Policy Dialogue

AI for Sustainable Development: Fostering Industry Growth and Inclusive Outcomes

24 September 2025 （**Online**）
15:30 – 18:05 (Beijing time, GMT + 8)

1. Background

The rapid advancement of artificial intelligence (AI) is fundamentally reshaping industries and the future of work, requiring enhanced governance structures to ensure inclusive development. As AI drives economic resilience, technological sovereignty, and social transformation, it creates a complex and dynamic landscape. This landscape demands careful analysis and strategic policymaking, necessitating a robust and inclusive dialogue among governments, private sector leaders, and research institutions to fully grasp and navigate the opportunities and challenges stemming from this technological-industrial revolution.

The infusion of cutting-edge technologies like AI, robotics, automation, and IoT is revolutionizing manufacturing. AI is a key driver, enabling smart production with real-time analytics, predictive maintenance, and autonomous systems. These advancements lead to tangible benefits: increased operational efficiency, reduced waste, and significant contributions to green innovation through optimized energy use and resource management, fundamentally changing production, supply chains, and product development.

The practical applications stemming from the integration of advanced technologies are manifesting across various dimensions of industrial operations. Within manufacturing, AI-powered systems facilitate continuous analysis and adjustment of energy consumption, yielding substantial carbon footprint reductions concurrent with sustained productivity. The vulnerabilities exposed in global supply chains have been addressed, in part, by AI capabilities enhancing demand forecasting, logistics optimization, and risk mitigation, thereby increasing industrial adaptability to disruptions. Additionally, machine learning algorithms are revolutionizing manufacturing quality control and customization, achieving unprecedented precision and enabling the scalable production of high-value, tailored goods.

The transformative effects of AI integration extend beyond manufacturing into numerous sectors. In healthcare, AI-driven diagnostics, robotic surgery, and smart devices are fostering indigenous innovation in biotechnology and medical technology. The financial sector is experiencing a revolution through AI applications in fraud detection, algorithmic trading, and risk assessment, supporting a digitally advanced and secure ecosystem. Agriculture, often underrepresented in high-tech discourse, is significantly benefiting from AI and IoT-enabled precision farming, which enhances crop yields while minimizing resource waste, contributing to both food security and environmental sustainability. This illustrates how the synergy between technology and industry creates a web of interconnected advancements.

This rapid industrial evolution demands a corresponding transformation of the workforce. Acknowledging this imperative, significant emphasis is placed on STEM education and vocational training programs designed to cultivate a skilled labor force for an AI-driven economy. This focus on human capital development achieves multiple objectives: it sustains technological innovation by ensuring a qualified workforce pipeline, promotes social equity by creating access points for diverse groups in high-value industries, and mitigates potential job displacement via reskilling initiatives.

The global implications of these technological developments are profound. While AI's influence is international, initiatives such as the CAREC Institute's upcoming policy dialogue on AI provide vital platforms for knowledge-sharing among Central Asian and neighboring economies, aiding their adaptation and implementation of best practices. Such international collaboration is essential for confronting shared global challenges, including climate change mitigation via sustainable industrial practices, narrowing technological divides through AI adoption, and combating economic inequality through inclusive development. The opportunities for cross-border learning and cooperation are substantial, offering nations pathways to leapfrog development stages through the strategic application of these technologies and policies.

In 2025, the CAREC Institute became a member of the Global-link of the Artificial Intelligence Industry Alliance (AIIA). The AIIA is an industry organization established in 2017 under the guidance of multiple ministries of the People's Republic of China. The AIIA serves as a public platform dedicated to promoting the development of the AI industry and driving digital economic growth through AI empowerment. Committed to becoming a globally influential leader in AI advancement, AIIA plays a key role as both a facilitator and practitioner in harnessing AI to support the digital economy. One of its initial initiatives involved the CAREC Institute contributing to the AIIA 2025 Artificial Intelligence Pioneer Case Collection by providing AI application use cases from CAREC countries. Building on this collaboration, the Parties leverage their respective strengths to engage in multi-dimensional exchanges on AI technology, cooperate on talent development, and jointly organize activities such as summits, seminars, workshops, case collections, and competitions. This partnership aims to establish a long-term, sustainable relationship that fosters the capacity building of policymakers on the AI industry in the CAREC region.

2. Key objectives

The primary objective of this policy dialogue is to actively engage a diverse array of stakeholders in a comprehensive discussion regarding potential policy actions aimed at enhancing high-tech, sustainable, competitive industries. Specifically, the event will aim to achieve the following objectives:

- Share insights on how AI has influenced innovation among enterprises and sustainable development, driving the transformation of industries and enhancing performance.
- Gather insights and perspectives from various sectors, ensuring that the resulting policy recommendations are well-informed and reflective of the knowledge needs for future research and capacity building activities.
- Strengthen dialogue among policymakers, industry leaders, and research institutions to facilitate the exchange and application of best practices.

3. Expected Outcome

Participants will gain a deeper understanding of how the convergence of AI is reshaping industries across sectors, fostering innovations that enhance economic resilience and social equity. This shared knowledge will serve as a foundation for developing strategic policies and actionable recommendations tailored to country and regional contexts.

The workshop will serve as a platform for fostering a holistic, multidimensional approach to continuous research in this field—one that recognizes the interconnected economic and social dimensions of the ongoing transformation.

4. Target audience

This event is expected to draw attention from a diverse group of stakeholders, including government officials from CAREC countries, business leaders in this region, academics from CAREC, civil society organizations and experts.

5. Event format and venue

The event will be held online via Zoom web conferencing tool. It will include presentations, panel discussions, and a live Q&A session. Panelists will receive a personalized Zoom link to participate.

6. Registration link:

https://carecinstitute-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_FOJjnM1aSn29gp1l0pS1kQ

7. Time and date

The event is scheduled for 24 September 2025, from 15:30 to 18:05 Beijing Time.

Agenda

24 September (Beijing time, GMT+8)

15:20-15:30   Virtual Connection to the Policy Dialogue
Introduction to the agenda and group photo
Mr. Steven Liu, Capacity Building Specialist, CAREC Institute

Opening remarks

15:30-15:35   **Dr. Kuat Akizhanov,** Deputy Director Two, CAREC Institute

Presentations

Moderator: **Dr. Ilhom Abdulloev,** Chief of Capacity Building Division, CAREC Institute

15:35-15:50   **Mobilizing AI for Inclusion**
Mr. James Correia, Capacity Building and Training Associate, ADBI

15:50-16:20   **iFlytek Representative,**
Mr. Mingjie Han, General Director for CIS countries of IFLYTEK Co., Ltd

16:20-16:40   **Harnessing AI for Inclusive Education in the CAREC Region**
Mr. Yerzhan Kerimbekov, Member of the Management Board and Vice-Rector for
Scientific Work and Innovation, South Kazakhstan Pedagogical University named after
Zhanibekov

16:40-17:10   **Dr. Zhen Yan,** Tenur Associate Professor,
Center for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD) ,
Laboratory of Agricultural & Rural Development and Intelligent Computing(ARDIC),
School of Public Affairs, Zhejiang University

17:10-17:40   **Lessons from Made in China 2025 and AI Policies for High-Quality Development**
Dr. Asif Razzaq, Senior Research Specialist at the Research Division, CAREC Institute

17:40-18:00   **Q&A**

Closing remarks

18.00-18:05   **Dr. Kuat Akizhanov,** Deputy Director Two, CAREC Institute.

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.
You can choose your preferred language, either English or Russian, in Zoom during the meeting.