



# Newsletter

## Second Annual CAREC Institute's Research Conference

The second annual Research Conference of the CAREC Institute, in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank Institute and the Asian Development Bank, took place on 11-12 April 2022 under the title *Resilience and Economic Growth in Times of High Uncertainty in the CAREC Region*.

The Conference brought together researchers and policy makers to debate about research-based policy recommendations on possible options for recovery from the current economic crisis and uncertainties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Conference participants discussed how CAREC economies can anticipate and prepare for challenges by responding to crisis and building resilience. The main trends, current challenges and developments were divided into three thematic areas for extended discussions: (i) Green Economy and Sustainable Development; (ii) Understanding Current Business Risks and Regional Cooperation; (iii) Sustainable Agriculture and Food security.

There is a growing awareness across CAREC countries to further embed economic recovery and resilience initiatives into national economic planning processes. However, the generation of evidence-based solutions to issues of economic development and integration of the region is still a great need. Emerging from the pandemic, evidence-based prospects for economic growth of CAREC economies are critical. As the crisis continues, public policy research and discussions can contribute to effective economic growth strategies, which will be a critical backbone for better navigating the crisis and improving resilience to accelerate recovery. The event is an evidence of broader efforts of the CAREC Institute, the Asian Development Bank Institute and the Asian Development Bank to address the crisis related economic challenges and generate concrete actions for accelerating economic recovery.

The two-day conference brought together over 150 researchers, policymakers and international development partners from and beyond the CAREC region. Materials of the conference are available [HERE](#).

### Inside This Issue

First Annual Book.....	2
Input-Output Analysis .....	2
TVET in CAREC region.....	3
Second CAREC Chai .....	4
Quarterly Economic Monitor.....	5
Second Water Dialogue.....	7
Energy Transition Report.....	8
Advertisements .....	9

### CAREC Institute's Online Resources

- [News](#)
- [Events](#)
- [E-Learning Platform](#)
- [Publications](#)
- [CAREC Program](#)

*"The CAREC Institute has made remarkable progress in research, capacity building, knowledge management and institutional governance, providing the CAREC members with valuable knowledge products and services."*

Mr. Lu Jin, Deputy Director General

Department of International Economic & Financial Cooperation, Ministry of Finance, PRC

## CAREC INSTITUTE RESEARCH CONFERENCE



### Resilience and Economic Growth in Times of High Uncertainty in CAREC Region

11-12 April 2022





## COVID-19 AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY POTENTIAL IN THE CAREC REGION



Edited by Iskandar Abdullaev, Qaisar Abbas, Dina Azhgaliyeva, Ghulam Samad, and Shakhboz Akhmedov

## First Volume of CAREC Institute Annual Book

The inaugural volume of the CAREC Institute Annual Book with title *COVID-19 and Economic Recovery Potential in the CAREC Region* was introduced during the Second Annual CAREC Institute's Research Conference on April 11, 2022.

Published in partnership with the Asian Development Bank Institute, the book reveals how recovery and response measures to crisis might look like across different sectors of CAREC economies.

The Annual Book comprises an array of analytical works with policy recommendations on recovery through digital transformation, e-taxation, strengthened financial inclusion, and crisis strategies for small businesses and households. Its chapters are developed by researchers from the CAREC Institute, the

Asian Development Bank Institute, the Asian Development Bank, academic partners, and think tanks.

The book's findings form the basis for crisis response efforts in CAREC countries aimed at accelerating economic recovery. The road to recovery from the pandemic may be daunting, however, economic trends highlighted in the book suggest the potential for the recovery process to positively influence socioeconomic development in Central Asia.

The book consists of three parts and 9 chapters. An electronic version of the CAREC Institute Annual Book can be downloaded from [HERE](#).

### Input-Output Model

Economic analysis and econometric models based on Input-Output tables provide a deeper understanding of the state, functioning and evolution of an economy and its various sectors. Thus, they effectively facilitate evidence-based policymaking by providing high quality data-driven insights on economic patterns.

Appropriate extensions of the input-output model allow for the evaluation of the direct and indirect impact of economic policies on additional economic variables such as labor, capital, energy, and emissions.

The same applies for further extension of economic analysis of the areas directly relevant to public policy, like export dependency of employment; impact of private consumption on employment; impact of level of investment on fixed capital formation and infrastructure; impact of employment programs; effect of increases in energy taxes on price level; impact of salaries and wages on general price levels; impact of primary inputs induced inflation; and direct and indirect replacement requirements for capital goods.

