

Progress Report of the CAREC Institute May 2021

CAREC Institute, the knowledge arm of the CAREC programme, is actively involved in providing knowledge services to member countries. Since the last SOM, CAREC Institute has conducted research in more than a dozen areas, released research reports, policy briefs, and other relevant research products, with special emphasis on producing COVID-19 related policy briefs. CI's COVID-19 response has been widely acknowledged and appreciated by the stakeholders. Responding to the limitations imposed on traveling, CAREC Institute has launched an E-Learning platform for capacity building and has provided training to hundreds of partners from member countries. CAREC Institute has successfully disseminated its knowledge products to a wide range of stakeholders, and its monthly newsletter reaches over 3,000 stakeholders. The report below describes CI's overall progress until May 2021.

I. Research

Research is one of the main pillars of 'CI's mission, which is to support the CAREC program with evidence-based research products as its knowledge arm. Through research, the CI attempts to identify the most pressing challenges facing the CAREC region that pertain to its economic and financial stability, trade, tourism and economic corridor, infrastructure and connectivity, agriculture and water management, and human development dimensions. In 2020-21, the CI completed several projects utilizing in-house and external expert capacities, including research activities undertaken under the Research Grants Programme (RGP) and Visiting Fellows Programme (VFP). Below is a brief description of the research activities of the CI categorized by priority clusters of the CAREC Programme :

Economic and Financial Stability Cluster

1. CI and ADB research project on "**Financial Inclusion in the CAREC Region: Promoting Fintech to Meet Underserved Needs in Trade Finance**" has been completed. The project aims to examine the challenges of adopting fintech in the CAREC region and how this could serve the most unmet need for trade finance by MSMEs and female-owned enterprises.

2. CI's Staff Paper on "**Financial Inclusion and Fintech in CAREC: Constraints and Prospects**" captures the state of financial inclusion and fintech in the CAREC region and offers policy recommendations by presenting two case studies (PRC and Kenya)

3. CI, along with the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), has initiated a research project on "**Debt and Financial Sustainability in the CAREC region.**" The project is in the final stage of completion. An overview of the CAREC region debt and its sustainability will be conducted. Moreover, it will present a broad-brushed overview of the fiscal situation in the CAREC region and discuss at a high level how the exchange rate and monetary policies impact the fiscal situation in the CAREC region.

Trade, Tourism and Economic Corridor Cluster

4. CI and ABD joint project "**Regulatory Framework for E-commerce Development in the CAREC - Phase I**" has been completed. The policy brief was published in April 2020. The research identified

necessary steps on legal, regulatory, institutional reforms and intensifying regional efforts to modernize and harmonize regulations.

5. CI and ADB research project Phase-2 "**Framework for E-Commerce Development in CAREC Countries – Focus on Infrastructure Development Phase II**" has been completed. The policy brief was published in May 2021. The project examined that the economic factors and conditions viewed along their logical sequence of accessing the internet to engage in online transactions, making and receiving payments, and delivery and logistics.

6. CI and ADB joint research "**Developing a Framework for Mutual Recognition and Electronic Exchange of Phytosanitary Certificates in CAREC**" has been completed. The policy brief is about to be published. It examined the institutional, regulatory, and policy frameworks to identify accompanying challenges in the issuance of phytosanitary certification (e-Phyto certificate).

7. CTTN Research Grants Program (RGP), a research paper on "**Exploring Exports Driven Growth through Free Trade Agreements among CAREC Members: Learning from Pakistan-China Free Trade Agreement (FTA)**" has been completed and published. The research paper examines the impact of the Pakistan-China FTA on bilateral trade.

8. CTTN Research Grants Program (RGP), a research paper on "**Prospects of Tourism Sector Development in the Framework of Implementation of Almaty–Bishkek Economic Corridor (ABEC) Activities,**" assessed the impact of COVID-19 on tourism growth and economies in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

9. CI and ADB joint research project on "**COVID-19 and Tourism Sector in CAREC Region: Harnessing Role of Technology in Promoting Safe Tourism Destination**" has been completed. The policy brief, project report, and three blogs were published as outcomes of the project. The research focused on how and in what sense technology can be used to manage and promote safe tourism.

10. CI and ADB joint research project "**Free Trade Agreement (FTAs/RTAs) in the CAREC Region**" is initiated. This project will highlight the status of CAREC regional integration, its potential challenges, and the way forward.

11. CI and ADB joint project on "**COVID-19 and MSME in CAREC Region: Impacts and Policy Lessons**", has been completed. The research focuses on (i) figuring out the impact of COVID19 on domestic commerce, export, and supply chain disruptions for MSMEs (ii) analyzing the effects of current policies introduced by CAREC governments to support the economy under COVID-19's on MSME.

12. CI, in partnership with IsDB, has conceived a research project on "**Digital CAREC: A Gap Analysis**". The project is under discussion and in the review process. The research will provide a gap analysis report/paper to identify the digital divide between member countries based on Digital Foreign Direct Investment, including investment in digital infrastructure, Internet access, digital payment, and digital trade or e-commerce.

Infrastructure and Economic Connectivity Cluster

13. Research division team members completed a book chapter on "**Infrastructure in Central Asia and Caucasias**" was published in a joint book on "Developing Infrastructure in Central Asia: Impacts and Financing Mechanisms" by ADBI and CI. The chapter highlights the state of Central Asia and the Caucasus sub-regions standing in terms of physical and soft infrastructure.

14. Research division team members completed a book chapter on "**Pakistan's trade with Central Asia**," which is going to be published by Oxford publishers. This chapter walks the readers to show Pakistan's regional trade potential with Central Asia.

15. ADB-CI Visiting Fellows Program (VFP) research paper on "**Identification and Spatial Mapping of Economic Clusters across the CAREC Region**" aimed at spatially mapping urbanization trends and identifying potential sites for economic activities along corridors in three CAREC countries- XUAR-PRC, Pakistan, and Tajikistan.

