



First Road Working Group Meeting

11–12 March 2026 | Urumqi, People's Republic of China

Первое заседание Рабочей группы по автомобильным дорогам

11–12 марта 2026 года | Урумчи, Китайская Народная Республика



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Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program

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Overview of CAREC Program

Open and inclusive platform to promote shared and sustainable development through **regional cooperation**

- Member countries: Afghanistan*, Azerbaijan, People's Republic of China, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
- Development partners: ADB, AIIB, EBRD, IMF, IsDB, UNDP, the World Bank, and expanding
- Promotes **policy dialogue**, supports **project development** and financing, provides **technical assistance**, and advocates **South-South cooperation**



ADB

ADB serves as the **CAREC Secretariat**



CAREC Institute supports knowledge generation and capacity building



Rotating chairmanship annually: **Mongolia** as chair country in 2026

*ADB has placed its regular assistance to Afghanistan on hold effective 15 August 2021.

CAREC 2030 Strategy



Economic and Financial Stability



Trade, Tourism and Economic Corridors



Infrastructure and Economic Connectivity

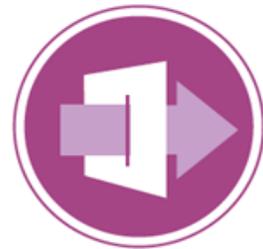
Operational Clusters



Agriculture and Water



Human Development



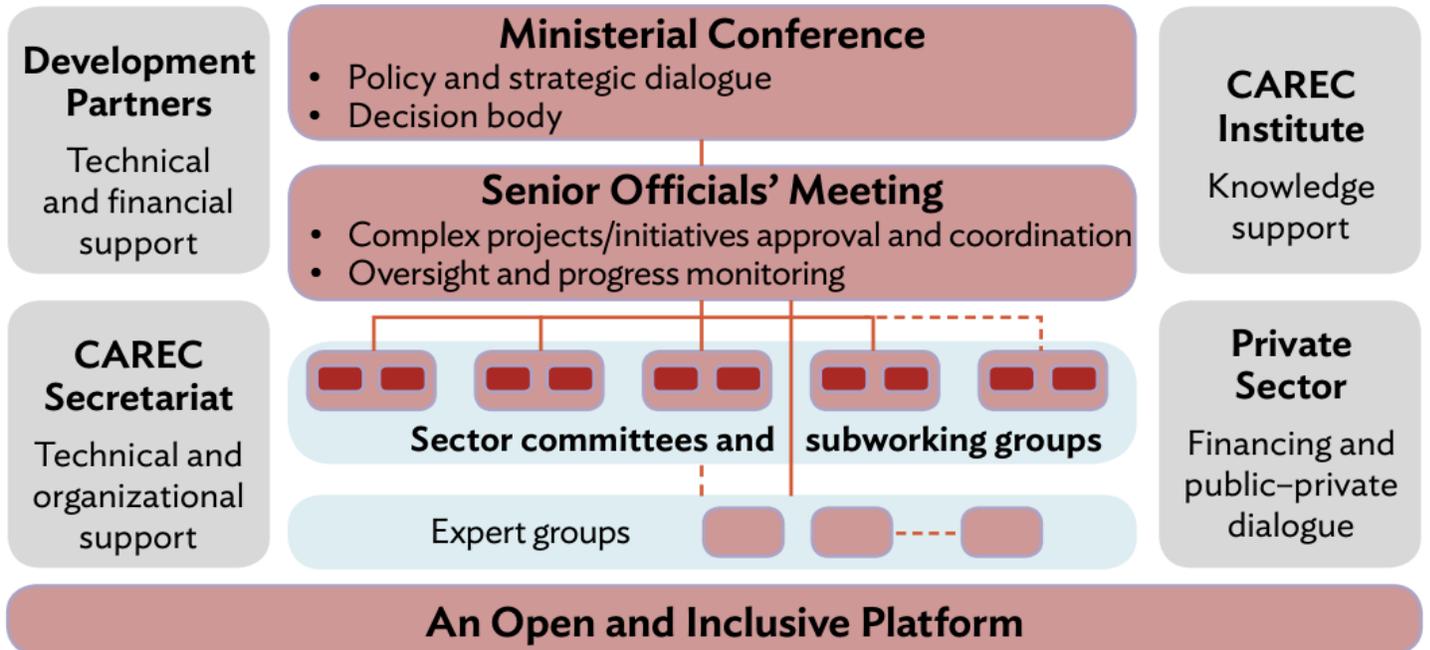
Cross-cutting Themes

- Climate Change
- Digital/ICT
- Gender

Anchored on **Good Neighbors, Good Partners, and Good Prospects** vision

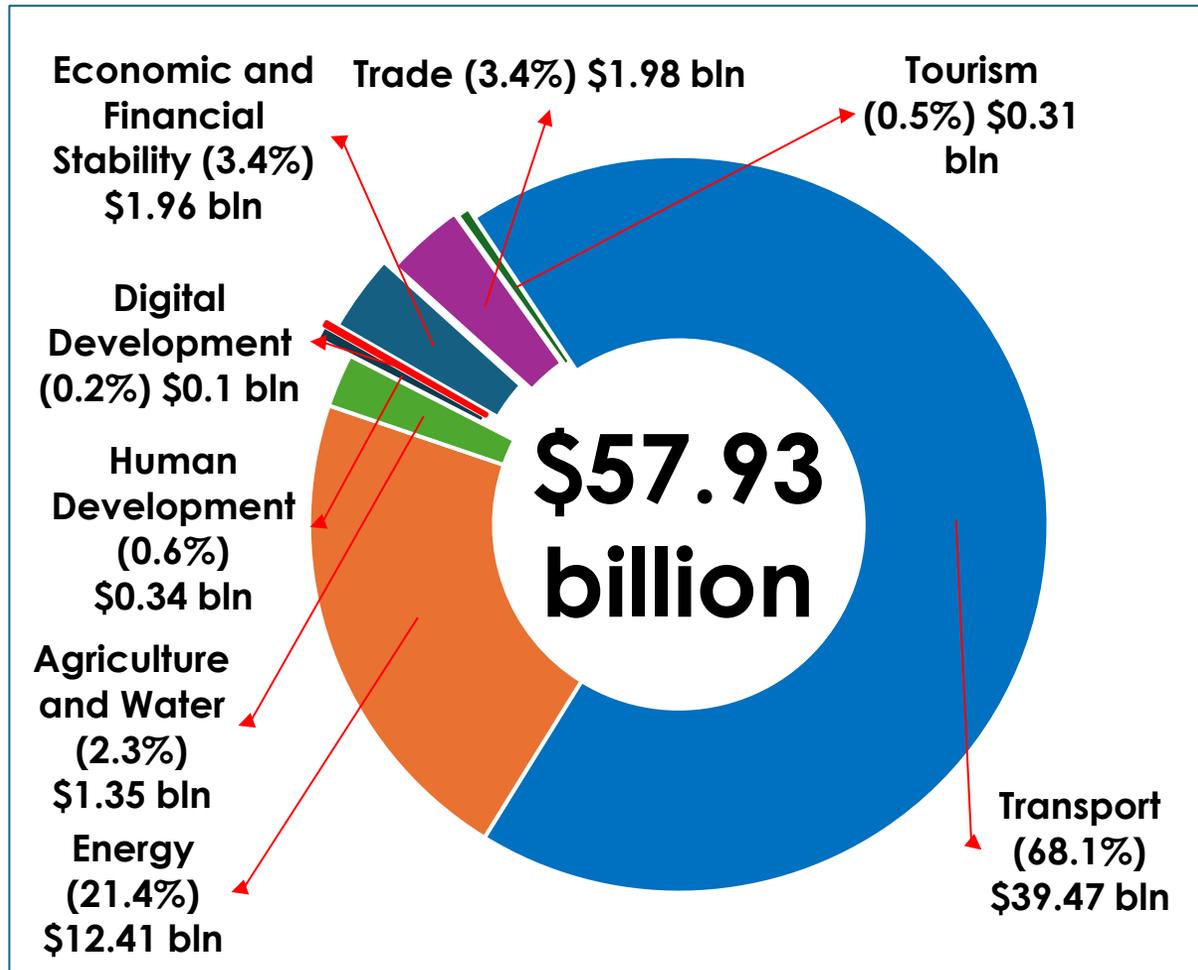
Aligns with national strategies and supports new global agenda—UN Sustainable Development Goals (**SDGs**) and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (**COP**)

