



# 22nd Transport Sector Coordinating Committee Meeting

16–17 June 2025 • Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

22-е заседание Координационного  
комитета по транспортному сектору

16–17 июня 2025 года • Бишкек, Кыргызская Республика



# **CAREC Transport Strategy 2030 Midterm Review**

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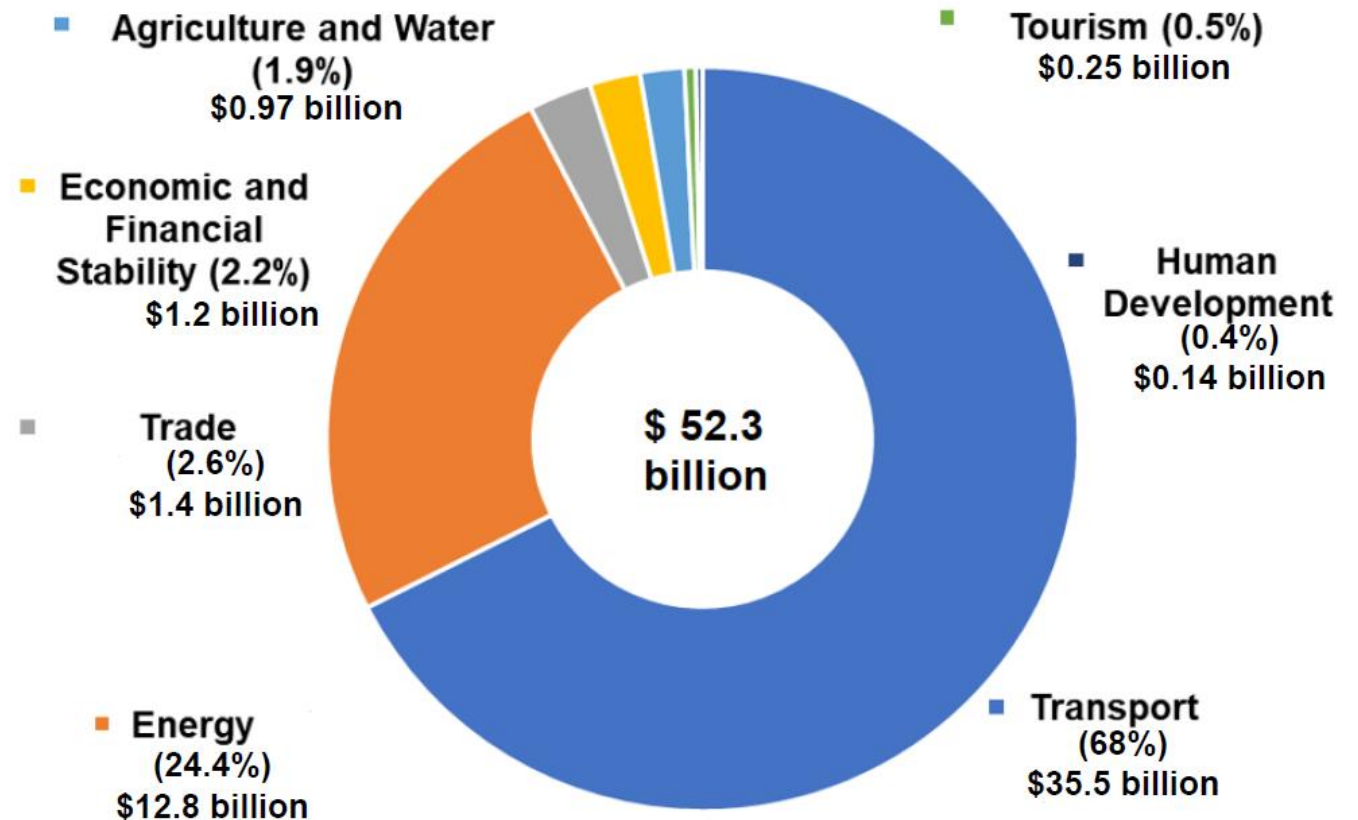
Asian Development Bank

# CAREC Investment Portfolio

(as of December 2024)

- Since 2001, \$52.3 billion CAREC-related investments (more than 270 projects) made.
- Of this, \$18.4 billion has been financed by ADB, \$24.0 billion by other development partners, and \$10.0 billion by CAREC countries.
- Transport share was 68% (\$35.5 billion).

