Opportunities for Sustainable Trade through Efficient Regional Transport Network

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### Key enablers for trade (including transit trade)

- Complementarity of products and services
- Efficient and standardized road, rail and air infrastructure
- Efficient data-driven border handling services
- Trade and transit agreements to facilitate trade diversions and movement of goods and carriers
- Wider linkages with trade routes to provide economies of scale

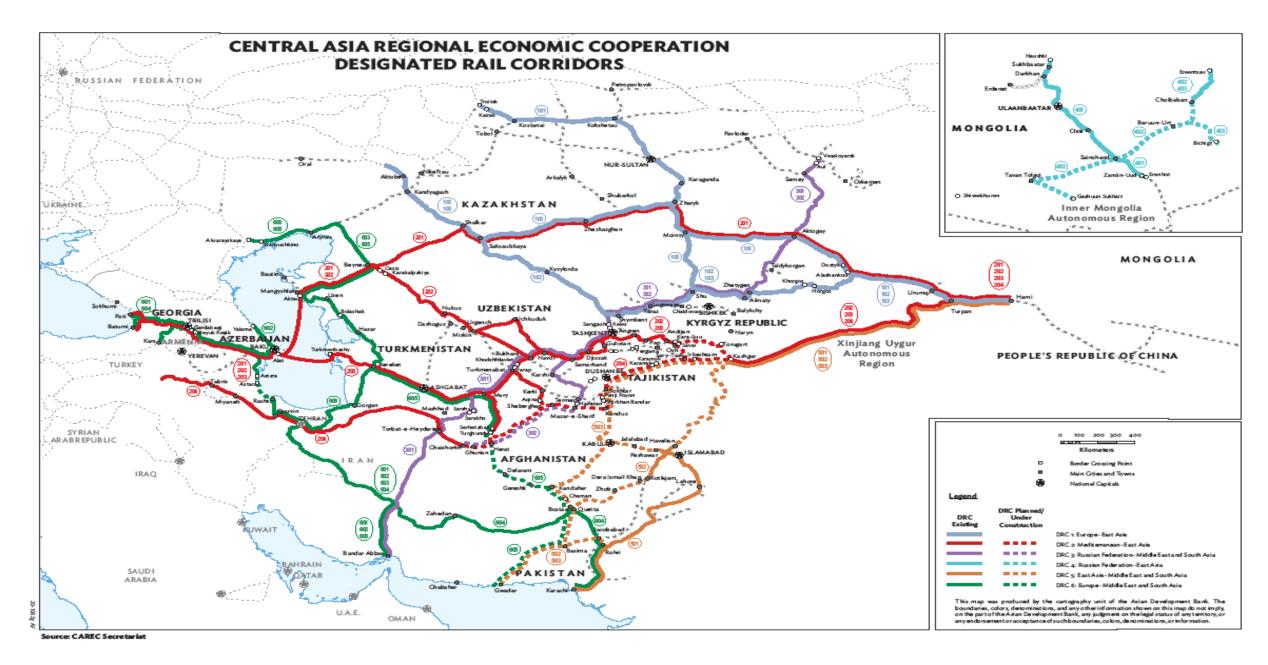




### CAREC Program

- Partnership of 11 countries
  - Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, People's Republic of China, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan
- Regional development through cooperation
- Six Development partners
  - Asian Development Bank (ADB). Serves as the CAREC Secretariat.
  - European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
  - International Monetary Fund (IMF)
  - Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)
  - United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
  - World Bank

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### Renewed focus on integrated transport

- Technological developments allowing development for multi-modal transport networks
- Production processes re-alignment, with global and regional value chains involving enhanced demand for transportation services
- Trade and transit facilitation under WTO agreements
- Enhanced resilience of regional trade against global shocks
- BRI (PRC), Partner for Quality Infrastructure (Japan), TRACECA and Global Gateway (EU)- Aim of enhanced geo-economic gain



# Sustainable Trade through Regional Transport Networks - Opportunities for Pakistan

- CPEC –BRI connectivity . Becoming part of PRC's continental vision
- CAREC Corridors
  - Access to Central Asia's landlocked economies
  - Access to European Union and Eurasian Union
- Transit route for landlocked CAREC Economies (utilizing already established excess port facilities)
- Kickstart economic activities in backward areas of border hinterlands
- Tourism potential along transport connectivity infrastructure



## Developing transport connectivity: How does Pakistan Fare?

- Corridor Performance Monitoring and Measurement
- Empirical tool designed by the CAREC Program to assess and track the time and cost of moving goods across borders and along the transport corridors
- Spanning the 11 participating countries—
   Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, the People's Republic of China (PRC), Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan
- Developed by ADB, now partnered with CAREC Institute

https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/institutional-document/777881/carec-cpmm-annual-report-2020.pdf



#### Pakistan in CPMM

- Corridor 5
  - Most time consuming (least efficient)
  - Slowest for trucks to move
  - Further aggravation in COVID pandemic
  - Huge costs
  - Slower pace





### Pakistan in CPMM – Cost of Border Crossing at Corridor 5

• Cost (US\$)

		404
•	Commercial Inspection	189
•	Customs Inspection	221

Loading/Unloading
 101

• Unofficial Payments Customs 88

• Time for Border crossing 55.7 hours

• One of the highest costs among corridors





### Recommendations-1

- Proactive trade diplomacy to complement geoeconomic strategy
- Focused negotiations for market access and transit trade facilitation
- Implementation of Quadrilateral Agreement on Transit though Ministry of Commerce
- Integration of PSW in Regional Single Windows
- Data exchange agreement with Afghanistan and Central Asian countries for real time exchange of cargo data for transit and trade
- Early implementation of TFA commitments for joint inspection at borders





### Recommendations-2

- Approve national freight logistics policy (by Cabinet)
- Enhances use of smart parks and tags
- Fully operationalize Ghulam Khan to divert traffic load at Torkham
- Early completion of ITTMS at Torkham and Chaman BCPs
- Improve train infrastructure and incentivize freight trains from Karachi to Torkham
- Fully utilize financing options for infrastructure improvement (CAREC/CPEC)