16. CI and ADB initiated a research project on "**Sustainable Pathway of Energy Security in CAREC Region**." The project is under discussion and in the review process. The projects examine the issues and challenges which are being faced by the CAREC member countries in the energy transition process.

Agriculture and Water Cluster

17. A research project on "**Climate Insurance, Infrastructure and Governance in CAREC Region**" has been completed in cooperation with the Innovations and Scientific Research Cluster. Policy briefs and reports were published. The project provided an overview of climate change's current realities in eleven countries through the prism of water, energy, & food nexus, economic & financial aspects, and governance.

18. Under the ADB-CI VFP, a research paper on "**Regional Cooperation in Promoting Low-Carbon Energy Development in CAREC: Challenges and Opportunities**" has been completed. The paper provides an overview and challenges of regional collaboration on low-carbon development in the CAREC region.

19. The ADB-CI VFP research paper on "**Assessing the Economic Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture in Central Asia**" has been completed. This paper measures the economic impact of climate change on Central Asian agriculture by employing the Ricardian method.

20. The ADB-CI VFP paper on "**Dialogue and Information Platforms for Agriculture and Water Cooperation in CAREC Region**" has been completed. The paper examined agricultural development and sustainable use of water and natural resources in Mongolia, China, and Pakistan.

21. CI and UNICEF have conceived and started a research project on "**Comparative Analysis of Water Resource Management Policies and Practices between China and relevant Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) countries**". The project has been completed. The research project aims at exploring best practices and solutions on water resources management among CAREC countries.

22. CI has launched Research on "**Case Studies and Analysis of Technology Innovations and Diffusion for High-Value Crops in CAREC Region**." The project is about to be completed. The research focuses on technologies, high-value crops, regional cooperation opportunities, and related aspects in CAREC countries.

23. CI and ADB have conceived a research project on "**Regional Climate Vulnerability in CAREC and Perspectives for Regional Cooperation**". The project is under discussion and in the review process. This project aims to set up a climate change cooperation network in the region by promoting regional activities and exploring potential synergies across targeted sectors.

Human Development Cluster

24. An ADB-CI Visiting Fellows paper on "**Reviewing Migration and Development: Local authorities' role in Central Asia**" has been completed. The paper explores migration patterns from Central Asia's southern rim and their developmental implications for communities and migrants themselves.

CAREC Institute Research Conference

The CI has conducted the first CAREC Institute Research Conference titled "**COVID-19 and Potential for Economic Recovery**" in March 2021. The conference's objective is to catalyze Research and capacity-building collaboration for producing cutting-edge research products that will keep CAREC economies at the forefront of sustainable development and economic integration. Conference activities aimed to identify means to revisit and rethink of past, current, and future of the CAREC region from intellectual and economic development perspectives. The flagship product, "**CAREC Institute Annual Book**," will be published by the end of 2021.

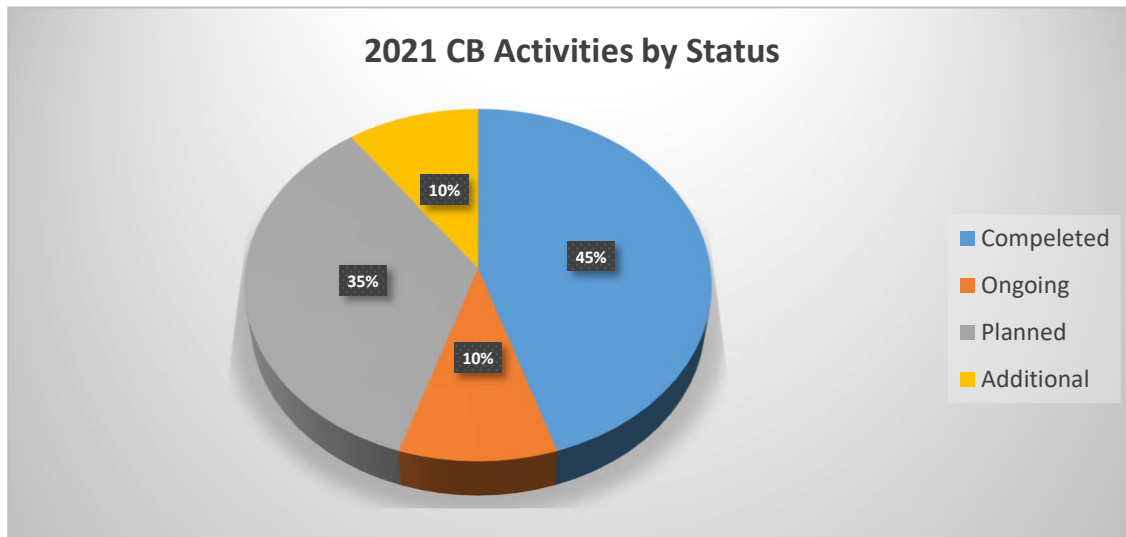
Boao Forum

CI has contributed a main chapter 2 of the Boao Forum 2021 report on "**Sustainable Development in Asia and the World: The Road towards Sustainable Recovery in a Fast-Changing World**." The theme provides a platform for discussing regional issues, generating new ideas, and exploring possible ways to address complex challenges not only CAREC countries facing that is Sustainable Development but also in Asia and the World. The theme focused systematically on CAREC-customized documents and up-to-date narratives around four deficits, namely Healthcare System Deficits, Infrastructure, and Trade Deficits, Green Initiatives Deficits, and Digitalization Deficits.