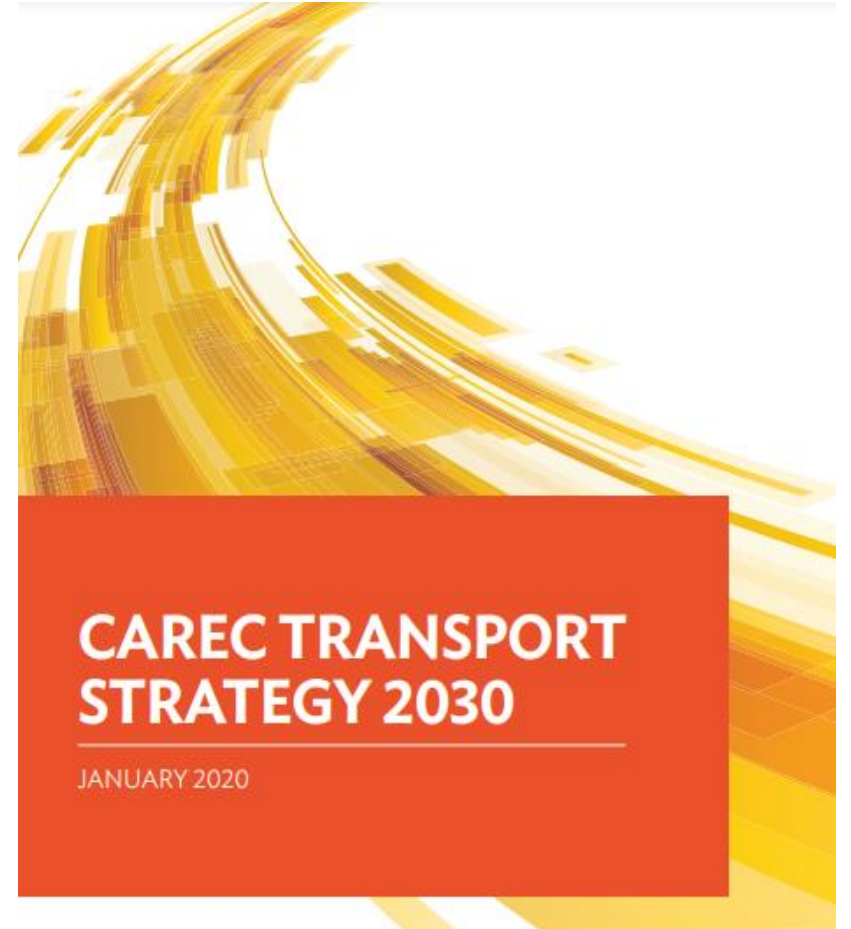
CAREC Investment by Sectors



\*The CAREC portfolio (investment projects) database is undergoing review and verification in consultation with development partners and CAREC sector focal in ADB.

