

# FOURTH MEETING OF THE CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION WORKING GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE (CAREC WGCC)

7–9 April 2025, Bishkek

## SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

### I. Introduction

1. The fourth meeting of the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Working Group on Climate Change (WGCC) was held on 7–9 April 2025 in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic (see Appendix 1). The CAREC WGCC is supported by the regional technical assistance (TA) project “[Supporting Regional Actions to Address Climate Change under the CAREC Program](#)”. Officials from CAREC member countries and representatives from development partners participated in the meeting as members of the WGCC (see Appendix 2).
2. The meeting focused on (i) identifying adaptation and disaster risk management projects and necessary investments for vulnerable CAREC assets, (ii) joint climate change and health activities with the CAREC Working Group on Health, (iii) training and capacity-building needs, (iv) the development of bankable projects with the CAREC Climate and Sustainability Project Preparatory Fund (CSPPF) and, lastly, (v) implementation aspects and planning next steps for the WGCC and CAREC Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) implementation.
3. Ms. Dinara Kemelova, Special Representative of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic on the Mountain Agenda, welcomed the CAREC Climate Change Working Group and appreciated the ADB's role in shaping the regional climate agenda.
4. Following, opening remarks were delivered by Ms. Asel Raimkulova, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, Environment and Technical Supervision of the Kyrgyz Republic, who is leading the development of strategic documents, including the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), and the National Adaptation Plan of the Kyrgyz Republic until 2030, which, among others, integrates climate risks into health and key actions focus on enhancing health facility resilience, developing early warning systems, and improving medical personnel training.
5. Mr. Zheng Wu, Country Director for the Kyrgyz Republic, concluded the opening remarks on behalf of ADB, thanking the Working Group members for their continued active engagement and participation in advancing the CAREC climate change work and the CCAP, and provided an overview of the agenda, while urging participants to participate and contribute actively.

### II. Brief Summary

6. Day 1 of the meeting emphasized the importance of resilience and adaptation investment, particularly those addressing climate change in mountainous regions, and featured presentations on the ADB's Glaciers to Farms regional program, experience of the Kyrgyz Climate Finance Centre, climate risk screening in Uzbekistan, CAREC ABEC's proposed climate adaptation projects, and the CAREC disaster risk transfer facility work so far and planned activities for the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan. Lastly, development partners from the World Bank, UNDP, and WHO contributed to regional early warning systems, climate resilience, and health initiatives in Central Asia and how these could be further developed in collaboration with CAREC.
7. Day 2 of the meeting discussed developing a regional decarbonization strategy and minimum requirements for resilient health systems in CAREC countries, emphasizing building resilient and low-carbon healthcare facilities, investing in low-carbon technologies, and improving healthcare carbon

footprint. Day 2 hosted an experts' panel discussion on joint climate and health action and a participatory session on identifying minimum requirements for resilient health systems in the region, where country participants were divided into groups and assigned tasks.

8. Day 3 of the meeting covered various topics, such as CAREC decarbonization activities for 2025, including decarbonization of transport, low emissions zones, and the integration of climate consideration in the midterm review of the CAREC Transport Strategy 2030. Day 3 also included a discussion on carbon pricing policy options in the region and a discussion on identifying CAREC training needs on carbon markets for the WGCC. Day 3 also consisted of a participatory session on developing bankable projects with the CAREC Climate and Sustainability Project Preparatory Fund (CSPPF), followed by CCAP implementation arrangements and planning the next steps.

### **III. Detailed summary**

9. Ms. Kemelova highlighted the importance of addressing climate change in mountainous regions, mentioning Kyrgyz initiatives, including the proclamation of Five Years of Action for Mountain Development (2023–2027) and plans to host an International Conference on Global Mountain Dialogue in April. Ms. Kemelova emphasizes the need to integrate the mountain agenda into global climate processes and strengthen regional cooperation to combat climate change.

10. Mr. Ryspek Satylkanov, Director of the Institute of Water Problems and Hydropower of the National Academy of Sciences of the Kyrgyz Republic, provided an overview of the current water situation and forecast of the water-energy potential of the Kyrgyz Republic.

11. Ms. Kat Coballes, ADB Climate Change Specialist, introduced the ADB's Glaciers to Farms regional program, which addresses glacial melting and its effects on water resources, agriculture, and ecosystem services in Central and West Asia. The program, set to run from 2026 to 2032, seeks to mobilize over \$3 billion in financing and covers nine countries. It focuses on four main components: building resilience through early warning systems and risk management, climate-resilient investments in watershed management and agriculture, climate finance mobilization, and governance and regional cooperation. A glacial risk assessment study, supported by GCF, is being conducted to inform the program's development, covering four major transboundary watersheds.

12. Mr. Adilet Amanteev, Director of the Climate Finance Center, presented the center's experiences in climate finance and the identification of a pipeline of resilience and mitigation projects.

