

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

08 July 2024, 13:30–16:30 (Manila time)

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

I. Introduction

1. The second virtual meeting of the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Working Group on Climate Change (WGCC), established in April 2024 to support the implementation of the [Regional Action on Climate Change: a Vision for CAREC](#) (CAREC Climate Change Vision), was held virtually on 08 July 2024 (see Appendix 1 for the agenda). 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. Ms. Lyaziza Sabyrova, Regional Head, Regional Cooperation and Integration, ADB, thanked WGCC members for their continued interest and active participation in the development of the CAREC climate agenda, recognizing that the WGCC is already fulfilling its role as a platform for regional climate action and integration of climate change into CAREC sectors. Ms. Sabyrova introduced the objectives of the meeting, which included (i) an overview of the key findings from the consultations and the proposed main areas of the Action Plan, (ii) presentations on joint project proposals that were identified by member countries, and (iii) innovative project ideas and concepts relevant to CAREC, which could be incorporated into the Action Plan if there is interest from member countries. Lastly, Ms. Sabyrova remarked that the next in-person meeting will be critical to finalizing the CAREC Climate Change Action Plan to be presented at the CAREC Ministerial Conference in November and further showcased at COP29.

II. Highlights of the Meeting

Session 1. Summary of Findings from Country Consultations and Proposed Workstreams of the Action Plan

3. Mr. Kristian Rosbach, Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB, provided an overview of the findings from the country consultations, the inputs received from CAREC countries via questionnaires, the ranking of the CAREC Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) priorities, and the Sub-Group Proposals on Regional Initiatives. Mr. Rosbach stressed that the virtual meeting provides the opportunity to identify, discuss, and rank priorities and propose CCAP proposals. The CCAP document will be drafted during the summer so that an early draft can be presented at the next in-person WGCC meeting that will take place on 2-3 September. Mr. Rosbach also provided an overview of new project proposals. Lastly, Mr. Rosbach provided information on the potential areas of engagement of development partners in the CCAP and CAREC country’s preparations and needs for COP29, as well as related training plans by CAREC.

4. Mr. Elmar Mammadov, Co-Lead COP29 Action Agenda, COP29 Presidency of Azerbaijan, provided an overview of Azerbaijan initiatives for COP29 that will be hosted in Baku and for the first time in the CAREC region. Mr. Mammadov outlined that Azerbaijan has fourteen global initiatives and eight regional initiatives in the area of economic and special cooperation, including the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA), cooperation of the Turkic States, digital and green middle corridors. He added that they would like to propose two regional initiatives for the CAREC region. These regional initiatives would be using five principles to balance three pillars of the climate agenda such as (i) climate finance, (ii) mitigation and adaptation, (iii)

ensuring a balance between climate ambitions and enabling actions, (iv) covering all dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental), global vs. regional focus, and (v) harmony between human and nature (human capital and nature-based solutions).

5. For CAREC, Mr. Mammadov proposed the establishment of the Special Green Economic Zones (SGEZ) by merging green with free economic zones and creating the SGEZ, taking advantage of the availability of renewable energy sources in the region. The SGEZ, for which Azerbaijan has already drafted an initiative, will be introduced as part of the Baku Initiative for Climate Finance, Investment and Trade (BICFIT) Dialogue. Mr. Mammadov added it could be helpful to focus on this topic at a regional scale under the CAREC program based on two tracks, such as the greening of existing economic zones and introducing the new concept of SGEZ that could serve for decarbonization and attract investments, which is in line with Azerbaijan's idea of attracting investments as part of the COP29 climate agenda, and balancing climate action and sustainable development. Mr. Mammadov indicated a regional EWS as a second proposal for CAREC to be introduced in the COP29 agenda through the CAREC program, also in cooperation with other international organizations in the region (e.g., ecoCAREC). Mr. Mammadov hoped these two initiatives could be supported in the framework of COP29 and CAREC's climate change agenda.

