Recalibrating Growth Dynamics for Inclusive and Sustainable Economies

15-16 September 2022 | Hyatt Regency Hotel, Baku, Azerbaijan

Supported by







Zoom link for virtual participation:

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The Sixth CAREC Think Tank Development Forum (CTTDF)

"Recalibrating Growth Dynamics for Inclusive and Sustainable Economies"

15-16 September 2022 | Hybrid Format | Guba Ballroom, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Baku, Azerbaijan

14 September,	Arrival of Participants
Wednesday	Welcome Dinner @ Amirov Room 07:00 - 08:30 p.m.
	Hosted by CAREC Institute
	Day One: 15 September, Thursday
08:30 - 09:00	Registration
	Session I: Opening Ceremony
	Welcome Remarks by Syed Shakeel Shah, Director CAREC Institute
09:00 – 09:40	(5 minutes)
	Opening Remarks by Mr. Shixin Chen, Vice President, Asian
	Development Bank (ADB), Manila, Philippines (5 minutes)
	Keynote Address by Mr. Samad Bashirli, Deputy Minister,
	Ministry of Economy, Azerbaijan (7 minutes)
	MOU signing between CI and ESRI (8 minutes)
	Group photo (15 minutes)
	Session II: Context Setting

Session II: Context Setting

The purpose of this session is to briefly review the structure and growth models/strategies of the CAREC economies in achieving sustainable and inclusive economic growth, identify gaps and make policy recommendations.

The Speaker is expected to make a **20-minute** presentation on the topic, and the two discussants will supplement the presentation with their views and thoughts on the topic **(10 minutes each).** The moderator facilitates the discussion **(25 minutes)** by inviting questions from the participants as well as asking questions from the Speaker and discussants.

09:40 – 10:45 An overview of CAREC Economies and how much recalibration is needed for inclusive and sustainable growth

Norbert Funke

Lead Speaker: Albert F. Park, Chief Economist & Director General, Asian

Director, CCAMTAC, IMF

Almaty, Kazakhstan

Lead Speaker: Albert F. Park, Chief Economist & Director General, Asian

Development Bank (ADB), Manila, Philippines

Discussant I: Hans Holzhacker, Chief Economist, CAREC Institute, Urumqi, the PRC

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Discussant II: Kamalbek Karymshakov, Vice Rector/Associate Professor, Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University, Bishkek, the Kyrgyz Republic **(Online)**

Open Discussion

10:45 - 11:00

Coffee @ Guba Foye

Session III: CTTN Regional Research Report

In this session, four case studies, one each from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan, on Covid-induced inequalities in health, education, digital access, and women's participation in the workforce will be presented. This Regional Report is produced under the umbrella of the CAREC Think Tank Network (CTTN) Research Grants Program (RGP), aimed to foster regional knowledge-sharing cooperation among member think tanks. Each researcher will present the case for **15 minutes**, followed by participants' feedback and open discussion for **30 minutes**.

11:00 - 12:30

Access to Health, Education, Digital technologies, and Women's Participation in the Workforce: Case Studies from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, and Uzbekistan

Moderator
Ms. Marzia MongiorgiLorenzo

Principal Economist, ADB, Manila, Philippines **Speaker I: Mr. Emin Mammadov**, Senior Researcher/Economist, Center for Economic and Social Development (CESD), Baku, Azerbaijan

Speaker II: Ms. Gulnaz Alibekova, Deputy Director, Institute of

Economics, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Speaker III: Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad, Pakistan

Speaker IV: Peter Malvicini, Ph.D., DSc, UNESCO Chair

Anticipatory Governance & Sustainable Policymaking Center for Policy Research and Outreach Westminster International University in Tashkent, Uzbekistan

(Online)

Participants' feedback and Open Discussion

12:30 - 13:30

Lunch @ Shusha Room

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Session IV: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

CAREC region is projected to miss nearly all SDGs by 2030. The session will take stock of the progress on 17 goals, the bottlenecks, and policy prescriptions for achieving the SDGs' targets.

The lead Speaker is expected to present (20 minutes) an overview of the CAREC Region on SDGs progress on the above-stated parameters. Three speakers (10 minutes each) for this session are drawn from CTTN member think tanks who will present their respective country case studies on the state of progress of SDGs. The moderator facilitates discussions (30 minutes) by taking questions from the participants.

13:30 - 14:50

State of Progress on UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the CAREC Region

Moderator

Khalid Umar

Chief, Strategy and Planning, CAREC Institute, Urumqi, the PRC

Lead Speaker: **Ms. Elena Danilova-Cross**, Programme Specialist on Poverty and Inequality, UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub, Turkey **(Online)**

Kyrgyz Republic Case Study: Presented by **Mr. Altaaf Hasham**Management Program Liaison Officer, Agha Khan Development Network (AKDN), Bishkek, the Kyrgyz Republic

Tajikistan Case Study: Presented by **Mr. Rustam Babajanov**Deputy Director, Analytical Center "NAVO", Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Turkmenistan Case Study: Presented by **Mr. Charymuhammet Shallyev**, Head of Management Department, Turkmen State Institute of Economics and Management, Ashkhabad, Turkmenistan

Participants' feedback and Open Discussion

14:50 - 15:15

Coffee @ Guba Foye

Session V: Climate Change and Green Energy

The CAREC economies are confronted with multifaceted challenges, climate change being the most formidable threat to regional food, agriculture, and energy security. The Speaker is expected to take stock (20 minutes) of the magnitude of the challenge and how CAREC economies can reposition themselves to minimize the threat posed by climate vulnerabilities and shift to a green and sustainable energy future.

