

ECO Vision 2025 and Implementation Framework



February 2017

ECO Vision 2025

&

Implementation Framework
(Annexure)



Economic Cooperation Organization
February 2017

Foreword

It is a pleasure for me to share the 'ECO Vision 2025' document for the next decade with you. This document is the result of efforts of the ECO Secretariat working in close collaboration with the ECO member countries. Efforts have been made to incorporate the inspirations of the member countries as well as co-opt the international development agenda for the economic development of the ECO region.



The 'vision statement' in the document incorporates the insight and desires of the ECO member countries for collaboration in economic development in the backdrop of changing world environment and challenges being faced in the socio-economic realm. The document underscores the core principles of sustainability, integration and conducive environment, through which the member countries will strive to attain 'the vision'. Based on the principle of prosperity through connectivity and cooperation, main areas of cooperation determined by the member countries, to achieve social and economic development under ECO Vision for 2025, include transportation, trade, energy and tourism.

To ensure accomplishment of the ECO Vision 2025 within the stipulated timeframe, regular review and monitoring mechanism has been included in the document through 'Implementation Framework' prepared for the purpose and made part of the ECO Vision 2025 document as annexure.

The Vision document underwent analysis and appraisal at different forums including brain storming Sessions, Council of Permanent Representatives and Regional Planning Council, before it was presented to and approved by the 22nd Council of the Ministers (COM), the highest decision making body of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), on February 28th 2017 in Islamabad, Pakistan.

It is hoped that the Vision document will give direction and instill vigor, to enhance multilateral cooperation between ECO member countries, in achieving the common goal of economic development and prosperity for the region as per agreed objectives of mutual cooperation under the precincts the Economic Cooperation Organization.

*Ambassador Halil Ibrahim Akca
Secretary General*

Content

ECO Vision 2025

Implementation Framework (Annexure)

ECO VISION 2025

1. VISION STATEMENT

In view of the rapid socio-economic, political and scientific developments taking place at the regional and global levels, and taking into account the opportunities and challenges before the Organization, it is envisioned that ***"ECO will pave the way to a territory of integrated and sustainable economies as well as free trade area achieved by highly educated societies and improved governance through enhanced cooperation"***¹.

We resolve to make the Organization, better equipped to face challenges and advance the fundamental principles of the Organization to expand project based economic activities and develop and strengthen the ECO institutions, enabling them to play a proactive role in realizing the objectives of the Organization and implementing the Vision. We also recognize the need to strengthen the ECO Secretariat for realization of our vision.

2. CORE PRINCIPLES

a. Sustainability

We acknowledge that any long term benefits to the peoples of the region through social and economic programs depend on long term sustainable progress, therefore we express our resolve to support the global efforts aimed at addressing the challenges facing the international community. We share the goals and targets defined by the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015 as enshrined in its outcome document "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". In doing so, we will give priority to the immediate needs and concerns of our Region and its peoples as identified in this Vision. To this end, we will welcome partnerships with the relevant international and regional organizations.

We acknowledge the strong interdependence between peace and development, and reiterate our firm belief that peace and stability are essential for realizing the genuine goals of sustained economic growth, sustainable development and welfare of our countries and peoples. We recommit ourselves to continue supporting the national, regional and global efforts for assisting Afghanistan in its attempt to achieve lasting peace and prosperity.

b. Integration

We are now a region representing a combined population of over 440 million people and have achieved noteworthy results in the economic field, such as increasing economic growth and reducing poverty as well as increased trade and investment flows over the past years.

¹This vision statement was proposed during the Brainstorming session organized by ECO Secretariat in Tehran on December 15th, 2015 at the sideline of the 26th RPC, attended by the representatives of the ECO Member Countries and concerned stakeholders.

We have, through mutual efforts undertaken necessary steps towards the socio-economic development of the region which has helped in achieving prosperity of our peoples and steady improvement in their lives. We resolve to build upon these achievements and intensify our efforts to achieve the common goals.

Representing a diverse membership and equipped with vast natural and human resources that can contribute immensely to the generation of economic activity in the region, we acknowledge that our deep-rooted historical and cultural affinities are an important factor in fostering a sense of regional integration and cooperation, which can be strengthened through policy approximation in the selected priority areas.

For purposes of further development of economic cooperation in the region, we express readiness to intensify cooperation of the ECO with the other regional economic communities, international economic and financial institutions as deemed feasible by all Member States.

c. Conducive Environment

Conducive economic environment in the Region is a pre-requisite for stimulating national economies of the Member Countries, boosting intra-regional cooperation and integration into the global economy. We reiterate our resolve to promote conducive environment in the region and take tangible steps to enable our people to utilise their abilities with vigour in pursuit of innovation, production and job creation, which are important components of our endeavours to make ECO an integrated and sustainable region. The enabling and conducive environment for regional cooperation will be achieved through adhering to the principles of equality, equity, mutual benefits and transparency.

3. CO-OPERATION AREAS

To materialise the enhanced region

al cooperation for economic growth and development in line with this Vision, we are determined to develop and implement strategies in the following areas during the next decade:

- A. Trade
- B. Transport and Connectivity
- C. Energy
- D. Tourism
- E. Economic Growth and Productivity
- F. Social Welfare and Environment

A. TRADE

I. Strategic Objective

To double intra-regional trade increase ECO share in the global trade and specifically exports, increase share in global trade and tap regional trade potential for economic growth.

II. Policy Environment

As trade continues to be the engine of economic development and an instrument for socio-economic integration, expanding trade volumes is the need of hour for ECO. In 2015 the global ECO trade reached US\$ 648 billion. This included exports of US\$ 285 billion and imports of US\$ 363 billion. ECO is a net importer from the world with a negative trade balance of US\$ 78 billion. A large part of this can be diverted to ECO countries if ECO Trade Agreement (ECOTA) is operationalized. In 2015 the total intra-ECO trade was US\$ 58 billion which, at 9 percent, is far below its true potential.

Expanding trade volumes require trade liberalisation, harmonisation of policies, reducing the cost of doing business, financial infrastructure, and institutional capacity building. Harmonization of national policies is important for free flow of trade, harmonization creates compatibilities, maximizes economic efficiency and reduces transaction costs. Trade facilitation is another area of focus for ECO, as it reduces indirect as well as hidden costs, which is substantially high in ECO Region.

III. Expected Outcomes

- i. The ECO Trade Agreement (ECOTA) will be operationalized and the membership of ECOTA will be increased.
- ii. The scope of ECOTA will be enhanced from preferential trade to Free trade Agreement.
- iii. Non-WTO Member Countries will be assisted in their accession to WTO
- iv. Following pending trade related agreements will be operationalized:
 - a. ECO Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters.
 - b. ECO Agreement on Joint Promotional Activities.
 - c. ECO Trade Facilitation Agreement.
 - d. Regional Agreement on Cooperation in Taxation Matters.
- v. ECO Visa Sticker Scheme for businessmen will be operationalized.
- vi. ECO Reinsurance Company will be operationalized.
- vii. The role of the ECO Bank will be strengthened in the development of ECO economies. The membership of the Bank will be expanded.
- viii. Capacity Building Programmes for Trade Promotion Organizations of the Member Countries will be prepared and executed.
- ix. Regional trade exhibitions and fairs will be organized.
- x. A robust trade financing programme will be launched for enhancing regional trade.

B. TRANSPORT AND CONNECTIVITY

I. Strategic Objective

To maximize connectivity, mobility and accessibility by making major ECO transport corridors commercially viable and operational and contribute to achieve goals of information society in the region.

II. Policy Environment

Transport, mobility and connectivity shall increasingly play a critical role in ensuring regional development, prosperity, social well-being, cohesiveness and realization of the Information

Society. Accordingly, to achieve the maximum possible connectivity and its consequent impact on socio-economic development.

There is a compelling need to cooperate on fundamental transit related policy issues through increasing efficiency, creating a more harmonized and simplified legal and administrative framework by means of facilitating accession to and implementation of major international conventions/agreements, aimed at simplifying procedures for movement of peoples and goods across the region and beyond, in an efficient way.

Other prerequisite to this end is full implementation of the Transit Transport Framework Agreement (TTFA); facilitating regular and commercially justified operation of ECO corridors/Routes, and modernization of border crossing points. Addressing the unique challenges faced by the seven landlocked Member Countries of the ECO need to be given paramount attention through inter alia providing for efficient and cost-effective transit access.

ICT connectivity will have inevitable impact on future development of the ECO Region through development of information and communication technology and integration in the global market, where information and communications technology is a contributor to sustainable and inclusive growth. To this end a "ECO – Regional ICT Strategy for Information Society Development" and "ECO Regional Strategy for Broad-band Development" will be developed and implemented with the aim to increase access to affordable broadband, removal of monopolies, maximizing competitiveness through strengthening private sector in provision of ICT related services and creation of an enabling environment for increasing the share of ICT related services and products in Member Countries GDP.

