

CAREC

NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL EDITION ON THE 8th CENTRAL ASIAN LEADERSHIP
PROGRAMME ON ENVIRONMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



THE REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE FOR CENTRAL ASIA



Dear reader,

Despite the holiday season, the last three months have been very busy for us. There were joint scientific researches with partners, new signed agreements, participation in the World Water Week in Stockholm and, of course, the Eighth Central Asian Leadership Programme on Environment for Sustainable Development.

Its preparation began long before the beginning, with addition of new elements to this process. We opened online registration and delegated preparation of the most thematic sessions to partners. In this way the agenda started from the global environmental issues and problems, moved to the regional overview and then covered potential solutions, preserving the valuable specifics. Moreover, 12 participants passed a three-day course

on water diplomacy and legislation in the Kazakh-German University. Looking back, I can confidently say that we will continue this successful practice in the future, which fully reflects the principles of environmental partnership and joint fruitful work in the region.

I also like to highlight the level of participants, which grows from year to year. During these extensive days, we conducted a series of conversations and debates. And what is more important is that the youth voiced out the general idea of creating a network of CALP graduates. This is exactly what CAREC seeks in the region to unite and jointly search for solutions.

Speaking about the opportunities, we have already begun preparations for the next, the 9th CALP, which will be thematically integrated

with the upcoming Central Asian Environmental Forum 2018 in Tashkent, being the logical continuation of the coordination at all levels.

Hope that our newsletter will fully cover for you these and other efforts to preserve and restore our common environment!

Yours faithfully,

Dr Iskandar Abdullaev,
Executive Director

the Regional Environmental
Centre for Central Asia



CONTENT:

1 32 new graduates of CALP

2 Give a voice to the youth: a conversation with the graduates of the Central Asian Leadership Programme

3 Outcomes of the CAREC Day at the EXPO-2017

4 Dushanbe: training on media coverage of environmental issues

5 Coordination and joint research: CAREC, IWMI, IED Afrique

6 Central Asia and Afghanistan at the World Water Week

7 Putting Central Asia on the World Water Week's map – an interview with SIWI's Dr Sjömander Magnusson

8 Tashkent hosted the fifth meeting of the regional organizations

9 The River Day unites nations of Central Asia

10 New academic opportunities: competition, and knowledge centre

11 Winners of International Photo Contest are announced in Uzbekistan

12 CAREC faces

13 Current vacancies

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1

32 NEW GRADUATES OF CALP

September 19, Almaty, the Central Asian Leadership Programme on Environment for Sustainable Development is finished. 32 participants from Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan received certificates of successful graduation.



This year, CALP focused on the interrelation between water and energy resources, as well as on the importance of regional cooperation in promoting green economy on the occasion of the EXPO-2017. The programme included sessions on adaptation to climate change, consideration of the role of business in environmental protection, discussions on academic publications, water issues, implementation of conventions. In addition to a wide range of topics, CALP is distinguished by its interdepartmental and intersectoral core nature. There are young representatives of government bodies, NGOs and media from six countries in the region.

For example, Umedakhon Fazylova from Tajikistan presented NGO's sector: "I like that the programme covered a lot of issues, and they are interrelated. It's interesting to hear the information from the other perspective."

In turn, Nargiza Osmonova, as a representative of state structure, noted: "It was interesting for me to know what is happening in other countries: what programs and projects exist and how they are implemented. This



information will already complement my work." Nargiza works in the Department of Water Resources and Melioration under the Ministry of Agriculture and Melioration of the Kyrgyz Republic. At the same time Victoria Rzaeva, a participant from Uzbekistan, presented a media sector on the program and concluded: "The level of lecturers is very high - they are themselves direct participants in the projects they are talking about."

To enhance the interaction between the participants, the invited facilitators included active workouts and exercises into the programme, which allowed building a team. The latter passed through conversations with Dominic Stucker also. He is a coach for collective leadership.

"We must, first of all, understand how we see an issue. If you see the full picture of another person, too, you will have a vision of where you should go. It is always worth remembering that people can find many different ways to get to the same point," Stucker concluded one of his lectures.