6. UNDP's Ms. Laura Attinger asked what the SGEZ are and if they are only related to renewable energy or if they are broader than that, and secondly, if there is a taxonomy that defines how green the economic zones will be, and if there are definitions to ensure that these activities are not greenwash. Mr. Mammadov replied that Azerbaijan is working with UNCTAD and other partners for the further elaboration of the SGEZ concept, fundamental principles, and elements that are based on renewable energy use and production and manufacturing related to that (based on Ricardo Hausmann's industrial park concepts). Azerbaijan is also working on the green taxonomy and further concept definitions that will be shared with the CAREC group as soon as they are ready. Mr. Mammadov also answered that on the EWS, Azerbaijan would need to start to prepare a draft concept note and a declaration to be shared with the WGCC before the end of July (2024), given the limited time available ahead of COP29 and that a regional EWS initiative will increase the visibility of CAREC. These could be part of two high-level events for CAREC, and these initiatives could be signed as a starting point for further development. Mr. Mammadov concluded that, even though he is not directly involved in CAREC, he knows that CAREC has an advanced climate agenda. Mr. Rosbach concluded this discussion by saying that the secretariat will first support the further development of these two concepts by collecting feedback and input from CAREC countries.

7. Mr. Kakha Lomashvili, Senior Specialist, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, together with Ms. Aynur Mutallimova, Chief Adviser, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resource of Azerbaijan, presented a proposal for a CAREC Regional Early Warning Platform. Kazakhstan also supported the proposal. Georgia's presentation included a second proposal for a CAREC Regional Policy on Adaptation of Mountainous Eco-systems supported by the Kyrgyz Republic. To identify and formulate the proposals, Georgia focused on cooperation and common challenges that all countries face. For details on the consolidated proposals, see the table below.

8. Dr. Mazhar Hayat, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, complemented by Mongolia and the People's Republic of China (PRC), presented three proposals: i) Enhancing Climate Resilience and Agricultural Productivity through Financial Access and Technological Integration, ii) Enhancing Health Resilience to Heatwaves through Integrated Climate Adaptation Strategies, and iii) Building Regional Capacity for Climate Risk Assessments and Resilient Infrastructure Planning.

9. A joint proposal developed by Mr. Abdullo Qurbonzoda, Director and Mr. Turakul Murodov, Deputy Head, Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, and Mr. Kajarov Allanazar, Lead Specialist of State Environmental Expertise, Ministry of

Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan, was presented by Mr. Murodov, focusing on Glaciers and Water Resources: Risk Assessment, Monitoring and Forecasting.

10. Mr. Begzod M. Djalilov, Senior Economics Officer, Uzbekistan Resident Mission, ADB, presented the national climate risk assessment experience under the pilot project Kashkadarya Masterplan Risk Screening (as part of the TA9414: Supporting Adaptation Decision Making for Climate Resilient Investments in Uzbekistan). The pilot experience of Uzbekistan is part of the climate risk assessment proposal included in the table below. It could be replicated in CAREC countries as part of capacity building to enhance the technical capabilities for climate risk assessments and identify resilience options for proposed investments.

11. The CAREC countries' proposals are outlined in the table below:

#	Proposal	Presented by / Geographic Focus	AP area / Description
1	CAREC Regional Early Warning Platform, including heat risk and heatwave preparedness	Georgia, complemented by Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan / Regional	Climate Risk, Preparedness, and Health (1) CAREC Climate Platform (4) Regional Platform for sharing data, knowledge, experience, and insights for the development of Early-Warning Systems Identify common challenges and risks as the basis for the development of regional future common approach and policy about the development of EWS A centralized hub for monitoring and disseminating early warning information, including potential new directions that existing national Early-Warning Systems do not cover (heatwaves, droughts) An initiative/declaration for establishing the EWS platform ahead of COP 29; Azerbaijan's commitment and readiness to host the CAREC EW Center.
2	CAREC Regional Policy on Adaptation of Mountainous Eco-systems	Georgia, complemented by Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan / Caucasus, Central Asia	Climate Risk, Preparedness, and Health (1) Identifying common challenges and risks; Identifying areas for technical assistance and research/studies and, based on gained information/analysis, developing a common policy or at least specific regional activities.
3	Enhancing Climate Resilience & Agricultural Productivity through Financial Access and Technological Integration (Climate Smart Agriculture)	Pakistan, complemented by the People's Republic of China, and Mongolia / Regional	Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus (2) Increase access to credit for smallholder farmers to adopt climate-smart agriculture technologies and purchase necessary inputs. Restructure existing financial tools to incentivize crop diversification, improve water productivity, and enhance land management. Facilitate access to available climate-resilient technologies, equipment, and crops through capacity building and support mechanisms.
4	Glaciers and Water Resources: Risk	Tajikistan, complemented by	Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus (2)