13. The session also included a presentation by Mr. Begzod Jalilov, ADB Regional Cooperation Specialist, on climate risk screening of public investment projects in Uzbekistan, and how the experience could be used to determine CAREC resilience projects.

14. Mr. Eduardo Garcia Alonso, ADB Disaster Risk Consultant, presented on a disaster risk management study conducted under the Almaty-Bishkek Economic Corridor (ABEC), discussing climate change impacts and risk reduction measures for the Issyk-Kul Lake region, highlighting increased frequency of mudflows and floods, and proposed monitoring systems, integrated coastal zone management, and other adaptations measures. Mr. Garcia concluded with a climate vulnerability risk assessment for the Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan Osh border crossing point, which was conducted as part of the CCAP identification of regional vulnerable assets.

15. Mr. Thomas Kessler, ADB Principal Finance Specialist, presented the CAREC disaster risk transfer facility, which includes risk quantification, risk profiling, and various financing instruments. The facility aims to help countries better understand disaster risks, implement adaptation measures, and access quick financing through insurance and capital markets. A disaster relief bond for the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan is proposed as a pilot project. Mr. Kessler explained that ADB is leveraging donor funds to support low-income countries without affecting their regular allocations.

16. The adaptation session was concluded by Mr. Alexndr Cherednichenko, Expert of the Department of Inventory of Greenhouse Gases of the Republic of Kazakhstan, JSC Zhasyl Damu, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Republic of Kazakhstan, who moderated a session on climate adaptation projects, focusing on planning challenges and data needs and experiences in identifying projects in the CAREC region. Mr. Cherednichenko expressed interest in learning from Kyrgyz's CFC to attract more climate adaptation and mitigation investments. There was also a discussion about the need for more radical approaches to climate adaptation, with some participants arguing that current strategies are insufficient.

17. The World Bank and UNDP representatives provided updates on regional early warning systems and climate resilience initiatives in Central Asia.

18. Ms. Tolkun Jukusheva, Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist of the World Bank, explained that the Bank is implementing a second phase of the Central Asia Hydrometeorology Modernization Project, focusing on strengthening regional data sharing, improving service delivery, and enhancing early warning systems. Key components include developing a unified data system, implementing regional numerical weather models, and expanding hydrological observation networks.

19. Ms. Nataly Olofinskaya, UNDP Regional Adaptation Adviser, highlighted how UNDP is involved in several projects, including multi-hazard warning systems in Uzbekistan and Georgia and a new urban resilience program across Central Asian countries. Both UNDP and the World Bank emphasized the importance of regional cooperation, data sharing, and connecting improved climate information to end-users for better decision-making and early action.

20. Mr. Vladimir Kendrovski, Technical Officer (Climate Change and Health), WHO Regional Office for Europe, provided an overview of WHO's regional Initiatives for Early Warning Systems, including Heat Risk, in collaboration with other development partners, such as WMO.

### **Joint Climate Change and Health Working Group Day**

21. Day 2 of the meeting discusses implementing climate change strategies for health systems in the CAREC region. Participants highlighted key priorities, including building green healthcare facilities, investing in low-carbon technologies, improving healthcare waste management, and encouraging the procurement of low-carbon pharmaceuticals. There is a need for political support, intersectoral cooperation, technical assistance, and financial resources to implement these strategies successfully.

22. Session 6, "Ensuring Climate Resilience and Low-Carbon Transition in Health Systems," hosted an experts' panel discussion on joint climate and health action and a participatory session on identifying minimum requirements for resilient health systems in the region, where country participants were divided into groups and assigned tasks. The Key insights from the panel are reported below.

23. Ms. Ainash Sharshenova, MD, Professor at the National Institute of Public Health, Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic, discussed the adverse effects of extreme heat on health, particularly cardiovascular and respiratory issues. Notable factors include age and gender, with studies indicating men are more sensitive to low temperatures and women to atmospheric pressure changes. WHO-supported research analyzed the vulnerability of those aged 75 and older. The Kyrgyz Republic faces significant climate threats, including heat, drought, and temperature fluctuations. Training for health workers led to a comprehensive risk assessment, highlighting the health sector's top vulnerability.

24. Ms. Olga Mirshina, Chief Specialist of the State Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance Service, Uzbekistan, highlighted Uzbekistan's diverse climate zones and their impact on public health, especially among children and older people. The country implemented real-time monitoring of climate change and communicated risks to the population. Despite terminating a key project, initiatives continue to educate health workers and the public on coping with extreme temperatures, emphasizing preventive measures for vulnerable groups.

25. Ms. Tamar Khomasuridze, UNFPA Sexual and Reproductive Health Specialist underscored the health challenges posed by climate change, particularly for women and children. With rising temperatures, reproductive health is increasingly jeopardized. She advocated for data collection on health impacts and stressed the need for evidence-based policies. Regional collaboration is essential to address these challenges and protect maternal and child health.

