



# **CAREC INSTITUTE PROGRESS REPORT**

April 2023<sup>1</sup>

Reference Document  
Senior Officials' Meeting  
Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation  
13-14 June 2023

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<sup>1</sup> Information as of 28 April 2023

# CAREC Institute Progress Report and Work Plan 2023

## 1. Governance

- Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute (CI) is undertaking the Mid-Term Review (MTR) of its Strategy 2021-2025<sup>2</sup> to assess the progress of its implementation against the Results Framework. The review will highlight the issues and problems affecting the effective implementation of the Strategy, assess the external environment and propose changes where necessary. The review is being conducted at the mid-stage of the implementation of the Strategy and will recommend the necessary amendments needed to strengthen the implementation mechanisms of the Strategy in order to effectively and sustainably contribute to enhancing the effectiveness of the CI.
- Governing Council (GC) serves as an apex decision-making body for the CI and provides advice and guidance on core organizational matters such as budget, Rolling Operational Plan (ROP), recruitment, management's evaluation etc. The CI is planning to hold the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the GC back-to-back with the Ministerial Conference (MC) in November in Georgia. After taking over CAREC Program's chair from Georgia in November, Kazakshtan will chair the meeting.
- Advisory Council (AC) acts as a sounding board for the CI for new ideas and perspectives on a score of issues, including enhancing operational efficiency, setting strategic priorities, and improving the quality of knowledge output. After three years of its existence, the AC has been revamped by inviting renowned scholars and practitioners from the CAREC region as well as from other regions of the world to capture diverse perspectives. The fifth AC meeting is tentatively scheduled for September in an online mode.
- CI's new Director Mr. Kabir Jurazoda—a Tajikistani National—joined CI in November 2022 after completion of the tenure of Syed Shakeel Shah—a Pakistani National.

## 2. Financial Management

- To implement the Resource Mobilization Strategy/Work Plan RMS/WP 2022-2025, the CI formed an in-house resource mobilization task team drawing cross-divisional representation to systematically approach resource mobilization. The task team has prepared pitch documents and identified potential donors for project funding. The third meeting of the Financial Sustainability Working Group (FSWG) is scheduled in June. The meeting will review progress on the implementation of the RMS/WP 2022-2025, CI's three-year vision for resource mobilization and make recommendations/suggestions.
- The financial contribution from the PRC is at the same level as in 2022, about \$4million. Of this amount, around \$720,000 is paid by Xinjiang Government for the rent for CI's temporary office, and the contribution from the Ministry of Finance of the PRC is in the process of receiving. In addition to contributions from member countries, Technical Assistance (TA) from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been another critical support for CI.

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<sup>2</sup> CAREC Institute Strategy 2021-2025: <https://www.carecinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/CAREC-Institute-Strategy-2021-2025.pdf>

### **3. CAREC Think Tank Network (CTTN) Activities**

CTTN is a network of over 60 leading think tanks and universities in the CAREC region. The network strives to promote regional knowledge sharing and cooperation. Under the CTTN, CI's flagship CAREC Think Tank Development Forum (CTTDF) is held annually.

- CTTN Blog—an interactive knowledge-sharing platform for CTTN members, will be launched during the 7<sup>th</sup> CTTDF. The blog offers an opportunity for CTTN member think tanks and universities to share their county-specific knowledge focusing on CAREC priority clusters with a larger audience. The blog postings are expected to be in two languages—English and Russian, to increase its outreach and scope.
- The Sixth CTTDF was held on 15-16 September 2022 in Baku, Azerbaijan, with a theme of “Recalibrating Growth Dynamics for Inclusive and Sustainable Economies.” The Seventh CTTDF focusing on “Embracing Digital Technology for Sustainable Economic Development” is scheduled for 17-18 August in Urumqi, the PRC. Starting in 2016, the forum has become an attractive regional gathering of renowned think tanks, universities, government officials, and development partners to deliberate on pressing regional issues.
- CTTN Research Study “Leveraging Digital Technology for Green Sustainable and Inclusive Growth” is underway. The first draft has been received. The final paper will be presented at the CTTDF in August. Commissioned in the context of CAREC Digital Strategy and CTTDF thematic focus, the grants focus on digital infrastructure, decarbonization, role of Special Economic Zones in digital transformation and digital trade integration.