III. Expected Outcomes

- i.* Regional transit transport infrastructure will be improved to bridge gaps and interconnect the Member Countries and the region with neighbouring regions and to reach international markets.
- ii.* Existing ECO Corridors will be Operationalized and commercialized to enable increased intra and inter-regional trade.
- iii.* Transport-related facilitative harmonized regulatory frameworks will be developed/supported.
- iv.* ECO Member Countries will be encouraged to accede to relevant regional and international legal instruments for ease of transit transport.
- v.* Administrative procedures and controls in inter-regional transport will be streamlined and simplified within the framework of TTFA.
- vi.* More efficient customs functions and modernized customs facilities in Member Countries will be supported.
- vii.* Simplified visa and consular procedures for transit related activities and regionally or globally accepted insurance system will be activated in line with TTFA.
- viii.* Access and increased use of ICT through increasing household and individual access to internet will be encouraged.

- ix. Digital divide will be bridged through minimum provisioning of affordable high-speed internet access and enhancing the abilities of individuals.
- x. Development and increased availability of digital local content will be encouraged. Efforts will be made to strengthen on-line trust and security for communities and businesses.
- xi. ICT infrastructure will be improved through implementation / adoption of new technologies and regulatory reforms will be encouraged for increasing competition and access of private sector in provision of ICT services.
- xii. Institutional framework of ICT sector, development of digital literacy, skills and competencies in the region will be improved.

C. ENERGY

I. Strategic Objective

To enhance energy security and sustainability through wider energy access and trade within the ECO Region and beyond.

II. Policy Environment

Energy demand will grow in pace with the socio-economic development of ECO Member Countries, requiring adequate, efficient, equitable and affordable provision of energy resources and services. In this connection it is imperative to develop and consolidate common efforts to ensure regional energy sustainability and resilience, in line with the Global Sustainable Development Goals and in coherence with other energy related activities and projections envisaged in this Vision. Achieving above strategic objective requires a supportive policy environment which shall include, among others, broad political consensus and involvement of all stakeholders from public and private sectors. Identification of energy mix is the independent decision of countries according to their national circumstances and priorities.

III. Expected Outcomes

- i. Efforts will be made for harmonisation and alignment towards regional power / electricity market within the ECO Region for harnessing benefits of larger integrated systems.
- ii. Energy trade, production, consumption and transit patterns will be enhanced.
- iii. Enhanced policy coherence for mainstreaming objectives of the SDGs and 'UN sustainable energy for all' will be encouraged.
- iv. ECO Member Countries will be encouraged for deployment of environmental-friendly energy technologies in order to mitigate adverse environmental footprints of the energy transfer and trade.
- v. More diverse and resilient energy architecture in the Region will be supported through transformation to renewable, as well as cleaner and sustainable energy sources. ECO Clean Energy Centre will be established.

- vi. Promotion of energy investments through advocating innovative incentives and close engagements with regional and global IFIs and development banks will be encouraged.
- vii. To the widest extent possible, relevant energy efficiency goals and objectives will be achieved at the ECO regional level.
- viii. Institutional advisory mechanism will be established for crafting policy linkages.

D. TOURISM

I. Strategic Objective

To establish a peaceful and green tourism destination with diverse products and high quality services in the region.

II. Policy Environment

ECO Region with an area of more than 8 million square kilometers stretching from central to south and to south-west Asia and a population of around 440 million inhabitants is well-known for its natural beauty, as well as diversity of its historical-cultural heritage. In this respect the region has a significant potential to be one of the major tourism destinations in the world. The Region is one of the world's richest in terms of historical and cultural heritage and echoes memories of the ancient Silk Road.

Despite various activities and events on tourism, the ECO Region still lacks a comprehensive regional strategy for sustainable tourism development. Isolated activities of the Member Countries have not served the regional tourism development in general. To utilize the great potential of the region, diversification and easement of tourism activities, availability of quality services and visibility of the area is a necessary requirement.

III. Expected Outcomes

- i. The ECO-Tourism brand through effective mediums at the regional, national and international levels will be strengthened in order to attract first-time and repeat visitors.
- ii. Silk Road tourism through cooperation with the international community and relevant organizations will be revived.
- iii. Visa facilitation for the citizens of the region.
- iv. Tourism activities will be diversified into various niches including; health/medical, ecological, culture, winter, sea, mountain sports, climbing, skiing, desert and religious.
- v. In tourism promotional activities, utilization of electronic media will be increased.
- vi. Tourism related human resource development and capacity building activities will be promoted.
- vii. Relevant rules and procedures in tourism sector will be adopted in the ECO Region.

- viii. 'Standardization and accreditation bodies' and 'sustainable and green tourism' monitoring mechanisms will be established and improved in collaboration with international tourism bodies.
- ix. Private sector and local community involvement in the tourism activities will be strengthened.
- x. Diverse means and new solutions will be developed and utilized to address emerging issues and range of markets to best serve the ideals and goals of sustainable tourism in the region.

E. ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PRODUCTIVITY

I. Strategic Objective

To achieve long term high level growth, knowledge and information based production through increased contribution of research and development (R&D), entrepreneurship, involvement of private sector, increased women participation and SMEs.

II. Policy Environment

Agriculture and industry are the key sectors which can boost economic growth of the region through increasing productivity. In 2001 seven out of ten ECO Member Countries were low income food deficit countries whereas the number decreased to four in 2015. In 2015, number of under-nourished people in the region was about 53 million, almost 12% of the total population. The battle to end hunger and poverty must be principally fought in rural areas, where half of the ECO population and the most hungry and poor live. To eradicate hunger requires a combination of pro-poor investments in sustainable agriculture, rural development and social protection measures to lift people out of chronic undernourishment and poverty.

Immediate steps are required to increase volumes, improve quality and decrease cost of production to satisfy the regional demand for food. This can be realized by, increased agricultural productivity via transferring and changing agro-technology, cooperating on agricultural research and extension, implementing right agro-policy reforms, increasing human capital productivity in the rural areas, optimum usage of natural resources (especially water) and benefitting from international trade in the ECO Region.

Industry is one of the main drivers which bring nations to more prosperous and sustainable futures. ECO Member Countries are at varying degrees of industrialization. The extent of industrial and technological development particularly in the hi-tech arena is very limited thus requiring particular attention. Prevalence of natural and economic human resource is among the advantages that makes investment in industries, affordable and cost effective. However, different factors particularly lack of optimum knowledge of regional capacities, ambiguous regulations and fluctuating/complicated procedures are impeding factors. Furthermore, absence of national strategic policies toward an effective regional cooperation, ambiguity in defining the targets and objectives, skewed financing and non-involvement of women, lack of proper connectivity, regional sub-quality infrastructure and insufficient capacity of for high-tech and new technologies are among the deficiencies for a rapid and cohesive industrial cooperation among the Member Countries. Industrial paradigm of the ECO Region needs to be readjusted as far as possible to contribute to the growth and productivity while meeting

the SDG's through adoption of relevant 'standards and criteria' and 'establishment and enhancement of quality infrastructure' in the Region.

Promoting investment and attracting foreign capital are the key policies to help introduce new technologies and competencies in ECO Region; however it requires investment friendly climate and business environment. In this context attracting foreign direct Investment will be crucial to boost region's economic development by generating employment, developing human resources, 'allowing resource and technology transfer' and 'increasing productivity and innovation'.

III. **Expected Outcomes**

- i. Agriculture Trade-related risk maps (abrupt price and supply changes because of trade and weather conditions) based on studies and analysis will be generated and finalized to identify hazards and their potential routes for being transferred.
- ii. Capability of the participating research institutes and local communities will be enhanced for propagation and release of natural enemies of pests and diseases of the selected crops.
- iii. A Regional Agricultural Trade Forum will be established to provide a basis for dialogue on agricultural trade policies and joint research on agricultural policy issues under the framework of the existing general trade mechanisms in the ECO.
- iv. An Agricultural Trade Information System will be established for the region;
- v. Agricultural export potentials of the Member Countries and intraregional agriculture trade potentials will be identified and realized.
- vi. Infrastructure requirements in production, processing and export chain of the selected crops will be identified and investment plans will be prepared.
- vii. Green industrial development strategy at regional level will be adopted to contribute to 2030 sustainable development agenda.
- viii. Industrial cooperation in the region will be institutionalized.
- ix. The share of high-tech products in the production and exports of the Member Countries will be enhanced.
- x. Existing industrial capacities will be enhanced and reoriented towards green industrial development to meet the SDG's standards and criteria;
- xi. Financial mechanism will be established to support start-ups, SME's and entrepreneurs.
- xii. Women entrepreneurship will be promoted and encouraged.
- xiii. Legal and administrative support for development of green industries particularly through promotion of Industrial Property Rights will be provided and necessary mechanism will be established and national initiatives will be encouraged.
- xiv. Development of quality infrastructure, standards, laws and regulations to make the region an investment friendly atmosphere for green industries and services will be promoted.
- xv. Capital flows, and technology transfers from within and outside ECO members will be encouraged.
- xvi. New industrial solutions including industrial revolution 4.0 will be utilized to address emerging needs.