Moreover, within the framework of CALP, the participants visited the ecological settlement "Almaray", where they got acquainted with environmentally friendly methods of construction, and built a drip irrigation system on the spot.

CALP is a unique regular programme on environmental protection and sustainable development in Central Asia for governments, the academic and private sector and NGOs. To date, more than 200 graduates work in various fields throughout the region. The main objective is to demonstrate, in the course of active discussions benefits of regional



cooperation, thereby developing the potential of young leaders of Central Asia and Afghanistan.

IN 2017, CALP WAS HELD IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF NORWAY, THE OSCE, THE EUROPEAN UNION, USAID AND THE WORLD BANK.

GIVE A VOICE TO THE YOUTH: A CONVERSATION WITH THE GRADUATES OF THE CENTRAL ASIAN LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

This year, for the first time, six graduates took part in the Central Asian Leadership Program, who acted as mentors for new participants on the first day, and read the words of farewell in eight languages. After this touching session, we gathered in the garden and talked in a close circle.

IN AN INTERVIEW PARTICIPATED: IDREES MALYAR, AFGHANISTAN; DANARA SARANOVA, KAZAKHSTAN; AZIZA MURZASHOVA, THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC; MADINA RAKHMATOVA, TAJIKISTAN; NATALIYA CHEMAYEVA, TURKMENISTAN AND NODIRA DZHANIBEKOVA, UZBEKISTAN.



CAREC: Each of you graduated CALP with a difference of a year or two. Tell us, please, do you see changes in the programme today?

Madina: Well, even the opening was different. We were invited as graduates for the first time, and we shared our experience, told what we achieved.

Aziza: Yes! This is one of the most useful conferences: thanks to the organizers, people here begin to be friends and continue to communicate - it's cool. I also like that the programme has practical tasks, not just theory.

CAREC: You have already seen the participants from your country today. What do they tell you? What are they worried about?

Idrees: As for Afghanistan, we are really new to the Central Asian environment. While we share one culture in this region, it still can be different. I advise the brethren to be calm and attentive.

The second is the content: SDG, climate change, risk management, water resources

management, international law. For example, we had a speaker from the United States on mediation. You see, there are many topics that might be interesting.

Nataliya: Did they ask you whether this country is dangerous?

Idrees: Of course, didn't. They will find friends here.

CAREC: Oh, here's the question that seems important to us. We ask it everyone. So many efforts are invested in this programme, so many partners have joined. But we still have those who do not understand the usefulness of such trainings. In general, dialogue platforms go through tons of criticism among the media. What do you have to say to these people as graduates of CALP?

Danara: Probably, they just need to participate and feel it by themselves. In any case, any project has pros and cons, but to say unequivocally, one must look at the results. We see that today more than 200 graduates of the programme really work.

Nodira: I think we gathered for this: "Look, there are alumni, and they work, and they are not from one country." That's even six of us to consider – we work in different spheres. CALP is a unique and universal.

Nataliya: Skeptics have appeared because no one has seen the continuation: every year people just returned to their countries. Therefore, when there are proposals for the network of graduates, which would support CALP relations at different levels, we only support. Now everything depends on us, as far as we can establish it.

Danara: If someone from our chain is eliminated, the network should not collapse. For example, today I talked with a delegation from Kazakhstan; they like the idea, but they, like us at the very beginning, do not understand how and why it can work. But we will solve it.

Aziza: Yes, and generally there are skeptics of such activities throughout the world, because you cannot see or name quantitative indicators. But, in my opinion, if at least one or two or three people who will make important environmental decisions in the future will be affected by this

conference, this is already an answer to skeptics.

Even today, when each of us told a success story, it was clear how this program affected our life and the further choices. It's hard to measure, but if you dig deeper, then ask graduates, then you see an invaluable effect.

Idrees: Negative people are always negative. Do not worry about them.

CAREC: Let's talk about being a young professional in the region. I ask as a young woman also. Do you feel any difficulties?

(everyone looks at Idrees and starts to laugh)

Idrees: All right, I'll say. I think that we must change the mentality, and this cannot come in one day. You must wait and speak for it. In the end, there must be rules and regulations that do not allow to treat women badly. If you look at other countries, they have a zero level of tolerance for this kind of persecution of employees. But this should not come at our level, more on the political level, from the government.

