SPECA/WG-Trade/2018/EN/3

**special programme for the economies of central asia (speca)**

**International Trade and Sustainable Development**

**(background paper)**

The link between trade and sustainable development has been clearly underlined in major programming documents during the last years. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 17.10) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Sept. 2015) and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (July 2015)[[1]](#footnote-1) define international trade as “an engine for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction”. Both documents clearly promote the “universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization (WTO)” as a tool for achieving growth and development around the world. The 2030 Agenda clearly defines the need for a new thinking, combining economic growth and prosperity with the need for action on preventing the deterioration of the environment parallel to human and social development. Trade plays an important role in allocating global resources more efficiently to achieve these goals. In another document, supported by UNECE, Focus Area 6 of the Pan-European Strategic Framework for Greening the Economy adopted in Batumi on 10 June 2016, promotes “Green and Fair Trade”.[[2]](#footnote-2)

The objective of this paper is to point the attention of SPECA countries’ decision makers to the priorities of sustainable trade in the region, and foster further analysis of the current situation, define a desired situation and make input into policy decisions for change into the desired direction of sustainable trade. The paper can thus give a general framework for defining next steps in terms of work programmes, cooperation plans, and exchange of best practices. The key point is to understand the importance of the link between trade development and sustainable development in the SPECA subregion and, on this basis, mark areas for possible cooperation among the countries for the achievement of the SDGs related to trade.

The work on trade and sustainable development in the SPECA setting may focus on such topics as trade as an engine of growth, more employment and elimination of poverty and improving trade practices to achieve the environmental SDGs; notably, water management, energy efficiency, sustainable transport, innovation, and other areas covered by the SPECA working groups. The overall goal is to achieve parallel improvements in the areas of trade, environment, food security, water management and others.

**Introduction**

Work on the SDGs in the UN and its Member States increasingly concentrates on the urgent need to ensure that economic growth, environmental protection and social inclusion are considered as part of an integrated development agenda. In this sense, trade is understood as an engine for sustainable development and poverty eradication, thus bringing together trade and sustainable development.

Given the right trade policies and regulation, international trade has the potential of enabling countries to benefit from investment and integration into regional and global value chains, which increasingly embrace environmental goods and services. The transition to an inclusive green economy enhances trade opportunities by opening new export markets for such environmental goods and services. Demand increases for resource and energy efficient production and processing methods and for sustainability-certified products, as markets for them are growing fast. “There are economic gains to be made from making trade more socially and economically sustainable. Growing trade in environmental goods and services, as well as the diffusion of sustainability standards and the greening of global value chains, can significantly influence”[[3]](#footnote-3) job markets, production and cross-border trading patterns.

**Trade and environmental sustainability**

Countries are encouraged to develop policies supporting imports and exports of green technologies, environmental goods and services, and creating market access for sustainably certified products. In order to make informed policy decisions, countries and their development partners may wish to carry out studies to identify economic incentives that would integrate these technologies and products into efficient cross-border supply chains that are respectful for the environment and social inclusion. Political will grows for building green economies, circular economy and “green energy”, for example in Kazakhstan. Yet much needs to be done, including through subregional cooperation.

SPECA countries’ contributions to global value chains are still dominated by natural resource –based products and raw materials. The need for production and trade diversification of these economies is huge, in order to secure long-term growth and sustainable development.

In order to support sustainable development, the international trading system rules should provide for responsible, environmentally sound trading practices. It is important to integrate sustainable development into trade policy at all levels, and try to reach a significant increase in world trade, including enhanced and diversified exports from developing countries, including the SPECA countries.

