



**CAUCASUS, CENTRAL ASIA,  
AND MONGOLIA**  
REGIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER

**The Eighth CAREC Think Tank Development Forum (CTTDF)**  
*The Climate Challenge: Thinking Beyond Borders for Collective Action*

# **Pathways to Sustainable Development: Achieving High Economic Growth While Minimizing Carbon Footprint**

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CCAMTAC is a multi-donor initiative supported by member countries and the development partners:

### CCAMTAC Member Countries



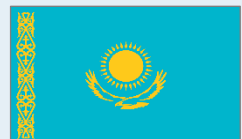
Armenia



Azerbaijan



Georgia



Kazakhstan



Kyrgyzstan



Mongolia



Tajikistan



Turkmenistan



Uzbekistan

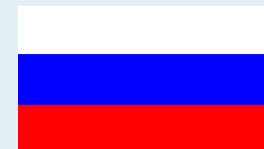
### CCAMTAC Development Partners (Donors)



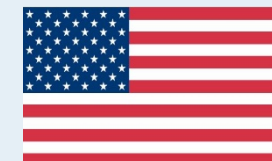
Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,  
Education and Research EAER  
**State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO**



Ministry of Economy  
and Finance



Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Republic of Poland

# Agenda

Growth , Outlook Without further Reforms, and Climate Indicators

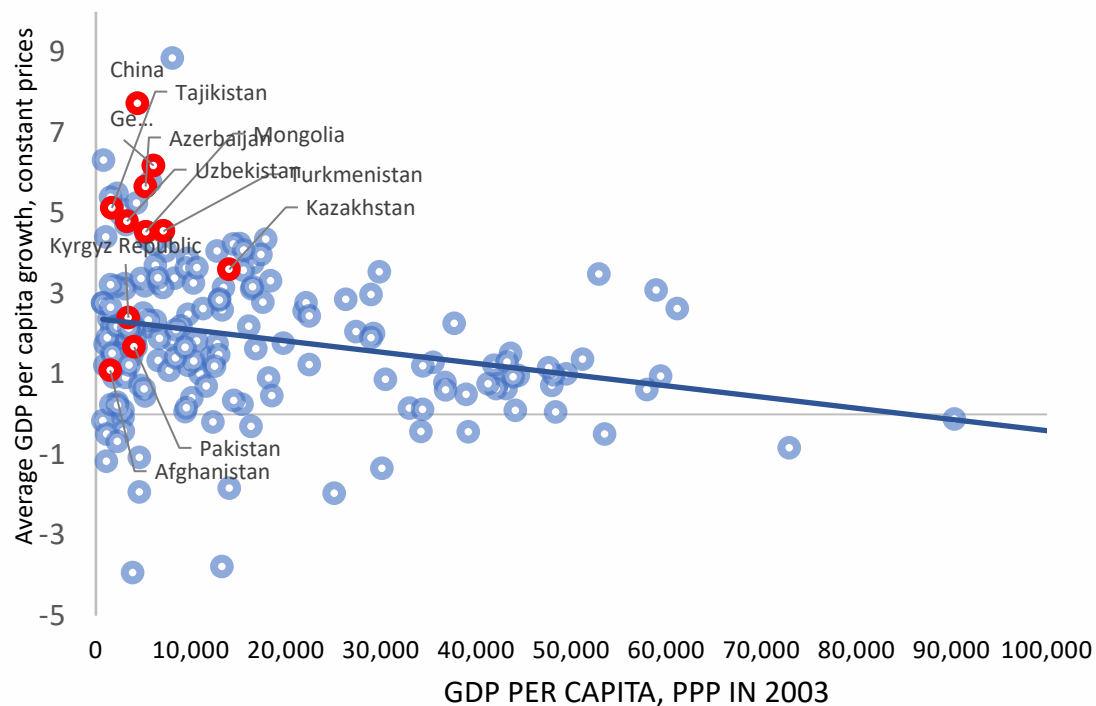
Policy Options to Mitigate, Adapt and Transition

Indicative Scenarios

Complementary Reforms and Conclusions

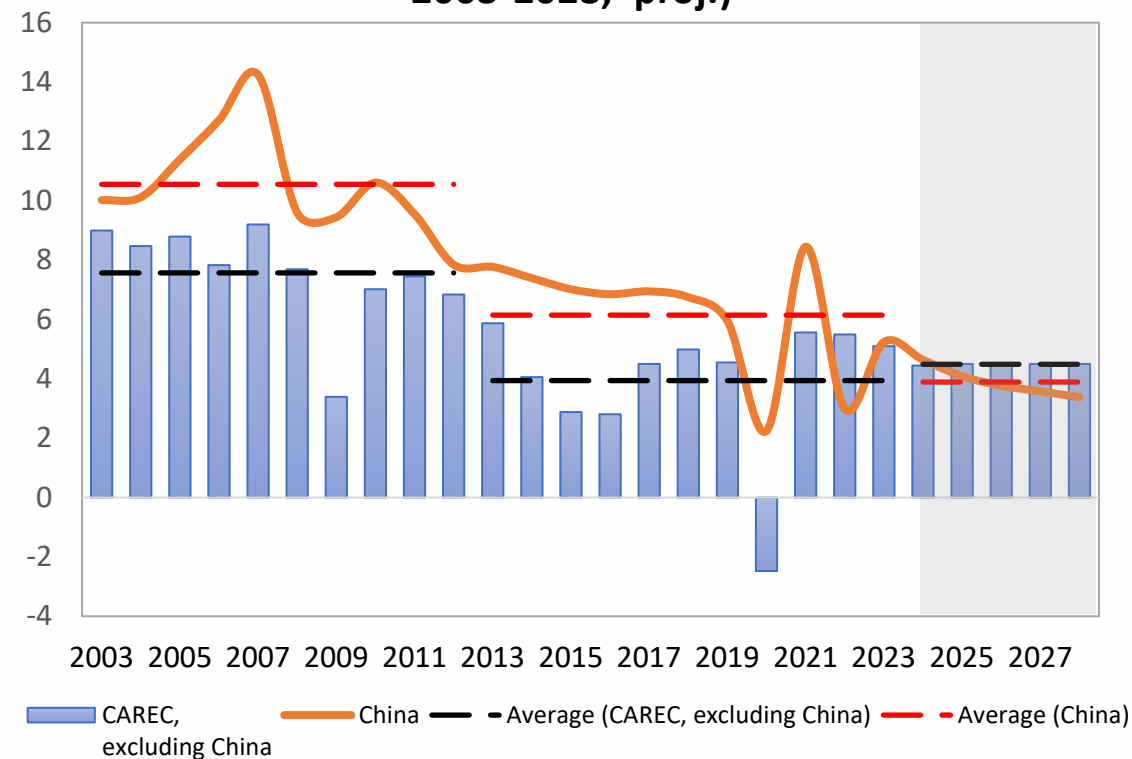
# Following strong growth in the past, average growth in the CAREC region has been declining

