

SPECIAL EDITION

ON THE 15th ANNIVERSARY OF CAREC

CAREC

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Regional Environmental Centre
for Central Asia





Dear reader,
This year CAREC is celebrating 15th anniversary of its foundation!

Over the past 15 years, CAREC has evolved into a strong and experienced organization with solid knowledge and expertise, and nowadays is one of the leading organizations in the region on cooperation for environmental protection and sustainable development. Established by five Central Asian states, the European Union (EU) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 2001, CAREC promotes responsible partnership, in light of national priorities of the Central Asia countries, as well as connecting the regional aspects of sustainable development and environmental protection with international processes. High quality, effectiveness, transparency and real results are the core values of CAREC.

The experience over the past years shows that the main driving force of our organization remains the people – the Board of Governors and the Public Advisory Council of CAREC, our partners and, of course, dynamic and always improving CAREC staff. With a great pleasure, we would like to present to you the new issue of the CAREC newsletter, where you can learn more about our work not only in 2016, but also for the entire period of our operations since 2001.

We would like to express our deep gratitude for all our partners and staff for their precious contribution, efforts and energy invested in the development of the organization. Today, all of us can be proud of the results we have achieved together. The basis for the successful work of CAREC is efficient and sustainable partnership at the local, national, regional and international levels. I hope that this newsletter demonstrates this to you once more.

Dr Iskandar Abdullaev,
Executive Director

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15 YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL WORK

Learn more about our organization:

- Report on CAREC 15th anniversary activities [link here](#)
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1

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE "ENVIRONMENT COOPERATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN CENTRAL ASIA" AND CAREC OPEN DAY

On June 21, 2016, Almaty hosted the International Conference "Cooperation on Environment and Sustainable Development in Central Asia" dedicated to the 15th anniversary of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia. The main objective of this event was a discussion on the development of environmental cooperation in Central Asia: progress and achievements, plans and priorities.

Representatives of the ministries of foreign affairs, environmental protection, and environmental ministries and agencies of Central Asian countries, members of the Board of Governors and the Public Advisory Council of CAREC, NGOs, partners and donors participated in this significant event.

The speakers of the conference: Mr. Gani Sadibekov – Vice-Minister of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan; Mr. Annabaev Mergen – Chairman of the State Committee for Environmental Protection and Land Resources of Turkmenistan; Mr. Sharipov Oikhon – Deputy Chairman of the State Committee for Environmental Protection of Tajikistan and Mr. Khairullo Abdurasulov – the representative of the State Committee of Uzbekistan for nature protection. The Executive Director of CAREC, Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev told about the achievements of the organization and the strategic development of environmental cooperation in Central Asia.

At the conference, there were held three plenary meetings, which were made by: Mr. Peter Burian – EU Special Representative for Central Asia, European External Action Service; Mr. György Szabó – Ambassador, Head of the Office of the OSCE programs in Astana; Mr. George Bouma – leader of the group, the Regional Centre for Europe and CIS, UNDP; Ms. Tiziana Bonapace – Head of office, Subregional office of ESCAP in North and Central Asia; Mr. George Deikun – Director of the Regional mission for Central Asia, the United States Agency for international development; Mr. Bo Libert, Regional – an adviser on environment, UNECE environment Division; Mr. IJsbrand H. de Jong – a leading specialist in the World Bank's water resources; Mr. Volker Frobarth – Programme Director, Transboundary water management in Central Asia – GIZ GmbH and Mr. Peep Mardiste – Programme Manager of the EU water initiative, UNECE.



Presentations of international partners were focused on awareness of international initiatives and processes that support collaboration in the field of environment and sustainable development in Central Asia. During thematic panel sections, participants discussed the key issues on the possibilities of promotion and development of CAREC strategy for water cooperation in Central Asia; cooperation in the field of climate change and disaster risk reduction; the prospects for enhancing regional cooperation on environment and sustainable development in the region.

A day earlier, on June 20, 2016, CAREC organized the Open Day event. The main purposes of the Open Day were to demonstrate the openness of the organization, to promote environmental initiatives in Central Asia and the organization's readiness to cooperate, to promote the idea of environmental partnership.



