



Funded by the  
European Union



CENTRE OF HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL  
SERVICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN



Implemented by:  
**giz**  
GIZ - GERMANY'S INTERNATIONAL  
COOPERATION SERVICE



# High-Level Central Asian Dialogue on Climate Change and Resilience

December 2, 2022

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

## I. Concept note

Central Asia is warming faster than the global average. Average annual temperatures have risen by 0.5 degrees Celsius over the last three decades and are forecasted to increase by 2.0 to 5.7 degrees Celsius by 2085<sup>1</sup>. Increased incidence and velocity of extreme weather events and disasters threaten physical security, critical infrastructure and access to healthcare and education. Nine out of every ten natural disasters today are climate related. Additionally, changes in climate will likely affect local and regional economies, as overexploitation and lack of resources are projected to impact key sectors such as water, energy, agriculture, health, and others

The Central Asian states - Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan - are striving to mainstream climate change in the national policies and pursue transition to low-carbon resilient development pathways. All countries in the region have developed national policies on climate change mitigation and adaptation and their priority goals on environment, climate change and disaster risk management in line with national commitments under the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, 2015-2030.

Given the transboundary nature of climate risks and shared natural resources, climate action can be seen as an entry point for strengthened regional cooperation. On the 4<sup>th</sup> Consultative Meeting, the Heads of Central Asian States approved the Regional Program "Green Agenda" for CA and declared the strengthening of regional cooperation on climate change actions, rational use of water and energy resources and promoting regional initiatives on the UN platform to address the most urgent environmental issues in the region as priorities<sup>2</sup>.

The International organizations take joint actions in promoting sound balance between mitigation and adaptation specified in the European Consensus on Development as a part EU and global policy framework for Central Asia. Proposed high-level regional conference will be organized by the UNDP in Uzbekistan through the EU funded 'Climate Change and Resilience in Central Asia' project in close cooperation with the GIZ project 'Green Central Asia' – Transboundary dialogue on climate, environment and security in Central Asia and Afghanistan commissioned by the German Federal Foreign Office.

The motto of this high-level conference is '**From global knowledge to local solutions: climate resilient institutions in Central Asia**' and all international stakeholders are invited to participate and feed in their knowledge, experience, and activities to support this regional dialogue on climate resilience.

The Conference is composed of:

- Regional dialogue among policy makers, stakeholders, and other different partners, to address climate resilience issues.
- Information and experience exchange on climate resilience and "best practices".
- Share knowledge base for assessing climate-driven resilience risks in Central Asia.

<sup>1</sup> UNDP (2018) Climate Change Adaptation in Europe and Central Asia: Adapting to a Changing Climate for Resilient Development

<sup>2</sup> [www.president.kg](http://www.president.kg)

Recognizing the leading role of international efforts in mitigation of climate related risks, UNDP and GIZ add value to enhance climate dialogue of Central Asian states to the implementation of the Paris Agreement commitments.

## **II. Goals and objectives**

The High-level Conference is aiming at a regional dialogue and calls Central Asian states to join forces in reaching a sound balance between mitigation and adaptation through the following objectives:

- Facilitate regional dialogue with participation of different target groups to address climate resilience issues, including youth, women, and people with disabilities.
- Promote information exchange and awareness on climate resilience on the way to green growth.
- Enhance knowledge base for assessing climate-resilience risks in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.
- Discuss current and emerging trends and prospects of regional and international cooperation in the field of climate mitigation and adaptation.
- Present successful examples of regional policy in Central Asia in ensuring security and combating Climate Change threats, including the contribution of civil society organizations, think tanks and independent researchers.

## **III. Format, logistics and participants**

**Organizers:** The Conference is co-organized by the Government of Uzbekistan, UNDP and GIZ in Uzbekistan, with the administrative support of the Uzhydromet, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

**Date and format:** The Conference will be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022 as a hybrid event.

**Venue of the event:** Hilton Hotel, 2, Islam Karimov Street Block 5, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

**Working languages:** Russian and English. Simultaneously translation will be provided.

**Participation:** Approximately 100 participants are expected to attend. They will include representatives from national, regional and international organizations, government entities, academicians from national research institutes, representatives of the private sector and civil society organisations. Representative of the youth networks and organisations from each CA country, representatives of women empowerment and organizations for people with disabilities.

## **IV. Expected results**

- Improve the regional dialogue and awareness among vulnerable sectors of economy on climate change and resilience.
- Establish an inter-sectoral cooperation on mitigation and adaptation to climate change.
- Enhance community-based climate-related early warning and prevention measures in transborder areas of Central Asia.

## **V. Communications**

A joint communications plan will be developed to increase the visibility of the event in close collaboration with the co-organizers. The plan will cover communication activities that may include press statements, press releases, press conferences, social media, event page, branding and visual identity and presentation materials, media access and live streaming. It will also include the development of key messages and a list of questions and answers for the Conference.

Subject to approval by the co-organizers, envisaged activities would include: a media briefing, on the Conference outcomes and dissemination of the final conference report.