Initial GDP and average GDP per capita growth in 2003-2023



Source: IMF World Economic Outlook

GDP growth in CAREC countries (Median, 2003-2028, proj.)



Source: IMF World Economic Outlook

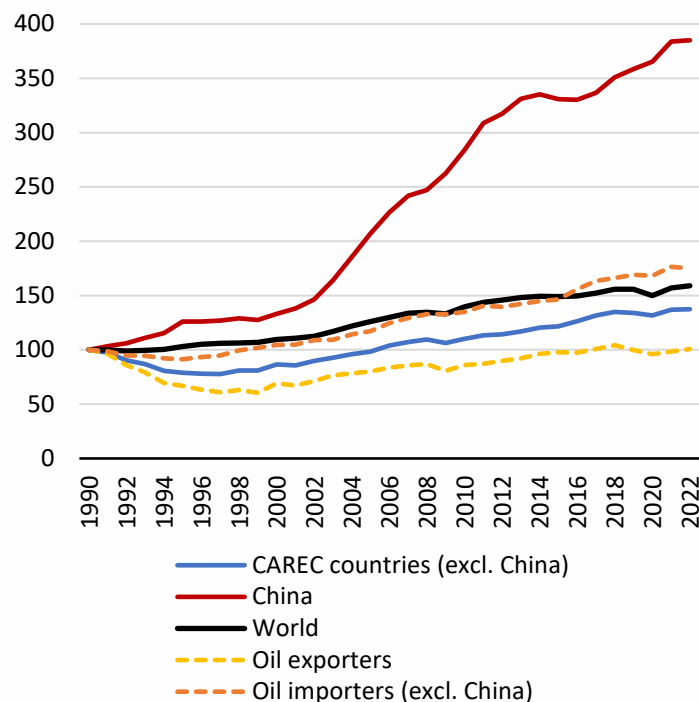
# GHG emissions have continued to rise, following a temporary decline in several CAREC countries during the early 1990s

During the last two decades GHG emissions have been growing in CAREC economies

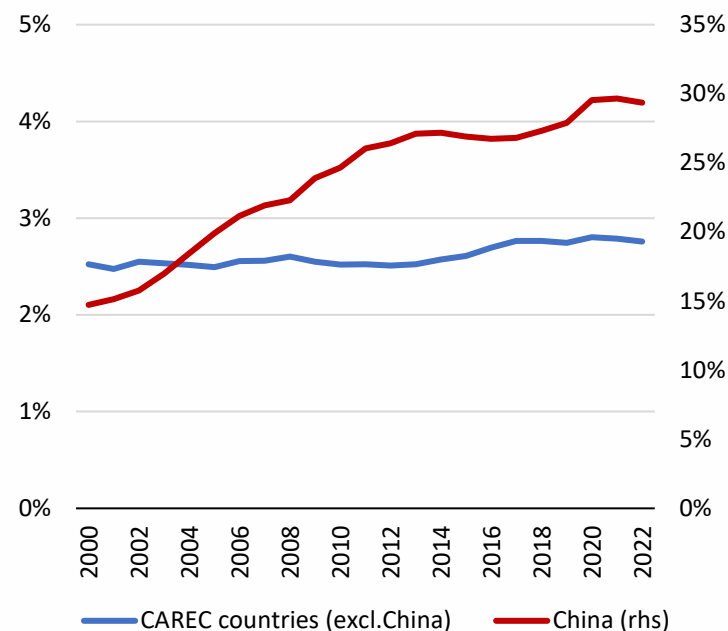
While small (excl. China), the share of GHG emissions in global emissions increased

Energy-related activities and agriculture generate the greatest amount of GHG emissions

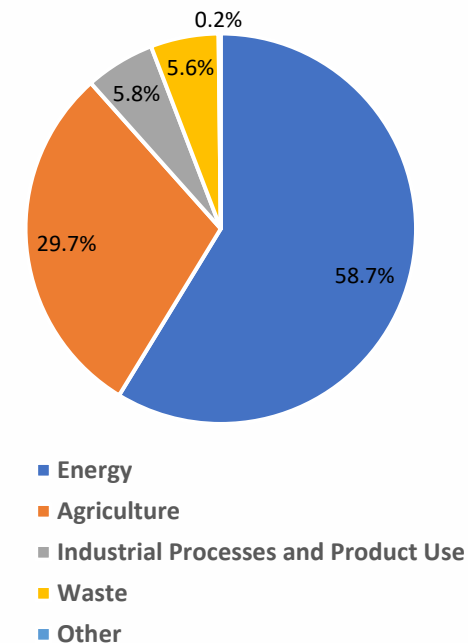
**Growth of GHG emissions**  
(Index, 1990=100)



**Shares in Annual Global GHG emissions**  
(percent)



**Contributions to GHG emissions by sector in CAREC countries**  
(percentage of total, excl. China)



Source: IMF Climate Change Indicators Dashboard, August 1, 2024.

