

**CAREC Institute
Work Plan 2013-2017**

1. Following the SOM's (6-7 June 2012, Hohhot, People's Republic of China) broad agreement on the Strategic Knowledge Framework (SKF) and indicative work areas of the CAREC Institute (CI), the CAREC Secretariat initiated the process of preparing the Work Plan covering the period 2013-2017.

2. The Work Plan preparation involved a review of the Sector Coordinating Committees work plans, as well as soliciting the inputs of the CAREC countries especially with regard to their training needs. The process of Work Plan preparation entailed:

- Identifying subject areas in the Work Plans of the Sector Coordinating Committees as basis for the CI to initiate activities under its three SKF pillars, namely: (i) knowledge generation; (ii) knowledge services (training); and (iii) knowledge management;
- Identifying which among the suggested areas by the CAREC member countries are already covered by the sector Work Plans; and
- Prioritizing the activities for implementation in 2013-2014.

Table 1 presents the activities and subject areas for inclusion in the CI Work Plan 2013-2014.

3. It is noted that several proposals from the countries reflect their specific needs in relation to the Sector Work Plans. Since the activities identified for inclusion in the CI Work Plan are based on the Sector Coordination Committees Work Plans (column 1), these would have already incorporated the countries' proposals to a large extent (column 2). Moreover, specific elements that the countries have proposed would also be accommodated in the course of designing and refining the training courses. Some common needs identified by two or more countries were also listed for inclusion in the CI work plan.

4. For practical reasons, only the activities for 2013-2014 were listed in the CI Work Plan. There would be flexibility in both the timing of holding a particular activity, and in expanding the 2013-2014 activities based on resources that could be made available. As regards the indicative areas listed for 2015-2017, these would evolve as CAREC cooperation in the various sectors make progress, and as other issues are identified in the course of conducting knowledge generation and knowledge services activities. The sector strategies however, provide an indication of the longer-term knowledge requirements which can be pursued in 2015-2017 and these were listed in Table 2. The indicative areas listed in Table 2 however, will need to be further reviewed and validated by the sector coordinating committees in due course before they are considered by the SOM.

5. In identifying the activities for inclusion in the Work Plan, the three principles articulated in the SKF were considered, namely:

- Integration --- the extent to which an activity spans the three knowledge pillars, i.e. an activity has important requirements in knowledge generation; knowledge services and knowledge management;
- Results-based --- the extent to which an activity is an important input to the delivery of the targets indicated in CAREC 2020;

- Partnership and networking --- the extent to which an activity can be delivered in collaboration with multilateral institutions (MIs) and/or relevant partner institutions in the CAREC countries.

5. Prioritization of activities for 2013-2014 would depend primarily on resource availability. For purposes of planning, it is envisaged that:

- around 12 training courses (3 from each of the four sectors) could be implemented in 2013, and another 12 in 2014;
- at least two studies under the knowledge generation pillar could be conducted in the course of 2013-2014 ; and
- at least two knowledge management activities could be implemented in 2013-2014.

6. Specifically for training courses, the activities listed in Table 1 have been over programmed by about 30%, using as benchmark, the resources that could be made available primarily by ADB. Full program delivery would therefore depend on the additional support that could be provided by the MIs, as well as cost-sharing arrangements with the CAREC countries and/or institutions.

In the course of consultations with the subregional groupings and the MIs, the following points would be discussed:

- Confirmation of activities to included in the Work Plan, focusing on 2013-2014;
- Additional proposals; and
- For training activities, a discussion of broad design elements such as: (i) participating countries; (ii) topics to be covered; and (iii) implementing and collaborating institutions.