

ADB-Asian Think Tank Development Forum 2015 Advancing Innovation and Inclusion for a Prosperous Asia



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Capacity Building for Better Policy Advising

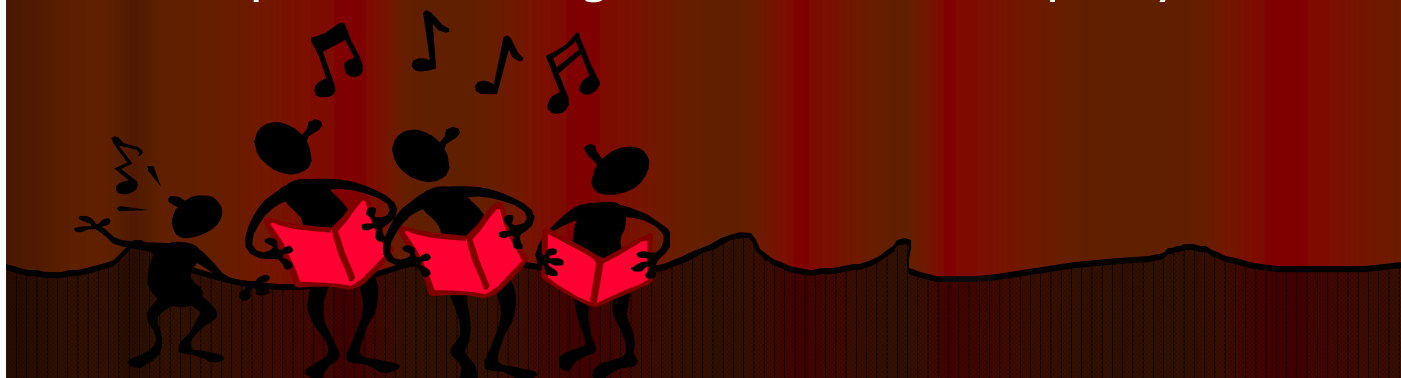
- The development process of economic globalization and regional integration.
- The competition and cooperation in energy, resources, politics, economic, trade and scientific technologies are constantly enhanced and expanded among countries and between region and countries.

The developments of cross-region, cross-discipline and cross-sector, all requires us to build strong capacities in providing policy recommendations for regional economic cooperation and development.



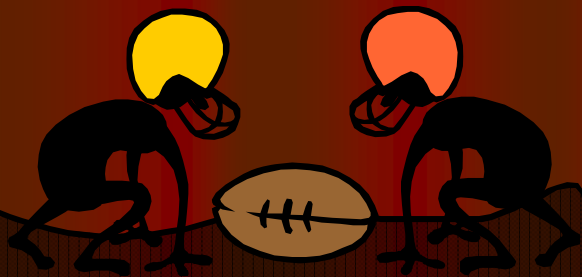
Capacity Building for Better Policy Advising

- Transition to market economy and private sector-led development is a feature common to all developing member countries (DMCs) in the Central Asia region.
- The development of an enabling economic environment is an integral part of the transition strategies and has been rigorously pursued by the countries in the Central Asia region through policy reforms, capacity building, and technical measures.
- To effectively engage the development of socio-economic, formulate rational policies and strategies in a scientific manner and sustained use scarce natural resources, there are urgent needs and it has reached a consensus to build capacities of DMCs of the Central Asia region to impact on the regional and national policy formulation.