# What is driving GHG emissions: Relative contributions of key economic trends and drivers

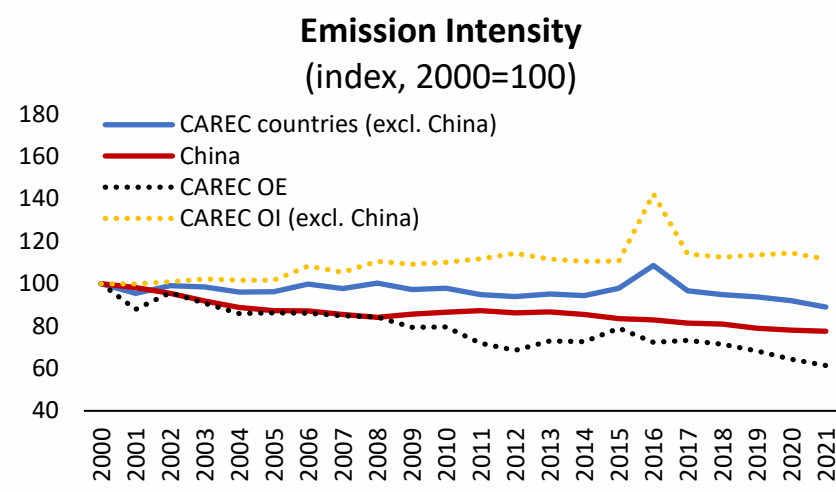
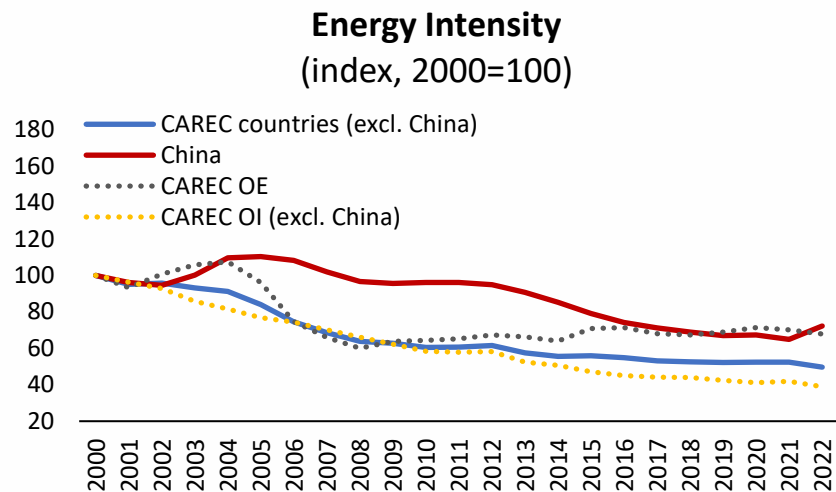
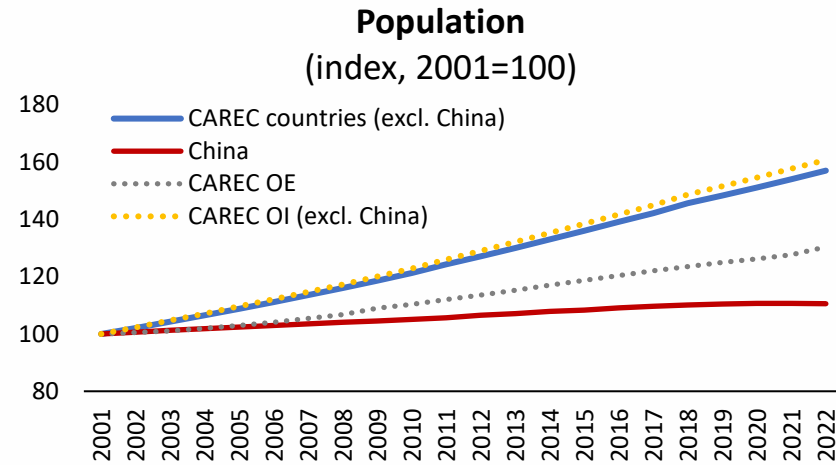
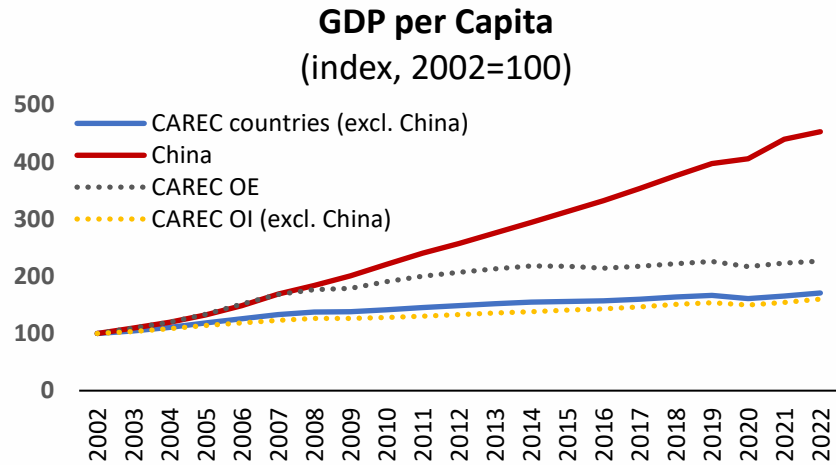
Four factors:

- I. Size in terms of **Population**
- II. How much is produced per person - **GDP per capita**
- III. How energy intense is production (**Energy consumption / Real GDP**)
- IV. How GHG intense is the energy consumption (**GHG emissions/ Energy consumption**)

$$GHG\ Emissions = Population \times \frac{Real\ GDP}{Population} \times \frac{Energy\ Consumption}{Real\ GDP} \times \frac{GHG\ Emissions}{Energy\ Consumption}$$

1/ Kaya identity, see Kaya and Yokobori, 1997

# What is driving GHG emissions: Relative contributions of key economic trends and drivers



| Selected NDC mitigation targets compared to Bau until 2030 (IMF est.) |        |
|---|--------|
| AZE   | -38.8% |
| CHN   | -14.7  |
| KAZ   | -8.1%  |
| KGZ   | -42.4% |
| MNG   | -15.4  |
| TJK   | -25.6% |
| TKM   | -20%   |