26. Mr. Vladimir Kendrovski, WHO Technical Officer, Climate Change and Health, noted the complex relationship between climate change and health, advocating for specific tools to monitor health indicators affected by climate events. He emphasized the importance of early warning systems and data integration for effective public health responses, citing successful European models that have improved disease prevention through real-time data.

27. Ms. Natalia Olofinskaya, UNDP Regional Adaptation Adviser, pointed out disparities in early warning systems across the CAREC region. She called for improved intersectoral cooperation and investment in health protection strategies. Identifying barriers to resource distribution is crucial for enhancing data analysis and response strategies.

28. Ms. Swati Makhadja, ADB Senior Climate Change Specialist Consultant, stressed the need for integrated health strategies that involve multiple ministries, including ecology and hydrometeorology. Emphasizing the importance of technology, she noted the necessity of regional cooperation to build resilient health systems and address inequalities in access to healthcare.

29. Some countries provided a brief overview of their initiatives in this area:

- The Kyrgyz Republic identified 13 key climate hazards and prioritized the health sector in its impact assessments
- Uzbekistan is implementing real-time climate monitoring, SMS alerts, and school-based awareness programs
- Tajikistan has introduced early warning measures to reduce heat-related morbidity and mortality. The Ministry of Health has developed a heat protection plan focusing on vulnerable populations, emphasizing preventive measures through early warnings. The main activities are based on forecasting responses to prevent diseases associated with extreme heat for vulnerable groups.
- Turkmenistan prioritizes public health awareness and education, implementing a comprehensive adaptation plan advancing public health education and intersectoral cooperation under a national adaptation plan, including monitoring and evaluating climate impacts on health (including climate impacts on maternal mortality and mechanisms for early warning and health threats)

30. **Conclusion of Day 2:** the session emphasized the urgent need for coordinated regional efforts to enhance climate resilience in health systems. Key strategies include improving data sharing, strengthening early warning systems, and fostering intersectoral collaboration. The panelists emphasized the urgent need to safeguard vulnerable populations through early warning systems, climate-sensitive disease surveillance, intersectoral coordination, and harmonized data and indicators to guide public health action. They also highlighted the importance of investing in digital technologies, building local capacity, and closing knowledge and funding gaps. These experiences underscore the growing momentum for climate-resilient, low-carbon health systems across the CAREC region.

31. Day 3 of the meeting covered decarbonization activities for 2025 on a range of topics such as transport, emissions at border crossing points, and low emissions zones, followed by an open discussion on carbon pricing policy options in the region and CAREC training needs on carbon markets for the WGCC.

32. Mr. Rosbach presented an emissions assessment of CAREC Border Crossing Points due to idling time, showing considerable emissions savings if idling times and delays in CAREC BCPs are to be reduced. The review of traffic and domestic heating emissions in Almaty, Kazakhstan, shows the

opportunities for establishing low-emission zones in areas most affected via a phased approach and by integrating public transport and other options for alternative mobility.

33. Mr. Masahiro Nishimura, Unit Head, Project Administration, Transport Sector Office, Sectors Department 1, of ADB, explained the current work in the mid-term review of the CAREC transport strategy and what are the entry points for integrating resilience and mitigation measures.

34. Dr. Kuat B. Akizhanov, Deputy Director at the CAREC Institute, provided an overview and findings of Carbon Pricing Policy Opportunities in Central Asia and Azerbaijan.

35. Concerning CAREC training needs on carbon markets, Mr. Alexndr Cherednichenko presented an overview of the emissions trading system in Kazakhstan, covering 42% of domestic emissions, with a particular focus on the energy sector and industrial processes and noted challenges shared by CAREC countries such as monitoring, validation, and reporting. Other challenges shared by countries included the implementation of the Global Methane Initiative and the need for international verifiers, such as Kazakhstan considering Article 6 deals. CAREC countries are interested in learning from Kazakhstan's experience and developing their carbon market mechanisms.

36. The meeting also included a participatory session on developing bankable projects with the CSPPF and an open discussion on the climate-related activities implemented by countries with a regional focus to help guide the CCAP implementation.

37. This was followed by a final discussion on the CCAP implementation arrangements, such as the requirements and role of a climate change committee, monitoring and evaluation, and potential indicators, as well as planning the next meeting for 2025.

#### **IV. Meeting Wrap-up and Next Steps**

38. Ms. Asel Raimkulova delivered closing remarks thanking everyone for their active participation in discussing key priorities of the CAREC Climate Change Action Plan and making progress on implementing regional projects focused on adaptation, decarbonization, and strengthening climate-resilient health systems. Ms. Raimkulova highlighted the importance of glacier-related initiatives and the adaptation of mountainous areas, which are critical for the Kyrgyz Republic. She appreciated the ADB's ongoing support and its role in facilitating this productive dialogue towards a sustainable climate future for the region.

