



2023 CAREC ENERGY INVESTMENT FORUM



Tbilisi, Georgia – Tuesday and Wednesday November 28-29, 2023

Venue: The Stamba Hotel, Tbilisi

Event website: <https://energy.carecprogram.org/EIF2023/>





Day 1: November 28, 2023

Timing	Topic
08:30	Registration
	Opening remarks by Georgia, CAREC 2023 Presidency
09:00 15min	<i>Speaker: Minister (or Deputy Minister), Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development</i>
	Opening remarks by ADB
	<i>Speaker: Mr Priyantha Wijayatunga, Head of the Energy Sector Group, ADB</i>
	The current energy landscape of the CAREC region
09:15 15min	This presentation will give an overview of the energy situation in the CAREC region, setting the stage for the rest of the forum.
	<i>Speaker: Mr Martin Sommerseth Jaer, Finance Specialist (Energy), ADB</i>
Session One – The Private Sector	
	How to make energy investments in the CAREC region bankable?
09:30 15min	This talk will explore the various factors that challenge the bankability of energy investments in the CAREC region, and what steps can be taken to enhance it.
	<i>Speaker: Mr Ahmed Badr, Director, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)</i>
	What drives success in long-term energy PPPs?
09:45 15min	Veolia have recently started the 30-year public-private-partnership (PPP) contract for running the district heating systems of Tashkent City in Uzbekistan. How can a private company use its expertise to improve energy efficiency and foster innovation within the energy sector?
	<i>Speaker: Mr Chahine Boutouila, Development Director Central Asia, Veolia</i>
	Why invest in sustainable energy in the region: a developer's journey
10:00 15min	In this presentation a developer will share experiences from investing in the energy sector in the CAREC region.
	<i>Speaker: TBA</i>
	<i>Roundtable discussion:</i>
	What attracts private energy investments to the CAREC region? (And what's pushing it out?)
10:15 45min	What is needed for the private sector to confidently invest, and what can be done to improve the investment climate and attractiveness in the region? At this roundtable, the private sector will give a firsthand look at their experiences in the region. They will discuss what they see as opportunities and what challenges they have faced. The session will also discuss how governments can make the energy sector more welcoming for investments.
	<i>Moderator: Nisha Pillai, former BBC World anchor</i>
	<i>Speakers: IRENA, Veolia, Georgian Renewable Energy Association, TBA</i>
11:00 30min	Group photo and Coffee break



Session two – The Governments	
11:30 15min	<p><i>Intermezzo presentation:</i> Why is regional energy cooperation so important for the region’s energy transition?</p> <p>As intermittent renewable energy sources increase their share in the power mix, robust regional interconnections become increasingly important for maintaining grid stability and maximizing renewable absorption. How is the progress towards an integrated electricity market in the region unfolding and why is it so important?</p> <p><i>Speaker: Ms Maia Melikidze, Executive Director, Georgian Renewable Energy Development Association</i></p>
11:45 15min	<p><i>Country presentation by Tajikistan:</i> Renewable Energy Investment Opportunities in Tajikistan</p> <p>Major investments are currently being made in hydropower development and regional energy connectivity. In this presentation, we learn more about the existing opportunities in renewable energy development in Tajikistan.</p> <p><i>Speaker: Ms Ramziya Muborakshoeva, Deputy General Director, Pamir Energy JSC</i></p>
12:00 15min	<p><i>Country presentation by Uzbekistan:</i> Storing the Future: Battery Solutions for Uzbekistan's Wind and Solar Boom</p> <p>We learn more about Uzbekistan’s successful quest to attract renewable energy investments into the country, and how major battery storage projects can help balance the grid.</p> <p><i>Speaker: Mr Fitratullo Nabiev, Head of Analytical Division, Ministry of Energy</i></p>
12:15 15min	<p><i>Intermezzo presentation:</i> How bad is the air quality in Central Asian cities?</p> <p>While climate emissions often take center stage in environmental discussions, local air pollution remains a pressing issue, affecting the health and well-being of millions. This spotlight presentation will provide insights into the severity of local air pollution in the region, its health implications, and initiatives to improve air quality.</p> <p><i>Speaker: Ms Nassiba Bimatova, Associate Professor, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University</i></p>
12:30 30min	<p><i>Country presentation:</i> Combined country presentation for Kazakhstan, Mongolia, and the Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p>Representatives from the three countries will be seated on stage, and we will be guided through their energy- ambitions, challenges and projects that currently are being developed.</p> <p><i>Moderated by Mr Serik S. Zharkinbayev, Energy Specialist (ADB)</i></p>
13:00 1h	Lunch (to be served at the Stamba Hotel)



