

4th CAREC Working Group on Climate Change Meeting Draft Agenda

7–9 April 2025
Bishkek, the Kyrgyz Republic

Background and Objectives

The CAREC Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) 2025–2027 provides a framework to address climate change challenges and advance regional climate actions through enhanced coordination among CAREC sector committees and working groups. The plan focuses on four main thematic areas: Climate Risk, Preparedness and Health, the Water–Energy–Food Security Nexus, Low-Carbon Growth, and the CAREC Climate Platform.

Developed by the CAREC Working Group on Climate Change, the CCAP was endorsed at the CAREC Ministerial Conference on 8 November 2024¹ in Astana, Kazakhstan. It was officially launched during a high-level session at COP29 on 14 November 2024 in Baku, Azerbaijan, alongside the CAREC Climate and Sustainability Project Preparatory Fund and the CAREC Partnership for Climate, Innovation, and Trade.

The primary goal of the 4th Working Group on Climate Change (WGCC) meeting is to discuss the operationalization of the CCAP. Specifically, the meeting will focus on (i) identifying adaptation projects and necessary investments for vulnerable CAREC assets, (ii) coordinating joint climate change and health activities with the CAREC Working Group on Health, (iii) identifying training and capacity-building needs, and (iv) discuss how to develop bankable projects with the CAREC Climate and Sustainability Project Preparatory Fund (CSPPF).²

Additionally, the WGCC will discuss implementation aspects such as monitoring progress, establishing a CAREC Climate Change Committee, and planning the next steps for WGCC.



Scan QR code for documents

¹ [CAREC Ministers Endorse Climate Change Action Plan and 2030 Strategic Priorities, Launch Regional Climate Fund | Asian Development Bank](#)

² <https://www.adb.org/documents/establishment-carec-climate-and-sustainability-project-preparatory-fund>

DRAFT AGENDA

Monday, 7 April 2025 (Bishkek Time) – Day 1	
09:00–09:30	Registration
09:30–10:00	Opening remarks / keynote speeches Ms. Dinara Amanturovna Kemelova , Special Representative of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic on mountain agenda Ms. Asel Raimkulova , Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, Environment and Technical Supervision of the Kyrgyz Republic Mr. Zheng Wu , ADB Country Director for the Kyrgyz Republic
10:00–10:30	Session 1: Introduction of Program Objectives: Overview of previous outcomes, update on the CCAP, goals and agenda of the meeting, and key outputs for operationalizing the CCAP, including collaboration with CAREC WGs and DPs Mr. Kristian Rosbach , Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB Mr. Matteo Mode' , Senior Climate Change Specialist, ADB Q&A 15 mins
10:30–11:40	Session 2: Glaciers and adaptation of mountainous areas Objective: Discuss and agree on outputs and activities for glaciers and adaptation in mountainous areas for 2025 in collaboration with G2F and other regional initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addressing glaciers and mountain resilience in the Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions, Ms. Dinara Amanturovna Kemelova, Special Representative of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic on mountain agenda The current situation and forecast of the water-energy potential of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Ryspek Satykanov, Director of the Institute of Water Problems and Hydropower of the National Academy of Sciences of the Kyrgyz Republic ADB Glacier to Farm program, preparatory actions and future steps (preliminary river basin/ glacier risk assessment and monitoring results, other areas of interest, next actions) Ms. Kathleen Anne C. Coballes, Climate Change Specialist, ADB International Glacier Preservation Conference in Tajikistan, Mr. Turakul Murodov, Deputy Head, Center for Implementation of Investment Projects, Committee for Environmental Protection Q&A and open discussion (20 mins)
11:40–12:00	Group Photo and Coffee/Tea Break
12:00–13:00	Session 3: Developing CAREC adaptation projects for 2025. Objective: Identifying and agreeing on adaptation projects and necessary investments for vulnerable CAREC assets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experiences of Kyrgyz Climate Finance Centre (CFC) and identified projects Center for Climate Finance of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Adilet Amantaev, Director of the Climate Finance Center under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic Climate Risk Screening of Public Investment Projects in CAREC region: ADB Experience in Uzbekistan on Supporting Adaptation Decision Making for Climate Resilient Investments Mr. Begzod Djalilov, Regional Cooperation Specialist, ADB Findings from the climate and vulnerability risk assessment of the Osh border crossing point (Kyrgyz Republic), and from the ABEC (Almaty Bishkek Economic Corridor) Disaster Risk Management study, Mr. Eduardo García Alonso Disaster Risk Management Expert, ADB Consultant
13:00–14:10	Lunch hosted by ADB
14:10–15:20	Session 3 (continuation) Objective: Discuss the integration of climate change resilience and adaptation into projects/programs in the CAREC region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CAREC Regional Risk Transfer Facility, Mr. Thomas Kessler, Principal Disaster Risk Insurance & Finance Specialist, ADB