## Virtual Workshop on Input-Output Analysis

The CAREC Institute in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank delivered the five-days virtual workshop on Input-Output analysis from 4 to 8 April, 2022.

Considering the demand from member countries, since 2017, the CAREC Institute has been collaborating with the Asian Development Bank's Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department to enhance the capacities of relevant government organizations in the CAREC countries to produce high-quality economic data in the system of national accounts framework, providing effective knowledge solutions to statistical and analytical issues encountered by governmental organizations.

Data analysis is important in the decision-making process, and it enables evidence-based decisions, reduces the risk, decreases bias, and leads to a better strategic outcome. The input-output framework is essential to many macroeconomic analyses and provides guidance in the development of policies, strategies and plans for economic growth. It is

vital for depicting production, consumption, and trade activities attributable to any given economy.

The main aim of the workshop was to enhance the capacities of the government, statisticians, and analysts involved in national accounts and macroeconomic analysis, including government officials engaged in macroeconomic analysis, macroeconomic analysts from think-tanks, and macroeconomists from academic institutions to produce high-quality economic data and analysis through the Input-Output framework.

The five-day virtual workshop consisted of a lecture series and hands-on training on input-output analysis and its applications. All participants were enabled to discuss virtually with experts on input-output data analysis and to resolve issues encountered during the application of the Input-output analysis in their work.

# Sharing ADB's Operational Knowledge in TVET in the PRC with CAREC Member Countries

The ADB Technical Assistance report *People's Republic of China: Sharing ADB's Operational Knowledge in Technical and Vocational Education and Training in the PRC with CAREC Member Countries* was issued. This Technical Assistance aims to gather and share the operational knowledge and policy lessons on technical and vocational education and training (TVET) that ADB and other development partners have accumulated and learned in the PRC with other CAREC member countries. The CAREC Institute provided insightful comments during the preparation of the main report, provided the proofreading of Russian translation and co-organized the webinars for knowledge sharing activities.

According to report's findings CAREC 6 countries have made great efforts in vigorously developing TVET and have achieved remarkable progress in the past decade. However, three noteworthy challenges remain: a) mismatches between curricula in TVET programs and the skills required by employers; b) lack or absence of a national qualification framework; and c) inadequate human and financial resources.

Based on World Bank's classification, CAREC 6 countries can be divided into two groups: Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan belong to upper-middle-income economies (Group 1), while Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan belong to lower-middle-income economies (Group 2). Group 1 is facing TVET problems and challenges such as the supply of TVET does not match the demand of the labor market, high unemployment rates of TVET graduates, insufficient digital skills, inadequate teachers' ability, etc. Group 2 countries face more severe problems and challenges, including an inadequate number

of TVET schools, lack of TVET teachers, insufficient job opportunities for TVET graduates, etc.

The PRC had similar problems in the development of TVET during its transition period. Since opening-up reforms, Chinese economy has generated strong demands for professional and skilled labor. The PRC has made great progress in many fields of TVET in recent years with the long-term unremitting efforts from governments and vocational schools. The assistance from ADB, the World Bank, and several bilateral aid agencies has also contributed greatly to the development of the PRC's TVET sector.

The report identifies problems and challenges and analyzes the root causes in the TVET sector of the study countries, and provides lessons from the successes and failures of the PRC's TVET interventions. It provides practical recommendations for policymakers and stakeholders in the TVET development of CAREC 6 countries. An electronic version of the report is available [HERE](#).