**Principles of sustainable trade**

International trade has the potential to bolster the achievement of a number of sustainable development objectives, especially if its development abides by a number of principles that respect the followng:

1. Mainstream trade into national and sector strategies to achieve the SDGs;
2. Encourage long-term investment in productive capacities, including diversification and innovation of production and trade, aligning them to the requirements of sustainable development;
3. Adopt appropriate regulation, so that trade can facilitate the transition to more sustainable and equitable growth and to a green economy by fostering the exchange of environmentally preferable goods and services, by increasing resource and energy efficiency, and by generating economic and employment opportunities for all;
4. Focus on export diversification and value addition;
5. Foster productive employment and decent work conditions, through trade policies and practices, in order to create jobs and eliminate poverty in all countries;
6. Reduce inequality by letting poorer countries and people accede to markets, investments, new technologies and higher working and living standards;
7. Support environmental preservation through environmentally sound trading practices, notably by further developing rules for environmentally friendly trade;
8. Identify and harness trade opportunities associated with transition to a green economy;
9. Eliminate trade subsidies that negatively affect the environment;
10. Invest in food security by providing access to agricultural products for a larger portion of society, thus offering more, broadly accessible and higher standard food products on the markets;
11. Promote international and regional trade governance frameworks that foster sustainability; integration of national and international initiatives that build up synergies between trade, the green economy and social inclusion – decent jobs for all;
12. Promote the multilateral trading system in the SPECA subregion, so that international trade rules support sustainability of trade patterns;
13. Ensure that non-tariff measures designed to protect nature, society and the economy do not become barriers to trade;
14. Develop national sustainability standards for trade, which are related to international standards and best practices (connecting such standards in exporting and importing countries);
15. Encourage new forms of public-private partnerships to support the parallel advancement of trade and the green economy;
16. Further women’s empowerment, increasingly involving women in managing trade operations and the advancement of sustainable trade;
17. Advance the development of financing mechanisms to support the shift to green trade, including capacity-building for the public and private sectors; and
18. Cultivate a new ethics in the trading community that would support the overall achievement of the sustainable development goals.
19. Make e-commerce a force for inclusion
20. Support micro, small and medium sized enterprizes to engage in international trade.

**Areas for further work in the SPECA setting**

Bringing together trade and sustainable development will not come by itself. It needs purposeful analysis of current development approaches and incorporating a sustainable development mind set into current work on trade development priorities. Several priority areas, which can be taken up in the SPECA framework, include:

1. **Trade facilitation** and liberalization suppose the integration of countries and their companies in international supply chains; the facilitation of movements of goods across borders, which would save precious resources for society that are otherwise wasted in bureaucratic procedures; together with raising the efficiency of official controls necessary for the protection of society. Long-term investment in productive capacities in the SPECA countries would go hand-in-hand with diversification and innovation that take sustainable development into account, as well as removal of trans-boundary procedural barriers to trade, so that a regional market and regional supply chains can form. At the same time trade facilitation and paperless trade should take into account the need to protect the environment; create new jobs; and foster such innovation that would lead to more decent jobs and poverty reduction.

Trade facilitation (including the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement by members or aspiring members of the WTO) on green trade can have the following **impact**:

* increase efficiency and reduce costs, waste and negative environmental impacts, saving precious human and natural resources for better use by society;
* improve border control procedures by simplifying, harmonizing, standardizing and automating them, reducing delays and rejections of goods at the border, enabling trade operators to bring their goods to the destination markets faster and sell them, rather than having them delayed, turned back or, in the case of perishable goods, spoiled;
* streamline procedures, thus avoiding wasted paper, gasoline and inputs used for the production of goods, including reduction of pollution from idling trucks;
* allow for increased trade in environmental goods, services and technology, access to which should be facilitated in compliance with the Sustainable Development Agenda, leading to better deployment of renewable energy technologies. In combination with reducing other trade barriers, the Trade Facilitation Agreement may well give an extra boost to such a “green trade”.

