



Second Virtual Meeting of the CAREC Working Group on Climate Change

Background and Objectives

The Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Working Group on Climate Change (WGCC) was established in April 2024 to support the implementation of the [Regional Action on Climate Change: a Vision for CAREC](#) (CAREC Climate Change Vision). The most pressing task for the WGCC this year is to develop a CAREC Climate Change Action Plan to be presented at the 23rd CAREC Ministerial Conference on 8 November 2024 in Astana, Kazakhstan. The Action Plan will serve as a guiding document for the integration of climate change across CAREC sectors and operations. The Action Plan will lead to the development and implementation of regional climate adaptation and mitigation projects and strengthen coordination among development partners to increase and optimize climate finance for regional climate actions.

The CAREC Secretariat is organizing a series of consultation meetings with CAREC countries and development partners between 1 and 5 July to gather inputs and feedback and ensure that the CAREC Climate Change Action Plan is aligned with countries' priorities and needs, including their Nationally Determined Contributions and climate strategies and plans. A joint WGCC virtual meeting will be held on 8 July 2024 to present the consolidated inputs from the series of consultations and discuss and agree on the next steps for the further development of the CAREC Climate Change Action Plan.

AGENDA

Monday, 8 July 2024 (Manila time)	
13:25–13:30	Registration
13:30–13:35	<p>Opening Remarks</p> <p>Ms. Lyaziza Sabyrova, Regional Head, Regional Cooperation and Integration (CWRC), Central and West Asia Department (CWRD), Asian Development Bank</p>
13:35–15:30	<p>Session 1: Summary of Findings from Country Consultations and Proposed Workstreams of the Action Plan</p> <p><i>Objective: Presentation and discussion on consolidated findings from the series of consultations held with member countries and development partners, the proposed main workstreams for the CAREC Climate Change Action Plan, and joint proposals identified by member countries.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by Mr. Kristian Rosbach, Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB (10 min.) • Country presentations on joint project proposals (5 min per sub-group) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Georgia on CAREC Regional Early Warning Platform, complemented by Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan ○ Pakistan on Climate Smart Agriculture, complemented by the People's Republic of China, and Mongolia ○ Tajikistan on Glaciers and Water Resource Management (complemented by the Kyrgyz Republic and Turkmenistan) ○ Uzbekistan on Climate Risk Assessment Pilot <p><i>Open discussion / Q&A</i></p>

15:30–15:50	<p>Session 2: New Proposals for the CAREC Climate Change Action Plan</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Green Special Economic Zones Regional Proposal Presenter: Mr. Elmar Mammadov, Co-Lead COP29 Action Agenda, COP29 Presidency 2) Glaciers to Farms Regional Program Presenter: Ms. Kathleen Coballes, Climate Change Specialist, ADB 3) Benefits of Regional Soil Baselines Presenter: Mr. Stuart Bowlin, Managing Partner, R Tek Constructive Solutions, Kazakhstan <p><i>Open discussion / Q&A</i></p>
15:50–16:25	<p>Session 3: Next Steps and Agenda of 2nd WGCC Meeting</p> <p><i>Objective: Discussion on next steps with regards to the preparation of the CAREC Climate Change Action Plan and the proposed agenda for the next WGCC in-person meeting to be held in September 2024 in Baku, Azerbaijan.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by Ms. Carmen Garcia Perez, Regional Cooperation Specialist, ADB <p><i>Open discussion / Q&A</i></p>
16:25–16:30	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <p>Ms. Lyaziza Sabyrova, Regional Head, CWRC, ADB</p>