II. Capacity Building

The CAREC Institute has been systematically delivering holistic capacity-building activities to member countries and all stakeholders. Based on its Rolling Operational Plan, it aims to deliver 12 core capacity-building programs annually, each of which entails a series of extended activities. For instance, the Road Asset Management Maturity Assessment and Training of Trainers were successfully completed in the first quarter of this year through as many as ten separate workshops. The Institute also seizes presented opportunities to immediately formulate capacity-building activities in an emerging and pressing issue of regional cooperation. This section highlights the status of the 2021 capacity-building activities of the CAREC Institute. The subsequent sections will point out some of the key transformational progress made this year. Finally, some statistics will be presented from the CAREC Institute E-Learning Platform to illustrate some of the data analytics that demonstrates the expansion of reach and coverage of the target audience.

Figure 1



Transformational Progress

Since last SOM, the CAREC Institute capacity-building efforts have gone through a further transformation to offer diversified, agile, resilient training of trainers (ToT) or cascading and research-based knowledge services to member countries and all stakeholders. The Institute has optimized virtual channels to plan and design capacity-building activities in various modalities and continues preparing itself to re-start experiential or practical face-to-face capacity-building workshops in blended mode once the pandemic is contained. Here are some of the highlights of the Institute's progress in the transformational process.

Diversified Capacity Building Activities

Last year, in addition to **workshops** and **research conferences**, the Institute diversified its knowledge services to deliver **experiential regional policy dialogues** to help the target audience acquire crucial knowledge and practical skills needed to address immediate and pressing needs for regional cooperation in priority areas. This year, the Institute has launched high-level **expert roundtable discussions** to engage with national, regional, and international partners in leading and shaping development discussions in and around the CAREC Program priority clusters. This new addition is in line with the Institute's strategic aspiration of being the knowledge broker in the CAREC region. Hence, the Institute knowledge services are increasingly diversified as of now – optimizing various modalities to serve member countries as aptly as possible.

Agile and Resilient Knowledge Services

The Institute has come a long way to acquire the agility and resilience needed for a successful intergovernmental knowledge institution in a nowadays globalized and interconnected world vulnerable to sudden global changes. Challenged by the sudden outbreak of ongoing global pandemic (Covid19), the Institute proactively transformed its knowledge services from conventional one-event off face-to-face capacity-building workshops to systematic hybrid and blended learning capacity-building programs. This was to continue with its knowledge services from a distance during times when stakeholders needed to

support the most. Hence, a robust E-Learning Platform was developed to continue delivering virtual capacity-building activities around the clock and extend an immediate and new kind of knowledge support that member countries and all stakeholders found themselves in dire need. The Institute expanded its thematic scope of knowledge services to focus more on timely and important areas such as digital trade or e-commerce and Covid19 related economic recovery policy guidance.

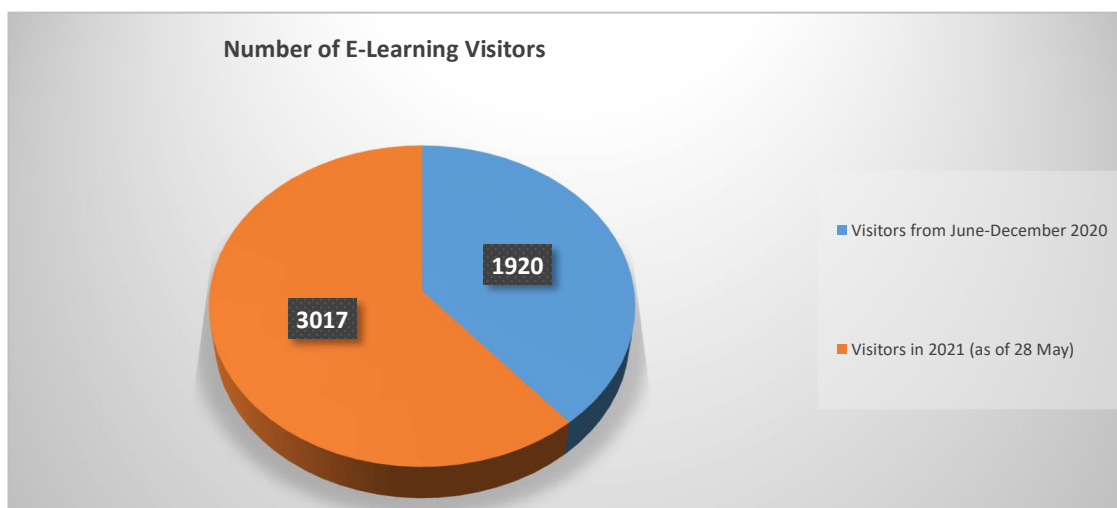
ToT Cascading and Research-Based Knowledge Solutions

The Institute has also prioritized ToT or cascading and evidence-based capacity-building activities. Knowledge services outputs are tightly linked to knowledge generation products systematically. Almost all of the Institute capacity building activities are based on its own research and delivered by its own experts since last year. The Institute has also started delivering trainers' capacity-building programs to form communities of practices at technical levels. Efforts on this front have produced promising results in the transport infrastructure asset management, producing promising results in transport infrastructure asset management. The Institute has already started planning to expand its ToT activities in other CAREC priority clusters.

Increasing Target Audience at CAREC Institute E-Learning Platform

Since the development of an E-Learning Platform, the CAREC Institute has expanded its reach and increased capacity to offer sustainable knowledge support to an increasing number of the target audience from a distance. All delivered capacity-building activities since June 2020 are recorded and uploaded on the CAREC Institute E-Learning Platform. The number of target audiences visiting the platform to view and utilize content is increasing significantly – in thousands –, as reflected in the chart. Before the creation of the platform, the CAREC Institute was only able to deliver the capacity-building training to an average number of 200 participants in face-to-face gatherings annually.