During the event, CAREC demonstrated its achievements on priority issues on the environmental situation in Central Asia, organized an exhibition-fair of eco-crafts and children's drawings, awarded friends, partners and employees.

For further information, please click [here](#).



2

FOSTERING COOPERATION WITH MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND DIPLOMATS OF CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES

This year marks the 15th anniversary of CAREC's operations in the Central Asian region as an organization working in the field of environment and sustainable development since its foundation in 2001. During this period, CAREC went through important milestones of its development, guided solely by its mandate – to be a regional platform for environmental cooperation in the region, to disseminate environmental knowledge and introduce the best practices in water resources and environmental management, education on sustainable development and climate change in Central Asia. Now there is a new significant platform for cooperation – Central Asian parliamentarians and diplomats.



In this regard, CAREC held the first regional meeting of parliamentarians and diplomats of the Central Asian countries, on June 21, 2016. The main goal of the meeting was to discuss opportunities for the parliamentarians of Central Asian countries to actively participate in promoting the dialogue on issues related to water resources management and environmental protection in Central Asia.

Mr. Peter Burian, EU Special Representative for Central Asia, spoke about the European Union's efforts to support the water dialogue in Central Asia and the possible role of parliamentarians in this process. The meeting participants had the opportunity to share the best practices in the countries of Central Asia in the field of environmental protection and water resources management.



Following the meeting, members of the parliament and representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Central Asian countries recognized the need to organize general meetings on a regular basis. They also noted the need for establishing a mechanism for the experience exchange in the development of regulatory framework.

Particular attention was paid to the study of good legal and regulatory practices that already exist in the region promoting the establishment of inter-state cooperation. In this regard, it was proposed to maintain the so-called "working groups", which support the exchange of experience in legislative practices to improve the environment and hold meetings on a regular basis for ongoing dialogue.



Participants proposed to involve Afghanistan in regional dialogue, as its economic development will have a significant impact on the use of transboundary waters in Central Asia in the near future. Parliamentarians and diplomats noted the necessity of consolidating the theoretical knowledge with practical examples that used in the region to create and support pilot projects demonstrating "best experience" and "best practices."

The CAWELOOP project team expects that this meeting will foster further fruitful work in this direction and will enhance the cooperation between the countries in the preservation of water and energy resources of Central Asia.

3

REGIONAL MEETINGS OF NGOS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF CAREC

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) play an important role in the field of environmental protection and sustainable development, attracting the attention of government and society to the issues on the protection of the environment. CAREC combines efforts with NGOs of Central Asia to help them more actively represent the interests of the region at national and international levels for solving environmental problems in Central Asia.

June 14 the CAREC Office in Tajikistan held a meeting with representatives of NGOs in Dushanbe. During this meeting, representatives of NGOs discussed issues on water cooperation, adaptation to climate change, environmental protection in Central Asia. In addition, experts discussed the role of civil society organizations for the promotion of sustainable development in the region, noting as a point of growth, the weakening of NGOs participation in addressing environmental problems in the region.

In this context, the Forum for Environmental NGOs in Central Asia, which CAREC held in the framework of the 15th anniversary of CAREC contributed in intensifying of the activities of NGOs on environmental issues as well as in the promotion of sustainable development.

CAREC representatives in Turkmenistan also conducted consultations with representatives of NGOs and independent experts of the State Committee of Nature Protection and Land Resources of Turkmenistan. Coordinator of CAREC projects in Turkmenistan, Mr. Dzhumakuliev, and Deputy Director of the National Institute of Deserts, Flora and Fauna, Mr. Saparmuradov, thanked the participants for their active position and the desire to contribute to the activities on environmental issues. Guests of the meeting listened to a presentation about the mission and objectives of CAREC, its structure, achievements and successes, prospects.

Representatives of NGOs, in turn, spoke about their work experience and level of expertise. The parties actively discussed potential promoting activities: a development of scientific and popular video content on environmental issues, an introduction of environmental issues in training and education for children.

Such significant meeting took place in Kyrgyzstan as well. At the end of April in the city of Osh, CAREC Office in the Kyrgyz Republic held a round table on "Problems of interaction with non-CAREC Kyrgyz Republic in the sphere of environmental protection" issues, organized together with the Information Center of the Aarhus Convention in the city of Osh.

