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1 Greetings

Despite the fact that summer is the holiday season, a number of important events have taken place in our region in the field of environmental protection.

The landmark meeting was held on August 24 in Turkmenistan. For the first time in 9 years, a Summit of Heads of the Founder States of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea was held. At the meeting, the parties supported the process of strengthening regional cooperation and the development of the Aral Sea Basin Plan 4. In addition, the presidents of the Central Asian states highly appreciated the regional events held in 2018: the International High-Level Conference on the International Decade for Action «Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028», the Central Asian International Environmental Forum 2018 and the international conference “Joint actions to mitigate the consequences of the Aral catastrophe: new approaches, innovative solutions, investments”.

This quarter of the year was intense for the CAREC team as well. On September 17-26, with the support of partners, CAREC held the Central Asian Leadership Programme on Environment and Sustainable Development. This is already the 9th CALP; in general, over 9 years, more than 260 specialists from Central Asia have completed the programme. Of these, more than 20 are from Afghanistan, which is

very valuable for us. CALP participants represent a wide variety of sectors: government agencies, NGOs, universities, business, and the media.

Judging by the responses in social network and interviews, graduates are motivated to introduce changes to their organizations. They intend to maintain ties, develop partnership both within countries and between countries of the region.

It is also worth noting that CAREC team released a report on the results of the Central Asian International Environmental Forum held on June 5-7, 2018. In the report, you will find the analysis of past thematic and parallel sessions, feedback from participants and key findings on thematic areas.

The project activity of our organization doesn't stop either. In Tajikistan, with the support of the CAREC-USAID Smart Waters project, the Law on Land Reclamation and Irrigation is being developed. The UzWaterAware project, which is being implemented with the support of the European Union, held “Water Days” for children during the summer holidays. Within the CAREC and World Bank project CAMP4ASB, a teleconference was held between the countries of Central Asia on the adaptation to climate change in local communities.



In our quarterly newsletter, we reflected each of these events and much more. We hope that this information will be useful for you!

*Tatiana Shakirova,
Education for Sustainable
Development Programme manager*

2 Central Asian Leadership Programme

“We can use presentations, resources and share with our colleagues. Because nothing is done alone. We decided that we would come home and we would definitely organize meetings. Maybe small, maybe big ones”, - the representative of Tajikistan delegation Tahmina Akhmedova shared her impression. CALP is the only regular integrated programme for environmental protection and sustainable development in Central Asia. Today, more than 260 graduates from the programme work in various fields throughout the region.

This year, September 17-26, the 9th Central Asian Leadership Programme was held. Among the participants are 32 young professionals from Central Asia and Afghanistan. The programme is conducted by the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme and with the support of the OSCE, USAID, the World Bank and European Union.

The 9th CALP’s agenda was closely related to the Central Asian International Environmental Forum held on June 5-8 in Tashkent. The programme reflected the main focus of the CAIEF 2018 - strengthening regional cooperation and making sustainable decisions in the field of environmental



protection and sustainable development.

In this regard, the 9th CAPL was focused on increasing the capacity of representatives of the public sector. In addition to specialists from government agencies, representatives from the academic sector, business, and NGOs took part in the CALP.

“Each of the participants of the 9th leadership programme is very interesting as an individual and as a professional. We’ve exchanged contacts, we are already planning some activities together,” - said Lyazzat Kaibaldiyeva, a participant from Kazakhstan, Ernst & Young consultant on sustainable development. [Read more...](#)

3 Central Asian Leadership Programme

You can find more information in the materials published on CAREC website:

- [Central Asian Leadership Programme on Environment and Sustainable Development started in Almaty](#)
- [“It’s a priceless experience,” a graduate speaks about the Central Asian Leadership Programme](#)



PHOTOS AND PRESENTATIONS





CAIEF 2018 report released

Highlights of the thematic and parallel sessions, feedback from participants, key messages and the vision forward to strengthen regional environmental cooperation.

[Read more...](#)



Summit of the heads of the founding states of the IFAS

Turkmenistan hosted the first summit of the heads of the states-founders of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea. The meeting was attended by the presidents of all the countries of Central Asia: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

[Read more...](#)



Uzbekistan ratified the Paris Climate Agreement

According to the senators, the agreement will serve as a “road map” for the UN member states and will help reduce emissions and strengthen the resilience to climate change.

[Read more...](#)



Results of the project on selected wetlands in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan

Wetlands are unique, productive ecosystems where terrestrial and aquatic habitats meet. They play a critical role in maintaining many natural cycles, supporting a wide range of biodiversity and providing important ecosystem services for the life of communities.