Figure 2



CAREC Institute capacity building or knowledge services have become resilient and sustainable to serve member countries and all stakeholders under any circumstances, including pandemics like Covid19. The pandemic may have severely affected other institutions and limited their activities, but the impacts have been reversed for the CAREC Institute thanks to its proactive leadership. In fact, since the outbreak of

Covid19, the Institute has been able to intensify efforts in quantity and quality to serve all stakeholders in difficult times. More importantly, the Institute knowledge services are impactful and accessible. Target audiences are not only engaged in a full cycle of capacity building, but also all activities are strongly interlinked to cascade knowledge services and avoid one-event off activities. All capacity-building activities are recorded, uploaded, and made accessible to all on the E-Learning Platform. All stakeholders can utilize CAREC Institute capacity-building services from anywhere at any time.

III. Knowledge Management

Since the last SOM in October 2020, the CAREC Institute's Knowledge Management Division (KMD) continued production of a popular e-newsletter product reaching out to 3,000 stakeholders monthly. The Annual Report 2020 was also produced, endorsed by the Governing Council, and released. The Development Asia collaboration continued with seven more additions in this reporting period, amounting to a total of 13 knowledge adaptations as of 30 June 2021.

The March 2021 research conference synopsis (summary of 10 research papers) was also produced by KMD and circulated to the NFP in English and Russian languages in a timely manner. Furthermore, 17 more Russian translations of 2020-21 knowledge products have been produced and promulgated in this period. And 17 other publications, including working papers, policy brief, and workshop reports, have been released through the website medium.

KMD continued active engagement in CPMM advocacy and expanded its 2021 outreach with follow-up executive memos targeting the Russian-speaking stakeholders first. There was also substantive input to the ADB economist forum in January 2021 and TRACECA 2030 concept.

KMD continued work with external partners on WASH and TVET research projects providing specialist input and conducting three knowledge-sharing webinars in this period.

The media outreach expanded to coverage of 20 CAREC Institute topics and events in around 60 media outlets in 8 countries since October 2020. The Institute's LinkedIn account saw a 25% increase in its followers in this reporting period and continued active sharing of information with a 9% engagement rate. In addition, two more social media accounts –WeChat and Tiktok – were activated.

IV. Chief Economist Team

The chief economist team has produced the following research outputs during the reporting period:

- CRII updated and published.
- Three CAREC Quarterly Economic Monitors published in English, Russian, Chinese.
- Nine Economic Briefs published, mostly on COVID-19.
- Report on COVID-19 vaccination attitudes in 7 CAREC countries published

- Workshop on COVID-19 vaccination attitudes organized
- Two chapters in ADBI books published (Chapter Determinants of the Export Performance of SMEs in the Kyrgyz Republic" in the book "Enhancing SME Participation in Global Value Chains"; Chapter "Measuring the Impact and Financing of Infrastructure in the Kyrgyz Republic" in the book "Developing Infrastructure in Central Asia: Impacts and Financing Mechanisms").

The chief economist team has organized or/and participated in key events of CAREC Institute and partners, such as:

- Participation in CI's Research and Think Tank conferences.
- Participation in several CI workshops.
- Webinar together with ADB on PRC's 14th FYP
- Several interviews, including to the China Daily and "The Nation", Pakistan
- Speaking at several conferences, including ones organized by UN ESCAP, SNAI, think tanks in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan.
- Review of papers both for the CTTN grants, Visiting fellowships and CI's Research Conference

V. Institutional Activities

Strategic Planning Division (SPD) has completed the following tasks until May 2021:

- **CI's Updated Strategy 2021-25:** in response to improved institutional capacity and the challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, CI has embarked upon updating its 2018-22 strategy with extended strategic priorities and implementation timeframe. The Updated Strategy (2021-25) will be presented to the GC in July for deliberation and endorsement.
- **Advisory Council:** Taking into consideration (i) the expiration of the current term of the Advisory Council members; (ii) CI's growing need for significant strategic and technical advisory inputs by Advisory Council members, particularly with regards to the evolving global and regional landscape; and (iii) further need to improve the effectiveness of the Advisory Council according to international best practices. The CI is seeking GC's endorsement for a complete overhauling of the AC by inviting renowned experts from the region and beyond.
- **Financial Sustainability:** In line with the GC's guidance, the CI developed a discussion paper and established an FSWG, drawing membership from all member countries. Besides pursuing a group approach, individual negotiations with at least one country—Pakistan—have yielded a financial contribution of US\$100,000 for the CI's operation. To advance this process further and systematically, the ADB commissioned an exploratory analysis of CI's financial sustainability. The financing options explored in the report were presented during the inaugural meeting of the FSWG, held on 10 September 2020. One of the important recommendations of the consultant's report is to develop a medium- to long-term resource mobilization strategy that will, inter alia, include capacity building of CI's core team. The CI has already started the process of hiring a consultant for drafting a comprehensive resource mobilization strategy.
- **Host City MOU and CI's Permanent Campus:** CI has signed the host city MOU with Urumqi Municipality and Xinjiang Government on 18 November 2020; however, the implementation negotiations came to a halt due to the covid-19 outbreak. Some preliminary meetings were held

between CI management and local administration to deliberate upon granting the privileges of an international organization as enshrined in the headquarter agreement with the PRC government. Furthermore, the CI has conducted a couple of initial meetings with the local government on establishing a dedicated campus for the CI.

- **Partnerships:** With the support of ADB-sponsored consultants, the CI is drafting a comprehensive Partnership Policy that will guide CI's activity-based and strategic partnership. So far, CI has signed 15 MOUs with national, regional, and international organizations.
- **CAREC Think Tanks Network (CTTN) Activities:** under the CTTN umbrella, CI has planned the 5th think tanks development forum in October, focusing on economic corridors, but the physical forum depends on lifting travel restrictions. CI has granted five research grants under the CTTN Research Grants Program (RGP). To explore the role of think tanks in the time of crisis, CI organized a CTTN Virtual Dialogue in March with over 80 representatives of think tanks, governments, and development partners attended the event. The process of establishing a CTTN Blog – a regional discussion platform – is at an advanced stage of completion.