- xvii. The Agreement on Promotion and Protection of Investment among ECO Member Countries (APPI) will be operationalized and its membership will be increased.
- xviii. Legal regimes and mechanisms to enhance investor protection will be improved;
- xix. Capacity Building Programmes for Investment Promotion Agencies of the Member Countries will be prepared and executed.

F. SOCIAL WELFARE AND ENVIRONMENT

I. Strategic Objective

To increase standard of living, quality of life, economic welfare and well being of people through adopting social protection and environment preservation policies in the region.

II. Policy Environment

Realization of the above strategic objective, which is also ECO's core objective, requires a multi-faceted and supportive policy environment to address and tackle challenges emanating from, among others, increased population, increasing pressures on the natural resources, region-wide social-economic disparities, changing climatic and eco-systems conditions and other trans-boundary environmental problems, frequent natural disasters, drug and human trafficking, food security and health problems and education systems.

This policy environment shall be created through effective national and regional policies, active involvement of all Member Countries in ECO decision making processes, and feasible and meaningful ECO relationship with the global players and stakeholders within the context of SDGs.

III. Expected Outcomes

- i. Regional mechanisms/frameworks will be in place to support education, training, vocational needs and other capacity enhancement requirements of the peoples/entities of the Member Countries.
- ii. Higher food security and safety in the region will be achieved
- iii. Cooperation, focusing on non-communicable diseases as well as universal health coverage system, will be encouraged.
- iv. Environmental sustainability of the region will be supported through environmentally friendly regional economic and social cooperation.
- v. Regional projects in climate/biodiversity areas through partnership with relevant international stakeholders with available regional and global funding will be implemented.
- vi. ECO will be recognized as a regional group/partner in the global environment community.
- vii. A regional integrated disaster risk reduction system/network will be established with the ultimate aim of preventing and reducing disaster losses in lives, and in social, economic, and environmental assets of people of ECO Member Countries.
- viii. Regional law enforcement and police organizations/mechanisms will be in place to coordinate and support national and international efforts to combat illegal drugs and human trafficking and other trans-regional organized crime.

4. IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW-UP

The “ECO Vision 2025” will be the main agenda of the Organization for the decade (i.e. 2015-25). We therefore make every effort to realize the goals and targets set forth in this Vision. Follow-up and review mechanisms shall be set in place to ensure its continued relevance and effective implementation.

a. Implementation

Implementation of this vision will be streamlined through ‘Implementation Framework’. The ‘Implementation Framework’ delineates goals, activities and timelines to achieve the objectives of the ECO Vision.

The Regional Planning Council (RPC), being responsible for evolving Annual Work Plans for realizing the objectives of the organization shall consider the Vision as guiding document and shall endeavour to align its mandates with the goals and objectives embedded therein and to ensure successful implementation of the ‘ECO Vision’. The ECO Secretariat shall prepare background documents on each sector based on the Vision and its annex (Implementation Framework), for consideration of RPC during its meetings.

The relevant sectoral ECO Ministerial meetings shall also streamline their agendas and decisions for effective implementation of ECO Vision and its ‘Implementation Framework’.

b. Monitoring & Evaluation

Following the adoption of this Vision, the ECO Secretariat shall develop as part of the ‘Implementation Framework’, in consultation with the Member Countries, indicators/benchmarks for the necessary assessment of implementation of the Vision document. The ECO Council of Ministers (COM) shall have an oversight on all aspects of the Vision document. The ECO Secretariat shall include in all regular meetings of the ECO Council of Ministers (COM), an agenda item titled “Vision Implementation; Progress and Assessment” in which the COM will consider the report on ECO Vision’s implementation including on its progress and obstacles. Accordingly the ECO Secretariat will implement COM decisions/recommendations.

ECO Secretariat will undertake 'Vision Review' exercise after every three years assessing the progress and achievements based on the bench marks prepared and put it before the RPC for consideration and COM for assessment, advice and decisions on adjustments if needed, within the expected outcomes of the Vision and Implementation Framework.

A final review process will be initiated by the Secretariat one year preceding the target year of 2025 in close collaboration and with full involvement of ECO Member Countries in which an overall assessment and a comprehensive review will be done with the view of giving necessary inputs and a sense of direction for the next Vision.

c. Financial Framework

To implement the ‘ECO Vision 2025’ in a meaningful manner, there is a need for sustained and regular funding for its implementation. Adequate and predictable resource allocation is central for ECO Vision implementation. Therefore, we resolve to create an “ECO Vision Fund”

to facilitate the Member States to implement the Vision. Financial resources for the Fund shall come from voluntary grants and other sources. ECO Trade and Development Bank will be engaged as appropriate.

d. Organizational Structure

Effective and successful implementation of the 'Vision' will require more efficient ECO structure. To meet this end ECO Secretariat as well as ECO Special Agencies and Regional Institutions will be streamlined and decision-making processes will be strengthened through carrying out necessary institutional reforms on the recommendations of the CPR.



Economic Cooperation Organization

ECO

“Implementation Framework”

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries

A. TRADE

i.	ECOTA will be operationalized and its membership will be increased	1.Regular meetings of the ECOTA Cooperation Council (ECC) and communication and dissemination of information will be held	2017-25	Established regular consultations and negotiations on expediting implementation of ECOTA	ECO Secretariat & Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Turkey
		2.The contracting Member States will agree to implement the agreement	January 2018	Operationalized ECOTA system between agreed contracting member countries	Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Turkey
		3.ECOTA will be expanded to all Member States	January 2025	Ratified agreement and provision of product list	All ECO Member States
ii.	The scope of ECOTA will be enhanced from preferential trade to Free trade Agreement	1.Regular meetings of the ECOTA Cooperation Council (ECC) and communication and dissemination of information will be held	2017-25	Ensured regular consultations and negotiations on ECO-FTA	ECO Secretariat & Interested ECO Member States
		2. ECO Free Trade Agreement (ECO-FTA) will be drafted in consultation with Member States	June 2018	Approved draft text of the ECO-FTA	ECO Secretariat & Interested ECO Member States
		3. Product Lists on basis of "Request-Offer Approach" will be exchanged and finalized	July 2018 to November 2020	Finalized Product Lists of the ECO-FTA	ECO Secretariat & Interested ECO Member States
		4. ECO-FTA will be signed/ratified	December 2020 to December 2022	Operationalized ECO-FTA	ECO Secretariat & Interested ECO Member States
iii.	Non-WTO Member Countries will be assisted in their accession to WTO	1.ECO Seminars with the assistance of WTO, UNCTAD, IDB and ECO Trade and Development Bank will be organized. Regular communication and dissemination of information will be ensured	2017-25	Established regular consultations and exchange of ideas on how to assist Non-WTO Member Countries in their accession to WTO	ECO Secretariat & ECO Member States
		2. Trade Policy Review (TPR) of Non-	2017-2020	Organized Annual TPR	ECO Secretariat &

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		WTO Members will be held subject to willingness of an ECO Member State to host		meetings	ECO Member States
iv.	Following pending trade related agreements will be operationalized:				
	a) ECO Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters (ECO-AMAACM)	1. Regular meetings of ECO Heads of Customs Administration Cooperation Council (CHCA) will be held and communication and dissemination of information be ensured	2017-19	Established regular consultations and decision making regarding ECO-AMAACM	ECO Secretariat & ECO Member States
		2. ECO Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters (ECO-AMAACM) will be signed/ratified	December 2019	Operationalized ECO-AMAACM.	ECO Secretariat & ECO Member States
	b) ECO Agreement on Joint Promotional Activities (ECO-AJPA)	1. Regular meetings of the ECO Trade Promotion Organizations Forum (TPOF), communication and dissemination of information will be held.	2017-2021	Enhanced regular consultations and decision making regarding ECO-AJPA	ECO Secretariat & ECO Member States
		2. ECO Agreement on Joint Promotional Activities (ECO-AJPA) will be drafted in consultation with Member States	June 2018	Approved draft text of the ECO-AJPA	ECO Secretariat & ECO Member States
		3. ECO-AJPA will be signed/ratified	July 2018 to December 2021	Operationalized ECO-AJPA	ECO Secretariat & ECO Member States
	c) ECO Trade Facilitation Agreement (ECO-TFA)	1. Concept will be formulated in consultation with Member States	June 2018	Basic outlines and ideas for the agreement evolved	ECO Secretariat & ECO Member States

