



3rd CAREC Climate Policy Dialogue
**Securing a Sustainable Future for Central Asia: A Dialogue on Climate
inaction, Investment Gaps, and Regional Cooperation**

Webinar
25 April 2024
16:00 – 18:00 (Beijing time, GMT + 8)

as of 2nd April 2024

1. Background

Central Asia's economies are highly vulnerable to the long-term consequences of climate change. Rising temperatures are expected to exacerbate existing water scarcity, threatening agricultural productivity, hydropower generation, and overall regional stability.

This webinar explores the findings of two key research reports: "Implications of Climate Inaction across the Water-Agriculture-Energy Nexus and Potential Benefits of Improved Intersectoral and Regional Cooperation" and "An Investment Gap Analysis of Central Asia's Water, Agriculture, and Energy Sectors."

The CAREC Institute's research analyzes the potential economic costs of inaction on climate change in Central Asia. It highlights the interconnected nature of the water, agriculture, and energy sectors, emphasizing the need for a coordinated approach. We delve into the specific investment gaps within each sector across Central Asian nations and explore opportunities for regional cooperation in data sharing, infrastructure development, and joint climate action strategies.

In response to the pressing circumstances, the CAREC Institute, in collaboration with development partners, is convening a webinar to provide policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders with a nuanced understanding of the challenges posed by climate change in Central Asia, as well as the investment gaps and opportunities associated with addressing these challenges. This dialogue is based on the findings of CI's recent studies. I.e Charting a Sustainable Path for Central Asia: Insights from Recent Research on Climate Inaction and Investment Gaps in Water, Agriculture, and Energy. Through collaborative dialogue, our aim is to forge a path towards a more sustainable and resilient future for the region.

Scheduled for April 25, 2024, from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM Beijing Time, this webinar will leverage research insights to:

- Discuss and exchange perspectives on the practical implications of climate inaction and investment challenges and opportunities in Central Asia.
- Explore effective strategies for formulating policy recommendations tailored to the needs of governments.

The participation of diverse experts including researchers, development partners, and regional stakeholders will facilitate the development of holistic solutions. As a result, the 3rd Climate Dialogue will serve as a pivotal platform for translating research findings into actionable strategies to address climate challenges in Central Asia.

Registration link:

https://carecinstitute-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_imhzsEMHSpGP3DYP4MK6IQ

Panelists will receive personalized Zoom link for their participation in the event.

Agenda

April 25th, 2024 (Beijing time, GMT+8)¹

15:50-16:00: Virtual Connection to the Dialogue and Webinar Rules

Group Photo

Ms. Rose Shao, Capacity Building Specialist, CAREC Institute

Opening Remarks

16:00-16:05 **Mr. Kabir K. Jurazoda**, Director, CAREC Institute

Dialogue MC: **Ms. Rose Shao**, Capacity Building Specialist, CAREC Institute

Session I: Keynote Presentations

16:05-16:20 Introduction of Project Objectives and Key Findings on "An Investment Gap Analysis of Central Asia's Water, Agriculture, and Energy Sectors"

Mr. Asif Razzaq, Senior Research Specialist, CAREC Institute

16:20-16:35 Introduction and Key Findings on "Implications of Climate Inaction across the Water-Agriculture-Energy Nexus and Potential Benefits of Improved Intersectoral and Regional Cooperation"

Mr. Abdurasul Kayumov, International Consultant, CAREC Institute

Session II: Panel Discussion with Implementing Partners

¹ Simultaneous Interpretation will be available. Please select from the bottom panel your language of preference, English or Russian.

16:35-18:00 This is a structured brainstorming session with representatives of regional institutions and projects in the CAREC region. Each organization's expert will be given 10 minutes to address their comments on the 3 pre-identified topics of the CAREC Climate Scoping Study.

Guiding Questions:

1. **How do you perceive the current climate change situation in Central Asia, and what are the most pressing challenges that the region is facing?** This question provides an opportunity for panelists to share their insights on the current state of climate change in Central Asia, highlighting key challenges that need to be addressed urgently.
2. **What are the key investment challenges hindering effective climate action in Central Asia, and how can these barriers be addressed?** This question delves into the practical aspects of implementing climate-related investments in Central Asia, allowing panelists to discuss the obstacles they have encountered and propose potential solutions for overcoming these challenges.
3. **How can international organizations collaborate with local stakeholders and governments in Central Asia to mobilize investment funds effectively for climate-related projects? Specifically, How the estimated investment gaps could be covered by engaging multilateral development partners and governments?**

Distinguished Discussants:

Ms. Agnes Surry, Deputy Head of Capacity Building and Training and Senior Economist, ADBI

Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev, Visiting Professor, Centre for International Development and Environmental Research (ZEU) Justus Liebig University Giessen

Dr. Roman Vakulchuk, Head of Climate and Energy Research Group, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI)

Moderator: Dr. Kuat Akizhanov, Deputy Director II, CAREC Institute

Takeaways and Way Forward

Dr. Kuat Akizhanov, Deputy Director II, CAREC Institute