	Assessment, Monitoring and Forecasting	the Kyrgyz Republic and Turkmenistan / Caucasus, Central Asia, Pakistan	<p>Strengthening the adaptive capacity of Central Asian countries to climate impacts via glaciers' risk assessment, monitoring and forecasting</p> <p>Creation of a Regional Atlas of Dangerous Transboundary Exogenous Geodynamic Processes, including natural hazards (GLOFs, mudflows, landslides, avalanches, dust storms, and droughts) via a GIS platform</p> <p>Climate finance for adaptation, technologies, and best practices demonstration for water resources, land and forest management, agricultural production</p> <p>Regional cooperation and stakeholders' inclusion, capacity strengthening of hydromets (technical equipment, training);</p>
5	Building Regional Capacity for Climate Risk Assessments and Resilient Infrastructure Planning, including tools	Uzbekistan, Pakistan / Regional	<p>Climate Risk, Preparedness, and Health (1)</p> <p>Capacity Building: Enhancing technical capabilities for climate risk assessments.</p> <p>Infrastructure Planning: Developing resilient infrastructure strategies.</p> <p>Cross-border Cooperation: Facilitating knowledge exchange and collaboration among CAREC member states.</p>

**More details on shared benefits and why these projects are essential for CAREC can be found in the relevant presentation files prepared by countries and previously shared.*

12. Open discussions followed the subgroups' proposals, with the following questions and concerns raised:

- i. On the SGEZ proposal, Georgia remarked that they would need to consult internally on the proposed concept
- ii. On the EWS proposal, Azerbaijan proposed the establishment of the EWS platform ahead of COP29 to elevate the work of CAREC and its legacy at the COP. On the adaptation in mountainous countries proposal, Azerbaijan stated that they are interested. Still, they are currently developing their NAP. Before discussing this proposal further, they would need to find out if and what mountainous areas are vulnerable, among other identified sensitive areas such as agricultural areas and villages. Coastal areas are also a priority area for Azerbaijan that could be shared by Caspian states Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan.
- iii. Pakistan is particularly interested in expanding EWS to all communities to increase resilience.
- iv. On the EWS proposal, Mr. Asif Turangzai, Climate Change Officer, Pakistan Resident Mission, ADB, added that ADB works with the Pakistan Water Ministry on a national masterplan for telemetry and that there is a potential to extend the EWS work beyond physical borders and that the EWS has the potential to be linked to DRM. Pakistan also remarked that for mitigation, the focus could be on regional carbon markets to reduce emissions in the region
- v. For the Kyrgyz Republic, Climate Risk Assessment and EWS are critical. The Kyrgyz Republic is not ready to respond to the glacier and water proposal. They would need additional consultation with their respective authorities to get feedback and inputs from other sectors, such as agriculture. However, they remarked that DRM is a top priority. They also asked if there are opportunities to discuss the proposals further.

- vi. Turkmenistan indicated that increasing temperature, heat waves, and droughts should also be part of the EWS indicators and methodologies for improving forecasting while also suggesting that regional drought maps could be considered as outputs from the EWS. In addition, Turkmenistan stated that heat risk and drought should be linked to the health sector and that their proposal is aligned with those of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, considering shared challenges for water, agriculture, and the risk of droughts that are key priorities. Regarding coastal areas, the concern is more about the changing level of the sea and future impacts because, currently, the coastline is changing.
- vii. Mr. Zeyu Zhou, Deputy Director, National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation, Ministry of Ecology and Environment, PRC, remarked that the EWS, in addition to the climate-smart agriculture proposal presented by Pakistan, is relevant for all countries and that the PRC has some best practices. They are available to share in the context of this proposal.
- viii. Ms. Dina Azhgaliyeva, Senior Research Fellow, ADB Institute, recommended that challenges and lessons learned from other regions can be incorporated (e.g., climate-smart agriculture in Indonesia).

