

How SASEC Works

Since 2001, SASEC countries have implemented 46 regional projects worth over \$9 billion to strengthen road, rail, and air links, and create the conditions necessary to provide reliable energy, boost intra-regional trade, and develop economic corridors. SASEC governments have contributed more than \$3 billion worth of total investments.



The Asian Development Bank (ADB) helps SASEC countries strengthen regional infrastructure, and promotes cooperation that will contribute to future prosperity. ADB provides financial and technical support to

- improve regional multimodal transport, and energy infrastructure connectivity
- build linkages between economic corridors in South Asia, integrating urbanization and industrialization to boost productivity
- strengthen trade facilitation procedures and regulatory reform to ensure optimal returns from enhanced physical infrastructure
- boost institutional and human capital and capacity

SASEC countries coordinate and implement projects at a national level, as well as across borders. National road and rail networks, for example, are planned to link up across national borders with transport networks in neighboring countries. Connecting transport networks efficiently speeds access to ports and markets, and eases the movement of goods, people, and business within South Asia.

Regular exchange of information and knowledge helps SASEC countries develop institutional and human capacity, and sharing international best practices strengthens the planning of effective development initiatives. ADB has financed more than \$65 million worth of technical assistance projects that support SASEC knowledge-sharing initiatives. ADB also serves as the SASEC Secretariat.

More than \$9.1 billion invested in SASEC transport, trade facilitation, energy, and economic corridor development regional projects, 2001 - 2016

About the South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation Program

The South Asia Subregional Economic Cooperation (SASEC) Program brings together Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, and Sri Lanka in a project-based partnership to promote regional prosperity by improving cross-border connectivity, facilitating faster and less costly trade among member countries, and strengthening regional economic cooperation.

Since 2001, the Asian Development Bank has financed loans, grants, and technical assistance to member countries to improve physical infrastructure, support reform processes and build capacity in the key areas of transport, trade facilitation, energy, and economic corridor development. SASEC also creates knowledge platforms that promote a regular exchange of information and experience-sharing in the subregion and ensure that international best practices underpin and strengthen the planning of effective regional development initiatives. The Asian Development Bank serves as the SASEC Secretariat.

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