CAREC: Do you think that the change in

this case does not come from you?

Idrees: Since I worked and work with women, I studied with them, most of my subordinates are women, in my field I do this, but, in the long run, more time will be needed for big changes.

CAREC: And if you think separately from gender. As a young specialist, do you feel any obstacles in your work?

Idrees: In my opinion, I never felt less important than my older colleagues. I always say what I want to say (Idrees works as an expert on transboundary water management at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan).

For this I do not see any obstacles, because if you study well, you work hard, you will be respected, and everything will be fine. Especially in Afghanistan: it really supports young employees. If you heard, our president said that the government is now younger than ever. So, we have no problems with this side.

Danara: Honestly, I can say that it happened. When I first arrived, Shymkent began to press me: that's impossible, this is impossible. But time pass and real actions lead to consciousness changes. If there is a desire to do something, there are no obstacles - this is my opinion.

Nodira: I believe that the difficulties are always there. But the leader has this quality: if you want something, then whatever obstacles you encounter, you will overcome them.

CAREC: Do you have an example to follow in your work?

Idrees: My professor, Dr. Aaron T. Wolf. I admire not only his works, but also the ability to listen. If you want to meet him, you should invite him by email one year in advance! Well, okay, at least six months.

But he will call you and say: "Do you want to see me? Come, come." And he will talk with you for hours if he is not busy. He will listen to you and give you the feeling that you are the best, although he is a world-famous scientist.

I try to learn from him.

Nodira: Jawaharlal Nehru from India comes to mind. As a leader lead neither one nor ten people, but the whole population, making them believe in themselves.

Aziza: Now I cannot name a specific person. Everyone I meet on my way inspires me. For example, I know Danara. She is a person who works with young people and constantly organizes something. Or I interview, and every time the story of a new person inspires me.

CAREC: And the last question. Name what you are proud of in your work. If you are embarrassed by such a wording, then name a result that seems to confirm: "Yes, I'm doing everything right."

Aziza: I'm proud to be able to leave work or comfort zone without fear of changing something in my life (Aziza is an editor-in-chief of Vizitka Osh magazine).

Danara: Me, too. I'm not afraid to be out of work tomorrow. I know that I am a sought-after specialist in my field, as a lawyer and manager. But the biggest achievement for me is a meeting with the President of Switzerland (Danara works in the Social-Entrepreneurship Corporation "Shymkent").

Nodira: I, probably, celebrate my speech in Moscow among eminent professors and doctors in the Russian Academy of Sciences. Or, for example, I am proud of my students. We have created a group of like-minded people who share knowledge related to environmental culture (Nodira works at Gulistan State University).



Nataliya: This is a difficult question for me. When I returned back to Turkmenistan, as a graduate anthropologist, I thought how to find a job and did not know where to apply my knowledge and skills. But I found an organization that not only gave me the opportunity to work, but also to grow (Nataliya works in IFAS and GIZ).

Madina: I'm proud of the place where I work and what we did and do as part of our project. Now we have built three water supply systems in rural areas in Kulyab. There has never been drinking water. We gave water to 6,300 people. This is a very big job (Madina works in UNDP, Energy and Environment Program).

BLITZ

Name one word that accurately describes the leader

Madina: Goal-oriented

Aziza: Brave

Danara: Influential

Nodira: Responsible

Nataliya: Multi-oriented

Idrees: Achiever

3

OUTCOMES OF THE CAREC DAY AT THE EXPO-2017

July 11, the World Exhibition "EXPO-2017" in Astana hosted CAREC Day, which was dedicated to the issues of energy efficiency and green economy. During the event, experts from Central Asia, CAREC and the World Bank discussed strengthening of regional cooperation, sharing their own experience. The event was held in cooperation with the World Bank and Samsung Central Eurasia in the Samsung Pavilion.

CAREC experts demonstrated opportunities for the development of a "green" economy in Central Asia, as well as the interrelationship between water, food, energy and ecosystems. As successful practices of promoting "green" principles and involving young

people, the Central Asian Leadership Program (CALP) and the mobile application-game Urban Corners are mentioned.

