



CAREC Institute Newsletter

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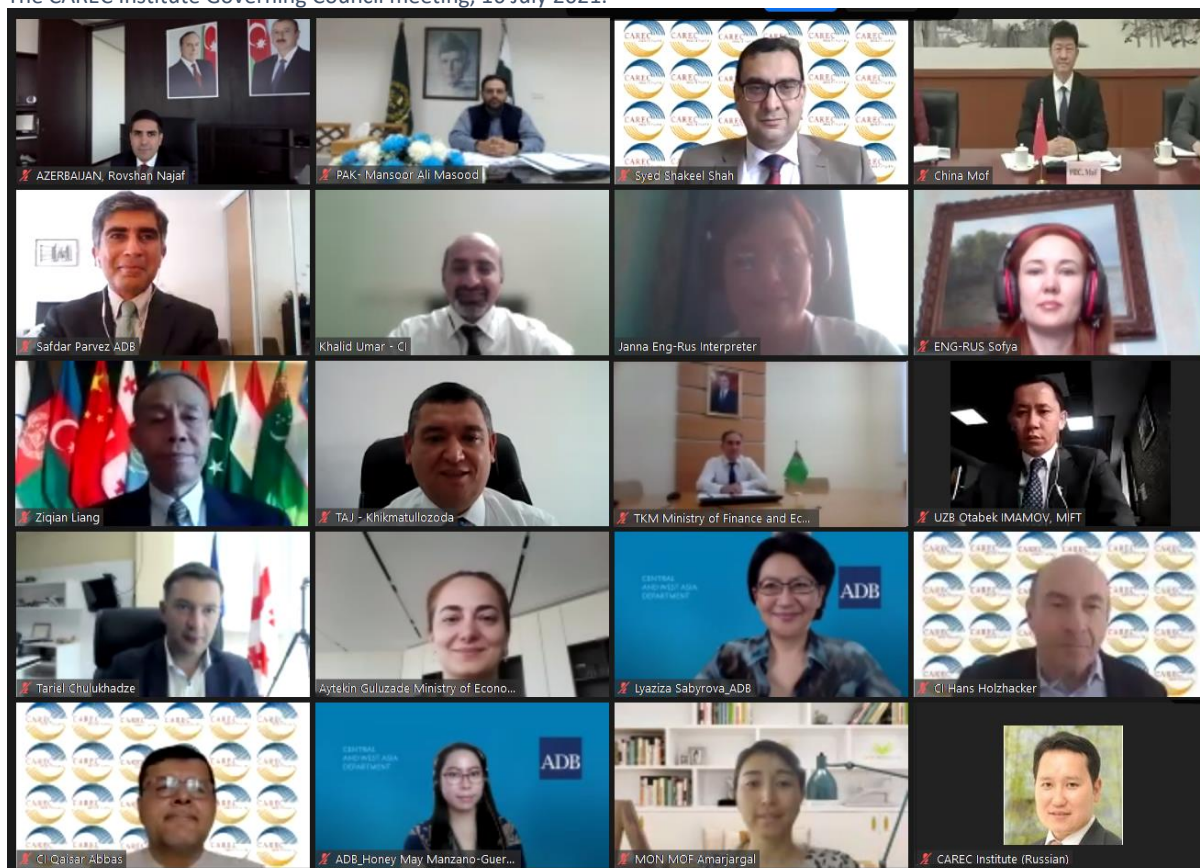
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CAREC Institute Governing Council Convenes

The CAREC Institute Governing Council meeting, 16 July 2021.



The 11th session of the CAREC Institute Governing Council convened on 16 July 2021. The National Focal Point of Azerbaijan Excellency Rovshan Najaf chaired the session attended by representatives of all 11 member countries, also the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Institute staff.

The CAREC Institute Director Syed Shakeel Shah updated the Council on the work progress, mentioned the recognition of the Institute's COVID-related analytical work in the 2020 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report by the University of Pennsylvania; new collaborations established with UNICEF, UNESCAP, IsDB, and AIIB, and the new focus on the digital CAREC work. He then thanked the People's Republic of China (PRC) for hosting and funding the Institute, also thanked the Government of Pakistan for a voluntary contribution to the budget in 2020.

The Council pondered on three main topics of the agenda: CAREC Institute strategy mid-term review and update, options for financial sustainability, and revision of the Advisory Council rules.

