

LOGISTICS COOPERATION PROJECT ON MAIN TRANSPORT CORRIDORS

Transport Corridors have contributed not only to the development of trade but also to the intellectual and cultural change of humanity from past to present. The Historical Silk and Spice Routes have been the center of trade, intellectual and cultural exchange between Asia, Europe (Eurasia) and the Middle East for centuries. In this sense, the most important transportation corridor is the "Historical Silk Road".

International Transport Corridors with high capacity and quality and diversity of transport modes are called the main (core) transport corridor. Corridors that connect the main transportation corridors to each other and provide connection to the final addresses are called intermediate or branch corridors. The fact that there is only one highway between two points does not make this a main transportation corridor. There must be a variety of different transport modes for different types of freight. Consequently, main transport corridors are not single-modal, but contain two or more modes, their combinations, and logistics hub / freight villages. The fact that the products to be transported through the corridor are high-value, perishable and low-value products affects the transportation mode to be invested in the corridor. High unit value products such as some components of automotive and pharmaceutical products are transported by faster and more expensive modes of transport, while products with lower unit values such as some minerals are transported by slower and cheaper transport vehicles. Management is as important as the creation of corridors. The fact that the main international transport corridors pass through many countries makes corridor management difficult. Overcoming these difficulties will be possible through communication and cooperation between the relevant countries, ensuring a common logistic language unity, and establishing standards in services and documents.

The main international transport corridors in the European-Asian continents are as follows:

- TEN-T (Trans-European Transport Network)
- The Trans-Asian Railway (Eurasian Landbridge)
- TRACECA (Transport Corridor Europe-Caucasus-Asia)
- Belt and Road Initiative (Silk Road Transport Corridor)
- Maritime Silk Road
- Viking Transport Corridor
- North-South Transport Corridor-NSTC)

The purpose of the proposed project is to establish cooperation in the field of logistics between the countries related to the Silk Road Transport Corridor and the scope of the project is as follows:

- Identifying and contacting the logistics non-governmental organizations (NGO) in the related countries
- Developing cooperation between logistics associations and relevant governmental bodies together with universities.
- Providing Common Logistics Language Union (terminology), publishing common logistic terms dictionary including different languages.
- Establishing logistics system standards in order to increase the quality of logistics services
- Harmonizing logistics education and training, establishing logistics training minimum standards
- Setting common minimum standards in order to speed up customs services
- Harmonization of different logistics regulations in different countries.
- Organizing mutual trainings, providing information sharing, creating a information bank
- Developing joint research and development projects on logistics
- Creating a multilingual web-based portal
- Organizing joint congresses, symposiums, fairs and other events on logistics
- Providing academician and student exchange
- Developing mutual scholarship and internship opportunities

In order for the above-mentioned studies to be carried out, cooperation among countries to benefit from these main transportation corridors is extremely important. The expected benefit from the project is to contribute to making logistics activities less costly, faster, safer and more sustainable.

As a conclusion, we would like to take the steps of this cooperation by contacting the logistics and transportation associations and relevant governmental bodies together with universities of each country.

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