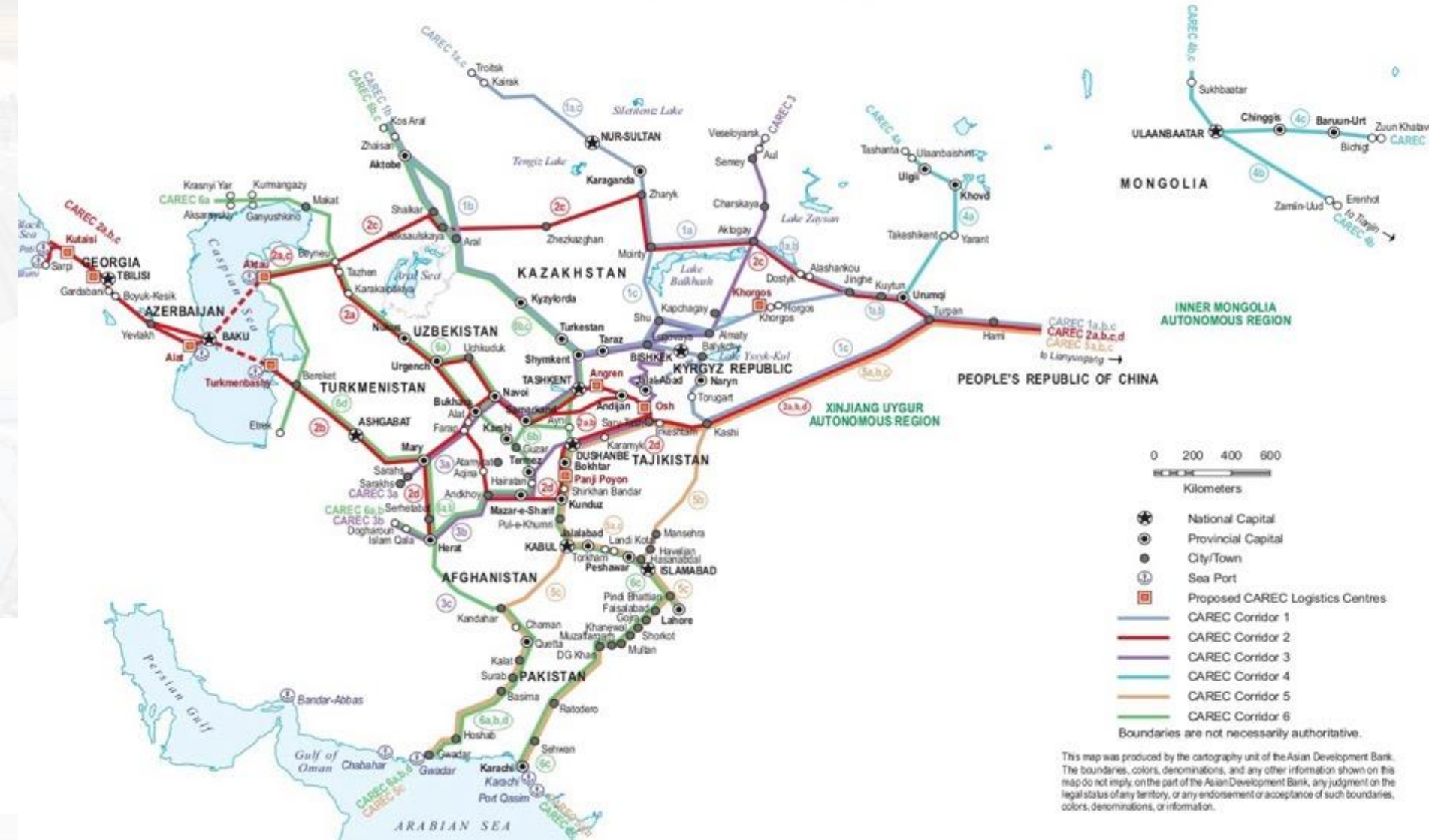
# CAREC Transport Strategy (CTS) 2030

1. Endorsed by CAREC Ministerial Conference in November 2019
2. Aligned with CAREC mission to: establish a regional cooperation platform to connect people, policies and projects for shared and sustainable development
- 2. Two objectives:** Connectivity and Sustainability
- 3. Five pillars:**
  - i. Cross-border Transport and Logistics
  - ii. Roads and Road Asset Management
  - iii. Road Safety
  - iv. Railways
  - v. Aviation.



# CAREC Transport Corridors

SIX CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION TRANSPORT CORRIDORS





- CAREC Corridor 1: Europe–East Asia
- CAREC Corridor 2: Europe–Mediterranean–East Asia
- CAREC Corridor 3: Russian Federation–Middle East and South Asia
- CAREC Corridor 4: Russian Federation–East Asia
- CAREC Corridor 5: East Asia–Middle East and South Asia
- CAREC Corridor 6: Europe–Middle East and South Asia

# CTS 2030: Midterm Review Approach

1. Aligned with MTR of CAREC 2030
2. Incorporation of emerging issues and ADB's new priorities
  - Climate risks, digital technology
  - Geographic dynamics
  - ADB's NOM and sector priorities
3. Focus on high-level strategic directions
  - Review of Railway Strategy and Road Safety Strategy
  - CAREC member country policies and priorities
4. Collaboration with MTR of CITA 2030 and CAREC Digital Strategy
  - Study on Corridor 2 (Middle Corridor) development
5. Enhanced ownership of the member countries
  - Thorough and comprehensive consultation with CAREC member countries and private sector
  - Collaboration with CAREC Institute
  - Consultation with development partners

