National Training on Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism  
15-17 April 2014: Dhulikhel, Nepal

The Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism (TTFMM) National Training Workshop for Nepal provided detailed training in the integrated methodologies of (i) business process analysis (BPA), (ii) time release study, and (iii) time-cost-distance survey approach. The objective was to equip participants with the required knowledge and practical skills to establish baseline data for monitoring trade and transport facilitation in Nepal; undertake a national TTFMM study; and thereafter identify necessary measures to develop more efficient and transparent trade. 
Read More >>

National Training on Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism  
28-29 April 2014: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Technical experts from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) introduced the Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism (TTFMM) as a mechanism to monitor trade processes in support of policy reform and implementation. To better understand the trade processes along specific corridors, including scoping and planning the national study, the TTFMM workshop for Bangladesh selected certain products and recommended five corridors. 
Read More >>

Second Meeting of the SASEC Electricity Transmission Utility Forum (SETUF)  
29 April 2014: Manila, Philippines

The Second Meeting of the SASEC Electricity Transmission Forum (SETUF-2) held in Manila Philippines on 29 April 2014, stressed the need for SASEC to increase cooperation in developing cross-border power connectivity and enabling power trade. Among others, the Meeting discussed the South Asia Regional Power Exchange Study; reviewed the Inception Report of the SASEC Transmission Master Plan; and discussed a draft SETUF Work Plan (2014-2015). 
Read More >>

Visit sasec.asia to see recent event updates.
Regional Cooperation in a Highly Interconnected World
22 April 2014: Manila, Philippines
The Asian Economic Integration Monitor (AEIM), a semiannual review of regional economic cooperation and integration in Asia covers regional economic updates, intraregional trade, financial integration and investment, and the importance of disaster risk financing instruments. It suggests that Asia needs stronger cooperation to counter geopolitical risks with regional trade and financial integration increasing over the past decade.
Read More >>

SASEC Portfolio Breaks $5 Billion
10 April 2014: Manila, Philippines
Since approval of the first project in 2001, $5.36 billion has been invested under SASEC in transport, energy, and trade facilitation projects. Overall, 30 SASEC projects are helping the member countries strengthen regional connectivity infrastructure, promote economic growth, and foster regional cooperation. A further $55 million has supported 54 technical assistance projects.
Read More >>

SASEC Connects Through Twitter
12 April 2014: Manila, Philippines
The SASEC Secretariat has begun tweeting through its account, @sasecprogram. The Twitter account complements the work of the website in fostering connectivity among member countries and providing information and knowledge about SASEC news, events, and projects.
Read More >>

Launch of Asian Development Outlook 2014
5 April 2013: Hong Kong, China
The Asian Development Outlook (ADO), ADB’s flagship economic publication provides comprehensive macroeconomic analysis in Asia, including growth projections by country and region. ADO 2014 forecasts that developing Asia will grow 6.2% in 2014 and 6.4% in 2015. South Asia remains one of the slowest growing subregions—although growth is forecast to improve by 5.3% in 2014 and 5.8% in 2015.
Read More >>

SASEC Regional Transmission Master Plan
7 February 2014: Manila, Philippines
The Asian Development Bank has approved technical assistance of $500,000 for SASEC member countries to develop a comprehensive long-term regional transmission master plan for the region to more effectively coordinate power generation and transmission. The project aims to improve the planning and coordination capacity of SASEC countries to foster cross-border power trading.
Read More >>
Related Publications


Asian Economic Integration Monitor - April 2014

Solving India’s Renewable Energy Financing Challenge: Which Federal Policies Can Be Most Effective?

Lose to Gain: Is Involuntary Resettlement a Development Opportunity?

Simulating World Trade in the Decades Ahead: Driving Forces and Policy Implications

Reducing Poverty by Closing South Asia’s Infrastructure Gap

See more publications on regional cooperation in South Asia and other regions at http://sasec.asia/publications.php

Please contact the SASEC Program Secretariat at sasec@adb.org
To unsubscribe from this newsletter, click here.