VI. Annexes

Annex 1- Full List of 2021 Capacity Building Activities

Annex 2- CAREC Institute Publication Catalogue

Annex 1 – Full List of 2021 Activities

Act. Code	Activity Title	Status	Remarks
CICB2013*	Knowledge-sharing modules on CAREC Trade: Regional Improvement of Border Services	14, 21, 22-Jan	Completed in collaboration with EAPF (EAPF TA) *postponed workshop from last year
CICB2101	Interconnectivity and Cooperation Opportunities between Central and South Asia	16-Feb	Inaugural expert roundtable, planned and delivered with national partners in Uzbekistan
CICB2102	Road Asset Management Maturity Assessment and ToT	2021/2/10 2021/4/6	First ToT capacity building program delivered to 22 leading CAREC RAM experts to form communities of practices for enhanced regional cooperation in transport infrastructure asset management.
CICB2103	E-Learning Platform/E-Learning Studio (<i>remaining equipment and consultant procurement</i>)	Feb-March	Completed; Procurement of equipment
CICB2104	Regional Sanitary and Phytosanitary Regulatory Regime: Developing a Framework for Mutual Recognition and Electronic Exchange of SPS Certificates in CAREC	24-Feb	Facilitating regional policy dialogue among member countries to disseminate research findings and advocate for further cooperation in sanitary and phytosanitary regulatory regimes
CICB2105	Public Attitudes Towards COVID-19 Vaccinations in Selected CAREC Countries: Policy Lessons and Recommendations	12-Mar	Facilitating policy dialogue among member countries based on CI research findings on Covid-19 impacts and prospects for policymakers from CAREC countries
CICB2106	CAREC Road Safety Digital Learning Modules (DLMs)	15-Apr	Completed; Procurement eLearning DLM expert
CICB2107	Sharing ADB's Operational Knowledge in the PRC in TVET with other CAREC Member Countries	20-May	finding out the problems and challenges in the development of TVET in CAREC 6 countries

Annex 1- Full List of 2021 Activities

Act. Code	Activity Title	Status	Remarks
CICB2013*	Knowledge-sharing modules on CAREC Trade: Regional Improvement of Border Services	14, 21, 22-Jan	Completed in collaboration with EAPF (EAPF TA) *postponed workshop from last year
CICB2101	Interconnectivity and Cooperation Opportunities between Central and South Asia	16-Feb	Inaugural expert roundtable, planned and delivered with national partners in Uzbekistan
CICB2102	Road Asset Management Maturity Assessment and ToT	2021/2/10 2021/4/6	First ToT capacity building program delivered to 22 leading CAREC RAM experts to form communities of practices for enhanced regional cooperation in transport infrastructure asset management.
CICB2103	E-Learning Platform/E-Learning Studio <i>(remaining equipment and consultant procurement)</i>	Feb-March	Completed; Procurement of equipment
CICB2104	Regional Sanitary and Phytosanitary Regulatory Regime: Developing a Framework for Mutual Recognition and Electronic Exchange of SPS Certificates in CAREC	24-Feb	Facilitating regional policy dialogue among member countries to disseminate research findings and advocate for further cooperation in sanitary and phytosanitary regulatory regimes
CICB2105	Public Attitudes Towards COVID-19 Vaccinations in Selected CAREC Countries: Policy Lessons and Recommendations	12-Mar	Facilitating policy dialogue among member countries based on CI research findings on Covid-19 impacts and prospects for policymakers from CAREC countries
CICB2106	CAREC Road Safety Digital Learning Modules (DLMs)	15-Apr	Completed; Procurement eLearning DLM expert
CICB2107	Sharing ADB's Operational Knowledge in the PRC in TVET with other CAREC Member Countries	20-May	finding out the problems and challenges in the development of TVET in CAREC 6 countries

CICB2108	CAREC Institute Expert Roundtable Discussion on Digital CAREC	21-May	The second roundtable, planned and delivered in collaboration with national partner in PRC.
CICB2109	Road Safety Engineering (Turkmenistan)	June	under discussion
CICB2110	CAREC Corridor Performance Measurement and Monitoring (CPMM): Time Release Study and Behind-the-Border Indicators	June	CN submitted to ADB EAPF for review
	CAREC Regional Integration Index (CRII)	March	
	Promoting Digital CAREC Framework: E-commerce Infrastructure Development (phase 2) and Fintech to Meet Underserved Needs in Digital Trade Finance	April	
	Covid-19 and CAREC Tourism Sector: Harnessing Role of Technology in Promoting Safe Tourism Destinations	May	
	Unlocking Private Investment for Sustainable Infrastructure in CAREC Region (Books Launch)	July	
	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in CAREC Region (CI- UNICEF joint project)	August	
	CAREC Climate Change Vulnerability Index	September	
	Covid-19 and MSME in CAREC region: Impacts and Policy Lessons	November	
	CAREC Leadership Program		
	Upgrading E-Learning Platform		

CAREC Institute

Complete External Output Catalogue

Mar 2015 – 31 March 2021

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	Economic Briefs & Quarterly Economic Monitor	Dissemination	Release Date
1.	Quarterly Economic Monitor No. 1 (ENG , RUS , CHN)	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn Weibo Target/NFP (R)	Dec 2020
2.	COVID-19 and Acceleration of Some Megatrends	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn Weibo	Nov 2020
3.	Covid-19: Resurgence of the Pandemic and Economic Uncertainties: The Global Scramble for a Vaccine	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn Dev Asia ECOSF webinar ADB webinar Nobel Fest	July 2020
4.	Intra-CAREC Trade: Business as Usual or about to Change?	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn CAREC e-Alert	June 2020
5.	Covid-19 Reaction Functions, Paradoxes, and Latest Economic Data	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn APD News WIUT webinar	May 2020
6.	Covid-19 and the Economy: Prospects, Shocks, and Measures	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn APD News	Apr 2020
7.	The Covid-19: Government Measures to Mitigate the Economic Impact	NFP group (E,R) Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn APD News CAREC Program	Mar 2020
8.	Global Uncertainty and Potential Effects on Capital Inflows into CAREC	NFP group (E,R) Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn CI webinar CAREC Program	Mar 2020
9.	The Covid-19: Economic Implications for CAREC	NFP group (E,R) Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn CAREC Program	Feb 2020