The Roles of Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute (CI) in Capacity Building for Better Policy Advising

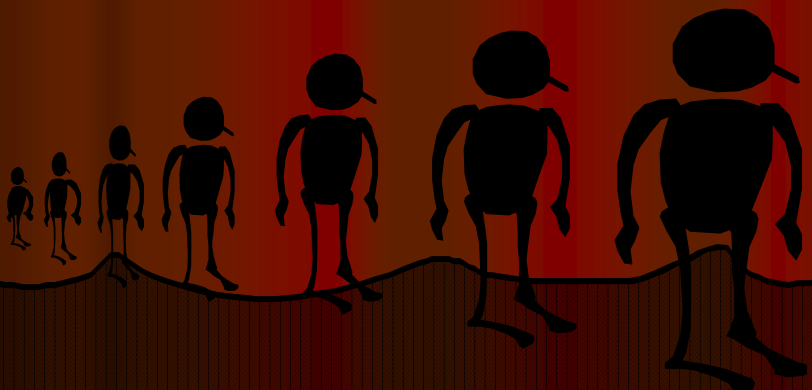
- Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute (CI), as an Intergovernmental Organization, is dedicated to promoting the economic cooperation in the Central Asia region through knowledge cooperation and sharing.
- CI has established its headquarters in Urumqi, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, the PRC. CI starts virtual operation on March 2, 2015.
- The member countries consist of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, the People's Republic of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.



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the CI's history:

- To engage in the development process of economic globalization and regional integration, Asian Development Bank (ADB) initiated to establish the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program in 1996, with the aim at promoting development through cooperation and facilitating the economic and social development and poverty reduction of member countries through regional cooperation in the areas such as transportation, trade and energy.
- ADB, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations Development Program, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Islamic Development Bank and some bilateral aid agencies in developed countries have participated in the cooperation under the CAREC framework.



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- To develop a knowledge sharing platform for CAREC members to enhance capacity building, and promote experience sharing for sustainable economic and social development, the CAREC Ministers agreed to establish CAREC Institute in the 5th Ministerial Conference in 2006. Since 2009, CAREC Institute has operated in a virtual mode and been managed by the ADB CAREC Secretariat.
- CI is envisaged to deepen and improve the economic cooperation level of the region, and coordinate the rapid development of the member countries through knowledge generation, knowledge service and knowledge management, which are needed to achieve CI's strategic goals and accelerate economic growth in the Central Asia region. CI also acts as a bridge between the rise of Central Asia and Global development.



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The CI has the following main objectives:

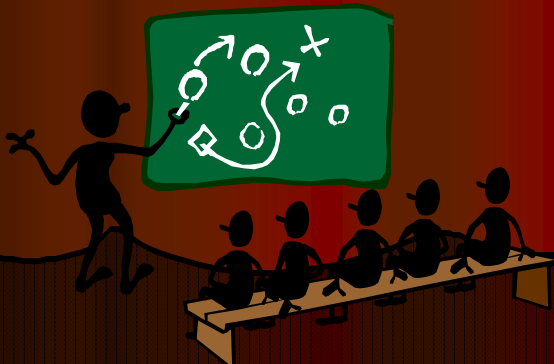
- (i) Provide innovative solutions based on the sharing of good practices of the region and the world to enable the member countries to respond to regional challenges and cooperative processes
- (ii) Enhance the capabilities of government officials to engage in regional cooperation processes, improve their capabilities to plan and implement regional cooperation projects, and build their capabilities for informed policy analysis;
- (iii) Conduct strategic research by mobilizing world-class intellectual resources to enhance regional cooperation capacity and accelerate growth in the Central Asia region;
- (iv) Promote the effectiveness of scientific decision making among the member countries through dissemination of research findings and results and facilitation of country policies dialogues by high-level workshops and forums; and
- (v) Develop a network of research institutes in the region to serve as a resource base for strategic research and knowledge sharing.



