



Blue Peace
Central Asia



Meeting of Members of the Network of Academic Societies

The role of the Network of Academic Societies in strengthening regional cooperation

Date: November 24, 2023

Language: Russian, English,

Venue: Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Karasai Batyr 95, Almaty, Kazakhstan

Zoom link to register:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84048597027?pwd=9bZeKBkJggCbyqTC1mGb8LADeBJ7lv.1>

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 Regional Water and Vulnerable Environment Activity and SDC Blue Peace project in Central Asia with the support of the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia (CAREC). Al-Farabi Kazakh National University is the co-organizer of the meeting.

Context:

Ensuring water, energy, food and environmental security in Central Asian countries requires involvement of the entire population, government officials, private business, individual entrepreneurs and ordinary residents. Specialists of the "new format" should have an understanding of interconnections and consequences, possess skills of complex thinking and negotiation. In this regard, the role of educational institutions, including thematic universities and academies of public administration, cannot be overemphasized.

The Central Asian Network of Academic Society (NAS) in Central Asia promotes interaction and knowledge exchange between representatives of educational institutions involved in the management of environment, water, land and energy resources in the context of climate change. NAS provides an opportunity for universities to work with international and regional experts, develop new or improve existing educational courses, prepare necessary methodological material, and train their faculty in new approaches and modern tools,

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 (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 CAC is supported by the electronic platform https://www.riverbp.net/community_of_practice/profile/about/, which provides a platform for sharing knowledge, posting training and scientific materials and building a pool of experts in water resources, environmental protection, climate change and other related fields.

Goals and Objectives for the November 24, 2023 CAC meeting:

I. To discuss the progress of NAS development and the cooperation of its members;

- II. Presenting the results of the Community of Practice Research Community of Practice for the Blue Peace CA project;
- III. Presentation of new opportunities from development partners to work with the academic community in Central Asia

Expected Participants:

- NAS members and representatives of Central Asian Universities;
- USAID Regional Water and Vulnerable Environment Activity;
- Representatives of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation;
- CAREC team.

Agenda

Time	Description
Moderator: <i>Marhabo Yodalieva, Capacity Development and Education Component Lead, USAID Regional Water and Environment Project</i>	
9 ³⁰ - 10 ⁰⁰	Registration of participants
10 ⁰⁰ - 10 ¹⁵	Opening and opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Duman Zhekenov, <i>Dean, Faculty of International Relations, Al-Farabi KAZNU</i> ● Ekaterina Strikeleva, <i>Chief of Party, USAID Regional Water and Environment Project</i> ● Dimka Stantchev, <i>Global Water Program Manager, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)</i>
10 ¹⁵ - 10 ⁵⁵	Development of the CA Network of Academic Society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review of the progress of the NAS development and community of practice platform (statistics, news, results) <i>Lyudmila Kiktenko, Environmental Management Program Manager, CAREC</i> ● Examples of cooperation among Network members <i>Aigerim Ospanova, PhD, Head of the Department of Regional Studies, Faculty of International Relations, L.N.Gumilev Eurasian National University, Republic of Kazakhstan.</i> <i>Alisher Saidmukhtorov, Head of International Law Department, Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan</i>
10 ⁵⁵ - 11 ²⁵	Group photo and coffee break
Moderator: <i>Lyudmila Kiktenko, EMP Program Manager, CAREC</i>	
11 ²⁵ - 13 ⁰⁰	Problems and prospects for the development of the CA Network of Academic Society <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identifying potential opportunities for university cooperation within the NAS: <i>Interactive group discussion with development of university cooperation plans</i> ● Draft Statutes of the NAS: <i>discussion and finalization</i> ● Strengthening the use of the Community of Practice Platform <i>Plenary discussion</i>

13 ⁰⁰ - 14 ⁰⁰	Lunch
Moderator: <i>Irina Yugay, Coordinator of the Academic Component of the Blue Peace Project, CAREC</i>	
14 ⁰⁰ - 15 ³⁰	<p>Opportunities from development partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Marhabo Yodalieva, Capacity Development and Education Component Lead, USAID Regional Water and Environment Project ● Zhanara Baitogulova, Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic - ERASMUS+ Project "Strengthening Higher Education in the Water Sector to Enhance Resilience to Climate Change and Security in Central Asia" ● Roman Karazhanov, GIZ ● Opportunities to build a community of practice on water diplomacy based on the SDC project CoP4WASH <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Murot Sobirov, Khujand State University</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Daler Khodjiboev, Mining and Metallurgical Institute of Tajikistan</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Tashmukhamed Karimov, Kyrgyz State Technical University</i></p> <p>Questions and answers</p> <p>General discussion to determine the topic of the next Network meeting</p> <p>Wrap-up and closing remarks</p> <p><i>Nadine Fragnière, Climate change and Water Advisor, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)</i></p>
15 ³⁰ - 16 ⁰⁰	Coffee break