1. Encouraging **environmentally sound production and trading patterns** in the subregionwouldhave a positive impact on tackling important environmental issues there. For example, exporting wheat produced on rainwater in Kazakhstan to drier countries to the south would have a positive impact on water management of the two large rivers in the subregion and the Aral Sea.
2. **Promoting diversification of the economy.** With the current decline in commodity prices, SPECA countries receive less income for their raw material exports. As the current decrease of oil prices has indicated, the reliance of some countries in the region on high revenues from exports of hydrocarbons is not sustainable. Azerbaijan was a global leader in GDP growth in the world, reaching a peak of 34.5% in 2006, then 10.8% in 2008. Yet this indicator went down as low as 0.1% in 2011, when global oil prices hit a record low level. Azerbaijan is looking now for innovative ways of diversifying its economy and trade, including through integration into regional and global supply chains and focusing on environmental goods. The country is developing a green industry now, for example in producing solar panels. Expanding the market for such green products to the other SPECA countries can give an additional boost to such production. A conscious effort towards regional trade cooperation focused on sustainable development will be important, as such change in economic patterns and mind-sets will not come by itself.

**Figure 1*:*** *Azerbaijan’s GDP growth rate. Source: The World Bank[[4]](#footnote-4)*



Diversification into exports other than commodities is high on the agenda of the SPECA countries because of the need to adapt to changing markets and environmental conditions. Yet in order to assist their diversification efforts, these countries need predictable market access conditions and capacity building.

There is a need to recalibrate economic growth structures and patterns such that they are diversified and broad-based, and focus on boosting domestic demand to create productive and decent employment, while preserving and promoting environmental sustainability. Evidence shows that in many countries economic growth has not necessarily been accompanied by reductions in income inequality or even extreme poverty. This distributional bias of growth needs to be addressed. Activities for integrated planning for inclusive and sustainable growth include establishing evidence base analysis for National Plans, promoting economic diversification and sustainable growth pathways, and promoting environmentally sustainable agricultural and industrial practices and access to affordable clean energy. In addition, an inclusive and sustainable growth strategy must prioritize a pattern of growth that creates a sufficient number of jobs to secure productive employment for the majority of the work-force

1. **Ensuring financing for green trade.** Encouraging environmentally sound production and trading patterns will have a positive impact on tackling important environmental issues in the region. National budgets and donors that support projects on trade in the subregion and trade financing can play a significant role in promoting sustainable trade. While providing market-oriented trade finance and remedies for market failures associated with trade finance, national and international financial institutions can play a significant role in promoting the SDGs in trade, *inter alia*, by increasing the analysis of issues and requirements for sustainable development considerations in trade finance projects.

Financial markets have increased the number of options to choose from to advance investments that support the transition to more sustainable growth patterns. Activities to mobilize and scale-up financing include promoting fiscal policy consistent with inclusive and sustainable growth objectives; promoting domestic resource mobilization, and promoting the adoption of innovative financing mechanisms for environmental sustainability and clean energy.

Raising additional domestic revenues remains a challenge for many countries. In many natural resource-rich countries, implementing fiscal regimes that are capable of sustainably managing resource revenues has also proved challenging. For instance, tax incentives in the extractives sector can result in large revenue losses when rent-sharing agreements are negotiated in a way that leads to highly favorable terms for investors at the expense of lower public revenues. Hence, countries highly dependent on such sectors as extractives or commodities for revenue, require capacity to manage boom time revenues more prudently. Additional fiscal space can also be generated by cutting unproductive expenditures and by preventing the leakage of resources.

1. Trade development must be used to **facilitate the creation of productive employment** and to **address the inequality of opportunities** faced by specific groups. Women, ethnic and racial minorities, among others, can get more access to the management of international trade and the from the gains of development. Policy measures must address the inequality of both opportunities and outcomes.
2. The right trade policies can help **manage risks associated with economic and financial crises, and to build economic resilience** to ensure that growth is stable and sustained. The more dependent a country is on a pattern of growth focused on external sources of revenue and investment, the more vulnerable it is to global trade shocks. Activities to manage risks and building economic resilience include promoting export and economic diversification; addressing volatility of private capital flows; addressing commodity price volatility; adopting income stabilization measures for commodity producers; enforcing labour standards and social insurance for workers in export sectors; and promoting environmental safety standards and safe-guards for foreign investments.

**SPECA countries, trade and the green economy**

The Green economy concept was recognized as an important tool for achieving sustainable development in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012 (Rio+20), and since that time a number of countries around the world have adopted green economy strategies and policies. SPECA countries have started to adopt sustainable development strategies, some of which contain, to varying degrees, green economy elements.