	Policy Briefs	Dissemination	Release Date
10.	Harnessing the role of technology in promoting safe Tourism in CAREC	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn Target/NFP (R)	Mar 2021
11.	Regional Climate Cooperation – Challenges and Perspectives	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Dec 2020
12.	Determinants of Vulnerability to Climate-Induced Water Stress in CAREC	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Oct 2020
13.	Regulatory Framework for e-Commerce Development in CAREC	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn Dev Asia	Apr 2020
14.	Reforming State-Owned Enterprises in Central Asia	NFP group (E,R) Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn Dev Asia	Jan 2020
15.	Assessing Energy Security in Asia: Policy Implications for CAREC	NFP group (E,R) Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn Dev Asia	Jan 2020
16.	Comparison of Regional Economic Integration in Europe and Asia	NFP group (E,R) Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Jan 2020
	CPMM Briefs (limited circulation)	Dissemination	Release Date
17.	CPMM Brief Azerbaijan (E, R)	KAZ NFP + ADB	21 Oct 20
18.	CPMM Brief Kazakhstan (E, R)	KAZ NFP + ADB	7 Oct 20
19.	CPMM Brief Uzbekistan (E, R)	UZB NFP + ADB	22 Sep 20
20.	CPMM Brief Turkmenistan (E, R)	TKM NFP + ADB	14 Sep 20
21.	CPMM Brief Kyrgyzstan (E, R)	KGZ NFP + ADB	7 Sep 20
22.	CPMM Brief Tajikistan (E, R)	TAJ NFP + ADB	3 Sep 20
23.	CPMM Brief Afghanistan	AFG NFP + ADB	29 Aug 20
24.	CPMM Brief Pakistan	PAK NFP + ADB	23 July 20

	Research / Working Papers / Book Chapters	Dissemination	Release Date
25.	ADBI collaboration: Developing Infrastructure in Central Asia: Impacts and Financing Mechanisms	ADBI e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Mar 2021
26.	ADBI collaboration: Determinants of the Export Performance of SMEs in Kyrgyzstan	ADBI LinkedIn	Mar 2021
27.	CAREC Regional Integration Index (CRII)	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Feb 2021
28.	ADBI collaboration: Leveraging SME Finance through Value Chains in CAREC Landlocked Countries	ADBI e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Jan 2021
29.	Financial Inclusion and Fintech in CAREC: Constraints and Prospects	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Jan 2021
30.	ADBI collaboration: Infrastructure in Central Asia and the Caucasus	e-Newsletter LinkedIn ADBI	Dec 2020
31.	Climate Vulnerability, Infrastructure, Finance and Governance in CAREC	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn Blog	May 2020
32.	Trends, Challenges, and Opportunities for Agricultural Development in CAREC	ADB channels Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn Dev Asia	Dec 2019
33.	CAREC Regional Integration Index (CRII) Policy Perspective	NFP group (E,R) Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Dec 2019
34.	Regional Value Chains in CAREC: Case of the Kyrgyz Garment Industry	NFP group (E,R) GC Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Dec 2019
35.	Forty Years of Chinese Reforms: Experience Sharing	Website e-Newsletter GC	Nov 2019
36.	Macroeconomic Monitoring and Forecasting Model for CAREC	Print	2017

	Visiting Fellow Program	Dissemination	Release Date
37.	Reviewing Migration and Development in Central Asia	e-Newsletter LinkedIn Website Dev Asia CAREC Program Target/NFP (R)	Sep 2020
38.	Regional Cooperation in Promoting Low-Carbon Energy in CAREC	e-Newsletter LinkedIn Website	Sep 2020
39.	Identification and Spatial Mapping of Economic Clusters in CAREC (Tajikistan, Pakistan, Xinjiang of PRC)	e-Newsletter LinkedIn Website Dev Asia	Sep 2020
40.	Assessing Economic Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture in Central Asia	e-Newsletter LinkedIn Website Dev Asia	Sep 2020
	CAREC Think Tanks Network (CTTN) Related	Dissemination	Release Date
41.	Exploring Export Driven Growth through Free Trade Agreements among CAREC Members: Learning from Pakistan-China Free Trade Agreement (with reference to Azerbaijan)	e-Newsletter LinkedIn Website Dev Asia	Nov 2020
42.	Development Prospects of the Tourism Sector along Almaty-Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan) Corridor	e-Newsletter LinkedIn Website	Oct 2020
43.	Research on the Impact of Standards on Trade in CAREC (case of Georgia)	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn CTTN ISET	Feb 2020
44.	Research on Cooperation in Tourism between Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn CTTN	Feb 2020
45.	Research on Agri-Food Trade between Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn CTTN CPMM Brief	Feb 2020
46.	Research on Assessing Participation of CAREC Countries in RVC and GVC (case of Georgia)	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn CTTN	Dec 2019

47.	Think Tanks Network Research Grants: Synopsis of Preliminary Findings	TTF4 Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn CTTN	Aug 2019
48.	The 4th Think Tanks Development Forum Report	Website CTTN	Dec 2019
49.	The 3rd Think Tanks Development Forum Report	Website CTTN	July 2019
50.	The 2nd Think Tanks Development Forum Report	RKSI Website CTTN	2017
51.	The 1st Think Tanks Development Forum Report	n/a	2016
	Workshop Reports	Dissemination	Release Date
52.	SPS modernization measures and use of digital certification	Website	Mar 2021
53.	Ecological restoration and integrated management of the Aral Sea	Website	Mar 2021
54.	Workshop Report on Climate Change Impact on Infrastructure in CAREC	Website e-Newsletter	Feb 2021
55.	Unlocking Private Investments in Sustainable Infrastructure in Asia: Lessons from Central Asia	Website e-Newsletter	Jan 2021
56.	Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor: Infrastructure and Trade	Website e-Newsletter	Dec 2020
57.	Road asset management and RAMS	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn CAREC Program	Sep 2020
58.	Meeting Environmental Objectives through Energy Sector Reforms	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Aug 2020
59.	Climate Change Policy Dialogue, Learning from COVID-19	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Aug 2020
60.	Elements of Road Safety Engineering (Mongolia)	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	July 2020
61.	Regulatory Framework for e-Commerce Development in CAREC	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	July 2020

