



CAREC Climate Change Action Plan: Integrating Climate Change into CAREC Program Themes



8th CAREC Think Tank Development Forum (CTTDF)

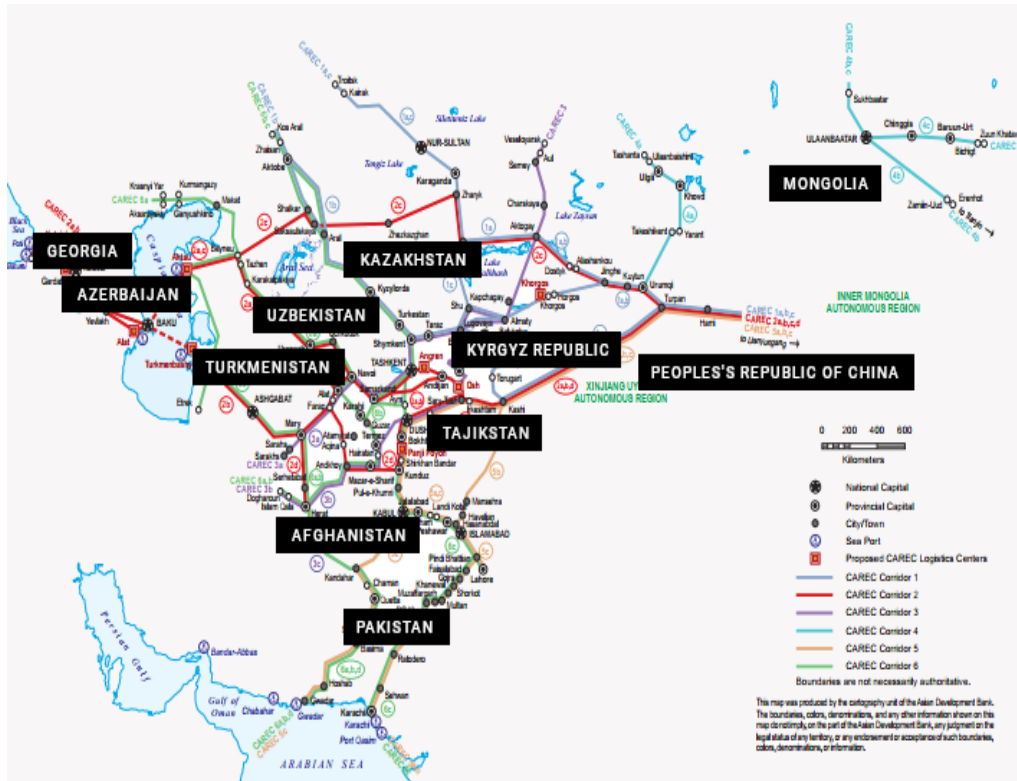
27-28 August 2024 | Almaty, Kazakhstan

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Asian Development Bank | Manila, Philippines



CAREC Program



- An **open and inclusive platform** working together—for over 22 years—to promote sustainable development through regional cooperation
 - **11 countries:** Afghanistan,¹ Azerbaijan, PRC, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan
 - **Development partners:** AIIB, EBRD, IMF, IsDB, UNDP, the World Bank, and expanding
- Overarching Vision: “**Good Neighbors, Good Partners, and Good Prospects.**”
- ADB serves as the **CAREC Secretariat.**
- CAREC convenes **regional policy dialogue**, supports project development and financing, provides technical assistance, and promotes South-South cooperation.
- **Adapting to global initiatives** – SDGs, Paris Agreement, COP, regional challenges and national priorities
- **CAREC Institute** supports knowledge generation and capacity building
- **Rotating chairmanship annually**, with **Kazakhstan** as the Country Chair for CAREC in 2024. Next Chair, Kyrgyz Republic



