI and CI recognize that appropriate representation is important for the purpose of cooperation. They agree that invitations to respective conferences, meetings, workshops, seminars, trainings, and outreach relevant to cooperation in the agreed priority areas will be exchanged, wherever appropriate.

## **VII. PERIODIC CONSULTATIONS**

8. ADB, ADBI and CI agree to convene periodic consultations to discuss and review what is being planned, what is being implemented, and what is being achieved in terms of results as well as to discuss new challenges, opportunities and critical issues, in accordance with the principles set out in this Arrangement. ADB, ADBI and CI aim to hold such consultations annually, or on as needed basis.

## **VIII. JOINT PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES**

9. ADB, ADBI and CI recognize the benefit of publicizing the involvement of both organizations in joint cooperation activities. To this end, the Parties agree to:

- (a) Publicly acknowledge the role and contribution of each organization to cooperation activities in information documentation related to such cooperation; and
- (b) Use the emblems of each organization in documentation related to cooperation in accordance with the current policies of each organization concerning such usage.

## **IX. FOCAL POINTS**

10. ADB, ADBI and CI designate as focal points for the activities under this Arrangement:

- (a) for ADB and ADBI:

Director General  
 Central and West Asia Department  
 Asian Development Bank  
 6 ADB Avenue  
 Mandaluyong City  
 1550 Philippines  
 Tel +63 2 632 4444

Director General  
 East Asia Department  
 Asian Development Bank  
 6 ADB Avenue  
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 Asian Development Bank Institute  
 Kasumigaseki Building 8F  
 3-2-5, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku,  
 Tokyo 100-6008  
 Japan  
 Tel +81 3 35935500

(b) for CI: Director  
 Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute  
 Hua Du Hotel, Ming Zhu Flower Market,  
 No 376 Nanchang Road, Sha Yi Ba Ke District  
 Urumqi, Xijiang  
 People's Republic of China  
 Tel +86 991 889 0779

## **X. GENERAL LEGAL PROVISIONS**

11. Legal Status: This Arrangement is not intended to and does not create any legal obligation on the Parties.

12. Financial Obligations: Nothing in this Arrangement obligates the Parties to expend funds or to enter into any contract, assistance agreement, or other financial obligation. Any activity involving reimbursement or contribution of funds between the Parties shall be handled in accordance with each Party's internal policies and procedures, applicable laws, regulations and procedures.

13. Privileges and Immunities: Nothing in this Arrangement shall be construed as an express or implied waiver, renunciation or other modification of any immunities, privileges or exemptions of ADB accorded under the Agreement Establishing the Asian Development Bank.

14. Effective Date and Termination: This Arrangement will take effect from the date on which it is signed by the authorized representative of the Parties. This Arrangement will terminate on 31 December 2022, unless terminated by any Party providing six months prior written termination notice to the other Parties.

15. Amendments: This Arrangement may be amended by mutual written agreement of the Parties.

16. Independent decision-making autonomy: No provisions herein are intended to interfere in any way with ADB's, ADBI's and CI's independent decision-making autonomy with regard to their own respective affairs and operations.

17. Future collaboration and funds: In the event that opportunities are identified for collaboration involving the provision or management of resources, including funds, of any Party, these will be implemented pursuant to a separate written agreement in accordance with the policies and procedures of the organizations.

18. Settlement of disputes: Any dispute between the Parties relating to the interpretation or implementation of this Arrangement will be resolved amicably through consultation and negotiation between the parties.

19. No Party shall use the name, emblem or trademarks of the other Parties, their subsidiaries and/or affiliates, or any abbreviation thereof, in connection with their business or for public dissemination without the prior express written approval of the other Parties.

20. Intellectual Property: The Parties acknowledge that the activities under this Arrangement may result in a product subject to intellectual property rights. In this regard:

- (a) the Parties agree to negotiate and agree upon appropriate intellectual property provisions in each case, based on the nature of the activity and the financial and/or intellectual contribution made by the Parties, and to set out the intellectual property provisions in a separate written agreement; and
- (b) each Party shall retain ownership of the intellectual property rights in any of their respective existing materials or work product that is shared with the other Parties in connection with activities under this Arrangement.

For the Asian Development Bank and ADBI



Sean O'Sullivan  
Director General  
Central and West Asia Department  
Asian Development Bank  
[Acting as authorized signatory for ADBI]

For the Central Asia Regional Economic  
Cooperation Institute



Sanjaasuren Bayaraa  
Director  
Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation  
Institute

Signed on 7 September 2017 in Urumqi, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, People's Republic of China.