### **4. Progress of the Chief Economist Team (CET)**

CI's Chief Economist Team focuses on macro-economic analysis and the understanding of current and emerging socio-economic trends in the region. The Chief Economist Team successfully performed the following activities:

- Established the CI Quarterly Economic Monitor (QEM) as a well-received knowledge product which is published in three languages (Chinese, English and Russian) on a quarterly basis; contributed QEM key information and messages in pieces/breakdowns in Chinese, English and Russian to CI microblog.
- Led and accomplished an important cross divisional project, one of the deliverables for the 21<sup>st</sup> Ministerial Conference held in 2022, with a title of “Background Report on Post-Pandemic Framework for a Green, Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery,” and published the corresponding report in three languages (Chinese, English and Russian).
- Published more than 10 Economic Briefs so far, topics covering economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic to the CAREC region, inflation threats, Environmental, Social, and Governance development, green BRI investment, etc; three more Economic Briefs to be prepared in 2023.
- Co-hosted a webinar with ADB and the Regional Capacity Development Center (CCAMTAC) of the IMF on regional integration in Caucasus, Central Asia, and Mongolia.
- Leads an ADB TA project, titled “Household and community access to energy in the Fergana Valley—a multidimensional survey-based assessment in three CAREC countries.”
- Accomplished together with Strategy Planning Division (SPD) a joint research project of four CAREC Think Tanks about inequality in four CAREC countries (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Uzbekistan).
- Contributed to reviewing papers for CTTN grants and Visiting Fellows Program (VFP).
- Led sessions in CI & BNAI workshop on Early Warning and Regulation of International

Financial Risks, and in CI & XNAI workshop on Promoting Sustainable Economic and Social Development.

- Participated as speakers in several conferences and webinars, including the CTTDF and the CI Research Conference, and co-organized and spoke at "CAREC Chai" webinars.

## 5. Progress on Research Activities

The CI has completed all planned projects for 2022 and in 2023 started implementation of 8 new research projects and activities, which are listed in Table 1:

Table 1. List of research projects of CI for 2023.

#	Projects		Status
1	CAREC Region Trade Integration: CAREC FTA (Phase 2)	The study will explore trade potential in the CAREC region to enhance trade in goods and services. It will present an overview of trade integration in the CAREC region to highlight the possibility of a formal trade arrangement aligned with CITA 2030. Moreover, it will also explore the readiness of the CAREC FTA to enhance the facilitation of WTO Trade Facilitations Agreements.	Continued from 2022, phase 2 (jointly with ADB Team)
2	Digital CAREC Phase 3 - Blended Learning through Flipped Classrooms in the CAREC Region- Designing a Data-Driven Flipped Classroom Module	The country and region-specific blended learning modules are required that incorporate all the region-specific dynamics while integrating technology into the business-as-usual schools. Against the above backdrop, this study is designed primarily to provide a region-specific blended learning module that aims to improve the quality of education through flipped classrooms.	The Concept Note (CN) is submitted, initial discussions is held, final version of CN is under review of the IsDB.
3	Regional Climate Vulnerability in CAREC and Perspectives for Regional Cooperation Concept Note (Phase 2, Stage II)	This research project seeks to identify what damage can cause augmenting climate change across water, agriculture and energy sectors of five Central Asian countries and potential benefits of nexus approach and improved regional cooperation in addressing climate change, and thereby contribute to the implementation of CAREC climate scoping study, water pillar, and energy strategy. More specifically, highlighting the benefits of intersectoral approach and improved regional climate actions, the project will contribute to the implementation of future directions for CAREC provided in CAREC program's climate scoping study.	The CN is approved, consultations are selected. The project has started.
4	A roadmap for fintech-led regional financial cooperation in the CAREC region	The study will develop a concrete roadmap for accelerated progress of fintech in the CAREC region emanating from deeper regional economic and financial cooperation. The roadmap will assess the possible establishment of a regional financial innovation hub to further develop expertise and drive innovation in the regional financial sector. Knowledge products will be instrumental in discussing practical areas where the CAREC region can implement a programmatic approach and related reforms. The development of the roadmap will involve collaboration and information sharing among experts from the ADB, CI, and public and private partner institutions involved in fintech. The roadmap will include suggestions for deepening financial inclusion in the region through fintech to especially benefit	Continued from 2022, phase 3 (jointly with ADB), activities are on-going.

