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# CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL ELECTRICITY MARKET FACT SHEET

## Enhancing Regional Cooperation

Central Asia has the potential to re-establish a commercially viable, market-based power system. A Central Asia Regional Electricity Market, or CAREM, will assure the region's long-term energy security and economic growth and also serve as a platform for an expanded Central Asia-South Asia regional power market.

All of the Central Asian countries share some common energy sector objectives and concerns, such as ensuring a reliable and secure power supply at the lowest cost, maintaining technical standards, meeting investment needs and more. Currently, the Central Asian countries pursue self-sufficient power supplies, while more cost-effective options based on regional power trade remain largely underutilized. An improved regional power system would address these issues. Recent trends towards greater bi-lateral energy trade are hopeful signs that suggest the time is right for a regional power market.

### **ACTIVITY COUNTRIES AND DURATION**

Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan; August 2017-August 2021

### **WHAT IS NEEDED?**

- International Financial Institutions and other donors have recognized the need for a commercially viable regional power market.
- Political commitment from all five Central Asian countries.

- U.S. technical assistance and diplomatic engagement, closely coordinated with financing from International Financial Institutions and other donors.

## **THE END GOAL**

The ultimate goal of the Central Asia Regional Electricity Market activity is an integrated power market with effective regional institutions that ensure fair and consistent transactions for all countries; common standards for performance; fair and non-discriminatory pricing; and full access to the power grid.

## **CONTACTS**

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