# Session 7:
# Leveraging Modern Technologies for Priority Trade Facilitation Initiatives in CAREC

*Accelerating efficiency, transparency & regional integration through digital customs innovation*

**Workshop on Advancing Digital and Green Trade Facilitation in CAREC Countries**

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# Leveraging Modern Technologies for Priority Trade Facilitation Initiatives in CAREC

*Accelerating efficiency, transparency & regional integration through digital customs innovation*

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# Executive Summary

- CAREC's location is a strategic trade bridge between Europe and Asia, yet border delays, fragmented systems & infrastructure gaps hinder competitiveness.

- Modern technologies such as Single Window, e-Customs, AI risk management, blockchain docs, IoT cargo monitoring & cloud platforms can streamline trade, cut costs & enhance transparency.

- The initiative aims to build a smart, interoperable trade ecosystem, aligned with WCO standards & CITA 2030, supported by capacity building, infrastructure modernization & PPP dialogue.
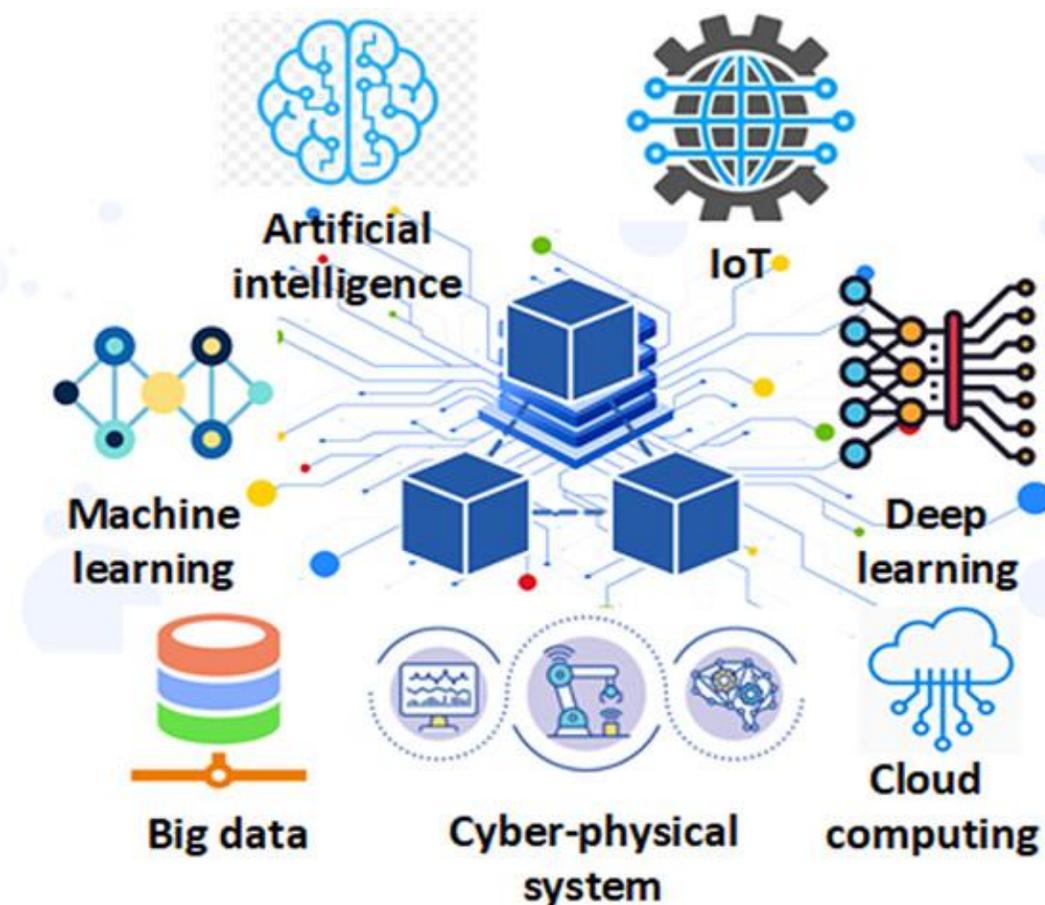
# Why Digital Trade Matters for CAREC?

- High trade costs & slow procedures limit export competitiveness.

- Fragmented systems reduce trust, predictability & interoperability.

- Digitalization enables paperless trade, risk-based controls, real-time cargo tracking & seamless data sharing.

