

Stakeholder Mapping on Climate Transparency and Reporting in Central Asia

July 2022



Initiative for Climate Action Transparency – ICAT

Stakeholder Mapping on Climate Transparency and Reporting in Central Asia

Deliverable #2

Authors:

Nailia Timerkhanova, RECATH Regional expert
Vadim Litvinov, RECATH National expert from Kazakhstan
Natalia Slepchenko, RECATH National expert from Kyrgyzstan
Firuz Saidov, RECATH National expert from Tajikistan
Nazar Allaberdyev, RECATH National expert from Turkmenistan
Raushan Syzdykova, ReCATH Project Manager, CAREC
Kravtsova Oxana, ReCATH Project Specialist, CAREC

Date: July, 2022

DISCLAIMER

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, photocopying, recording or otherwise, for commercial purposes without prior permission of UNOPS. Otherwise, material in this publication may be used, shared, copied, reproduced, printed and/or stored, provided that appropriate acknowledgement is given of UNOPS as the source. In all cases the material may not be altered or otherwise modified without the express permission of UNOPS.

PREPARED UNDER

The Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT), supported by Germany, Italy, the Children's Investment Fund Foundation and the ClimateWorks Foundation.

Supported by:



The ICAT project is managed by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).



Table of Content

I. Stakeholders on climate transparency and climate reporting and in Central Asia	3
Kazakhstan	3
1.1. Key State and Governmental Stakeholders in Kazakhstan	3
1.1.1. GHG emissions (National GHG Inventory and Mitigation)	4
1.1.2. Climate Adaptation	4
1.1.3. Climate Finance	5
1.2. Key Non-governmental Partners and Stakeholders in Kazakhstan	6
Kyrgyzstan	7
2.1. Key State and Governmental Stakeholders in Kyrgyzstan	7
2.1.1. GHG emissions (National GHG Inventory and Mitigation)	7
2.1.2. Climate Adaptation	7
2.1.3. Climate Finance	7
2.2. Key Non-governmental Partners and Stakeholders in Kyrgyzstan	8
Tajikistan	8
3.1. Key State and Governmental Stakeholders in Tajikistan	8
3.1.1. GHG emissions (National GHG Inventory and Mitigation)	8
3.1.2. Climate Adaptation	9
3.1.3. Climate Finance	10
3.2. Key Non-governmental Partners and Stakeholders in Tajikistan	10
Turkmenistan	10
4.1. Key State and Governmental Stakeholders in Turkmenistan	10
4.1.1. GHG emissions (National GHG Inventory and Mitigation)	10
4.1.2. Climate Adaptation	11
4.1.3. Climate Finance	11
4.2. Key Non-governmental Partners and Stakeholders in Turkmenistan	11
Uzbekistan	11
5.1. Key State and Governmental Stakeholders in Uzbekistan	11
5.1.1. GHG emissions (National GHG Inventory and Mitigation)	12
5.1.2. Climate Adaptation	12
5.1.3. Climate Finance	12
5.2. Key Non-governmental Partners and Stakeholders in Uzbekistan	13
6. Key Regional Stakeholders	13
6.1. Policy Level	13
6.2. Scientific Level	14
7. Key International Stakeholders	14

I. Stakeholders on climate transparency and climate reporting and in Central Asia

In all countries of Central Asia, the Ministries or Committees on environmental protection or Agencies on Hydrometeorology are the key appointed governmental bodies, which deal with climate policy agenda and, therefore are responsible for data collection, monitoring, reporting and transparency. The following state bodies are officially appointed as UNFCCC focal point agencies in the region:

Kazakhstan	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan (MEGNR)
Kyrgyzstan	Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision (MNRETS)
Tajikistan	Agency for Hydrometeorology of the Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (Tajhydromet)
Turkmenistan	Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan (MAEP)
Uzbekistan	Centre of Hydrometeorological Services of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Uzhydromet)

Although there are multiple agencies contributing to the climate change agenda and actions on climate transparency and reporting at the national level, those mentioned above are officially appointed bodies responsible to fulfill the commitments under the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement in particular.

In the following chapters, the analysis of the stakeholders touches each country of Central Asia individually, breaking the thematic sections into: **GHG emissions**, which includes national GHG inventory and mitigation, **adaptation** and **climate finance**. The analysis intends to provide a short description of the stakeholders' role in the process and highlights gaps and needs for further improvement.

Kazakhstan

I.1. Key State and Governmental Stakeholders in Kazakhstan

In the Republic of Kazakhstan the most important decisions on climate policy are adopted by the President, the Parliament and the Government, given their mandate. The Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan (MEGNR) is responsible for climate policy development and administration in the country and climate negotiations at the international level. In its activities MEGNR adheres to the adopted laws and planning documents in accordance with the state planning system (7NC 2017).¹

The **Department of Climate Policy and Green Technologies** was established within the MEGNR structure to perform the following²:

¹ Seventh National Communication of the Republic of Kazakhstan under the UNFCCC: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/20963851_Kazakhstan-NC7-BR3-1-ENG_Saulet_Report_12-2017_ENG.pdf

² Fourth Biennial Report of the Republic of Kazakhstan under the UNFCCC: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Report_BR4_Updated.pdf

- Formulation and implementation of uniform national policy and arranging the development of the climate and the Earth's ozone layer protection program
- Achievement and implementation of the ultimate goal and provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and other international agreements and protocols on climate change and the Earth's ozone layer
- Implementation of the national policy on international cooperation in the field of climate change and protection of the Earth's ozone layer
- State regulation of emission and removal of greenhouse gases and ozone-depleting substances
- Ensuring green growth in the region via technology transfer, knowledge sharing and financial support to international development institutions

The MEGNR houses the Environmental Protection Information and Analytics Centre, which acting in line with the obligations given under the Aarhus Convention, administers the activities of the State Fund of Ecological Information (SFEI) and supports the access to the environmental information for public users and enables their participation in addressing the environment related issues.

I.1.1. GHG emissions (National GHG Inventory and Mitigation)

JSC “Zhasyl Damu” is the subordinate body, which prepares the national GHG inventories (NIRs), collects and processes data and information flow for GHG emissions and emission reduction. The agency is also responsible for implementing the national Emission Trading Scheme (ETS), which was launched in 2013 and is based on a cap-and-trade approach, covering 218 installations in the energy, oil and gas, coal and manufacturing sectors in the Republic of Kazakhstan. Other key governmental stakeholder institutions, which provide data for GHG emissions and mitigation (NIR 2022),³are:

- Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Industry and Infrastructural Development
- Ministry of Emergency Situations
- Ministry of National Economy
- Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms
 - Bureau of National Statistics
- Ministry of Agriculture
 - Committee of Land Administration
- Ministry of Energy
- Ministry of Digital Development, Innovations and Aerospace Industry
- Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources
 - Forestry and Wildlife Committee
 - Water Resources Committee

Other stakeholders participating in GHG inventory through data provision are national companies (e.g. KazMunaiGaz, Kazakhstan Electricity Grid Operating Company, etc.) and **public and private enterprises**. More details in **Sub-Chapter 2.2 Non-governmental Partners and Stakeholders**.

In the Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) process, especially in the area of GHG emission reduction and mitigation within the National Emission Trading Scheme (ETS), one should take into account various roles of the assigned institutions. For example, the MEGNR formulates the state policy, oversees and monitors the ETS implementation and approves the projects on GHG emission reduction and sequestration, while JSC Zhasyl Damu runs the state GHG inventory and cadastre, prepares regular NIRs. At the same time, there is one more

³ Kazakhstan's NIR, 2022: <https://unfccc.int/documents/461955>

stakeholder at the state level, which is **National Accreditation Centre** of the Technical Regulation and Metrology Committee under the Ministry of Trade and Integration. The Centre issues accreditations to the verification agencies, controls their work and integrates ISO standards and assures the alignment of the work with the mentioned standards. Independent Verification Bodies, which are accredited by the NAC, in the face of private companies check the quality of the reports, submitted by the national companies.

Other stakeholders participating in GHG inventory through data provision are **national municipalities** (e.g. KazMunaiGaz, Waste Management Companies, etc.) and **public and private enterprises**. More details in **Sub-Chapter 2.2 Non-governmental Partners and Stakeholders**.

On Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) process, especially in the area of GHG emission reduction and mitigation within the National Emission Trading Scheme (ETS), one should take into account various roles of the assigned institutions. For example, the MEGNR formulates the state policy, oversees and monitors the ETS implementation and approves the projects on GHG emission reduction and sequestration, while JSC Zhasyl Damu runs the state GHG inventory and cadastre, prepares regular NIRs and checks and assures quality control over the nature users' reports. At the same time, there is one more stakeholder at the state level, which is the **National Accreditation Centre** of the Technical Regulation and Metrology Committee under the Ministry of Trade and Integration. The Centre issues accreditations to the verification agencies, controls their work and integrates ISO standards and assures the alignment of the work with the mentioned standards.

I.1.2. Climate Adaptation

The Republican State Enterprise “**Kazhydromet**” (RSE Kazhydromet) is one of the leading research and production enterprises of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan, which is engaged in meteorological and hydrological monitoring and monitoring of the state of the environment, using the nation-wide state observation network.

The **Climate Research Office** under the RSE Kazhydromet is directly involved in research and studies on adaptation to climate change, with its key functions to perform modeling and long-term forecasts on climate change, prepare information and data analysis for the National Communications and Vulnerability/Adaptation Assessments, Climate Risk Assessments, as well as to issue periodic bulletins on climate monitoring in Kazakhstan.⁴

The **Agrometeorological Forecasting Department** under the RSE Kazhydromet also contributes to generation of the climate knowledge by producing forecasts of spring and winter wheat yield, analyzing productive moisture reserves in soil before spring field works and various references on current agrometeorological conditions. The Department is also involved in inspection of damage caused by extreme weather events (drought, frosts, heavy rainfall, hail, etc.) to farm fields at organized farms covered by mandatory crops insurance scheme.

The **Institute of Geography and Water Security** of the Science Committee under the Ministry of Education and Science is another stakeholder of the project on adaptation. The Institute is involved in research and studies on glaciers, water and agriculture.

