



INSIGHTS FROM THE 2024 CAREC CORRIDOR PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT AND MONITORING

Online Policy Dialogue

23 June 2026, 16:00-18:00 (Beijing time, GMT +8)

I. Background

The CAREC Institute is planning a policy dialogue designed to strengthen trade efficiency and economic development within the CAREC region by addressing regional connectivity. The planned policy dialogue centers on enhancing trade facilitation through insights derived from the 2024 CAREC Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring (CPMM) data analysis, which offers empirical evidence on transport performance and border-crossing challenges along CAREC corridors. By bringing together policymakers, industry experts, and stakeholders, the policy dialogue aims to foster knowledge exchange, inform strategic investments, and promote collaborative solutions that will improve infrastructure, reduce trade costs, and support sustainable economic growth across the region.

The 2024 CPMM data analysis provides critical insights into the efficiency of transport and trade facilitation across the CAREC corridors, utilizing empirical data from actual commercial shipments. The 2024 CPMM focuses on key performance metrics, particularly time and cost indicators at border-crossing points (BCPs), which are vital for landlocked countries facing transit inefficiencies. It highlights shifts in CAREC transport dynamics due to geopolitical disruptions, noting both infrastructure challenges and policy reforms like customs modernization. The analysis of 1,850 shipments reveals mixed performance, with road transport seeing increased crossing times and costs, while rail transport showed improvements in crossing times. Country-specific updates detail diverse trends, from significant improvements in Azerbaijan and Georgia to severe bottlenecks in the Kyrgyz Republic and Mongolia. A case study on Kazakhstan–PRC border crossings underscores the necessity of ongoing infrastructure investments and operational reforms to address persistent bottlenecks and enhance corridor reliability, emphasizing the critical role of these gateways for regional trade.

While some corridors have seen improvements in speed due to infrastructure upgrades and policy reforms, others still lag behind. This information is crucial for policymakers to prioritize development efforts effectively. Furthermore, the 2024 CPMM emphasizes the importance of stakeholder engagement in data collection, incorporating insights from transport operators and freight forwarders. This participatory approach enhances data reliability and ensures that the perspectives of those directly involved in trade inform policy formulation, highlighting the value of collaboration with the private sector in crafting effective trade policies.

The 2024 CPMM data provides valuable insights for policymakers by presenting empirical data that enhances decision-making credibility and effectiveness. By identifying specific bottlenecks and inefficiencies, the 2024 CPMM enables targeted strategies to address trade facilitation challenges, ensuring effective resource allocation. Understanding transport costs and border-crossing times allows for reforms that boost national competitiveness, potentially increasing trade volumes and attracting foreign investment. Furthermore, the 2024 CPMM highlights the interconnectedness of

CAREC corridors, emphasizing the need for regional cooperation to tackle common challenges and promote seamless connectivity. The positive impact of digital trade facilitation initiatives underscores the importance of investing in technology and innovation, which can significantly enhance trade efficiency and benefit the entire region.

II. Key Objectives

This policy dialogue event aims to foster knowledge exchange among national policymakers, experts, and key stakeholders from the CAREC region. The specific objectives are:

- To present and discuss empirical findings from the 2024 CPMM data analysis, highlighting current challenges and opportunities in regional trade and transport.
- To promote effective policy measures and strategic investments aimed at enhancing trade efficiency, reducing transport costs, and improving infrastructure and regulatory frameworks.
- To foster collaboration and dialogue among policymakers, industry stakeholders, and logistics experts for sharing best practices and aligning national policies with regional trade and connectivity goals.
- To strengthen regional cooperation and coordination to address common challenges and promote seamless connectivity across CAREC corridors, ultimately boosting the region's global trade competitiveness.

III. Date, Mode, and Target Audience

Date: A half-day policy dialogue is scheduled for 23 June 2026 from 16:00-18:00 Beijing time (GMT +8).

Languages: English, Russian and Chinese with simultaneous interpretation.

Mode of participation: online. The event will be recorded and uploaded to the CAREC Institute E-Learning platform as guiding digital learning materials—serving as the basis for further cascading knowledge support to member countries and all stakeholders in this area.

Target Audience: The policy dialogue is intended for national policymakers involved in trade and transport policy, while also welcoming experts and a broader interested audience from the CAREC region and beyond to engage with and gain insights from expert presentations and discussions.

Registration: Participants should register for the policy dialogue through the following link.

IV. Draft Agenda

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- 15:50-16:00** Virtual Connection to the Policy Dialogue and Webinar Rules
Mr. Steven Liu, Capacity Building Specialist, the CAREC Institute
- 16:00-16:10** **Opening Remarks**
Mr. Charymuhammet Shallyyev, Director, CAREC Institute
Dr. Roman Mogilevskii, Senior Regional Cooperation Economist, Regional Cooperation and Integration Unit, Central and West Asia Department, ADB
- Group Photo**
- Moderator:** **Dr. Ilhom Abdulloev**, Chief of the Capacity Building Division, CAREC Institute
- 16:10-16:30** **CAREC Corridors: Transporting Goods, Driving Economies**
Dr. Kuat Akizhanov, Deputy Director Two, CAREC Institute
- 16:30-16:50** **Strengthening Regional Cooperation for Enhanced Connectivity**
ADB Representative (TBC)
- 16:50-17:20** **Identifying and Addressing Bottlenecks in Regional Trade**
Mr. Andy Sze, Founder of the Fastraxx Group
- 17:20-17:50** **Digitalization as a Catalyst for Trade Facilitation**
(TBC)
- Questions and Answers**
- Closing Remarks**
Dr. Kuat Akizhanov, Deputy Director Two, CAREC Institute

Notes:

Time limits

Presentations of research findings – 20 minutes each

Questions and answers - 30 minutes. The chair/moderator will pick up some questions from the floor for the panelists from 'Q&A' box or from 'raised hands'.

Questions

Questions will be welcomed during the policy dialogue. After the presentations, there will be a live

discussion. Attendees may use 'Q&A' at the bottom of your screen to type their questions. Speakers, please type answers to the questions in 'Q&A' after your presentation.

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Simultaneous Interpretation by Zoom will be available. Please select from the bottom panel which language for interpretation you would like: English, Chinese or Russian.