Institutional Framework

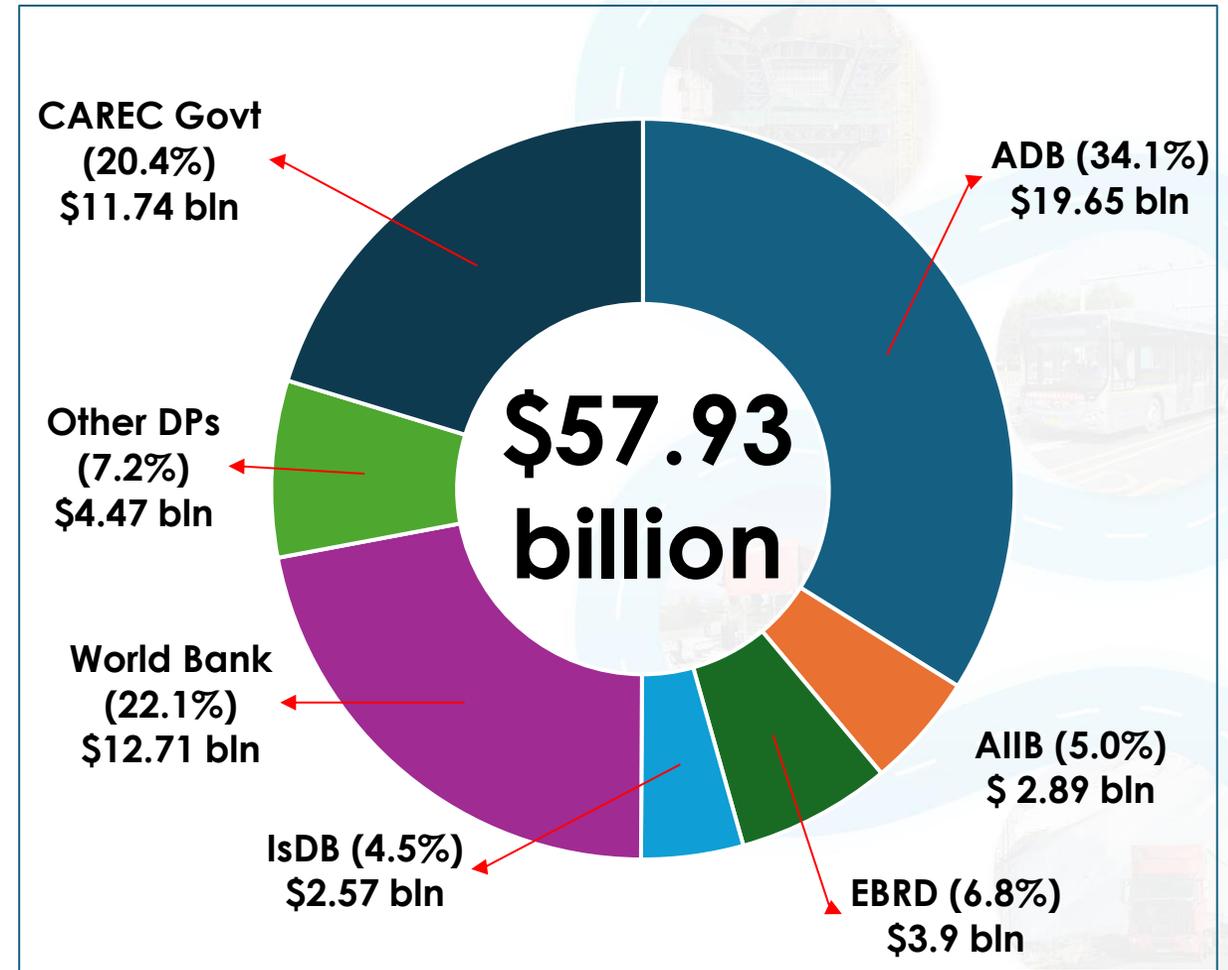


CAREC-Related Investments, 2001-2025*

Investments by Sector



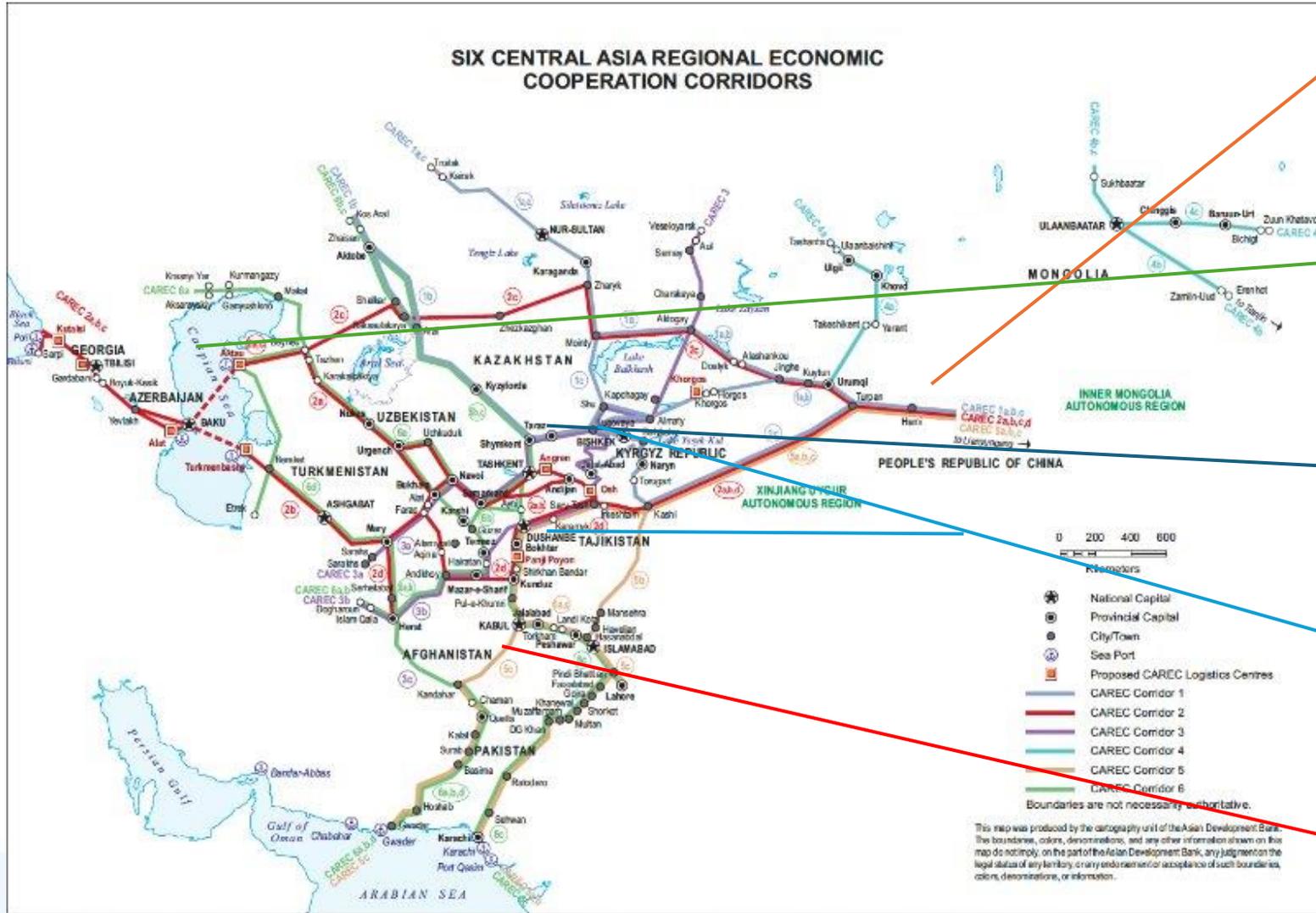
Investments by Financing Source



Over **\$19.65 billion investments*** financed by ADB + **48** active CAREC TAs (\$72 million)*

*2025 year-end figures, numbers may not add up due to rounding

CAREC Corridors and Emerging Transformational Projects



Corridor 2 broadly relates to the Trans-Caspian International Transport Route or the Middle Corridor.

