

Other Business

Presentation by

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Overview

- Second Tier Activities
- Small Research Grants Program
- Outreach Activities
- CAREC Development Partners' Forum
- Application for Participation in CAREC

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Second Tier Activities

- Highly focused projects in five areas:
 - Human development
 - Environment
 - Agriculture
 - Tourism
 - Disaster management

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Human Development

- **Training Program**
 - Training Needs Assessment completed
 - Results integrated into CAREC Institute Prospectus
- **Training Events (4)**
 - New Ventures in Regional Cooperation: Learning Program for Senior CAREC Officials
 - Trade Policy Challenges: Global and Regional Perspectives.
 - The Benefits of Regional Cooperation: An Exchange Learning Program between CAREC and the GMS
 - Policy and Management Mechanisms for Economic Development Areas

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Human Development

- **Cooperation with Central Asian Gateway Project**
 - Two task teams formed
 - Expanding e-directory of think tanks
 - Electronic platform of statistical information
 - Preparations for first informal forum of think tanks under way

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Human Development

- **Coordination on Regional Disease Surveillance**
 - **Avian Influenza**
 - Donor coordination meeting decides CAREC Secretariat to facilitate info exchange
 - Regional training on rapid response and containment
 - Regional meeting for human health experts
 - Regional meeting for animal health experts planned (September)
 - Training for animal health experts planned (September)

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Human Development

- **Coordination on Regional Disease Surveillance**
 - **HIV-AIDS**
 - Epidemiology of HIV/AIDS in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan reviewed in national meetings
 - 2nd Inter-Parliament Conference of Central Asian Countries on HIV/AIDS Problems
 - Four regional training centers for HIV/AIDS-prevention being established: in Kazakhstan on youth; in Uzbekistan on treatment and care; in Kyrgyz Republic on harm reduction; in Tajikistan on migrants

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Environment

- **Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management (CACILM)**
 - Multicountry Secretariat established
 - National Coordinating Councils have prepared work plans; started monitoring sustainable land management activities
 - Inception Workshop for Sustainable Land Management Research component held (July)
 - Orientation workshop for CACILM Knowledge Network held (July)
 - CACILM Steering Committee meeting planned (October)

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Agriculture

- Technical assistance grant on *Agricultural Trade and Market Development in Central Asia* planned
 - TA fact-finding completed
 - TA will identify key constraints and opportunities for marketing and expanding agricultural trade to increase economic growth and reduce rural poverty

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Tourism

- Second Silk Road Mayors' Forum held in Lanzhou, PRC (July)
- Competition for title of "UN Silk Road City" opened
- Silk Road Investment Forum in October to include discussion of role and necessary conditions for accelerated tourism development

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Small Research Grants Program

- Aim: promote research by experts from CAREC countries on issues of relevance to CAREC Program
- Grants of up to \$20,000 awarded through competitive selection
- Call for proposals issued in April; 40 proposals received
- Eight proposals selected
- Final reports due over next 5-10 months

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Outreach Activities

- Consultation with Azerbaijan, Kyrgyz Republic
- Presentation on CAREC's Business Development Forum at UNESCAP's *Asia-Pacific Business Forum 2007* (May; Almaty)
- Presentation on CAREC Program at UNDP/BMZ (Germany) conference *Strengthening Partnerships for Human Development* (May, Bishkek)
- Presentation on CAREC Program to NGO and private sector representatives in coordination with ADB consultations on Long-Term Strategic Framework
- Consultations planned with Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan in September/October

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CAREC Development Partners' Forum

- Establish high-level and substantive, strategic and operational exchange among key partners
- Aim:
 - bridge divisions between key players
 - improve understanding of shared objectives
 - improve information flow
 - more consistent, better coordinated regional cooperation
- Participation and timing/frequency

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Procedure for Application to CAREC Program

1. Countries and development partners interested in joining submit expression of interest to join as "participant" or "observer" to Head, CAREC Secretariat
2. Secretariat informs CAREC participating countries and multilateral institutions
3. A SOM considers the expression of interest and, at its discretion, invites an applicant to deliver a presentation at a future SOM outlining its interest in participation in the program
4. An applicant whose application is endorsed by the SOM is invited to become a "participant" or "observer" in the CAREC Program