		local communities and women entrepreneurs and borrowers whose access to finance is severely constrained.	
5	The geopolitical uncertainties and their socioeconomic impact on CAREC economies	The volatile regional security landscape combined with global volatility, growing climate impact, price volatilities, and the anticipated slowdown in major economies is expected to have profound implications for the CAREC region. The study will analyze both channels and scale of the impact of these factors on individual CAREC economies. The research will also study overall regional cooperation and integration. Furthermore, the study will explore regional cooperation mechanisms to present a regional response to these challenges to mitigate their adverse impact on the CAREC region.	The CN is drafted, internal discussions are planned.
6	CI Annual Research Conference and Book	The conference aims to provide a platform for conducting high-quality research on the given topic and an opportunity for research networking. Potential authors are invited to submit original articles, case-studies, and reviews pertinent to the topics of the conference. The submissions will be commissioned by the Publication Board and External Review Board of the CI, comprising independent reviewers with solid research and professional experience on the topics. Upon acceptance, the selected manuscripts will be presented in the conference and published as chapters of the digital CI Annual Book.	Announcements are published and 4-5 abstracts of the papers are received.
7	Visiting Fellows Program	The fellowships are intended for scholars at all levels to pursue research on a topic that is relevant to the CAREC 2030 operational priorities. Strong preference will be given to applications with proposed research which address cross-border issues in the CAREC region that are considered of strategic importance to the region's important policy challenges. Research projects are invited in the following thematic areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trade and investment in increasing regional value chains.</li> <li>• Achieving 'better recovery from the pandemic' by supporting resilient policies, particularly in tourism, water and climate change sectors.</li> <li>• Facilitating cross-border infrastructure and connectivity among member countries.</li> <li>• Exploring healthcare system and underlying drivers (PPP, accessibility, quality and cost) of the healthcare system.</li> <li>• Leveraging digital technologies for sustainable economic development.</li> </ul>	About 20 applications are received. CI will select 5-6 best candidates for further research and publication.
8	Water sector financial governance gap analysis in Central Asia: from planning to practice	Main objective of the research is mapping major water financing needs of the water sector and identifying potential financing schemes in Central Asia (mostly focusing on major water infrastructure).	Approved and consultants are selected. The project started.
9	Civil aviation in CAREC countries, phase 2-3	Research for the restoration and development of air transport between China and five selected CAREC member countries: Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, and the Kyrgyz Republic.	Approved and started implementation.

Beyond that, the CI has engaged in collaborative research projects with external partners that have had an investigative look into civil aviation development and digital trade in CAREC countries.

The first project is the Civil Aviation Development in Kazakhstan and Mongolia project. This study highlighted the current development status of the civil aviation industry in Kazakhstan and Mongolia and explored the development needs for further improving the air transport conditions. The project provided evidence-based policy suggestions for further strengthening the CAREC regional civil aviation connectivity in the future. Based on this successful collaboration, the CI and CAAC have initiated the second project on Civil Aviation Development in Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, and Georgia with the aim to examine the advantages, disadvantages, opportunities, threats, and other factors that the four countries are facing in promoting the development of civil aviation.

The second project is on research for the restoration and development of air transport between China and five selected CAREC member countries: Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan. The project will: 1) analyze the current situation and trends in the development of passenger and cargo by air, major international hub airports cooperation between China and the selected five countries in the next 5-10 years; 2) identify the major development pain points and blockages in the area of domestic, bilateral and multilateral civil aviation cooperation between China and the selected five countries in the context of the recovery and revitalization of the civil aviation industry; 3) provide an in-depth analysis of the opportunities for the recovery and development of the air transportation industry between China and the five selected countries; 4) combine the civil aviation strategies of China and the five countries, the CAREC 2030 transport strategy and the development vision of the Air Silk Road, and put forward policy recommendations to promote the recovery and development of air transportation by promoting digitalization, greening, popularization and market development.

The third project is on the Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation in CAREC, which was completed in partnership with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP). The analysis suggests that implementing 'Digital Trade Facilitation' measures enabling the seamless electronic exchange of trade data and documents across borders could result in a reduction of about 17% in a full implementation scenario. For countries to reap the benefits from digital trade facilitation, the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific could support countries by providing a dedicated, inclusive, and capacity-building focused intergovernmental platform.

