



**United Nations**  
Convention to Combat  
Desertification

State Forestry and  
Grassland  
Administration  
of the People's  
Republic of China



# **REGIONAL APPROACHES FOR COMBATING SAND AND DUST STORMS AND DROUGHT**

## **Concept Note**

### **Drought Management and Mitigation in CA**

*5 May 2021 | Zoom conference | 14:00 Almaty time*

Within the framework of the UNCCD Secretariat funded pilot project "*Regional Approaches in Combating Sand and Dust Storms and Drought in Central Asia*", CAREC is initiating a thematic workshop to discuss the current draft of the “Regional Drought Risk Management Strategy for Central Asia” and Project concept for the Drought Monitoring and Early Warning System (DMEWS) develop in cooperation with the International Center for Biosaline Agriculture.

The goal of the project is to enable an environment for coordinated actions and data sharing at national and regional levels and informed decision-making in addressing drought and SDS related events in the Central Asian Region, by building on the momentum generated by the UNCCD Drought Initiative and linking it to the ongoing regional and international drought and climate change related initiatives.

The main objectives of the meeting are to receive strategic feedback, comments and recommendations of international development partners on the approaches, focus, and objectives of the “Regional Drought Risk Management Strategy for Central Asia”, present the DMEWS tool, and discuss the ongoing initiatives and development agendas pertaining to the drought and climate change related events management.

**Language of the meeting:** English / Russian

# Agenda

## Drought Management and Mitigation in CA

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Time	Description
14:00-14:15	Welcome / Opening statements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Zafar Makhmudov (CAREC Executive Director)</li> <li>- Jamal Annagylyjova (Regional Liaison Officer, Central and Eastern Europe, UNCCD)</li> <li>- Dr. Tarifa A. Al Zaabi (Acting Director General of ICBA)</li> </ul>
14:15-14:25	<i>Rustam Issakhojayev</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Workshop objectives, expectations and agenda presentation</li> <li>- Group photo</li> </ul>
Session 1 <b>Overview of the UNCCD Pilot project in CA</b>	
14:25-15:20	<p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Jamal Annagylyjova</i></p> <p><b>Speakers / Presenters:</b></p> <p><i>Rustam Issakhojayev</i> (Project Manager, CAREC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overview of the results of the Project.</li> <li>- Main findings and proposed action plan for Drought management.</li> </ul> <p><i>Rashyd Zaaboul</i> (ICBA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Drought Monitoring and Early Warning System for CA</li> </ul> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
Session 2 – Panel discussion <b>Drought Management in CA: opportunities and challenges</b>	
15:20-16:35	<p>FOCUS OF DISCUSSION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financing opportunities for DMEWS;</li> <li>• Collaboration opportunities (regional / national level);</li> <li>• Data availability;</li> <li>• Political support, readiness for action;</li> <li>• Synergies between initiatives and partners;</li> <li>• Sustainability of DMEWS at national and regional levels.</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Rashyd Zaaboul</i> (ICBA)</p> <p><b>Co-moderator:</b> <i>Rustam Issakhojayev</i> (CAREC)</p> <p><b>Speakers / Presenters:</b></p> <p><i>Dr. Andreja Sušnik</i> (Slovenian Environment Agency)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitoring and Forecasting Center - operational structure and difficulties: possible benefits and difficulties for such Center in CA.</li> </ul>

	<p><i>Prof. Dr. habil Christopher Conrad</i> (University of Halle-Wittenberg)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monthly drought bulletin in the Aral Sea Basin Cropland area: possible synergy with other projects and initiatives.</li> </ul> <p><i>Br. Badji Ougfali</i> (Islamic Development Bank)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Financial opportunities and thematic areas of International Financial Institutions (IsDB).</li> </ul> <p><i>Batyr Mamedov</i> (ICSD)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regional Environmental Programme for Sustainable Development of Central Asia: the need for synergetic regional actions.</li> </ul> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
16:35-16:45	<p>Closing remarks.  <i>Daniel Tsegai</i> (Programme Officer, UNCCD)</p>