Caspian Green Energy Corridor Project undersea energy and fiber optic cable connecting Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan.

Almaty–Bishkek Economic Corridor: Regional Improvement of Border Services Project for Kazakhstan and Kyrgyz Republic

Rogun Hydropower Plant Project (HPP) (Tajikistan) and **Kambarata 1 HPP** (Kyrgyz Republic)

CAREC Digital Corridor through KAZ, KGZ, PAK, TAJ, UZB

24th CAREC Ministerial Conference (20 November 2025, Bishkek, KGZ)

- **\$10 billion pipeline from 2025-2030.** ADB announced a **\$10 billion investment pipeline** through 2030 for the CAREC region to foster regional connectivity, clean energy, and digital transformation, inclusive of **\$3.7 billion in investments for CAREC Corridor 2**, and support for the region's large hydropower projects **Rogun and Kambarata-1**.
- **Midterm Reviews of CAREC Strategies and other Documents Endorsed.** The **Midterm Reviews of the CAREC Transport, CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda and CAREC Digital Strategy 2030** was endorsed by the Ministers, as well as the **Regional Decarbonization Strategy for Health and Minimum Requirements for Climate-Resilient Facilities**.
- **Bishkek Ministerial Declaration.** Formal launch of negotiations under the **CAREC Trade and Investment Facilitation Partnership Agreement (CARTIF)** is scheduled for 11 March 2026.
- **Support for Regional Initiatives.** MOUs supporting the development of **regional digital infrastructure, regional tourism cooperation** between KGZ and UZB, **CAREC regional tourism development**, pilot project on **electronic exchange and mutual recognition of conformity certificates**, establishment of a **facility to support innovation and venture investments (CIVIC)**, and implementation of the **testing phase of CATS/ICE** were signed.

Key Achievements of 2025

Infrastructure and Connectivity

- Developed the Concept for the **Borders Upgrades for Integration, Logistics and Development (BUILD) Facility**, to support **preparation of border-related projects** with estimated investments of around \$400 million
- Finalized the **CAREC Corridor 2 Development Approach** with a \$3.7 billion project pipeline for 2025–2030
- **Seven major transport projects approved** in 2025, with support from ADB, EBRD, and AIIB.
- Achieved a milestone in regional energy cooperation with the **Caspian Green Energy Corridor Project**, backed by a multi-country MOU and ongoing feasibility studies.

Trade, Tourism and Economic Corridors

- Formalized the negotiations on **CAREC Trade and Investment Partnership (CARTIF) Agreement**, strengthening trade facilitation, digital trade, and cross-border e-commerce.
- Conducted high-level forums and workshops with the World Trade Organization (WTO) to support regional integration and **WTO accession**.
- Operationalized the **CAREC Partnership for Trade, Climate, and Innovation**, including pilot of e-certificate and mutual recognition of conformity certificates.
- Initiated transformative cross-border tourism projects, including the **Kyrgyz Republic–Uzbekistan Sustainable Tourism Cluster**.