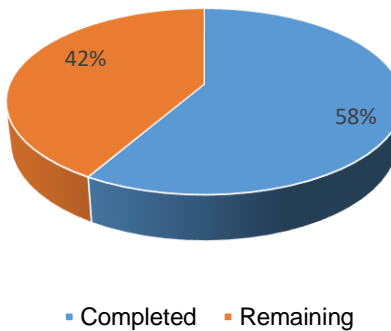
## **6. Progress on Capacity Building activities**

The CI has fully transitioned to delivering systematic and holistic capacity-building (CB) activities to its target participants. Based on its Rolling Operational Plan, the CI aims to deliver a minimum of 12 core capacity-building programs annually. Usually, each core activity entails a series of extended activities. For instance, the country-specific workshops on Road Asset Management for Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are being delivered through multiple sessions over a period of two weeks. In total, there will be around 16 extended activities, including site visits. This way, participants are offered the opportunity and experiential learning involvement to fully acquire new knowledge and upgrade skills. Similarly, there are thematic policy dialogues in pressing issues such as digital trade, sustainable water governance and climate change mitigation.

Thus far in 2023 (as of April 20, 2023), the CI has completed seven out of 12 (58%) core CB activities, all of which are research-based. Additionally, during the reporting period, the CI collaborated with development partners to convene workshops in areas of regional cooperation that require more urgent attention. The chart below reflects implementation of activities in 2023.

Figure 1. Status of Capacity Building activities of the CI for 2023

2023 Core CB Activities by Status



This year, a combination of face-to-face, live streaming, and recorded workshops are being offered to target participants—engaging them in a full cycle of capacity development based on upgraded e-learning functionalities. Participants are fed with cascading content in all five CAREC Program operational priority areas as well as the cross-cutting pressing issues like the climate change.

Since the last SOM, the CI CB approach has gone through a further transformation. It is more resilient, agile, systemized, and diversified to swiftly design and deliver CB programs in various cascading formats, including training of trainers. Depending on the thematic area of CB needs, CB activities are transformed in suitable formats to quickly respond and offer knowledge services to member countries and all stakeholders in a timely and effective manner. For instance, this year (based on the growing needs), a series of thematic dialogues in pressing areas of regional cooperation like sustainable water management and governance, climate change and mitigation of the impact of the conflict (i.e., geopolitical conflict in Ukraine) were held.

Mode and format of knowledge service delivery is diversified to pursue engaging interaction with diverse group of target participants. There are workshops, conferences, policy discussions, expert roundtables, best practices/knowledge sharing, thematic dialogues and CAREC Chai series to assist the target audience acquire essential knowledge and practical skills. Through diversified formats, the CI develops targeted capacities in member countries to meet the immediate and pressing needs for enhanced regional cooperation.

In this way, constructive engagement with national, regional, and international partners are taking place and development discussions in and around the CAREC Program operational clusters are shaped effectively. This is in line with the CI's strategic goal of being the knowledge broker in the CAREC region. Hence, knowledge services are increasingly diversified and jointly delivered with key implementing partners—optimizing various modalities and leveraging efforts to serve member countries as aptly and effectively as possible.