39. Mr. Rosbach closed the meeting by noting the following key points and next steps:

- There is an increasing focus on glacier and adaptation activities in the region. CAREC will continue collaborating with the Glacier to Farms program under the regional cooperation and coordination component.
- Countries noted the importance of increasing investments to reduce the vulnerability of CAREC assets – and this is an area where CAREC is currently implementing climate risk and vulnerability assessment in Georgia and Tajikistan – and the need for innovative modalities to raise adaptation finance and offset disaster risk. On disaster risk finance, there was particular interest in the work of the CAREC disaster risk transfer facility and activities that will be piloted in Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan.
- Climate and health require collaboration between stakeholders that usually don't work closely together. During the meeting, the CAREC Climate Change and Health working groups laid a framework for regional resilience and the decarbonization of the health system.
- Decarbonization and resilience initiatives will be finalized in the weeks following the meeting in consultation with both groups, and the resulting outputs will be tabled at the CAREC 2025 MC for endorsement. The two draft decarbonization strategy and minimum requirements for resilient health systems will be sent to countries for feedback by 5 May

- CAREC countries were asked to provide feedback on setting up a sub-working group on climate change and health and whether they think it is necessary
- On regional and early warning systems and health, CAREC will continue to collaborate with UNDP and WHO, building on their experience and ongoing plans in the region, such as required country pre-feasibility assessments or potentially developing a bankable project for regional climate and health information systems
- For the decarbonization of transport, the WGCC and the secretariat will continue to work with the CAREC transport team, starting by integrating climate in their midterm review while making linkages on CAREC transport corridors and identifying vulnerabilities and required resilience measures.
- The secretariat will follow up on the required inputs for the climate-related activities implemented by countries, noting that some countries did not return the filled-in questionnaire (the People's Republic of China and Pakistan responses have not yet been received).
- The secretariat will also follow up with the WGCC on identifying further carbon market training needs – it was suggested to discuss this at the next WGCC virtual meeting
- The deadline for submitting proposals to the CSPPF for the development of projects is 15 May, and the next round will be in October. UNFPA expressed an interest in submitting a proposal on regional climate and health, while CAREC ABEC on disaster risk management, resilience, and EWS, as well as from CAREC countries that, have also expressed an interest, although not in specific proposals.
- Implementation arrangements and the need to set up a climate change committee will be discussed in the subsequent meetings, considering that the CCAP implementation is starting in 2025

## 4<sup>th</sup> CAREC Working Group on Climate Change Meeting

### Agenda

7–9 April 2025  
Bishkek, the Kyrgyz Republic

#### Background and Objectives

The CAREC Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2025–2027 provides a framework to address climate change challenges and advance regional climate actions through enhanced coordination among CAREC sector committees and working groups. The plan focuses on four main thematic areas: Climate Risk, Preparedness and Health, the Water–Energy–Food Security Nexus, Low-Carbon Growth, and the CAREC Climate Platform.

Developed by the CAREC Working Group on Climate Change, the CCAP was endorsed at the CAREC Ministerial Conference on 8 November 2024<sup>1</sup> in Astana, Kazakhstan. It was officially launched during a high-level session at COP29 on 14 November 2024 in Baku, Azerbaijan, alongside the CAREC Climate and Sustainability Project Preparatory Fund and the CAREC Partnership for Climate, Innovation, and Trade.

The primary goal of the 4th Working Group on Climate Change (WGCC) meeting is to discuss the operationalization of the CCAP. Specifically, the meeting will focus on (i) identifying adaptation projects and necessary investments for vulnerable CAREC assets, (ii) coordinating joint climate change and health activities with the CAREC Working Group on Health, (iii) identifying training and capacity-building needs, and (iv) discuss how to develop bankable projects with the CAREC Climate and Sustainability Project Preparatory Fund (CSPPF).<sup>2</sup>

Additionally, the WGCC will discuss implementation aspects such as monitoring progress, establishing a CAREC Climate Change Committee, and planning the next steps for the WGCC.



