

13th Central Asia Trade Forum

TRADE CONNECTIONS: BRIDGING GLOBALLY

Objective: The 13th CATF is set to concentrate on expanding the conventional boundaries of regional trade by delving into the potential, challenges, and innovations that will shape the future of trade in the Central Asia Region. The forum will actively explore new trade markets, identify opportunities within value chains, discuss the digitalization of customs and logistics, and delve into various aspects of trade regulation, including regional trade agreements (RTAs), World Trade Organization (WTO) standards, harmonization, and other relevant standards.

Event Format: In-person (with accessible online streaming)

Location: May 14–15, 2024, Rixos Hotel Almaty, Almaty, Kazakhstan

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Time	Day 1, May 14 (Tuesday)
09.00 – 10.00	Participants' Registration
10.00 – 11.30	<p>Opening and Plenary Session “Navigating Trade Regulations”</p> <p>This session addresses the complexities and nuances of trade regulations in the region. This session will provide a deep dive into the evolving regulatory landscape, offering participants key insights into compliance, risk management, and legal considerations. Regulatory authorities will guide attendees through the intricacies of trade policies, tariffs, and documentation requirements, fostering a comprehensive understanding of the regulatory environment in Central Asia.</p> <p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Keynote Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - US Ambassador/USAID Representative - Ministry of Trade and Integration of the Republic of Kazakhstan - Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan - Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan - Ministry of Economy and Commerce of the Kyrgyz Republic - Ministry of Trade and Foreign Economic Relations of Turkmenistan
11.30 – 12.30	<p>Coffee-break</p> <p>Trade Exhibition Opening Ceremony</p> <p>Press Conference</p>
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 15.30	<p>Session 1: Unveiling New Markets</p> <p>This session is dedicated to exploring uncharted business territories. This focused discussion will examine emerging sectors, trade routes, and investment frontiers within</p>

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	<p>Central Asia. Attendees can expect deep insights into market dynamics, regulatory frameworks, and strategic entry points. The session aims to uncover hidden opportunities, offering a roadmap for navigating the complexities of the Central Asian markets. Expert speakers will share their perspectives on cross-border collaborations, unlocking growth potential, and addressing challenges unique to the region.</p> <p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Speakers: TBD</p>
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee-break
16.00 – 17.00	<p>Session 2: Transport and Logistics Optimization</p> <p>This session is a pivotal discussion focused on enhancing efficiency and connectivity within the region. This session will delve into strategies for streamlining transport and logistics operations, exploring innovative technologies, and addressing infrastructure challenges. Industry experts and thought leaders will share valuable insights on supply chain optimization, cross-border transportation, and the latest advancements in logistics management. Participants can anticipate a comprehensive exploration of best practices, regulatory considerations, and collaborative solutions aimed at fostering a resilient and agile transport ecosystem in Central Asia. This session will be an essential platform for professionals keen on maximizing the potential of regional connectivity and ensuring seamless trade and commerce across Central Asia.</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asset Assavbayev, TRACECA Intergovernmental Commission <p>Speakers: TBD</p>
17.00 – 17.30	Award Ceremony: Five Most Admired Women Leaders in Business 2023

Time	Day 2: May 15 (Wednesday)
10.00 – 14.00	<p>B2B and Continuation of Trade Exhibition</p> <p>Participants will have an opportunity to explore the forefront of innovation at the exhibition, where leading companies from Central Asia will showcase their products in the food and textile industries. The pre-matched B2B session will be running on parallel to the exhibition.</p>
10.00 – 12.00	<p>The regional meeting of the National Trade Facilitation Committees (NTFCs) from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan (by invitations)</p> <p>The meeting will provide a platform to discuss the national trade facilitation implementation plans and technical aspects of trade and transit simplification.</p>