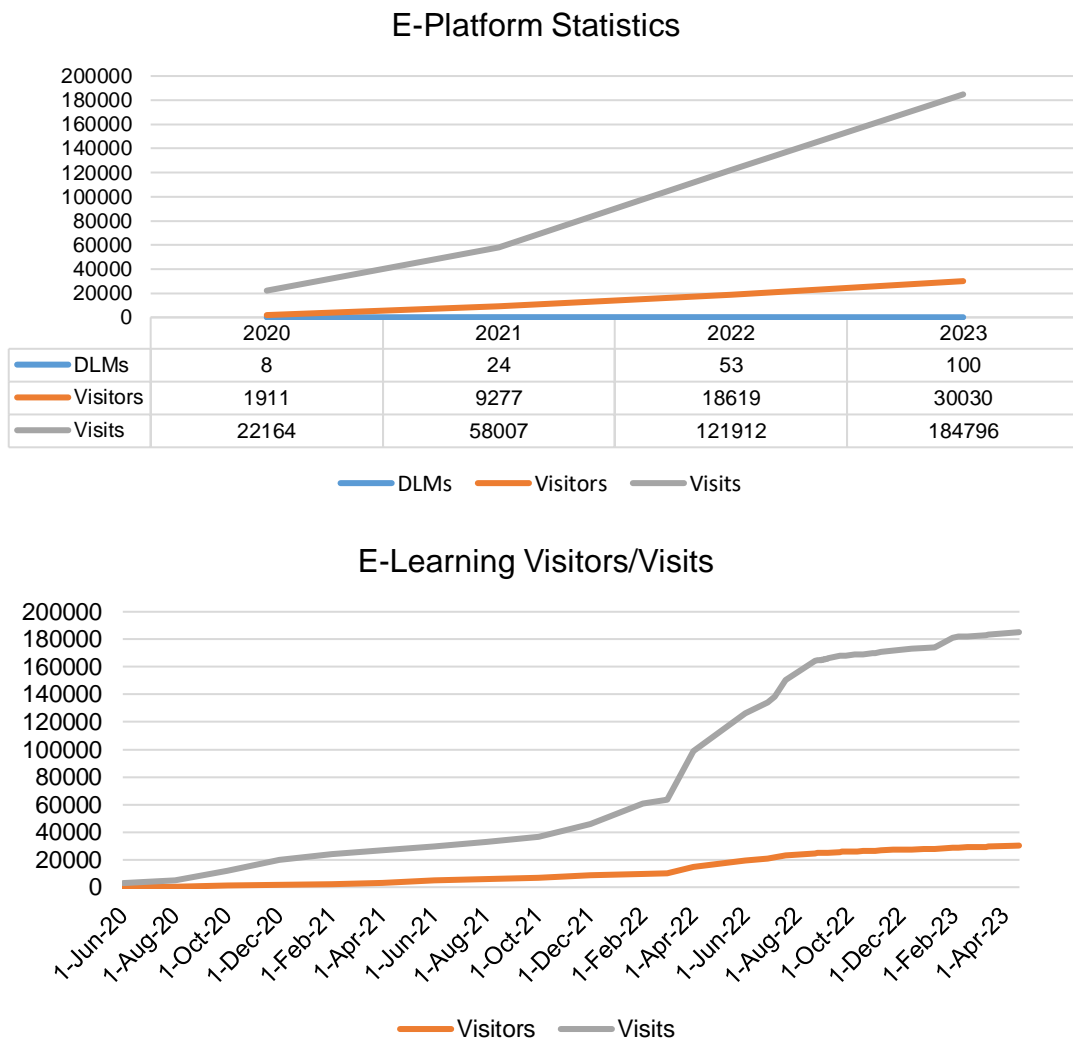
The CI has acquired the agility and resilience needed for an impactful intergovernmental knowledge institution in an increasingly interconnected and vulnerable world. The CI has strengthened its physical and virtual capabilities to proactively offer support to member countries at any time. The CI optimizes its geographical reach and growing E-Learning capabilities in designing and delivering hybrid and blended learning CB programs to target audiences in the CAREC region and beyond.

Also, an effective and systematic linkage between CB activities (knowledge services) and knowledge generation (research) products are made. This has offered various advantages, including design and delivery of training of trainers' programs to form communities of practice at technical levels—multiplying

the impact of CB efforts. Training of Trainers mode is already delivered and developed in key areas such as free trade agreements, water management, cross-border e-commerce, and road asset management. The CI is now focusing on extending Training of Trainers efforts to other CAREC Program operational clusters, including human development. To this end, it plans to design a flagship practical road safety curriculum in close collaboration with the ADB this year.

Optimizing physical and virtual (E-Learning platform) capabilities, the CI has been able to offer knowledge support to an increasing number of target audiences. All delivered CB activities since June 2020 are recorded and uploaded to the CI E-Learning Platform in the form of digital learning modules (DLMs). The number of target participants and audiences attending CI training programs and visiting its E-Learning platform is increasing significantly—in the thousands—as reflected in the annexed presentation CB slide.

Figure 2. CI E-Platform Statistics 2020-2023.



As of April 2023, more than 100 DLMs (digital learning modules) have been uploaded on the platform with videos, presentations, and other relevant materials, among which 15 DLMs were produced in both English and Russian. More than half of the total DLMs (around 50 DLMs) were uploaded during the first half of 2023, attracting as many as 10,000 additional visitors during the period. The Figure 2 indicates the annual accumulated increase in the number of DLMs, visitors, and visits to the CI E-Learning Platform. Besides the increase in statistics, the CI has expanded the platform's capabilities to provide



new forms of intervention. We have also started exploring activities in other functionalities, such as expert interviews, online courses, surveys, etc. Also, the CI E-Learning platform is utilized by other partners, including ADB and ADBI.