Other profile Ministries and Departments addressing adaptation to climate change in their activities, are **MEGNR's Water Resources Committee** and **Forestry and Wildlife Committee**, **Ministry of Agriculture** and its **Committee of Land Administration**, **Ministry of Emergency Situations**, **Ministry of Health** and **JSC National Centre of Space Technologies and Technologies** of the Ministry of Digital Development, Innovations and Aerospace Industry. The mentioned organizations participate in various initiatives and projects on climate resilience, provide data and information for the National Communication (mostly, on VA assessment and

⁴ More details are here: <https://www.kazhydromet.kz/en/science-centre/upravlenie-klimaticheskikh-issledovaniy-uki>

climate risk assessment), engaged in coordination and discussion processes on climate policy at the national level.

I.1.3. Climate Finance

Climate Finance agenda is also the responsibility of the **Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan** (MEGNR). The Ministry was appointed as the National Designated Authority (NDA) for the engagement with the Green Climate Fund (GCF).⁵

Other stakeholder agencies, which participate in climate finance mobilization and management, are listed below:

National Bank of the Republic of Kazakhstan (NBK) is the central bank of the Republic of Kazakhstan and represents the upper (first) level of the banking system of the Republic of Kazakhstan. NBK, within its competence, represents the interests of the Republic of Kazakhstan in relations with central banks and banks of other countries, in international banks and other financial and credit organizations.

Agency for Regulation and Development of Financial Market of the Republic of Kazakhstan (ARDFM) is a state body that ensures an appropriate level of protection of the rights and legitimate interests of consumers of financial services, contributes to ensuring the stability of the financial system and the development of the financial market, carries out state regulation, control and supervision of the financial market and financial organizations, as well as other entities within its competence. ARDFM has been designated as the legal successor of the rights and obligations of the NBK in accordance with the transferred functions and powers.

Astana International Finance Centre (AIFC), which was created to enable the development of green finance in Kazakhstan and Central Asia. The main goal is to bring investments to a sustainable economy through trending financial instruments, such as green and social bonds. In addition to that, the AIFC Green Finance Centre, being a regional think-tank, provides strategic and business consulting in green finance and sustainable development to Governments, quasi-state organizations and entrepreneurs.

Association of Financiers of Kazakhstan (AFK) unites 128 participants of the financial market, including banks, insurance organizations, mortgage and leasing companies, micro-credit organizations and pawnshops, JSC "Unified Accumulative Pension Fund", professional participants of the securities market, auditing and consulting companies, scientific and educational institutions and the media. Financial organizations that are part of the AFK form a representative organizing link of the entire financial community of Kazakhstan;

JSC Damu Entrepreneurship Development Fund (DEDF), which mission is to play an active role in the sustainable development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in Kazakhstan, through the implementation of comprehensive and effective support tools.

International Green Technologies and Investment Projects Center (IGTIPC) is a non-commercial joint-stock company, which aims to promote green technologies and support businesses to increase the level of the economy, competitive ability, improvement of living standards, and to reduce environmental contamination.

RES Accounting and Finance Support Centre (AFSC) supports the national climate policy by deploying the renewable energy sources and shares the expenditures of photovoltaic stations of the final users. At the same time, the selection of RES projects, which receive support from AFSC, is organized by auction.

⁵ <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/kazakhstan-igtipc.pdf>

The Stock Exchange Commodity "Kaspiy": Since 2013, it is the only stock exchange company in the CIS countries, which trades quotas of CO₂ greenhouse gas emissions as part of the CAP & TRADE mechanism introduced in Kazakhstan.

Other stakeholder organizations, which address green and climate finance within the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), International Organizations and Global Funds, are represented in a separate chapter and are to the most extent common in each country of Central Asia.

I.2. Key Non-governmental Partners and Stakeholders in Kazakhstan

Climate Change Coordination Centre (C4) is an independent organization to address environment and climate related issues in Kazakhstan. The Centre provides its expertise in performing assessment and capacity building in climate vulnerability and adaptation, mitigation and low-carbon development, gender equality. C4 regularly participates in the preparatory process of Kazakhstan's National Communications (NCs) by performing case studies, analysis, assessments and training on the mentioned topics.

«Eurasian Environmental Fund» is the relatively new (2021) non-commercial organization, which was established by the Green Finance Centre jointly with Corporate Fund “Biodiversity Conservation Fund” and JSC “Green Investment Group” with the aim to implement the global initiatives on climate change and support to the achievement of the carbon neutrality of Kazakhstan by enhancing the environmental responsibilities of business and society.

Nazarbayev University (NU) is one of the leading educational bodies in Kazakhstan, which provides its research and innovative expertise in mitigation and GHG emission reduction modeling and forecasts. The research centers and laboratories of the NU regularly contribute to the preparation of the National Communications and BRs of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Private Sector (Companies) also play a role in the NC and BR as well as in MRV processes at the domestic level by providing data and information on GHG emissions and therefore, contributing to the climate reporting. The exact names of the organizations will be provided and detailed upon request.

Kyrgyzstan

2.1. Key State and Governmental Stakeholders in Kyrgyzstan

Since November 2021 the key governmental state body, which is responsible for developing environmental protection and climate policy in the Kyrgyz Republic, is the **Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision (MNRETS)**.⁶ The Ministry covers a wide range of responsibilities, which, in particular, includes coordinating the preparation of the National Communications (NC), updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), Biennial Updated Reports (BURs). The Ministry leads on mitigation and adaptation efforts as well as is directly involved in the activities on green climate finance through the GCF.

In order to solve the tasks of ensuring overall coordination and integrated strategic management of the processes of fulfilling the obligations of the Kyrgyz Republic to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, mitigation measures and adaptation to climate change, a Coordinating Council on Climate Change, Ecology and Sustainable Development has been formed on environmental issues. The Council's tasks also include coordination and identification of priority measures for mitigation and adaptation to climate change, on environmental issues and sustainable development, as well as coordination of issues of attracting climate finance, investments in the field of environmental safety in the Kyrgyz Republic.

⁶ Details of the MNRETS' mandate and roles are here: <https://mnr.gov.kg/en/about/page/pravovye-osnovy-deyatelnosti/>

2.1.1. GHG emissions (National GHG Inventory and Mitigation)

The **Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision (MNRETS)** in addition to preparing the NC and reports on climate change, organizes the maintenance of the state inventory of emissions of pollutants, GHGs. The Ministry closely partners with key ministries and departments responsible for data collection and provision, including:

- Ministry of Economy and Commerce
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Transport and Communication
- Ministry of Emergency Situations
- Ministry of Energy
- National Statistic Committee

It should also be noted that not only government departments are involved in the inventory process, but also enterprises (with state participation, municipal enterprises, large private ones): among them

OJSC "Kyrgyzenergoholding", OJSC "Electric Stations", JSC "Gazprom Kyrgyzstan", GE "Kyrgyzkomur", ME "Bishkek Vodokanal", ME "Tazalyk", JSC "Kyrgyzneftegaz", thermal power plants, Bishkek Thermal Power Plant, some large industrial enterprises (OJSC "Kant Cement Plant", LLC "Metal Rolling plant named after M.V. Frunze", LLC "Interglass", LLC "Belovodsk Brick Factory", CJSC "South Kyrgyz Cement").

2.1.2. Climate Adaptation

Apart from the MNRETS, which leads the overall adaptation planning and NAP process, other agencies also substantially contribute to the climate adaptation policy formulation, including:

The Hydrometeorological Service (Kyrgyzhydromet), which is part of the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MoES), has a number of competencies in the field of data collection, systematic observations and forecasting, and therefore supports climate change adaptation and planning in the Kyrgyz Republic. Kyrgyzhydromet is responsible for providing climate change-related data and analysis to government agencies and the public.

The **Ministry on Emergency Situations** is the executive state body responsible for monitoring disaster risks, coordinating emergency responses and relief assistance, training and awareness raising of relevant government officials and populations on disaster preparedness, providing specialized information including meteorological, agro-meteorological, and hydrological information.

The Ministry of Agriculture develops and implements sectoral policies (including adaptation measures) in the field of agriculture, as well as in terms of land reclamation, land resources, water resources for irrigation and production, in the field of irrigation and reclamation, and defines priority directions of scientific research in the field of agriculture.

The Ministry of Energy develops state policy (including adaptation measures) in the fuel and energy complex, creates conditions for the introduction and use of renewable energy sources, develops mechanisms for the rational use of water and energy resources of the Kyrgyz Republic, organizes and manages research in the field of energy, develops mechanisms for the rational use of water and energy resources.

The Ministry of Health participates in the development and implementation of measures to adapt to global climate change.

2.1.3. Climate Finance

The Climate Finance Centre (CFC) is the MNRETS's institution, which leads the work on climate finance in the country. In addition to assisting in attracting financial resources from climate funds and international organizations and providing support for the implementation of investment projects and adaptation programs, the CFC also faces the tasks of participating in the monitoring of climate change projects and raising awareness and awareness of society in the field of climate change.

The Ministry of Economy and Commerce (MoEC) is responsible for the development and implementation of economic policy and inter alia for investment policies managing the investment and development projects, including climate change investments. It coordinates the development and implementation of medium- and long-term National Strategies for Sustainable Development. The Ministry of Economy plays a leading role in strategic planning, managing and promoting cross-cutting development issues, such as sustainable low-carbon and climate resilient development and green economy promotion reflected in the Green Economy Development Program.

2.2. Key Non-governmental Partners and Stakeholders in Kyrgyzstan

The Climate Network of Kyrgyzstan is a non-profit alliance of legal organizations created to reduce the negative impact of climate change on the environment and human activity at the national and international level.

UNISON Group is a professional think tank civil society organization specialized in providing sustainable solutions in areas such as energy governance, sustainable and renewable energy supply, energy efficiency, 'green' technology, green finance, climate change mitigation, and water and environment making it one of the leading organizations contributing to climate change in Central Asia.

BIOM Ecological Movement is the civil society organization, which addresses the issues of sustainable development, biodiversity and climate change, and implements a series of projects at the national and local level.

Other non-governmental organizations, which address climate change agenda in their professional endeavors, are: the research centers and profile scientific institutes of the **National Academy of Sciences** of the Kyrgyz Republic and universities.