The Chair of the session, also Safdar Parvez of ADB, noted the Institute's increased input to support member countries, and encouraged the Institute to maintain and enhance its relevance, value, and utility for CAREC members, also keep improving its institutional capacity. The Pakistan representative appreciated improved outputs of the Institute, including research products and policy briefs. He also announced another voluntary contribution by Pakistan to the Institute's budget for 2021-22.

The PRC representative Han Bin noted improvements in the Institute's performance. He then suggested separating the mid-term review of the strategy from the actual strategy document, and made recommendations for further refinements, namely: strengthen interlinkages with the CAREC 2030 strategy, digital strategy, and member country national strategies; strengthen research in digital economy, renewables, and public health; improve partnerships and networks; deepen partnerships with multi-lateral development partners; set up a function of internal controls and audit within the Institute and enhance oversight; strengthen capacity building of the Institute to tailor services to meet the members' national needs; promote linkages among CAREC entrepreneurs; diversify funding sources; and strengthen the south-south cooperation.

Director Shah welcomed remarks and suggestions from country representatives and ADB colleagues. He stated that revised documents incorporating the suggestions will be circulated with draft minutes for approval of the Council members. Director Shah requested early approval of the same so that the Institute can move ahead with development of the results framework at the earliest.

CAREC Institute Visiting Fellow Program Finalists 2021

The CAREC Institute has finalized the selection of the 2021 pool of the Visiting Fellow Program (VFP) finalists. The VFP supports scholars from the ADB member countries to produce targeted knowledge products which will add to the body of knowledge on regional cooperation. Under the VFP framework, scholars are encouraged to research regional integration topics and undertake comparative analysis between (sub) regions to draw lessons for promoting and deepening regional cooperation.

Since 2020, four research papers have been completed under this program. The CAREC Institute presents findings of this research to policy makers for consideration. It also offers a discussion platform through its annual think tanks forum which has been convening since 2016. The previous VFP papers on migration, promotion of low-carbon energy, spatial mapping of economic clusters, and climate change impact on agriculture are available [here](#).

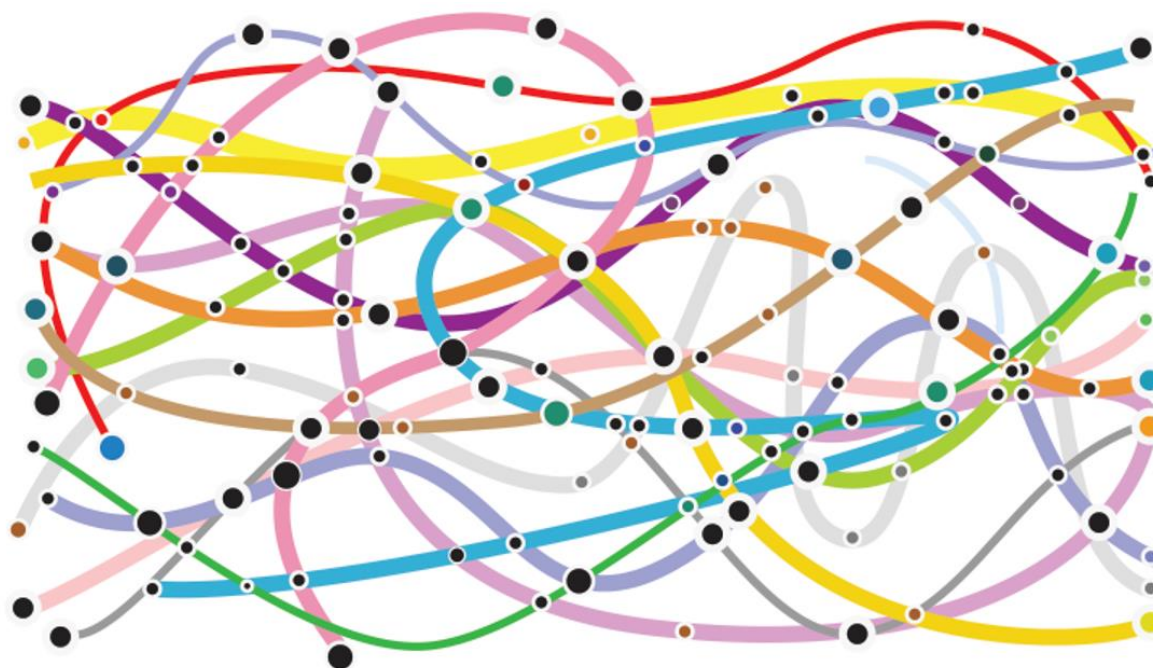
The following research has been prioritized this year:

The Informal Sector: Prospects for Regional Cooperation and Integration in the CAREC Region

Our new visiting fellow Teresita Cruz Del Rosario of Asia Research Institute of National University of Singapore will look into the informal economy in the CAREC region and provide a general policy framework for all countries, also specific country-based recommendations for those economies that exhibit excessive informality.