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Monday, 7 April 2025 (Bishkek Time) – Day 1	
09:00–09:30	Registration
09:30–10:00	<p><b>Opening remarks / keynote speeches</b></p> <p><b>Ms. Dinara Amanturovna Kemelova</b>, Special Representative of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic on Mountain Agenda</p> <p><b>Ms. Aseil Raimkulova</b>, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, Environment and Technical Supervision of the Kyrgyz Republic</p>

<sup>1</sup> [CAREC Ministers Endorse Climate Change Action Plan and 2030 Strategic Priorities, Launch Regional Climate Fund | Asian Development Bank](#)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.adb.org/documents/establishment-carec-climate-and-sustainability-project-preparatory-fund>

	<b>Mr. Zheng Wu</b> , ADB Country Director for the Kyrgyz Republic
<b>10:00–10:30</b>	<p><b>Session 1: Introduction of Program</b></p> <p>Objectives: Overview of previous outcomes, update on the CCAP, goals and agenda of the meeting, and key outputs for operationalizing the CCAP, including collaboration with CAREC WGs and DPs</p> <p><b>Mr. Kristian Rosbach</b>, Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB  <b>Mr. Matteo Modè</b>, Senior Climate Change Specialist, ADB</p> <p><b>Q&amp;A 15 mins</b></p>
<b>10:30–11:40</b>	<p><b>Session 2: Glaciers and adaptation of mountainous areas</b></p> <p>Objective: Discuss and agree on outputs and activities for glaciers and adaptation in mountainous areas for 2025 in collaboration with G2F and other regional initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Addressing glaciers and mountain resilience in the Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions, <b>Ms. Dinara Amanturovna Kemelova</b>, Special Representative of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic on mountain agenda</li> <li>The current situation and forecast of the water-energy potential of the Kyrgyz Republic, <b>Mr. Ryspek Satylkanov</b>, Director of the Institute of Water Problems and Hydropower of the National Academy of Sciences of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> <li>ADB Glacier to Farm program, preparatory actions, and future steps (preliminary river basin/ glacier risk assessment and monitoring results, other areas of interest, next actions) <b>Ms. Kathleen Anne C. Coballes</b>, Climate Change Specialist, ADB</li> <li>International Glacier Preservation Conference in Tajikistan, <b>Mr. Turakul Murodov</b>, Deputy Head, Center for Implementation of Investment Projects, Committee for Environmental Protection</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A and open discussion (20 mins)</b></p>
<b>11:40–12:00</b>	<b>Group Photo and Coffee/Tea Break</b>
<b>12:00–13:00</b>	<p><b>Session 3: Developing CAREC adaptation projects for 2025.</b></p> <p>Objective: Identifying and agreeing on adaptation projects and necessary investments for vulnerable CAREC assets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experiences of Kyrgyz Climate Finance Centre (CFC) and identified projects Center for Climate Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic, <b>Mr. Adilet Amantaev</b>, Director of the Climate Finance Center under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic</li> <li>Climate Risk Screening of Public Investment Projects in CAREC region: ADB Experience in Uzbekistan on Supporting Adaptation Decision Making for Climate Resilient Investments <b>Mr. Begzod Djalilov</b>, Regional Cooperation Specialist, ADB</li> <li>Findings from the climate and vulnerability risk assessment of the Osh border crossing point (Kyrgyz Republic), and from the ABEC (Almaty Bishkek Economic Corridor) Disaster Risk Management study, <b>Mr. Eduardo García Alonso</b> Disaster Risk Management Expert, ADB Consultant</li> </ul>
<b>13:00–14:10</b>	<b>Lunch hosted by ADB</b>
<b>14:10–15:20</b>	<p><b>Session 3 (continuation)</b></p> <p>Objective: Discuss the integration of climate change resilience and adaptation into projects/programs in the CAREC region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CAREC Regional Risk Transfer Facility, <b>Mr. Thomas Kessler</b>, Principal Disaster Risk Insurance &amp; Finance Specialist, ADB</li> <li>Open discussion moderated by <b>Mr. Alexndr Cherednichenko</b>, Expert of the Department of Inventory of Greenhouse Gases of the Republic of Kazakhstan, JSC Zhasyl Damu, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Republic of Kazakhstan on Integrating Adaptation into Medium-term Pipeline Projects by Sector in CAREC Region (40 mins)</li> </ul>