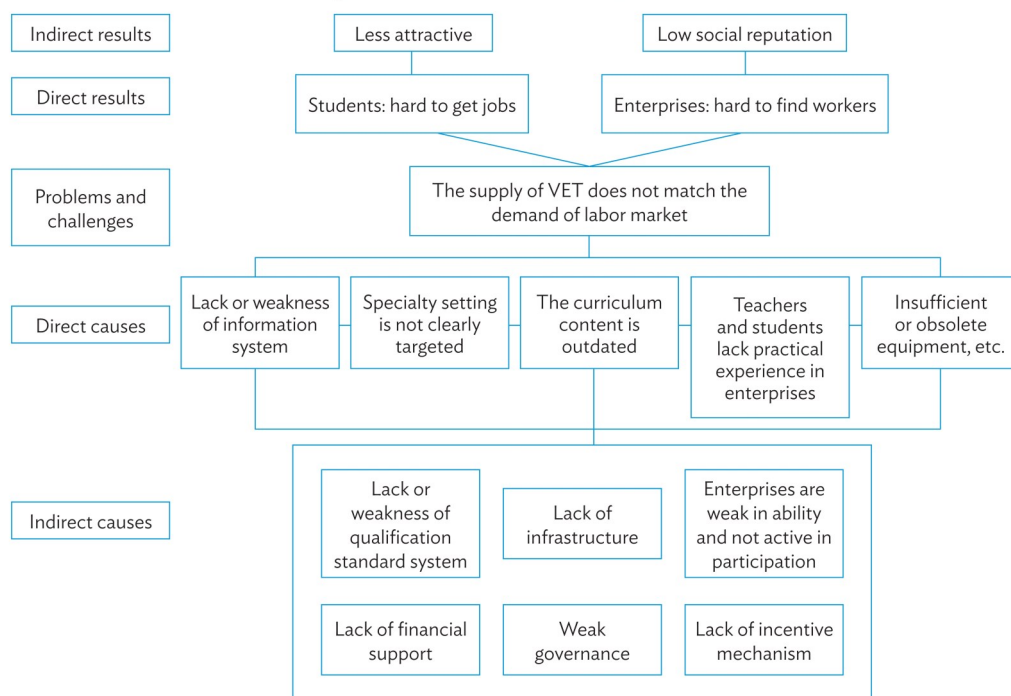
## Silk-Road Virtual Class of E-Commerce

"Silk Road Virtual Class" is an innovative teaching model of e-commerce related courses developed by the Business School of Northwest University of Political Science and Law. It aims to provide e-commerce courses for students in Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and other countries in Central Asia and explore new education models.

E-commerce logistics and electronic payment in Central Asia have not yet formed a complete system, the e-commerce professional education resources at colleges and universities are lacking, and the demand for talents in the e-commerce market is large. At the end of 2017, Northwest University of Political Science and Law and Kazakhstan International Kazakh-Chinese Language Institute signed a strategic partnership agreement, which involved the joint development of a "cross-border e-commerce virtual classroom". The "Silk Road Virtual Class" was officially launched on July 20, 2020.

Quoted from *Sharing ADB's Operational Knowledge in Technical and Vocational Education and Training in the PRC with CAREC Member Countries*, Box 12.4, p.85

The problem tree of VET in Central Asian countries



Source: *Sharing ADB's Operational Knowledge in Technical and Vocational Education and Training in the PRC with CAREC Member Countries*, Figure 3.1, p.12



## Second CAREC Chai Webinar

### CAREC Chai Series

In Central Asian culture, people have the most frank and open conversations with a cup of tea – known as the "Chai" talk.

In light of that, the CAREC Chai Series aim to facilitate open discussions among experts, think tanks and CAREC government representatives to exchange views focused on the regional economic cooperation and related issues.

The first CAREC Chai Webinar under the title *Keeping a hand on the economic pulse of the CAREC region (and beyond)* was held on December 17 2021.

Material of all CAREC Chai Webinars are available [HERE](#).

On April 6, 2022, the CAREC Institute, in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank, hosted the second CAREC Chai webinar. The Chai Webinar initiative aims at bringing together the leading experts, top academics, think tanks, development partners, and CAREC government representatives to exchange views and share opinions on prospects of connectivity and cooperation in the CAREC region.

The second CAREC Chai event focused on the immediate effects of the conflict between Ukraine and the Russian Federation on Central Asian and South Caucasus economies, as well as how their businesses and governments are adjusting. The experts shared their thoughts about the opportunities that have emerged as a result of this crisis and the role of the CAREC Program in strengthening regional cooperation among the CAREC countries. This event was conducted in a format of open discussion, so participants felt comfortable providing their professional expert insights based on own observations. Over 140 participants attended this event.

All materials and webinar recordings are available through the CAREC Institute [e-learning platform](#).