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		2. The draft agreement will be circulated among Member States for comments. Final agreement will be evolved in light of the feedback received from the Member States.	2020	Final agreement prepared	ECO Secretariat & ECO Member States
		3. ECO-TFA will be signed/ratified	2021-24	Operationalized ECO-TFA	ECO Secretariat & ECO Member States
	d) Regional Agreement on Cooperation in Taxation Matters (RACTM)	1. Regular meetings of ECO Heads of Tax Administration (ECO-HTA) will be held and communication and dissemination of information be ensured	2017-20	Established regular consultations and decision making regarding RACTM.	ECO Secretariat & Tax Administration of the ECO Member States
		2. RACTM will be signed/ratified	2020-21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operationalized RACTM Eliminated double taxation among the Member States Benefited Member States of having information about the tax systems of each other 	ECO Secretariat & Tax Administration of the ECO Member States
v.	ECO Visa Sticker Scheme for businessmen will be operationalized.	1. Regular meetings of Visa Officials of the Embassies of ECO Member States in Tehran and ECO-CCI and communication and dissemination of information will be held.	2017-2020	Established regular consultations and decision making on Simplification and Harmonization of Visa Procedure for businessmen and drivers	ECO Secretariat, ECO Member States & ECO-CCI
		2. ECO Agreement on Simplification and Harmonization of Visa Procedure for businessmen and drivers will be signed/ratified	2017-2020	Operationalized simplified and harmonized Visa Procedures	ECO Secretariat & ECO Member States
vi.	ECO Reinsurance Company will be operationalized.	1. ECO Reinsurance Company will be operationalized	2017	Operationalized ECO Reinsurance Company	ECO Secretariat & Iran, Pakistan and

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
					Turkey
		2. Regular meetings of representatives of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey (and other interested Member States), communication and dissemination of information will be held	2017-18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activated Headquarters in Pakistan Activated regional Offices in Iran and Turkey active Expanded Membership 	ECO Secretariat, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey & interested Member States
vii.	The role of the ECO Bank will be strengthened in the development of ECO economies. The membership of the Bank will be expanded.	1. Capital of the Bank will be expanded	2019	Increased capital of the ECO-TDB.	ECO Secretariat, ECO-TDB & ECO Member States
		2. The remaining four MSS will become the member of the Bank.	2022	10 Member States became full members of the ECO-TDB	ECO Secretariat, ECO-TDB & ECO Member States
		3. Regular meetings of Ministerial on Finance and Economy and Meetings of Heads of ECO Central Banks communication and dissemination of information will be organized.	2017-22	Ensured regular consultations and decision making on matters relating to strengthening the ECO-TDB and increasing its membership.	ECO Secretariat, ECO-TDB & ECO Member States
viii.	Capacity Building Programmes for Trade Promotion Organizations of the Member Countries will be prepared and executed.	1. Regular meetings of the ECO Trade Promotion Organizations Forum (TPOF), will be held and communication and dissemination of information be ensured.	2017-25	Implemented Annual Calendar of Trainings	ECO Secretariat, ECO-TDB, Donors & ECO Member States
		2. Annual Calendar of Trainings with support of ECO-TDB and other regional & international bodies will be implemented.	2017-25	Enhanced capacity of the trained personnel of Trade Promotion Organizations	ECO Secretariat, ECO-TDB, Donors & ECO Member States
ix.	Regional trade exhibitions and fairs will be organized.	1. Regular meetings of the ECO Trade Promotion Organizations (TPO)	2017-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implemented Calendar of annual ECO Trade Fairs 	ECO Secretariat, ECO Member States

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		Forum, communication and dissemination of information will be held.		and Exhibitions • Organized regional trade exhibitions and fairs	& ECO-CCI
		2. ECO-CCI will be encouraged and supported to hold these events in coordination with ECO TPOs	2017-25	Organized Regional trade exhibitions and fairs	ECO Secretariat, ECO Member States & ECO-CCI
		3. Programs will be organized for media of the Member States to promote trade and economic activity	2020-2025	Programmes for media organized	ECO Secretariat, ECO Member States & ECO-CCI
x.	A robust trade financing programme will be launched for enhancing regional trade.	1. Regular meetings of the ECO Secretariat and ECO-TDB, and communication / dissemination of information will be held.	2017-2019	Established regular consultations and decision making on ECO-TDB products for robust trade financing programme	ECO Secretariat & ECO TDB
		2. ECO-TDB will design products for robust trade financing programme		Ensured ECO-TDB products for robust trade financing programme	ECO Secretariat & ECO TDB
		3. Feasibility Report 4. A robust electronic trading platform for spot/future trading of electronic warehouse receipts, supported by transportation services trading platform for physical shipment/delivery and building of licensed warehouses/depots for storage	2020	Assessment of the platform	Member States
		5. If feasible and beneficial, implementation of the platforms and the building of the infrastructure	2025	Facilitation of intra-ECO trades	Member States
		6. Harmonization of knowledge level of the involved parties through capacity building programs	2025 and beyond	Facilitation of intra-ECO trades	Member States

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		including but not limited to training on commodity and securities exchanges/trading, storage and settlement/delivery.			
B. TRANSPORT AND CONNECTIVITY					
i.	Regional transit transport infrastructure will be improved to bridge gaps and interconnect the Member Countries and the region with neighbouring regions and to reach international markets.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regional Partnership Forum will be organized with ECO-TDB via inviting international financial institutions/potential donors to present infrastructure projects identified through ECO Road and Railway Network Development Plans. 2. Road and rail missing links will be completed. 3. High speed train services will be expanded. 4. Transshipment facilities will be increased. 5. Model highways will be expanded. 	2025 and beyond	<p>Received contribution of IFIs to co-financing of some projects of priority, in collaboration with the Member States.</p> <p>Ensured physical interconnection of all MSs through major road/rail transit routes.</p> <p>Established more efficient and faster transport</p> <p>Reduced inefficiencies including time & cost/enhanced market access.</p>	All Member States
ii.	Existing ECO Corridors will be Operationalized and commercialized to enable increased intra and inter-regional trade.	1. Follow up activities under High-Level Working Groups (HLWGs) on the container trains on Istanbul-Almaty, Bandar Abbas-Almaty and Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul routes will take place.	2020-2025	Started regular train services along the route	EnrouteMember States

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		<p>2. Measures will be taken on introducing a corridor management mechanism under Project on commercializing the railway between Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Iran (KTI).</p> <p>3. Comprehensive assistance to the implementation of KTAI Railway Corridor</p> <p>4. Actions will be taken towards functionalizing “Qazvin-Rasht-Astara (Iran)-Astara (Azerbaijan)” railway as soon as constructions works are completed.</p> <p>5. A field study on ITI and KTAI road corridors will be conducted.</p> <p>6. Test run of trucks along ITI and KTAI with loaded trucks will be orgaized.</p> <p>7. Follow up actions will be taken towards registration of ECOLPAF in Turkey and other related issues in this regard.</p> <p>8. General Assembly meeting will be organized to decide on the matters to functionalize ECOLPAF</p>	<p>2018-2019</p> <p>2020/2022</p> <p>2018</p> <p>2017-2018</p> <p>2017-2018</p>	<p>Establishment of Corridor Management Entity (CME)</p> <p>Ensured smooth movement of goods across the corridors under TIR regime.</p> <p>Study completed</p> <p>Resolved major obstacles</p> <p>Ensured registration and establishment of ECOLPAF</p>	<p>All Member States</p>

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
iii.	Transport-related facilitative harmonized regulatory frameworks will be developed/supported.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan of Action designed under the “ECO/IDB Project on implementation of TTFA on the customs provisions of TTFA and modernizations of border crossing points in the ECO region” will be implemented. 2. Regularly assessment will be conducted for developments concerning implementation of PoA and the recommendations therein in the Member States. 3. Field visits will be organized to get familiarized with the latest status of implementation of the Plan of Action etc. 	2017-2022	<p>Ensured more smooth/seamless and efficient transit transport.</p> <p>Improved situation through objective regular observations & oversight.</p>	All Member States
iv.	ECO Member Countries will be encouraged to accede to relevant regional and international legal instruments for ease of transit transport.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. National/regional capacity building programmes (ADR, CMR, TIR etc.) will be organized to encourage the Member States’ accession and proper implementation of transit facilitation international legal instruments. 2. Capacity building programmes will be designed with involvement of the relevant international organization(s). 3. Status of accession of MSs to major legal instruments will be revised regularly. 	<p>On regular basis</p> <p>2017-2022</p>	Realized required capacities and an enabling environment, making a more harmonized approach possible.	All Member States