# Technology Pillars

- Core Digital Systems: National Single Windows, e-Customs, inter-country connectivity
- Advanced Add-Ons: AI risk profiling, blockchain trade docs, IoT transit monitoring, cloud-based platforms
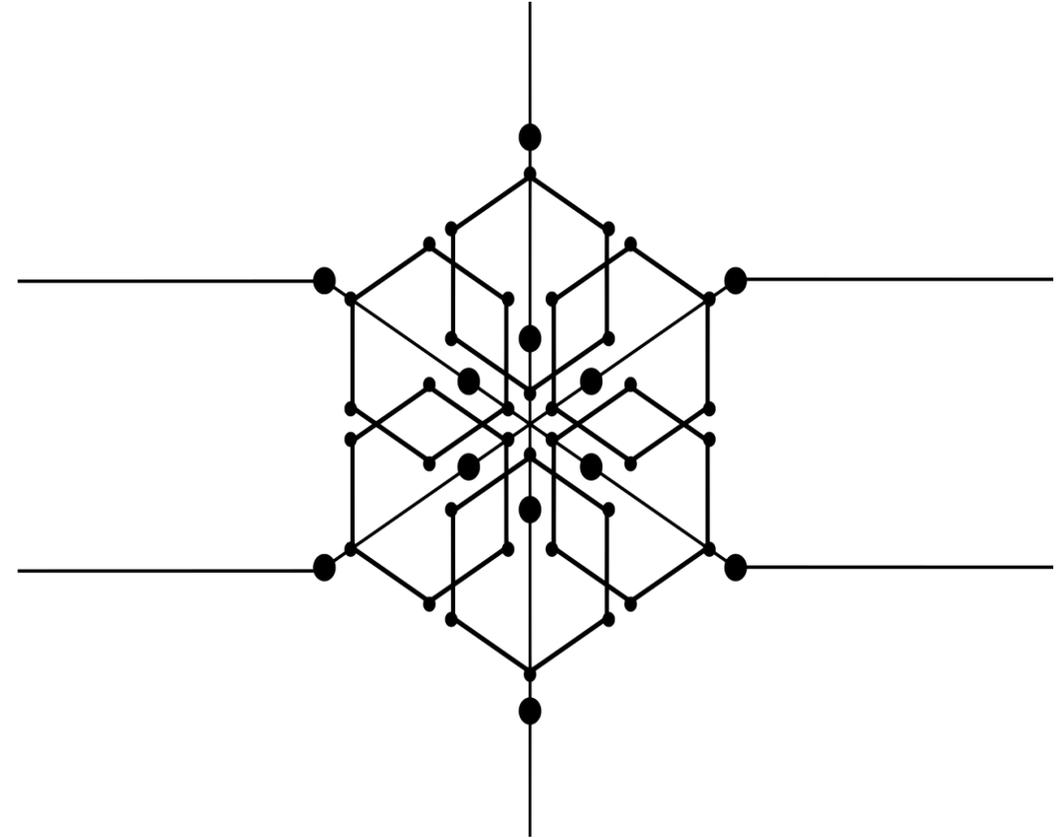
# Institutional Enablers