*"Events of last few weeks, a large scale conflict and ensuing regime of unprecedented sanctions against Russia have a direct bearing on the economies of CAREC region, as most of the economies have strong historical, economic, cultural and political relations with Russia."*

Mr. Syed Shakeel Shah, Director of the CAREC Institute

**2nd CAREC Chai Event**

**Economic Impacts of the War in Ukraine on the CAREC Region: Preliminary Assessments**

**Moderator**

**Lyaziza Sabyrova**  
Director, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division,  
Asian Development Bank

**Panelists:**

- Zharkin Kakimzhanova**  
Independent Consultant,  
Former Head of the Section  
On WTO at the Permanent  
Mission of Kazakhstan
- Bahodir Ganiev**  
Senior Advisor, Center for  
Economic Development (CED)
- Roman Mogilevsky**  
Associate Director and Senior  
Research Fellow, Institute of  
Public Policy & Administration,  
University of Central Asia
- Richard Pomfret**  
Professor Emeritus, Economics  
University of Adelaide

**6 April 2022**      **15:00 (Beijing Time)**

[cbd@carecinstitute.org](mailto:cbd@carecinstitute.org)  
[www.carecinstitute.org](http://www.carecinstitute.org)

Register Via ZOOM

# CAREC Institute Quarterly Economic Monitor: Issue 6

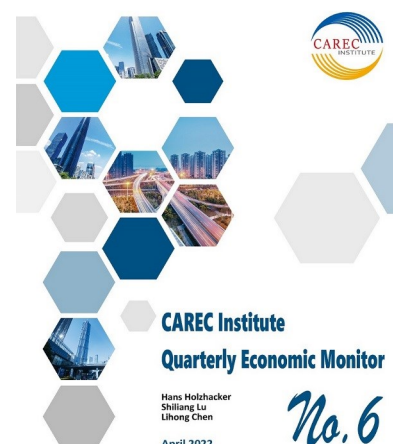
The sixth issue of the CAREC Institute Quarterly Economic Monitor *New Shadows Over the Nascent Recovery, Inequality Rise* looks at economic developments in the CAREC region as new threats and challenges evolved.

Decent growth in the second half of 2021 allowed most CAREC economies exceed 2019 real GDP levels by late 2021. Especially growth in services and manufacturing was solid. The CAREC region by and large outgrew the COVID-19 recession in the second half of 2021. However, new variants of the SARS-Cov-2 virus pose new challenges. Vaccination rates are still below desirable levels in many CAREC countries. Vaccines need to be adapted to new variants. Although economic growth has become less correlated with infection rates, new outbreaks can still cost more lives and cause prolonged health issues, with adverse impacts also on the economic outlook. The war in Ukraine, besides being a human tragedy, casts new shadows over the nascent recovery globally and in the CAREC region. Elevated

inflation rates brought about by exchange rate volatility, supply chain disruptions, high energy prices, and wheat shortages undermine real incomes and household consumption. Increased uncertainty negatively impacts the already hesitant investment. Remittances are set to fall.

GDP growth in the CAREC region will likely nevertheless remain positive in 2022. The impact on CAREC exports from the contraction of the economies of Ukraine and Russia should be manageable. CAREC economies could gain somewhat from the relocation of businesses from Russia and the influx of skilled labor from Russia and Ukraine. However, the negative impact from the war in Ukraine will clearly dominate. The CAREC region's real GDP is still likely to grow in 2022, but significantly less so than what was on the cards before the war in Ukraine began.

An electronic version of the CAREC Quarterly Economic Monitor is available [HERE](#).



## CAREC Institute Contributed to Discussions of East Asian Forum 2022

The CAREC Institute was represented by Deputy Director Two Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev in the ADB and ADBI organized East Asian Forum 2022 *Decarbonizing Asia and the Pacific: Experience from East Asia* on April 20, 2022.

Dr. Abdullaev stated during the Forum that Central Asian countries consider a large range of relevant adaptation measures. Intended nationally determined contributions and nationally determined contributions include the overarching objectives such as reducing the vulnerability, increasing adaptive capacity and improving resilience, increasing land use productivity, increased water use efficiency and reducing rural poverty.

With economic and population growth and an increasing energy consumption in the CAREC region, the sector presents a good collection of short-term and long-term opportunities for investors. Policy reforms aimed at improving macroeconomic and sector-specific policy environment and governance would attract investors into the sector.

The renewable energy power purchase agreements can play as an important tool in helping the sector to meet the international standards and requirements and can be used as “bankable assets” in negotiations with development partners, investment funds and mainstream commercial lenders. Governments can start offering potential investors deemed generation benefits (a “take-or-pay” contract), mechanisms to compensate investors in the event of premature and unilateral suspension or termination of the power purchase agreements by the counterparty concerned, and offering recourse to international arbitration, conducted in a mutually accepted language of communication.



