



From Ideas to Impact: Accelerating Climate Solutions through Innovative Development

CTTN RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM (RGP)

Call for Papers

INTRODUCTION and RATIONALE

Established in 2017, the CAREC¹ Think Tank Network (CTTN) acts as a regional network of leading think tanks in the member countries of the CAREC Program² to promote regional cooperation and integration (RCI) by exchanging ideas, information, knowledge, and conducting joint Research. Since its inception, the CTTN has organized flagship annual CAREC Think Tank Development Forums, managed Research Grants Program (RGP), and held dialogues among the regional think tanks. Launched in 2019, the Research Grants Program (RGP) has awarded nineteen research grants for undertaking policy research on pertinent regional topics to foster regional cooperation and integration in the CAREC region. The RGP is designed to (i) actively support CTTN member think tanks to produce policy research on topics of regional significance to add value to the regional body of knowledge, (ii) promote and facilitate collaboration among member think tanks to jointly work on regional issues, (iii) provide a regional platform to national think tanks to present their research output at the annual think tank development forum to a larger audience of think tanks, policymakers and development partners, and (iv) and encourage member think tanks to develop linkages with regional think tanks to understand better and analyze regional developmental context and imperatives.

This year's RGP for CTTN is titled ***From Ideas to Impact: Accelerating Climate Solutions through Innovative Development***. The RGP will provide funding to support research topics with a clear policy focus on the selected theme.

PROPOSED RESEARCH THEME

The general theme of the RGP is ***From Ideas to Impact: Accelerating Climate Solutions through Innovative Development***. While research topics are expected to remain within the five clusters of the CAREC 2030 Strategy and CAREC Institute Strategy 2021-2025, preference will be given to proposals supportive of and closely linked with the theme of this year's RGP.

¹ CAREC - Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation

² CAREC Program comprises of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Pakistan, People's Republic of China, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan

Research proposals are broadly expected to be drawn from the following topics:

- Investigating global governance of climate policy and its climate obstruction policies (denial, delay, etc) and how these global structures impact regional policies on climate change.
- The potential of creating regional synergies for climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Policy framework and approaches for accelerating climate resilient strategies at the local, national, and global level.
- Studying community-based initiatives and approaches that contribute to sustainable development and climate change mitigation.
- Evaluating financial architecture for climate financing and proposing measures to build capacity for securing funding from global climate finance initiatives and development of Emission Trading Mechanism (ETM), a.k.a Carbon Credit Market, in the CAREC region.
- Assessing the potential of new technologies in carbon capture and storage, with a focus on innovative methods to sequester and utilize captured carbon.
- Investigating the economic implication of climate policies, including their effects on labor market and industry transformation
- Analyzing examples of successful innovation among different actors (governments, NGOs, the private sector, local communities, and development partners) in driving climate solutions and fostering innovation

The above topics are indicative, and researchers are encouraged to draw topics that are closely aligned with the theme of this year's RGP. **Further, proposals comparing (sub) regions, deriving lessons, and sharing best practices and success stories from Asia are especially welcome.**

ELIGIBILITY

CTTN member think tanks within the CAREC region are eligible to apply by submitting an institutional zero draft paper (not exceeding 5,000 words, excluding references) to develop a country case study that will become part of a regional report – CTTN Regional Report – combining five country case studies. A think tank can submit more than one proposal on the topics mentioned above. Emphasis is placed on practical policy suggestions and recommendations that address country-specific issues and challenges and promote regional integration in the CAREC region. The selected zero draft papers will be awarded the grant to expand the manuscripts into policy research papers.

DURATION of the GRANT

The research grant is for nearly **SEVEN** months from the date of grant approval.

NUMBER and AMOUNT of the GRANT

The CI finances a total of five research grants each year. The amount of each grant will be a maximum of **US\$5,000**.

DELIVERABLES

The following deliverables are expected:

1. A Professionally edited, Research-based Policy Paper (not exceeding 10,000 words, excluding references) suggesting policies on the senior government level.
2. A Presentation with key findings of the Research at the CAREC Think Tanks Development Forum (CTTDF). This is subject to CAREC Institute's approval.
3. Input in the form of a policy brief, article, and blog entry to the CI's and its partners' knowledge platforms (CTTN blog, E-Learning Platform, Development Asia, etc.), as required by the CAREC Institute.

GRANT TIMELINES

Timelines for the research grant are shown in the schedule below:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Call for Papers | 26 January |
| Submission of zero draft papers | 15 March |
| Decision Announced & Contract Signing | 19 April |
| Submission of First draft | 17 June |
| Presentation at think tank forum | 20-21 August (tentatively) |
| Submission of Second draft | 06 September |
| Submission of Final draft | 18 October |
| Blog input | 29 November |

RESEARCH DISSEMINATION

The CI and the participating think tanks will own copyrights of research deliverables. Both institutions will be entitled to publish research deliverables on their respective websites and/or the institutions' journals bearing both institutions' logos. The use of CI's logo is subject to the final paper's approval by the CI Publication Board, consistent with its quality standards.

GRANT APPLICATION

Applications for research grants should be emailed to **Ms. Jesscy Hu, Coordination Specialist**, at jesscyh@carecinstitute.org, with the subject "**CTTN Research Grants Program.**"

The following documents are required of all applicants:

1. Application form (see Annex 1);
2. CV of the researchers and a list of publications (in English);
3. Zero draft paper;
4. One Sample of Writing (printed research papers, policy briefs, and op-eds and etc.); and

5. Certificate of Institutional Establishment/legal entity.

Annex 1
APPLICATION FORM

All applicants are required to fill in the application form - description of research and workplan/timelines.

| | |
|---|---|
| TITLE of RESEARCH PROPOSAL | |
| Principal Researcher (PR): (name/designation/organization/tel/email) | Co-Principal Researcher (Co-PR) if any: (name/designation/organization/tel/email) |
| Date of Application: | |
| Abstract: (maximum 300 words) | |
| Objectives of the Study: (list the objectives, contribution to policy, and an assessment of the possible benefits to regional integration) | |
| Relevance to Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation: | |
| Schedule of Deliverables (With the expected date of completion): | |