

# Strengthening Green Skills Development under the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program

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March 31, 2026



# Objectives - Third Meeting of the CAREC Working Group on Skills Development

- **1) High-level meeting of Deputy Ministers of education of the CAREC participating countries (April 1)**
  - To review key achievements of the project in 2025
  - To discuss and approve the project action plan for 2026
  - To validate the Toolkit for TVET and Higher Education in CAREC Region: Priority Actions for Green and Just Transitio

# Objectives - Third Meeting of the CAREC Working Group on Skills Development

- **2) Workshop on Regional cooperation proposals for Strengthening climate-smart agriculture education, research, and outreach across the CAREC region (led by Wageningen Social and Economic Research) (to start on 31 March)**
  - To review the proposed structure of the Regional Green Skills Center (March 31)
  - To validate Regional cooperation proposals (academic, research, outreach) to be implemented in 2026 (April 2)

# Objectives - Third Meeting of the CAREC Working Group on Skills Development

- **3) Capacity building workshop on academic and non-degree courses (short course development, micro-credential) and agree on internship and exchange program (led by Wageningen Social and Economic Research)**
- To improve the capacity of nine agricultural universities on development of short courses, micro-credentials and flexible learning pathways
- To show-case practical case studies on micro-credentials from the European/ASEAN University Network
- To set up internship and exchange program

# Strengthening Green Skills Development under the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Program

- Output 1: Institutional framework for regional cooperation for green skills development established
- Output 2: Climate-smart agriculture university education in the CAREC region strengthened;
- Output 3: Capacities of partners and government agencies on green skills, climate change, and just transition strengthened.

# Objectives

1. Improving the climate smart agriculture university education, research and outreach in the CAREC region strengthened.
2. Enhancing knowledge on just transitions for climate smart agriculture

# 3 phases

- Phase 1: Preparatory phase and selection of CAREC Universities (February – July 2025);
- Phase 2: Proposal development; approval of proposals (August – December 2025) – delivery of interim report by December 31, 2025
- Phase 3: Support program implementation (May 2025 – July 1, 2026) – delivery of final report by 1 July 2026

# Budget available as TA (335 000)

<b>Project</b>	<b>Phase 1</b>	<b>Phase 2</b>	<b>Total</b>
	(end of project)		
<b>Academic</b>			
Green Inclusive Change	\$ 60.820	\$ 24.670	\$ 85.490
<b>Regional Center for Green Agriculture</b>	\$ 26.900		
<b>Research</b>			
Net Zero	\$ 79.000	\$ 1.284.900	\$ 1.363.900
Barriers to Enablers	\$ 49.400	\$ 164.900	\$ 214.300
IPM	\$ 78.400	\$ 415.800	\$ 494.200
<b>Outreach</b>			
Drought resistant crops	\$ 24.500	\$ 137.900	\$ 162.400
Pasture management	\$ 72.400	\$ 171.863	\$ 244.263
IPM	\$ 49.330	\$ 108.200	\$ 157.530
Water management	\$ 66.800	\$ 41.000	\$ 107.800
	\$ 507.550	\$ 2.349.233	

# Objectives for the workshop

## ■ Day 1

- Fine tune proposals; finalize presentations for minister
- Discuss outcome of internship and exchange program assessment
- Design the internship and exchange program

## ■ Day 2

- Join the high-level meeting of Deputy Ministers of education of the CAREC participating countries
- Deliverables – Where are we? - preparation for Day 3

# Objectives for the workshop

## ■ Day 3

- Present and discuss proposals
- Discuss micro-credentials – agree on next steps, roles and responsibilities
- Incorporate ideas into proposals

## ■ Day 4

- Writeshop – implementation of proposals in relevant teams / developing course design, training materials, research articles, etc.
- Finalize proposals
- Agree on next steps in relation to the proposals and deliverables