During the meeting, participants discussed the possibility of collaboration and cooperation with NGOs in the southern region of Kyrgyzstan, an establishment of new contacts and exchange of practical information: an involvement of NGOs in CAREC activities and trainings for academic institutions.



4

REACHING THE GLOBAL 2030 AGENDA: CAREC AT THE WORLD WATER WEEK IN STOCKHOLM



On August 30, 2016 within the World Water Week in Stockholm CAREC held a discussion with delegates from Central Asian countries and other international participants towards the necessity of using international mechanisms to promote peace and stability in Central Asia.

The main purpose of the discussion was to demonstrate Central Asian initiatives on strengthening trust, transboundary cooperation and intercountry involvement of high-level experts and policy makers in matters related to water resources management in Central Asia. It was held in the framework of the Central Asia Water-Energy Cooperation Project (CAWECOOP).

In order to demonstrate current mechanisms that CAREC promotes in its projects, the Executive Director of CAREC, Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev, and Water Initiatives Support Program Manager, Ms. Anna Inozemtseva, performed presentations on «Involvement of parliamentarians of the Central Asian countries in regional water cooperation at the level of decision-making» and «Green Initiatives at national and regional levels – the “Environment for Europe” process». After presentations, participants expressed their views on issues related to the promotion of cooperation.



The representatives of CA support the approach on promoting peace and stability. They noted that the involvement of such stakeholders as parliament and the MFA happens for the first time in Central Asia. According to participants, the organization of a working group in this compound will help to address issues on improving the management of natural resources and the promotion of regional cooperation with a new perspective, including harmonization of national policies with a focus on methodologies and approaches to sustainable and stable multilateral relations in the region of Central Asia.

After the first regional meeting of parliamentarians of the Central Asian countries in June 2016 a number of recommendations on building further work with a new target audience was developed. One of the main recommendations was to provide opportunities to representatives of Central Asian countries to acquire new knowledge and share experiences with both neighboring countries and international society, for their use and promotion in their daily work. The participation of representatives from CA parliaments and MFA in the World Water Week, as well as the organization of thematic events, including special guest lecturers from the Stockholm International Water Institute, was the first step in the implementation of recommendations from the first regional meeting of parliamentarians of the Central Asian countries.



On August 31, 2016 at the World Water Week in Stockholm, CAREC held a mini-session on the achievements of the Global 2030 Agenda and the position of Central Asian countries on the example of SDGs 6 and 13. The main purpose of this mini-session was to discuss and formulate possible support to achieve SDGs process in Central Asia through regional projects and initiatives.

After welcoming all participants of the mini-session, Dr. Jusipbek Kazbekov, Water Specialist on CAREC projects in Uzbekistan, gave a brief overview of SDGs, regional processes and projects in Central Asia, aimed at the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. He highlighted the processes of the UN Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA), the Dushanbe Summit Symposium on SDG-6, the UNDP initiatives and processes for planning and tracking SDGs progress in the Central Asian region. Then CAREC introduced its contribution to these processes made through projects on promotion and achievement of SDGs in Central Asia. The examples of these projects were concerned issues related to climate change and improving water cooperation in the region.

Ms. Yekaterina Strikeleva, Advisor to CAREC Executive Director on Large Program Projects, talked about the climate change processes promoted through CAREC projects, such as Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Programme for Aral Sea Basin project (CAMP4ASB).



This project is funded by the World Bank and is being implemented in cooperation with EC IFAS. By fulfilling this project, CAREC will make a significant contribution to the promotion and implementation of SDG 13 – «Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts».

Dr. Jusipbek Kazbekov added information on CAREC activities in the field of water resources management. As part of its projects, such as the Smart Waters project, implemented with the support of the US Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Central Asia Water-Energy Cooperation Project (CAWECOOP), funded by the European Union, CAREC contributes to the promotion and implementation of SDG 6 «Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all». It should be noted that within CAREC projects the focus is driven to key aspects of cooperation in reaching the SDG 6: involvement of stakeholders in the water management process, development of integrated basin management plans, cross-border cooperation and other issues, which also act as indicators of the 2030 Agenda.

Following the interactive discussion of regional processes in Central Asia driven through CAREC projects, participants performed several suggestions. In particular, they proposed to pay more attention to the integration of all aspects of the water resources use within CAREC projects: energy, agriculture, food security, sanitation.