Tajikistan

3.1. Key State and Governmental Stakeholders in Tajikistan

The Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) is a specialized agency overseeing the use of natural resources and environmental protection and serves as the central government authority responsible for implementation of public policy in the area of environmental conservation, hydrometeorology, and rational use of natural resources. CEP is the political and operational focal point in Global Environment Facility (GEF) and since 2014 CEP serves as the National Designated Authority (NDA) for the Green Climate Fund (GCF).

The Agency on Hydrometeorology (Tajhydromet) reports to the CEP and is the lead agency, addressing climate change in its agenda. Tajhydromet is responsible for climate reporting under the UNFCCC obligations (NCs, BURs).

Climate governance and coordination is at its developing stage, especially if one speaks about NDC tracking and implementation process. The CEP is now responsible for establishing the **NDC**

Implementation Body with reference to the lessons learned and good practices of the former PPCR initiative.

3.1.1. GHG emissions (National GHG Inventory and Mitigation)

The **Agency for Hydrometeorology** (Tajhydromet) is the main body responsible for the GHG inventory in the Republic of Tajikistan. It regularly produces National Communications, NIRs, BUR and NDC.

The Climate Change and Ozone Center (CCOC) is housed within the Tajhydromet and is responsible for *managing climate-related research and reporting on climate change (incl. adaptation and mitigation)*.

Other ministries and institutions, which are responsible for data collection and participate in the national GHG inventories, are:

- Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
- Ministry of Transport and Communications
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Industry and New Technologies
- State Committee for Land Management and Geodesy
- Forestry Agency under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
- Agency on Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
- Customs Service under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
- Open Joint Stock Holding Company "Barki Tojik"
- State Unitary Enterprise "Housing and Communal Services"

In terms of mitigation, the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Industry and New Technologies intend to play an important role, especially in the NDC implementation process. As of nowadays, the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources and Open Joint Stock Holding Company "Barki Tojik" participate in the initiatives and projects on expansion of RES and promote EE as key options for GHG emission reduction.

3.1.2. Climate Adaptation

The CEP is responsible for policy interventions on climate change adaptation at the national level. Jointly with other respective agencies and ministries, the CEP oversees and monitors the implementation of the 2030 National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy⁷ and is responsible for the development and implementation of the NAP.

Agency for Hydrometeorology, through its Climate Change and Ozone Centre, is responsible for managing and performing research studies on climate change adaptation and implementation of the NAP actions. The Centre supports the capacity building exercises, institutional enhancement and collects/ processes data on weather and climate as well as participate in vulnerability assessment. The Agency for Hydrometeorology also houses the Glacier Research Centre, with the aim to monitor the changes of the mountain glaciers in the face of climate change.

Other stakeholders, who address and strive to mainstream adaptation measures in their profile activities, are:

The Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (MEDT) plays an important role in climate-related governance and is responsible for state investment plans and coordination of the 2030 National Development Strategy and 2021-2025 Midterm Development Programme as well as for

⁷ Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan as of October 2, 2019:
http://www.adlia.tj/show_doc.fwx?Rgn=134926

monitoring of SDGs at the national level. MEDT also is responsible for overseeing the effective implementation of socioeconomic development priorities and has a role in developing sustainable strategies.

The Committee on Emergency Situations and Civil Defense (COES) is also relevant to climate change adaptation planning and is engaged in early warning, disaster prevention, and recovery. COES is directly authorized and responsible for management of emergency situations due to natural disasters in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

The Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for developing and implementing national agricultural policy. MoA has several key responsibilities relevant to climate change adaptation, including developing production forecasts, identifying development trends, providing support to agricultural producers, predicting the state of the agricultural sector, and providing necessary information for public and local authorities, institutions, enterprises, and civil society. The Ministry through its research institutions is also responsible for exploring the options of climate adaptive varieties of crops and cattle breeds.

Ministry of Energy and Water Resources leads on the national policy on rational use and managing of energy and water resources. It is responsible for development of mitigation and adaptation measures in the sectors of energy and water resources, namely promoting renewable energy sources and integrated water resources management (IWRM).

The Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation is responsible for developing national policy and regulations in the area of water usage and conservation. The Agency has several important roles relevant to climate change adaptation, including controlling irrigation, drainage, and other structures for water distribution, developing plans for water distribution, and developing an annual plan for new land development.

3.1.3. Climate Finance

The Committee for Environmental Protection under the GoT is the responsible national entity, which deals with attracting climate finance at the national level. Since 2021 the CEP is housing the Investment Projects Centre with the aim to coordinate the climate change and environmental protection projects.

The Ministry of Finance is the key governmental body, which deals with climate related finance if this concerns receipt of credits and loans from MDBs and other international funds. The Ministry houses the State Administration “Project Implementation Centre: Access to Green Finance and Funds for Rural Development” to attract finance resources on climate change.

The State Committee for Investments and State Property Management develops and implements the measures on improving the investment climate and finance at the national level, attracting funds to fulfill the country's strategic programmes and plans of actions in profile areas of interventions.

3.2. Key Non-governmental Partners and Stakeholders in Tajikistan

Youth Ecological Centre (YEC) works at the local and community-based level to support climate resilience through promotion of small renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, adaptive land management and agriculture, and sustainable water management. The YEC is quite active at the national level by advising on national climate policy formulation and implementation. The YEC was involved in climate risk assessment and adaptation at the community-based level as one of the stakeholders to prepare Tajikistan's National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.

Little Earth public organization addresses climate resilient measures by providing capacity building and training to local farmers and population in rural areas (focus on gender) in installing energy efficient infrastructure, adaptive crops, etc. The Little Earth is also active in discussions and preparatory processes for NDC, NAP and other policy documents on climate change.

Climate Change and Environment Network of Tajikistan (CCET) is the network of non-governmental organizations and institutions, incl. experts, to exchange and communicate on climate change agenda. The network is active online and regularly participates in environment and climate related issues at the national level, incl. development of NCs, BURs and NDC.

The State Scientific Institution “Centre for Research of Glaciers” of the National Academy of Sciences is a newly established centre, which performs field work and research studies over the glaciers in Tajikistan and provides the updated information and analysis on glacial dynamics due to climate change.

Turkmenistan

4.1. Key State and Governmental Stakeholders in Turkmenistan

The Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection of Turkmenistan (MAEPT) was established in early 2019 after a decision to merge the State Committee for Environmental Protection and Land Resources of Turkmenistan (SCEPLR), the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (MOAWR) and the National Committee for Hydrometeorology (NCH) and has assumed their functions.

The MAEPT is the National Designated Authority (NDA) to the GCF, and the National Focal Point to the UNFCCC. It has been awarded the overall mandate to oversee strategic direction as well as practical implementation of measures to address climate change issues as well as to achieve the agriculture and environment sectors' development objectives by 2030.

4.1.1. GHG emissions (National GHG Inventory and Mitigation)

The Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan (MAEP) is responsible for the compilation of the national GHG inventory and NIR reporting under the UNFCCC obligations. A special working/technical group is being established within the Ministry which coordinates the process of data collection, processing and estimating the emissions/absorption. The key data providers are the following stakeholder institutions:

- Ministry of Energy
- Ministry of Industry and Construction Production
- Ministry of Construction and Architecture
- Ministry of Textile Industry
- Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection
- State Committee of Statistics
- State Committee for Water Resources
- State Concern "Turkmengaz"
- State Concern "Turkmenneft"
- State Concern "Turkmenhimiya"
- Agency "Turkmenemiryollary"
- Agency "Turkmenavtoulaglary"
- Agency "Turkmenhowayollary"
- Agency "Turkmedenizderyaellary"
- Local authorities

4.1.2. Climate Adaptation

Climate change adaptation is the overall responsibility of the **MAEP** in Turkmenistan, which leads on the national climate adaptation/resilience policy and coordinates the relevant projects.

The **Hydrometeorological Service** is responsible for meteorological, hydrological, and agrometeorological monitoring, developing forecasts for hydrometeorological events, surface water flow probabilities, accurate climate data for use in planning for crop sowing and harvesting, and,

providing general hydrometeorological information to the public. The Hydrometeorological Service is also tasked with developing scientific and technological cooperation in the area of hydrometeorology with neighboring countries, systemized exchanges of hydrometeorological information, complying with common methodologies of hydrometeorological observations, and hydrometeorological data collection and dissemination.

The National Institute of Deserts, Flora and Fauna under the MAEP performs basic and applied research studies on biology, ecology, environment and climate change by promoting rational use of the natural resource use and given the specificity of the arid ecosystem functioning.

4.1.3. Climate Finance

Most of the funding on climate actions in Turkmenistan comes from the state budget. Apart from the **MAEP**, which is the entity responsible for climate change policy and attraction of climate policy at the national level, the following stakeholder institutions, are also overseeing the climate finance process in Turkmenistan:

The **Ministry of Finance and Economy** adopts budgets, sets standards and manages relations with donors, including the projects and investments on climate change in Turkmenistan.

4.2. Key Non-governmental Partners and Stakeholders in Turkmenistan

The Civil Society Sector in Turkmenistan is participating in the various projects and programmes on climate change. However, there are needs to take measures in addressing the gaps in legislative and bureaucratic processes, which sometimes hamper the active engagement of the CSOs in the national climate change agenda.

The Scientific and Information Centre of ICSD (Secretariat) of the IFAS is the regional organization. However, in Turkmenistan it is actively involved in addressing the national environmental protection agenda, where the issues of climate change are also included.

Public Organization “Tebigi Kuvvat” addresses the issues of climate change by promoting energy efficient solutions and expansion of the renewable energy sources. The organization is a frequent participant of the regional and national events on climate resilience and GHG emission reduction.

Uzbekistan

5.1. Key State and Governmental Stakeholders in Uzbekistan

The main national agency, which regulates the climate change policy in Uzbekistan, is the **Centre of Hydrometeorological Services (Uzhydromet)**. Amidst its routine scope of work on weather, hydro and climate observations and data collection, the agency is the principle governmental body to report on climate change under the country's commitments under the UNFCCC. Uzhydromet is also coordinating the NDC preparation and implementation process.