## Energy Governance in CAREC

According to CAREC Institute's study on energy governance, the electricity demand is projected to grow with a compounded annual growth rate of 2.4% in the CAREC region, excluding China, from an index value of 100 in 2015 to an index value of 228 in 2050. Keeping the efficiency factors of generating assets observed in 2018 as constant, and if each country was to attempt to attain self-sufficiency in generation, the region would require the addition of an estimated 192,000 MW in incremental capacity by the year of 2030 to replace some 80,000 MW of fossil fuel fired generation.

However, the renewable energy deployment as a part of the electricity sector transition in the Central Asia is slow. This is frequently attributed to abundant fossil fuel availability, dependence on low marginal cost of hydro power, the inability to invest into upgrades or new projects and institutional inertia.

## Vienna Programme of Action

Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the decade 2014-2024 (VPoA) is a holistic development plan centered on addressing the challenges faced by landlocked developing countries through the implementation of specific actions related to six priority areas: (i) fundamental transit policy issues, (ii) infrastructure development and maintenance, (iii) international trade and trade facilitation, (iv) regional integration and cooperation, (v) structural economic transformation, (vi) means of implementation.

## CAREC Institute Contributed to UN ESCAP Regional Strategic Discussions

The Deputy Director Two of the CAREC Institute Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev delivered a speech in the UN ESCAP Expert Group Meeting on Implementing the Vienna Programme of Action in North and Central Asia on April 19, 2022. In his speech Dr. Abdullaev noted about CAREC Institute's strategic actions which match five priorities of the Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA), and highlighted the joint progress made by CAREC member states in implementing the VPoA's actions. Dr. Hans Holzacker, Chief Economist, and Dr. Qaisar Abbas, Chief of Research Division of the CAREC Institute also attended the meeting and

shared views and comments on various topics. More details are [HERE](#).



## Second Meeting of the CAREC Institute's Financial Sustainability Working Group

The second meeting of the CAREC Institute's Financial Sustainability Working Group was held on April 25, 2022. The Working Group was established by decision of the Governing Council of the CAREC Institute to examine and propose alternative funding options in addition to the current financial arrangement defined in the CAREC Institute's Inter-Governmental Agreement.

As a follow-up of the first Working Group meeting, held in September 2020, the CAREC Institute, with technical assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), formulated the Resource Mobilization Strategy for diversifying its resource base to achieve long-term institutional financial sustainability. The Strategy, presented by ADB Consultant Mr. Erik Detiger, examines the external financing environment and internal

capacity, and provides strategic considerations and key steps necessary to institutionalize the process. Working Group members from all CAREC member countries elaborated on the directions and key actions proposed in the Resource Mobilization Strategy.

The meeting was opened by Ms. Lyaziza Sabyrova, Director of Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division, ADB, and moderated by Mr. Syed Shakeel Shah, Director of the CAREC Institute. Working Group members provided inputs on possible financial and in-kind contributions, alternative financing options and potential funding partners in their countries.

During the meeting, the Government of Pakistan announced the continuation of its voluntary donation. The governments of the People's Republic of China and Pakistan, and the ADB remain the major contributors to the CAREC Institute. The CAREC Institute has also expanded its research portfolio, adding new projects funded by international development partners, such as the Islamic Development Bank, UNICEF and others.





## Virtual workshop on Improving Road Safety Engineering in Turkmenistan

The CAREC Institute, in partnership with the Asian Development Bank, hosted an online country-specific road safety workshop with government representatives and road safety experts from Turkmenistan. The virtual workshop was divided into six sessions over three weeks from 12 to 28 April 2022.

This country-specific workshop aimed at sharing best practices in the field of road safety engineering, including treating hazardous road locations (such as black spots), conducting road safety audits, and ensuring the safety on road construction sites. The workshop provided participants with necessary materials for policy advocacy and practical changes required at the national level.

This event is part of a series of road safety workshops that began in Dushanbe in 2017, followed by development of manuals on road safety audit, safer road works, roadside hazard management and pedestrian safety (in 2018), workshops in Bishkek (March 2019), Tbilisi (April 2019), Hohhot, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region of the PRC (September 2019), Tbilisi (for participants from Afghanistan, November 2019), individual online workshops for Mongolia (May 2020) and Kazakhstan (October 2021).