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		4. Interests of MSs will be promoted through Working Party on Customs Issues affecting Transport (WP.30) and Administrative Committee on TIR (AC.2)			
v.	Administrative procedures and controls in inter-regional transport will be streamlined and simplified within the framework of TTFA.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Member States' accession and proper implementation of transit facilitation international legal instruments will be encouraged 2. Plan of Action designed under the "ECO/IDB Project on implementation of TTFA on the customs provisions of TTFA and modernizations of border crossing points in the ECO region" will be implemented. 3. Developments in the MSs will be assessed regularly. 4. Field visits will be organized to get familiarized with latest status of implementation of the Plan of Action etc. 	2017-2022	Ensured more harmonized, consistent and efficient transit practices at the border crossing points.	All Member States
vi.	More efficient customs functions and modernized customs facilities in Member Countries will be supported.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan of Action designed under the "ECO/IDB Project on implementation of TTFA on the customs provisions of TTFA and modernizations of border crossing points in the ECO region" will be implemented. 	2017-2022		All Member States

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Developments in the MSs will be assessed regularly. 3. Field visits will be organized to get familiarized with latest status of implementation of the Plan of Action etc. 			
vii.	Simplified visa and consular procedures for transit related activities and regionally or globally accepted insurance system will be activated in line with TTFA.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secretariat will continue working with MSs to agree on the acceptable version of "ECO Visa Sticker Scheme" and the modalities to ease visa for drivers/persons involved performing international transport of goods across the region. 2. Article 12 of TTFA will be implemented. 3. Meetings of the concerned authorities of ITI enroute MSs to discuss and decide on the acceptable insurance scheme (White Card) for ITI road corridor will be organized. 4. Regional insurance system will be expanded to other corridors. 	By 2020	<p>Agreed modalities of the "ECO Visa Sticker Scheme" for drivers.</p> <p>Ensured issuance of agreed of "ECO Visa Sticker" for drivers.</p> <p>Ensured expansion of ITI road corridor under common MVTPL system.</p>	<p>All Member States</p> <p>ITI enroute countries</p>
viii.	Digital divide will be bridged through minimum provisioning of affordable high-speed internet access and enhancing the abilities of individuals.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In accordance with the ECO ICTs "Feasibility Study" regional cooperation will be streamlined on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) access to affordable broadband b) development of information 	2025		

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		<p>society.</p> <p>2. Access to affordable broadband will be ensured through: a) Construction of high-capacity regional, sub-regional fiber optic networks and inter-counters cross border fiber optic links b) Development of modern internal infrastructure projects to improve fixed and mobile broadband c) Harmonization of radio spectrum use and d) Creation of conditions to reduce costs of regional infrastructure rollout;</p> <p>3. Information society will be developed through:</p> <p>a) Establishment of a harmonized legal framework in the ECO MSs towards development of information society;</p> <p>b) Promotion of access to smart phones/other mobile devices & applications, development of local content, building a human capital, increase adult ICT literacy;</p> <p>c) Fight against cybercrime, protection of users and children in online environment</p>			

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		<p>4. Two strategical documents will be developed in partnership with ITU: a) ECO Regional Strategy for Broadband Development and b) ECO Regional Strategy for Information Society Development</p>			
ix.	Development and increased availability of digital local content will be encouraged. Efforts will be made to strengthen on-line trust and security for communities and businesses.				
x.	ICT infrastructure will be improved through implementation / adoption of new technologies and regulatory reforms will be encouraged for increasing competition and access of private sector in provision of ICT services.				
xi.	Institutional framework of ICT sector, development of digital literacy, skills and competencies in the region will be improved.				

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
C. ENERGY					
i.	Efforts will be made for harmonisation and alignment towards regional power / electricity market within the ECO Region for harnessing benefits of larger integrated systems	1. International and local consultants for preparation of a Feasibility Study on establishment of ECO Regional Electricity Market (REM) will be hired.	2017-2018	Prepared and approved ToR	ECO Secretariat /Member States
		2. The relevant legal document will be elaborated and adopted.	2021	Adopted legal document	ECO Secretariat /Member States
		3. The project on establishment of ECO REM with technical/financial support of international financial institutions/donors will be implemented.	2025	Operationalized ECO Regional Electricity Market	ECO Secretariat /Member States
ii.	Energy trade, production, consumption and transit patterns will be enhanced	1. Sustained and workable frameworks for regional energy cooperation in the fields of production and distribution of crude oil, natural gas, petrochemical and petroleum products, expansion of energy transit by oil and gas pipelines, energy swaps, and gas-to-power will be prepared.	Up to 2020	Enhanced contribution of regional cooperation within ECO to relevant patterns in the ECO Region.	ECO Secretariat /Member States
		2. Joint activities/projects with regional focus based on the realistic re-assessment of ECO's niche will be initiated and implemented.	2025	Increased number of ECO projects with regional focus on long-term energy sustainability.	ECO Secretariat /Member States
iii.	Enhanced policy coherence for mainstreaming objectives of	1. The new ECO Plan of Action for Energy/Petroleum will be	2020	Elaborated and adopted new and doable ECO Plan	ECO Secretariat /Member States

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
	the SDGs and 'UN sustainable energy for all' will be encouraged.	streamlined with the UN SDGs and SDG 7.		of Action for Energy /Petroleum.	
		2. ECO will be engaged in re-formulation of energy policies and elaboration of relevant cross-cutting frameworks for energy dialogue by all stakeholders.	2025	Enhanced role of ECO and its Member States in re-shifting global energy policy and architecture.	ECO Secretariat /Member States
		3. ECO will focus on renewables and energy efficiency/conservation with a view to contribute to regional energy sustainability and resilience.	2025	Increased knowledge and strengthened dialogue among Member States.	ECO Secretariat /Member States
iv.	ECO Member Countries will be encouraged for deployment of environmental-friendly energy technologies in order to mitigate adverse environmental footprints of the energy transfer and trade.	1. The cross-cutting environmental priorities in ECO activities/projects, including in its energy agenda, will be highlighted.	2025	Built-in Environment-issues/concerns in all relevant activities/projects of the ECO.	ECO Secretariat /Member States
		2. Common environment-friendly policies and projects within global for a will be promoted	2025	a. Enhanced project development activities; b. Increased public and private financing for renewable energy projects.	ECO Secretariat /Member States
v.	More diverse and resilient energy architecture in the Region will be supported through transformation to renewable, as well as cleaner and sustainable energy sources. ECO Clean Energy Centre will be established	1. Sustainable development through the use of renewable energy and its technologies will be promoted.	2025	Increased data knowledge on technology solutions.	ECO Secretariat /Member States
		2. Renewable energy programmes to increase the diversity of energy supply and reduce the environmental impact of energy use in the Region will be implemented.	2025	Strengthened cooperation in the field of renewables and its enhanced role in the energy sector transformation.	ECO Secretariat /Member States

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		3. ECO activities will be carried out for promotion of clean utilization of resources.	2025	Increased knowledge and experience on clean technologies and possible elaboration of common approaches in ECO Region.	ECO Secretariat /Member States
		4. Interactions with International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) in the areas of common interest, <i>inter alia</i> , capacity building and best practices, initiation and implementation of joint projects/programs/studies, granting reciprocal observer status will be strengthened.	2018	a. Observer status in IRENA. b. Developed ECO-IRENA joint regional frameworks/projects in the field of renewables	ECO Secretariat /Member States
		5. Establishment of a centre for renewable energy and energy efficiency in the ECO Region will be pursued with UNIDO.	2025	Center Established	ECO Secretariat /Member States
vi.	Promotion of energy investments through advocating innovative incentives and close engagements with regional and global IFIs and development banks will be encouraged	1. ECO's niche in promoting energy investments in the ECO Region will be explored.	2022	a. Designed new ECO projects contributing to energy investments; b. Improved knowledge and more favourable investment environment.	ECO Secretariat /Member States
		2. Closer interaction with the relevant international organizations/financial institutions with a view to raising financial resources for smooth implementation of mutual projects/activities/studies within ECO Plan of Action for	2025	Increased financial assistance/support by international actors for implementation of energy-related projects/activities.	ECO Secretariat /Member States