Uzhydromet is responsible to prepare the regular National Communications and BuRs under the UNFCCC, update and implement the NDC as well as to lead the development of the domestic MRV system.

5.1.1. GHG emissions (National GHG Inventory and Mitigation)

The principle body responsible for preparation of the regular GHG inventories and NIRs is the **Uzhydromet**. The agency collects data provided by the sectoral ministries and departments, estimates the GHG emissions and absorptions, compiles the reports and submits them to the UNFCCC Secretariat.

Other stakeholder institutions, responsible for GHG inventory at the national level, are:

- Ministry of Energy
- Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Agriculture
- State Committee on Statistics
- State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection
- Cadastre Agency under the State Tax Committee
- State Committee on Forestry
- Joint Stock Company “Uzkimyosanoat”
- Association “Uzpromstroyaterialy”
- Research Hydrometeorological Institute (NIGMI) at Uzhydromet
- Scientific Research Institute on Forestry

5.1.2. Climate Adaptation

Uzhydromet is the agency, which is responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of the climate change agenda in Uzbekistan and considers the issues of climate adaptation within its department. It is also responsible for weather forecasting; climate, extreme weather events, hydro-meteorological and agro-meteorological monitoring; the forecasting of water availability and climate research. Uzhydromet remains the sole body formally charged with international climate matters in the country.

The State Committee of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environment Protection (SCEEP) is also considered as a key stakeholder agency, addressing climate adaptation and resilience at the national level. SCEEP is the designated overall (i.e. non-sector based) coordinating body that is implementing government oversight and control as well as inter-sectoral management related to protection, utilization and reproduction of natural resources. Uzhydromet cooperates with the SCEEP, among other actors, in fulfilling its duties regarding international climate change matters such as GHG inventory and NC reporting, preparation of negotiating position, etc.

Other stakeholders, which deal with adaptation issues in their professional mandate are: **Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Water Resources and Ministry of Emergency Situations.**

5.1.3. Climate Finance

The Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade is the NDA within the GCF. It is appointed as key governmental institution to liaise with the donor on attracting resources and finance in addressing the issues of climate change in Uzbekistan.

The Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction can also be named as one of the climate finance stakeholders, as it had a leading technical and decision-making role in dealing with CDM projects. In fact, Uzbekistan is the most successful country in Central Asia with dozens of approved CDM projects, which were designed to reduce GHG emissions and attract foreign investments on climate change.

Uzhydromet is certainly among the stakeholders on climate finance, as it coordinates the agenda of climate change and formulates the policy, possesses technical expertise and has the overall responsibility to report on the given obligations under the UNFCCC.

5.2. Key Non-governmental Partners and Stakeholders in Uzbekistan

Ecoforum of Uzbekistan Public Organization (Ecoforum of Uzbekistan PO) is one of the key non-governmental stakeholder, which deals with EE, RES, waste management and climate change in Uzbekistan. Ecoforum is a member of CAREC’s Executive Board, with a decision making role for non-governmental sector in the country. Within the ICAT initiative the Ecoforum’s

expertise and network might be used to better disseminate the knowledge and results as well as collect the relevant information and data.

6. Key Regional Stakeholders

At the regional level, there are a number of regional or bilateral international organizations, which are also considered as key stakeholders in the climate change agenda. The following is the list of partners, whose opinion one needs to take into account once the project goes viral.

6.1. Policy Level

Although the **Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC)** is the implementing entity for the ICAT project, one has to enhance the cooperation and communication with **the Climate Change and Sustainable Energy Department**, which implements a number of regional projects on climate policy and liaise with the national and regional partners, who address the issues of climate adaptation, climate finance and low-carbon development projects. For example, within the **CAMP4ASB project**, there are a number of initiatives on progressing towards the decision making process on climate change (set-up of the regional pavilion of the Central Asian countries at COP-26 and planned COP-27). Given success of the CAMP4ASB in this high-level policy segment as well as acquired knowledge on using the scheme of the climate finance (credit) assessment at the regional level, the project may use the lessons learned or the established tools/platforms for better expansion of the ICAT project initiatives.

- **Regional Network of Civil Society Organizations on Climate Change (RNCSOs)**, which was established within the CAMP4ASB project also provides an opportunity to cooperate with the regional network of non-governmental organizations on climate related issues.⁸

The Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving Aral Sea (EC IFAS) aims to develop and attract investments to the ecological and related projects and programs directed to environmental recovery of the Aral Sea as well as to address general socio-economic problems of the Central Asian region. The Executive Committee of IFAS performs a decision making role in many ecological, climate or water initiatives. For example, within the CAMP4ASB project, the EC acts as the key policy making partner for the regional activities of the project, while CAREC is the implementing body. *For the ICAT initiatives, one needs to explore opportunities to what extent the EC IFAS can be involved (e.g. for the purposes of information exchange and/or monitoring).*

Interstate Commission for Sustainable Development (ICSD), ICSD Secretariat, ICSD Scientific-Information Centers (SICs) provides political support for the initiatives at the multi-country level and is one of the platforms for communication and information exchange for promoting sustainable practices in the region. It implements and oversees the Regional Environmental Action Plan (REAP), where CAREC is also contributing (at the content and progress level in particular). ICAT might consider the *ICSD platform to communicate and report on the results of the ICAT initiative and contribute to the progress of the REAP implementation* from the side of climate mitigation and adaptation (+policy making).

6.2. Scientific Level

Scientific Information Center (SIC) of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination (ICWC) is the information and analytical body, developing methods and approaches of prospective development, improvement of water management and ecological situation in the Aral Sea basin. SIC ICWC is collaborating with a network of scientific and design organizations of all

⁸ More details at: <https://carececo.org/en/main/news/news/ezhegodnaya-vstrecha-filiala-rettsa-v-respublike-kazakhstan-s-organizatsiyami-grazhdanskogo-obshche/>

five countries of Central Asia, has national branches in three countries which, in turn, organize scientific and information exchange at the national level. The SIC has the capacity to consider climate change aspects in water management and was acting as one of the service suppliers to the CAMP4ASB project in terms of climate assessment and produced a scoping methodology and tools for screening the loan development projects for climate resilient benefits. The ICAT initiative might consider the *SIC as a potential partner at a later stage*, during the implementation phase of the Detailed Work Plan.

Regional Mountain Center of Central Asia (RMCCA) as an element of ICSD structure promotes cooperation in the Central Asia region to sustain mountain ecosystems conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources and works to improve the socio-economic conditions in mountain areas by providing policy support. The RMCCA can be considered as one of the regional stakeholder institutions to be *involved in adaptation issues in mountainous sites of Central Asia, at a later stage of the ICAT project implementation (work plan implementation stage)*.

Central Asian Regional Glaciological Centre under the auspices of UNESCO⁹ (Almaty, Kazakhstan based) aims to conduct scientific research in the area of glaciology, coordinate research activities and exchange information between different organizations involved in monitoring of the condition of glaciers, snow and permafrost in Central Asia, implement and develop regional research programs in glaciology that meet the goals of the International Hydrological program. Within the ICAT initiatives, the Glaciological Centre might be considered as a *resource institution to provide services on research studies and data compilation on water and glaciers under the climate change conditions* (adaptation element).

7. Key International Stakeholders

Secretariat and operational bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) oversee the policy and implementation progress of the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement. Within special initiatives a number of projects on climate finance and decisions (Article 6, Article 13) aiming at capacity building are being implemented. For example, UN ESCAP implements the **UNFCCC Needs Based Finance (NBF) project**, which supports the development of a regional climate finance access and mobilization strategy for the Central Asia and South Caucasus region. ICAT initiative may consider this project and its results as entry points for determination and implementation of the joint multi-country activities.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is amongst key international development organizations in the countries of Central Asia (Kazakhstan and Tajikistan), which supports the preparation of the NCs and BURs (further on, BTRs). In terms of climate finance, UNDP also plays a crucial role. Through its regional programs and projects, UNDP provides technical support for the countries in developing tools and methodologies for assessing finance and financial flows to support climate actions. In the frameworks of the UNDP Climate Promise initiative, for example, the countries of Central Asia, Kyrgyz Republic worked on NDC cost assessment, Turkmenistan worked on existing investment landscape at the international level; while Uzbekistan focused on green bonds. In the subsequent phase 2 of the Climate Promise project, Uzbekistan plans to work on carbon pricing, CPEIR and other areas; Kyrgyz Republic plans to work on Innovative Climate Financing, NDC Financing strategy and other areas of climate finance. *ICAT initiative might consider an opportunities to join forces with UNDP country offices to support the respective interventions.*

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) – also work on preparation of the NCs and BURs in Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan through GEF. UNEP through its sub-regional

⁹ More details at: <https://ingeo.kz/?p=9570>

office in Bangkok and Central Asia works on climate finance and MRV/ ETF, supporting information exchange, communication and capacity building.

- The recently established and officially opened **UNEP Copenhagen Climate Centre** (UNEP/UNOPS) is a great opportunity to collaborate jointly with leading experts and championing countries on climate policy (NDCs) and transparency. The Centre works to strengthen national institutions and create the foundation for the enhanced transparency framework to build trust and confidence among countries and foster shared understanding, greater accountability and strengthened ambition of climate actions and support.¹⁰

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO Regional Office) works on ETF and transparency in the AFOLU sector, provides technical expertise on the topic, elaborates on methodologies and tools in adaptation and mitigation, and maintains the regional network of experts. The ICAT initiative might want to consider an opportunity to cooperate and exchange the information on the ICAT progress of the Central Asian region and seek the opportunity to *use FAO's resource people/tools for the use of the project (if any other methods are not available within ICAT)*.

German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) is well known in Central Asia by its practical projects on carbon sequestration, ecosystem based adaptation and approaches in land and forestry management in plain and mountain areas. There are at least two programs, which need to be taken into account while working with the ICAT initiative in the region:

- **PATPA** initiative or the Partnership in Transparency in Paris Agreement (led by GIZ and sponsored by BMZ) is to promote ambitious climate action through policy dialogue and practitioner-based exchanges. The network includes a number of interested countries. Unfortunately, the PATPA does not include the countries of Central Asia, but provides a package of tools and instruments on transparency and accountability of climate actions, which will be important to use by CA countries.
- **Green Central Asia Initiative** supports a science-based regional political dialogue on questions of environmental and climate-related security risks and corresponding capacity building. The aim of the project is to improve access to information and risk analyses to enable countries to assess the impact of climate change more accurately and to take preventive measures. As part of the initiatives' work plan countries receive on demand support for engagement with the Green Climate Fund.

