

COP28 UNFCCC Central Asia Pavilion

Side Event “Assessing and Addressing Climate Change Impacts in Central Asia: Challenges and Solutions”

Scientific journal “Central Asian Journal of Sustainability and Climate Research”

December 8th, 2023, 9.30-11.00

Place: Central Asia Pavilion (MA19G3), Blue Zone COP28, Expo City Dubai, UAE

Side session brings together experts on climate change, sustainable growth, sustainable education, energy, land, and agriculture. This side session provides important views on the critical issue of climate change in Central Asia and Afghanistan, drawing from many perspectives and disciplines. Experts from the region as well as international experts from the Green Central Asia consortium will present an overview of the science of climate change, the implications for water resources, agriculture, ecosystems, food systems, and provide important economic, social, and policy insights on the issue. Central Asian region remains under-researched in climate studies, limiting comprehensive understanding of possible impacts. Following international standards of scientific publishing, the [Center for Natural Resources and Sustainability \(Kazakh-German University\)](#) has successfully launched the [Central Asian Journal Water Research](#) and the [Central Asian Journal of Sustainability and Climate Research](#). The goal of the session is to raise awareness of expected climate impacts in the region and foster an increase in publication activity in order to widen the scientific basis in the field of climate change in Central Asia and Afghanistan.

Moderators:

Dr. Barbara Janusz Pawletta, Vice-rector for International Cooperation, UNESCO Chair Holder in Water Management in Central Asia at Kazakh German University;

M. Sc. Stefanie Wesch, Project coordinator and doctoral researcher for the Green Vision Central Asia project, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research

Program:

<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Presenter(s)</i>
9.30-09.35	Opening Speech	- <i>Dr. Barbara Janusz Pawletta</i> , Vice-rector for International Cooperation, UNESCO Chair Holder in Water Management in Central Asia at Kazakh German University; - <i>Mr. Marcus Hicken</i> , Beauftragter für Energieaußenpolitik, Klima und Sicherheit/ Director for Energy Diplomacy, Climate and Security, MFA, Germany
09.35-09.45	Key speech "Leveraging science for sustainable development: Research policy interface to meet climate change."	<i>Ms. Jennifer Sara</i> , Global Director for Climate Change, World Bank
09.45-10.05	Panel Session "Central Asia in Global Perspective: Exploring Regional Dynamics and Global Interactions"	- <i>Dr. Winston Chow</i> , Co-Chair, Working Group II, IPCC; - <i>Dr. Iulii Didovets</i> , PostDoc researcher, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research; - <i>Dr. Anil Mishra</i> , Chief of Section, Hydrological Systems, Climate Change and Adaptation, IHP, UNESCO - <i>Mr. Zafar Makhmudov</i> , Executive Director of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC)
10.05-10.15	Discussion	- <i>Dr. Alisher Mirzabaev</i> , Senior Scientist, International Rice Research Institute, Calabarzon, Philippines (Online)
10.15-10.25	Key speech	<i>Mr. Mark Smith</i> , Senior Director of Water Systems, CGIAR, and Director General of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
10.25-10.45	Panel Session "Assessing and Addressing Climate Change Impacts in Central Asia: Challenges and Solutions"	- <i>Dr. Axel Paulsch</i> , Chair of Institute for Biodiversity Network, Germany; - <i>Mr. Rustam Nasirkhan</i> , Head of Department of Monitoring, Analysis and Prognosis, JSC Zhasyl Damu, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Kazakhstan;; - <i>Dr. Bolot Moldobekov</i> , Co-director at Central Asian Institute for Applied Geosciences, Kyrgyzstan - <i>M.A. Altynai Yespembetova</i> , Kazakh German University, Kazakhstan
10.45-10.55	Discussion	- <i>Dr. Abror Gafurov</i> , Scientist, GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences, Potsdam, Germany
10.55-11.00	Conclusion	

Moderators:

Panel Session 1



M. Sc. Stefanie Wesch, Project coordinator and doctoral researcher for the Green Vision Central Asia project, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research

Panel Session 2



Dr. Barbara Janusz Pawletta, Vice-rector for International Cooperation, UNESCO Chair Holder in Water Management in Central Asia at Kazakh German University

Speakers



Mr. Marcus Hicken, Beauftragter für Energieaußenpolitik, Klima und Sicherheit/ Director for Energy Diplomacy, Climate and Security, MFA, Germany



Ms. Jennifer Sara, Global Director for Climate Change, World Bank



Mr. Mark Smith, Senior Director of Water Systems, CGIAR, and Director General of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI)



Dr. Winston Chow, Co-Chair, Working Group II, IPCC



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Mr. Rustam Nassirkhan, Head of Department of Monitoring, Analysis and Prognosis, JSC Zhasyl Damu, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Kazakhstan



Dr. Anil Mishra, Chief of Section, Hydrological Systems, Climate Change and Adaptation, Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP), Division of Water Sciences, UNESCO



Dr. Iulii Didovets, PostDoc researcher, Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research



Dr. Bolot Moldobekov, Co-director at Central Asian Institute for Applied Geosciences, Kyrgyzstan



M.A. Altynai Yespembetova, Knowledge Space Coordinator, Center for Natural Resources and Sustainability, Kazakh German University

Discussants



Dr. Alisher Mirzabaev, Senior Scientist, International Rice Research Institute, Calabarzon, Philippines (Online)



Dr. Abror Gafurov, Scientist, GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences, Potsdam, Germany

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