5

CAREC PARTICIPATED IN THE HIGH-LEVEL INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE 6TH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL (SDG)

On August 9-11, 2016, Dushanbe (Tajikistan) hosted The International Symposium on the 6th Sustainable Development Goal "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all". The Symposium became a meeting point for over 700 high-level representatives from 90 countries worldwide, 47 international and regional organizations, including the UN and 17 of its structures, SCO, CIS, Economic Cooperation Organization, World Bank, Red Cross, etc. The President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon, attended the opening ceremony.

During the Symposium participants discussed a capacity building for integrated water resources management; exchange of knowledge and experience on innovative practices to increase access to water, sanitation and hygiene; improving the water use efficiency; reduction of water pollution; protection of watersheds and ecosystems; promotion of international cooperation and partnership; development of regional and multilateral cooperation and the promotion of specific partnership initiatives to implement the 6th SDG and its target objectives.

CAREC actively participated in the Symposium by organizing a joint exhibition with the Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, as well as a side event on capacity building, strengthening regional cooperation and academic exchange in achieving the 6th SDG with the US Agency for International Development within the Smart Waters project. In addition, during the OSCE-CAREC joint side event with presented a study on gender issues, which was also carried out within the framework of the Smart Waters project.



For more information about CAREC activities at the Symposium please read about "Capacity building, strengthening regional cooperation and academic exchange in order to achieve sustainable development goals, 6" side event [here](#) and [here](#).

6

MEETING AT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

June 3, 2016, on the eve of the events dedicated to the 15th anniversary of CAREC the First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic (KR), Ms. D. Kemelova met with the Executive Director of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia, Mr. J. Abdullaev, in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. During the meeting, Ms. D. Kemelova and Mr. J. Abdullaev discussed issues on cooperation in Central Asia in the field of environmental protection and the implementation of CAREC projects in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Iskandar Abdullaev noted that CAREC aims to implement projects, taking into account the interests of all states in the region, guided by the main principles – dissemination of environmental awareness and promotion of best practices for management of water resources, environmental education and regional climate change. The main values for CAREC: high quality, efficiency and transparency of the program of action in the work.

In turn, Ms. D. Kemelova noted the importance of a multilateral approach in the implementation of CAREC projects to be mutually beneficial to all countries of Central Asia. The parties discussed examples of the successful environmental management of regional cooperation, in particular on water resources.



At the end of the meeting, confirmed their readiness for further cooperation in the framework of CAREC projects, taking into account interests of all countries in the region and the importance of transition to an integrated approach to environmental protection.

Photo: <http://www.mfa.gov.kg>

7

THE RESULTS OF PILOT PROJECT FOR PROTECTION AND RATIONAL USE OF WETLANDS SUDOCHE PRESENTED IN TASHKENT

On 13 May 2016, Tashkent hosted experts on environmental protection to participate in the final national seminar on the results of "Protection and rational use of wetlands Sudoche lake system on the Ustyurt plateau" project. The project was implemented within the framework of the regional project of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) – "Stakeholder Partnership in joint development policies: Promoting cross-border cooperation on small watersheds in Central Asia" funded by the US Agency for International Development (USAID).

The project was implemented per the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers № 255 from 29.08.2015 "On the Comprehensive Program to mitigate the Aral Sea disaster, rehabilitation and socio-economic development of the Aral Sea region". The main partner of the project in Uzbekistan is the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Nature Protection.

The main purpose of the project was to strengthen the cooperation of major stakeholders for an effective management of wetlands on the example of Sudoche lake system.

This experience will be extended further in Uzbekistan and Central Asian countries. In addition, the project initiated the organization of Muinak aqua sanoat unitary enterprise to manage three lakes downstream Amu Darya. The main goal of the enterprise is enhancing the reproduction of fish stocks through organizing "sustainable fishery" and creation of new workplaces, which is fully consistent with the national program to support fish farming.

The project supported another initiative of the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Nature Protection: expert assessments, which were conducted during the project and preparation of nomination of Sudoche to be included into the Ramsar List.