The fellow argues that the informal sector emerged as a rapid response to the demise of the Soviet Union. The economic vacuum was quickly filled by small traders and firms while these countries struggled to transition to a market economy. The researcher will examine the workings of the informal economy, the hierarchy of causes that explain their continued existence especially along the border areas, and the possible policy responses to transform these informal economies into formalized market exchanges. Some of the policy emphasis will include: 1) policy reforms to reduce the regulatory burden on SME which wish to access finance and product assistance; 2) institutional changes through bureaucratic and legislative reforms that create a better climate for conducting business; 3) tax burdens and financial incentives that would let SME compete through open and fair market rules; 4) employment opportunities in the formal sector through job creation activities, labor regulation, and welfare schemes; and 5) fintech support to the informal sector.

Comparing Regional Integration for Sustainable Development in ASEAN and CAREC Economies



Another fellow Falendra Kumar Sudan from the University of Jammu, India, will construct an ASEAN-CAREC Digital and Sustainable Regional Integration Index (ACDigiSRII) to analyze the level of integration in ASEAN and CAREC economies, identify the drivers of regional integration (RI), find progress in RI during 2010-2020, and draw lessons for the CAREC region. His analysis will cover the ASEAN economies of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam, and CAREC economies of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, and Tajikistan. The index itself will include seven dimensions: trade and investment, regional value chains (RVC), finance, movement of people, infrastructure, regulatory cooperation, digital economy integration (DEI), and other conventional indicators.

The fellow argues that ASEAN economies remain more regionally integrated than CAREC economies. ASEAN economies also show significant progress over time in all listed dimensions, unlike CAREC economies. Investment in infrastructure development and free trade agreements drive greater RI in ASEAN. He also notes that despite increased access to internet, cyber-security remains a major hurdle in RI in the digital economy. The researcher proposes that policymakers in ASEAN and CAREC countries prioritize diverse areas of RI. His assumption includes that trade and investment integration, including RVC integration, can be pushed by digital transformation of trade and investment in the CAREC region, as well as greater movement of people, substantial regulatory cooperation in digital trade, trade in ICT goods, and development of e-commerce platforms.

Impact of Environmental Regulations on Pollutive Industrial Trade: CAREC vs. OECD Regions

Saleem Irfan from the Office of National Statistics, UK, will examine the impact of environmental regulations on trade competitiveness for CAREC countries and their bilateral export flows with the high-income and environmentally stringent OECD economies in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

With this research, the fellow hopes to contribute to a better policy framework for the CAREC region's industrial trade competitiveness and SDGs. His analysis will attempt to show that a careful comparative analysis between most pollutive and relatively less pollutive industries would be essential for environmental policy impact on export and trade competitiveness as the impact of the policies could be sensitive to the choice of different pollutive industrial categories and within each pollutive industry group. He argues that the environmental policies designed to achieve social benefits with industrial competitiveness should be weighted carefully to incorporate more disaggregated impact by including the diversity of measurements needed for each pollutive industry rather than framing the policy on the belief that one size fits all.

He also proposes that impact of environmental regulations on pollutive industrial exports is sensitive to the methodology. Therefore, any policymaking endeavor to achieve industrial competitiveness and environmental management should be based on rigorous cross-methodological research analysis.