Based on road safety manuals, the CAREC Institute has developed four Digital Learning Modules, which are available on the CAREC Institute's e-learning platform.

## CAREC Institute's Second Water Dialogue

The CAREC Institute in partnership with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), ADB-PRC Regional Knowledge Sharing Initiative and Xinjiang Institute of Ecology & Geography of the Chinese Academy of Sciences delivered the second Water Dialogue on *Sustainable Water Governance in Central Asia Aimed Climate Vulnerabilities* on April 27.

During the meeting, Water Footprint Implementation presented the findings of the analytical report Water Footprint Analysis of Central Asia, which was supported by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation within the scope of Blue Peace Initiative. The report provides a comprehensive analysis of the current and potential economic losses due to adverse impacts of climate change on water sources in the region. It offers evidence-based and in-depth explanations, as well as policy recommendations for mitigating climate change challenges through sustainable water management practices.

The second Water Dialogue aimed at promoting an open dialogue among leading experts in the field of water management on pathways to

sustainable and climate adaptive water management systems in Central Asian countries, discussing practical implications of the report Water Footprint Analysis of Central Asia, and exploring the potential coordination mechanisms between the ADB-CAREC Water Pillar and regional initiatives of international and regional partners in Central Asia.

The experts shared their takeaways from report and views on its main findings which are important for the future of the region's water under an augmenting impact of climate change.

All materials and webinar recordings of the Water Dialogue Series are available through the CAREC Institute's [e-learning platform](#).



### CAREC Institute's Water Dialogue Series

The CAREC Institute Dialogues is a new approach to knowledge exchange and capacity building dedicated to priority clusters of the CAREC Program Strategy.

In continuation of water-related events, such as the International Symposium on the Aral Sea in 2020, the CAREC Institute launched a new series on Water Dialogue. The dialogue aims to facilitate discussions among leading water management experts of the region. The first Regional Dialogue on Sustainable Water Governance and Management in Central Asia was held on February 11, 2022.

Water is becoming a scarce natural resource for Central Asian countries. The region suffers from the numerous deteriorating environmental obstacles. The largest disaster is drying Aral Sea – formerly the fourth largest lake in the world – due to the past water mismanagement. According to the CAREC Institute's assessments, the region is facing unprecedented impacts of climate change – draughts, sandstorms and heatwaves which adversely affect all sources of water and the whole ecosystem of the region.

## Sustainable Pathways to Energy Transition in the CAREC Region: A Governance Perspective

GOVERNANCE ATLAS  
FINAL REPORT

March 2022

Anna Arkhangelskaya, Manasi Bhopale, Prathyusha Asundi, Ramachandra Pal, Roshini Josephson, Shrutthi Rao, Sunderasan Srinivasan, Vamsi Krishna Reddy Kottam



# Sustainable Pathways to Energy Transition in the CAREC Region – A Governance Perspective

The CAREC Institute issued the report *Sustainable Pathways to Energy Transition in the CAREC Region: A Governance Perspective*.

Limited progress with the evolution of competitive energy markets in the CAREC region and the evident need to rejuvenate or build the associated institutional and regulatory frameworks from a low base might continue to deter investments into the region's energy transition. The means to creating a more favorable investment climate across the region could include the advancement of stronger regional coordination to try and exploit economies of scale and scope, and the rollout of stable governance frameworks to facilitate such coordination. Effective management of demand and supply patterns could lead to enhancing efficiencies of asset use while minimizing market and regulatory risks faced by prospective investors. The report defines policy objectives and identified opportunities for regional cooperation to optimize the use of renewable energy resources and grid networks, to better balance demand and supply across the region and across time zones and bridge gaps in the governance structures to try and achieve such objectives.

Assuming that the fleet of generating assets were to continue to operate at efficiency factors observed circa 2018, and if each country in the region were to attempt to attain self-sufficiency in generation, the region would require the addition of an estimated 192,000MW in incremental capacity by 2030 to replace some 80,000MW of fossil fuel fired generation and to meet emission reduction commitments. Meeting region wide aggregated demand necessitates the addition of about 153,000MW of non-hydro renewable energy options. In this scenario, China is presumed to serve as

the ultimate residual consumer and supplier, absorbing surpluses and bridging deficits in the region, thereby pre-empting the build-up of large storage capacity on the one side and the construction of peaking plants on the other.

