



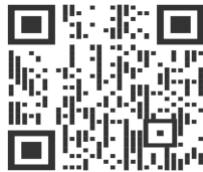
MINISTRY OF ECONOMY AND DEVELOPMENT



## Forum on Developing Sustainable Economic Zones in the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Region

13-14 September 2022, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia (hybrid)

Register at



[https://adb-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_spk9DiRmQ3CWBuWkr0J0Ww](https://adb-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_spk9DiRmQ3CWBuWkr0J0Ww)

The post-pandemic landscape characterized by changing patterns of international production provides an opportunity to develop economic zones that are aligned with environmental sustainability, economic efficiency, inclusive job creation, and fair labor practices, and are supportive of global and regional collaboration to achieve complementarities. The new model of special economic zones (SEZs) embraces sustainable development goals (SDGs) and targets investments related to these goals - cognizant of their role as instruments for contributing to more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable economies in the countries where they operate.

This model is important for the CAREC region where the effectiveness and usefulness of SEZs are heavily dependent on how well they are incorporated into broader development policies. The ‘SDG model zones’, as they are called by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, are a way to make SEZs work for the broader goal of achieving sustainable development.

This 1.5-day workshop will share trends and concepts related with the new model of economic zones as well as lessons and best practices on emerging issues and challenges faced by SEZs in CAREC countries and other regions. The workshop also aims to promote dialogue, close collaboration, and networking among CAREC countries and other regions’ policymakers and SEZ authorities, and international experts.

DAY 2: 13 September	
09:00 – 9:30 Ulaanbaatar time	<b>Registration</b>
09:30 – 9:45	<b>Welcome Remarks</b>  Ministry of Economy and Development, Mongolia Asian Development Bank CAREC Institute

9:45 – 10:25	<p><b>Session 1: Advancing a New Generation of Economic Zones for Sustainable Development and the Free Zones of the Future</b></p> <p>This session will discuss the characteristics and innovative and sustainable practices of the new generation of SEZs in responding to post-pandemic challenges and opportunities (e.g., digitalization, onshoring of production, ‘greening’ investments).</p> <p><b>Presenters:</b></p> <p><b>Samir Hamrouni</b>, Chief Executive Officer, World Free Zones Organization</p> <p><b>Jong Woo Kang</b>, Principal Economist, Regional Cooperation and Integration Division, Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department, ADB</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b></p>
10:25 – 10:50	<p><b>Group photo and coffee break</b></p>
10:50 – 11:25	<p><b><i>Continuation of Session 1</i></b></p> <p><b>Aradhna Aggarwal</b>, Professor, Department of International Economics and Management, Copenhagen Business School</p> <p><b>Melissa Irmen</b>, Chair, National Association of Foreign-Trade Zones (NAFTZ, US) – (virtual)</p>
11:25 – 12:00	<p><b>Open Discussions</b></p> <p>Moderated by <b>Srikanth Badiga</b>, Board of Director – Asia, World Free Zones Organization</p>
12:00 – 14:00	<p><b>Lunch</b></p>
<p><b>Session 2: Best Practices from New Generation of Economic Zones and Emerging Challenges from Other Countries</b></p> <p>The session will highlight economic zones’ experience in promoting sustainability and international cooperation to address global challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic, climate crisis and disruptions in supply chains.</p>	
14:00 – 15:00	<p><b>Panel 1: <i>Emerging Arrangements on Free Zones Operations</i></b></p> <p><b>Simon Sonoo</b>, Vice President, Industrial Parks &amp; Economic Zones, DP World, United Arab Emirates</p> <p><b>Eleazar Ricote</b>, Deputy Executive Director, Public Private Partnership Center of the Philippines</p>

	<p><b>Lars Karlsson</b>, Global Head of Trade &amp; Customs Consulting, Maersk (virtual)</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b></p>
15:00 – 16:00	<p><b>Panel 2: <i>Innovation and Technology Zones</i></b></p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p><b>Elhadi Ibrahim</b>, Senior Consultant, Dubai Free Zones Council (<i>speaker may change</i>)</p> <p><b>Seonghwan Kim</b>, Officer of the External Affairs, Incheon Free Economic Zone Authority</p> <p><b>Kevin Shakespeare</b>, Director of Strategic Projects and International Development, Institute of Export, United Kingdom (virtual)</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b></p>
16:00 – 16:15	<p><b>Coffee break</b></p>
16:15 – 17:05	<p><b>Panel 3: <i>Ensuring Environmental Sustainability, Safe and Healthy Economic Zones</i></b></p> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p><b>James Zhan</b>, Director, Division on Investment and Enterprise, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Co-Chair Global Alliance of Special Economic Zones (GASEZ) (virtual)</p> <p><b>Husam Abdallah</b>, Chief of Business Development and Strategy, World Free Zones Organization</p> <p><b>Najibullah Habib</b>, Senior Health Specialist, Urban and Social Sectors Division, East Asia Department, ADB to present on <i>Health Impact Assessment Framework in Border Economic Zones</i></p> <p><b>Ping Yeon Cheah</b>, Senior Strategy Officer, Strategy, Policy and Budget Department, Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank (virtual)</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b></p>
17:05– 17:10	<p><b>Wrap up of Day 1</b></p>
<p>DAY 3: 14 September</p>	
<p>Session 3: CAREC Countries Experience in Developing Economic Zones</p>	

This session will discuss approaches to promote sustainability and attract investments, including public-private partnerships (PPPs). It will also highlight COVID-19 responses and best practices from bilateral cooperation within the region.

09:00 – 10:20	<b>Group 1: Agro-industrial Parks, Industrial Parks</b>  <b>Azerbaijan</b>  <b>Georgia</b>  Tamar Sakheishvili, Chief Investment Officer, Poti Free Industrial Zone, Georgia  <b>Pakistan</b>  <b>Kyrgyz Republic</b>  <b>Tajikistan</b>  <b>Moderator:</b>
10:20 – 10:40	<b>Coffee break</b>
10:40 – 11:50	<b>Group 2: Cross-border, Regional Cooperation, Logistics, Transport</b>  <b>People’s Republic of China</b>  Pan Li, Vice Chairman, China Free Trade Zones and Export Processing Zones Association (virtual)  <b>Kazakhstan</b>  <b>Mongolia</b>  <b>Turkmenistan</b>  <b>Uzbekistan</b>  <b>Moderator:</b>
11:50 – 12:00	<b>Closing Remarks</b>  Ministry of Economy and Development, Mongolia  Asian Development Bank
12:00 – 13:30	<b>Lunch and networking</b>