14:00 15min	<p><i>Intermezzo presentation:</i> Transitioning to E-mobility in the CAREC region</p> <p>In this presentation we will learn about the EV story in Norway, where EV adoption rates now have passed 90%. What policies and schemes have made this possible? And how can these lessons be put in a Central Asian context?</p> <p><i>Speaker: Sveinung Kvalø, Director, Norwegian EV Association</i></p>
14:15 15min	<p>Country presentation by Azerbaijan</p> <p>We will learn more about Azerbaijan's recent renewable energy deals, and opportunities for further investment in the country.</p> <p><i>Speaker: Kamran Huseynov, Deputy Director, Renewable Energy State Agency</i></p>
14:30 15min	<p>Country presentation by Georgia</p> <p>Investment opportunities and strive towards greener and more secure future.</p> <p><i>Speaker: Ms. Margalita Arabidze and Mr. Jubo Turashvili</i></p>
14:45 15min	<p>Country presentation by Turkmenistan</p> <p>The presentation will provide insights into Turkmenistan's main objectives in developing renewable energy and showcase 2 energy projects in the country.</p> <p><i>Speaker: Mr. Dovlet Allayarov - Head of Division for Renewable Energy Development, State Power Corporation "Turkmenenergo," Ministry of Energy</i></p>
15:00 30min	Coffee break
15:30 15min	<p>Country presentation by Pakistan</p> <p><i>Speaker: Mr Shah Jahan Mirza, Managing Director, Private Power & Infrastructure Board</i></p>
15:45 15min	<p>Country presentation by PRC</p> <p>The development of new energy in China, including hydro energy and stored energy</p> <p><i>Speaker: Mr Ren Cong, Senior Program Office, National Energy Administration</i></p>
Session Three. The Development Partners	
16:00 60min	<p>How can development partners accelerate sustainable energy investments in the region?</p> <p>How can development partners accelerate sustainable and climate resilient energy sector investments in the CAREC region? What programs and initiatives do development partners currently have? Where are the challenges and where are the opportunities. What can governments do better, how can development partners contribute more?</p> <p>Moderator: Nisha Pillai, former BBC World anchor Speakers: Priyantha Wijayatunga, Senior Director, Energy Sector Group, ADB Hongliang Yang, Principal Investment Operations Specialist, AIIB Roxana Ignat, Senior Investment Officer, FMO Florian Kitt, Senior Energy Specialist, World Bank Anna Lobanova, Sustainable Energy Specialist, UNESCAP Nicholas Okreshidze, Energy Sector Advisor, USAID</p>
17:00	Closing remarks by Mr. Joonho Hwang, Director, ADB
~19:30	Dinner hosted by the Government of Georgia. <i>By invitation. Venue TBA.</i>



Day 2, November 29, 2023

Timing	Topic
09:00	Registration
09:30 15min	<p>How to deal with growing intermittency in the Central Asian Power Grid?</p> <p><i>Speaker: Mr Abdurashid Mirzayev, Head Dispatcher at The Energy Dispatch Centre in Uzbekistan.</i></p>
09:45 15min	<p>Towards a new wave of electrification</p> <p>Energy access and energy security have remained an issue in the CAREC region as evident from household and enterprise surveys and from quite frequent news about power outages. At the same time the region has a huge potential for renewables and energy cooperation. And investment in green electrification and energy efficiency is at the center of the energy transition in the region.</p> <p><i>Speaker: Dr. Hans Holzhaecker, Chief Economist of CAREC Institute</i></p>
10:00 15min	<p>Decarbonizing Power Generation: ADB's Energy Transition Mechanism</p> <p>ADB's Energy Transition Mechanism will use concessional and commercial capital to accelerate the retirement or repurposing of fossil fuel power plants and replacing them with clean energy alternatives. In this presentation, ADB will give key insights to this program, why it is relevant in a CAREC context, and what the outlook for the future will bring.</p> <p><i>Speaker: Mr Alfredo Bano Leal, Senior Energy Specialist, Asian Development Bank</i></p>
10:15 15min	<p>Credit Enhancement in Renewable Energy PPP projects</p> <p>The credibility of off-takers is a critical success factor in energy PPP projects, such as IPPs. This session will share ADB's experience in Uzbekistan regarding the scaling up of private sector investments in renewable energy projects by addressing the state offtaker risk in power purchase agreements using our partial credit guarantee products. We will delve into the details of this product and how it can enhance the credit rating of an energy project.</p> <p><i>Speaker: Mr Seung Duck Kim, Senior Energy Specialist, Asian Development Bank</i></p>
Matchmaking forum	
10:30 90min	<p>The floor will be arranged into clusters, hosted by representatives from CAREC member countries. Participants will have the opportunity to interact directly with the government representatives, providing more clarity about project opportunities and the investment schemes in each country. This gives the opportunity for mutual value propositions, exchanging of contact details for further follow-up and discussions.</p> <p>The aim of the activity is to create a platform participants to interact with CAREC member Governments and each other, enhancing the networking opportunities for EIF participants. This format breaks away from the formalities of larger group discussions, fostering a more personal and productive exchange of ideas. Pre-prepared topics will guide conversations towards constructive outcomes.</p> <p>The goal is to create an environment where meaningful dialogues can lead to impactful collaborations and investment opportunities.</p>
12:00	Lunch at the Stamba Hotel
13:00	Bilateral meetings. Meeting rooms available