



AGENDA OF THE CAREC INSTITUTE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Theme: COVID19 and Potential for Economic Recovery in CAREC Region
4-5 March 2021

Time	SESSIONS
DAY ONE – 04 March 2021	
OPENING SESSION Chair: Mr Ziqian Liang , Deputy Director One, CAREC Institute	
Time (Beijing time) 10.45 – 11.00	Thematic videos to be screened
Time (Beijing time) 11.00 – 11.45	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Opening Remarks (6 mins each). Mr Syed Shakeel Shah, Director, CAREC Institute Dr Tetsushi Sonobe, Dean and CEO, Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) Mr Safdar Parvez, Director, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination, Central and West Asia Department, Asian Development Bank (ADB)2. Introductory Notes of the CAREC Institute Research Conference and Annual Book (7 mins) Dr Qaisar Abbas, Chief of Research Division, CAREC Institute3. Keynote address (20 mins) Prof Dr Richard Pomfret, Professor of Economics at the University of Adelaide
Time (Beijing time) 11.45 – 11.55	Short break (10 mins)



Session one: Digital CAREC and post-COVID-19 economic recovery
Chair: Mr Ziyang David Fan, Head of Digital Trade, World Economic Forum

<p>Time (Beijing time) 11.55 – 13.45</p>	<p>Introduction and opening remarks by chair (5mins)</p> <p>1. <i>Digital Transformation in Central Asia: Challenges and Lessons Learned from the Global Pandemic</i> Mr Farrukh Khakimov, Development Strategy Center, Uzbekistan</p> <p><i>Discussant</i> Dr Naoyuki Yoshino, Professor Emeritus-Keio University of Tokyo, Japan</p> <p>2. <i>Improved health conditions and digital transformation: a post-Covid-19 analysis</i> Mr Muhammad Zeshan, Consultant, The World Bank, Islamabad, Pakistan</p> <p><i>Discussant</i> Ms Inez Mikkelsen Lopez, Health Specialist, ADB</p> <p>3. <i>E-commerce Taxation in Central Asia: Current State and Opportunity for Reform</i> Mr Nikolai Milogolov, PhD, Head of Laboratory of Tax Policy Research at the Institute of Applied Economic Research of the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA), Russia</p> <p><i>Discussant</i> Dr Minsoo Lee, Senior Economist, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination, Central and West Asia Department, ADB</p> <p>4. <i>Adaptability towards Teleworking Arrangements: Evidence from Pakistan</i> Dr. Umer Khalid, Director Research, Policy Research, Innovation, Development and Education (PRIDE), Pakistan</p> <p><i>Discussant</i> Mr Daniel Suryadarma, Research Fellow, ADBI</p>
--	--



	<p>5. Financial Inclusion in the CAREC Region: Promoting Fintech to Meet Underserved Needs in Trade Finance</p> <p>Dr Minsoo Lee, Senior Economist, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination, Central and West Asia Department, ADB</p> <p><i>Discussant</i></p> <p>Mr Long Q. Trinh, Project Consultant, ADBI</p> <p>Q&A session (30mins)</p>
Time (Beijing time) 13.45 – 14.30	Health break (45 mins)
<p>Session two: Regional Integration and Macroeconomic Dynamics Beyond COVID-19 Pandemic</p> <p>Chair: Prof. Dr Saeed Akbar, Chair in Accounting and Finance, and Head of Accounting, Finance and Economics Research Centre, University of Bradford, UK</p>	
Time (Beijing time) 14.30 – 16.05	<p>Introduction and opening remarks by chair (5mins)</p> <p>1. <i>How Kazakhstan sees ASEAN and its member countries in a post COVID-19 new normal</i></p> <p>Dr Alessandro Arduino, Principal research fellow MEI, National University of Singapore</p> <p>Dr Paradorn Rangsimaporn, Minister-Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission, Royal Thai Embassy, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan</p> <p>Ms Inkar Aitkuzhina, Database Specialist, Apple South Asia</p> <p><i>Discussant</i></p> <p>Dr Dina Azhgaliyeva, Research fellow, ADBI</p> <p>2. <i>Pakistan's economic recovery and development in the post-epidemic era (Covid-19) - to explore the prospects of China-Pakistan energy cooperation</i></p> <p>Lv Zhiping, Xinjiang University of Finance and Economics</p> <p><i>Discussant</i></p> <p>Dr Ghulam Samad, Senior Research Officer, CAREC Institute</p>



	<p>3. <i>Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Pakistan & Central Bank Response</i> Mr Muhammad Moaiz Siddiqui, Deputy Director, Financial Stability Department, State Bank of Pakistan</p> <p><i>Discussant</i> Dr Ulrich Volz, Director of the Centre for Sustainable Finance, SOAS, University of London</p> <p>4. <i>Debt and Debt Sustainability in the CAREC Region</i> Dr. Naseem Faraz, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics</p> <p><i>Discussant</i> Dr John Beirne, Research Fellow, ADBI</p> <p>Q&A session (30mins)</p>
16.05 – 16.15	Recap of the first day by Dr Qaisar Abbas , Chief of Research Division, CAREC Institute
DAY TWO – 5 March 2021	
Session three: Tourism Sector in Times of High Uncertainty Chair: Dr Qaisar Abbas , Chief of Research Division, CAREC Institute	
Time (Beijing time) 10.45 – 11.00	Thematic videos to be screened
Time (Beijing time) 11.00 – 12.10	<p>Introduction and opening remarks by chair (5mins)</p> <p>1. <i>COVID-19 Impact on the Sustainable Development of Cities of Central Asia: The Case Study of the Capital City of Afghanistan</i> Dr Madina Junussova, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Public Policy and Administration, University of Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan</p> <p><i>Discussant</i> Mr Ayoob Ayoobi, Chief of Capacity Building Division, CAREC Institute</p>