# Day 1 - Agenda

- 9:15 – 13:00 – Groups fine-tune proposals and prepare presentations for the ministerial meeting
- Lunch
- 14:00 - 15:00 work continues
- 15:00 -17:00 Discussion on internship and exchange programs
- 19:00-20:30 Discussion continues

# Day 3 - Agenda for today

- 9:15 – 12:30 Presentations and discussion of proposals
- 11:00-13:00 Writeshop for implementation
- Lunch
- 14:30 -17:00 Establish common understanding of short courses (UNESCO) – presentation followed by discussion
- Micro-credentials by WUR, KazNARU and University of Faisab
- 19:00 – 20:30 Groups incorporate micro-credentials, internships, exchange programs into proposals

# Day 4

- 09:15 – 13:00 Writeshop – implementation of proposals in relevant teams / developing course design, training materials, research articles, etc.
- 14:00 – 15:30 Work continues
- 15:30 – 17:00 Agreements and next steps

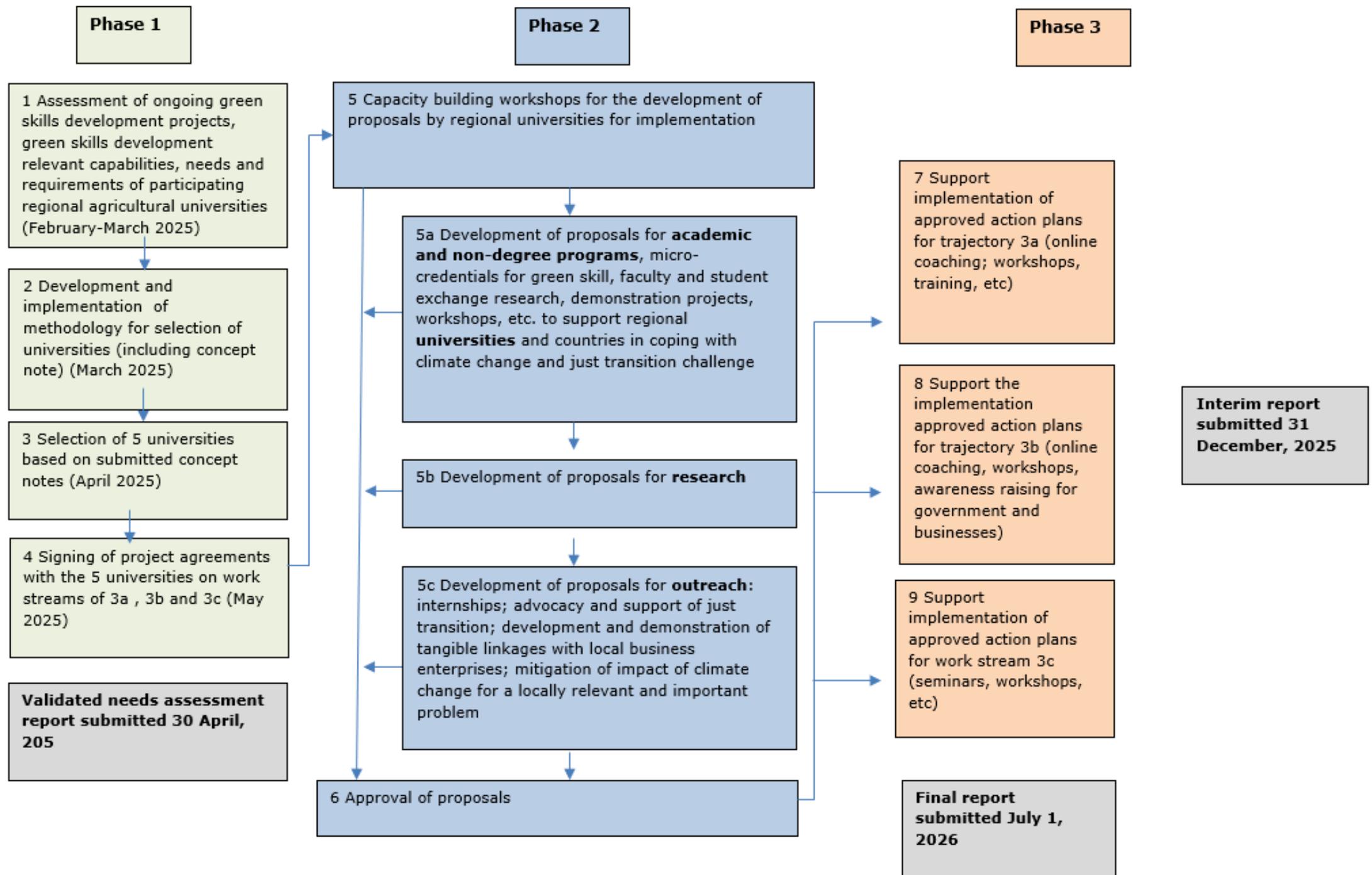
# Deliverables 1

## 1. Academic

- **Degree programs:** Recommendations for incorporating new courses into the existing curriculum and across disciplines (for each university) developed/ agreed
- **Exchange program:** At least 5 faculty and 5 students from each of the participating agriculture universities participated in exchange programs (50 people) (Funding?) - conferences
- **Non-degree programs:** 1 capacity building workshop on academic and non-degree courses for the staff of 5 regional universities (25 in total) (short course development, micro-credential) developed implemented / New non-degree programs launched by participating universities / Business (work) plan for non-degree short courses developed/ approved.

# Deliverables 2

- Academic
  - **Internships:** Evaluation of ongoing internship/exchange programs / Design and improve the internship/exchange program focusing on green skills / Evaluate the potential of internship/exchange programs with participating universities and WUR (including sites, procedures) / Identify financial support for internship/exchange program
- Research: At least 3 articles drafted. Journals identified. - IPM writeshop in Istanbul.  