- Legal recognition of e-documents & signatures (UNCITRAL).
- Data privacy, cybersecurity & liability frameworks for cross-border trust.
- Capacity building aligned with WCO standards.
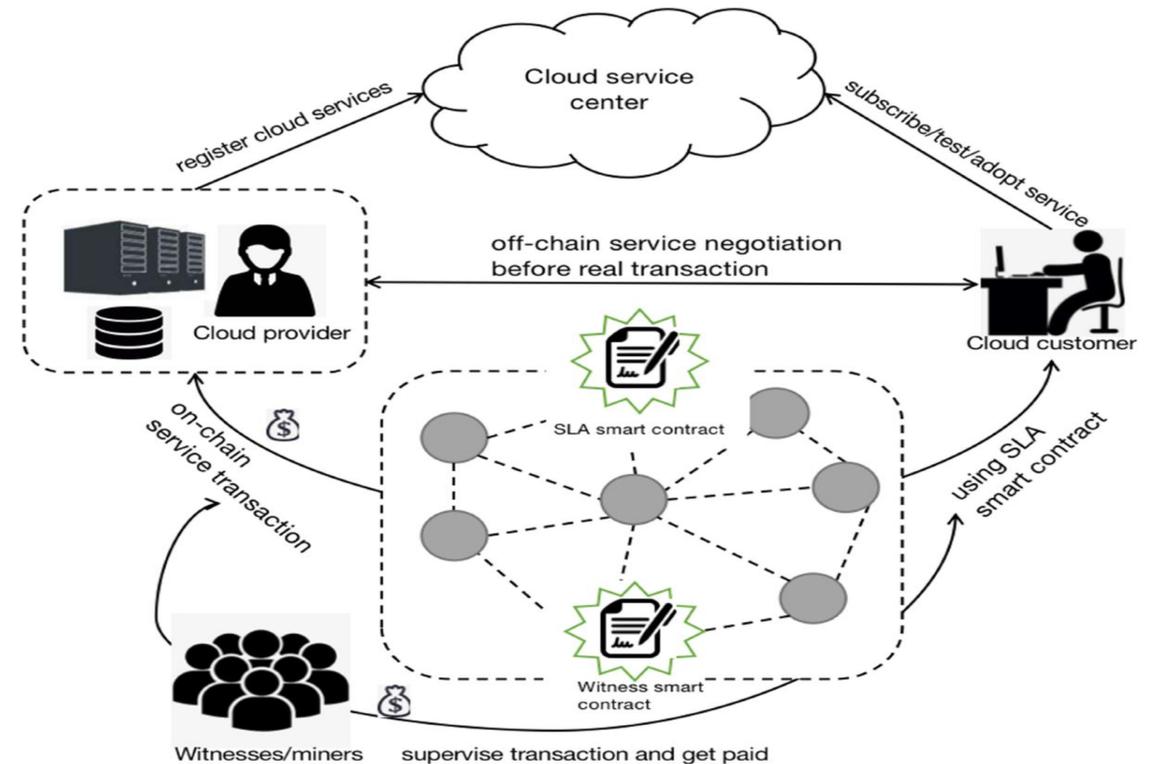- Public–private dialogue to support business needs.

# Objectives of the Initiative

- Streamline cross-border processes & reduce costs.

- Create interoperable, paperless, risk-based customs systems.

- Strengthen institutional capacity, digital infrastructure & legal frameworks.

- Align reforms with WCO tools & CITA 2030 for regional integration.

# Methodology

- SMART, results-based KPIs aligned with CITA 2030.
- Baselines via LPI, customs data & Time Release Studies.
- Benchmarks from Singapore TradeNet & KCS.
- Pilot first then scale later (e.g., Almaty–Tashkent corridor for AI/IoT/blockchain).
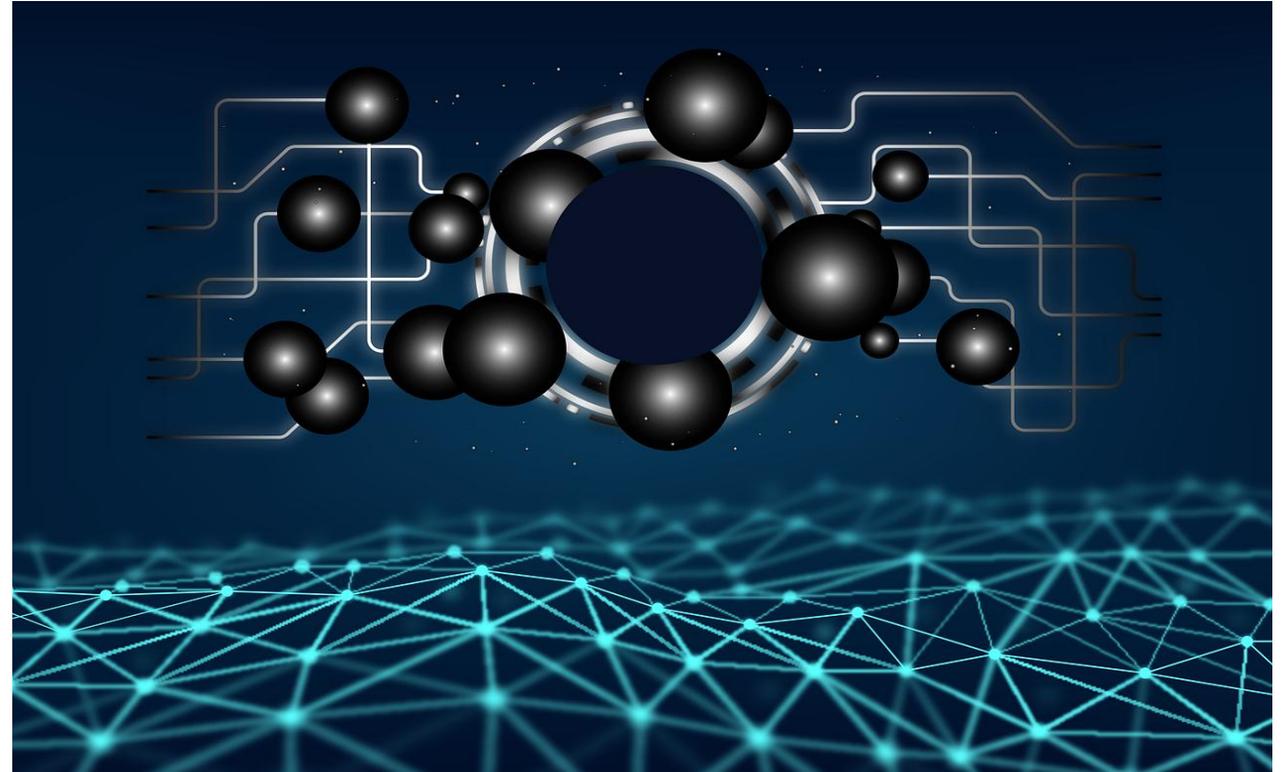
# KPIs Snapshot