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		Energy/Petroleum Cooperation and other energy-related activities among Member States will be realized.			
vii.	To the widest extent possible, relevant energy efficiency goals and objectives will be achieved at the ECO regional level	1. More weight to the ECO's profile on renewables and alternative energy sources will be added.	2025	Improved engagement with a wide range of stakeholders and increased awareness on renewable energy.	ECO Secretariat /Member States
		2. Cooperation in energy efficiency and conservation through institutional capacity building and increasing private sector involvement, including enhancement of public awareness, as well as expanding markets for energy efficient products will be strengthened.	2025	Increased focus/awareness on cost-efficiency, energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions in implementation of ECO projects.	ECO Secretariat /Member States
viii.	Institutional advisory mechanism will be established for crafting policy linkages	1. A participatory mechanism with relevant stakeholders will be developed.	Up to 2025	Strengthened institutional/advisory capacities.	ECO Secretariat /Member States
D. TOURISM					
i.	The ECO-Tourism brand through effective mediums at the regional, national and international levels will be strengthened in order to attract first-time and repeat visitors	1. International and national consultants will be procured for developing a Draft Strategy	2017	Prepared Draft strategy on tourism	Secretariat
		2. Strategy on tourism, logo and motto	2018	Adopted Strategy and	Secretariat and MS

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		will be adopted		established Web site on ECO-Tourism	
		3. Strategy will be implemented	Up to 2025	Developed Project proposals and increased number of tourists to the region	Secretariat and MS
ii.	Silk Road tourism through cooperation with the international community and relevant organizations will be revived.	1. Cooperation with members of the Silk Road will be enhanced	2018	Close cooperation ensured and potential of ECO tourism identified	Secretariat and MS
		2. Workshops on preservation of the ancient Silk Road monuments and cultural heritages will be organized	Up to 2025	Workshops conducted	Secretariat and MS
		3. ECO-Silk Road related events, exhibitions and festivals will be organized	Up to 2025	Involvement of grass root people of the region in tourism activities realized	Secretariat and MS
		4. Close cooperation with international organizations will be established	Up to 2025	Promotion of ECO region as integral part of Silk Road realized	Secretariat and MS
iii.	Visa facilitation for the citizens of the region.	1. Meetings of concerned authorities on moving toward visa free regime will be organized	2025	Draft Roadmap developed	Secretariat and MS
		2. Electronic visa application will be encouraged	Up to 2025	Travel facilitated	Secretariat and MS
iv.	Tourism activities will be diversified into various niches including; health/medical, ecological, culture, winter, sea, mountain sports, climbing, skiing, desert and religious.	1. Meetings on health tourism, ecotourism, religious tourism will be organized	2020	Meetings organized and joint activities conducted	Secretariat and MS
		2. Data bank of specialized tourism destinations will be established	2020	Databank established	Secretariat and MS

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		3. Workshops\events on niche tourism activities will be conducted	2019	Events realized	Secretariat and MS
		4. Unique in its kind World Nomad Games, initiated by Kyrgyz Republic on regular basis , will be held	Up to 2025	Regular cultural events realized.	Secretariat and MS
v.	In tourism promotional activities utilization of electronic media will be increased	1. Presence in the social media will be improved	2018	Activities realized	Secretariat and MS
		2. Collaboration with travel related advisory websites like Trip Adviser will be realized	2018	Image of ECO region as a tourism destination promoted	Secretariat and MS
		3. Specialized tourism website will be established	2021	Website established	Secretariat and MS
		4. GIS System for tourism destinations will be applied	2020	Running GIS System	Secretariat and MS
vi.	Tourism related human resource development and capacity building activities will be promoted	1. Workshops and training courses will be organized	2025	Trained staff in tourism industry	Secretariat and MS
		2. On-line training will be developed and promoted	2020	Trainings realized	Secretariat and MS
		3. Leading tourism Member States will be encouraged to offer scholarships to less developed ones	2020	Scholarships allocated	Secretariat and MS
vii.	Relevant rules and procedures in tourism sector would be adapted in the ECO region	1. Easing of visa regulations will be encouraged	2025	Facilitated travel in the region	Secretariat and MS
		2. Tourism friendly policies in the Member States will be encouraged	2025	Facilitated travel in the region	Secretariat and MS
viii.	'Standardization and accreditation bodies' and	1. Quality standards in the region will be institutionalized	2021	Established ECO Tourism Standard Body	Secretariat/UN WTO

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
	'sustainable and green tourism' monitoring mechanisms will be established and improved in collaboration with international tourism bodies				and MS
		2. International standards will be adopted	2021	Standards adopted	Secretariat and MS
		3. Training on international standards will be conducted	2025	Realized activities	Secretariat, UNWTO and MS
ix.	Private sector and local community involvement in the tourism activities will be strengthened	1. Tourism business unit within the ECO- CCI will be established	2019	ECO-CCI Tourism Unit established	Secretariat and MS
		2. Tourism Agencies Federation of ECO will be established	2020	Federation established	Secretariat and MS
		3. ECO tourism events in various cities of ECO Region will be organized	Up to 2025	Activities realized	Secretariat and MS
x.	Diverse means and new solutions will be developed and utilized to address emerging issues and range of markets to best serve the ideals and goals of sustainable tourism in the region.	1. Technical meetings for development of diverse means and new solutions will be conducted	Up to 2025	Report and study is developed	Secretariat/UN WTO and MS
E. ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PRODUCTIVITY					
i.	Agriculture Trade-related risk (abrupt price and supply changes because of trade and	1. A Task force group for coordination and conduction of country-specific meetings will be established	Up to 2018	Group established and guidelines for preparing map defined.	ECO Secretariat /FAO/ICARDA and ECO-RCRM,

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
	weather conditions) maps based on studies and analysis will be generated and finalized to identify hazards and their potential routes for being transferred.				MCC/ Member States.
		2. Agriculture Trade-related risk maps will be prepared.	Up to 2020	Agriculture Trade-related risk maps published.	
ii.	Capability of the participating research institutes and local communities will be created/enhanced for propagation and release of natural enemies of pests and diseases of the selected crops;	1. Technical meetings/training courses for development of capacities of the research institutes and local communities will be conducted	Up to 2020	National capacities of the research institutes and local communities developed.	ECO Secretariat/FAO and Member States.
		2. Capacity building activities (e.g. training courses) for enhancement of knowledge on natural enemies of the pests and diseases of the selected crops will be conducted	Up to 2022	Knowledge on the natural enemies of pests and diseases of the selected crops enhanced.	
		3. Impact Assessment on natural enemies of pests and diseases will be prepared.	Up to 2023	Booklets, policy briefs on impact of natural enemies of pests and diseases of the selected crops published.	
iii.	A regional agricultural trade forum will be established to provide a Basis for dialogue on agricultural trade policies and joint research on agricultural policy issues under the framework of the existing general trade mechanisms in	1. A task group for collaboration with regional and global partners will be established	up to 2019	Draft guidelines/modalities of regional agricultural trade forum prepared.	ECO Secretariat /FAO/ ECO Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Member States.

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
	the ECO;				
		2. Regional Agricultural Trade Forum will be established.	Up to 2023	A Regional Agricultural Trade Forum established.	
iv.	An agricultural trade information system will be established for the region.	1. A Committee composed of focal points will be established and a study for the development of information system for agricultural trade will be prepared.	Up to 2018	The Committee established and study report prepared	ECO Secretariat /FAO/WTO and Member States.
		2. ECO Regional Agricultural Trade Information Network (ECO-RATIN) will be established	up to 2025	Portal established	
v.	Agricultural export potentials of the member states and intraregional agriculture trade potentials will be identified and realized.	1. A task force Committee composed of focal points of Trade Promotion Organizations/Chambers of Commerce and Industries and Ministries of Agriculture of the Member States will be formed.	up to 2019	The Committee established and preliminary studies done.	ECO Secretariat /FAO/IDB /ECO Trade Promotion Organizations/ Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Member States.
		2. Buyers/Sellers meetings/forums		Appropriate climate for	

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		(jointly with FAO and WTO/ITC) on wheat, cotton, bean and other agricultural commodities will be organized	Up to 2024	realization of agricultural export potentials of Member States established through Buyers/ Sellers meetings/forums.	
		3. A program for the exchange of experiences in the identification of cattle and ruminant will be developed.	2020	Programme developed and experiences shared.	ECO Member States, ECO Secretariat, FAO, OIE
vi.	Infrastructure requirements in production, processing and export chain of the selected crops will be identified and investment plans will be prepared.	1. Project proposal on identifying infrastructure requirements in production, processing and export chain of the selected crops will be prepared	up to 2019	Project report prepared	ECO Secretariat /FAO/WTO/IDB /ECO Investment Promotion Organizations/ Institutions/Member States.
		2. Investment opportunities in the region will be identified	Up to 2025	National/ Regional Investment Plans finalized.	
vii.	Green industrial development strategy at regional level will be adopted to contribute to the 2030 sustainable development agenda	1. The Meetings of the ECO Member States to initiate the process of the development of the strategy will be expedited.	By 2017-18	Meetings realized	ECO Secretariat, Member States and International donors
		2. ECO Secretariat with the help of the consultations if required will prepare a draft strategy based on Member countries inputs.	By 2019	Strategy Developed	ECO Secretariat, Member States and relevant international organizations