Region wide institutions would be required to achieve region wide optimization. Real-time matching of region wide demand and supply would be expected from the regional load dispatch center. In addition, a specially constituted regional counterparty could facilitate and implement the renewable energy procurement and contracting processes and execute emission reduction contracts. This entity could then serve to distribute accruing emission reduction revenues to help subsidize the vulnerable sections of populations across the region.

**Import and Export of Electricity in the CAREC Region (Billion kWA)**

Country	Billion kWh	Year				
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Azerbaijan	Export	0.265	1.096	1.283	1.445	1.491
	Import	0.108	0.114	0.108	0.1312	0.137
China	Export	18.654	18.907	19.470	20.906	21.655
	Import	6.210	6.185	6.423	5.688	4.858
Georgia	Export	0.660	1.409	0.940	0.602	0.380
	Import	0.699	1.329	1.751	1.522	1.763
Kazakhstan	Export	1.614	2.572	5.692	5.042	2.419
	Import	1.618	1.318	1.327	1.561	1.935
Kyrgyzstan	Export	0.184	0.199	1.215	0.755	0.271
	Import	0.729	0.331	0	0	0.269
Mongolia	Export	0.051	0.036	0.026	0.027	0.024
	Import	1.427	1.446	1.574	1.666	1.723
Pakistan	Export	0	0	0	0	0
	Import	0.463	0.496	0.556	0.487	0.487
Tajikistan	Export	1.4	1.428	1.421	2.945	3.175
	Import	0.063	0.103	0.11	0.559	0.281
Turkmenistan	Export	3.201	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2
	Import	0	0	0	0	0
Uzbekistan	Export	6.81	6.774	7.585	2.627	2.067
	Import	5.52	5.278	6.945	2.233	3.379

Source: *Sustainable Pathways to Energy Transition in the CAREC Region: A Governance Perspective*, Table 4.1, p.49



## Call for National Consultants

The CAREC Institute is engaging the services of National Consultants – Water Sector Financing in Central Asian countries (one individual expert for each country) to deliver the following tasks within the new project *Water Infrastructure in Central Asia: Promoting Sustainable Financing and Private Capital Participation*:

1. Assessment of water sector financing in respective country:
  - Review annual budget allocation for water sector financing.
  - Review water service (drinking water, hot water, irrigation water, water pumping, water reservation, water infrastructure maintenance etc.) providing mechanisms or systems and price formation for services.
  - Analyze sectoral and sub-sectoral financing priorities of the country.
  - Identify water sector financing gaps.
  - Assess private capital participation in the water sector financing.
2. Review of legal, organizational and governance provisions of water sector financing in respective country:
  - Review existing key water policies, legal instruments, considering how they currently support financing for the water sector.
  - Analyze water sector and sub sectoral legal instruments for investments.
  - Identify legal gaps in water sector financing.
  - Assess private capital participation in water sector financing from legal perspective.

Applications accepted for each country separately until 9 May 2022. More details are [HERE](#).

### CAREC Institute

The Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute is an intergovernmental organization dedicated to promoting the economic cooperation in the Central Asia and along the Silk Road through knowledge generation and sharing. The CAREC Institute is jointly shared, owned, and governed by eleven member countries.

The Institute acts as a knowledge connector among the five CAREC themes – economic and financial stability; trade, tourism, and economic corridors; infrastructure and economic connectivity; agriculture and water; human development – to ensure coherence in design and implementation of policies, programs, and projects to promote regional economic cooperation and integration.

## Upcoming Event in May

### Virtual Workshop

## Analyzing Infrastructure Impacts in Asia Through Big Data: Socioeconomic Spillover Assessment

16-18 May 2022  
14:00-17:00 (Beijing Time)  
Register Via ZOOM



The CAREC Institute, in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank Institute, will conduct a virtual workshop on *Analyzing Infrastructure Impacts in Asia Through Big Data: Socioeconomic Spillover Assessment* from 16 to 18 May 2022 at 14:00-17:00 (Beijing time).

The main objective of the workshop is to assess the role of big data in gauging the spillover effects of infrastructure growth. The invited experts will present and discuss how big data can be used to determine the spillover effects of infrastructure and policies for harnessing them to address project funding gaps.

The target audience are relevant CAREC government officials, policymakers and policy influencers who would benefit from expert presentations and engage in policy dialogue with leading scholars of the field.

Simultaneous interpretation from English to Russian and vice-versa will be available throughout the workshop. Register [HERE](#).