Session 2. New Proposals for the CAREC Climate Change Action Plan

13. Ms. Kathleen Coballes, Climate Change Specialist, ADB, provided an overview of the Glacier to Farm (G2F) concept for a \$5 billion, 10-year program with the main objective to enhance the resilience of communities, food systems and infrastructure in Central and West Asia countries, including Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The envisaged impact is increased resilience and adaptive capacity of communities, food systems, and social infrastructure in the project areas. The project has three components: resilience and regional cooperation, regional investments and technical assistance, and green business financing. The project aims to fill the regional climate finance and baseline evidence gaps in the region, focusing on enhancing national capacities for EWS (more details can be found in the G2F presentation). Cofinancing from GCF is envisaged.

14. Ms. Yasmin Siddiqi, Director, Agriculture, Food, Nature, and Rural Development, Sector Group, ADB, provided an overview of the work of the CAREC Water pillar, starting from 2017 with a focus on Central Asia, and building on the Almaty Agreement (in the Field of Joint Management of the Use and Conservation of Water Resources of Interstate Courses) and the work of International Fund for saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) and its Executive Committee. The CAREC Water Pillar, a Working Group (WG) with representatives from Central Asian countries, serves as an advisory and consultative body to foster collaboration among Central Asian countries and act as the go-between on government approach and strategic thinking. Currently, the CAREC Water WG is identifying a pipeline of projects. Countries presented proposals at the recent Water WG meeting in Istanbul (17-18 June 2024), to focus on joint transboundary projects and specific investments (resilience, land and water quality, nexus solutions, such as water and energy). The meeting also discussed the G2F concept. The focus is to take proposals to the next step via country missions to better understand the countries' needs. Ms. Siddiqi also noted the need to link to the G2F program and integrate innovative solutions.

15. Mr. Stuart Bowlin, Managing Partner, R Tek Constructive Solutions, Kazakhstan, presented the benefits of establishing baselines whose focus is to unlock private investment for the development of a carbon market in Kazakhstan via the establishment of data baselines that would potentially mobilize climate finance for soil restoration activities and afforestation. Mr. Bowlin remarked that the lack of baseline data in the region hinders potential investments in the carbon market because of the high risks associated with unknowns. The main objectives of the proposed approach include establishing soil degradation baselines, collecting indicators to determine soil degradation drivers, leading to the identification of zones with high mitigation potential, and

developing data requirements for agrotechnology transfer tools. According to Mr. Bowlin, the proposed concept would benefit from mitigation (carbon credits) and adaptation (pasture management, irrigation, and water management practices).

An open discussion followed

- i. Mr. Turakul stated that the G2F program concept is an excellent step by ADB in supporting the region and that it aligns with Tajikistan's national strategies and priorities, particularly for vulnerable mountainous areas, while also supporting the UNGA Glacier resolution declaring 2025 the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation (put forward by Tajikistan). Tajikistan concluded they will review the concept and provide inputs when submitted;
- ii. Mr. Dosym Kydyrbayev, Managing Partner, R Tek, works with FAO, which has a pilot funded under GEF 7 and 8 for land degradation and improved pasture management and would like to join forces with other countries. He would also like to establish a GIS platform under the World Soil Information System (WoSIS).
- iii. ADBI was surprised to hear that data on land degradation is outdated and wanted to hear about the experiences of other countries. R Tek remarked that existing private databases are inaccessible, and older data dates back to Soviet times.
- iv. Mr. Lomashvili pointed out that given the focus on adaptation as discussed, EWS and adaptation in mountainous countries can also be linked to agriculture and water proposals and reinstated that they would need to consult with other government departments on Azerbaijan's SGEZ proposal;
- v. On the soil baseline concept presented by R Tek, Mr. Turangzai remarked that some data is available on crop production, expected agricultural yields, desertification, coastal sea intrusion, and resulting land degradation collected in coastal belt areas (200 km intrusion of saline waters). Mr. Bowlin remarked that the primary drivers of data collection are more affluent farmers, while gaps are for vulnerable farmers.