62.	Unlocking Private Investment for Sustainable Infrastructure in Asia	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Apr 2020
63.	Comparison of Accounting Standards among CAREC Members	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Feb 2020
64.	China-Central Asia Accounting Elites Exchange Program: the 1st workshop	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Feb 2020
65.	Achieving Energy Security in Asia	NFP group (E,R) Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Jan 2020
66.	Fostering Regional Cooperation in Capacity Building	NFP group (E,R) e-Newsletter LinkedIn Website	Dec 2019
67.	The Silk Road Knowledge Corridors	E-newsletter LinkedIn Website UZB	Dec 2019
68.	Reforming State-Owned Enterprises in Central Asia	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Nov 2019
69.	Road Safety Engineering (Inner Mongolia)	Ministerial NFP Advisors Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Nov 2019
70.	Comparison of Regional Economic Integration in Europe and Asia	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Sep 2019
KMD Webinar Video Recordings		Dissemination	Release Date
71.	Webinar on WASH System Development in CAREC	Webinar Website	Oct 2020
72.	Recover Better: High-Quality Development, Modernization, and Policy Nexus Induced by COVID-19	Webinar Website	June 2020
73.	Role of MDPs in Response to Covid-19 in CAREC: Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene	Webinar Website APD News	May 2020
74.	ACCA Global Survey: Inside Business Impacts and Responses	Webinar Website	May 2020
75.	ACCA Global Economic Conditions Survey	Webinar Website	Apr 2020
76.	The Economic Impact of COVID-19: Examples from CAREC	Webinar Website	Apr 2020
77.	Fighting the COVID-19 in the PRC: experience sharing	Webinar Website	Apr 2020

	External e-Newsletters	Dissemination	Release Date
1.	March 2021	External email list	31 Mar 2021
2.	February 2021	External email list	26 Feb 2021
3.	January 2021	External email list	29 Jan 2021
4.	December 2020 Ministerial, GC, UN status, Monitor	External email list	31 Dec 2020
5.	November 2020 Host city agreement, water topic	External email list	30 Nov 2020
6.	October 2020 SOM related	External email list	30 Oct 2020
7.	September 2020 FSWG, RTG, CCC, Frankopan	External email list	30 Sep 2020
8.	August 2020 Ports scoping, workshop reports, VFP (2)	External email list	31 Aug 2020
9.	July 2020 VFP (3) findings	External email list	31 July 2020
10.	June 2020 Strategy MTR, country gap assessment	External email list	30 June 2020
11.	May 2020	External email list	30 May 2020
12.	April 2020 Announced 2020 fellows, two more briefs	External email list	30 Apr 2020
13.	March 2020 Mostly Covid-19 and water topic	External email list	31 Mar 2020
14.	February 2020	External email list	28 Feb 2020
15.	January 2020 Dedicated to knowledge outputs	External email list	31 Jan 2020
16.	December 2019	External email list	31 Dec 2019
17.	November 2019	External email list	29 Nov 2019
18.	October 2019 CTTN research grants unfolded	External email list	31 Oct 2019
19.	September 2019 New Director announced	External email list	30 Sep 2019
20.	August 2019 Dedicated to the 4 th CTDF	External email list UZB CAREC e-Alert	30 Aug 2019
21.	July 2019	External email list	31 July 2019
22.	June 2019 Covered Beijing reception, DD2 announced	External email list	28 June 2019
23.	May 2019	External email list	31 May 2019

	Annual Reports	Dissemination	Release Date
24.	Annual Report 2020 RUS	NFP group (E,R,C) Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn	Mar 2020
25.	Annual Report 2019 RUS	NFP group (E,R) Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn CAREC Program	Mar 2020
26.	Annual Report 2018	NFP group (E,R) GC Website	June 2019
27.	Annual Report 2017	GC Website	Dec 2018
	Strategies and Brochures	Dissemination	Release Date
28.	Strategy 2018-2022	GC Website	Apr 2019
29.	CAREC Institute Brochure	Beijing reception (print E,R,C) TTF4 GC Website	Aug 2019
	Media Release Reports	Dissemination	Release Date
30.	CAREC corridor performance and monitoring (CPMM) Pakistan	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn E-mail to media	Dec 2020
31.	Aral Sea restoration symposium (E,R)	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn E-mail to media	Nov 2020
32.	WASH system development in CAREC (E,R)	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn E-mail to media	Nov 2020
33.	SNAI accounting workshop (E,R)	E-mail to media	Dec 2019
34.	The 4th Think Tanks Development Forum	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn E-mail to media	Aug 2019
35.	Beijing reception	Website e-Newsletter LinkedIn E-mail to media	June 2019

