

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

Presentation to the ADB/CAREC Presentation to the ADB/CAREC Institute Chai event 10 April 2023

#### Background

- Climate change: the defining challenge for global development during the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- Now well recognized worldwide; actions at global, regional and national levels
- The CAREC region: contributes to carbon emissions and is vulnerable to the consequences of climate change
- CAREC 2030 strategy: Climate change as a cross-cutting theme, but limited focus to date





#### Purpose

- Define how CAREC can intensify its support for regional actions to respond to climate change
- Develop a systematic and strategic approach by CAREC to the climate agenda in the region by
- Provide reference document on climate issues in the CAREC region



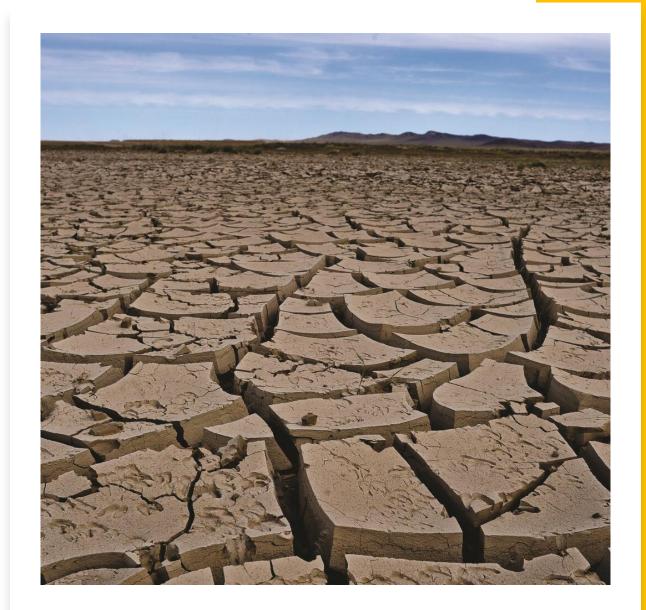
#### Approach

- The approach focused on
  - documentary evidence
  - consultations with experts
  - consultations with CAREC country officials
- Coordinated with two other CAREC studies
  - "CAREC Post-Pandemic Plan for Green, Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery"
  - "CAREC Strategic Approaches to Agriculture"



#### Content

- Climate change in the CAREC region: challenges and issues
  - Issue in general
  - Issue in CAREC region
  - Regional dimensions
- Approach of CAREC to climate change to date
- Future directions of CAREC



## Main climate change issues addressed in the Scoping Study

	8 Core issues		Cross-cutting issues		On-the-horizon issues	
	National	Regional	National	Regional	National	Regional
Mitigation  Adaptation	<ul> <li>Energy</li> <li>Water</li> <li>Agriculture</li> <li>Energy/water/ agriculture nexus</li> <li>Transport</li> <li>Cities</li> <li>Disasters</li> <li>Health</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>- Macroeconomic</li> <li>- Private sector</li> <li>- ICT/digital</li> <li>- Hydromet</li> <li>- Institutional capacity</li> <li>- Costs and benefits</li> <li>- Just transition</li> <li>- Gender</li> <li>- Communic./advocacy</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>On the horizon energy issues</li> <li>Artificial intelligence (AI)</li> <li>Technology transfer and S-S Cooperation</li> <li>Migration</li> <li>New concepts</li> <li>Research/data</li> </ul>	

### Overarching conclusion

CAREC has a unique and urgent opportunity to chart a course of proactive, systematic and strategic engagement on climate change

- developing a range of regional actions in response to the regional nature of many climate change impacts and solutions, and
- supporting its member countries in reinforcing, modifying and implementing existing national strategies on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

#### 8 Main messages on climate change issues

- 1. Climate change presents a major challenge for CAREC and requires an urgent and powerful response, but also offers the opportunity to develop a "new climate economy"
- 2. Climate change has important regional impacts and requires regional action.
- 3. National and regional climate action is complementary and mutually reinforcing.
- 4. The systemic nature of climate change requires an "all-of-government" and an "all-of-country" approach
- 5. National and regional climate strategies need to set priorities for action among issues and be transparently implemented, monitored and adapted.
- 6. The private sector plays a critical role in national and regional climate action.
- 7. Domestic and external finance is a critical part of national and regional climate action
- 8. National and regional climate action needs effective support from development partners and South-South cooperation.

## 8 Main recommendations for CAREC and CAREC Institute (CI)

- 1. CAREC to incorporate climate change as an urgent crosscutting issue in the CAREC 2030 Strategy.
- 2. The CAREC Secretariat to prepare a CAREC Climate Change Strategy.
- 3. CAREC to establish a senior-level Steering Committee for climate change.
- 4. The CAREC Climate Steering Committee to develop a road map for freestanding climate change projects and targeted climate mitigation and adaptation components in other projects.
- 5. CAREC and CI to work closely together and to develop an agreed division of labor.
- 6. CAREC to engage systematically with Development Partners (DPs) and other regional organizations.
- 7. CAREC to aim to develop a common position on global climate change negotiations (COPs).
- 8. CAREC and the CAREC Institute to monitor and evaluate progress with the implementation of climate change strategies in the region.

### A personal perspective of a young Central Asian: Gulshat Raissova from Kazakhstan

- Kazakhstan has experienced the negative effects of climate change, including droughts, floods, heatwaves, and wildfires.
- The country is developing a comprehensive legal framework and national policies for climate change mitigation and adaptation including adoption of a new Ecological Code in 2021.
- Women and young people are taking part in leading the inspiring initiatives that promote sustainable development and environmental protection.
- However, there is still much work to be done to address the urgent issue of climate change, and collective action is needed from governments, businesses, and individuals around the world.





#### A personal perspective of Central Asian: Turdakun Tashbolotov from Kyrgyzstan

- Water rich Kyrgyzstan is experiencing water shortage. The problem will only get worse if proper action won't be taken.
- Country's economically important region may find itself in severe water distress in the future.
- The rainfall patterns are likely changing threatening agricultural production and aggravating natural cataclysms.
- The efficiency in water use and management are crucial.
- CAREC Institute's research on water issues is very timely and it needs to be further expanded