# Relevant CAREC Strategies and their MTR

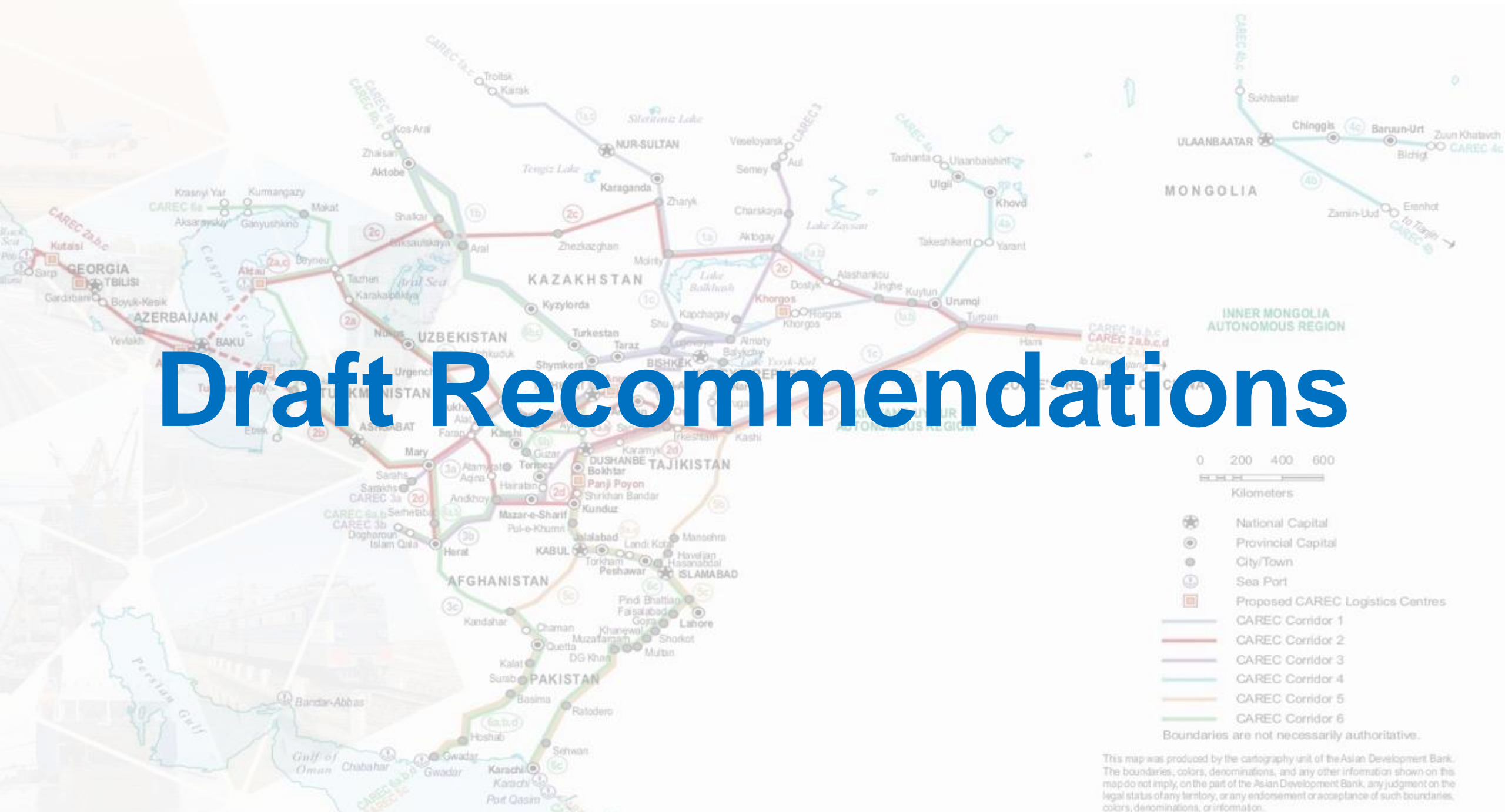
Related CAREC Sector/Theme	MTR Focus	Transport-related
<p>CAREC Integrated Trade Agenda 2030</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mainstreaming Climate Change Vision in CAREC trade work</li> <li>• Policy reforms supporting CAREC's access to global market and improve investment climate supported by PBLs/sector programs</li> <li>• Enhancing private sector engagement</li> <li>• Economic diversification and regional integration</li> <li>• Cross-sectoral linkages of trade</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trade facilitation, including transit arrangements (CATS/ICE)</li> <li>• NSW/paperless trade</li> <li>• Smart borders</li> <li>• Decongestion and decarbonization at BCPs/ports</li> <li>• Results framework/ indicators (CPMM)</li> </ul>
<p>CAREC Digital Strategy 2030</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial focus on post pandemic recovery</li> <li>• Need to accelerate development of digital economy and expand digital connectivity</li> <li>• How digitalization and use of ICT can pursue and support other sector-priorities (e.g., low carbon digital solutions)</li> <li>• Big data, use of AI, digital and startup ecosystems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• e-vehicles, automated or autonomous transport</li> <li>• digital connectivity along transport corridors</li> <li>• Use of innovative technologies or solutions</li> </ul>

