



Book Launch: Unlocking Transport Connectivity in the Trans-Caspian Corridor

Jointly Organized by:
Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)
Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute

Webinar
25 October 2021
3:50 – 6:00 PM (Tokyo time)

This ADBI-Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute webinar will highlight key takeaways from the new book *Unlocking Transport Connectivity in the Trans-Caspian Corridor*, to be discussed by the co-editors and a panel of contributors to the book. The focuses will include the Trans-Caspian Corridor's potential economic benefits for the CAREC region and beyond, cross-border connectivity drivers and barriers, and economic impact assessment approaches. The participants will also discuss Trans-Caspian Corridor development opportunities, policy priorities, and related issues with a panel of international experts. The discussion will be followed by an audience question and answer session.

Agenda

Day 25 October 2021 (Tokyo time)

15:50-16:00 Introduction (Technical Guidance) and speakers' group photo

Ranjeeta Mishra, Project Consultant, ADBI, Tokyo, Japan

16:00-16:10 Opening Remarks

Tetsushi Sonobe, Dean and CEO, ADBI, Japan

Syed Shakeel Shah, Director, CAREC Institute, People's Republic of China (PRC)

Session: Presentations of three book chapters

Chair: Yelena Kalyuzhnova, Vice Dean (International), Henley Business School, University of Reading;
Director of the Centre for Euro-Asian Studies, UK

16:10-16:20 CAREC Corridors: Increased Connectivity and Improved Trade

Shakhboz Akhmedov, Research specialist, CAREC Institute, PRC

16:20-16:30 Corridor Developments for Transforming Central Asia: Spatial Computable General Equilibrium Model

Kenmei Tsubota, Professor, Department of Regional Development Studies Faculty of Global and Regional Studies, Toyo University, Japan

16:30-16:40 Infrastructure and Firm Performance in CAREC Countries: Cross-Sectional Evidence at the Firm Level

Dina Azhgaliyeva, Research Fellow, ADBI, Japan; Ranjeeta Mishra, Project Consultant, ADB Institute, Tokyo, Japan and Kamalbek Karymshakov, Economist, CAREC Institute, PRC

16:40-16:55 Q&A

16:55-17:50 Panel discussion

During this session panelists will be invited to highlight their key takeaways, main findings, policy implications, as well as suggestions for future studies.

Moderator: Iskandar Abdullaev, Deputy Director Two, CAREC Institute, PRC

- Richard Pomfret, Professor of Economics, Institute for International Trade, The University of Adelaide, Australia
- Dorothea Lazaro, Regional Cooperation Specialist, Public Management, Financial Sector and Regional Cooperation Division, East Asia Department, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Philippines
- Hans Holzacker, Chief Economist, CAREC Institute, PRC
- Tolkyn Takishova, Head of Research, Astana International Financial Centre, Kazakhstan
- Naoyuki Yoshino, Professor Emeritus, Keio University, Japan

Open Discussion

17:50-18:00 Closing remarks

Iskandar Abdullaev, Deputy Director, CAREC Institute, PRC

Peter Morgan, Senior Consulting Economist, Vice Chair, ADBI, Japan

Notes:

Time limits

Presentations of chapters – 10 minutes each

Interventions by the panelists - 5 minutes each

Questions and answers - 15 minutes. The chair/moderator will pick up some questions from the floor for the panelists from 'Q&A' box or from 'raised hands'.

Panel open discussion – 25 minutes.

Questions

Questions will be welcomed during the workshop. After 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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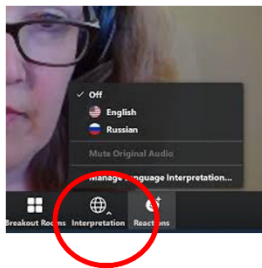
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Zoom Instructions for all Speakers and Attendees



- Please select from the bottom panel which language for interpretation you would like, **English** or **Russian**.