

Regional Conference on Strengthening Transport Connectivity & Trade Facilitation in South & South West Asia

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Outline of Presentation



- Setting the Context
- Sub-regional Groups/ Trade agreements
- Assessment of Infrastructure
- Contribution of CONCOR
- Way Ahead for the Region

Setting the Context



- South & South West Asia region: High growth nations as compared to World average. It is major driver of global economic recovery
- In the aftermath of global financial crisis in West: domestic & regional trade is a must to sustain growth
- For this: Transport Connectivity is v. critical

Sub-regional groups/ Trade agreements



- To boost business in the sub-region, several groups and trade agreements have been formed
- Preferential trade arrangements play a major role in stimulating trade
- These agreements result in reduced costs and increasing volumes of regional trade



Trade Competitiveness depends on efficient, fast, reliable and seamless connectivity

Assessment of Infrastructure



The infrastructure of Transport Network

in South and South West Asia is

lower than the World average

(Source: Kalegama & Abayasekara, Regional Economic cooperation and connectivity in south and south west asia)

Assessment of Infrastructure...



- > Air transport is most developed in the region
- ➤ Ports are also relatively well developed. All top 10 container ports are in Asia
- ➤ Road and Rail networks are less developed in the Region. Need lots of improvements and inputs
- ➤ Greater emphasis needs to be laid on improving Rail connectivity of the Region

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