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
		3. Cooperation with relevant international organizations and funding agencies will be established to ensure implementation of the strategy	2020-2025	Implementation of the strategy	ECO Secretariat Member States and international organization
viii.	Industrial cooperation in the region will be institutionalized;	1. Ministerial and Experts level Meetings of the Member countries would be convened to review and recommend the framework for institutionalization of industrial cooperation in the region.	By 2017-19	Inputs and consensus achieved on the institutionalization of industrial cooperation mechanisms	ECO Secretariat, Member States
		2. Eco Secretariat will develop the Industrial Cooperation to develop institutional framework for industrial cooperation in the region using the inputs of the member countries (may hire consultants if required for the purpose.)	2020	The institutional mechanism developed for the industrial cooperation.	ECO Secretariat, Member States
ix.	The share of high-tech products in the production and exports of the Member countries will be enhanced.	1. ECO Secretariat will convene experts level meetings of Member countries to help develop the consensus and a framework for development of cooperation and exchange in the hi-tech technology among the ECO countries.	2020	Cooperation mechanism developed for exchange\ of hi-tech technology among the ECO Member Countries.	ECO Secretariat, Member States
		2. ECO secretariat will work with the member countries to help develop Technology incubation centers in ECO Member States through the cooperation with relevant international agencies.	2025	Development of at least 3 technology incubation centers in the region	ECO Secretariat, Member States and relevant international agencies
x.	Existing industrial capacities will be enhanced and reprint	1. ECO Secretariat after achieving consensus of the Member States	2017-20	Developed policy tool box	ECO Secretariat, Member States

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
	towards green industrial development to meet the SDGS standards and criteria	through experts level meetings will seek cooperation of UNDP to develop necessary policies tool box for reorientation of existing industries towards SDGs standards and criteria.			
		2. A technology transfer center will be developed through the funding of Member States and international financing institutions to implement and upgrade mechanisms for industries according to SDGs standards.	2022	Development of technology transfer center in the Region	ECO Secretariat, Member States
xi.	Financial mechanism will be established to support start-ups, SME's and entrepreneurs;	1. ECO secretariat will convene expert level meetings on the subject with the ECO Member States to develop a consensus on developing of financial mechanism most probably consisting establishment of special fund which may be managed with the help of ECO TDB and funded through Member States, ECO TDB and other international funding agencies.	By 2020	Establishment of the special fund to support the SMEs and entrepreneurs	ECO Secretariat, Member States
		2. Start up modal projects in different sectors of industry focusing on SMEs and entrepreneurs will be developed by the ECO Secretariat in collaboration with UNIDO (and through hiring of consultants if required) in the Region.	2025	Development and implementation of modal projects in the region in different sectors of industry focusing on SMEs through funding from the fund created for the purpose	ECO Secretariat, Member States
xii.	Women entrepreneurship will	1. ECO Secretariat will convene	2025	1. Implementation plan for	ECO Secretariat,

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S. #	Expected Outcome	Activities/Actions to achieve the outcome	Time Line for achieving expected Outcome/ Activities & Actions	Output/ Results	Responsible Entity/Member Countries
	be promoted and encouraged	Meetings of the Experts level and with the women chambers of commerce with the Member states to develop an implementation plan to promote and encourage women entrepreneurship in the region.		encouraging women entrepreneurship in the region. 2. Execution of the implementation plan	Member States
		2. Special ECO awards will be initiated on annual basis to encourage successful women entrepreneurship of the Region.	2018	ECO Women Entrepreneurs Awards	ECO Secretariat, Member States
		3. Executive level workshops will be arranged for member countries to introduce successful market mechanisms for private investments serving for start-ups and SME's	2017	Enhanced awareness of market mechanisms for start-up investments.	ECO Secretariat, Member States
		4. Requisite consultative measures will be taken to gain political and legal support from Member States for legal and administrative consensus for the development of Crowd Funding regulations.	2020	Achieved consensus to enhance crowd funding facilities for technology producing start-ups.	ECO Secretariat, Member States
xiii.	Legal and administrative support for development of green industries particularly through promotion of Industrial Property Rights will be provided and necessary mechanism will be established	1. Requisite consultative measures will be taken to gain political and legal support from Member States for legal and administrative consensus for the development of green industries in the Region.	2018	Consensus achieved and strategy developed	ECO Secretariat, Member States
		2. Advocacy workshops will be arranged for member countries to highlight the importance of	2018	Enhanced awareness of IPR in the Region.	ECO Secretariat, Member States

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		Industrial Property Rights (IPR) for the development of the sector.			
xiv.	Development of quality infrastructure and standards and laws to make the region an investment friendly atmosphere for ECO green industries and services will be promoted.	1. ECO-RISCAM's operationalization will be ensured through consultation with the Member countries so that it can work for developing industrial standards for the region and encouraged of green industries.	2020	Fully operationalized ECO-RISCAM	ECO Secretariat Member States and RISCAM
		2. Development of cooperation between ECO and international technology agencies like UNIDO, ITU for collaboration for support and working of the forum	2019-2025	Cooperation agreements with international industry and technologies agencies like UNIDO, ITU and etc.	ECO and Member States
xv.	Capital flows, and technology transfers from inner and outside ECO members will be expedited	3. ECO Secretariat will undertake consultations with the Member countries at experts level to establish Special Regional Forum to undertake international exhibitions and conferences inviting international funding agencies and international technology leaders to introduce ECO Region as an attractive destination for both.	2019 2019-2025	1) Establishment of forum 2) Exhibitions and international conferences conducted throughout the vision time	ECO Secretariat and Member States
xvi.	New industrial solutions including industrial revolution 4.0 will be utilized to address emerging needs.	1. ECO Secretariat will actively seek collaborating of interested Member countries and will hire international consultants to develop a regional blueprint for industrial revolution 4.0	2020	Blueprint document of Industrial Revolution 4.0 for the ECO Region.	ECO Secretariat and Member States
xvii.	The Agreement on Promotion and Protection of Investment	1. Regular meetings of ECO Heads of Investor Promotion Agencies (IPA)	2017-22	Regular consultations and decision making on expedited	ECO Secretariat & ECO Member States

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	among ECO Member Countries (APPI) will be operationalized and its membership will be increased	Forum, communication and dissemination of information will be organized		implementation of ECO-APPI	
		2. Agreement will be ratified by five signatory Member States and agreement will enter into force	2017-22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operationalized ECO-APPI Increased Investment among the MSS 	ECO Secretariat & ECO Member States
xviii.	Legal regimes and mechanisms to enhance investor protection will be improved	1. Regular meetings of ECO Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) Forum, communication and dissemination of information will be convened	2017-22	Ensured regular consultations and decision making to discuss legal measures for investor protection	
		2. ECO Agreement on Promotion and Protection of Investment among the MSS will enter into force	2017-2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operationalized ECO-APPI Increased investment among the MSS 	
xix.	Capacity Building Programmes for Investment Promotion Agencies of the Member Countries will be prepared and executed	1. Regular meetings of ECO Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs) Forum, communication and dissemination of information will be organized	2017-25	Ensured Annual Calendar of Trainings	ECO Secretariat, ECO-TDB, Donors & ECO Member States
		2. Annual Calendar of Trainings with support of ECO-TDB and other regional & international bodies will be implemented.	2017-25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced capacity of the trained personnel of Trade Promotion Organizations Increased Investment among the MSS 	ECO Secretariat, ECO-TDB, Donors & ECO Member States
		3. A training seminars and programs	2025	Programs on capacity	ECO Secretariat,

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		on capacity building of public and private partnership will be developed		building of public and private partnership developed.	ECO-TDB, Donors & ECO Member States
F. SOCIAL WELFARE AND ENVIRONMENT					
i.	Regional mechanisms/frameworks will be in place to support education, training, vocational needs and other capacity enhancement	1. Regular ministerial meetings will be jointly organized with ECO Educational Institute to enhance regional cooperation on education.	2017-2025	Established regional networks on higher education, regional exchange and scholarship programmes/mechanisms.	ECO Member States and ECO Secretariat
		2. Cooperation with international organizations to disseminate best training /vocational systems and materials within the ECO Region will be realized.	2025	Available training/vocational patterns/programmes in the ECO Reigon.	ECO Member States and ECO Secretariat
ii.	Higher food security and safety in the region will be achieved	1. ECO Regional Programme for Food Security (ECO-RPFS) will be up-graded	up to 2018	Revised Regional Programme for Food Security.	ECO Secretariat /FAO/WHO/ICAR DA/ IDB and Member States.
		2. Close cooperation with regional and global partners such as FAO, WHO and IDB for providing financial and technical support on expedition of the implementation of the ECO-RPFS will be established	Up to 2025	Amount of Fund secured and cooperation done.	
		3. Synergy and coherence among key stakeholders of the ECO Region will be enhanced and efforts for closer and streamlined collaboration in the fields of food security will be strengthened	Up to 2020	Increased ownership	