<b>15:20–15:35</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>15:35–16:45</b>	<p><b>Session 4: Regional Multi-Hazard Early Warning System with Health Features</b></p> <p>Objective: Discuss and agree on health and climate change outputs and activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Road Map for Regional Early Warning Systems, <b>Ms. Tolkun Jukusheva</b>, Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist, World Bank (virtual)</li> <li>• Implementation of a regional climate and health information system: outputs, activities and required resources, <b>Ms. Nataly Olofinskaya</b>, UNDP Regional Adaptation Adviser (virtual)</li> <li>• Regional Initiatives for Early Warning Systems including Heat Risk, <b>Mr. Vladimir Kendrovski</b>, Technical Officer (Climate Change and Health), WHO Regional Office for Europe (virtual)</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A (20 mins)</b></p>
<b>16:45–17:30</b>	<p><b>Open session on climate-related activities delivered by CAREC countries</b></p> <p>CAREC countries' providing information on activities they are delivering for climate adaptation and mitigation for the preparation of a presentation for the last day</p>
<b>18:30</b>	<p><b>Dinner hosted by Asian Development Bank</b></p> <p>Venue: Restaurant "Frunze", Banquet Hall on second floor (address: Abdymomunov street 220, Oak Park)</p>
<b>Tuesday, 8 April 2025 – Day 2</b>	
<b>09:30–10:00</b>	<p><b>Topic: Addressing Climate and Health to enhance Regional Health Security through Joint Health and Climate Change Action (WGH &amp; WGCC)</b></p> <p><b>Venue:</b> Hyatt Regency Bishkek Hotel, Shayr A &amp; B Meeting Room (Lobby level)</p> <p><b>Welcome and Introduction to objectives of the day</b></p> <p><b>Welcome:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Leah Gutierrez</b>, Director General, Sector Department 3, Asian Development Bank (ADB) (Co-chair)</li> </ul> <p><b>Introduction:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Kristian Rosbach</b>, Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Kirthi Ramesh</b>, Social Sector Specialist, ADB</li> </ul>
<b>10:00–12:00</b>	<p><b>Session 5: Delivering a Regional Decarbonization Strategy</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Brian Riley, Health Specialist, ADB</p> <p><b>Lightning Talks on regional decarbonization strategy for health sector</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introducing steps towards preparing decarbonization strategy and draft regional decarbonization strategy for CAREC - <b>Nick Watts</b>, Director, Centre for Sustainable Medicine, National University of Singapore</li> <li>• Country case study of standardized approaches to national health care climate foot-printing (Pakistan) – <b>Irfanullah Khan</b>, Deputy Director on behalf of Mehreen Mujtaba, Director Climate Change, Nutrition and Health, Ministry of National Health Services Regulation &amp; Coordination, Pakistan (virtual)</li> </ul> <p><b>Group Discussion to provide feedback on draft Regional Decarbonization Strategy</b></p>

12:00–13:30	<b>Day 2 Group Photo</b> <b>Lunch Hosted by ADB</b>
14:00–15:30	<b>Session 6: Delivering minimum requirements for climate resilience and low carbon transition in health system operations</b>  <b>Panel discussion on concrete collaboration priorities, joint investments and project opportunities relating to:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to safeguard communities and vulnerable populations from climate-health risks</li> <li>• Public health preparedness, Early Warning Systems and climate-sensitive disease surveillance and data</li> <li>• Awareness raising for climate risks and heatwave preparedness</li> <li>• Country Experiences</li> </ul> <b>Moderator:</b> Kirthi Ramesh, Social Sector Specialist, and Kristian Rosbach, Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB  <b>Speakers:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Sharshenova Ainash Akynovna</b>, Chief Researcher at the National Institute of Public Health, Ministry of Health, Kyrgyz Republic</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Olga Mirshina</b>, Chief Specialist, Sanitation and Hygiene Department, Ministry of Health, Republic of Uzbekistan</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Tamar Khomasuridze</b>, Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Regional Advisor, United Nations Population Fund (virtual)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Vladimir Kedrowskiy</b>, Technical Officer (Climate Change and Health), WHO Regional Office for Europe (virtual)</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Nataly Olofinskaya</b>, Regional Adaptation Adviser, United Nations Development Programme (virtual)</li> <li>• <b>Dr. Swati Mahajan</b>, Senior Climate Change Specialist, ADB</li> </ul>
15:30–15:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>
15:45–16:45	<b>Session 6 (continuation)</b> <b>Presentation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Regional Minimum Requirements for climate-resilient health facilities - <b>Anna Tuddenham</b>, Climate and Health Expert, Arup</li> </ul> <b>Group Discussion</b> to provide feedback on draft Regional Minimum Standards / Requirements for climate-resilient and low carbon health facilities
16:45–17:00	<b>Next steps</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion on establishing sub-working group on Climate and Health</li> <li>• Timelines and next meetings to finalize deliverables</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday, 9 April 2025 – Day 3</b>	
09:00–09:10	<b>Objectives of the day</b> <b>Mr. Kristian Rosbach</b> , Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB <b>Mr. Matteo Modè</b> , Senior Climate Change Specialist, ADB
09:10–10:30	<b>Session 7: Decarbonization activities for 2025</b> Objective: Participants will identify decarbonization activities, including training and capacity building needs

