

CAREC Think Tank Network (CTTN): Progress

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17 August 2023
The Seventh CAREC Think Tank Development Forum
Urumqi, XUAR, PRC

About the Network

- Leading think tanks from the CAREC member countries agreed to establish the CAREC Think Tanks Network (CTTN) during the second CAREC Think Tank Development Forum (CTTDF) in Urumqi, People's Republic of China (PRC), in 2017.
- “Urumqi Declaration” – main founding document. The CTTN promotes the regional economic cooperation by enhancing systemic regional knowledge sharing and integration; fostering policy research and knowledge solutions to support governments; enabling better policy advice; reducing gaps between research and policy; and enhancing collective intelligence to consolidate development resources for effective cooperation, better services, and improved performance.
- Over 60 think tanks, research institutions, universities and policy centers from CAREC countries. Key activities: CAREC Think Tank Development Forum (CTTDF), Research Grants Program (RGP), Think Tank Talk Series/ Dialogue and CTTN Blog.

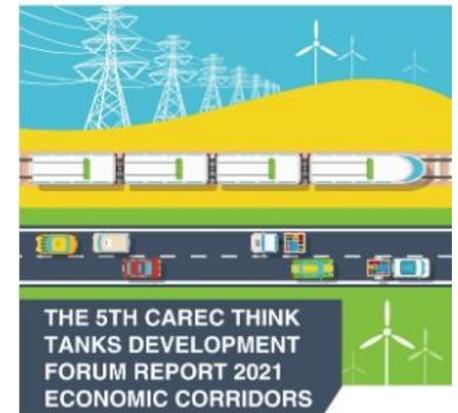


Network Activities

- CAREC Annual Think Tank Development Forum (launched in 2016):
The Forum is a platform for think tanks, research institutions, and researchers from the CAREC region and beyond to exchange views and knowledge on evolving regional and global policy challenges.
- CTTN Research Grants Program (launched in 2019):
It support scholars and researchers from CTTN to produce targeted knowledge products which will add to the body of knowledge on regional cooperation in CAREC.
- Think Tank Talk Series / Dialogue (launched in 2021):
CTTN dialogues aim to stimulate knowledge sharing, debate and exchange between the policy makers and think tanks on emerging themes in the region, and provide the country-specific perspectives on the important regional issues.
- CTTN Blog (launched in 2023):
The Blog is open-source knowledge platform that encourage researchers and thinkers to share ideas and information for the collective benefits of CTTN members.



CAREC Think Tanks Network
Research Grants Program



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CTTN Activities: CAREC Think Tank Development Forum

The CAREC Think Tank Development Forum (CTTDF) is flagship event of the CAREC Institute organized annually under the auspices of the CTTN.

- The First Forum: “Promoting Economic Cooperation for an Integrated Central Asia”, Almaty, Kazakhstan, June 2016;
- The Second Forum: “Exploring Knowledge Solutions for Regional Cooperation and Integration”, Urumqi, PRC, September 2017;
- The Third Forum: “Building Knowledge Corridors along the Silk Road”, Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, June 2018;
- The Fourth Forum: “Trading for Shared Prosperity”, Xi'an, PRC, August 2019;
- The Fifth Forum: “Economic Corridors: Pathways to Regional Growth”, virtual, 23-24 November 2021;
- The Sixth Forum: “Recalibrating Growth Dynamics for Inclusive and Sustainable Economies”, Baku, Azerbaijan, 15-16 September 2022.



CTTN Activities: Research Grants Program (RGP)

In 2019, the CTTN launched its RGP to support scholars and researchers from CTTN members to produce targeted knowledge products which will add to the body of knowledge on regional cooperation in CAREC.