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		4. Promotion and implementation of the small scaled projects in various fields within the ECO-RPFS will be realized	Up to 2025	Successful completion of the Regional Programme for Food Security	
		5. A program on joint measures in prevention of the spread of transboundary animal diseases and food safety checks of imported products will be developed.	2025	Porogramme on transboundary animal diseases and food safety developed.	ECO Member States, ECO Secretariat, OIE and FAO
iii.	Cooperation, focusing on non-communicable diseases as well as universal health coverage system, will be encouraged.	1. Health Ministerial and Experts level Meetings for the purpose of policy coherence among the Member States will be organized regularly.	2017-2025	Enhanced policy coherence and policy dialogue.	ECO Member States and ECO Secretariat
		2. ECO Plan of Action for Health and its implementation framework will be developed	2017-2018	1. Adopted ECO Plan of Action on Health. 2. Identified and proposed projects on the priority areas of the Plan of Action .	ECO Member States and ECO Secretariat and international partners
		3. Related programs, in cooperation with WHO and other international organizations, to support prioritized projects, including non-communicable diseases, will be developed.	2025	Implemented regional projects/programmes.	
iv.	Environmental sustainability of the region will be supported through environmentally friendly regional economic and social cooperation.	1. High-level ECO meetings, regular ECO working group and experts group meetings in the field of environment with a view to stimulate development of appropriate frameworks for regional and global partnerships will be convened.	2025	Advanced regional environment, climate change, long-range trans-boundary air pollution, forestry and biodiversity agendas, as well as ongoing projects and future engagements.	ECO Secretariat / ECO-IEST/ Member States

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		2. Training courses/workshops and other similar events will be organized with cooperation of international partners, to build capacities in the Member States on environment.	2025	Enhanced capacities in the Member States.	ECO Secretariat / ECO-IEST/ Member States
		3. International/regional agreements on environmental issues in the region and Member States through fruitful cooperation with relevant regional/international institutions/arrangements will be implemented.	2025	Institutionalized cooperation in environmental matters, and the UN multilateral environmental agreements.	ECO Secretariat / ECO-IEST/ Member States
		4. Synergy and coherence among key stakeholders of the ECO Region in the fields of climate change long range transboundary air pollution, biodiversity, desertification, sustainable forest management and other environment-related areas will be enhanced.	2025	Developed and consolidated common vision.	ECO Secretariat / ECO-IEST/ Member States
v.	Regional projects in climate/biodiversity areas through partnership with relevant international stakeholders with available regional and global funding will be implemented	1. The contract for elaboration of the Regional Programme for implementation of the Framework Plan of Action on Environment Cooperation and Global Warming for ECO Member States (2016-2020) will be drafted and the Programme will be commenced.	2017-2018	1. Drafted contract/start of implementation of the Programme 2. Formulated policy guidelines for mobilization of financial and technical assistance for implementation of the Plan of Action.	ECO Secretariat / ECO-IEST/ Member States

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			2025	Implemented Framework Plan of Action on Environmental Cooperation and Global Warming (2016-2020).	
		2. The Regional Project to Combat Desertification with a Special Emphasis on Dust Haze and Sand Storm in the ECO Region will be implemented.	2020	Established framework for regional decision-making and policy-setting on desertification.	ECO Secretariat/ ECO-IEST/Member States
		3. The project proposal on Development and Harmonization of Environmental Standards in ECO Region will be promoted to the operational level.	2020	Recommended regional environmental standards.	ECO Secretariat/ ECO-IEST/Member States
		4. Work Plan on Biodiversity in the ECO Region (2016-2020) will be implemented.	2020	a. Ensured conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. b. Promoted technology transfer, capacity building and enhanced regional cooperation;	ECO Secretariat/ ECO-IEST/Member States
		5. The State of Environment (SoE) Report for the ECO Region in close cooperation with the UNEP and ECO-IEST will be prepared.	2018	The State of Environment Report for the ECO Region available.	ECO Secretariat/ ECO-IEST/ UNEP

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vi.	ECO will be recognized as a regional group/partner in the global environment community.	1. Mutual cooperation with important UN environmental organizations/conventions, notably UNEP, UNCCD, UNCBD, UNFCCC, UNFF, UNDP will be enhanced.	2025	Increased role of the organization in the global environmental trends and its increased visibility.	ECO Secretariat/ ECO-IEST
2. Engagement with UN environmental organizations/instruments/processes including through participation in their events as observer will be enhanced.		2025	Mobilized financial and technical assistance from sources of relevant UN and international agencies required for implementation of ECO projects.	ECO Secretariat/ ECO-IEST	
3. Partnership frameworks with regional organizations active in environment and climate change issues will be established		2018	Strengthened ECO cooperation with relevant regional entities.	ECO Secretariat/ ECO-IEST	
vii.	A regional integrated disaster risk reduction system/network will be established with the ultimate aim of preventing and reducing disaster losses in lives, and in social, economic, and environmental assets of people of ECO Member Countries.	1. ECO Regional framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and its related programs/actions will be developed	2017-2018	Regional framework and its flagship projects/programmes.	ECO Member States, ECO Secretariat and international partners
2. Relevant authorities' Meeting for the purpose of policy coherence among the Member Countries will be organized regularly		2017-2020	Organized Meetings		
3. ECO regional disaster information		2025	1. Implemented projects and	ECO Member States,	

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		systems will be established.		2. programmes Functional ECO disaster information system	ECO Secretariat and international partners
		4. Establishment of ECO disaster insurance system	2025	1. Implemented projects and programmes 2. Functional ECO disaster insurance system	ECO Member States , ECO Secretariat and international partners
viii.	Regional law enforcement and police organizations/mechanisms will be in place to coordinate and support national and international efforts to combat illegal drugs and human trafficking and and other trans-regional organized crime	a. ECOPOL Statute will be finalized and signed by Member States. b. Capacity-building and training programmes will be conducted for the relevant experts and officials of the Member States.	2017-2018	a. Approved Statute and signatures/ratifications b. Enhanced capacity for Member States/higher awareness about regional police cooperation	ECO Member States and ECO Secretariat
c. Legal requirements/ legislative processes will be completed by the Member States for operationalization of ECOPOL					
d. ECOPOL will be fully incorporated into the international police architecture supported by Interpol		2020	Operational ECOPOL	ECO Member States, ECO Secretariat, Interpol and other regional police arrangements	
		2025	More global visibility for ECOPOL		
		1. Meetings of Heads of anti-corruption authorities will be held and policy coordination at the regional level will be further	2017-2019	ECO Regional Center for Cooperation of Anti-Corruption Agencies and Ombudsmen (RCCACO)	

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		<p>enhanced.</p> <p>2. Number of signatories (currently Afghanistan and Tajikistan) and ratifying countries of ECO Regional Center for Cooperation of Anti-Corruption Agencies and Ombudsmen (RCCACO) (currently Iran) will increase.</p> <p>3. Four ratifications will be done and RCCACO will be operational.</p>			ECO Member States and ECO Secretariat
		<p>1. Regional cooperation mechanisms for prevention of and fight against corruption, including through technical assistance programmes, information, experiences and knowledge exchanges, etc. will be in place.</p> <p>2. Anti-corruption agencies/organizations and ombudsmen of the ECO Member States will be better coordinated.</p> <p>3. Common standards of cooperation for the purpose of fighting against corruption will be developed and applied in the Region.</p>	2025	Enhanced regional cooperation/common standards	

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		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Attorneys General of the Member States continue to meet regularly for policy coordination. Experts of the Member States will identify areas of possible cooperation. 	2017-2018	Progress towards establishment of regional judicial/legal assistance cooperation mechanism	ECO Member States and ECO Secretariat
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Regional cooperation arrangements, including a regional convention for judicial/legal assistance cooperation will be in place. Institutional mechanisms to facilitate regional cooperation will be in place. 	2025	Legal and institutional arrangements for regional cooperation	

ECO Secretariat



Economic Cooperation Organization, established in 1985, is a ten-member regional organization with the objective to promote conditions for sustainable socio-economic development of the people of the region through collaborative endeavour and regional integration among the member states.



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