* The Kyrgyz Republic, for example, has identified low carbon green growth as its priority. In 2012, it established a National Council for Sustainable Development to oversee the mainstreaming of environment into its overall development plans. In 2016, it became a partner country in the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) of UN Environment.
* Tajikistan has also adopted a long-term strategy for transitioning to sustainable development (UNECE, 2012).
* At the sub-regional level, the Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development (ICSD) has recognized the value of ongoing green economy work for its member States. The five Central Asian countries endorsed in 2016 the voluntary pan-European Strategic Framework for Greening the Economy, a tool that supports countries’ transition to a green economy and at the same time directly contributes to the implementation of SDGs.

Encouraging environmentally sound production and trading patterns would have a positive impact on tackling important environmental issues in the subregion. For example, exporting wheat produced on rainwater in Kazakhstan to drier countries to the south would have a positive impact on water management of the two large rivers in the subregion and the Aral Sea. A study on such cases, possible impacts and remedies through regional cooperation may be undertaken in the SPECA framework.

Equally, better water management could improve the efficiency of food processing and, consequently, increase supply side capacity, exports and jobs in Tajikistan, where agriculture on irrigation accounts for 90 percent of agricultural production in the country, but with low water productivity. A way to improve this water productivity is to construct water reservoirs and shift to more water-efficient irrigation methods. More expertise, technologies and investments (e.g. in reservoirs and dams) are needed, and would benefit from better sub-regional cooperation, trade, and access to funding from regional and international financial institutions.[[5]](#footnote-5)

As the development of green energy (hydropower, wind and solar projects) is a priority for the subregion, it is important to support trade in goods and technologies as inputs for these green technologies. The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), UNDP, the European Commission and other development partners work with relevant national agencies and institutions in Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Uzbekistan to develop production capabilities in these areas. In addition, cooperative planning may enable SPECA countries to find ways to import more renewable energy from other countries of the region that have surplus capacity (e.g. hydropower in Tajikistan or wind power in Kazakhstan) and would benefit from resulting economies of scale from increased trade.[[6]](#footnote-6)

**Regional trade growth and sustainable development**

The SPECA region as a whole has made great progress in the last years in the achievement of SDG 17.10: promotion of the international rules-based trading system based on the WTO. With the accession of Afghanistan and Kazakhstan, more than 50% of the SPECA countries are now members of the organization. Four countries are already full members: Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Two are observers: Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan, which are in the process of accession. With regard to Turkmenistan, much was done in the framework of SPECA for the information of Turkmenistan’s Government on the WTO and the accession process: the country participated on a very high level in the SPECA trade meetings in 2015 and 2017, the delegation met the WTO Director General. In May 2016, Turkmenistan organized a very successful regional Trade Policy Forum and meeting of the SPECA Working Group on Trade.

With regard to SDG 17.11: increase the share of developing countries in world exports, the focus of SPECA is on increasing intra-regional trade, which is exceptionally low (see fig.3 below). Export values of all SPECA countries to the world in 2016 declined compared to 2014 by 49%. For the same period, total world export values decreased as well by 16% . Export share of SPECA countries in the world trade declined from 0,75 percentage point in 2014 to 0,45 percentage points in 2016 (see fig.4). There is a high potential to improve regional trade as well as the countries’ share in world exports.

**Conclusion**

Subregional cooperation on developing rules and practices promoting the parallel advance of trade and sustainable development will help achieve a more efficient shift to sustainable trade policies and practices in the SPECA subregion. Economic and trade diversification, as well as economic, environmental and social innovations related to sustainable development would create more trade opportunities and generate larger scale efficiency, while creating new “green” jobs.