NDC Partnership (NDCP) works directly with national governments, international institutions, civil society, researchers, and the private sector to fast-track climate and development action. The Partnership aims to increase alignment, coordination, and access to resources to link needs to solutions through the following approaches: (a) Country engagement, (b) Knowledge and information sharing, and (c) Access to finance. At present, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are the members of the NDCP, and in 2022 received technical support to support a project on Green recovery through scaling up Innovative Climate Financing in 2021 and to develop a green taxonomy in 2022 for Kyrgyzstan, and requested support to mobilize resources for NDC implementation, capacity building and coordination as well as tracking and monitoring NDC related support by donors for Tajikistan. ICAT initiative may want to explore more opportunities for cooperation within the transparency actions.

United Nations Agency for International Cooperation (USAID) works primarily on water related issues. However, some regional initiatives are addressing climate challenges.

- The **USAID C5+1 Project** supports Central Asian countries' regional cooperation through five project areas including energy as well as adaptation to climate change. The energy component of the project is called "Power the Future (PtF)" and is providing technical assistance and capacity building to the project countries to help them create an

¹⁰ <https://unepdtu.org/>

economically viable Central Asia Regional Electricity Market. This includes capacity building on financial modeling and forward-looking financial analysis of renewable energy projects. Through the project's adaptation component, **National and Regional Adaptation Planning** projects support the development of national plans that identify environmental risks and prioritize actions with water management being a key goal.

- The United States Government, through the **Comprehensive Action for Climate Change Initiative in Asia (CACCI)** offered to support Tajikistan in the following areas:
(i) Provide technical assistance and directly work with the national institutions including CEP and Ministry of Finance to establish the NDC Secretariat.¹¹ The ICAT initiative may explore more on this throughout mutual discussion.

Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) operate in all countries of Central Asia through grants and loan programmes, supporting green economy and climate resilience through low-carbon development projects, promoting energy efficiency, sustainable landscapes and water management. MDBs in the face of Asian Development Bank (ADB), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and World Bank have been very active in supporting climate change activities within the Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, bringing multi-million investments to support adaptation and mitigation efforts of the countries, maintaining infrastructural and institutional developments and ensuring transparency and accountability of climate actions. *The ICAT initiative can explore more about the institutional setting and coordination processes (institution related governance) established within the PPCR and use these mechanisms in its work. Moreover, attract MDBs to the climate finance agenda in terms of future funding perspectives and priorities for the countries of Central Asia.*

International Funds (GCF, Adaptation Fund, GEF) provide grants and loans to the countries of Central Asia to support climate resilient actions. For example, GEF is the main source of funding to report under the UNFCCC and provide financial support (through UNDP and UNEP) to prepare regular NCs, BURs and BTRs. Also, GEF supports other environment-related initiatives on land management, biodiversity, sustainable transport and energy. The Adaptation Fund is now more popular in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan and also supports local and national interventions on climate resilience and natural resource management. With GCF, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan have the greatest investments¹², while Turkmenistan has the fewest.¹³ *The ICAT initiative intends to definitely work with the IFs and support the countries in better climate finance tracking and accounting to effectively implement the Paris Agreements and NDCs.*

II. Summary of gaps and needs

The present section summarizes key gaps and barriers of all Central Asian states in transparency and climate reporting especially from the side of stakeholder capacities. Definitely, all states of the region have already established the institutional setting and appointed respective bodies to implement the climate change policies. However, there are certain gaps, in terms of institutions and stakeholders engagement, which prevent the effective implementation of the climate transparency actions.

II.1. Institutional gaps

Institutional gaps are mostly associated with **coordination** and **intradepartmental cooperation** in terms of data and information access, set-up of unique data collection system on GHG

¹¹ Details are in the email from Oleg Bulany to Raushan as of 25 April 2022

¹² More details are at <https://zoinet.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/CA-climate-finance-en.pdf>

¹³ The first GCF readiness project in Turkmenistan is now active and is implemented by CAREC Office in Turkmenistan.

emissions (e.g. national statistics cadastre of GHG emission data). As of now, the data collection process is organized within the projects and does not unfortunately correspond to sustainability and regularity in reporting.¹⁴

Coordination and intra-departmental cooperation is the biggest challenge in overcoming the institutional barriers. There are no coordination and regulation mechanisms on managing the collection of GHG emission data in almost all countries of Central Asia. As a temporary option, the technical working groups are being established with the aim to collect and process the data and coordinate the information exchange process, to comply with the international climate and environmental agreements. In some cases, the lower power and authority of the climate governance bodies, is also an issue. Observations show, that for example, requests to contribute to review new regulation policies and documentations on climate change on behalf of Hydromets or Committees on Environmental Protection take longer time.

Lack or limited institutional memory and high turnover of professional staff are closely related, and also attributed to the institutional gaps. Once the projects are complete or the staff is trained, the people leave for higher salaries – either for the international agencies or abroad, leaving the organization without technical capacities.

With the updated NDCs, the countries of Central Asia have to implement their obligations on mitigation and adaptation to be well on record with the Paris Agreement. However, to do this, it is necessary to establish the NDC governance structure, which would help the national government to track the progress against the targets and effectively monitor the NDC implementation process. The institutional enhancement in NDC governance is definitely needed and requires capacity building, cooperation and exchange. As an option, the key ministries or departments could assign the tasks of the NDC monitoring and implementation to the existing or newly established departments or appoint focal points.

II.2. Legal barriers

Limited or no legal acts or basis for data collection and exchange are key challenges towards the implementation of the climate transparency issues. In most cases, the bodies which are responsible for GHG inventory and adaptation implement their national commitments given the order (prikaz), decree or general laws on environmental protection. However, there are no concrete legal frameworks or laws, which regulate the data/information flows and transparency matters on climate change actions of different ministries and departments.

On the other hand, with the progress on NDC and ETF requirements, the countries need to better understand what national policies are available and would close the gap in mitigation and adaptation, and what amendments or revisions are needed for these policies to work effectively. Thus, the policy assessment exercise, including the legal acts and sector-based plans, is advisable to start with.

II.3. Financial issues

Lack of finance is usually claimed as the biggest gap in fulfilling the climate change agenda. The countries of Central Asia are usually dependent on international funding to implement their national climate change commitments, and require additional technical support to fulfill the obligations under the Paris Agreement on ETF and MRV. As of nowadays, unfortunately, none of the countries of Central Asia have the projects on CBIT (Capacity Building Initiative on Transparency) or BTR, while the ICAT/ReCATH initiative, in fact, is the first regional agreement, which would partially close the finance and capacity gaps.

The limited finance on climate change is also correlated with the deficiency of long-term development plans for key climate-dependent sectors at the national level. There are no

¹⁴ Exception is Kazakhstan.

mechanisms to track the financial resources on climate change, which over the recent decade are inflowing to address the needs for adaptation and mitigation. Thus, it is necessary to establish lean and sustainable procedures of monitoring and tracking of climate finance of international and domestic interventions and integrate the budget labeling tools for national sources of climate finance (national or sub-national).

II.4. Technical capacities

Individual and technical capacities on climate actions transparency and MRV are regular issues in the countries of Central Asia. Coupled with the financial issues above, the limited knowledge on formats and new requirements of reporting and accounting and access to practical guidelines on MRV also add to the problem. The very concept of the ETF is still new to the specialists and requires regular trainings and available practical guidance. Within the ICAT/ReCATH initiative, it is necessary not only to organize the regular trainings or capacity building exercises, it is advisable to modify the approach of the learning process and explore the possibilities to retain the old and new schools of specialists.

II.5. Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement process is sometimes challenging in Central Asia. There are observations that the decision making process on climate change and NDC does not overwhelmingly engage all respective stakeholders, especially from the civil society and private sector. This definitely impacts the quality of the produced documents or prevents effective planning of the future actions on low-carbon development and adaptation. Access to information or policy updates at the very preparatory stage could ultimately address this issue.

II.6. Other gaps and issues

Mainstreaming gender into climate change reporting and transparency of climate actions is becoming more recognized at the global level. Several high-level decisions at COPs over the past few years were taken to push for a gender sensitive approach in the climate policy. Unfortunately, up to the date, none of the countries of Central Asia have their UNFCCC National Gender Focal Points.¹⁵ Definitely, there are reasons of having different governance structure and mandates (e.g. the Central Asian countries have the Ministries/Committees on Women or Family or Social Affairs dealing with the national gender agenda) but the reporting on gender and climate change is becoming obligatory and the parties need at least to raise their awareness on how and what to report on in their future BTRs.

Methodologies, tools and assessment approaches are the cornerstones for other issues, which require attention to the gaps of limited technical capacities. For example, absence of MRV/ETF clear-cut methodologies or decisions on adaptation reporting, or practical handbooks on policy assessment often complicates the national climate policy implementation (incl. NDC) and reporting process. This issue is very relevant to those specialists (junior or mid-level practitioners), who have no foreign language skills.

