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Meeting of the Network of Academic Societies (NAS)

Strategic development of the NAS

Date: March 18, 2024 Language: Russian, English

Format of the meeting: Online format using Zoom platform. The meeting will be held in Russian with simultaneous translation into English.

Zoom link for registration:

<u>https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0odOmuqT8sGNWNFqSQysqZJ0n7ZZ_HFACL</u> Once you register, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the meeting.

N⁰	Country	Time
1	Kazakhstan	10.00
2	Kyrgyzstan	11.00
3	Tajikistan	10.00
4	Turkmenistan	10.00
5	Uzbekistan	10.00

Organizers: USAID Regional Water and Environment Project and Blue Peace Central Asia Initiative with the support of the Regional Environmental Center of Central Asia (here in after - CAREC).

Context:

The Network of Academic Societies (hereinafter referred to as NAS) has been operating since 2013 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), the World Bank (WB), on the platform of the Regional Environmental Center of Central Asia. In addition to regular regional meetings, the NAS is supported by the electronic portal https://www.riverbp.net/community_of_practice/profile/about/, which provides platform а for knowledge sharing, posting of training and scientific materials, and building an expert base in the field of water resources, environmental protection, climate change, and other related areas. Throughout the NAS activities, notable successes have been achieved - memorandums of cooperation between universities have been signed, educational programs have been unified through the introduction of training modules, capacity building of teachers through training for trainers, etc. However, the Network's operations rely solely on donor-funded projects. There is now an urgent need to formalize the NAS structure to ensure the sustainability of development and enhance operational efficiency. The forthcoming meeting will focus on finalizing the formalization process of the NAS and establishing a platform for academic and scientific cooperation.

Aims and Objectives of the NAS meeting:

- I. Finalization and approval of the NAS Charter
- II. Discussion of opportunities for cooperation with scientific organizations
- III. Presentation of new academic projects
- IV. Preparation for NAS meeting within the framework of the International Conference "Water for Sustainable Development" in Dushanbe

Expected Participants:

- Representatives of CA universities (NAS members) and European universities;
- USAID Regional Water and Environment Project Team;
- Representatives of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC);
- Representatives of the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ);
- The CAREC team.

Agenda

Time	Description		
(Almaty) Moderator: A	Aarhabo Yodalieva, Education and Capacity Building Lead,		
	nal Water and Vulnerable Environment Project		
- 10¹⁵ 10⁰⁰	Opening and opening remarks		
	 Kevin Adkin, Regional Environmental Specialist, Regional Mission USAID in Central Asia 		
	 Lisa Gampp, Regional Advisor on Water and Climate Change in Central Asia, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA), Swiss Agency for Cooperation and Development (SDC) 		
	Lyudmila Kiktenko, EMP Program Manager, CAREC		
10 ¹⁵ - 11 ⁰⁰	Development of the Network of Academic Societies in CA		
	 Overview presentation on CoP - Zamira Zholdaskyzy, Coordinator for development and Network of Academic Societies, CAREC 		
	 Draft NAS Charter: discussion and revision - Lyudmila Kiktenko, EMP Program Manager, CAREC 		
11 ⁰⁰ - 12 ⁰⁰	The role of research institutes in personnel training: opportunities for student internships and employment.		
	 Program for the development of the educational sector in the Kyrgyz Republic in the field of water resources management and use for 2023-2027 and Roadmap for its implementation: training of personnel, internship, and employment of students. – Zhyldyz Sadabaeva, Water Resources Service of the Kyrgyz Republic 		
	 Creating innovative partnerships: the role of research institutes in university development – representative of the Kazakh Institute of Strategic Research (TBC) 		
	• TBC		
12 ⁰⁰ - 12 ¹⁵	Break		
Moderator : Irina Yugay, Academic Coordinator of Blue Peace Central Asia Project, Regional Environmental Center of Central Asia			
- 13 ⁰⁰ 12 ¹⁵	Presentation of plans for international projects in the academic area		
12	 Overview presentation on the areas of work of the Central Asian Green University - Dr. Jasur Salikhov, rector Developing cooperation between the Erasmus+ HWCA project, WAVE, and Blue Peace to take full advantage of complementarities and synergies - Dr. Marton Krasznai, Yulia Borisova, ERASMUS+ HWCA Project Implementation progress of the "Climate-Resilient Water Resources Management in Central Asia" project - Ovezmurad Chorekliyev, GIZ 		
	Questions and answers		
<i>Moderator:</i> Marhabo Yodalieva, Education and Capacity Building Lead, USAID Regional Water and Vulnerable Environment Project			

- 13 ³⁰ 13 ⁰⁰	Discussion to determine the topic for the next NAS meeting and input from Network's Members on the agenda
	Wrapping up and summarizing