Sources: IMF World Economic Outlook, EIA, Our World in Data (Energy), Kaya and Yokobori, 1997, IMF Climate Change Indicators Dashboard, August 1, 2024, IMF staff calculations

# Climate policy options need to be tailored to country circumstances

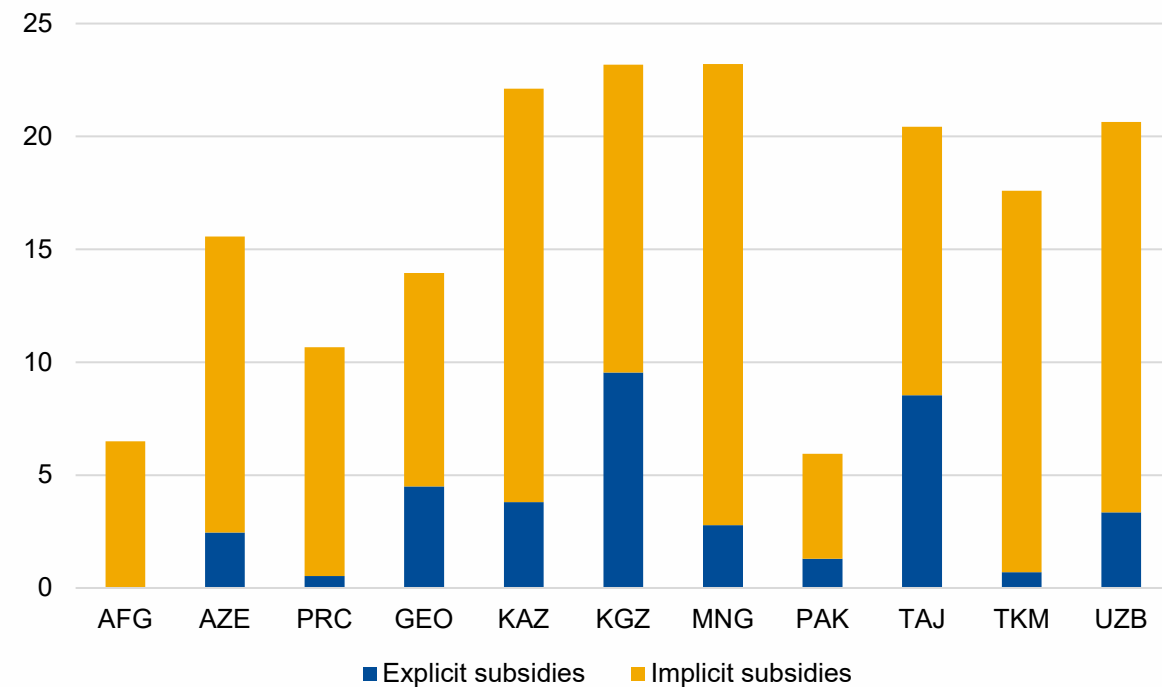
|  | Specific areas (Examples)  | Common areas  |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Mitigation</b>                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Carbon pricing</b>, including carbon tax/ETS, feebates in transportation and energy</li> <li>• <b>Public investment</b> in green innovation and infrastructure</li> <li>• <b>Regulatory reforms</b> (e.g., energy efficiency regulations)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building <b>fiscal buffers</b>, e.g. based on fiscal risk analysis</li> <li>• The need for <b>financial and technical support</b> from advanced to developing economies</li> <li>• Strengthening <b>financial institutions' management</b> of climate risks</li> <li>• <b>Domestic resource mobilization</b>, including developing capital markets and blue/green finance</li> <li>• Improving <b>climate data</b> and standards</li> <li>• Strengthening <b>public financing management</b>, for example, climate budget tagging</li> <li>• Strengthening <b>social safety nets</b> and active labor market programs</li> </ul> |
| <b>Adaptation</b>                                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resilient infrastructure, agriculture, and water supply</li> </ul>  |   |
| <b>Transition</b> (to a low-carbon global economy) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing a <b>medium-term fiscal framework</b>, accounting for the global transition to a low-carbon economy</li> <li>• Economic diversification away from fossil fuels</li> </ul>  |   |



# Strengthening market signals would help reduce energy intensity: Carbon pricing and reduction of fossil fuel subsidies

- **Carbon pricing**, including carbon tax/ETS, feebates in transportation and energy
- **Subsidies**
  - Explicit subsidies reflect underpricing due to supply costs being greater than prices paid by users
  - Implicit subsidies reflect the difference between supply costs and socially efficient prices (incorporating the cost of negative externalities of fossil fuel use and foregone consumption tax revenues), exclusive of any explicit subsidy