Selected Media Links 2021

[Director's interview with the NEWS Pakistan about CAREC and connectivity](#)
[CTTN dialogue coverage by Daily Times Pakistan](#)
[CTTN dialogue coverage by the NEWS Pakistan](#)
[CTTN dialogue coverage by the Nation Pakistan](#)
[Uzbekistan's People's Word about ISRS roundtable on South and Central Asia cooperation in RUS](#)
[Uzbekistan's Pravda Vostoka about ISRS roundtable on South and Central Asia cooperation in RUS](#)
[Uzbekistan media about ISRS roundtable on South and Central Asia cooperation in ENG](#)
[China Daily quoting CI Chief Economist on household consumption key to growth in China](#)
[China Daily on enhanced trade ties between China and rest of CAREC, interview w/ Chief Economist](#)
[Tajikistan media about cooperation options with AIIB regarding post-COVID-19 economic recovery](#)
[Kazakhstan news portal about cooperation options with AIIB regarding post-COVID-19 recovery](#)
[Business Kazakhstan about cooperation options with AIIB regarding post-COVID-19 recovery](#)
[Turkmenistan media about cooperation options with AIIB regarding post-COVID-19 recovery](#)
[Uzbekistan Daily on ISRS and CI discussing bilateral cooperation](#)
[ISRS of Uzbekistan and CAREC Institute Discuss Bilateral Cooperation](#)
[Business Kazakhstan regarding the workshop on improvement of border crossings in CAREC](#)
[Tajikistan media regarding the workshop on improvement of border crossings in CAREC](#)

Selected Media Links 2020

[Government of the PRC about host city MOU signing in CHN](#)
[Urumqi TV about host city MOU signing in CHN](#)
[Xinjiang news about host city MOU signing in CHN](#)
[Xinhua news about host city MOU signing in CHN](#)
[China Daily about host city MOU signing in CHN](#)
[Belt and Road portal about host city MOU signing in CHN](#)
[Pakistan's DAWN paper about the CPMM corridor monitoring, transit, and trade in ENG](#)
[Pakistan's The NEWS about the CPMM corridor monitoring, transit, and trade in ENG](#)
[Pakistan's Nawaiwaqt about the CPMM corridor monitoring in Urdu language](#)
[Pakistan's TRIBUNE about CAREC Ministerial and Regional Free Trade Agreement](#)
[Pakistan's DND \(Dispatch News Desk\) about CTTN research on PAK-CHN FTA](#)
[Business Kazakhstan about CAREC Institute's UN Observer Status in RUS](#)
[Capital Kazakhstan about CAREC Institute's UN Observer Status in RUS](#)
[Kazakhstan news portal about CAREC Institute's UN Observer Status in RUS](#)
[Gazeta Uzbekistan about CAREC Institute's UN Observer Status in RUS](#)
[World News Uzbekistan about CAREC Institute's UN Observer Status in RUS](#)
[Azerbaijan AzVision about CAREC Institute's UN Observer Status](#)
[Kazakhstan Today about the Aral Sea restoration and WASH research in RUS](#)
[Business Kazakhstan about the Aral Sea restoration symposium in RUS](#)
[Kazakhstan news portal about the Aral Sea restoration symposium in RUS](#)
[Kyrgyzstan ecological information service about WASH research in RUS](#)
[Uzbekistan green party about the Aral Sea restoration symposium in RUS](#)
[Afghanistan' MOF about SOM meeting in ENG](#)
[Uzbekistan's Geneva UN office about CAREC Institute presentation at SCO meeting in RUS](#)
[Uzbekistan info agency DUNYO about CAREC Institute presentation at SCO meeting in RUS](#)
[Asia Pacific Daily about MOU signing with Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography in ENG](#)
[Chinese Academy of Sciences about MOU signing with CAREC Institute in CHN](#)
[Asia Pacific Daily on CAREC Institute webinar on MDP role in CAREC in response to COVID-19](#)

Selected Media Links 2019

- [China Daily on interaction with the CAREC Institute leadership](#)
- [People's Daily on interaction with the CAREC Institute leadership](#)
- [Xinhua News on interaction with the CAREC Institute leadership](#)
- [Advisory Council coverage by Uzbekistan Daily](#)
- [Advisory Council coverage by Pravda Vostoka](#)
- [Coverage of the integration comparison workshop in Tbilisi by the Griffith University](#)
- [AUCA of Kyrgyzstan on the SOE reform workshop](#)
- [Government of Turkmenistan on CAREC Institute's participation in the climate change dialogue](#)
- [Mongolia's Montsame about the workshop on promoting economic diversification](#)
- [Global Times about the 4th CAREC Think Tanks Development Forum](#)
- [Participation in the Silk Road Forum in Georgia](#)
- [ACCA Global on the CAREC Accounting Elites Exchange Program](#)
- [China Daily on the CAREC Accounting Elites Exchange Program](#)
- [The Belt and Road News on the CAREC Accounting Elites Exchange Program](#)
- [Pakistan Observer on the CAREC Accounting Elites Exchange Program](#)
- [Kazakhstan Business Life on the CAREC Accounting Elites Exchange Program](#)

Development Asia Adaptations 2020-21

<https://development.asia/expert/central-asia-regional-economic-cooperation-institute-carec>

LinkedIn Engagement Rate 2020

Companies to track | Time range: Jan 1, 2020 - Dec 31, 2020 | Excluded from report

Company	Total followers	New followers	Number of updates	Engagement rate
CAREC Institute Your company	763	411	136	8.95%
Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)	24,305	15,210	500	9.3%
Asian Development Bank (ADB)	396,843	101,258	494	3.36%
Kyrgyz Turkish Manas University	233	42	0	-
CAREC Program	40	40	9	7.65%
EBRD	143,173	33,824	421	4.7%
International Monetary Fund	411,932	151,397	419	3.86%
Cynergy Future Education	3,095	3,070	118	5.89%
The Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia	738	194	435	8.33%
Centre for Economic Research in Pakistan (CERP)	9,224	3,094	152	8.65%

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Chinese Social Media Corporate Account 2020: Weibo

Made 52 posts, nurtured 7,379 followers, got over 401,000 views, out of these the UN Observer Status post was viewed by 118,000 users leading to a gain of 2,000 followers. The Urumqi MOU post was viewed by 39,000 and economic brief on megatrends by 128,000. Total of 2,500 likes, comments, and private messages received.