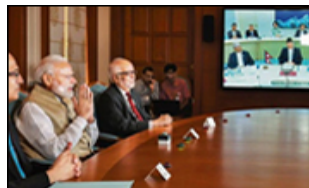


SASEC EVENTS
SASEC WORKSHOP ON
PERFORMANCE
MEASUREMENT FOR
TRADE FACILITATION



SASEC PROJECTS
STAKEHOLDER
CONSULTATION ON THE
NORTHEAST
BANGLADESH
ECONOMIC CORRIDOR



SASEC NEWS
MOTIHARI-
AMLEKHGUNJ CROSS-
BORDER PIPELINE
INAUGURATED



PUBLICATIONS
ASYCUDA PROGRAMME:
COMPENDIUM OF CASE
STUDIES 2019



SASEC NEWS

THE SOUTH ASIA SUBREGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #71 SEPTEMBER 2019

WWW.SASEC.ASIA



ADB's New Partnership Strategy to Help Bhutan Improve Its Regional Cooperation Efforts through SASEC

13 September 2019: Thimphu, Bhutan

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has endorsed a new 5-year country partnership strategy for Bhutan. The strategy focuses on helping Bhutan achieve inclusive and sustainable growth, and will help Bhutan improve its regional cooperation efforts through the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) program.

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EVENT

SASEC WORKSHOP ON
PERFORMANCE
MEASUREMENT FOR
TRADE FACILITATION

- **9th Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum explored opportunities and challenges in trade digitalization for the sustainable development of the region**
- **SASEC Workshop on Performance Measurement for Trade Facilitation discussed various performance measurement tools**

SASEC Workshop on Performance Measurement for Trade Facilitation

19 September 2019: New Delhi, India

A Workshop on Performance Measurement for Trade Facilitation was organized by the SASEC program on the sidelines of the 9th Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum. The Workshop discussed various performance measurement tools for trade facilitation, their utility, and emerging approaches that promote data-driven decision-making and stakeholder engagement.

[Read More](#)

Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum 2019: Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation for Regional Prosperity

17–18 September 2019: New Delhi, India

ADB and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), in collaboration with the Government of India and the Confederation of Indian Industries, held the 9th Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum. The forum focused on digital and sustainable trade facilitation measures and practices that can bring prosperity to the Asia-Pacific region.

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SASEC CALENDAR

High-Level Workshop on Special Economic Zones and Cross-Border Economic Zones

28 October–1 November 2019: Shanghai, People's Republic of China



PROJECT
CONSULTATION WORKSHOP
ON THE NEBEC
DEVELOPMENT

- **ADB Country Operations Business Plan 2020–2022 for Bangladesh prioritizes skills development, participation in global value chains through the SASEC partnership**
- **Construction of Colombo's first elevated highway begins**
- **Northeast Bangladesh Economic Corridor Development Workshop gathered stakeholders' feedback to inform study being prepared by ADB**

ADB to Provide around \$5 Billion to Bangladesh

11 September 2019: Dhaka, Bangladesh

ADB handed over to Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina ADB's Country Operations Business Plan for 2020–2022. The plan programs around \$5 billion in projects in three years to promote sustainable growth in Bangladesh, and prioritizes skills development participation in global value chains through the SASEC partnership.

[Read More](#)

Construction of Port Access Elevated Highway Project in Sri Lanka Begins

10 September 2019: Colombo, Sri Lanka

Construction of Colombo's first elevated highway commenced. Sri Lanka Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe laid the foundation stone to mark the start of construction. The ADB-supported project will help alleviate traffic congestion in Colombo's densely populated areas, improve last-mile connectivity between the country's expressway network and Colombo's international port, provide better logistics services for freight operations, and facilitate regional trade.

[Read More](#)

ADB, BIDA Consult with Stakeholders on the Northeast Bangladesh Economic Corridor

8 September 2019: Dhaka, Bangladesh

ADB and the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) held a consultation workshop on the Northeast Bangladesh Economic Corridor (NEBEC) development. The workshop helped gather stakeholders' feedback to inform the study being prepared by ADB. The ongoing study will identify promising industries in the region and propose infrastructure and urban services needs for industrial development. The NEBEC is strategically located for cross-border trade with India's northeastern region, Bhutan, and Nepal.

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NEWS

MOTIHARI-AMLEKHGUNJ
CROSS-BORDER PIPELINE
INAUGURATED

- **Bangladesh in talks with Bhutan, India, Myanmar, and Nepal to import electricity to meet growing energy demand**
- **Nepali Importers Get Cargo Duty Insurance Subsidy in Kolkata**
- **India, Nepal inaugurate South Asia's first cross-border pipeline for petroleum products**

India Plans National Logistics Policy to Bring Down Logistics Cost

23 September 2019: New Delhi, India

The Government of India plans to implement a National Logistics policy to help bring down the logistics cost by 10%, according to Mr. Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry and Railways of the Government of India. The proposed policy was sent to the Cabinet for approval.

[Read More](#)

Nepali Importers Get Cargo Duty Insurance Subsidy in Kolkata

19 September 2019: Kolkata, India

The Kolkata Customs of the Government of India has granted an 84.33% subsidy for Nepali cargo duty insurance. Nepali importers were also provided the flexibility to buy insurance from private companies beginning 12 September.

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Bangladesh in Talks with Bhutan, India, Myanmar, and Nepal for Electricity Trade

11 September 2019: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Bangladesh is in talks with Bhutan, India, Myanmar, and Nepal to import electricity to meet Bangladesh's growing energy demand. This was according to Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who was speaking via videoconferencing at the inauguration of four power plants and eight substations in the country.

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India, ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting Discussed Trade, Investment Agreements

10 September 2019: Bangkok, Thailand

Ten economic ministers from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Minister of Commerce and Industry of the Government of India held their 16th consultation. The meeting acknowledged the ratification of the ASEAN-India Trade in Services Agreement and endorsed the review of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement.

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Motihari-Amlekhgunj Cross-border Pipeline Inaugurated

10 September 2019: New Delhi, India and Kathmandu, Nepal

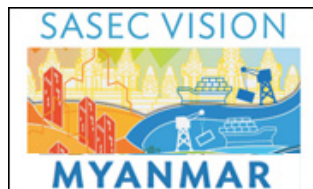
The 69 kilometer Motihari (India)-Amlekhgunj (Nepal) pipeline, signed by India and Nepal in 2015, was jointly inaugurated by India Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Nepal Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli. The project is South Asia's first cross-border pipeline for petroleum products.

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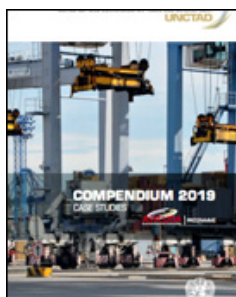
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MYANMAR



SASEC WEBSITE
BROCHURE



SASEC OPERATIONAL
PLAN 2016-2025



ASYCUDA Programme:
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Global Economic Prospects



World Investment Report 2019

Top Tweets for September 2019

Dhaka and New Delhi focusing on 3 key areas of cooperation: trade and investment, connectivity, energy [Read more](#)

Success of the 'border haats' along the Bangladesh border in Meghalaya and India's Tripura has prompted us to go for similar 'haats' with Myanmar in Mizoram. -Mizoram Commerce and Industries Minister [Read more](#)

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