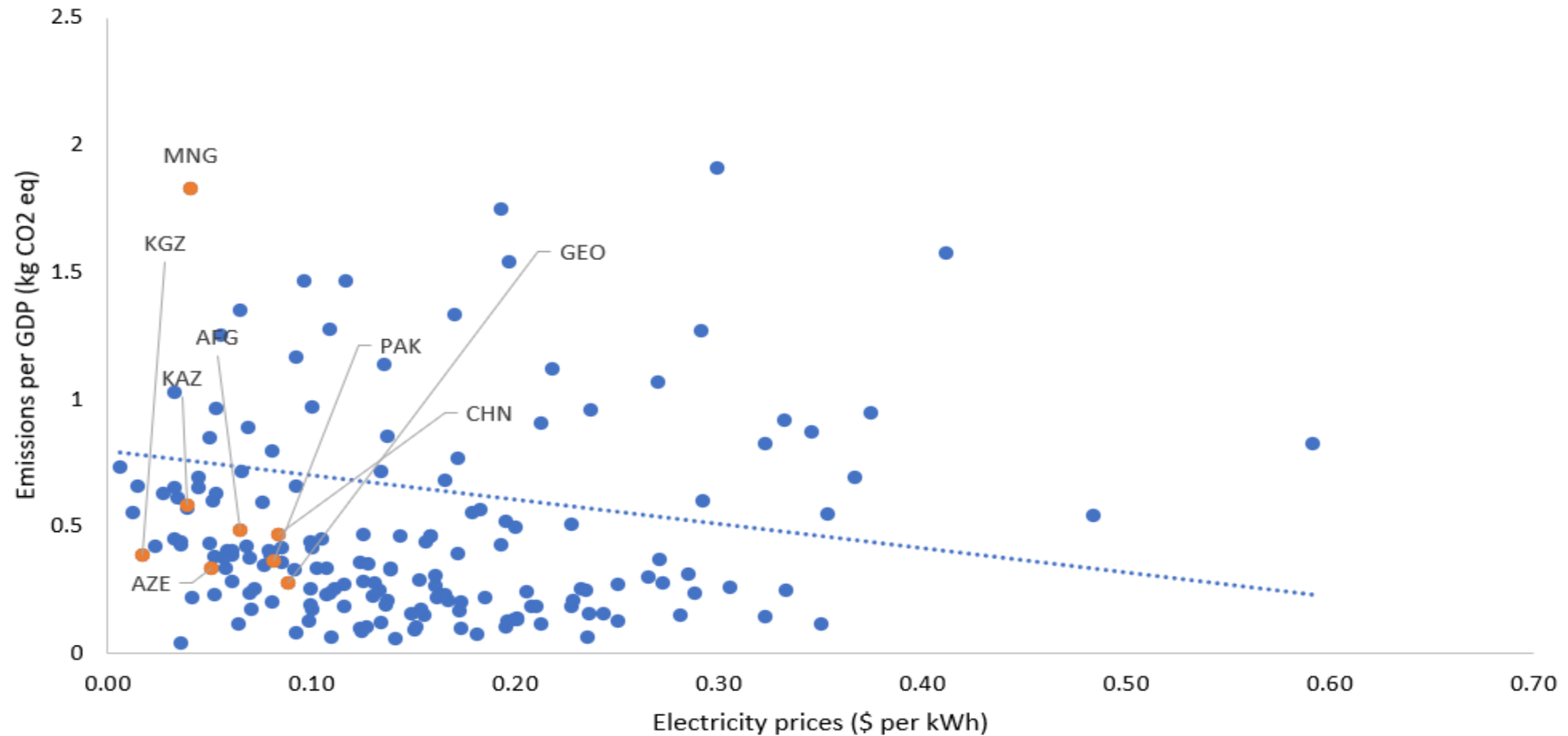
Fossil Fuel Subsidies - Explicit and Implicit, 2020  
(percent of GDP)



Source: International Monetary Fund. Climate Change Indicators Dashboard, August 1, 2024, <https://climatedata.imf.org/pages/access-data>

# Higher energy prices tend to be correlated with lower emissions

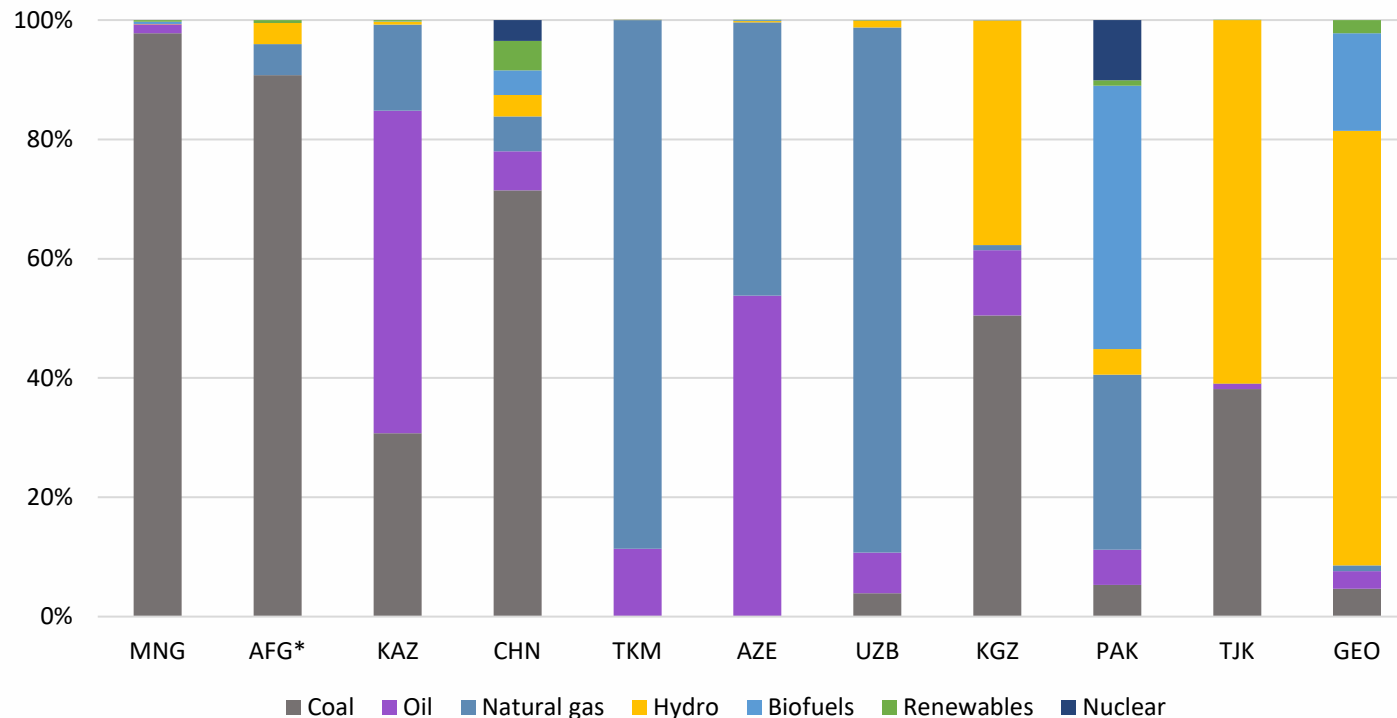
Emissions and Energy Prices in CAREC countries, 2021