# CTS MTR: Milestones and Timeline

Date	Activities
11–14 Feb	Mongolia country consultation (completed)
5-7 March	Discussions with the CAREC National Focal Points (completed)
11-13 March	Kazakhstan country consultation (completed)
17-20 March	PRC country consultation (completed)
4-8 April	Azerbaijan country consultation (completed)
10-11 April	Kyrgyzstan country consultation (completed)
21-25 April	Uzbekistan country consultation (completed)
28-29 April	Tajikistan country consultation (completed)
6-7 May	Georgia country consultation—online (completed)
16 May	Turkmenistan country consultation—online (completed)
2-3 June	Pakistan country consultation (completed)

- Q1-Q2 2025: Country consultation
- 21 May 2025: Side event at ITF 2025 Summit in Leipzig, Germany (completed)
- **16–17 June 2025: Presentation of the draft MTR at the CAREC Transport Sector Coordinating Committee Meeting**
- 18–19 June 2025: Endorsement in the CAREC **Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)** in the Kyrgyz Republic
- November 2025: Endorsement in the CAREC **Ministerial Conference**
- Q4 2025: Final publication

# Draft Recommendations



This map was produced by the cartography unit of the Asian Development Bank. The boundaries, colors, denominations, and any other information shown on this map do not imply, on the part of the Asian Development Bank, any judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries, colors, denominations, or information.

# Overall Assessment

- CTS successfully delivered improvements in connectivity and sustainability and largely continues to be relevant.
- However, it needs to reflect rapidly changing regional landscape and incorporate emerging and innovative technologies.
- Transport corridors can unlock higher potential by transforming into economic corridors.
- Synergies with CITA and Digital strategies.

# 1. Strengthen Cross-Border and Corridor Efficiency

- Establish financing facility for BCP improvements addressing infrastructure and soft-side needs and promote joint BCPs
- Promote economic corridor approach to comprehensively address transport connectivity, accessibility, and mobility; remove bottlenecks; and enhance economic activities along corridors
- Enhance capacity and connectivity of Corridor 2 through infrastructure upgrades, multimodal logistics hubs, harmonized regulations, and digital processes;
- Address bottlenecks in Caspian Sea transport and Black Sea ports by expanding port capacity and multimodal connection

# Proposed BCP Facility

- Border crossing points (BCPs) remain bottlenecks at various locations of the CAREC transport network
- Improvement of each individual BCP separately is operationally inefficient considering their lengthy processing time, remote locations, and the need to study and produce similar documentation to each project
- ADB is in process to conceptualize a new regional, programmatic, and consultative approach BUILD (Borders Upgrades for Integration, Logistics and Development).
- BUILD aims to improve the efficiency of preparing and implementing new BCP projects in CAREC region by bundling them under one facility, which will also provide wider access to financing.

## 2. Promote Modal Diversification and Smart Mobility

- Strengthen intermodal connectivity, especially among ports, railways, and roads to boost efficiency and lower logistics costs
- Encourage policy frameworks supporting modal shift to low-carbon transport options such as railway and waterborne transport
- Assist with logistics process harmonization and propose regional standards for multimodal documentation
- Created Smart Mobility Working Group to promote intelligent transport systems, transport digitalization, e-mobility, and comprehensive public transport development

### 3. Scale up Green, Resilient, Inclusive, and Digitalized Transport

- Include resilience as one of the strategic objectives of the CAREC Transport Strategy alongside connectivity and sustainability
- Support greening and electrification of transport (e.g., Green Roads Toolkit) and creating low emission zones in urban areas to support the nationally determined contribution targets
- Broaden road safety efforts by adopting the safe system approach and enhancing digital solutions
- Promote sustainable logistics practices and integrate trade-related digital platforms for international freight operators

## 4. Deepen Institutional Collaboration and Planning

- Enhance CAREC Institute's functions on transport and economic corridor planning, policy advice, and capacity building scaling up the CPMM function
- Regularly organize Smart Mobility, Road, and Railway working groups under the TSCC and strengthen the link with trade facilitation bodies on the CITA and CAREC Digital Strategy
- Prepare annual transport sector profile and flagship reports utilizing Asian Transport Observatory and CPMM
- Plan for post-2030 needs: trade shifts, climate risks, tech disruptions