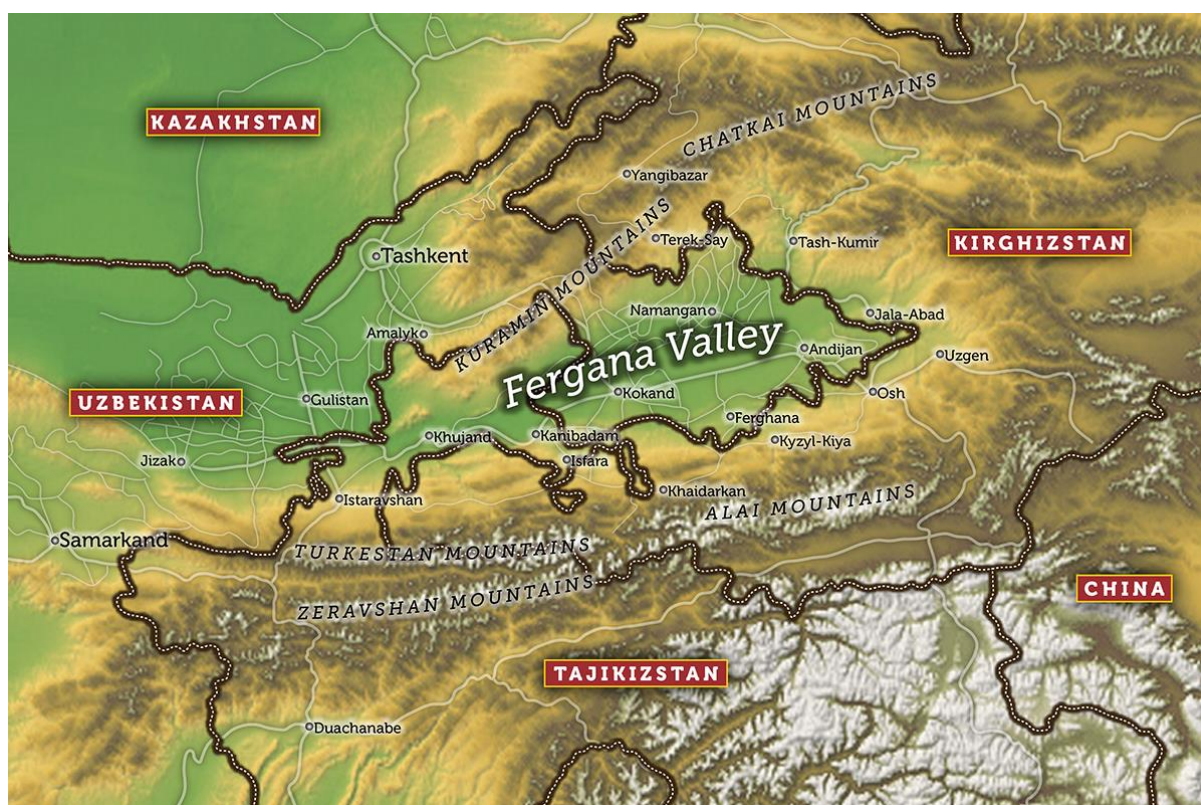
Services Gravity in CAREC Countries

Naseem Faraz from Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) argues that the role of domestic and international services is inevitable for export growth, employment, and income opportunities. In CAREC, cumulatively, the service sector accounts for 51% of GDP. Acknowledging the importance of the role of services, the free trade agreements (FTA) in goods (which are prioritized in CAREC) can accelerate trade growth if governments also consider FTA in the service sector.

This study aims to investigate the gravity of trade in services in the CAREC region. Firstly, using commodities information, it will measure the trade margins at the destination level, product level, and the destination-product level for the CAREC countries. Based on this knowledge, the researcher will determine the potential bilateral destination-product for CAREC members. Secondly, the paper will investigate the export-import margins of services for the individual member and match the destinations and services within the CAREC countries. Finally, using the gravity trade model, the researcher will investigate the potential bilateral destination-product and the type of two-way service flow that might be required for effective trade between the member countries. This practice will help identify the product-service grids in each CAREC country.

The evidence on gravity of trade in services in CAREC would provide insight about the feasibility of potential bilateral and multilateral FTA in the service sector among the CAREC countries.

Bringing Peace and Prosperity into Ferghana Valley through Economic Development



Sobir Kurbanov from Tajikistan will look into the border delimitation issues, challenges with shared resources of land and water, economic underdevelopment, lack of economic opportunities amid high population density, uneven economic growth, and development gaps between districts of the Ferghana Valley which is sandwiched among Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan. To address these issues, his research aims to come up with recommendations to overcome current non-trade barriers to trade and investment, promote common regional markets and economic corridors, logistical hubs, and competitive value chains.

He argues that Ferghana Valley bears huge comparative advantages, resources, and potential to drive economic development, spur regional connectivity, integration, and cooperation through unrestricted trade and investment turning the region into an important horsepower for growth for all Central Asian countries. The Valley is a home for 14 million inhabitants of Central Asia.

Along with the diplomatic efforts and border delineation process, open trade and unrestricted legal flow of citizens, investment and goods would help mitigate current risks of conflicts and instability in the region. This would ultimately help turn this predominantly agrarian subsistence-based economic structure into more competitive hub of manufacturing, tourism, and services for the entire region with important spillovers on the rest of Central Asia.