[Read more...](#)

Workshop on water quality was held in Tashkent

On September 6-7, a study-tour on hydrobiological analysis for specialists of national hydrometeorological departments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan was held in Tashkent.

[Read more...](#)



- [Astana hosted a seminar on the efficiency of the transport sector in Central Asia](#)
- [Conservation and wise use of wetlands on the regional agenda](#)
- [The modern systems of environmental impact assessment was discussed in Uzbekistan](#)
- [High-level meeting with USAID mission in Tashkent](#)
- [Meeting of representatives of the CAREC Country Office in Kazakhstan with the Director of Kazakhstan Country Office of USAID](#)

6 News of the Smart Waters project



First joint meeting of the Small Basin Councils of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan parts of the Padshaata River

Parties have exchanged with analyzes of the current situation at the basin of the Padshaata River, as well as the results of the work done in the development of basin plans. A number of issues related to the further development of the basin, such as the development of ecological tourism, the promotion of water accounting systems, the development of horticulture and crop production were also mentioned at the session. Particular interest was paid to the possibility of holding the event “Day of the Padshaata River”.
[Read more...](#)



The first public hearings on the law “On Melioration and Irrigation” were held in Tajikistan

The new law intends to establish a special authorized state body, which will regulate water relations in the field of land reclamation and irrigation. Development of the law is happening with the support of the joint CAREC-USAID project Smart Waters.
[Read more...](#)



The expedition “From Glaciers to the Aral Sea” started

4000 kilometres from glaciers of Central Asia to the Aral Sea. More than 20 participants from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan, Germany, Poland, Japan will visit 4 countries - Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan.
[Read more...](#)

The project if funded by USAID



7 News of the Smart Waters project

- [The first Basin Council in Turkmenistan](#)
- [Small Basin Council was established on the Tajik side of the Isfana River sub-basin](#)
- [Isfara river – river of friendship](#)
- [The first training on basin planning on the Kazakh part of the Kurkureusu River](#)
- [The first meeting of the small basin council on the Uzbek part of the transboundary river Padshaata](#)
- [Training on International water law held in Bishkek](#)
- [Integrated water resources management and water saving technologies - series of Smart Waters trainings took place](#)
- [Hydrometeorologists of Kazakhstan are implementing river modeling – Smart Waters workshop](#)
- [Meeting of the Small Basin Council of the Tajik side of the Isfara river](#)



8 News of the UzWaterAware project



“Each of us can save water” – summer holidays with UzWaterAware project

In July-August, UzWaterAware held “Water Days” for children from various regions of Uzbekistan .

[Read more...](#)



Holidays for good use: “Water Days” for children in summer camps

On July 21, 2018 nearly 500 of children at the summer camp “Raduga” (Rainbow) participated in the “Water Day”, aimed at sharing knowledge about water and environment.

[Read more...](#)



The first of the series of trainings on raising awareness for mass media and NGOs in Uzbekistan

On 7-8 August a training on raising water awareness was held in Karshi (Uzbekistan). The training was held within the UzWaterAware project, which is implemented by CAREC with the financial support of the European Union.

[Read more...](#)



Press-services and Mass Media of Uzbekistan learned new tools for effective cooperation

On September 12-13, a training on the efficient use of water resources was organized for press-services and mass media of Uzbekistan at CAREC-TIIAME Innovations and Scientific Research Cluster.

[Read more...](#)



The project is funded by the European Union



9 News of the CAMP4ASB project



Support of young specialists - research competition

17 students have successfully passed the Student research competition on sustainable management of natural resources in Central Asia and Afghanistan 2018-2019. The competition was announced by CAREC with the financial support from the Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Program for Aral Sea Basin (World Bank) and Smart Waters (USAID) project.

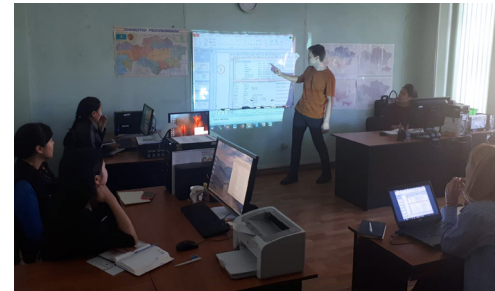
[Read more...](#)



Adaptation to climate change in local communities: teleconference between Central Asian countries

On September 25, a teleconference was held on adaptation to climate change. The live broadcast came from the offices of the World Bank in Almaty, Astana, Bishkek, Ashgabat, Dushanbe and Tashkent.

[Read more...](#)



Specialists of the hydrometeorological services of Kazakhstan and Tajikistan have studied methods of the hydrological model calibration

September 13-14 in Almaty and September 17-18 in Dushanbe the national technical workshops on hydrological modeling from CAMP4ASB project.