Guided by CAREC 2030 Strategy

Operational Clusters



Economic and Financial Stability



Trade, Tourism and Economic Corridors



Infrastructure and Economic Connectivity



Agriculture and Water

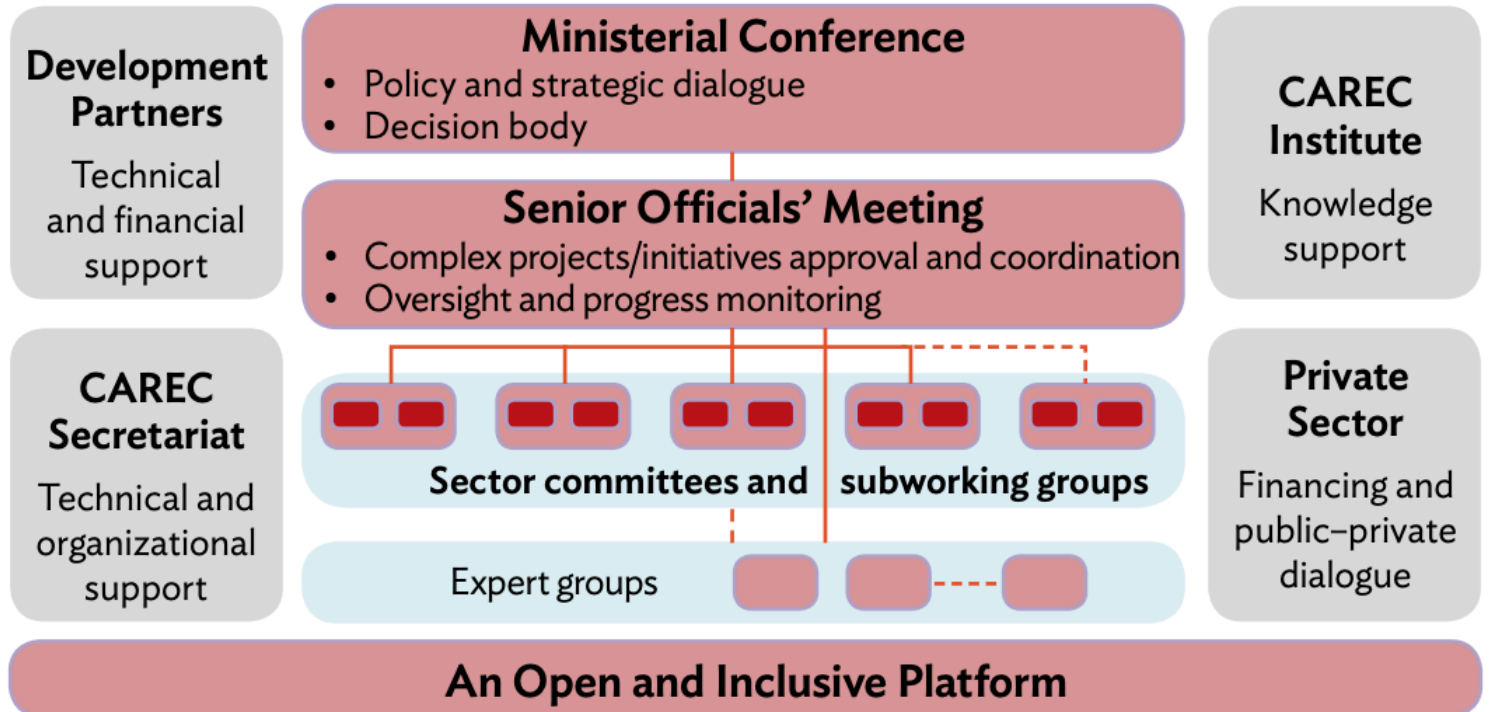


Human Development



Cross-cutting Themes

Institutional Framework



Ensuring CAREC's Relevance, Effectiveness, and Responsiveness

Plans and Priorities 2024

- Midterm Review of CAREC 2030 Strategy
- Implementation of **CAREC Climate Change Vision**
- Establishment of **CAREC Climate and Sustainability Project Preparatory Fund**
- Proposed CAREC Infrastructure Investment Forum
- Development of pipeline of innovative regional projects