¹⁵ <https://unfccc.int/topics/gender/resources/list-of-gender-focal-points-under-the-unfccc>

Annex 1: Matrix of **key** national, regional and international stakeholders and their role in the ICAT/CAREC project
Appendix 1.A. Kazakhstan

NB: ++ very high; + high; > medium

Organization	Interest	Political Influence	Mandate	Role in CC and Transparency			Role in ICAT/CAREC	Gaps
				GHG/Mitigation	Adaptation	Finance		
Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources (MEGNR)	++	++	Key governmental decision making body on CC in Kz; UNFCCC focal point, GCF focal point	++	+	+	FP of the project; decision-making body on CC	NAP process is pending
JSC "Zhasyl Damu"	++	>	Compiles GHG inventories; develops NIRs; coordinates ETS.	++	+	+	Recipients of GHG inventory/ mitigation CB programmes; resource people for other CA countries	Outflow of specialists on GHG inventories
RSE Kazhydromet	++	>	Prepares V/A section for NCs; CC research and prognosis		++		MRV for Adaption; development of indicators	Limited knowledge on M&E/MRV for adaptation
Bureau of National Statistics		>	Collects GHG data; GHG national cadastre holder	++			GHG data provider; recipient of GHG inventory/ mitigation CB programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of GHGI time series statistic • Some data do not correspond to IPCC categories
National Ministry of Economy	+	++	Manages SDG agenda in KZ	+	+	+	Ally in synchronizing the project outputs with SDG and national development strategy	Fragmented knowledge on MRV/CC

Ministry of Energy		++	Leads on expansion of RES and EE, alternative ES	+			Recipient of GHG mitigation CB Programme for the energy sector	Curbing the growth of electricity tariffs
Ministry of Agriculture		+	Jointly with UNDP implements the adaptation projects for agricultural sector; grant provider to UNDP KZ		+	+	Recipient for MRV for adaptation CB programme (focus: agro)	Fragmented knowledge, limited specialists on low-carbon technologies
AIFC Green Finance Centre	++	+	Attracts green finance for SD; liaise with the GCF; green and social bonds approach.			++	Resource people or recipient of Climate Finance CB programme	Limited expertise on transparency
Climate Change Coordination Centre (C4)	+	<	Participates in NC preparation; expertise in gender and CC	+	+	+	Gender and CC agenda expertise; GHG/ mitigation expertise	Limited expertise on transparency
Non-governmental sector			Network of non-governmental experts and organizations, addressing CC through outreach and awareness raising		+	+	Awareness, communication, individual experts	Lack of knowledge on climate reporting/ transparency
Nazarbayev University (NU)	++	+	Research and modelling of GHG emissions; reduction strategies, finance	+		+	Research, modelling, tailoring methodologies and tools	Limited expertise on transparency

NB: ++ very high; + high; > medium

Organization	Interest	Political Influence	Mandate	Role in CC and Transparency			Role in ICAT/CAREC	Gaps
				GHG/ Mitigation	Adaptation	Finance		
Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision (MNRETS)	++	++	Key governmental decision making body on CC in Kg; UNFCCC focal point	++	++	++	FP of the project; decision-making body on CC; Recipients of GHG inventory/ mitigation/ adaptation CB programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not institutionalized GHGI and projections • Limited technical capacities on mitigation scenarios development and measures calculations • Lack of VRA capacities: methodology, tools • Lack of NAP • Insufficient legislative and other support of MRV and M&E systems
Climate Finance Centre (CFC)	++	+	NDA in GCF; manages climate funding; operational arm of the MNRETS			++	Recipients of Climate Finance CB programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Investment Program needs update • Lack of Country Program on GCF • Limited technical capacities on project proposals development

Organization	Interest	Political Influence	Mandate	Role in CC and Transparency			Role in ICAT/CAREC	Gaps
				GHG/ Mitigation	Adaptation	Finance		
National Hydrometeorological Agency (Kyrgyz Hydromet)	++		Prepares V/A section for NCs; CC research and prognosis	+	++		Recipients of MRV for adaptation CB programmes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited technical capacities in modeling of CC scenarios Restricted access to climate observation time series data
Ministry on Emergency Situations	+	++	Addresses issues of emergency situation		+		Recipients of MRV for adaptation CB programmes (e.g. tools on loss and damage)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited technical capacities in VRA methods application Limited technical capacities in modeling climate disasters Obsolete methodology of climate induced loss calculation
National Statistical Committee	++		Collects main sectoral statistics feasible for GHGI, adaptation and mitigation	+	>		High capacity in data collection and using the tools/formats – resource and beneficiary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of GHGI time series statistic Land resources data do not correspond to IPCC categories A lot of data is not well elaborated for GHGI, A and M use.
Ministry of Economy and Commerce	>	++	Plans and oversees the national policy	>	>	>	Ally to integrate the outputs with SDG and Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited technical capacities on green

Organization	Interest	Political Influence	Mandate	Role in CC and Transparency			Role in ICAT/CAREC	Gaps
				GHG/ Mitigation	Adaptation	Finance		
			on Green Economy, SDGs				Economy Development	and climate resilient development
Ministry of Energy	++	++	Addresses RES and EE agenda	++	++		MRV for mitigation for energy sector (resource and beneficiary)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of technical capacities on GHGI • Sectoral data not well elaborated for GHGI • Limited technical capacities to develop mitigation scenarios and measures calculation • Lack of A and M strategies • Lack of technical capacities for sectoral MRV and M&E systems
Ministry of Agriculture	+	++	Pasture management under CC; water resources management	++	++		Recipient for MRV for adaptation and mitigation CB programme (focus: agro)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of sectoral A and M strategies • Lack of technical capacities on GHG emission inventory • Lack of technical capacities on VRA and adaptation
Ministry of Health care	>	++	Monitor CC impacts on human health		++		Recipient for MRV for adaptation CB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unelaborated data sets feasible for VRA

Organization	Interest	Political Influence	Mandate	Role in CC and Transparency			Role in ICAT/CAREC	Gaps
				GHG/ Mitigation	Adaptation	Finance		
							programme (focus: health)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of adaptation strategy • Lack of technical capacities for sectoral VRA and adaptation • Lack of M&E system
UNISON Group	+		Expertise in energy solutions, data collection and processing; methods and tools	+		>	Local expertise in mitigation efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fragmented technical capacities • Gaps in data sets
BIOM Ecological Movement	+		Expertise in gender and CC and CC education		+	>	Local expertise in adaptation and gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fragmented technical capacities • Gaps in data sets
Climate Network of Kyrgyzstan	+		Network of non-governmental experts and organizations, addressing CC through outreach and awareness raising	+	+	>	Dissemination of information and news of the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fragmented technical capacities • Gaps in data sets
Centre for RES and Energy-efficiency	+		Expertise of RES installations design, supply and operations. Energy audit,	+	+		Local expertise in mitigation and energy sector adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fragmented technical capacities • Gaps in data sets

Organization	Interest	Political Influence	Mandate	Role in CC and Transparency			Role in ICAT/CAREC	Gaps
				GHG/ Mitigation	Adaptation	Finance		
			energy efficient solutions Mitigation measures development					
Aarhus Centre in Bishkek	+		Expertise in CC mitigation measures development, reductions calculations and scenarios elaboration.	++		>	Local expertise in mitigation in energy agriculture, forestry and waste sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fragmented technical capacities • Gaps in data sets

Appendix 1.C. Tajikistan

NB: ++ very high; + high; > medium

Organization	Interest	Political Influence	Mandate (related to CC)	Role in CC and Transparency			Role in ICAT/CAREC	Gaps
				GHG/Mitigation	Adaptation	Finance		
Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP)	++	++	Key governmental decision making body on climate policy in TJ; GEF and GCF NDA	+	++	++	FP of the project; decision making body on CC	Lack of technical and finance capacities on CC
Agency on Hydrometeorology (Tajhydromet)	++	++	Prepares NCs, BURs, NDC and GHG inventories, National FP with UNFCCC	++	++	+	Establisher of MRV (implementing role – under discussion)	Limited capacities on MRV and project proposal development
Agency of Statistics under the President's Office		>	Data collection and processing for GHG inventories	>			Data provider	No formats of regular GHG data collection process; low capacity on GHG data collection/inventories
Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (MEDT)		++	Oversees SDG national agenda; formulates and implements the NDS and green economy development		+		Ally to coordinate/integrate CC actions to SDGs; green economy	Low profile on CC and low-carbon principles
Ministry of Energy and Water Resources (MEWR)	+	+	Addresses RES and EE, IWRM	+	+	+	MRV for adaptation and/or mitigation (resource and beneficiary)	Low profile on CC and low-carbon principles
Ministry of Agriculture		+	Addresses agriculture and food security, cooperates with FAO on ETF (?)	+	++		Potential (GHG intensive) sector for applying ICAT tools	Low profile on CC and V/A
Ministry of Foreign Affairs		+	Aligns national priorities and policy with			+	Decision making body for any regional or	Low profile on CC

			international funds and organizations				international projects/ events	
Ministry of Finance		++	Coordinates and oversees credit and loans on CC (e.g. PPCR programme, GCF projects)			+		Limited capacities on climate finance
RES Research Centre (CSIRES)			Research in renewable energy sources					Fragmented capacities and irregular datasets
Youth Ecological Centre (YEC)	+		Expertise in energy efficiency and adaptation at the local level		+		Local expertise in adaptation and NAP planning process	Fragmented capacities and irregular datasets
Little Earth NGO	+		Expertise in RES and EE at the community based level	+			Local expertise in EE and RES	Fragmented capacities and irregular datasets
Climate Change and Environment Network of Tajikistan	+		Network of non-governmental experts and organizations, addressing CC through outreach and awareness raising	+	+	+	Dissemination of information and news of the project; expertise in gender and CC	Fragmented capacities and irregular datasets

Appendix 1.D. Turkmenistan

NB: ++ very high; + high; > medium

Organization	Interest	Political Influence	Mandate (related to CC)	Role in CC and Transparency			Role in ICAT/CAREC	Gaps
				GHG/ Mitigation	Adaptation	Finance		
Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection of Turkmenistan (MAEPT)	++	++	Key governmental decision making body on climate policy in TRM; GCF NDA; Prepares NCs, BURs and GHG inventories, National FP with UNFCCC	+	+	+	FP of the project; decision making body on CC; Potential (GHG intensive) sector for applying ICAT tools	Lack of unified institutional body (separate) on CC; limited capacities on transparency
Hydrometeorological Service (Turkmenhydromet)	+	>	Nests within the MAEP; Data collection and forecasting, monitoring, adaptation		+		National expertise in adaptation	Closed access to climate data, lack of capacities in M
National Institute of Deserts, Flora and Fauna	>		Nests within the MAEP; Conducts research studies on bio, ecosystems and CC		>		National expertise in adaptation	Fragmented capacities on CC
State Committee of Statistics	+	+	Data collection for GHG	+	+	>	Data provider	No formats of regular GHG data collection process
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	+	++	Aligns national priorities and policy with international funds and organizations			+	Decision making body for any regional or international projects/ events	Low profile on CC
Ministry of Finance and Economy	>	++	Adopts budgets, sets standards and manages relations with donors	>		+	Ally to coordinate/ integrate CC actions to SDGs	Low profile on CC and Climate Finance
Scientific and Information Centre of ICSD	+	+	Contributes to the national climate change agenda (affiliates under the MAEPT)	+	+		Expert support in M and A actions through RES and technologies	Lack of technical capacities on MRV/reporting