The event was attended by representatives of national partners and donor institution: the deputy chairman of the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Nature Protection, Mr. Ravshan Faiziev, Director of the USAID Mission to Central Asia, Mr. George Deikun and the Director of the USAID Mission in Uzbekistan, Mr. John Riordan.

In order to support existing inspector services in Sudoche, as well as to ensure regular patrolling of the area, special equipment was purchased within the project and then transmitted to national partners and the main beneficiary of the project – the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Nature Protection.

Moreover, the US Ambassador to Uzbekistan, Ms. Pamela L. Spratlen, has visited Lake Sudoche on September 19. During the meeting, the representative of the State Committee for Nature Protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan and national coordinator of the project, Sergey Zagrebin, told about the history of Lake Sudoche, explained why it was chosen for the project, stated about the plan of activities for protection of the lake and nomination of the reservoir to the list of The Ramsar Convention. Shakhnoza Umarova acquainted Ms. Spratlen with the directions of CAREC activities, and described the list of equipment that was purchased for the national partner. Ms. Spratlen expressed gratitude to the leadership of CAREC and State Committee for Nature Protection for the successful implementation of the project in such a short time.

This project is included in the state program on Aral Sea region and assigned to the Decree №363 (from December 24, 2014) and the Decree №255 (from August 29, 2015) by the Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan.

For further information, please click [here](#).



8

CHILDREN'S DRAWINGS CONTEST IN ASHGABAT: "PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT AND YOU WILL SAVE THE CHILDREN"

The truth is in the eyes of a child: children see nature pure and their drawings are able to change the attitude of the adult world to it. This was the main message of children's drawings contest in Ashgabat: "Protect the environment and you will save the children", which was held in Ashgabat in early June.

CAREC held the contest in conjunction with Rodoguna private art courses, who presented 18 works of children aged 9 to 15 years. Visitors of the exhibition put the stickers on drawings, which made the greatest impression on them. The winner, Selbi Eriniyazova, received the Audience Award.

June 10, 2016, Rodoguna art school awarded the participants with special gifts. The representative of the administration, Ms. Marina Albabaeva, and the famous artist from Turkmenistan, Mr. Chary Amangeldyev congratulated the children. In conclusion, the coordinator of CAREC projects in Turkmenistan,

Mr. Dzhumakuliev told the children about the role they can play in preserving of the environment.



9

CAREC FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE – THE 7TH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

September 19-27, 2016, Almaty, the Seventh Central Asian Leadership Programme on Environment for Sustainable Development is successfully completed. Thirty-eight participants representing five Central Asian countries and Afghanistan attended the event.

For the first time Leadership Programme was conducted by two parallel modules. The first module assembled young professionals from governmental, non-governmental, academia and business structures, and the second one gathered the representatives of the ministries of foreign affairs and Central Asian parliamentarians. Key plenary lectures were held in an academic format by high-level speakers for both modules, while the round tables were conducted separately, considering the interests and priorities of each of the target groups.



During the session of the second module with the participation of representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and parliamentarians of the Central Asia

Thus, the participants of the first module examined in detail the cases of successful international cooperation on environmental issues, water resources and sustainable development, and the second module participants through interactive discussions collected comments on the Road Map for CAREC cooperation with parliamentarians and the ministries of foreign affairs of the Central Asian countries.

There are USAID, OSCE, the representatives of UNEP and the Secretariat of UNECE, the German society for international cooperation (GIZ), UNESCO, UN ESCAP and many others among the partners that are involved as lecturers and observers.

CALP speakers demonstrated the best world practices on environmental protection and management of relevant programs and processes. Among prominent guests: Mr Charles Hopkins, an Advisor to the United Nations University and UNESCO Chair at York University in Toronto; Mr David Dishman, a Civil engineer with 30 plus years of experience in the development and monitoring of water resource projects; Dr Therese Magnusson, the Director of Transboundary Water Management Unit at Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), which, in turn, is the organizer of the World Water Week held annually; Mr Thierry Umbehr, the Regional Advisor for the Water and Disaster Risk reduction sector of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in Central Asia, and many others.

During the CALP, participants discussed the issues on water diplomacy, economic instruments for cooperation on environmental issues, reviewed the examples of successful interstate work and were exposed to interactive trainings on collaborative decision-making. In addition, as part of the Leadership Programme, participants of the first module along with CAREC delegation attended the World Bank Forum & Expo: Central Asia Water Future, where they learned about the world best practices on modernization of information management for water resources systems.