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Assessing participation of CAREC countries in global and regional value chains; (ii) Study of cross-border tourism value chains between Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan; (iii) Impact of sanitary, phytosanitary, and quality-related standards on the trade flow between CAREC countries and Georgia; (iv) Opportunities and challenges for agri-food trade between the Kyrgyz Republic and Pakistan; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Exploring exports-driven growth: Learning from Pakistan-China Free Trade Agreement, and (ii) Prospects of tourism sector development in Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic including Almaty-Bishkek Economic Corridor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Community Entrepreneurship in Central Asia: Learning from the “One Tambon, One Product” Program in the Greater Mekong Subregion (ii) The CAREC and its Neighboring Regions: A diagnostic of the intra-bloc and extra-bloc trade (iii) Trade Efficiency and Influencing Factors in CAREC Region: Based on Stochastic Frontier Gravity Model (iv) Technology gap and productivity spillovers from Chinese outward Foreign Direct Investment 	<p>Access to Health, Education, Digital technologies, and Women's Participation in the Workforce:</p> <p>Case Studies from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) CESD, Azerbaijan b) Institute of Economics, Kazakhstan c) SDPI, Pakistan d) CPRO, Westminster International University, Uzbekistan 	<p>Leveraging Digital Technology for Green, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Digitalization of Infrastructure and Decarbonization in Central Asia: Opportunities and Challenges b) Regional Connectivity in Central Asia: Digitalization of Trade and Benefits for Regional Cooperation c) The Role of Special Economic Zones in Digital Transformation of Central Asia d) Scope of Digital Trade Integration for Pakistan and Central Asian States: An Action Plan

CTTN Activities: Think Tank Talk Series / Dialogue

- CTTN Dialogue: Thinking through the Crisis - the Role of Think Tanks in March 2021
- CTTN Dialogue / CAREC Chai Event: Impact of the Russia-Ukraine Conflict on the CAREC region n April 2023

CAREC THINK TANK NETWORK VIRTUAL DIALOGUE

THINKING THROUGH CRISIS – THE ROLE OF THINK TANKS

24 March 2021, 4:00-6:00 P.M. (GMT +8)
VIA ZOOM (PRIOR REGISTRATION REQUIRED)

SCAN CODE OR FOLLOW [Bit.ly/3rvEYeh](https://bit.ly/3rvEYeh) TO REGISTER

The Dialogue will be available in English and Russian

Speakers:

- KHALID UMAR**, Chief of Strategic Planning Division, CAREC Institute
- Dr. NELLA HENDRIETTY**, Senior Capacity Building and Training Economist, ADB Institute
- Dr. HANS HOLZHACKER**, Chief Economist, CAREC Institute
- Dr. MIAO LU**, Secretary-General, China Center for Globalization, PRC
- Dr. ABID QAIYUM SULERI**, Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Pakistan
- Dr. XIAOJUN GRACE WANG**, Deputy Director, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation
- Dr. TUVSHINTUGS BATDELGER**, Executive Director, Economic Research Institute, Mongolia
- NARMINA GASIMOVA**, Grants and Programs Director, Center for Economic and Social Development, Azerbaijan

CTTN DIALOGUE / CAREC CHAI

Impact of the Russian-Ukraine Conflict on the CAREC Region

27 APRIL 2023 | 16:00-18:00 (UCT+8)

Speakers:

- Roman Mogilevski**, Senior Economist, CWRD, ADB

"The conflicts and other shocks in 2022 triggered significant changes in foreign trade and migration in the economies of Caucasus and Central Asia (CCA). Many countries of the region saw all-time high export and import values, reorientation of trade flows, emergence of new and large re-exports, trade creation and trade destruction. In addition to the traditional labor migration from the region to Russia, many people started moving in opposite direction. But how sustainable are these changes in trade and migration in CCA?"

REGISTRATION VIA ZOOM

CTTN DIALOGUE / CAREC CHAI

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REGISTRATION VIA ZOOM

CAREC INSTITUTE | **ADB**



CTTN Activities: Partnerships and Dialogues

- The CAREC Institute, on behalf of the CTTN, contributed to Global and Asian think tank forums and dialogues:
- ADB-Asian Think Tanks Development Forum on the Global Chain and Economic Development in Yangon, Myanmar, in 2019;
- Global Think Tanks Summit 2019 in Brazil (virtually) on “Managing Global Turbulence and Transitions: The Role of Think Tanks”
- Virtual dialogues for UNSCC.



CTTN Contributions to the Global Coalition of Think Tanks Networks and South-South Cooperation

The CTTN became a member of the Global Coalition of Think Tanks Networks coordinated by UN Office of South-South Cooperation and UNDP in 2022.

CI attended the 5th Steering Committee Meeting of the South-South Global Thinkers: the Global Coalition of Think Tanks Networks for South-South Cooperation.

Members of CTTN contributed to the global discussion on priority areas for South-South and Triangular Cooperation in support of evidence-based policymaking in the global south in April 2022.

In July 2023, CTTN members (ISET, SDPI, CESD and CAB) participated in global consultations on Human Development Report (HDR) 2023



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