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emissions' assessment at CAREC Border Crossing Points and review of Low Emission Zone Best Practices and Recommendations for Almaty, Kazakhstan, Bishkek Heating (<b>CAREC Climate Change team</b>)</li> <li>Midterm Review of CAREC Transport Strategy 2030 and Green/Resilient Transport, <b>Mr. Masahiro Nishimura</b>, Unit Head, Project Administration, Transport Sector Office, Sectors Department 1, ADB (virtual)</li> <li>Carbon Pricing Policy Opportunities in Central Asia and Azerbaijan, overview and findings, <b>Dr. Kuat B. Akizhanov</b>, CAREC Institute</li> <li>CAREC training needs on carbon markets, <b>Mr. Alexndr Cherednichenko</b>, Expert of the Department of Inventory of Greenhouse Gases of the Republic of Kazakhstan, JSC Zhasyl Damu, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Republic of Kazakhstan</li> </ul> <p><b>Q&amp;A and open discussion (30 mins)</b></p>
<b>10:30–10:50</b>	<b>Coffee/Tea Break</b>
<b>10:50–12:30</b>	<p><b>Session 8: CSPPF Hands-On Open Session</b></p> <p>Objective: Participatory session on how to develop bankable projects with the CAREC Climate and Sustainability Project Preparatory Fund (CSPPF).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update on the CSPPF and how the Fund works</li> <li>Development of regional bankable projects: requirements, priorities</li> <li>Q&amp;A and topics discussed by participants</li> </ul> <p>Presenter: <b>Ms. Altynay Arapova</b>, Regional Cooperation Specialist, ADB (virtual) Moderator: <b>Mr. Kristian Rosbach</b>, Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB</p>
<b>12:30–13:40</b>	<b>Lunch Hosted by ADB</b>
<b>13:40–14:45</b>	<p><b>Session 9: CCAP implementation aspects and WGCC planning</b></p> <p>Objective: to agree on CCAP implementation aspects and planning for 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Short presentation by CAREC countries' focals on what climate-related activities they are delivering (TBD)</li> <li>Monitoring progress implementation, role of coordinating countries, CAREC Climate Change committee</li> <li>Next steps (WGCC meetings, physical and virtual, key climate events by CAREC members)</li> </ul> <p><b>Mr. Kristian Rosbach</b>, Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB <b>Mr. Matteo Modè</b>, Senior Climate Change Specialist, ADB</p> <p><b>Open Discussion / Q&amp;A 30 mins</b></p>
<b>14:45–15:15</b>	<p><b>Closing remarks</b></p> <p><b>Ms. Asel Raimkulova</b>, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, Environment and Technical Supervision of the Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><b>Wrap-up</b></p> <p>Objective: Summary of key takeaways from the meeting and next steps.</p> <p><b>Mr. Kristian Rosbach</b>, Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB</p>

**4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CAREC Working Group on Climate Change  
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

7-9 April 2025, Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

**A. COUNTRY DELEGATES**

**I. AZERBAIJAN**

1. Ms. Ilaha Ibrahimli, Chief Advisor of Social Policy Division, Sustainable Development and Social Policy Department, Ministry of Economy
2. Mr. Fuad Humbatov, Head of International cooperation and Climate Change Department, National Hydrometeorological Service, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources

**II. GEORGIA**

3. Ms. Shorena Shemozashvili, Chief Specialist, Sustainable Development Promotion Division, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Policy and Sustainable Development Department, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development
4. Mr. Kakha Lomashvili, Senior Specialist, Climate Change Division, Environment and Climate Change Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture

**III. KAZAKHSTAN**

5. Mr. Alexndr Cherednichenko, Expert of the Department of Inventory of Greenhouse Gases of the Republic of Kazakhstan, JSC Zhasyl Damu, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources
6. Ms. Saida Abdrakhim, Manager of Greenhouse Gas Inventory Department, Zhasyl Damu, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources

**IV. THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC**

7. Ms. Dinara Kemelova, Special Representative of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic for the Implementation of the Five-Year Action Plan for the Development of Mountain Regions
8. Ms. Asel Raimkulova, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, Ecology, and Technical Supervision
9. Ms. Aizada Bariyeva, Head of the Climate Policy Department of the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology, and Technical Supervision
10. Ms. Aida Duishenbieva, Senior Specialist of the Climate Policy Department of the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology, and Technical Supervision
11. Mr. Adilet Amantaev, Director of the Climate Finance Center under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic
12. Ms. Roza Samatova, Senior Specialist of the International Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology, and Technical Supervision
13. Mr. Rysbek Satylkanov, Director of the Institute of Water Problems and Hydropower of the National Academy of Sciences

14. Ms. Svetlana Lebedeva, Scientific Secretary of the Institute of Water Problems and Hydropower of the National Academy of Sciences
15. Mr. Almabek Aidakeev, Head of the Secretariat of the National Platform of the Kyrgyz Republic for Disaster Risk Reduction, Ministry of Emergency Situations
16. Mr. Tologon Zhamangulov, Chief Specialist, Ministry of Economy, and Commerce
17. Ms. Meerim Dzholdosheva, Kyrgyzhydromet

## **V. MONGOLIA**

18. Ms. Khorolmaa Gombosuren, Senior Analyst of Integrated Policy and Planning Department, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
19. Ms. Munkhjargal Erdenebadrakh, Researcher, Research division of Numerical weather and environment prediction, Information of research institute meteorology, hydrology and environment