Key Events 2024

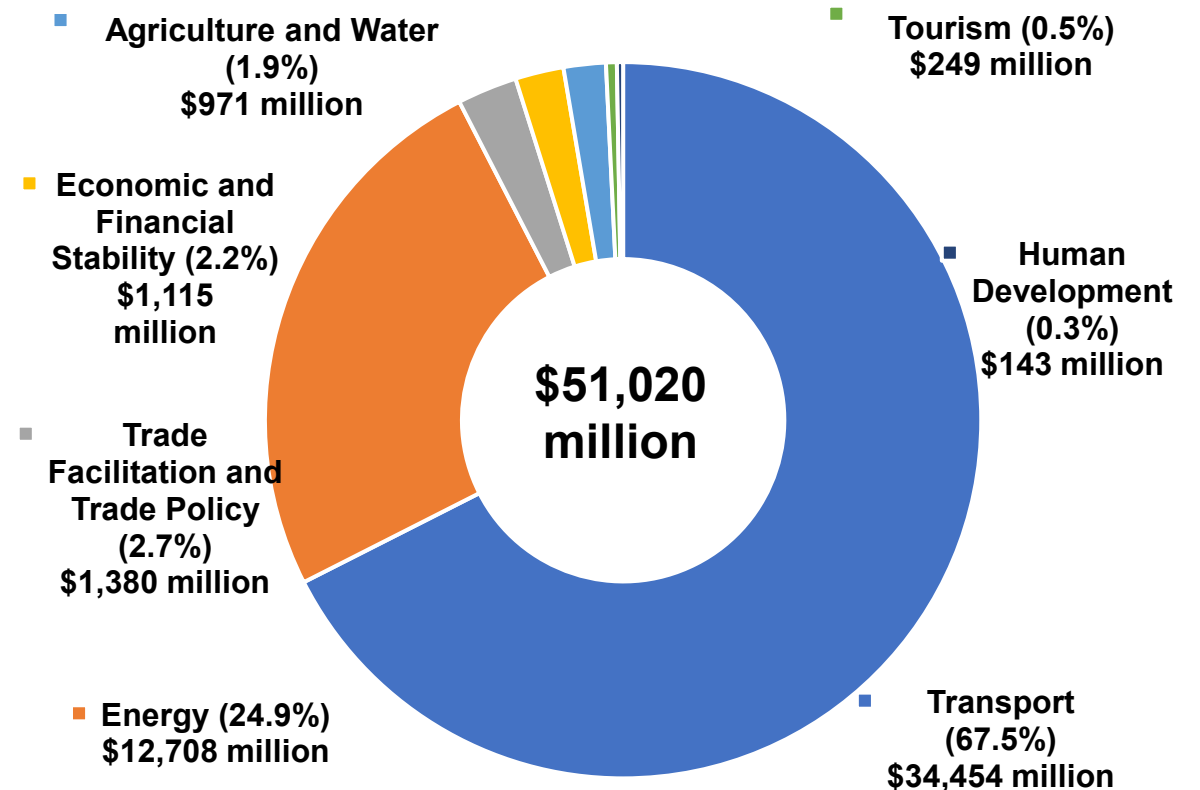
- Senior Officials Meeting (30-31 May, Astana)
- National Focal Points' Meeting (Oct, virtual)
- Ministerial Conference (8 Nov, Astana)
- **COP29 Summit** (11-24 Nov, Baku) → *potential CAREC session*