## Tentative agenda

09:00 – 10:00	<b>Registration and welcome reception</b>
10:00 – 10:50	<b>OPENING STATEMENTS</b> Moderated by MFA of Uzbekistan
	<b>Mr. BORİY ALIKHANOV</b> Chairman of the Committee on Development and Ecology of Aral Sea region of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan
	<b>Mr. SHAROFIDDIN RADJABBAEV</b> Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan
	<b>Mr. NAZRULLO OBLOMURADOV</b> Chairman of the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for ecology and environment protection
	<b>Mr. SHERZOD KHABIBULLAEV</b> Director-General of the Centre of Hydrometeorological Service of the Republic of Uzbekistan
	<b>Head of delegation</b> Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of Kazakhstan
	<b>Head of delegation</b> Ministry of Natural resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision of the Kyrgyz Republic
	<b>Head of delegation</b> The Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
	<b>Head of delegation</b> Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection of Turkmenistan
	<b>Ms. CHARLOTTE ADRIAEN</b> Ambassador of the European Union to Uzbekistan
10:50 – 11:10	<b>Ms. MATILDA DIMOVSKA</b> UNDP Resident Representative in Uzbekistan
	<b>Mr. Joachim Fritz</b> Country director GIZ Uzbekistan
10:50 – 11:10	<b>Coffee-Break</b>
11:10 – 12:50	<b>SESSION I: ACTIONS TO BUILD RESILIENCE AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATURAL DISASTERS IN CENTRAL ASIA</b>

	<p>Present session will disclose climate policy of Central Asian states in addressing climate change-related security risks. Reshaping long-term vision for building resilience against climate change and natural disasters by taking holistic climate actions together with all stakeholders.</p>
	<p><b>MODERATOR:</b>  <b>Mr. STANISLAV KIM</b>  OiC Team Leader for the Climate Change and Disaster Resilience Team, UNDP IRH</p>
	<p><b>Keynote speakers:</b> (10 minutes each presenter)</p>
	<p>Tentative: Climate-related security risks: towards integrated approach in Central Asia and Beyond  <b>Representative (TBC) UNDP HQ</b></p>
	<p>Initial Findings of the Climate Change &amp; Resilience Project in the Ferghana Valley  <b>Mr. ISOMIDDIN AKRAMOV</b>  Regional Project Manager, UNDP Uzbekistan</p>
	<p><b>Representative</b>  Centre of Hydrometeorological Service of the Republic of Uzbekistan</p>
	<p><b>Representative</b>  Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of Kazakhstan</p>
	<p><b>Representative</b>  Ministry of Natural resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision of the Kyrgyz Republic</p>
	<p><b>Representative</b>  The Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan</p>
	<p><b>Representative</b>  Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection of Turkmenistan</p>
12:50 – 13:00	<p><b>Sum-up</b>  <b>Mr. STANISLAV KIM</b>  OiC Team Leader for the Climate Change and Disaster Resilience Team, UNDP IRH</p>
13:00 – 14:00	<p><b>LUNCH BREAK</b></p>
14:00 – 15:30	<p><b>SESSION II. WATER-ENERGY-FOOD AND HEALTH NEXUS APPROACH TO ACHIEVE SDGs</b></p> <p>Making sectoral interlinkages explicit, particularly across the water-food-energy and health nexus to facilitate holistic climate actions and achieve the SDGs, and present best practises and lessons learned. Scoping of actions on implementing climate adaptation and risk reduction</p>

	<p>measures, as well as enhancing climate resilient water use and land management in five Central Asia countries.</p>
	<p><b>FACILITATOR: Mr. ALEXANDR NIKOLAYENKO</b> Senior Regional Adviser, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH</p>
	<p><b>Keynote speakers and panellists:</b></p>
	<p><b>Dr. Caroline Milow</b>, Green Central Asia Programme, GIZ : Joint action: Developing a Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy</p>
	<p>Overview of climate-related risks and intersectoral interlinkages between water, food and energy in the region <b>Mr. Walid Ali</b>, Regional Specialist for Climate Change and Security Risk at UNDP Regional Hub for Europe and Central Asia</p>
	<p><b>(TBC)</b> World Bank, Strengthening Financial Resilience and Accelerating Risk Reduction in Central Asia Program</p>
	<p><b>(TBC) MS. LISA GAMPP</b>, Regional Water and Climate Change Advisor for Central Asia, Embassy of Switzerland in Uzbekistan</p>
	<p>Making NDCI work at local level: water – climate issues of small basins in Central Asia <b>Mr. ISKANDAR ABDULLAEV</b>, Deputy Director of Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Institute</p>
	<p><b>(TBC)</b> OSCE Uzbekistan</p>
	<p><b>(TBC)</b> International Water Management Institute</p>
15:30 – 15:50	<p><b>Coffee-Break</b></p>
	<p><b>SESSION III. REGIONAL COOPERATION: POLITICAL DIALOGUE AND SECTORAL STAKEHOLDERS' ENGAGEMENT</b></p>
	<p>Regional partnership and exchange through engaging national governments and regional intergovernmental institutions and platforms in the region.</p>
15:50 – 17:00	<p><b>FACILITATOR: (TBC)</b></p>
	<p><b>Keynote speakers and panellists:</b></p>
	<p><b>(TBC)</b> Central Asian Regional Environmental Center</p>
	<p><b>(TBC)</b> International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea</p>
	<p><b>(TBC)</b> Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction</p>

	<b>(TBC)</b> Central Asian Youth Network for Water
17:00 – 19:00	<b>GALA DINNER</b>