Research: COVID-19 Impact on MSME in Selected CAREC Countries

Our new research on the impact of COVID-19 on micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in Georgia, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, and Kazakhstan looks at how MSMEs coped with the pandemic to explore lessons for policymakers in the CAREC region.

A survey of 1,145 active firms was conducted in mentioned countries in Dec 2020 - Jan 2021 period. The enterprises were categorized as manufacturing, services, trade, agriculture, etc. to allow direct comparisons among countries. The survey looked into sales (including online sales), employment, wages, cash flows, access to finance, support received by MSMEs from various sources, and more specifically into usefulness of governmental support programs.

Across the four countries studied, MSMEs constitute 84% - 99% of all registered businesses, and account for up to 60% of GDP, and three quarters of employment. Given large informal sectors, MSMEs probably play an even bigger economic role than official governmental figures suggest.

The vast majority of surveyed MSMEs suffered because of a sharp contraction in demand caused by various lockdown measures, inability of workers to get to their places of employment, and negative impact on supply chains. Hardest hit were Georgian MSMEs with almost half seeing a drop in sales of more than 50%, whereas only 9% of Pakistani MSMEs reported similar falls. Sixty percent of Georgian MSMEs, just under half of Pakistani and Kazakh MSMEs, and a third of Uzbek MSMEs had to resort to temporary closure of their businesses. Some 64% - 89% of all MSMEs showed no, or poor, resilience to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. These proportions are particularly troubling given that the research did not cover firms that had permanently ceased operations.

MSMEs were asked whether they perceived governmental support as adequate. Responses ranged from two thirds of Uzbek MSMEs rating their government's support as adequate (although Uzbek firms had the lowest share of firms receiving governmental assistance), compared with 87% of Pakistani firms who had a negative view of the governmental assistance, and 31% of Kazakh MSMEs and 48% of Georgian MSMEs feeling that government support was adequate. Of those firms who did access the governmental support, the tax relief, concessionary loans, and other measures to support cash flow, were the most popular.

The research proposes many policy recommendations, including: 1) consider first and foremost the impact on MSMEs when formulating economic development plans; 2) examine closely the reasons for the low uptake by MSMEs of the governmental support programs; 3) focus more resources and attention on comprehensive and timely data on MSMEs; 4) conduct regular quick surveys to assess the issues faced by firms and engage in a meaningful communication; 5) set up a better targeting system after fixing the data issue, and feedback mechanism; 6) In Kazakhstan, diversify and increase the MSME share of the economy through privatization, deregulation, improved access to finance, better infrastructure, skills improvement, etc.; 7) instead of tax relief, MSMEs would prefer direct financial assistance - cheap or interest-free loans, loan forbearance, and tax reductions; 8) MSMEs need to diversify their sales channels, and the government can support with this digital transformation by investing in internet and broadband infrastructure, etc. Read more [here](#).

Roundtable on Research and Policy Trends in Central Asia

On 27 July 2021, the CAREC Institute and the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) held a roundtable on research and policy trends and prospects for sustainable post-COVID recovery in Central Asia. Leading specialists discussed the role and relevance of think tanks in today's world, strategies for livable and smart cities, COVID-19 impact on MSME in four CAREC countries, Japan's fiscal management practices during the pandemic, and offered policy recommendations.

The CAREC Institute Director Syed Shakeel Shah and Principal Regional Economist of ADB Lyaziza Sabyrova gave opening remarks highlighting significant roles of research and capacity building during the pandemic times marred with uncertainties. Dean Sonobe of ADBI delivered the keynote address where he stressed the importance of identification of accurate and relevant research needs, delivery

of evidence-based high-quality research, and provision of platform for policymakers to share insights with an objective to promote consensus and mutual understanding on the development agenda in the region. He also noted that the increased emphasis on digital outreach excludes some audiences due to poor internet connectivity, language barriers, and unavailability of sufficient number of policymakers with the event-specific expertise.

Ron Slangen of ADB talked about the urbanization trends in Central and West Asian countries where city population growth is projected from 131 million in 2015 to 237 million in 2050. He elaborated on challenges and presented the 4E approach of [ADB's livable cities strategy 2030](#). His presentation also contained [a number of recommendations](#) with immediate and mid-term urgency which included adoption of an integrated strategic urban planning process, supporting more social protection measures for the vulnerable, improving the urban environment with uninterrupted basic services, strengthening financial sustainability and financial inclusion, and increasing use of technologies and digital solutions.