The SPECA framework may serve as a platform to analyze the effects of potential growth of intra-regional trade, as well as possible impact of trade policy reform and subregional cooperation on the capacity of SPECA countries to implement the sustainable development goals related to trade. Based on such an analysis, a list of recommendations to the countries and the UN secretariat would be prepared in the SPECA framework, with a focus on:

* 1. Possible input to policy decisions in SPECA countries’ efforts to achieve the SDGs.
  2. Identification of next steps, in terms of work programmes, cooperation plans, exchange of best practices, standards and tools for sustainable trade, water management, food security, and other areas, in order to achieve the SDGs in the SPECA subregion.
  3. Definition of areas, in which subregional projects on sustainable trade would be likely to attract funding for these next steps.

**Figure 2**: Trade in goods among SPECA countries (in thousands US dollars) 2014-2017. Source: UNCOMTRADE mirror data estimates

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Afghanistan** |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | Export | | | | | | | Import | | | | | | | |
|  | 2014 | 2015 | | | 2016 | 2017 | | 2014 | | 2015 | | 2016 | | 2017 | |
| Afghanistan | .. | .. | | | .. | .. | | .. | | .. | | .. | | .. | |
| Azerbaijan | .. | 2 | | | 0 | 0 | | 301971 | | 121169 | | 27833 | | 33058 | |
| Kazakhstan | 2056 | 4630 | | | 2104 | 2416 | | 340238 | | 381495 | | 484209 | | 670111 | |
| Kyrgyzstan | 84 | 52 | | | 55 | 198 | | 14460 | | 5921 | | 3926 | | 1153 | |
| Tajikstan | 51045 | 24617 | | | 19840 | 23572 | | 31637 | | 50357 | | 43025 | | 64779 | |
| Turkmenistan | .. | 668 | | | 1153 | .. | | .. | | 594987 | | 287633 | | .. | |
| Uzbekistan | .. | 187 | | | 264 | .. | | .. | | 358790 | | 361159 | | 460527 | |
| Whole World | 570534 | 571405 | | | 596455 | 780000 | | 7697178 | | 7722865 | | 6534140 | | 7700000 | |
| Total SPECA | 53185 | 30156 | | | 23416 | 26186 | | 688307 | | 1512720 | | 1207785 | | 1229627 | |
| Trade with SPECA in % | 9.3 | 5.3 | | | 3.9 | 3.4 | | 8.9 | | 19.6 | | 18.5 | | 16.0 | |
| **Azerbaijan** |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | Export | | | | | | Import | | | | | | | |
|  | 2014 | | 2015 | 2016 | | 2017 | 2014 | | 2015 | | 2016 | | 2017 | |
| Afghanistan | 336736 | | 136548 | 34889 | | 42894 | .. | | .. | | 0 | | 0 | |
| Azerbaijan | .. | | .. | .. | | 4223 | .. | | .. | | .. | | 6476 | |
| Kazakhstan | 37966 | | 17286 | 33464 | | 35922 | 221056 | | 98673 | | 97557 | | 105764 | |
| Kyrgyzstan | 33948 | | 5850 | 7218 | | 551 | 1703 | | 1604 | | 1261 | | 1202 | |
| Tajikstan | 3208 | | 2722 | 14263 | | 2105 | 188 | | .. | | 238 | | 47 | |
| Turkmenistan | 47294 | | 15535 | 137383 | | 58315 | 13198 | | 19619 | | 38286 | | 110108 | |
| Uzbekistan | 47167 | | 32583 | 4128 | | 4266 | 23612 | | 6234 | | 11253 | | 25822 | |
| Whole World | 30219800 | | 16592300 | 13118400 | | 15800000 | 9178588 | | 9211126 | | 8515807 | | 8766505 | |
| Total SPECA | 506319 | | 210523 | 231344 | | 148276 | 259757 | | 126130 | | 148595 | | 249420 | |
| Trade with SPECA in % | 1.7 | | 1.3 | 1.8 | | 0.9 | 2.8 | | 1.4 | | 1.7 | | 2.8 | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Kazakhstan** |  | | | | | | | |
|  | Export | | | | Import | | | |
|  | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
| Afghanistan | 333522 | 372434 | 486886 | 562760 | 3036 | 6303 | 3037 | 2254 |
| Azerbaijan | 220051 | 109801 | 106471 | 105924 | 29793 | 14631 | 26348 | 31975 |
| Kazakhstan | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Kyrgyzstan | 703986 | 517722 | 376134 | 503233 | 304636 | 201619 | 171077 | 256825 |
| Tajikstan | 518920 | 418451 | 371888 | 458347 | 119973 | 111854 | 139964 | 205728 |
| Turkmenistan | 353799 | 114543 | 69104 | 55117 | 113943 | 61515 | 196040 | 40744 |
| Uzbekistan | 1083947 | 942267 | 922532 | 1250332 | 957588 | 700733 | 537473 | 678150 |
| Whole World | 79458749 | 45954426 | 36775323 | 48342074 | 41295456 | 30567159 | 25174779 | 29345935 |