Key Achievements of 2025

Agriculture and Water

- Enhanced regional cooperation on **transboundary water issues** through new technical assistance and a multi-phase program focused on water efficiency and conservation

Human Development

- Endorsed strategies for **healthcare decarbonization** and **climate-resilient health facilities**
- Advanced **regional health security** and **pandemic preparedness projects**, with support from ADB, WHO and World Bank
- Delivered capacity-building programs in education and **green skills**

Economic and Financial Stability

- Promoted financial innovation and climate action through workshops on **green bonds** and **carbon markets**

Gender, Climate Change, Disaster Risk, and Digital Development

- Recognized impactful initiatives with the **CAREC Gender and Green Innovation Awards**, empowering women and communities
- Mobilized \$3.5 billion for climate resilience through the **Glaciers to Farms (G2F) Regional Program**
- Signed MOUs to develop **CAREC Digital Corridor** and **CAREC Innovation and Venture Investment Catalyst (CIVIC) Facility**

Key CAREC events in 2026

Side events (all TBC)

CAREC National Focal Points' Consultation Meeting

17 March 2026, 14.00-16.00 MNL time, Virtual, TBC

- Consultation meeting to discuss focus of 2026-2027, major deliverables and action plans of MOUs signed at the CAREC 24th MC

CAREC High-level Session at the ADB Annual Meeting

5 May 2026, Samarkand, Uzbekistan

- CAREC and the Global Silk Road: Connecting Regions through Tourism
- RCI featured prominently in the Annual Meeting

Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

11-12 June 2026, UB, Mongolia

- SOM is an institutional event of the CAREC Program to discuss progress achieved across sectors and to shape the agenda and deliverables for the 25th Ministerial Conference

CAREC Ministerial Conference

15 September 2026 (TBC)*, UB, Mongolia

- For MC 2026, the CAREC Secretariat is working with sector focals to prepare tangible deliverables

CAREC Business Forum

16-17 September 2026 (TBC), UB, Mongolia

- CAREC Business Forum to showcase investment opportunities across the CAREC region, especially in clean energy, transport, smart logistics, and resilient infrastructure.

CAREC Development Partners' Forum

14 or 18 September 2026 (TBC), UB, Mongolia

- CAREC Development Partners Forum to strengthen all DPs' role in CAREC and identify key flagship joint projects.

Sessions on transport and digital connectivity, trade and investment relevant to CAREC

CAREC Institute's Think Tank Forum

Asian Tourism Forum (hosted by MON Gov)

Capital Markets Development Forum

RKSI's knowledge sharing event

*Dates are subject to MON Government confirmation

Other Planned Events for H1 of 2026



Date	Event	Venue
4 March	1 st Inception Meeting (CAREC Caspian Green Energy Corridor Project)	Baku, AZE
5-6 March	5th Meeting of CAREC Climate Change Working Group	Tashkent, UZB
11 March	CARTIF Partnership Kick-off Meeting	virtual
11-12 March	Inaugural Meeting of the CAREC Road Working Group	Urumqi, PRC
1-3 April	4 th CAREC Green Skills Working Group Meeting	Istanbul, Türkiye
7-8 April	CAREC Technology Forum	Bishkek, KGZ
22 April	ESCAP High-Level Dialogue on Sustainable and Digital Trade and Transport Corridors in Asia and the Pacific (featuring CAREC)	Baku, AZE
9-10 April	CAREC Transmission and Interconnectivity Workshop	Tashkent, UZB
5-6 May	CARTIF Partnership: 1 st Working Group Meeting	virtual
19-20 May	CATS 7 th Technical Working Group Meeting	Tbilisi, Georgia
May (TBC)	Kick-off Meeting: CAREC Pilot Project on Electronic Exchange and Mutual Recognition of Conformity Certificates	Seoul, ROK
18 May	1 st Meeting of the CAREC Smart Mobility Working Group	ADB Headquarters
3 June	CARTIF Partnership 2 nd Working Group Meeting	Ulaanbaatar, MON
4-5 June	Joint Meeting of the CAREC Regional Trade Group and Customs Cooperation Committee	Ulaanbaatar, MON
4-5 June (TBC)	10 th Railway Working Group Meeting	Ulaanbaatar, MON
8-9 June (TBC)	23 rd Transport Sector Coordinating Committee Meeting	Ulaanbaatar, MON
9-10 June (TBC)	2 nd Meeting of the CAREC Agriculture and Food Security Working Group	Tashkent, UZB

An indicative calendar of sectoral meetings and planned activities are available on the [CAREC website](#)

Thank you!

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