Except from the presentation by Ron Slangen on governance and institutional capacity constraints in Central Asian cities



Nella Hendriyetty of ADBI elaborated on debt accumulation during the pandemic. According to her, the debt to GDP ratio of developing countries in Asia increased significantly to an average of 64.7% in 2020 from the decreasing trend since 2018 (55.8%) and 2019 (53.6%). She provided debt management recommendations for developing countries using Japan's experience. She advised that during a gap between government expenditure and revenue, the Japanese government raises money by issuing construction bonds for public works and special deficit-financing bonds. She then introduced Japan's fiscal and debt management policies, such as resource assurance rule, fiscal deficit reduction through consumption tax increase, stable revenue assurance for structural expenditures, bond redemption system, liquidity enhancement auctions, buy-back program, dialogue with market participants, etc. and explained why Japan's large debt is sustainable. She found it imperative to ensure this knowledge transfer. More about the event is available [here](#). The recording of the webinar will be available [here](#).

Webinar on ESCAP's Trade Intelligence and Negotiation Advisor



On 7-8 July 2021, the CAREC Institute and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) jointly conducted a two-day webinar on “Using Online [Trade Intelligence and Negotiation Advisor for Trade Negotiations](#) (TINA).”

TINA is an online tool developed by UNESCAP's experts to assist trade policymakers, as well as researchers and consultants around the world, in performing the analytical tasks commonly delivered in preparation for trade negotiations.

Alexey Kravchenko, Economic Affairs Officer at UNESCAP explained how to use this online tool, talked about the statistical data and methodology used for TINA, how to generate a priority list of products for which a negotiator would need to insist when obtaining concessions during trade negotiations, and demonstrated a detailed analysis of outputs by six-digit harmonized system (HS) code, providing examples from CAREC member countries. He also demonstrated how to conduct tariff simulations using specific examples and elaborated on TINA's ongoing development. The webinar recording is available [here](#).

Participation in Astana Finance Days

The CAREC Institute Director Syed Shakeel Shah was invited to present at a panel session on financial inclusion organized by the CAREC Secretariat during Astana Finance Days on 1 July 2021.

Senior officials from relevant ministries, central banks, and regulatory authorities in the CAREC region and experts from ADB, IMF, World Bank, and other development partners shared their insights and experiences in dealing with financial inclusion challenges posed by the pandemic, discussed innovation as a driver of financial inclusion, and emphasized the role of regional cooperation.

The Governor of the Central Bank of Pakistan mentioned that the national financial inclusion strategy was adopted in 2015 and this created an enabling framework for introduction of innovative products.

The representative of Uzbekistan Central Bank discussed the digital literacy program implemented in partnership with the World Bank, and the distance access program for remote identification of IDs, implemented together with EBRD. Besides, details were provided of the July 2019 presidential decree which simplified procedures for issuance of permits for entrepreneurs, also procedures for loans. The new law on payments and payment systems (which currently recognizes five systems) was also discussed. Numbers were shared regarding the credit cards and ATM in the country.

Governor Gvenetadze of the National Bank of Georgia provided an example of an innovation office which is set up in the Bank and which serves as a communication platform to help enterprises with legally acceptable business models. There is also a regulation laboratory in Georgia which allows regulatory entities to test new ideas. He noted that easier entry requirements are needed to increase digital financial services, and fintech-friendly business models need to be elaborated. Governor Gvenetadze further shared that the country is working on the open banking framework, and that financial education and consumer protection remain a priority. He also elaborated how responsible lending policies were adopted in Georgia in response to non-performing loans.

The IMF's Jihad Azour touched on the issues of uneven pace of economic recovery, fragilities, economic scarring, and noted importance of work at three levels: macro-stability level, opportunity creation, and the institutional level.

The World Bank representative noted that international financial institutions (IFIs) are most relevant when they act as trusted advisors to the governments. He elaborated on three fundamental problems: 1) when there is limited fiscal space for targeted policy support (on average, only 1 in 4 firms might be beneficiaries), 2) how to exit these extraordinary measures where too soon might be procyclical but too late might distort prices, also how to manage potential non-performing loans where early action is important, and 3) how to manage tensions surrounding technologies where only about 1/3 of businesses were able to adopt technologies in response to COVID-19; and how to address the issue of a large concentration of market power.

The CAREC Institute Director Shah shared information from the financial inclusion [working paper](#) by the Institute and the [conference paper](#) on promoting fintech to meet underserved needs in trade finance in the CAREC region presented at the CAREC Institute research conference in March 2021. He concluded that creating the enabling regulatory environment, investing in digital infrastructure, awareness raising, and building trust are the necessary policy measures in the given context.