| Total SPECA | 3214226 | 2475218 | 2333016 | 2935713 | 1528968 | 1096654 | 1073938 | 1215675 |
| Trade with SPECA in % | 4.0 | 5.4 | 6.3 | 6.1 | 3.7 | 3.6 | 4.3 | 4.1 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Kyrgyzstan** |  | | | | | | | |
|  | Export | | | | Import | | | |
|  | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
| Afghanistan | 26643 | 6412 | 5094 | 1241 | 116 | 73 | 87 | 239 |
| Azerbaijan | 2738 | 2670 | 1253 | 1267 | 30738 | 6072 | 6557 | 440 |
| Kazakhstan | 414843 | 223760 | 231751 | 293493 | 719739 | 677407 | 635548 | 585816 |
| Kyrgyzstan | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Tajikstan | 46002 | 30371 | 32014 | 26313 | 10854 | 8135 | 6427 | 14450 |
| Turkmenistan | 7647 | 6581 | 6795 | 5062 | .. | 3892 | 4361 | 463 |
| Uzbekistan | 151961 | 111289 | 176795 | 183954 | 88620 | 59219 | 69767 | 163618 |
| Whole World | 1884041 | 1441468 | 1423028 | 1783967 | 5720560 | 4068084 | 3844473 | 4473860 |
| Total SPECA | 649834 | 381083 | 453702 | 511330 | 850066 | 754796 | 722747 | 765025 |
| Trade with SPECA in % | 34.5 | 26.4 | 31.9 | 28.7 | 14.9 | 18.6 | 18.8 | 17.1 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Tajikistan** |  | | | | | | | |
|  | Export | | | | Import | | | |
|  | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
| Afghanistan | 30124 | 46787 | 45974 | 68792 | 62270 | 28366 | 23717 | 23091 |
| Azerbaijan | 197 | .. | 246 | 52 | 11813 | 18630 | 15413 | 7401 |
| Kazakhstan | 81435 | 68292 | 94248 | 147382 | 433839 | 359625 | 338411 | 370622 |
| Kyrgyzstan | 8146 | 5629 | 5321 | 10697 | 30146 | 25159 | 22758 | 19892 |
| Tajikstan | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Turkmenistan | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Uzbekistan | 7665 | 5610 | 6274 | 8949 | 155942 | 123291 | 110930 | 88810 |
| Whole World | 959243 | 874145 | 882390 | 1177828 | 4297400 | 3435600 | 3031000 | 2700000 |
| Total SPECA | 127566 | 126317 | 152063 | 235872 | 694009 | 555071 | 511229 | 509816 |
| Trade with SPECA in % | 13.3 | 14.5 | 17.2 | 20.0 | 16.1 | 16.2 | 16.9 | 18.9 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Turkmenistan** |  | | | | | | | |
|  | Export | | | | Import | | | |
|  | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
| Afghanistan | .. | 643570 | 158070 | 311749 | .. | 1219 | 474 | 677 |
| Azerbaijan | 62126 | 60562 | 30134 | 35271 | 54785 | 27207 | 31886 | 23637 |
| Kazakhstan | 173112 | 78667 | 61840 | 54642 | 413495 | 177712 | 229914 | 163050 |
| Kyrgyzstan | 7486 | 4019 | 2826 | 2662 | 7771 | 8632 | 6379 | 6005 |
| Tajikstan | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2128 | 1849 | .. | .. |
| Turkmenistan | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Uzbekistan | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Whole World | 17500000 | 11000000 | 7000000 | 7000000 | 10000000 | 8000000 | 7000000 | 6000000 |
| Total SPECA | 242723 | 786818 | 252870 | 404323 | 478179 | 216619 | 268653 | 193369 |
| Trade with SPECA in % | 1.4 | 7.2 | 3.6 | 5.8 | 4.8 | 2.7 | 3.8 | 3.2 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Uzbekistan** |  | | | | | | | |
|  | Export | | | | Import | | | |
|  | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
| Afghanistan | .. | 491707 | 433614 | .. | .. | 221 | 342 | .. |
| Azerbaijan | 43533 | 10053 | 13686 | 38775 | 45080 | 35028 | 4832 | 5868 |
| Kazakhstan | 1765473 | 1129911 | 653725 | 1018331 | 1035987 | 1012966 | 1079918 | 1719919 |
| Kyrgyzstan | .. | 95489 | 84857 | 245694 | .. | 113703 | 179664 | 223613 |
| Tajikstan | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Turkmenistan | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Uzbekistan | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Whole World | 11500000 | 10500000 | 9000000 | 10500000 | 13000000 | 11500000 | 11500000 | 12000000 |
| Total SPECA | 1809005 | 1727161 | 1185882 | 1302799 | 1081067 | 1161918 | 1264756 | 1949400 |
| Trade with SPECA in % | 15.7 | 16.4 | 13.2 | 12.4 | 8.3 | 10.1 | 11.0 | 16.2 |

