

Regional Cooperation and Integration in Asia and the Pacific

Role of OREI

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ADB

Outline

- * ADB's Role in RCI – Four Major Roles
- * OREI's Business Principles
- * Role of OREI: Coordinating and Facilitating Role
- * Pillar II (Trade and Investment Cooperation and Integration) Activities
- * Pillar III (Monetary and Financial Cooperation and Integration) Activities
- * RCI knowledge and information dissemination activities

ADB's Role in RCI

- **Money Bank**
 - Providing financial resources for RCI projects, programs, and/or helping DMCs mobilize funding
- **Knowledge Bank**
 - Creating, consolidating, and disseminating to DMCs knowledge and information on RCI
- **Capacity Builder**
 - Helping DMCs and regional and/or sub-regional bodies build their institutional capacity to manage RCI
- **Honest Broker**
 - Acting as a catalyst and coordinator of RCI for the DMCs

OREI's Business Principles and Roles

Client Orientation

- Policy advice through various regional policy dialogue processes
- Knowledge-based products
- Capacity-building support
- Partnership building support for regional bodies/institutions

Open Regionalism

- Assist ADB and clients in pursuing open and outward-looking regionalism in Asia and the Pacific that serves as a building block to multilateralism

Complementarity

- Enhance cooperation with other stakeholders and international organizations in promoting RCI

Role of OREI as Coordinator within ADB

Pillar I: Regional and Subregional Economic Cooperation

- Cross-border infrastructure
- Physical connectivity
- Hardware and software

Pillar II: Trade and Investment Cooperation and Integration

- Trade and investment expansion
- Regional trade arrangements
- Regulatory coordination

Pillar III: Monetary and Financial Cooperation and Integration

- Financial market development and integration
- Regional macroeconomic and financial stability
- Exchange rates

Pillar IV: Regional Public Goods

- Clean energy and environmental protection
- Communicable disease control
 - Good governance for transnational crime prevention (Human and drug trafficking, money laundering, and corruption)

RDs

OREI

OREI

RSDD

Other offices and departments (RDs, ADBI, ERD, OCO, OGC, and TD) will be involved in all pillars as appropriate.

OREI will provide “horizontal link” across departments

Role of OREI as Facilitator outside ADB

To DMCs, OREI provides:

- ✓ policy advice through various regional policy dialogue processes
- ✓ knowledge-based products
- ✓ capacity building support
- ✓ partnership building support for regional bodies/institutions

Trade and Investment Cooperation and Integration

OBJECTIVE:

To make trade cooperation and integration supportive and consistent with WTO rules.

Trade and Investment Cooperation and Integration: **PLANNED ACTIVITIES**

- 1) Supporting regional trade and investment policy dialogue (e.g., ASEAN Economic Ministers. APEC etc)
- 2) Capacity building for institutional strengthening of DMCs on issues related to trade and integration (e.g., Training on Designing and Negotiating FTAs)
- 3) Research and information dissemination, including support for establishing a database on FTAs in Asia and the Pacific
 - Asian FTAs – dealing with the reality
 - Economic cooperation between East Asia and South Asia
 - Industrial competitiveness
 - Cross-border movements of labor and issues related to remittances
 - Sequencing of trade, monetary, and financial integration

Trade and Investment Cooperation and Integration: **PLANNED ACTIVITIES**

- 4) Building stronger partnerships with other stakeholders and institutions that support RCI in trade and investment in Asia and the Pacific as well as elsewhere
- 5) Building a network of government trade officials

Monetary and Financial Cooperation and Integration

OBJECTIVE:

To develop a stable and sound financial and macroeconomic environment in Asia and the Pacific.

Monetary and Financial Cooperation and Integration: **PLANNED ACTIVITIES**

- 1) Support for the regional economic policy dialogue processes both for established and prospective organizations (e.g., the ASEAN Surveillance Process and the ASEAN+3 Economic Review and Policy Dialogue Process (ERPD) by providing confidential notes, Asia Economic Monitor reports, and Asia Bond Monitor reports
- 2) Capacity building and institutional strengthening of DMCs: Training programs in regional economic monitoring including financial vulnerability assessments and EWS for National Surveillance Units established in various ASEAN+3 countries

Monetary and Financial Cooperation and Integration: PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- 3) Studies on issues related to ASEAN+3 ABMI and ASEAN+3 Research Group; APEC Initiatives on financial sector, fiscal management, remittances; regional monetary and financial integration; financial sector and industrial competitiveness at the country and subregional levels; and Asian currency indexes
- 4) Establishment of a network among bank and security market regulators in DMCs
- 5) Development of the AsianBondsOnline website
- 6) Partnership building with other international organizations

Knowledge and Information Dissemination on RCI

- 1) Development of the Asia Regional Integration Center website (www.aric.adb.org)
- 2) Books, briefs, updates, journals, research, working papers, reports, and publications on issues related to RCI
- 3) ADB Seminar Series on Regional Economic Integration
- 4) ADB Working Paper Series on Regional Economic Integration

Thank You!

ADB