Source: Climate Watch Database for the GHG emissions; IMF World Economic Outlook; Cable.co.uk

# A cleaner energy mix could help reduce emission intensity

**Total Energy Supply, 2022**  
(in percent of total)



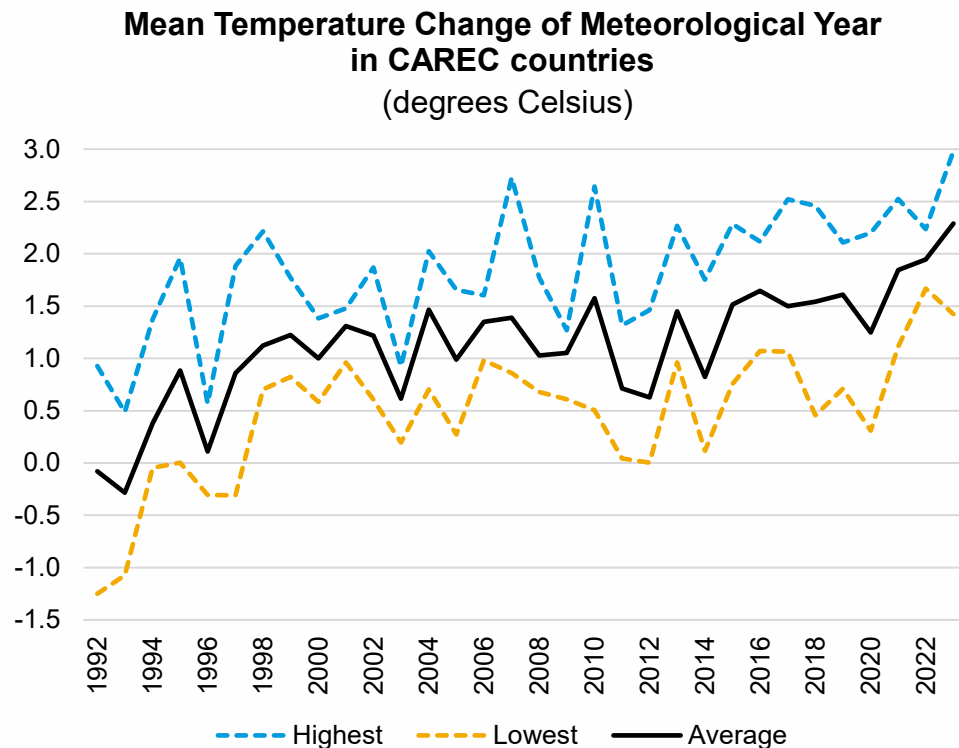
## Mitigation – emission intensity

- Development of renewable energy sector
- Public investment
- Regulatory reforms (e.g., energy efficiency regulations)
- In particular, for oil/gas exporters development of non-hydrocarbon industries as engine of growth

Note: Total energy supply in Afghanistan in 2021  
Sources: IEA, EIA, and IMF staff calculations

# Even with strong mitigation, the anticipated global increase in temperature necessitates adaptation

## Increase in mean temperature



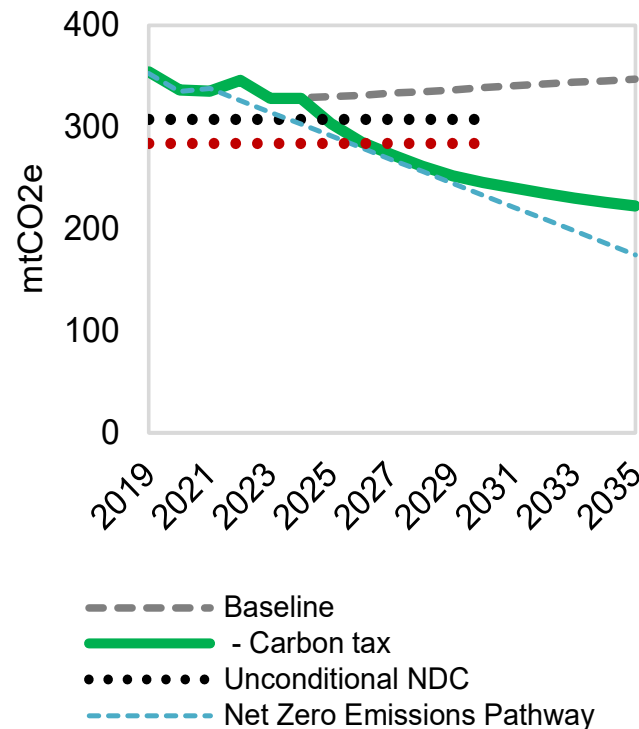
## Adaptation

- Agricultural sector is especially exposed to climate related risks
- Resilient infrastructure – e.g., measures to improve irrigation and water management, expand use of climate smart technologies
- Increased support to vulnerable groups will be key
- Partnering with development partners

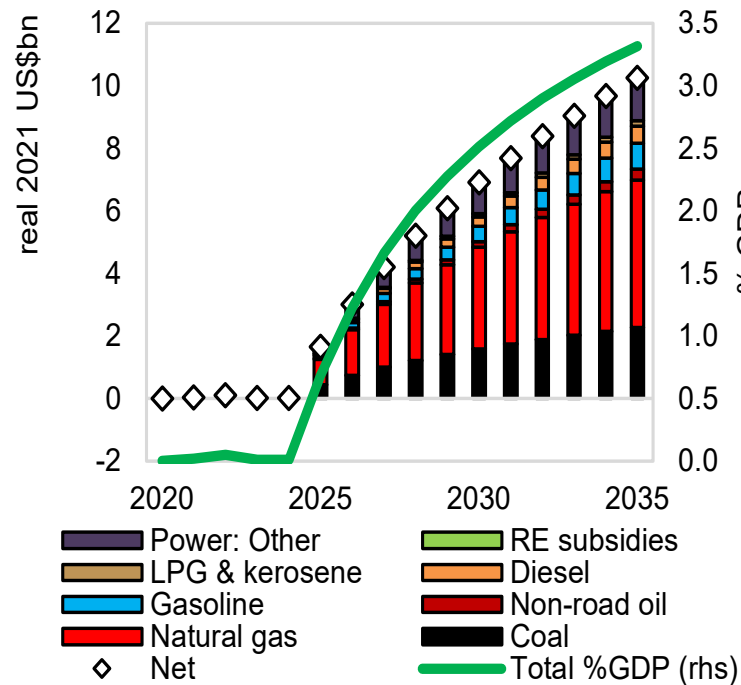
Source: IMF Climate Change Indicators Dashboard. August 2024. Temperature change is reported with respect to a baseline climatology corresponding to the period 1951-1980.