WEF's Roundtable: Role of Trade, Investment, and Dev-t Agencies

The CAREC Institute Director Syed Shakeel Shah was invited to participate in a roundtable on the role of trade, investment, and development agencies (TIDAs) in kickstarting post-COVID recovery organized by the World Economic Forum (WEF) on 5 July 2021. The meeting aimed to identify priority areas and actions for TIDAs to accelerate recovery, discuss how public-private cooperation can advance these areas and actions, and determine how the Forum can support the process.

It was noted that digitalization and 4IR technologies will be key in the post-pandemic world. TIDAs can share knowledge and experience on how to position countries in new supply chains and how to ensure cybersecurity. Participants argued that TIDAs can contribute to capacity building to avoid a larger, digitally led, divide. Greater knowledge sharing across non-traditional TIDA partnerships would allow the development of innovative projects, and digital platforms could help coordinate efforts as well as share needs and best practices. Further, the participants noted that TIDAs are well connected with domestic institutions, and they can cooperate in identifying sectoral opportunities and supporting new business models. The [C4IR network](#) and [Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation](#) were named as good

examples of public-private cooperation delivering impactful results in the global economy in which TIDAs can contribute strongly.

The CAREC Institute Director Syed Shakeel Shah at the WEF roundtable, 5 July 2021.



The roundtable concluded with remarks that there is a need to build back in a way that is more inclusive, resilient, and aligned with sustainable development goals. Special attention must be paid to supporting gender equality and small and medium-sized enterprises.

CAREC Institute Recent Knowledge Adaptations

The [Development Asia adaptation](#) of the CAREC Institute research on Central Asia's attitudes toward COVID-19 **vaccination** narrates that vaccination campaigns should target women, also rural and high-risk populations, and focus on family immunization to overcome vaccine hesitancy. Further, the [ADB blog](#) listed five ways to boost COVID-19 vaccine trust in Central and West Asia based on our research.

Another [adaptation by Development Asia](#) provides that technology can help reboot the **tourism** sector by enabling contactless and digital transactions and mapping COVID-19 infections for disease control.

Further, in a blog "[Contact-Less Journeys – Myth or Reality?](#)" the author elaborates on multiple opportunities that technology provides in the **tourism** industry. He also goes into the topic of restoring tourist confidence in another blog on [tourism recovery information](#), and explains how to embrace [artificial intelligence](#) in tourism.

The most recent [Development Asia adaptation](#) of our working paper on **financial inclusion** reports that creating an enabling environment for financial technology and innovation and building public trust are key to encouraging more people to bank.

CAREC Institute Knowledge Product Summary 2021 Mid-Year

No.	Name	Release Date
1.	CAREC Quarterly Economic Monitor (QEM) No.3 ENG , RUS , CHN	June 2021
2.	CAREC Quarterly Economic Monitor (QEM) No.2 ENG , RUS , CHN	Apr 2021
3.	CAREC Regional Integration Index (CRII) ENG , RUS	Feb 2021
4.	Analysis of Public Attitudes towards COVID-19 Vaccination in Selected CAREC Countries ENG , RUS , Dev. Asia , ADB Blog	Mar 2021
5.	Development of Sustainable Water and Sanitation Systems (WASH) in Rural Areas of the PRC, Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan ENG , RUS	July 2021
6.	Impact of COVID-19 on Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSME) in Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Georgia	July 2021
7.	COVID-19 and CAREC Tourism Sector: Harnessing the Role of Technology in Promoting Safe Tourism Destinations ENG , Dev. Asia	Mar 2021
8.	Policy Brief on Harnessing the Role of Technology in Promoting Safe Tourism in the CAREC Region ENG , RUS	Mar 2021
9.	Policy Brief on e-Commerce Infrastructure Development in CAREC ENG , RUS	May 2021
10.	Working Paper on Financial Inclusion and Fintech in CAREC: Constraints and Prospect ENG , RUS , Dev. Asia	Jan 2021
11.	March 2021 Research Conference Report Synopsis of 10 papers in RUS	Mar 2021
12.	ADB collaboration Policy Brief on Expanding Agri-Trade in Central Asia through the Use of Electronic Certificates (phytosanitary)	July 2021
13.	ADBI collaboration Developing Infrastructure in Central Asia: Impacts and Financing Mechanisms	Mar 2021
14.	ADBI collaboration Determinants of the Export Performance of SMEs in Kyrgyzstan	Mar 2021
15.	ADBI collaboration Leveraging SME Finance through Value Chains in CAREC Landlocked Countries	Jan 2021
16.	BOAO Forum for Asia collaboration Addressing Development Deficits in Asia	Apr 2021
17.	Collaboration with Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics on carbon neutrality, environmental orientation, green process innovation	July 2021
18.	Workshop Report on Regional Improvement of Border Services (RIBS)	Apr 2021
19.	Workshop Report on Sanitary-Phytosanitary (SPS) Modernization Measures and Use of Digital Certification	Mar 2021
20.	Sharing Operational Knowledge of the PRC in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) with Six CAREC Member Countries	<i>Coming soon</i>