[Read more...](#)



Third Regional Steering Committee Meeting of CAMP4ASB project

The main objectives of RSC are to provide advisory support, define annual climate investment priority areas, recommend future Program directions, ensure country coordination and facilitate sharing of status update in each country, monitor Program progress.

[Read more...](#)

The project is funded by the World Bank



10 New publications

CAIEF 2018 report

Highlights of the sessions, feedback from participants, key messages and the vision forward to strengthen regional environmental cooperation. [Read more...](#)

Series of publications prepared by CAMP4ASB project:

- [Sustainable wheat growing under climate change in Central Asia](#)
- [Climate finance at the global level: key sources, areas of financing and key trends](#)
- [Gaps and opportunities for climate mitigation and adaptation on global level](#)
- [Integrating of climate information into sectoral planning: case from Kyrgyzstan](#)
- [Climate change projections and hydrological impacts assessment of small transboundary rivers in Central Asia](#)

Other publications:

- [Education for sustainable development in Central Asia: analysis of achievements, challenges and outlook](#)
- [Review of implementation of the international environmental conventions in Central Asia](#)
- [Update of the information on the status of wetlands in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkmenistan](#)



CAREC faces

Today I can say that I am an environmental specialist with a deep understanding of environmental interconnections. This understanding came as a result of comprehensive education at the geographical faculty of the Kazakhstan branch of Moscow State University, the study of environmental policy at the Central European University, as well as 7 years of experience in various areas of ecology. I have worked in such areas as climate change mitigation, energy systems modelling, environmental and social safeguards, biodiversity conservation, and other complex environmental issues.

I continue to develop in the CAREC Environmental Management Programme, where I am engaged in the promotion of work on international environmental agreements. I am the technical secretary of the Ramsar Regional Initiative for Central Asia (RRI-CA). Also, I participate in the implementation of the project “Central Asia Nexus Dialogue project: Fostering Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus Dialogue and Multi-Sector Investment” (NEXUS).

It’s interesting that my thesis at Moscow State University was aimed at studying the representativeness of the steppe reserves, Korgalzhyn and Naurzum, much of which is wetlands. And now, within the RRI-CA activities, I am promoting the conservation and wise use

of wetlands in our region. The nexus approach, which is used in the implementation of the current NEXUS project, I studied in the framework of my master’s thesis “Kazakhstan’s National Priorities and the Political and Institutional Response to the Water-Energy-Climate-Food Nexus: Effects on the Ili-Balkhash Basin”. I am convinced that this is not just a coincidence, everything happens for some reason.

I am grateful to the present experience and consider CAREC a unique organization in all of Central Asia. Working in this regional organization helps to understand international, regional and national processes in the field of environmental protection, to establish personal contacts with stakeholders, learn to solve complicated tasks and coordinate complex projects.

“

Good relations with colleagues are one of the factors that are important to me, so I am glad that we’ve become friends with some colleagues. For me, it’s important to be not just a professional, but also a good person. I always work on it and strive to be useful for my organization, country, region and world. Yes, I am a human of the world!



*Zhanel Karina,
Environmental Management
Programme specialist*

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CAREC faces

I was born in Esik town in Almaty region. This area is famous for the “Golden man” – a precious historical artefact found during excavations, dating back to the 8th-7th centuries BC.

After graduating from college with a degree in Translation studies, I enrolled in the Suleyman Demirel University and moved to Almaty. I received Bachelor degree with major in “Two foreign languages: English and Chinese”.

Thanks to my academic achievements and active student life I have been awarded an opportunity to have a semester exchange program where I undertook my studies in China (Jiangsu Normal University, Xuzhou).

First I embarked on environmental career by chance. But it did not take much time to realize that this is the exact career path I want in my life. Here at CAREC I’ve got my interest in environmental protection much more reassured, and now I feel I can contribute to the organization’s values and mission to the best of knowledge.

In the course of my work at CAREC I have developed a good set of professional and personal qualities, including multitasking, teamwork, and in-

tercultural communications skills. I joined CAREC as a receptionist, but in a short period of time I was appointed as acting HR manager and currently I work as Assistant at Knowledge, Projects and Resource Management Unit.

What I value most in my work is that everyone in our team is a real expert in the field striving for the best results. This is the team that keeps you energized and motivates for the constant self-improvement.

“

I think teamwork is about achieving the desired results with the efforts of every team member. It is also about being a leader, sharing knowledge and experience, being a rational optimist - as only positive thinking is able to generate clear and concise ideas to help to achieve your goals.



*Aidana Shakenova,
Knowledge, Projects and
Resource Management Unit Assistant*