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open discussion moderated by Mr. Alexndr Cherednichenko, Expert of the Department of Inventory of Greenhouse Gases of the Republic of Kazakhstan, JSC Zhasyl Damu, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Republic of Kazakhstan on Integrating Adaptation into Medium-term Pipeline Projects by Sector in CAREC Region (40 mins)
15:20–15:35	Coffee Break
15:35–16:45	<p>Session 4: Regional Multi-Hazard Early Warning System with Health Features</p> <p>Objective: Discuss and agree on health and climate change outputs and activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road Map for Regional Early Warning Systems, Ms. Tolkun Jukusheva, Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist, World Bank Implementation of a regional climate and health information system: outputs, activities and required resources, Ms. Nataly Olofinskaya, UNDP Regional Adaptation Adviser (virtual) Regional Initiatives for Early Warning Systems including Heat Risk, Mr. Vladimir Kendrovski, Technical Officer (Climate Change and Health), WHO Regional Office for Europe (virtual) <p>Q&A (20 mins)</p>
16:45–17:30	<p>Open session on climate-related activities delivered by CAREC countries</p> <p>CAREC countries' providing information on activities they are delivering for climate adaptation and mitigation for the preparation of a presentation for the last day</p>
18:30	<p>Dinner hosted by Asian Development Bank</p> <p>Venue: Restaurant "Frunze", Banquet Hall on second floor (address: Abdymomunov street 220, Oak Park)</p>
Tuesday, 8 April 2025 – Day 2	
09:30–10:00	<p>Topic: Addressing Climate and Health to enhance Regional Health Security through Joint Health and Climate Change Action (WGH & WGCC)</p> <p>Venue: Hyatt Regency Bishkek Hotel, Shayr A & B Meeting Room (Lobby level)</p> <p>Welcome and Introduction to objectives of the day</p> <p>Welcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Leah Gutierrez, Director General, Sector Department 3, Asian Development Bank (ADB) (Co-chair) <p>Introduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Kristian Rosbach, Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB Ms. Kirthi Ramesh, Social Sector Specialist, ADB