Three CTTN member think tanks will present (10 minutes each) their respective country's case studies on the topic. The moderator will anchor participants' feedback and discussions (30 minutes).

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15:15 - 16:45

Moderator

Climate Vulnerabilities and the Case for Green Energy in the CAREC Region

Mr. Ilham Humbatov

Senior Research Fellow, ESRI Baku, Azerbaijan Lead Speaker: **Dr. Farhad TAGHIZADEH-HESARY**, Associate Professor; School of Global Studies, Tokai University/ TOKAI Research Institute for Environment and Sustainability (TRIES), Japan **(Online)**

Climate Disaster in Pakistan – a brief overview by **H.E. Mr. Bilal Hayee**, Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the Republic of Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan Case Study: Presented by **Mr. Kamran Huseynov,** Deputy Director, Azerbaijan Renewable Energy Agency, Baku, Azerbaijan

People's Republic of China (PRC) Case Study: Presented by **Ms. Zhang Minwen,** Deputy Director General, International Economics and Finance Institute (IEFI), Beijing, PRC **(Online)**

Kazakhstan Case Study: Presented by **Ms. Lidiya Parkhomchik**Chief Expert of the Eurasian Studies Program, Institute of the World Economics and Politics (IWEP), Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan

Participants' feedback and Open Discussion

16:45 – 17:00	First Day Recap by Dr. Ghulam Samad, Senior Research Specialist, CAREC Institute (Online)
18:30 – 20:00	Gala Dinner @ Sheki Qala Restaurant, hosted by ESRI

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Day Two: 16 September, Friday

08:30 – 09:00 Registration

Session VI: Geopolitical Uncertainties, Covid-19, and the Impact on Growth and Inclusivity

Geopolitical uncertainties and the pandemic-induced economic slowdown have added more dimensions to inequality as the poor are experiencing the disproportionately high impact of these factors in the form of a sharp escalation in food prices, higher energy prices, and overall inflationary trends in global commodity markets. The Speaker dilates upon (20 minutes) the impact of these factors on CAREC countries.

Three CTTN members present (10 minutes each) their respective country's case study, highlighting the impact of these factors. The moderator collects participants' feedback and leads an open floor discussion (30 minutes).

09:00 - 10:20

Geopolitical Uncertainties, COVID-19, and the Impact on Growth

and Inclusivity

Moderator

Ms. Kanako Mabuchi Head of UN Resident Coordinator's Office Baku, Azerbaijan **Lead Speaker**: **Hamza Ali Malik**, Director, Macroeconomic Policy, and Financing for Development Division, UNESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand

Mongolia Case Study: Presented by **Dr. Tuvshintugs Batdelger**, Director, Economic Research Institute, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Georgia Case Study: Presented by **Dr. Giorgi Khishtovani**, Research Director, PMC Research Center, Tbilisi, Georgia

Pakistan Case Study: Presented by **Zeeshan Salahuddin**, Director for Regional Connectivity, Tabadlab, Islamabad, Pakistan

Participants' feedback and Open Discussion

10:20 – 10:40 Coffee @ Guba Foye

Session VII: Building Alliances for Regional Prosperity

To make economic growth inclusive and sustainable, regional alliances must be built across governments, the private sector, civil society, and other actors such as development partners who support inclusive and

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sustainable economic growth. This session will focus on the role and responsibilities of these stakeholders in shared prosperity.

The Speaker delivers a presentation (20 minutes) on the possible role and responsibilities of the stakeholders. Stakeholders' representatives (government, the private sector, civil society, and development partners) to dilate upon (10 minutes) their respective roles in forging alliances for promoting regional prosperity.

The moderator opens the floor for discussion and Q&A to capture broader perspectives from the forum participants (30 minutes)

10:40- 12:10 Moderator Dr. Sarah Geraldine Michael Country Manager, World Bank Group, Azerbaijan	Building Alliances for Shared Prosperity
	Lead Speaker: Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya , Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka, Bangladesh
	Discussant I: Ms. Dolores Borisovna Tyulebekova Director of the World Economy Research Center, Economic Research Institute (ERI), Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan
	Discussant II: Mr. Eldor Tulyakov, Executive Director, Development Strategy Center (DSC), Tashkent, Uzbekistan
	Discussant III : Mr. Natig Madatov , Leading Research Fellow at Economic Scientific Research Institute (ESRI), Baku, Azerbaijan
	Discussant IV: Dr. Tuvshintugs Batdelger , Director, Economic Research Institute, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
	Participants' feedback and Open Discussion
12:10 – 12:40	CTTN Progress Report
	Presentation by Mr. Batsaikhan Zagdragchaa, Senior Strategic Planning
	Specialist, CAREC Institute, Urumqi, the PRC
	Participants' feedback and Discussion
12:40 - 12:50	Wrap up and vote of thanks by CI Director Syed Shakeel Shah
12:50 - 14:00	Lunch @ Shusha Room
14:00 – 17:00	Networking and Old Baku Tour, organized by ESRI