CAREC Investment Portfolio

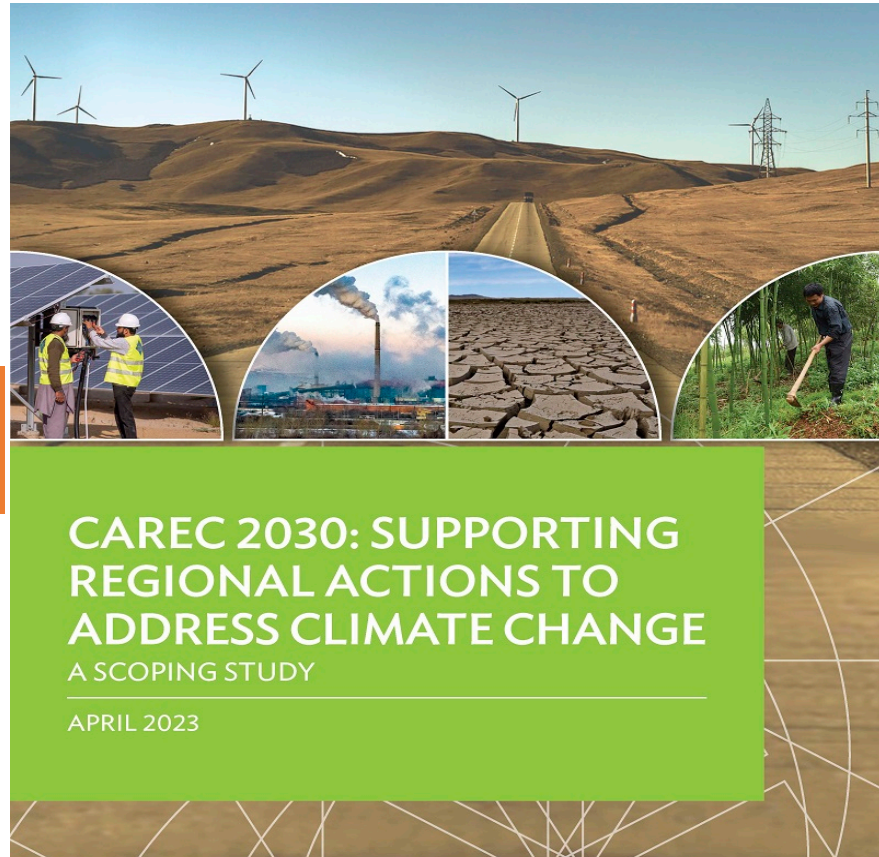
- From 2001 to the end of 2023, **\$51.02 billion** worth of CAREC-related investments have been made, covering **276 projects**.
- Of this, more than **\$17.6 billion** has been financed by ADB, around **\$23.37 billion** by other development partners, and **\$10.05 billion** from CAREC governments.

**CAREC Investment by Sectors
(as of December 2023)**



*The amount of CAREC investments may still change following the ongoing review of the CAREC portfolio database in consultation with development partners.

Regional Action on Climate Change: A Scoping Study



- **Increasing** incidence, frequency, and severity of natural disasters
- **Devastating** floods, droughts and cross-border tensions over water resources
- **Rising** global temperatures disproportionately affecting the CAREC region
- **Loss** of natural capital (melting glaciers, loss of freshwater resources)

The Study proposed CAREC to:

- 1) **“Chart** a course of strategic engagement in supporting its member countries in reinforcing, modifying, and implementing existing national strategies on climate change”
- 2) **“Develop** a range of regional actions in response to the regional nature of many climate change impacts and solutions.”

CAREC Climate Change Vision Statement:

*“A Region of Sustainable Development,
Shared Prosperity, and Climate-Resilience”*

**Endorsed at the 22nd CAREC Ministerial Conference 2023,
Tbilisi, Georgia**

- **Develops principles** for pursuing climate actions across CAREC sectors by identifying priority investment areas and provides climate change as a cross-cutting priority area under the CAREC 2030 Strategy.
- **Proposes steps and institutional arrangements** to achieve more sustainable and climate-resilient growth.
- **Builds on over 20 years of successful support** to its DMCs with the assistance of a growing number of multilateral and bilateral development partners (DPs).
- **CAREC Institute** can drive a solid knowledge base and capacity building in sector and thematic areas with a regional focus on climate change.
- **CAREC Program** can provide technical assistance and investments for regional solutions, establish regional frameworks for enhanced project design and financing, and support regional policy coordination



