



## **Launching of the Special Program for Central Asia (SPCA): Enhanced Competitiveness, Increased Trade and Economic Growth**

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SPCA is IDB Group's new flagship regional program for Central Asia formulated under the overall framework of IDB's 10-Year Strategy and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation's Plan of Action for Cooperation with Central Asia. SPCA will support cooperation among IDB's member countries in Central Asia - Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The objectives are to enhance competitiveness, increase trade and promote economic growth within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals.

To address the key development constraints in the region, SPCA is primarily focusing on transport, energy, agriculture and trade. Environmental sustainability, together with boosting the private sector and capacity development, are cross-cutting themes.

SPCA will support stronger intraregional and international trade, increased agricultural and industrial production, enhanced regional energy security, and an expanded regional transport network. Through these initiatives, SPCA will also support the key elements of growth that will result in increased production, competitiveness and trade. SPCA will complement its ongoing regional cooperation efforts with its development partners, with a particular focus on productive sectors.