



## 1<sup>st</sup> CAREC INSTITUTE CLIMATE DIALOGUE

for Knowledge Exchange with CAREC Region National Experts on the  
CAREC Climate Scoping Study

*as of 18th July 2022*

### Background

**Climate change is the defining challenge for global development during the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.** If climate change is not effectively addressed through mitigation and adaptation measures, global prospects for prosperity, health and survival will be severely threatened beyond current climate risks already evident. 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,<sup>1</sup> but to date the focus by CAREC on this topic has been limited. While some important CAREC strategy and knowledge products deal with climate change in some depth, there is no overall strategic framework guiding CAREC's engagement on climate change.

Yet, CAREC Institute Climate report that launched in May 2022 well describes major climate problems and consequences, examines adaptation and mitigation strategies of CAREC countries in the context of COP21, the Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

**The CAREC region comprises eleven countries with widely differing characteristics but also facing common climate challenges.** Countries differ in terms of land area, population size, geographic characteristics, natural resource endowment, per capita income, human capital development, institutional capacity and political stability. Not surprisingly, therefore, they also differ in terms of their contribution to climate change and in terms of their vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. Accordingly, many of the solutions to the climate challenges in the region will have to be tailored to the conditions and needs of each country and to particular subregions. But there are also important commonalities which make regional approaches and cooperation necessary and appropriate.

Against this backdrop, 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.

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<sup>1</sup> CAREC 2017. CAREC 2030: Connecting the Region for Shared and Sustainable Development. Institutional Document. <https://www.carecprogram.org/?publication=carec-2030-connecting-the-region-for-shared-and-sustainable-development>

One key aspect of the preparation of this scoping study involves **consultation with CAREC-national and international climate experts**. Therefore, CAREC Institute and the Scoping Study team have agreed to organize a climate dialogue for view exchange with national experts on 19 July 2022.

### **Objective**

The first CAREC Institute Climate Dialogue is designed to share with the national experts the outline of the work to be undertaken by the Scoping Study team and to seek feedback and guidance from them on the purpose, focus and approach of the study with special attention to the following points:

- Principal climate issues and policy challenges (mitigation and adaptation) facing the countries in the CAREC region, with a special focus on those that require a regional response;
- Priority issues regarding climate change in which CAREC and CAREC Institute should engage as part of the CAREC 2030 strategy as an area cutting across CAREC's five pillars of current engagement (economic and financial stability; trade, tourism and economic corridors; infrastructure and connectivity; agriculture and water, and human development) and complementing the two current crosscutting areas (gender and digital development);
- Relevant documentation, organizations and experts to be consulted by the study team on these issues.

### **Expected Outcome**

The main expected outcome of this dialogue is open interaction between the participants and collection of comprehensive feedbacks to the points of discussion.

### **Date, Mode and Target Audience**

The climate dialogue is scheduled for **19<sup>th</sup> July 2022 from 12:00-14:30 Beijing time**. It will be delivered online. The event will be opened by remarks of ADB and CAREC Institute representatives and continued with the presentation of scoping study experts and member countries' experts across the CAREC region and beyond to listen and benefit from expert presentations and discussions. The webinar will be recorded and uploaded on the CAREC Institute E-Learning platform as guiding digital learning materials (DLMs) – serving as the basis for further cascading knowledge support to member countries and all stakeholders in this area.

## Tentative Agenda

**19 July 2022**  
**12:00 – 14:30 PM (Beijing Time)**

**11:55-12:00:** Virtual Connection to the Dialogue and Webinar Rules

**Group Photo**

**Ms. Rose Shao**, Capacity Building Specialist, CAREC Institute

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**12:00-12:10**    **Opening Remarks**

**Moderator:**   **Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev**, Deputy Director II, CAREC Institute

**12:00-12:05**    **Mr. Safdar Parvez**, Advisor to EARD, East Asia Regional Department, ADB

**12:05-12:10**    **Mr. Syed Shakeel Shah**, Director, CAREC Institute

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**Session I:**    **Presentation of study**

**12:10-12:20**    Presentation of scope study by study team

**Speaker:**    **Dr. Johannes Linn**, Nonresident Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution and Lead Consultant, ADB

**Mr. Turdakun Tashbolotov**, Consultant, ADB

**Ms. Gulshat Raissova**, CI Coordinator, ADB

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**Session II:**    **Comments from member countries**

**12:20-13:40**    This is a structured brainstorming session with leading national climate experts from CAREC countries. Each country's expert will be given 7 minutes to address their comments on the 3 pre-identified topics of the CAREC Climate Scoping Study.

**Guiding Questions:**

- Main sectoral focus areas in NDCs and National Climate Change Response Strategies?
- Key prognosis on environment-induced changes and pressing vulnerability points?
- Climate finance (role of external support and activities to boost internal (domestic) resources to finance climate actions and the role of private finance/investment)?

**Moderator:** **Mr. Shakhboz Akhmedov**, Senior Research Fellow, Knowledge and Research Networking, CAREC Institute

**Lead National Experts:**

**Mr. Idrees Malyar**, Former Deputy Director General - Policy and International Affairs, National Environmental Protection Agency of Afghanistan

**Dr. Shahmar Hajiyev**, Lead Advisor, Center for Analysis for International Affairs, Azerbaijan

**Dr. Zhang Chi**, Researcher, Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography, Chinese Academy of Sciences, PRC

**Ms. Mariam Tsulukidze**, Deputy Head of Energy and Environment Research Policy Center, ISET Policy Institute, Georgia

**Ms. Zhanna Babagaliyeva**, Climate Change Expert, Kazakhstan

**Dr. Erkin Isaev**, Research Fellow, University of Central Asia Kyrgyz Republic

**Dr. Batjargal Zamba**, Chief Scientific Advisor, Climate Change Research and Cooperation Centre, Mongolia

**Dr. Kurbonali Partoev**, Ph.D. of Agriculture, Head of plant genetics and breeding laboratory of Institute botany, plant physiology and genetics of the National Academy Science of Tajikistan

**Ms. Sayyora Abdullaeva**, Chief Specialist, the State Committee for Ecology and Environmental Protection, Uzbekistan

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**Session III: Q&A session**

**Moderator:** **Dr. Johannes Linn**, Nonresident Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution and Lead Consultant, ADB

**13:40-13:55 Principal Climate Policy Issues & Opportunities for Regional Cooperation**

Interactive discussion will focus on key climate policy issues and challenges of countries, and the ways to respond to them through regional engagement

**13:55-14:10 On involvement of CAREC Programme and CAREC Institute**

Interactive discussion will focus on potential interventions of CAREC programme and CAREC Institute in priority climate issues of countries

**14:10-14:25 Gender and Digitalization aspects in climate change adaptation and mitigation efforts**

Interactive discussions about climate change and gender issues, and role of digital development in addressing climate change issues in the countries.

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**14:25-14:35 Way Forward and Closing Remarks**

**Dr. Johannes Linn**, Nonresident Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution

**Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev**, Deputy Director II, CAREC Institute