Session 3. Next Steps and Agenda of 2nd WGCC Meeting

16. Ms. Carmen Maria Garcia Perez, Regional Cooperation Specialist, ADB, provided an overview of the proposed agenda for the 2nd in-person meeting of the CAREC WGCC in Baku, which is tentatively set for 2-3 September. The agenda is being developed, and invitations will be sent shortly by the CAREC secretariat, including the presentation of the draft Action Plan, breakout group to sequence the implementation timeline, and regional approach on EWS, climate adaptation in mountainous regions, and COP29 preparations for capacity building on Article 6 (6.2. and 6.4) at the technical level. CAREC is looking at options, including collaboration with CAREC partners (more details can be found in the shared presentation).

17. The following steps include (i) sharing a summary of the meeting with WGCC members, including a table of the proposals; (ii) preparing an agenda and materials for the second in-person WGCC meeting; (iii) coordinating with WGCC proposals to further develop the proposals of the CAREC Climate Change Action Plan as needed; (iv) draft the CAREC Climate Change AP to be shared in advance of the Baku meeting; (v) coordinating with and supporting the Government of Azerbaijan on further developing the SGEZ and EWS proposals for COP29 by sharing the draft concept notes and declaration with CAREC countries for their feedback; and (vi) close coordination with development partners on the CAREC AP, by sharing the information on the CAREC water pillar and the presentations materials.

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 guide for integrating climate change across CAREC sectors and operations. The Action Plan will lead to the developing 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	Opening Remarks Ms. Lyaziza Sabyrova, Regional Head, Regional Cooperation and Integration (CWRC), Central and West Asia Department (CWRD), Asian Development Bank
13:35–15:30	Session 1: Summary of Findings from Country Consultations and Proposed Workstreams of the Action Plan <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> <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 <i>Open discussion / Q&A</i>
15:30–15:50	Session 2: New Proposals for the CAREC Climate Change Action Plan 1) Green Special Economic Zones Regional Proposal Presenter: Mr. Elmar Mammadov, Co-Lead COP29 Action Agenda, COP29 Presidency

	<p>2) Glaciers to Farms Regional Program Presenter: Ms. Kathleen Coballes, Climate Change Specialist, ADB</p> <p>3) Benefits of Regional Soil Baselines Presenter: Mr. Stuart Bowlin, Managing Partner, R Tek Constructive Solutions, Kazakhstan</p> <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>

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

8 July 2024, via Zoom

A. COUNTRY DELEGATES***I. AZERBAIJAN***

1. Ms. Aynur Mutallimova, Chief Adviser, Climate Change Division, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources
2. Mr. Elmar Mammadov, Co-Lead COP29 Action Agenda, COP29 Presidency

II. PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

3. Mr. Zeyu Zhou, Deputy Director, National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation, Ministry of Ecology and Environment

III. GEORGIA

4. Mr. Kakha Lomashvili, Senior Specialist, Climate Change Division, Environment and of the Climate Change Department Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture
5. Mr. Nikoloz Kholodov, Chief Specialist, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Implementation and Promotion Division, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Policy and Sustainable Development Department, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development

IV. THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

6. Ms. Aizada Barieva, Head, Climate Policy Department

V. PAKISTAN

7. Dr. Mazhar Hayat, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination

VII. TAJIKISTAN

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

VIII. TURKMENISTAN

10. Mr. Dovran Yagmyrov, Head, Department of Department for Environmental Protection, Ministry of Environmental Protection
11. Mr. Allanazar Kajarov, Lead Specialist of State Environmental Expertise, Certification and Licensing Division, Department for Environmental Protection, Ministry of Environmental Protection

B. DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

I. ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK INSTITUTE

1. Ms. Dina Azhgaliyeva, Senior Research Fellow

II. ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

2. Ms. Lyaziza Sabyrova, Regional Head, Regional Cooperation and Integration, CWRC
3. Ms. Yasmin Siddiqi, Director, Agriculture, Food, Nature, and Rural Development, SG-AFNR
4. Mr. Kristian Rosbach, Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), CWRC
5. Ms. Carmen Garcia Perez, Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRC
6. Ms. Dorothea Lazaro, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRC
7. Mr. Kenzhekhan Abuov, Senior Project Officer, KARM
8. Ms. Ekaterine Mikadze, Senior Climate Change Officer, GRM
9. Mr. Asif Turangzai, Climate Change Officer, PRM
10. Mr. Begzod Djalilov, Senior Economics Officer, URM
11. Mr. Chris Dickinson, Senior Climate Change Specialist, CCRE
12. Ms. Kat Coballes, Climate Change Specialist, CCRE
13. Ms. Irene de Roma, Senior Programs Officer, CWRC
14. Mr. Matteo Mode', Senior Climate Change Specialist, Consultant
15. Mr. Ashraf Kuliyeu, Advisor (Azerbaijan)
16. Mr. Wasif Mullick, Advisor (Pakistan)
17. Mr. Diyar Tassym, Advisor (Kazakhstan)
18. Mr. Rustam Aminjanov, Advisor (Tajikistan)
19. Mr. Durdy Ilamanov, Advisor (Turkmenistan)
20. Mr. Nadir Sataev, Advisor (Uzbekistan)
21. Ms. Bujin Erdenebaatar, Regional Coordination Coordinator, Mongolia
22. Mr. Laifei Xiong, Regional Coordination Coordinator, PRC
23. Ms. Guldana Sadykova, Senior Regional Coordination Coordinator, Kazakhstan
24. Mr. Umid Khudoyberdiev, Regional Coordination Coordinator, Uzbekistan
25. Mr. Johannes Linn, Consultant
26. Ms. Jen Lapis, Consultant
27. Mr. Charles Aldelmita, Consultant
28. Mr. Branko Wehnert, Consultant

III. ASIAN INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT BANK

29. Mr. Xing Zhang, Senior Climate Policy Specialist

IV. BRITISH EMBASSY

30. Ms. Kirri Hendriksen, Second Secretary Climate and Green Transition

V. eCAREC

31. Mr. Vladimir Grebnev, Regional Climate Change Specialist

VI. EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

32. Ms. Maira Karassayeva, Principal Banker, Green Economy Transition

VII. IsDB

33. Mr. Habib Abubakar, Senior Climate Change Specialist

VIII. United Nations Development Programme

34. Ms. Lejla Sadiku, Innovation Team Leader

35. Ms. Laura Altinger, Team Leader for Energy and Environment, Istanbul Regional Hub,
UNDP Europe and Central Asia

36. Ms. Iryna Sakaloukaya

IX. WORLD BANK

37. Dr. Urvashi Narain, Sustainable Development Program Leader for Central Asia

X. RTek Constructive Solutions

38. Mr. Dosym Kydyrbayev, Managing Partner

39. Mr. Stuart Bowlin, Managing Partner

**Conclusions from the Sub-groups Virtual Consultations Meetings
of the CAREC Working Group on Climate Change**

1st Subgroup: Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan

1. EWS (having the same information and sharing data among countries, and including heat waves)
2. Balance energy resources (development of RE resources and integration into the grid)
3. Carbon markets – article 6 (training ahead of COP)
4. Restoration of degraded land and carbon sequestration (presentation on 8 July)
5. Water (regional projections, CC impacts on water availability, etc.)
6. Climate adaptation on mountainous areas (consider including a session on this at the WGCC meeting in Sept).

2nd Subgroup: Mongolia, Pakistan, PRC

1. Main priorities for PAK are water-agriculture nexus (climate smart agriculture practices, improved land management, and impact of glacier melting on water flow projections), climate risk assessments, and disaster risk management and financing.
2. PAK will present a proposal on water-agriculture nexus for the meeting on 8 July as main priority. CAREC Secretariat will share the template after the meeting.
3. PAK will have a pavilion at COP and is open to discussing the possibility of hosting a CAREC event in its pavilion. PAK is also interested in technical training on article 6.
4. MON will share the filled in questionnaire by Friday.