(Secretariat) of the IFAS								
Public Organization "Tebigi Kuvvat"	>		Addresses GHG emission reduction through EE and RES solutions	>	>		National expertise in mitigation	Fragmented capacities and datasets

NB: ++ very high; + high; > medium

Organization	Interest	Political Influence	Mandate (related to CC)	Role in CC and Transparency			Role in ICAT/CAREC	Gaps
				GHG/Mitigation	Adaptation	Finance		
Centre of Hydrometeorological Services (Uzhydromet)	++	+	Key governmental decision making body on climate policy in UZB; Prepares NCs, BURs and GHG inventories, National FP with UNFCCC	+	+	+	FP of the project; decision making body on CC	
Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction		++	Gov agency, <u>formerly</u> having a decision making role in CDM projects	+		+	Potential advisory body for MRV for mitigation (given its success in UZB CDM projects)	Fragmented capacities on CC and MRV
Ministry of Investments and Foreign Trade		++	DNA with GCF			+		Limited capacities on climate finance and project proposals
State Committee of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environment Protection (SCEEP)	+	+	Environment monitoring, pollution which includes GHG emissions + bio/ecosystems to CC	+	+		Collects GHG data and implements projects on CC adaptation (water and land)	Fragmented capacities on VA and limited datasets
State Committee of Statistics		>	Data collection for GHG	+			Data provider	No formats of regular GHG data collection process
Ministry of Foreign Affairs		++	Aligns national priorities and policy with international funds and organizations			+		Low profile on CC

Ministry of Water Resources		++	Promotes IWRM and water saving practices (adaptation)		+		MRV for adaptation – resource and beneficiary	Fragmented capacities in CC adaptation
Ministry of Agriculture		++	Promotes climate resilience through land and crop adaptive practices		+		Potential (GHG intensive) sector for applying ICAT tools	Fragmented capacities in CC adaptation
Ministry of Energy		++	Expands RES (solar), promotes EE	+		+	Potential (GHG intensive) sector for applying ICAT tools	Fragmented capacities in inventory/mitigation
Ecoforum of Uzbekistan PO	+		Promotes EE and RES, waste management	+			Local expertise in MRV for mitigation (P&M)	Fragmented capacities and limited datasets
EcoEnergy JSC	+		Designs, constructs and maintains RES infrastructure and objects	+			Expertise in mitigation through expansion of RES	Fragmented capacities in GHG emission calculation

Appendix 1.F. Key Regional Stakeholders

NB: ++ very high; + high; > medium

Organization	Interest	Political Influence	Mandate (related to CC)	Role in CC and Transparency			Role in ICAT/CAREC	Gaps
				GHG/ Mitigation	Adaptation	Finance		
Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC)	++	+	Climate policy, negotiation process at COP; tools and methods on CC assessment; FP with UNFCCC	+	+	+	Knowledge hub, dissemination of information and knowledge, mobilize finance	Lack of technical capacities on MRV/climate reporting
Regional Network of Civil Society Organizations on Climate Change (RNCsOs)	+		Established within CAMP4ASB addresses CC at the regional level, coordinating efforts with CA countries	+	+	+	Use the network as resource to disseminate knowledge/ tools	Sustainability of the network is challenging
Interstate Commission for Sustainable Development (ICSD)	+	+	Oversees the implementation of the REAP; an ally with CAREC in TRM in particular	+	+		Mainstreaming results of the project to REAP at reg. level	Fragmented capacities on CC
Scientific Information Center (SIC) of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination (ICWC)	+	>	Performs research and studies on cc assessment (focus on water, land and agro) at the basin/reg level		+		Resource on methods and tools for cc related assessment/ tracking	Fragmented capacities on CC (focused on water)
Regional Mountain Center of Central Asia (RMCCA)			CC adaptation in mountainous ecosystems in CA region		+		Element of CC adaptation (MRV/ M&E) for mountains	Fragmented capacities on CC (focused on adaptation and ecosystems)
Central Asian Regional Glaciological Centre			CC research of glaciers and water resources in CA		+		Element of CC adaptation (MRV/ M&E) for glaciers	Fragmented capacities on CC (glaciers/water only)

under the auspices of UNESCO								
---------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

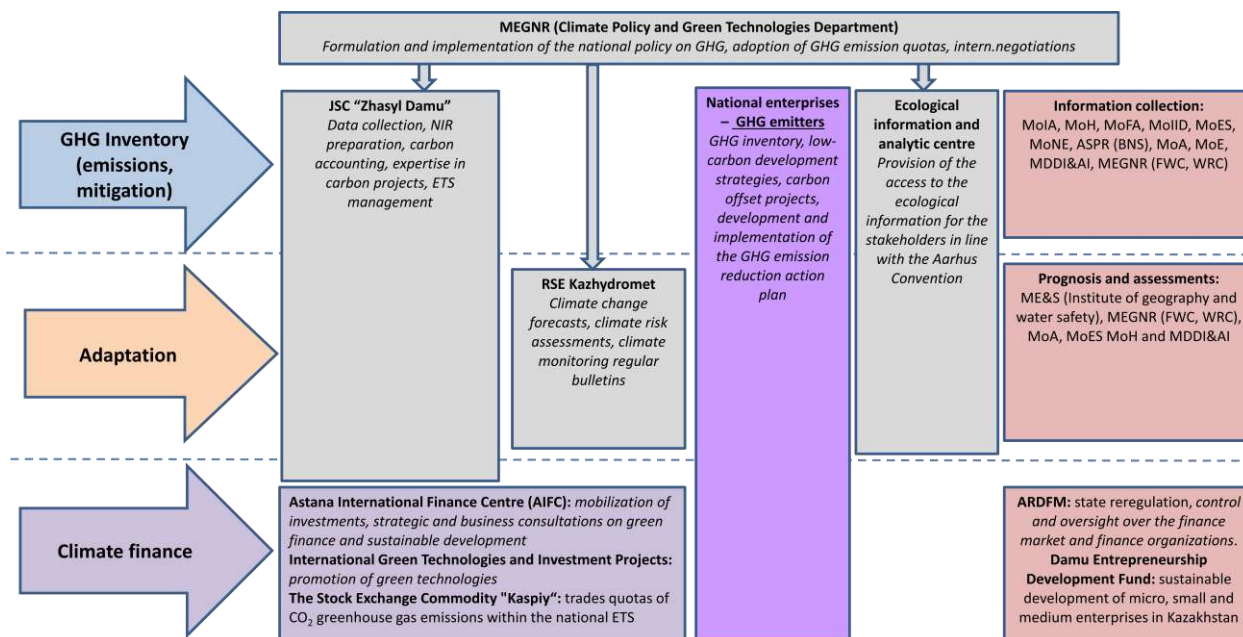
Appendix 1.G. Key International Stakeholders

NB: ++ very high; + high; > medium

Organization	Interest	Political Influence	Mandate (related to CC)	Role in CC and Transparency			Role in ICAT/CAREC	Gaps
				GHG/ Mitigation	Adaptation	Finance		
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)		+	Collects decisions on ETF/MRV and pursues relevant studies/ guidelines	+	+	+	Synergies with the UNFCCC Needs Based Finance (NBF) project for Climate Finance Component	Irregular communication and guidance
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)		+	Supports NC/BURs/BTRs for KAZ and TAJ; contributes to MRV and NDC implementation	+	+	+	Synergies with the regional and national cc policy projects	Fragmented projects on MRV/ transparency at the national level
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)		>	Supports NC/BURs/BTRs for KRG, TRM and UZB; Tools/methods providers on MRV/ ETF; UNEP DTU provides TA on ETF	+	+	+	Cooperate and synergies with DTU on transparency	Fragmented projects on MRV/ transparency at the national level
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)		+	Works on ETF and transparency in AFOLU sector	+	+		FAO's resource people/tools (if those are not available at ICAT)	Fragmented capacities on MRV/ETF at the national level
German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ)		+	Implements PATPA (CA not members) and Green Central Asia initiatives (CA are members)	+	+	+	Synergies with PATPA and Green CA Initiative on MRV tools/ cases and Climate Finance	Lack of MRV/ETF projects at the national level

NDC Partnership (NDPCP)		>	TAJ & KRG are members of the NDPCP and requested TA for NDC (TAJ) and Climate Fin. (KRG)	+		+	Synergies with the NDPCP in providing assistance	No physical presence in CA; communication gaps
United Nations Agency for International Cooperation (USAID)			C5+1 project addresses mitigation and adaptation TA for CA. New Comprehensive Action for Climate Change Initiative in Asia (CACCI) for TAJ in providing TA for NDC institution enhancement	+	+	+	Synergies with these initiatives and follow-up on outputs/results	No MRV/ETF projects at the national level so far
Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs)		+	ADB, WB and EBRD address low-carbon development and adaptation initiatives bilaterally and regionally (incl. ETF, MRV); PPCR initiative in KRG and TAJ donors and institutional structure	+	+	+	Synergies with the respective projects and follow-up on outputs/ results	Fragmented projects on MRV/ETF – mostly global projects which do not usually correspond to the local needs (except – WB project in KYR)
International Funds: GCF, Adaptation Fund and GEF		+	Provides grants and credits for multiple and national or regional projects on CC in CA	+	+	+	Synergies with IF in Climate Finance component	Limited full-size projects in CA