| KPI Area | Indicator | Target / Benchmark | Agency Responsibility | Supported by International Organizations |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Digital Platforms | % of trade documents submitted electronically | ≥ 80% | Customs Administration | WCO, UN/CEFACT |
| | Reduction in average border processing time | 30% | Customs & Border Agencies | WCO, ADB |
| | System uptime | 99% | IT / Customs Technology Units | WCO, KCS |
| Advanced Technologies | % of shipments screened through AI risk profiling | ≥ 70% | Customs Risk Management Unit | KCS, ADB |
| | % of shipments tracked via IoT | ≥ 50% | Transport / Logistics Agencies | UNESCAP, ADB |
| | Fraud reduction via blockchain-enabled certificates | Significant reduction | Customs & Trade Facilitation Units | WCO, ADB, KCS |
| Capacity & Policy | % of customs staff certified on WCO standards | ≥ 50% | HR / Training Units | WCO, ADB |
| | Number of data breaches per year | 0 | IT Security / Customs | WCO, UNDP |
| | Annual alignment of reforms with CITA 2030 | Yes / Completed | Policy & Strategy Units | ADB, CAREC Secretariat |

# AI Policies for Inclusive Growth

- Inclusive policies expand SME access (Estonia, Rwanda).
- AI adoption supported by broadband, reskilling & SME financing.
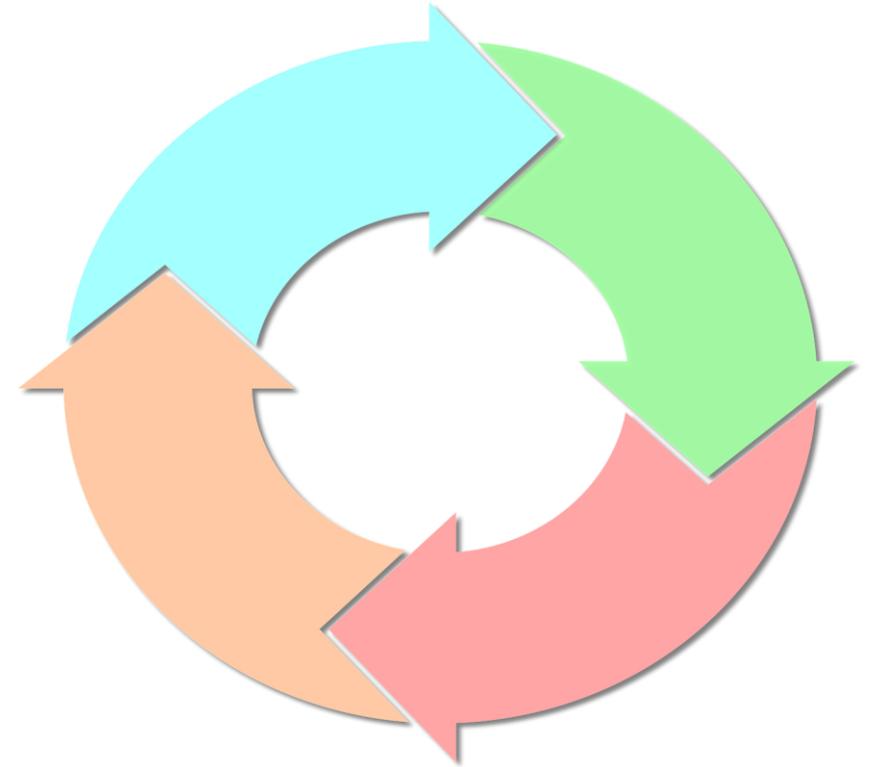- WTO, WCO & national frameworks enable equitable digital trade.