# Scenario analysis (illustrative): (1) Gradual introduction of a carbon tax

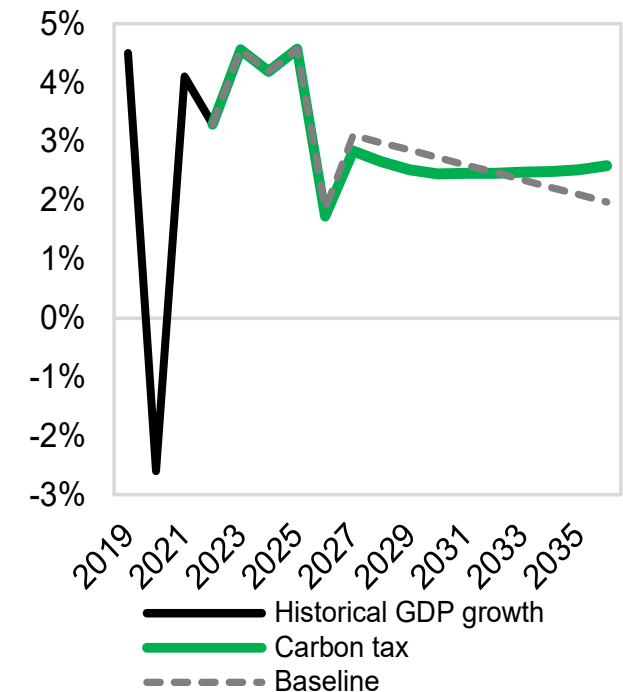
## GHG Emissions



## Revenue Impact



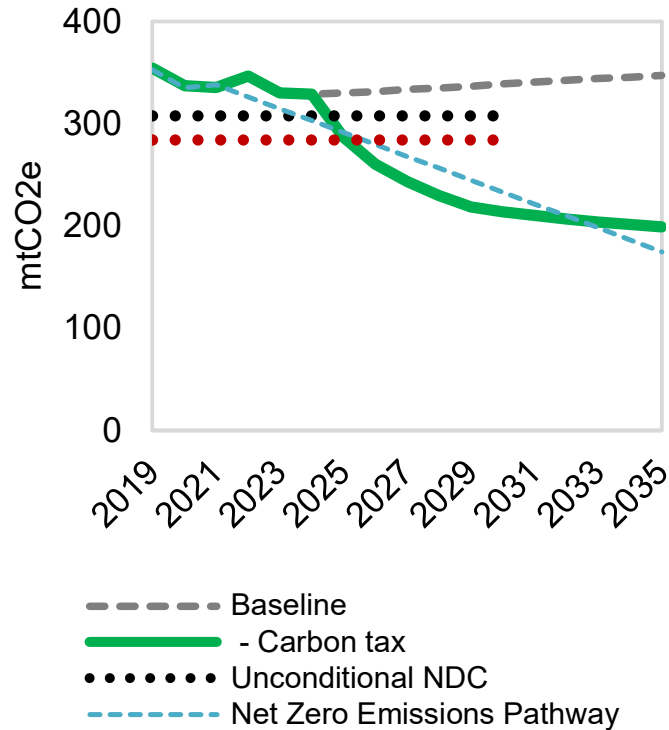
## Growth Impact



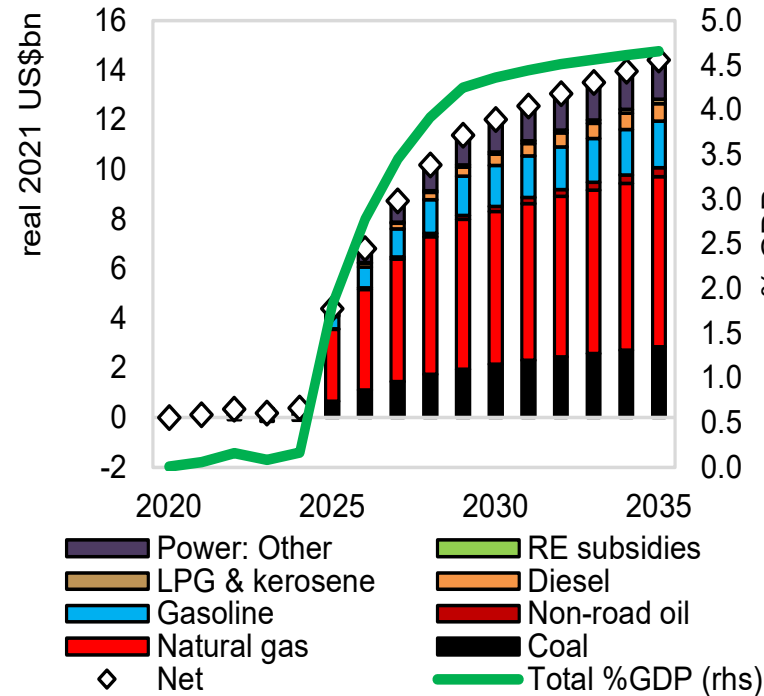
Sources: IMF World Bank: Climate Policy Assessment Tool, See also IMF working paper WP/23/128 and [here](#)

# Scenario analysis (Illustrative): (2) gradual introduction of a carbon tax and gradual phasing out of fossil fuel subsidies, exemptions, price controls