REGIONAL ACTION ON
CLIMATE CHANGE:
A VISION FOR CAREC

NOVEMBER 2023

CAREC Climate Change Vision Statement:
“A Region of Sustainable Development, Shared Prosperity, and Climate-Resilience”



3 Goals

Mitigate climate change
Adapt to climate change
Cooperate across borders

5 Principles

Align with national strategies
Deepen regional cooperation
Expand coordination with DPs
Include private sector/civil society
Build open regional platform

FROM VISION TO ACTION

CAREC Working Group on Climate Change (WGCC)

- To implement the vision, **CAREC established a Working Group on Climate Change (WGCC)**, which includes representatives from CAREC countries and development partners.
- The **first virtual meeting was held on 26 April 2024 (virtually)**, and its ToRs were endorsed with the coordination and support of the CAREC secretariat.
- WGCC will **translate the CAREC CC Vision into a Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP)** by integrating climate change in regional projects, CAREC clusters, and initiatives, aligning with national NDCs and NAPs, and prioritizing climate adaptation.
- WGCC has already **identified key AP areas for climate change integration** during a meeting in Astana on 29 May. Members also shared ongoing climate change initiatives and discussed financing of regional climate projects.
- Focused discussions with CAREC subgroups **to define outcomes, outputs, and regional projects and activities of the Action Plan** were virtually held on 8 July.
- A **draft Action Plan will be discussed by the WGCC in Baku** in early September, and **the finalized AP will be presented at the CAREC Ministerial Conference on November 8 in Astana**, Kazakhstan.



REGIONAL ACTION ON
CLIMATE CHANGE:
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CAREC CCAP: Proposed Key Areas

Climate Risk, Preparedness, and Health

Climate risk assessment and infrastructure, regional early warning platform and heatwave preparedness, disaster risk management and financing, air pollution

01

Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus

Glacier melting impact assessment
Water forecasting
Climate smart agriculture

02

Focus on
Adaptation
NDCs – NAPs
alignment



03

Low-carbon growth

Decarbonization of transport corridors and trade, grid readiness and renewable energy integration

04

CAREC Climate Platform

Regional information sharing, climate finance, capacity development, and COP

CAREC Climate and Sustainability Project Preparatory Fund (CSPPF)

Objective

- Address and **narrow CAREC countries' financing gaps** in achieving climate change actions and SDGs through preparation of bankable climate- and SDG-related regional projects.

Priority

- Regional projects **guided by 07 priority sectors/areas** of CAREC Climate Change Vision

Use of Funds

- Support sovereign operations through TA and grants.

Modality and Governance

- **A multi-trust fund** to be administered by ADB, with contributions from bilateral, multilateral and other sources, including Member Countries and Development Partners (Financing Partners).
- **Steering Committee** chaired by DG, Central and West Asia Department of ADB. Regional Cooperation and Integration Unit (CWRC) as the Fund Manager.
- **Regular Consultation** Meetings with Financing Partners.

CAREC@COP29 – Road to Baku

- All countries have initiated preparations. Some countries will have or are **considering their own pavilion (PAK, UZB) or shared pavilion (KGZ shared with mountainous regions)**.
- Proposed sessions and side events:
 - **Launch of CSPPF and CAREC Climate Change Action Plan**, including key initiatives on **CAREC Regional Early Warning System and Regional Climate Risk Assessment and Resilient Infrastructure Planning**
 - **CAREC Partnership for Climate, Innovation and Trade** (Green Aid for Trade, link with Baku Initiative for Climate Finance, Investment and Trade (BICFIT) Dialogue)
- Capacity building support on **climate negotiations** to be provided to WGCC members in September in Baku



Thank You!

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