10:00–12:00	<p>Session 5: Delivering a Regional Decarbonization Strategy</p> <p>Moderator: Brian Riley, Health Specialist, ADB</p> <p>Lightning Talks on regional decarbonization strategy for health sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing steps towards preparing decarbonization strategy and draft regional decarbonization strategy for CAREC - Nick Watts, Director, Centre for Sustainable Medicine, National University of Singapore Country case study of standardized approaches to national health care climate foot-printing (Pakistan) – Irfanullah Khan, Deputy Director on behalf of Mehreen Mujtaba, Director Climate Change, Nutrition and Health, Ministry of National Health Services Regulation & Coordination, Pakistan (virtual) <p>Group Discussion to provide feedback on draft Regional Decarbonization Strategy</p>
12:00–13:30	<p>Day 2 group photo</p> <p>Lunch Hosted by ADB</p>
13:30–14:45	<p>Session 6: Delivering minimum requirements for climate resilience and low carbon transition in health system operations</p> <p>Panel discussion on concrete collaboration priorities, joint investments and project opportunities relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to safeguard communities and vulnerable populations from climate-health risks Public health preparedness, Early Warning Systems and climate-sensitive disease surveillance and data Awareness raising for climate risks and heatwave preparedness Country Experiences <p>Moderators: Kirthi Ramesh, Social Sector Specialist, and Kristian Rosbach, Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Sharshenova Ainash Akynovna, Chief Researcher at the National Institute of Public Health, Ministry of Health, Kyrgyz Republic Ms. Olga Mirshina, Chief Specialist, Sanitation and Hygiene Department, Ministry of Health, Republic of Uzbekistan Ms. Tamar Khomasuridze, Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Regional Advisor, United Nations Population Fund (virtual) Mr. Vladimir Kedrowskiy, Technical Officer (Climate Change and Health), WHO Regional Office for Europe (virtual) Ms. Nataly Olofinskaya, Regional Adaptation Adviser, United Nations Development Programme (virtual) Dr. Swati Mahajan, Senior Climate Change Specialist, ADB <p>Plenary Discussion</p>
14:45–15:00	Coffee Break
15:00–16:30	<p>Session 6 (continuation)</p> <p>Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Regional Minimum Requirements for climate-resilient health facilities - Anna Tuddenham, Climate and Health Expert, Arup <p>Group Discussion to provide feedback on draft Regional Minimum Standards / Requirements for climate-resilient and low carbon health facilities</p>
16:30–17:00	<p>Next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion on establishing sub-working group on Climate and Health Timelines and next meetings to finalize deliverables

Wednesday, 9 April 2025 – Day 3	
09:00–09:10	Objectives of the day Mr. Kristian Rosbach , Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB Mr. Matteo Mode' , Senior Climate Change Specialist, ADB
09:10–10:30	Session 7: Decarbonization activities for 2025 Objective: Participants will identify decarbonization activities, including training and capacity building needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emissions' assessment at CAREC Border Crossing Points and review of Low Emission Zone Best Practices and Recommendations for Almaty, Kazakhstan, Bishkek Heating (CAREC Climate Change team) Midterm Review of CAREC Transport Strategy 2030 and Green/Resilient Transport, Mr. Masahiro Nishimura, Unit Head, Project Administration, Transport Sector Office, Sectors Department 1, ADB (virtual) Carbon Pricing Policy Opportunities in Central Asia and Azerbaijan, overview and findings, Dr. Kuat B. Akizhanov, CAREC Institute CAREC training needs on carbon markets, Mr. Alexndr Cherednichenko, Expert of the Department of Inventory of Greenhouse Gases of the Republic of Kazakhstan, JSC Zhasyl Damu, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Republic of Kazakhstan Q&A and open discussion (30 mins)
10:30–10:50	Coffee/Tea Break
10:50–12:30	Session 8: CSPPF Hands-On Open Session Objective: Participatory session on how to develop bankable projects with the CAREC Climate and Sustainability Project Preparatory Fund (CSPPF). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on the CSPPF and how the Fund works Development of regional bankable projects: requirements, priorities Q&A and topics discussed by participants Presenter: Ms. Altynay Arapova , Regional Cooperation Specialist, ADB (virtual) Moderator: Mr. Kristian Rosbach , Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB
12:30–13:40	Lunch Hosted by ADB
13:40–14:45	Session 9: CCAP implementation aspects and WGCC planning Objective: to agree on CCAP implementation aspects and planning for 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short presentation by CAREC countries' focals on what climate-related activities they are delivering (TBD) Monitoring progress implementation, role of coordinating countries, CAREC Climate Change committee Next steps (WGCC meetings, physical and virtual, key climate events by CAREC members) Mr. Kristian Rosbach , Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB Mr. Matteo Mode' , Senior Climate Change Specialist, ADB Open Discussion / Q&A 30 mins

14:45–15:15	<p>Closing remarks</p> <p>Ms. Asel Raimkulova, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, Environment and Technical Supervision of the Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p>Wrap-up</p> <p>Objective: Summary of key takeaways from the meeting and next steps.</p> <p>Mr. Kristian Rosbach, Senior Economist (Regional Cooperation), ADB</p>
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