In conclusion, the CI has significantly increased both the quantity and quality of its CB efforts to effectively serve all stakeholders. More importantly, the CI's CB services are impactful and accessible, ensuring that target audiences are engaged in a full cycle of capacity development. Additionally, all activities are strongly interlinked to cascade knowledge and avoid one-event off activities. In the post-pandemic period, the CI is prepared and aims to further intensify its CB efforts using hybrid modes. This will involve continuing with virtual activities while gradually resuming the delivery of physical events in blended formats that include both face-to-face and virtual attendance options.

## **7. Progress on Knowledge Management activities**

The KM team continues to promote CI's role as a knowledge hub in 2023 by customizing its knowledge products based on the stakeholder analysis, expanding its dissemination channels, improving the quality of KM products, providing support to the CI Publication Board and synchronizing with research and capacity-building activities.

*Key Knowledge Products.* E-Newsletter - The CI newsletter is an important instrument in providing information and knowledge to the public. The newsletter required improvement as it did not have a unique and distinguishable design, provision of "inside stories" and highlights key messages from presentations and speeches, research digests, etc. In 2022, the CI newsletter has adopted a new contemporary design with dynamic colors. The newsletter includes a section dedicated to research digests of articles published by CI and becomes available in English, Chinese, and Russian in a single design. The KMD team conducted the Newsletter Satisfaction Survey among its readers to further improve its structure and content: 48% percent of survey participants rated the new design of the newsletter as excellent, and 39% rated it as good, and 93% are satisfied with the regularly receiving newsletter.

*Knowledge Outreach and Advocacy.* KM team continues to promote CI's knowledge products through the website, social media platforms, the Development Asia platform, and the email network in a timely manner. Considering the language demands of member countries and reaching a wider audience, some knowledge products have been produced in multi-languages.

KMD team continues to operate the social media platforms, disseminate CI's knowledge of products, events, and news on the social media platforms, and interact with the followers. In 2023, the KMD team started to design polls and quizzes for CI's research reports on LinkedIn. The first poll about the Digital FDI report was of good engagement with our audience.

*Maintaining and Updating Stakeholder List.* KM team has started to build up CI's stakeholder list since its functioning in 2019. The stakeholder list was created and increased from 500 in 2019 to 3000 in 2021. However, the list was not categorized and updated with the latest changes. Therefore, the KMD team has made efforts to update the list by working with other divisions. In this way, KM will continue to expand CI's external distribution list and better disseminate CI's knowledge products and events to our target audience.

*In-House Design.* KM team has continuously improved the in-house design capacity. The team has produces covers, flyers, typesetting designs and various greeting cards, quote cards and promotional videos for various activities. Besides this, the KMD team started to produce the infographic for CI's research reports with the first infographic for the Digital FDI report is now available on the website. The infographic has attracted much interest from the LinkedIn audience.

The demand for knowledge products and services from CAREC member countries is growing. The KMD team will open CI's page on another social media platform, which is popular in CAREC region, to disseminate CI's knowledge products and services to a broader audience in the second half of this year. KMD has produced CI's "Major Publication" booklet, which contains the latest research reports, policy and economic briefs, periodicals and other papers produced by the CI. The institutional booklet was updated with contemporary design and new information for use in CI's external communication with international and national stakeholders. KMD produced CI's Factsheet for 2022 and infographics for divisions, containing essential information about the CI and its activities.

*Wider Dissemination of Key Activities.* The KM team has worked closely with other divisions to disseminate the announcements of CI's workshops, events, seminars, and job vacancies. The announcements were disseminated through multi-platforms and reposted by partner organizations, and the reminder emails were distributed through the email network. The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> CAREC Chai events, the e-commerce training sessions, climate change dialogues, the water policy dialogues, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> research conference and the 6<sup>th</sup> CAREC Think Tank Development Forum have seen an increase in the number of participants. And the team had engaged with media coordinators to increase media coverage of this flagship event of CI. As a result, this event has been widely covered by well-recognized media outlets in Central Asian countries and Pakistan.