**Figure 3**: Share of trade with SPECA for each SPECA country in percentage of total, 2014-2017. Source: UNCOMTRADE.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Afghanistan | | Azerbaijan | | Kazakhstan | | Kyrgyzstan | | Tajikistan | | Turkmenistan | | Uzbekistan | | |
|  | export | import | export | import | export | import | export | import | export | import | export | import | export | import | |
| *2014* | 9.3 | 8.9 | 1.7 | 2.8 | 4.0 | 3.7 | 34.5 | 14.9 | 13.3 | 16.1 | 1.4 | 4.8 | 15.7 | | 8.3 |
| *2015* | 5.3 | 19.6 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 5.4 | 3.6 | 26.4 | 18.6 | 14.5 | 16.2 | 7.2 | 2.7 | 16.4 | | 10.1 |
| *2016* | 3.9 | 18.5 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 6.3 | 4.3 | 31.9 | 18.8 | 17.2 | 16.9 | 3.6 | 3.8 | 13.2 | | 11.0 |
| *2017* | 3.4 | 16.0 | 0.9 | 2.8 | 6.1 | 4.1 | 28.7 | 17.1 | 20.0 | 18.9 | 5.8 | 3.2 | 12.4 | | 16.2 |

1. UN Sustainable Development Knowledge platform,“Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development”, <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/frameworks/addisababaactionagenda> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. UNECE (2016), Eighth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference Batumi, Georgia, “Pan-European Strategic Framework for Greening the Economy”, http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2016/ece/ece.batumi.conf.2016.6.e.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. UNEP (2016). Green Economy and Trade Opportunities Project: Synthesis Report.Geneva: UNEP, p.11 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <https://www.google.ch/search?site=&source=hp&q=GDP+growth+in+Azerbaijan&oq=GDP+growth+in+Azerbaijan&gs_l=psy-ab.3..0i22i30k1l4.1626.7558.0.7875.24.24.0.0.0.0.160.2002.21j3.24.0....0...1.1.64.psy-ab..0.24.1992...0j0i131k1j0i19k1.Eqcj-vLxF58> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. UNEP (2016) “Stocktaking on Inclusive Green Economy in Central Asia and Mongolia: a Sub-Regional Perspective”, p.20 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Ibid, p.27 [↑](#footnote-ref-6)