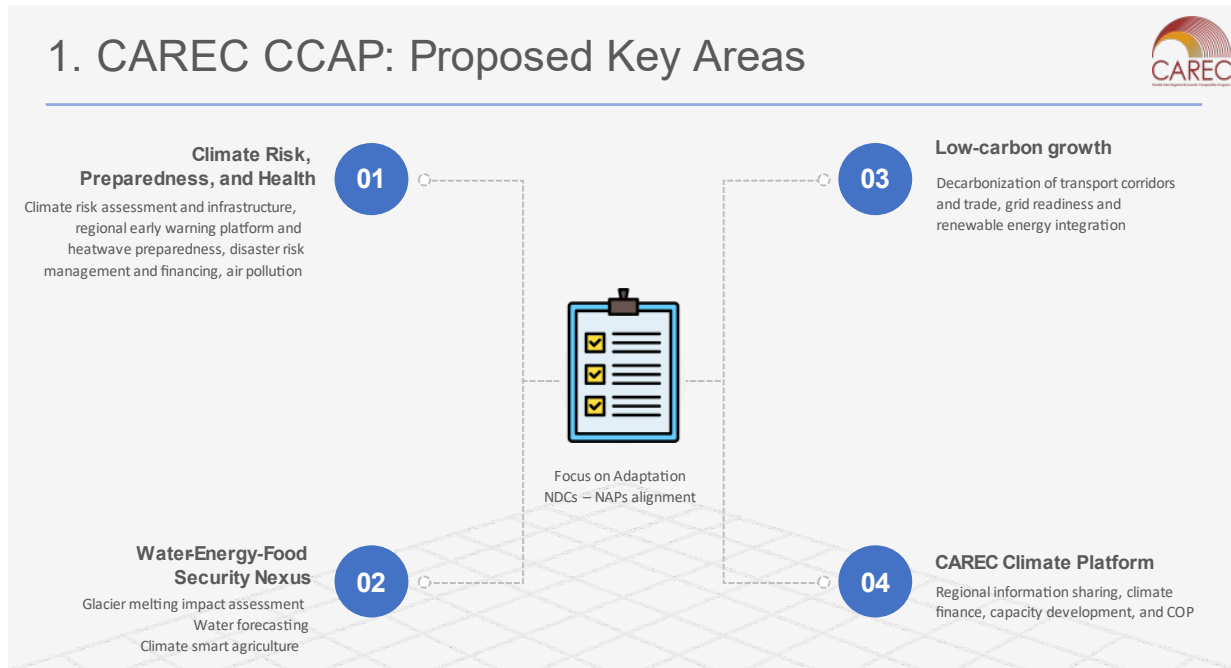
3rd Subgroup: Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

- Water is a key area, particularly the impact of glacier melting on transboundary water bodies. Proposal to be presented by this group on this topic (water projections from glacier melting and identification of adaptation measures).
- Pilot climate risk assessment tool for UZB – to be presented by Timur at the WGCC meeting as replication at regional level.
- Importance of establishing linkages between regional CAREC projects and other ongoing initiatives (G2F, WB projects, etc.)
- Other key areas for the countries are climate risk assessments on transport and water infrastructure, DRM, and renewable energy integration.
- For COP, all countries have initiated preparations. Some countries are considering their own pavilion (UZB) or shared pavilion (KGZ shared with mountainous regions). Article 6 training of interest for countries (TAJ).

4th Sub group: Engagement of Development Partners in the Action Plan

Priority Area	Development Partners
Energy-Water Nexus	WB, GCF, AIIB, ADBI
Water Agriculture Nexus	WB (CSA and land degradation), GCF, EBRD (agri-business), UNDP (land degradation), ADB, ADBI (agriculture and food security)
Risk Assessment and Preparedness	WB (risk assessments; hydromet, and DRF), GCF, UNDP (EWS and DRF), ADB (risk assessments and DRF)
Health and Climate Change	GCF, UNDP
Low Carbon Growth	WB, GCF, EBRD, AIIB, CI, ADBI
Capacity Development and Climate Negotiations	WB, GCF, UNDP, eCAREC, ADBI (events at COP29)

CAREC Climate Change Action Plan Areas of Intervention



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