*Publication Board.* KMD provides support to the CI Publication Board to assure the quality of new publications. To ensure timely review of papers by Publication Board, the KMD updated the CI Publication Policy and developed the Anti-Plagiarism Policy. All new publications are reviewed by Publication Board members, and decisions are timely documented using the board minutes and decision memos. KMD ensures that the final versions of reviewed papers incorporate suggestions of the Publication Board before proceeding with editing and reformatting of papers for publication.

<b>E-newsletter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>47 monthly newsletters were produced and disseminated among more than 3000 stakeholders.</li> </ul>
<b>Development Asia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3 knowledge adaptations were published in 2023, with a total of 21 knowledge adaptations with another 6 in the pipeline.</li> </ul>
<b>Social Media</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As of April 24, 2023, with a total of 2,031 followers,</li> <li>CI has made total of 458 posts on the LinkedIn account, viewed by 31,200 people; out of which, 1,577 clicked to read further, and 640 reacted to the posts.</li> <li>With 22,780 followers, CI has made total of 372 posts and gained over 1,080,000 impressions and reading times on its Weibo account. All posts had total of 219,433 views, 10,302 likes, and comments.</li> <li>411 posts made in total and gained 942 followers on its WeChat account.</li> </ul>
<b>In-house design</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 covers, 14 flyers, 3 large typesetting designs and more than 20 greeting cards and quoted cards.</li> <li>4 promotion videos in three languages.</li> </ul>

### *Knowledge management project activities*

Partnership on TVET and WASH-KMD continued work with external partners on WASH and TVET research projects. CI co-hosted the final workshop with ADB PRCM on sharing ADB's operational knowledge in technical and vocational education and training in the PRC with other CAREC member countries in December 2022. TVET experts from CAREC countries highly acknowledged the lessons and experience learnt from ADB's operational knowledge in TVET and also highlight the importance of regional cooperation and integration in this important area. And CI signed the inter-governmental agreement with the UNICEF regional office on a new WASH project in April 2023. In partnership with UNICEF and ADB,

CI will establish a virtual CAREC WASH center to raise awareness, strengthen capacity, and promote knowledge sharing, technological innovation, and best practices among CAREC countries.

CAREC Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring (CPMM)–KM team continues active engagement in CPMM advocacy through producing CPMM briefs and related PR activities. KMD team presented a note with recommendations for improving CPMM briefs to the joint CI-ADB CPMM team. Newly designed and structured CPMM briefs will be shorter and more focused on policy rationale and recommendations. The briefs and executive memos will be produced and disseminated to targeted groups in English and Russian in 2023.

## ANNEXES

### Annex 1 – Research works under the CTTN Grants Program

No	Title	Status
1	Regional Integration through Community Entrepreneurship: Learning from the 'One Tambon, One Product' Programme In the Greater Mekong Subregion	In Publication process
2	Multi-Vector Ocean Corridors-Policy Proposals for Development of the Northern Corridor	In Publication process
3	Customizing the CAREC corridors: Product Specificity of the intra-bloc and extra-bloc trade	In Publication process
4	Trade Potential, Resistance Factors in CAREC and Policy Implications under RCEP: An Empirical Study Using SFA	In Publication process
5	Are Productivity Spillovers from Chinese Outward Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Contingent on Socio-Economic Characteristics of CAREC Countries? Evidence from Dynamic Endogenous Threshold Model	In Publication process

