

CAREC: A Scoping Study on Climate Change as a Cross-cutting Theme under CAREC 2030

Presentation at meeting with National Experts

19 July 2022

Johannes Linn, Gulshat Raissova, Turdakun Tashbolotov

jlinn@brookings.edu; graissova.consultant@adb.org; turdakun.tashbolotov@gmail.com

Purpose of this presentation

- Brief participants on the CAREC Climate Scoping Study
- Seek participants reactions/advice on
 - Key climate issues to address
 - esp. those of regional (cross-border) significance in the CAREC region
 - what are key areas of regional significance that CAREC (and CAREC Institute) should focus on?
 - how should CAREC (and CAREC Institute) address these issues
 - Relevant documentation to review

Background

- Climate change is the defining challenge for global development during the 21st Century
- This challenge is now well recognized worldwide, and actions are being developed and taken to address climate change at global, regional and national levels
- The CAREC region contributes to carbon emissions causing climate change and is particularly vulnerable to the consequences of climate change
- Climate change was identified in the CAREC 2030 strategy as a cross-cutting theme, but to date the focus by CAREC on this topic has been limited

“CAREC 2030 aligns its activities with national strategies and development plans and with the new international development agenda embodied in the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and the 21st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP21) global climate agreement.”

CAREC 2030 Strategy

Climate Scoping Study: Purpose

- The Asian Development Bank has commissioned a scoping study on how CAREC can best intensify its support for regional actions to respond to climate change
- The purpose of this scoping study is to develop a systematic and strategic approach by CAREC to the climate agenda in the region by
 - informing the CAREC member countries, Secretariat and development partners about the climate change issues and national and regional policies and instruments relevant to climate change
 - exploring the role and mechanisms of regional cooperation on climate issues in the region
 - identifying potential entry points for CAREC to engage on climate issues,
 - proposing ways to incorporating climate aspects into the five operational pillars of CAREC
 - finding an appropriate niche for the CAREC program in promoting the regional and global climate agenda

Climate Scoping Study: Outline

- **Climate change in the CAREC region: challenges and issues**
 - Climate challenges, issues, projections, commitments and performance
 - Links to health, gender, digital agendas
 - Regional and sub-regional dimensions and regional platforms of the climate agenda in the CAREC region
 - Financing needs and options
- **Approach of CAREC to climate change to date**
 - CAREC 2030 Strategy, sector strategies and other knowledge products
 - The project portfolio
 - Regional dimensions of CAREC's climate engagement to date
- **Future directions of CAREC**
 - General findings/messages for CAREC and CAREC countries on necessary climate action, with a special focus on regional cooperation
 - Recommendations for CAREC

Climate Scoping Study: Approach

- The approach and methodology of this Scoping Study will focus on
 - reviewing documentary evidence, including the CAREC knowledge products and the general English- and Russian-language expert literature
 - interviews with experts from development partner organizations and from CAREC countries
 - inputs from CAREC country officials
- In addition, the Study will use standard analytical tools to help identify vulnerabilities, gaps and priorities
- The study will coordinate with two other ongoing CAREC studies (“CAREC Post-Pandemic Plan for Green, Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery” and with “CAREC Strategic Approaches to Agriculture”) to ensure consistency of messages and recommendations

Climate Scoping Study: Timeline

- Inception report: 31 May 2022
- Data and information collection: 20 May - 31 July 2022
- Consultations: 1 June – 31 July 2022
- Presentation at **CAREC SOM**: June 28 2022
- Presentation at **CAREC Focal Points meeting**: October 2022
- Final draft of the report: 31 October, 2022
- Presentation at the **Ministerial Meeting**: November 2022
- Publication/posting of final report on CAREC Website: by early 2023