



Sector-Specific Initiatives under Agriculture and Water Cluster – CAREC Water Pillar

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**Senior Officials' Meeting
30-31 May 2024
Astana, Kazakhstan**



I. Sector Status Updates

- The CAREC Water Pillar was established in 2020
- In 2021, the framework for CAREC water pillar was developed and endorsed by the Ministerial conference.
- In August 2022, the “Scoping Report” of CAREC water was prepared which included a longlist of potential regional project activities under three main blocks:
 - Climate resilient and productive water systems
 - Sustainable water resources and water services
 - Nexus solutions and cross sector learning
- In November 2022, first CAREC water pillar regional workshop held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
- The Regional Workshop concluded by a proposal for establishing a working group and thematic expert groups for the Water Pillar to help guide its future direction and content.

I. Sector Status Updates

- In 2023, following a series of consultations with the CAREC focal points of central Asia countries, the CAREC water working group was established for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.
- The Working Group of the Water Pillar is an advisory and consultative body who provides guidance on the implementation and future direction of the Water Pillar and development of regional projects and technical assistance, including coordination with other regional initiatives.
- In 2023, Georgia confirmed joining the water pillar and dialogue is continued with Azerbaijan to formally join the CAREC water pillar.
- The Water Pillar is envisaged to expand over time to include other CAREC countries and will be assessing potential projects for financing in the coming years including water-energy nexus modeling.

II. Key Priorities or Plans for 2024-2025

- The Working Group will meet in Istanbul, Turkey, in June 2024 to
 - i. share knowledge and new advancements in climate and water within the Central Asia region, and
 - ii. agree on three potential pipeline projects for investment by the CAREC water pillar.
- In the next step, prefeasibility studies will be carried out by CAREC water pillar on the three agreed proposed projects.
- CAREC water is developing a proof of concept for water-energy modeling in the Central Asia region to be completed by April 2025.

III. For SOM Guidance

- Be updated on the overall plans for the CAREC Water Pillar
- Provide guidance and feedback on CAREC Water Pillar activities
- Facilitate membership of Azerbaijan to the CAREC water pillar
- Coordination with line ministries on regional CAREC water projects which will involve at least two countries in each project



Sector-Specific Initiatives under Agriculture and Water Cluster – Food Security

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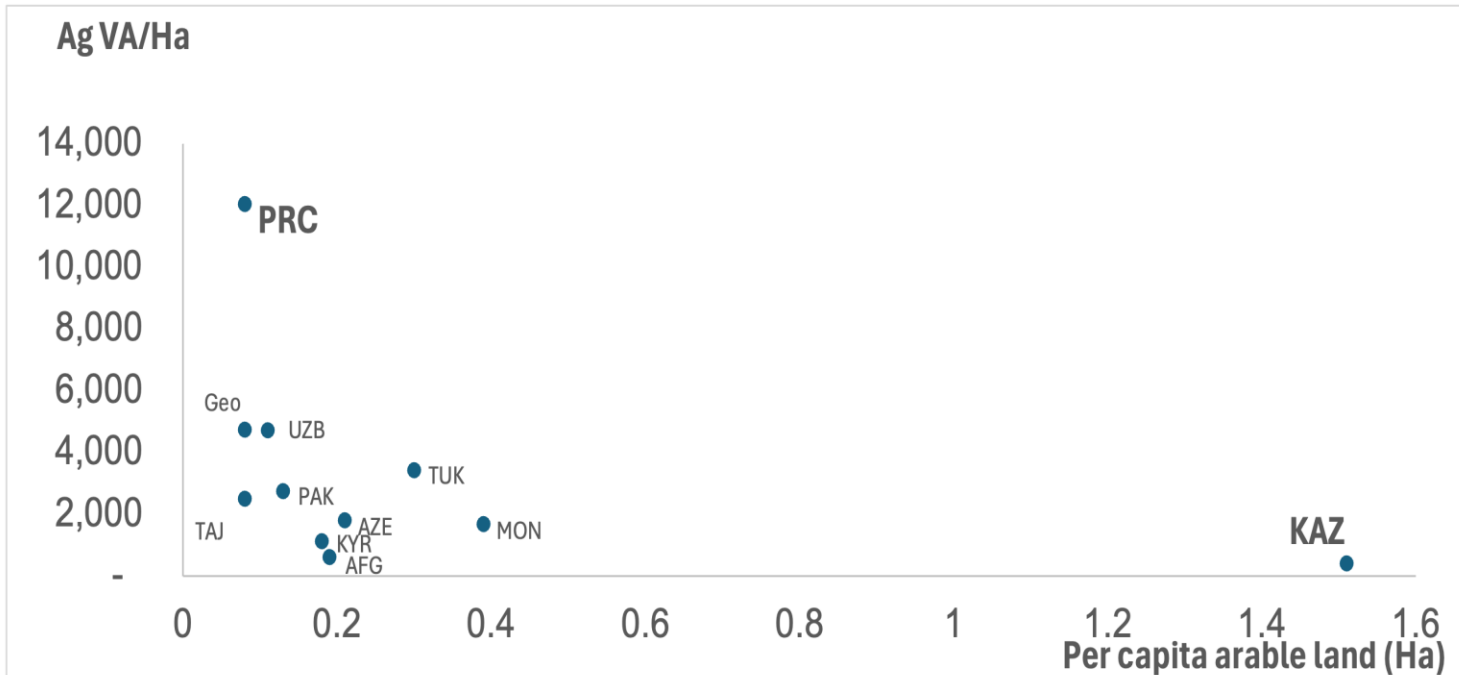
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Food Security in Selected CAREC Countries



Source: Global Food Security Index 2022, The Economist.

Ag Productivity and Main Crops in CAREC Region



	F&V	Wheat	Cotton	Barley	Potato	Rice
UZB	0	0	0	0	0	0
PRC	0	0	0	0	0	0
PAK	0	0	0		0	0
TAJ	0	0	0		0	
KYR	0	0	0		0	
AZE	0	0	0	0	0	
AFG	0	0	0	0		0
TUK	0	0	0	0		0
KAZ	0	0	0	0		0
MON	0	0		0	0	
GEO	0					

[Cooperation Framework for Agricultural Development and Food Security in the CAREC Region](#), endorsed by CAREC members in November 2022

ADB approved the \$3 million [TA 10258-REG: Resilient and Inclusive Agricultural Development and Food Security](#) in the CAREC Program Member Countries to facilitate implementation of the cooperation framework.

Formation of **Agricultural Development and Food Security** Working Group under Process