	<p>2. <i>Recovering from the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Tourism Industry in Selected Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Countries</i></p> <p>Dr Nam Foo, Research Associate, School of Business and Law, Edith Cowan University, Perth / Lecturer, Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia</p> <p><i>Discussant</i></p> <p>Dr Matthias Helble, Senior Economist, ADB</p> <p>3. <i>Network Analysis of Tourism Stocks During COVID-19 Pandemic: An Evidence from CAREC Region</i></p> <p>Dr Tahir Mumtaz Awan & Mr Mrestyal Khan, Department of Management Sciences, Comsats University, Pakistan</p> <p><i>Discussant</i></p> <p>Mr Sanjay Saxena, Managing Director, Total Synergy Consulting, India</p> <p>Q&A (20mins)</p>
Time (Beijing time) 12.10 – 12.20	Short break (10mins)
Session four: Industries and Enterprises for Restart and Recovery Chair: Dr Dina Azhgaliyeva , Research Fellow, ADBI	
Time (Beijing time) 12.20 – 14.10	<p>Introduction and opening remarks by chair (5mins)</p> <p>1. <i>Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Small and Medium Enterprises in the CAREC Region</i></p> <p>Dr Brendan Duprey, Director of SKRI at Narxoz University, Kazakhstan Ms Aizhan Salimzhanova, Lecturer, Kazakh-British Technical University, Kazakhstan</p> <p><i>Discussant</i></p> <p>Dr Ranjeeta Mishra, Project Consultant, ADBI</p>



2. *Analysis of COVID-19 Pandemic's Impacts on Azerbaijan's Oil Industry: Policy Lessons in Hard Times*

Dr Ulviyye Aydin, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Manisa Celal Bayar University, Department of Political Science and International Relations, Turkey

Discussant

Dr Kamalbek Karymshakov, Economist, Chief Economist Group, CAREC Institute

3. *Impact of psychological distress due to COVID-19 risk on bank employees' performance: Moderating effect of e-banking services*

Mr Waheed Ali, School of Economics and Finance, Xian Jiaotong University, China

Discussant

Mr Khalid Umar, Chief of Strategic Planning Division, CAREC Institute

4. *Converging Environmental Necessities and Energy Requirements: Producing Renewable Energy and Hydrogen for Economic Revitalization and Growth in the Post-COVID-19 Pandemic*

Dr Hooman Peimani, Affiliated Fellow, International Institute for Asian Studies (IIAS) and Energy Programme Asia, Leiden University, the Netherlands

Discussant

Mr Rovshan Mahmudov, Senior Capacity Building Specialist, CAREC Institute

5. *Impact of COVID-19 on Small and Medium-sized enterprises in Central Asia: Coping Strategies, Government Responses and Policy Options.*

Dr Falendra Kumar Sudan, Professor of Economics, University of Jammu, Jammu, Jammu and Kashmir, India

Discussant

Dr Ghulam Samad, Senior Research Officer, CAREC Institute

Q&A (30mins)



Time (Beijing time) 14.10 – 14.50	Health break (40mins)
Special session: Research Partnership Dialogue Chair: Mr Khalid Umar , Chief Strategic Planning Division, CAREC Institute	
Time (Beijing time) 14.50 – 15.50	<p><i>Opening and Setting the Stage by chair</i></p> <p>1. Digital CAREC Mr Ziyang David Fan, Head of Digital Trade, World Economic Forum</p> <p>2. WASH project Mr Dang Haipeng, Chief of Knowledge Management Division, CAREC Institute</p> <p>3. ADBI/CAREC Institute Joint Book on Infrastructure Development in Central Asia Dr Dina Azhgaliyeva, Research Fellow, ADBI</p> <p>4. PIDE/CI partnership on Debt and Financial Sustainability in the CAREC region Dr Durre Nayab, Head of Research, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics</p> <p>5. CAREC Institute's Partnership Matrix presentation Mr Shakhboz Akhmedov, Senior Research Fellow, Knowledge and Research Networking, CAREC Institute</p>
Time (Beijing time) 15.50 – 16.00	Short break (10mins)



PANEL DISCUSSION & CLOSING SESSION

Chair: Dr Iskandar Abdullaev, Deputy Director Two, CAREC Institute

Time (Beijing time) 16.00 – 17.00	<p>PANEL DISCUSSION: Outlook for Research in the CAREC Region in a Post-COVID-19 period</p> <p>Ms Lyaziza Sabyrova, Senior Regional Economist, ADB Dr Peter Morgan, Vice-Chair for Research, ADBI Dr Hans Holz hacker, Chief Economist, CAREC Institute Dr Vaqar Ahmed, Joint Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Pakistan</p>
Time (Beijing time) 17.00 – 17.30	<p>CLOSING SESSION</p> <p>1. Report of the conference and future perspectives Dr Qaisar Abbas, Chief of Research Division, CAREC Institute</p> <p>2. Closing Remarks Mr Syed Shakeel Shah, Director, CAREC Institute</p>