



**CAREC Tourism: Working Group Meeting, Silk Road Tourism Web Portal Soft Launch
and Capacity Building Workshop
12–13 June 2023, Tbilisi, Georgia**

Pullman Tbilisi Axis Towers

37 M, Chavchavadze Avenue, 0179, tel.+995 32 200 33 22

DAY 1 – Monday (June 12)

08:30–09:00

Registration

(Pullman Hotel, Venue – Meeting Room 1)

09:00–10:20

Session 1: Sustainable Tourism Development in the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Region – Progress Report

09:00–09:10

Welcome Remarks (10 mins)

Ms. Xiaohong Yang, Deputy Director General, Central and West Asia Department (CWRD), ADB

Ms. Maia Omiadze, Head, Georgia National Tourism Agency (GNTA), Government of Georgia

09:10–09:25

Presentation on Regional Technical Assistance Progress Report (15 mins)

Mr. Seung Min Lee, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division (CWRC), CWRD, ADB

This session will present the implementation progress on TA9776-REG - Sustainable Tourism Development in the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Region, including the new activities (additional financing): indicator database, visa facilitation study, phase 2 of ABEC safety/health protocols and accommodation classification.

09:25–09:50

Open Discussion (20 mins)

Moderator: **Ms. Ramola Naik Singru**, Principal Urban Development Specialist, Urban Development and Water Division (CWUW), CWRD, ADB

Participants from CAREC countries will be requested to provide their views and inputs on the new activities (additional financing).

09:50–10:20

Group Photo and Coffee Break (25 mins)

10:20–12:00	Session 2: CAREC Tourism Priority Projects
10:20–10:25	<p>Introductory Remarks (5 mins)</p> <p>Ms. Ramola Naik Singru, Principal Urban Development Specialist, CWUW, CWRD, ADB</p>
10:25–10:45	<p>Presentation on CAREC Tourism Priority Projects (20mins)</p> <p>Mr. Carlos Faria, Team Leader and Tourism Economist; and Mr. Pedro Ferreira, Web Developer, JCF Strategy Consulting, Lda</p> <p><i>This session will present the CAREC tourism priority projects reflected in the infrastructure services report based on the stakeholder consultations.</i></p>
10:45–12:00	<p>Open Discussion (85 mins)</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Ramola Naik Singru, Principal Urban Development Specialist, CWRD, ADB</p> <p><i>Participants from CAREC countries will be requested to provide their views and inputs on CAREC tourism priority projects and future steps to be taken.</i></p>
12:00–13:30	Lunch Break (90 mins)
13:30–15:00	Session 3: Silk Road Tourism Web Portal Soft Launch
13:30–13:35	<p>Introductory Remarks (5 mins)</p> <p>Mr. Seung Min Lee, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRC, CWRD, ADB</p>
13:35–14:00	<p>Presentation on Silk Road Tourism Web Portal (25mins)</p> <p>Mr. Carlos Faria, Team Leader and Tourism Economist; and Mr. Pedro Ferreira, Web Developer, JCF Strategy Consulting, Lda</p> <p><i>This session will present the CAREC tourism web portal including key features and highlights, covering country information and tourist sites.</i></p>
14:00–14:40	<p>Open Discussion (40 mins)</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Seung Min Lee, Senior Regional Cooperation Specialist, CWRC, CWRD, ADB</p> <p><i>Participants from CAREC countries will be requested to provide their views and inputs on the Silk Road tourism web portal, identify ways to complete missing information and provide suggestions on the management and sustainability of the web portal. Questions and suggestions on the portal are highly encouraged.</i></p>
14:40–15:00	Coffee Break

15:00–17:30	Session 4: Capacity Building Program
15:00–15:05	Introductory Remarks (5 mins) Ms. Ramola Naik Singru , Principal Urban Development Specialist, CWUW, CWRD, ADB
15:05–15:25	Presentation on Capacity Building Program (20 mins) Mr. Wouter Schalken , Senior Sustainable Tourism Specialist, Urban Sector Group, (SDSC), Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC), ADB Dr. Andreas Hofmann , Sector Project Cooperation with the Private Sector, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH <i>This session will present the proposed Capacity Building Program for Public and Private Sectors.</i>
15:25–15:45	Open Discussion (20 mins) Moderator: Mr. Wouter Schalken , Senior Sustainable Tourism Specialist, SDSC, SDCC, ADB <i>Participants from CAREC countries will be requested to provide their views and agreements on the scope of the CAREC Capacity Building Program.</i>
15:45–16:35	Session 5: Climate Change Impact on CAREC Tourism Sector
15:45 –16:35	Open Discussion (50 mins) Moderator: Mr. Wouter Schalken , Senior Sustainable Tourism Specialist, SDSC, SDCC, ADB Mr. Kenzhekhan Abuov , Senior Project Officer, CWRC, CWRD, ADB <i>Participants from CAREC countries will be requested to provide their views and inputs on Climate Change Impact on CAREC Tourism Sector and recommend steps to be undertaken.</i>
16:35–16:45	Closing Session
	Closing Remarks: Ms. Tamar Koriauli , First Deputy Head, GNTA, Government of Georgia Ms. Lyaziza Sabyrova , Director, CWRC, CWRD, ADB
17:30–19:30	Cocktail Reception at Pullman Tbilisi Axis Towers (hosted by the Asian Development Bank)

DAY 2 – Tuesday (June 13)	
09:00–12:00	CAREC Senior Officials' Meeting
09:00–12:00	CAREC Tourism Sector Working Group Focals will be requested to attend the <i>Senior Officials' Meeting</i> morning session for the (i) CAREC Tourism Progress Reporting and (ii) Silk Road Tourism Web Portal Soft Launch
12:00–13:00	Lunch Break
13:00–17:00	Knowledge Sharing by Georgia
13:00–14:00	Departure from Hotel/Travel to Site
14:00–17:00	<p>Site Visit(s)</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Tamar Koriauli, First Deputy Head, GNTA, and CAREC Tourism Sector Working Group Focal for Georgia Mr. Charles Simbillio, Operations Analyst, CWUW, CWRD, ADB</p> <p><i>Participants from CAREC countries will visit historic sites at Tbilisi Old Town:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Metekhi Church</i> 2. <i>Other Historic Sites</i>
17:00–19:00	Dinner at Marani Restaurant, Grishashvili 11, Tbilisi (hosted by the Georgia National Tourism Agency)
19:00–20:00	Return to Hotel