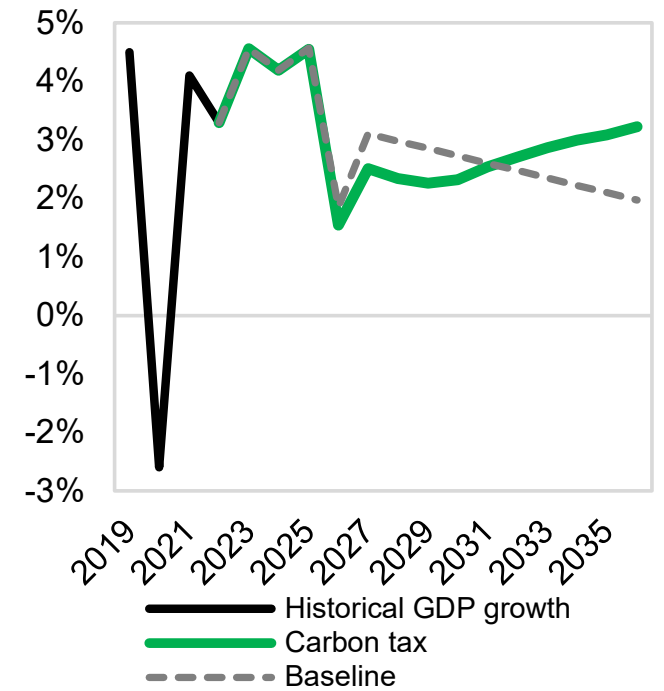
## GHG Emissions



## Revenue Impact



## Growth Impact



Sources: IMF World Bank: Climate Policy Assessment Tool, See also IMF working paper WP/23/128 and [here](#)

# Payoff of additional structural reforms



The diagnostics of structural determinants of growth for the CCA suggest that:

- governance and regulatory reforms,
- reducing state ownership in the corporate sector,
- liberalization of product, labor and financial markets and current account transactions, and
- easing of trade and foreign exchange restrictions could raise CCA output by 5–7 percent in the medium-term
- countries with better governance could derive greater payoffs from other reforms.

# Supporting the transition: A holistic View of **green PFM practices**

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Legal framework</b>                       | Are Green PFM practices underpinned by an adequate legal framework?  | Climate act, PFM act                                     |
| <b>Strategic Planning / Fiscal Framework</b> | Do strategic planning tools include green concerns?  | Development plan, MTBT and MTEF                          |
| <b>Budget Preparation</b>                    | Are tools in place to integrate climate concerns into budget preparation and allocation?   | Ex-ante impact assessment, fiscal risks, budget circular |
| <b>Budget Execution &amp; Accounting</b>     | Is the PFM system able to track and monitor outcomes of green expenditures?  | Expenditure tagging, tracking & monitoring               |
| <b>Control and Audit</b>                     | Are oversight institutions equipped to analyze and hold to account climate-related expenditures and outcomes?                        | Audit institutions, Climate councils                     |
| <b>Public Investment Management</b>          | Are all projects, planning and fund allocation, and implementation informed by present and future climate change policies and risks? | PIM rules and handbooks, CBA requirements                |
| <b>Fiscal Transparency</b>                   | Are efforts being made to ensure transparency and accountability for green aspects across the budget cycle?                          | Green budget reports                                     |
| <b>Coordination with SNGs and SOEs</b>       | Do PFM practices ensure that all fiscal actors play a role in the achievement of green goals?  | Coordination mechanism, reporting, aggregate analysis    |

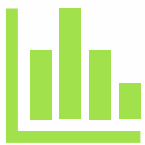
Source: Green PFM, Tjeerd Tim, IMF Fiscal Affairs Department, CCAMTAC webinar, February 2022



# Four Main pillars of the Fund's climate strategy

Climate Strategy (2021) goal: *“provide high quality, granular, and tailored advice to the membership on macroeconomic and financial policy challenges related to climate change”*

Integration of climate change into the core IMF's activities and strong cooperation with partners



Surveillance &  
Analytical Work



Capacity  
Development &  
Data



Lending

NEW



Cooperation &  
Coordination

# Conclusion

- Economic growth will need to be decoupled from emissions.
- Current geo-economic and climate challenges provide an opportunity to make growth more resilient, sustainable, and inclusive in the long-term. Delaying reforms make them more costly.
- Climate-related reforms will need to be embedded in broader structural reforms aimed at reducing the footprint of the state, encouraging private-sector led growth, and diversification.
- The mix of policy instruments to reduce energy intensity and emission intensity is country-specific. In many cases it will need to include a combination of carbon pricing, fossil fuel subsidy reform, energy market reform, investment in renewable energy, regulations, and other innovations. This involves a delicate balance between reforms and political economy considerations.
- Experience points to the importance of (i) engaging proactively, (ii) depoliticizing the process (e.g., rules-based system), and (iii) strengthening fiscal governance, including transparency.

# Good data is a precondition

## Climate Change Indicators Dashboard

Bridging the data gap on climate change for evidence-based economic decision-making



### Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

GHG Emissions Accounts  
National Inventories and Targets  
CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Intensities and Multipliers  
Carbon Footprints from



### Mitigation

Environmental Taxes  
Environmental Protection Expenditures  
Fossil Fuel Subsidies  
Renewable Energy  
Trade in Low Carbon Technology



### Adaptation

Climate-related Disasters Frequency  
Climate-driven INFORM Risk



### Transition to a Low-Carbon Economy

**NEW** NGFS Transition Pathways  
**NEW** NGFS GDP Losses and Benefits  
Forward-Looking Risks  
Trade in Low Carbon



### Climate Finance

Green Debt  
Carbon Footprint of Bank Loans



### Climate and Weather

Surface Temperature Change  
Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> Concentrations  
Change in Mean Sea Levels  
Land Cover Accounts

<https://climatedata.imf.org/>



# IMF-Middle East and Central Asia Department recent climate-related analytical work on the region