### Annex 3 - Staff Papers in 2022-2023

No	Author & Title of the Paper	Status
1	Qaisar Abbas. <a href="#">Sustainability challenges in public health sector procurement: An application of interpretative structural modelling.</a>	Published
2	Qaisar Abbas. <a href="#">Exploring a pathway to carbon neutrality via reinforcing environmental performance through green process innovation, environmental orientation and green competitive advantage.</a>	Published
3	Khalid Umar. <a href="#">Financial Inclusion and Fintech in CAREC: Constraints and Prospects.</a>	Published
4	Iskandar Abdullaev & Shakhboz Akhmedov. <a href="#">CAREC Corridors: Increased Connectivity and Improved Trade</a> , Chapter 2 of the book: Unlocking Transport Connectivity in the Trans-Caspian Corridor.	Published
5	Iskandar Abdullaev, Shakhboz Akhmedov et al., <a href="#">Building a New Sustainable Economy. Investing in Infrastructure for Distribution and Wellbeing</a>	Published
6	Ghulam Samad, Qaisar Abbas & Iskandar Abdullaev. COVID-19 and micro small medium enterprises in the CAREC region: impacts and coping strategies. Chapter 11 of the book: Intersecting. Volume 02/2021.	
7	Iskandar Abdullaev, Nella Hendriyetty, Chul Ju Kim, Bhajan Grewal, Naoyuki Yoshino, Eisa Khan Ayoob Ayoobi. <a href="#">Unlocking Private Investment in Sustainable Infrastructure in Asia (Routledge Studies in Development Economics)</a>	Published
8	Naseem Faraz & Ghulam Samad. <a href="#">Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) in Post-Privatization: Evidence from Pakistan</a> , Journal of Applied Economics.	Published
9	Ghulam Samad & Jawaria Abbasi. <a href="#">Advancement of Science and Technology: Future Prospect of Blue Economy</a> , in <a href="#">The Blue Economy: An Asian Perspective</a> Somnath Hazra & Anindya Bhukta (editors).	Published
10	Asif Razzaq, Tofiq Babayev, Mumtaz Ahmed and Shokhrukh Avazov, <a href="#">Digital FDI Ecosystem in the CAREC Region (Phase II)</a> .	Published
11	Iskandar Abdullaev and Shakhboz Akhmedov. <a href="#">Water Infrastructure in Central Asia: Promoting Sustainable Financing and Private Capital Participation. Project Report.</a>	Published

12	Hans Holzhaecker. <a href="#">Post-Pandemic Framework for a Green, Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery. Background report.</a>	Published
13	Bob Zhao, Qaisar Abbas, Ghulam Samad, Emma Tong. <a href="#">Development of the Civil Aviation Industry in Six Selected CAREC Countries: Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan. Policy Brief.</a>	Published
14	Atabek Umirbekov, Almaz Akhmetov, Iskandar Abdullaev, Shakhboz Akhmedov, Daniel Müller. <a href="#">Regional cooperation is key for overcoming climate challenges along water-agriculture-energy nexus in Central Asia. Policy brief.</a>	Published
15	Atabek Umirbekov, Almaz Akhmetov, Iskandar Abdullaev, Shakhboz Akhmedov, Daniel Müller. <a href="#">Excessive use of natural resources and sectoral over-reliance are behind Central Asia's vulnerability to compound climate challenges. Policy brief.</a>	Published
16	Jingjing Huang & Lihong Chen. <a href="#">Environmental, Social, and Governance in the CAREC Region. Economic brief.</a>	Published
17	Iskandar Abdullaev & Shakhboz Akhmedov. Chapter 5 "Financing Infrastructure in Central Asia" in <a href="#">Unlocking Private Investment in Sustainable Infrastructure in Asia (Routledge Studies in Development Economics)</a> , by Iskandar Abdullaev, Nella Hendriyetty, Chul Ju Kim, Bhajan Grewal, Naoyuki Yoshino, Eisa Khan Ayoob Ayoobi (Editors).	
18	Bob zhao, Qaisar Abbas, Ghulam Samad, Emma Tong. Policy Brief: Development of civil aviation industry in selected CAREC member countries: Georgia, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. <a href="#">Policy Brief on Civil Aviation – CAREC Institute.</a>	Published
19	Syed Shakeel Shah, Iskandar Abdullaev, Qaisar Abbas, Shakhboz Akhmedov and Ilhom Abduloev (Editors). <a href="#">Resilience and Economic Growth in Times of High Uncertainty.</a> Second CAREC Institute Annual Book.	Published
20	Iskandar Abdullaev, Qaisar Abbas, Dina Azhgaliyeva, Ghulam Samad, and Shakhboz Akhmedov (Editors). <a href="#">COVID-19 and Economic Recovery Potential in the CAREC Region.</a> First CAREC Institute Annual Book.	Published
21	Shiliang Lu. <a href="#">The PRC's OFDI to the CAREC region –prospects in green energy.</a> Economic Brief.	Published
22	Asif Razzaq, Tofiq Babayev, Mumtaz Ahmed and Shokhrukh Avazov. <a href="#">Report on CAREC Digital FDI Ecosystem in the CAREC Region.</a>	Published
23	Iskandar Abdullaev and Shakhboz Akhmedov. <a href="#">Project Report on Water Infrastructure in Central Asia: Promoting Sustainable Financing and Private Capital Participation.</a>	Published
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