How the Regional Media Covered Our Work in the First Half of 2021

Vaccination

[Mongolia's ULife on CAREC Institute vaccination attitude research in Mongolian](#)

[Chief Economist interviewed on the vaccination topic by the NATION Pakistan](#)

[Turkmen media about CAREC Institute vaccination attitude research in RUS](#)

[Georgia's Business Media on CAREC Institute vaccination attitude research in ENG](#)

[Tajikistan's ASIA-Plus on CAREC Institute vaccination attitude research in ENG](#)

Trade, e-Commerce, Fintech

[Uzbek Podrobno.uz media about trade and e-commerce webinar with CCDA in RUS](#)

[China Daily quoting the Institute's Chief Economist on household consumption key to growth in China](#)

[China Daily on enhanced trade between China and the rest of CAREC, interview w/ Chief Economist](#)

[Fintech and financial inclusion research from the Institute's March conference covered in Pakistan's the NEWS](#)

[E-commerce infrastructure readiness in CAREC by Pakistan the NEWS](#)

[CTTN's FTA research covered by the NEWS in Pakistan](#)

Energy

[March research conference paper on Pakistan-China energy cooperation in the NATION Pakistan](#)

Climate, Water, Green Finance

[CAREC Institute DD2 interviewed by Pakistan's the NEWS on climate and water cooperation](#)

[ICLEI \(Local Governments for Sustainability\) tweet about Visiting Fellow's climate & agriculture paper](#)

[China Daily interview with DD1 on green financing in Central Asia](#)

WASH

[Uzbekistan's Liven' Living Asia on WASH research and webinars in RUS](#)

[Tajikistan's ASIA-Plus covering WASH research and webinars in RUS](#)

Roads, Transport, Borders, Infrastructure

[RAMS workshop coverage in Business Recorder Pakistan](#)

[Infrastructure book launch coverage in Pakistan the NATION](#)

[Tajikistan media about cooperation options with AIIB RE: post-COVID-19 economic recovery in RUS](#)

[Kazakhstan news portal about cooperation options with AIIB RE: post-COVID-19 recovery in RUS](#)

[Business Kazakhstan about cooperation options with AIIB RE: post-COVID-19 recovery in RUS](#)

[Turkmenistan media about cooperation options with AIIB RE: post-COVID-19 recovery in RUS](#)

[Business Kazakhstan regarding the workshop on improvement of border crossings in CAREC in RUS](#)

[Tajikistan media regarding the workshop on improvement of border crossings in CAREC in RUS](#)

Think Tanks

[Kazakhstan's Kursiv about the think tanks dialogue in RUS](#)

[Kazakhstan's Turan University newsletter about the think tanks dialogue in RUS](#)

[CTTN research grants and visiting fellow program coverage by Pakistan Business Recorder](#)

[CTTN dialogue coverage by Daily Times Pakistan](#)

[CTTN dialogue coverage by the NEWS Pakistan](#)

[CTTN dialogue coverage by the NATION Pakistan](#)

Cooperation

[Director's interview with the NEWS Pakistan about CAREC and connectivity](#)

[Uzbekistan's Narodnoe Slovo about ISRS roundtable on South and Central Asia cooperation in RUS](#)

[Uzbekistan's Pravda Vostoka about ISRS roundtable on South and Central Asia cooperation in RUS](#)

[Uzbekistan media about ISRS roundtable on South and Central Asia cooperation in ENG](#)

[Uzbekistan Daily on ISRS and CI discussing bilateral cooperation in RUS](#)

[ISRS of Uzbekistan and CAREC Institute Discuss Bilateral Cooperation](#)

BOAO Forum

[Xinhua about DD1's participation in BOAO forum 2021](#)

[China Science and Technology News Network about DD1's participation in BOAO forum 2021 in CHN](#)

[The Paper about DD1's participation in BOAO forum 2021](#)