Participants of the second module after receiving their certificates

Dr. Charles Hopkins, speaker for the 7th CALP:

"I think that CALP participants have received, firstly, a much deeper understanding of the concept of sustainable development and, secondly, a regional approach to what they can really do. This training Programme is an excellent basis for them to find formed regional approach, but with the priorities of each country."

More than 200 graduates of the Leadership Programme work in five Central Asian countries and Afghanistan for different organizations, in different sectors – public authorities and non-governmental organizations, mass media and business sector. Each CALP participant has received special certificate for successful completion of the Leadership Program at CAREC. Drawn from the success, CALP will continue next years as well further improvement of regional cooperation on environmental matters in Central Asia.

10

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

October 28, 2016 – The first meeting of the National Commission of the Republic of Tajikistan on Irrigation and Drainage (Dushanbe, Tajikistan)

Within the framework of the Smart Waters project, one of the directions of CAREC activity is to support national efforts towards the promotion of water management reforms in the Central Asian countries. After receiving a formal request from the Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation at the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, CAREC will support the forthcoming meeting of the National Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (NCID) in the Republic of Tajikistan. The event assembles a number of key representatives of the international donor community. Now there is no target platform in the country for discussion and promotion of reforms in land reclamation and irrigation sector.

Follow the announcements of the events on our official website – <http://carececo.org/>.

October 31, 2016 – Round-table meeting to discuss the progress of activities within the framework of “Migration, remittances, adaptation and resilience in arid and semi-arid regions of Senegal and Tajikistan” project

During round-table meeting the preliminary results of the analytical paper, discussed course of the research progress as of the end of October will be presented along with and the work plan for the next months.

The project is one of the research packages of the “Pathways to Resilience in Semi-Arid Economies or PRISE”. PRISE is a five-year, multi-country research project that generate new knowledge about how economic development in semi-arid regions can be made more equitable and resilient to climate change. Stakeholders will have a possibility to be acquainted with new initiatives within the framework of research project.

2-4 November, 2016 - Regional Conference “Towards a shared vision on the 2030 Agenda in Central Asia” (Almaty, Kazakhstan)

The regional conference is aimed at forming a regional dialogue on the Sustainable Development Goals with a special focus on the greening of economies and ensuring environmental dimension. The event will raise awareness, increase capacity and enhance the involvement of interested regional and national partners in addressing common to the countries of Central Asia on sustainable development, as well as an opportunity to discuss possible ways of overcoming them through joint potential of combining regional and national strategies with the Sustainable Development Goals. In this context, the conference will provide a platform for research opportunities in the formation of joint regional actions for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Conference objectives: to strengthen cooperation between national institutions and other interested parties on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals at the regional and national levels; to review the 2030 Agenda and promotion of sustainable development in Central Asia; to present the experience in the development of the course and a shared vision of the 2030 Agenda.

November 24-25, 2016 – Regional workshop on strengthening cooperation on water quality in Central Asia (Almaty, Kazakhstan)

Regional workshop takes place in the framework of the project “Strengthening cooperation on water quality management in Central Asia”, which is carried out by UNECE in cooperation with CAREC. The project aims to promote the development of efficient and coordinated national policy along with a capacity building on water quality in the aspect of the Central Asian integrated water resources management. The previous phase of the project, which brought together Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, was implemented by CAREC in 2009.

The purpose of the seminar is to strengthen cooperation in the region on the water quality issues through the joint discussion of possible actions at the regional level, and to increase the capacity of practical experts to improve the water quality control at the national level.

November – December, 2016 – Introductory Seminar to begin a study on the economics of land degradation in Asia (Tashkent, Uzbekistan)

At the end of 2016, Tashkent hosts a three-day introductory workshop with the participation of experts and researchers in the field of ecosystem services, economics of natural resources and land degradation for subsequent research on the economics of land degradation in Asia.

The result of regional research will be a report on natural capital and land degradation in Asia, clearly showing the costs and benefits of sustainable land management in a comparative perspective.

Follow the announcements of events on our official website - <http://carececo.org/>





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