## **VI. PAKISTAN**

20. Dr. Mazhar Hayat, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination (virtual)
21. Mr. Muhammad Hamza Iqbal, Section Officer (ADB), Ministry of Economic Affairs

## **VII. TAJIKISTAN**

22. Mr. Abdullo Qurbonzoda, Director, Hydrometeorology Agency, Committee for Environmental Protection
23. Mr. Turakul Murodov, Deputy Head, Center for Implementation of Investment Projects, Committee for Environmental Protection

## **VIII. TURKMENISTAN**

24. Mr. Berdi Berdiyev, Head of Department for Coordination of International Environmental Cooperation and Projects, Ministry of Environmental Protection
25. Mr. Allanazar Kajarov, Lead Specialist of State Environmental Expertise, Certification and Licensing Division, Department for Environmental Protection, Ministry of Environmental Protection, CAREC WGCC member

## **IX. UZBEKISTAN**

26. Mr. Burkhon Bakhtiyor, Head, Centre of Hydrometeorological Service
27. Mr. Muzaffarjon Murodov, Chief Specialist, Division of Dangerous Hydro Meteorological Cases, Centre of Hydrometeorological Service, Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change

## **B. DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS**

### **I. AGA KHAN FOUNDATION**

28. Mr. Emilbek Sagyndyk, Program Manager

## **II. ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK**

29. Mr. Zheng Wu, ADB Country Director for the Kyrgyz Republic

30. Mr. Thomas Kessler, Principal Finance Specialist (Disaster Insurance)

31. Mr. Kristian Rosbach, Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), CWRC

32. Mr. Begzod Djalilov, Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRD

33. Ms. Altynay Arapova, Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRD (virtual)

34. Ms. Kat Coballes, Climate Change Specialist, CCRE

35. Mr. Masahiro Nishimura, Unit Head, Project Administration, Transport Sector Office, Sectors Department 1 (virtual)

36. Mr. Matteo Modè, Senior Climate Change Specialist, Consultant

37. Mr. Eduardo Garcia Alonso, Consultant

38. Mr. Taalaibek Bektashev, Advisor to the CAREC National Focal Point for the Kyrgyz Republic

39. Ms. Aidana Berdybekova, Senior Regional Cooperation Coordinator

40. Ms. Jen Lapis, TA Consultant

## **II. ASIAN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT BANK**

41. Ms. Julija Kuklyte Polycarp, Climate Change Specialist, Sectors, Themes and Finance Solutions Department

## **III. CAREC INSTITUTE**

42. Dr. Kuat Akizhanov, Deputy Director 2

## **IV. eCAREC**

43. Mr. Vladimir Grebnev, Regional Climate Change Specialist

## **V. EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT**

44. Mr. Nurgul Esenamanova, Principal, Regional Policy & Strategy

## **VI. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION**

45. Ms. Gulnaz Iskakova, Partnership Development Consultant, FAO Partnership and Liaison Office

## **VIII. GIZ**

46. Mr. Alexander Nikolaenko, Deputy Program Manager, Green Central Asia II

- 47. Mr. Azat Osmonov, Environmental Policy Advisor, GCA II Project
- 48. Ms. Zoya Kretova, Climate Change Advisor/National Coordinator, Climate Risk Management in Central Asia Programme
- 49. Ms. Judith Blank, Regional Project "Trade Facilitation in Central Asia", Project Manager (AV) (virtual)

#### **IX. GREEN CLIMATE FUND**

- 50. Ms. Kunduz Masyllkanova, Sub-Regional Lead & Sr Agriculture and Good Security Specialist
- 51. Mr. Temurbek Zokiron, Regional Analyst

#### **X. IOM**

- 52. Mr. Taalaibek Talantbek, Program Coordinator

#### **X. United Nations Development Programme**

- 53. Ms. Nataly Olofinskaya, Regional Adaptation Adviser (virtual)

#### **XI. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**

- 54. Dr. Tamar Khomasuridze, Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Regional Advisor, UNFPA Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office (virtual)
- 55. Mr. Sergio Esperanca, Head, Sub-Regional Office for Central Asia
- 56. Mr. Baktybek Kainazarov, Head of Office, UNFPA Country Office in Kyrgyzstan
- 57. Ms. Nurgul Smankulova, SRH Specialist, UNFPA Country Office in Kyrgyzstan

#### **XII. World Bank**

- 58. Mr. Tolkun Jukusheva, Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist
- 59. Ms. Alice Soares, Senior Hydrometeorological Expert (virtual)
- 60. Ms. Henrike Brecht, Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist (virtual)

#### **XIII. World Health Organization**

- 61. Dr. Vladimir Kendrovski, Technical Officer (Climate Change and Health), WHO Regional Office for Europe (virtual)

#### **C. INTERPRETERS**

- 62. Rustam Sataev
- 63. Aikanysh Jeenbaeva