# Benefits to CAREC

- Faster, cheaper clearance (days to minutes, like Singapore).
- Enhanced trust & security with AI + blockchain.
- Regional interoperability strengthens CAREC's global trade role.
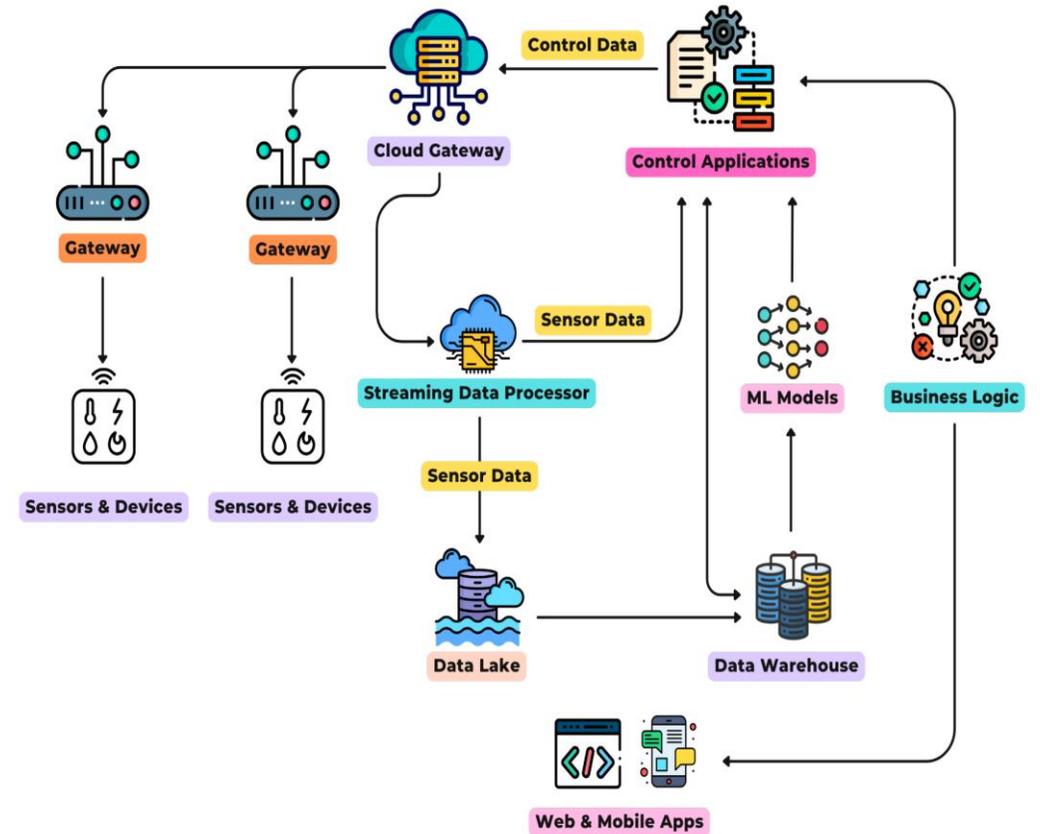- Attracts investment, boosts exports, reduces corruption & informal fees.

# Phased Implementation

- Phase 1: Baseline & legal readiness (diagnostics, stakeholder consults, e-doc laws)
- Phase 2: Pilot testing (AI risk, blockchain certificates, IoT monitoring)
- Phase 3: Scaling & harmonization (national deployment, WCO standards, mutual recognition)
- Phase 4: Regional integration (CAREC Regional Single Window with cloud, AI & IoT)

# Next Steps

- Launch regional diagnostics with ADB + KCS support.
- Prepare legal frameworks for e-docs & data protection.
- Begin pilots (AI risk, blockchain certificates, IoT transit).
- Establish regional KPI dashboard for CITA 2030 monitoring.

# Closing Message

- CAREC + KCS Collaboration = Smart, Secure & Competitive Regional Trade Corridor

- A technology-driven ecosystem connecting Europe & Asia.