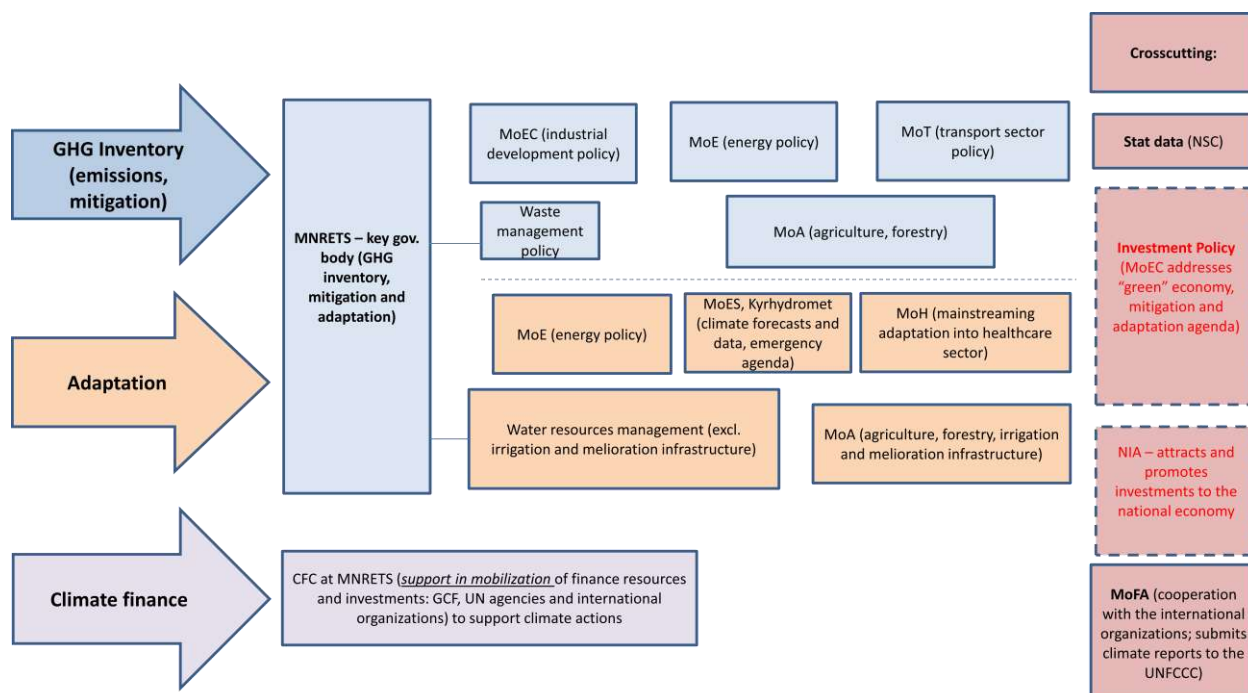
Appendix 2.A.: Map of the national stakeholders on climate action transparency in Kazakhstan



Legend/Acronyms:

ARDFM - Agency for Regulation and Development of Financial Market of the Republic of Kazakhstan
 MEGNR - Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan
 FWC – Forestry and Wildlife Committee
 WRC – Water Resources Committee
 CPGTD – Department of Climate Policy and Green Technologies
 MoES – Ministry of Education and Sciences
 MoIA – Ministry of Internal Affairs
 MoH – Ministry of Health
 MoFA – Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 MoIID – Ministry of Industry and Infrastructural Development
 MoES – Ministry of Emergency Situations
 MoNE – Ministry of National Economy
 ASPR – Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms
 BNS – Bureau of National Statistics
 MoA – Ministry of Agriculture
 MoE – Ministry of Energy
 MDDI&AI – Ministry of Digital Development, Innovations and Aerospace Industry

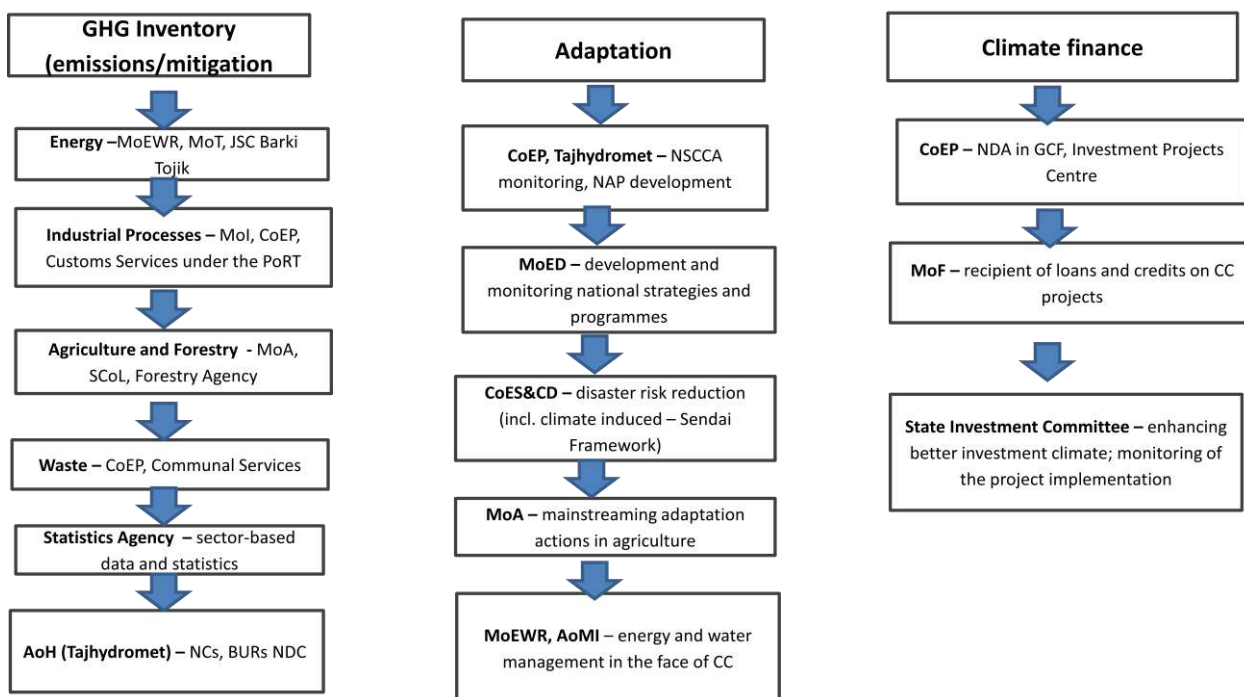
Appendix 2.B.: Map of the national stakeholders on climate action transparency in Kyrgyzstan



Legend/Acronyms:

MNRETS – Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision (MNRETS)
 MoEC – Ministry of Economy and Commerce
 MoE – Ministry of Energy
 MoA – Ministry of Agriculture
 MoH – Ministry of Health
 CFC – Climate Finance Centre
 MoFA – Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 MoES – Ministry of Emergency Situation
 MoT – Ministry of Transport
 NIA – National Investment Agency
 NSC – National Statistics Committee

Appendix 2.C.: Map of the national stakeholders on climate action transparency in Tajikistan



Legend/Acronyms:

AoH (Tajhydromet) – Agency on Hydrometeorology of the CEP

CoEP – Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan

MoED – Ministry of Economic Development

MoEWR – Ministry of Energy and Water Resources

MoF – Ministry of Finance

MoA – Ministry of Agriculture

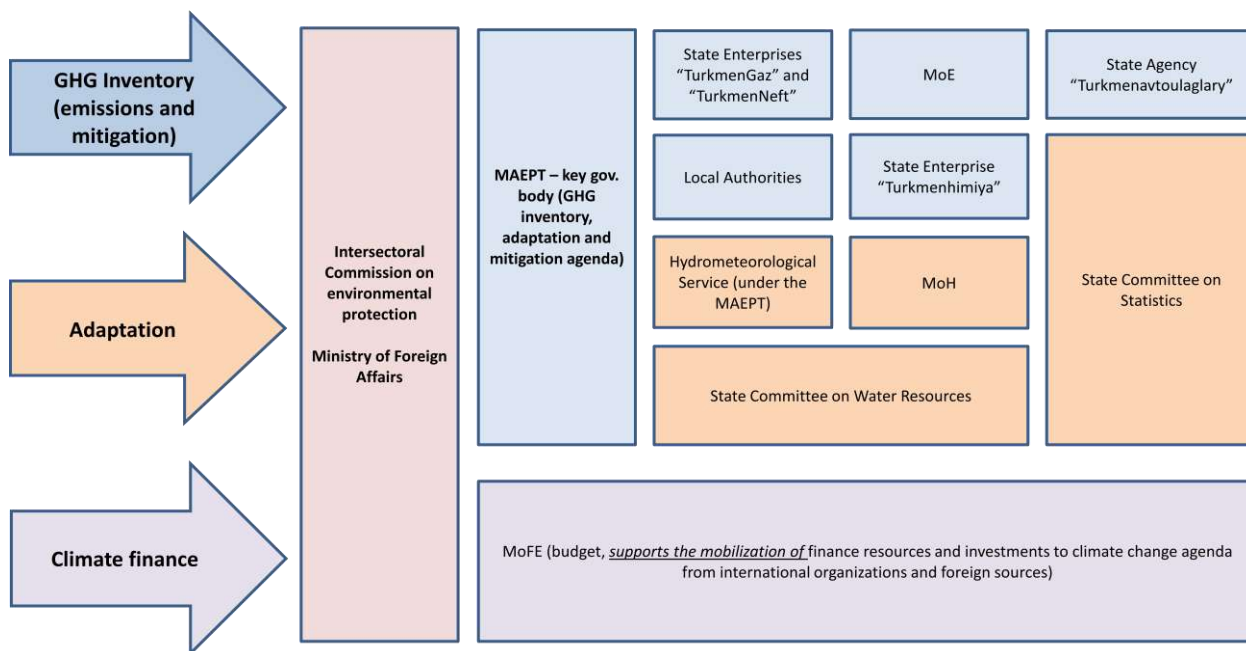
CoES&CD – Committee of Emergency Situation and Civil Defence

MoI – Ministry of Industry

MoT – Ministry of Transport

AoMI – Agency on Melioration and Irrigation

Appendix 2.C.: Map of the national stakeholders on climate action transparency in Turkmenistan



Legend/Acronyms:

Ministry of Agriculture and Environment Protection of Turkmenistan (MAEPT)

MoE – Ministry of Energy

MoFE – Ministry of Finance and Economy

MoA – Ministry of Agriculture

MoH – Ministry of Health