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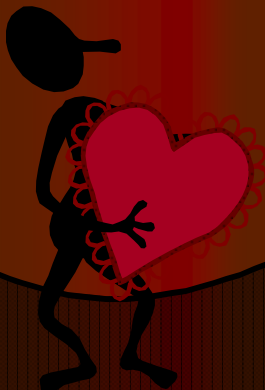
CI's roles and functions:

- The CI will provide multi-layer and multi-field knowledge products and services, including strategic research, policy consulting, training (capacity building), project development and etc., to support the strategic development focus of the member countries and promote those priority areas of regional cooperation.
- At present, the CAREC Institute's major activities focus on the priority areas of transport, trade facilitation, trade policy and energy, and also involve some second-tier areas such as tourism and agriculture.
- Furthermore, activities on the humanity area such as education, sanitation and culture will be pursued by CI subject to availability of resources. The activities mainly include research, training and exchanges.
- The knowledge products and services will be delivered to the government officials and management staff of enterprises and non-governmental institutions in CAREC member countries.



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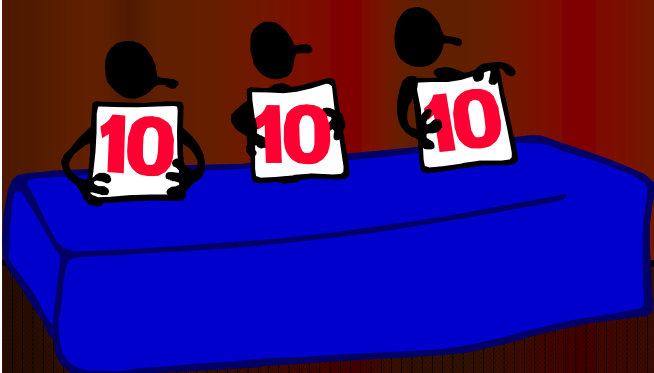
- The governance structure of CAREC institute consists of three levels: Ministerial Conference (MC), Governing Council and the Management.
- The CI management consists of one Director and two Deputy Directors (DDs). The CI member countries will take turns for the position of Director in alphabetical order. The two DDs have been recruited openly.
- CI has six units: knowledge generation, knowledge management, knowledge services, strategic planning, administration and finance and human resources.
- Currently, CI is recruiting its staff from CI member countries on the basis of openness, balance, transparency and merit.



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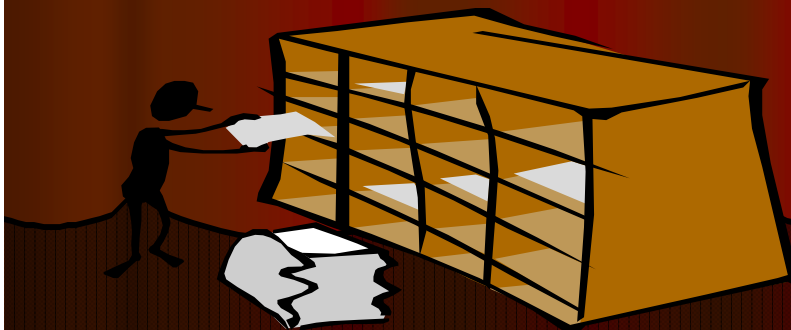
In conclusion:

- Experience with the regional cooperation programs shows that regional cooperation initiatives are resource-intensive, adequate technical assistance and capacities must be ensured to keep the momentum of regional cooperation and produce tangible results in the medium and longer term.
- Also, regional cooperation in capacity building and knowledge sharing activities has been demonstrated as a cost-effective approach and practice to enhance capacities of governmental officials and provide better policy advising to promote regional cooperation and economic growth.



The Roles of Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute (CI) in Capacity Building for Better Policy Advising

- From CI's strategy, objective and program activities, we can recognize that the capacity building and knowledge sharing are the core content and performance indicators of our institute.
- CI is producing substantial impacts on the strategy formation and decision-making process to DMCs of the CAREC region through the capacity building in energy, transportation, trade and agriculture sectors.
- As a think tank, a knowledge sharing platform and a regional international organization in Central Asia region, CI will further integrate all available resources and expand collaborations with various relevant international, regional and national organizations and institutions to build capacities of DMCs of Central Asia region for promoting the development and cooperation of socio-economic.





**Thank you for
the listening!**