Suggestion: perspective on need for regional approach with regard to emerging pests & diseases, article on regional importance of stinkbug, article on regional importance of bacterial blight
- Outreach: At least 5 policy briefs, analytical papers, and/ or articles with practical recommendations on mainstreaming green skills in existing education programs and emerging fields are published – writeshop in Istanbul



# Trajectories – NOT THE SELECTION RESULT

4 Trajectories	AZE	GEO	KAZ	KGZ	MNL	PAK	TAJ	TKM	UZB
<b>1. Academic</b> (curriculum review, training material development, internships)									
<b>2. Regional Center for Green Agriculture</b> (virtual)									
<b>3. Research</b>									
3.1 Climate-Smart Agriculture									
3.2 Scaling & Adoption of CSA practices									
3.3 Integrated pest management									
<b>4. Outreach</b> (short courses)									
4.1 Water management									
4.2 Pasture management									
4.3 Technology for growing drought resistant crops and forest species									
4.4 Integrated pest management									
4.5 Just transition									
4.6 Entrepreneurship / rural economics									

# Invited people to Istanbul

1. Nurali Yusifbayli, Azerbaijan Technical University
2. Nino Chkhartishvili, Georgian Technical University
3. Dani Sarsekova, Kazakhstan National Agrarian Research University
4. Rafis Abasov, Kazakhstan National Agrarian Research University
5. Vitaliy Kopnov, Kyrgyz National Agrarian University
6. Tinatin Doolotkeldieva, Kyrgyz National Agrarian University
7. Chinara Kadyrova, Kyrgyz National Agrarian University
8. Bujidmaa Borkhuu, Mongolian University of Life Sciences
9. J. Undarmaa, Mongolian University of Life Sciences
10. Dr Neelam Chaudhary, University of Agriculture Faisalabad
11. Waqas Wakil, University of Agriculture Faisalabad
12. Sarvar Mahmadyorov, Tajik Agrarian University
13. Shukhrat Shokirov, Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers" National Research University
14. Anvar Suvanov, Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers" National Research University