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Central Asia



Meeting of the Network of Academic Society

Rational use and protection of water resources in Central Asia under climate change

Date: 12 June 2024

Language: Russian, English

Venue: Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, 33 Said Nosir str., Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Zoom link to register:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEpd-GurjwqGNLuqsHrAXs0ZzW3zHrbTSxC>

Once you have registered, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the meeting.

Meeting format: Hybrid format using Zoom platform. The meeting will be held in Russian with simultaneous translation into English.

Organizers: USAID Central Asia's Regional Water and Environment Project and Blue Peace Central Asia Initiative with the support of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (hereinafter -CAREC).

The meeting is hosted by the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Context:

Since 2012, the Network of Academic Community (hereinafter – NAS) has been organizing regular meetings to discuss current issues and exchange knowledge between representatives of academic institutions in the field of environmental, water, land, and energy management. The aim of these meetings is to develop measures to improve the management of natural resources through science and education. The NAS provides universities with the opportunity to cooperate with international and regional experts, to develop and improve educational courses, and to train teaching staff in new approaches and tools. International development partners, such as USAID and SDC, in turn, assists in developing unified training and educational materials to be introduced in different universities – NAS members – to ensure a unified approach in building capacities of future water managers in the region.

NAS activities are coordinated by the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) with the support of development partners such as the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ), the European Union (EU) and the World Bank (WB). In addition to offline meetings, the NAS is supported by the Community of Practice electronic platform (https://www.riverbp.net/community_of_practice/profile/about/), which is a virtual space for sharing knowledge, hosting training and research materials, and building a community of experts in water and related fields.

The upcoming NAS meeting will be held back-to-back to the Science and Technology Forum in the margins of the Third High-Level International Conference on the International Decade of Action, "Water for Sustainable Development" 2018-2028. It will be devoted to the rational use and protection of water resources in Central Asia.

Objectives of the NAS meeting:

- I. To discuss cutting-edge research, innovative approaches and best practices in water resources management;
- II. Presentation of the results of the implementation of the academic component of the First Phase of the Blue Peace Central Asia project. Presentation of the new phase of the project;
- III. Introducing new opportunities from development partners to work with the academic community in Central Asia.

Expected participants:

- Representatives of CA and European universities;
- Representatives of CA scientific research institutes;
- Representatives of USAID Regional Mission for Central Asia;
- USAID Regional Water and Environment Activity Team;
- Representatives of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation;
- Representatives of the German Society for International Cooperation;
- Representatives of the UNESCO Regional Office in Almaty;
- Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia Team.



Scan the QR-code to download the materials of the meeting

AGENDA

Time	Description
08³⁰ - 09⁰⁰	<i>Registration of participants</i>
<i>Moderator: Marhabo Yodalieva, Capacity Building Lead, USAID Central Asia’s Regional Water and Environment Project (WAVE)</i>	
09⁰⁰ - 9³⁰	<p>Opening and welcome remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Safarzoda Davron Jurakhon, Rector of the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan</i> ● <i>Kevin Adkin - Regional Environment Specialist, Economic Development Office, USAID Regional Mission for Central Asia</i> ● <i>Dimka Stantchev, Program manager, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC)</i> ● <i>Zafar Makhmudov, Executive Director of Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia</i>

<p>9³⁰ - 10³⁰</p>	<p>Technologies and best practices of water resources management (country presentations by representatives of academic/research institutes, 10 minutes each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovative Modeling Tools for Science-based Decisions in the field of Rational Use of Water and Energy Resources - <i>Arif Mamedov, USAID Central Asia's Regional Water and Environment Project</i> • Modern Innovative Technologies used in the Water Sector of the Republic of Kazakhstan - <i>Aliya Nurbatsina, Senior Researcher, Laboratory of Water Resources, JSC "Institute of Geography and Water Security, Republic of Kazakhstan</i> • Creation and Implementation of an Automated Irrigation Water Accounting system - <i>Alexey Shablovsky, Researcher at the Laboratory of Hardware and Software for Water Accounting and Water Distribution Management, Kyrgyz Research Institute of Irrigation under the Ministry of Water Resources, Agriculture and Processing Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic</i> • Innovative Projects related to the Formation, Quality and Management of Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan - <i>Kodirov Anvar, Director of the Center for Innovative Development of Science and New Technologies of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan</i> • Application of the Principles of Rational Use of Water Resources in Agriculture and Industry in Turkmenistan - <i>Giorgiy Kurtovezov, Head of Laboratory, Project institute "Turkmensuwlylymtaslama" of the State Committee for Water Management of Turkmenistan</i> • Experimental Developments in Water Saving - <i>Andrey Petrov, Deputy Director, Scientific - Research Institute of Irrigation and Water Problems, Republic of Uzbekistan</i> <p>Questions and answers</p>
<p>10³⁰ - 11⁰⁰</p>	<p>Group photo and coffee break</p>
<p>Moderator: <i>Irina Yugay, Coordinator of the Academic Component of the Blue Peace Central Asia Project, CAREC</i></p>	
<p>11⁰⁰ - 12³⁰</p>	<p>Overview of the results of the Implementation of the Academic Component of the Blue Peace CA project (Phase 1). Presentation of Phase 2 of the Blue Peace CA project.</p> <p>Blue Peace CA 1.0: From Education to Research and Practice - <i>Irina Yugay, Academic Coordinator of the Blue Peace CA project</i></p> <p>Strengthening Hydrological Modelling Curricula in Central Asian Universities: Lessons Learned and Recommendations from Two Years of Cooperation - <i>Tobias Siegfried, Hydrosolutions GmbH</i></p> <p>Blue Peace Index: A Practical Tool for Water Diplomacy in Central Asia - <i>Matus Samel, The Economist Intelligence Unit</i></p> <p>Presentation of the Blue Peace CA - Phase II - <i>Ashanti Bleich, Water Infrastructure and Climate Change Regional Officer, SDC</i></p> <p>Questions and answers</p>

12 ³⁰ - 13 ³⁰	Lunch
Moderator: <i>Ekaterina Strikeleva, Chief of the Party of the USAID Central Asia's Regional Water and Environment Project</i>	
13 ³⁰ - 15 ⁰⁰	<p>Opportunities for the academic and scientific community from development partners</p> <p><i>Development of unified Educational Programs and Mobilization of the Academic Community to Promote IWRM and WEFE Nexus Approaches in Central Asia - Marhabo Yodalieva, Capacity Development and Education Lead, USAID Central Asia's Regional Water and Vulnerable Environment Activity</i></p> <p><i>Climate-sensitive Water Resources Management in Central Asia, GIZ-SDC project - Peter Liebelt, Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg, Ovezmurad Chorekliyev, GIZ</i></p> <p><i>Climate Resilient Integrated Water Resources Management in the Zarafshan River Basin: Establishing Cooperation with Universities - Oytire Anarbekov, Caritas-Switzerland</i></p> <p>Questions and answers</p>
15 ⁰⁰ - 15 ³⁰	<p>General discussion to determine the topic of the next NAS meeting</p> <p>Wrapping up and summarizing</p>
15 ³⁰	<p>Transfer of participants to the Closing Ceremony of the Dushanbe Water Conference at Kohi Somon (beginning at 16.30)</p>