Learn [more](#)



4

DUSHANBE: TRAINING ON MEDIA COVERAGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Qualitative and reliable information on environmental protection is a prerequisite for making timely decisions and effective partnership. CAREC aims to develop the capacity of those who interested in disseminating this information. This process needs to be supported both at the regional and national levels.

For example, the Paris Agreement, signed

by Tajikistan, as well as the initiative "Water for sustainable cooperation" are just a few of the many issues that require comprehensive coverage and promotion. In this context, in the beginning of July, a training seminar was held in Dushanbe on modern mechanisms for covering environmental problems in the media.

The event was organized by CAREC jointly

with the Committee for Environmental Protection, with the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in the framework of the Smart Waters project. The employees of the republican units of the Committee involved in the process of working with information and its dissemination participated in this workshop.

Learn [more](#)



5

COORDINATION AND JOINT RESEARCH: CAREC, IWMI, IED AFRIQUE

July 15-16, CAREC together with IED Afrique held a methodological meeting to develop a comparative analysis document on the results of the research conducted in the framework of the project "Migration, Remittances, and Resilience to Climate Change in Tajikistan and Senegal", under the PRISE initiative ("Towards sustainable development of arid and semi-arid economies"). Learn more about it [here](#)

August 22, experts of CAREC and IWMI discussed cooperation and coordination to avoid duplication and combine efforts to develop a unified approach in conducting research on the topic of studying the impact of climate change on water resources. [Read](#)



6

CENTRAL ASIA AND AFGHANISTAN AT THE WORLD WATER WEEK

The World Water Week was held in Stockholm with the participation of the countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan

This year's event was devoted to the topic "Water and Waste: Reduce and reuse". Thus, within the framework of the World Water Week, the panel session entitled "**Asia Focus: Sustainable Wastewater and Fecal Sludge Management in Asia: Fit-for-Purpose Solutions**" was held.

The panelists stated about relevant problems in the region, based on the current situation in countries, taking into account the normative, institutional and financial framework for sanitation. CAREC made a presentation on the management of drainage water in Central Asia.

Also, a meeting of European development partners with a delegation from Central Asia and Afghanistan was held, as well as a seminar on water diplomacy with the participation of the

Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI). Read about it [here](#)

DURING THE EVENT, THE DELEGATION BROADCASTED THREE TIMES TO COVER THE REGIONAL SITUATION IN THIS SECTOR.

In the **first** conversation, participants discussed ways to water diplomacy. The practical solutions accumulated within the numerous development programs often are not reflected in the legislation and therefore have little impact on the government policies. [watch](#)

The **second** conversation covered the issues of involving local communities in water resources management in order to understand the effective



ways of representing their interests in planning, allocating water and making appropriate decisions.

[watch](#)

The **third** discussion focused on the involvement of the academic community of the region in global sustainable development processes. Both regional and national initiatives to narrow the gap between science and practice in the region of Central Asia and Afghanistan presented here. [watch](#)

7

PUTTING CENTRAL ASIA ON THE WORLD WATER WEEK'S MAP – AN INTERVIEW WITH SIWI'S DR SJÖMANDER MAGNUSSON

In the end of August, the representatives of Central Asian countries and Afghanistan participated in World Water Week. This massive event is organized annually by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), acting as a platform for coordination and discussion of the most pressing global water issues. During the Week, experts, practitioners, decision-makers, business innovators and young professionals from a range of sectors and countries exchange ideas, foster new thinking and develop solutions.

More details about this – in a dialogue with Dr. Therese Sjömander Magnusson, Director of Transboundary Water Management for SIWI.

Dear Therese, we will start from the very broad question, probably, but there is a need to hear exactly your view as an organizing party. What is the story behind this, that you and I are sitting in this room during the one of the significant world water events? How did it change through years?

It all started 26 years ago with some researchers, such as Professor Malin Falkenmark, who is still a

senior advisor at SIWI. She and a couple of key, leading and global researchers said: "Let's organize a seminar on water issues in Stockholm." This didn't really have to do with a conference at all. It was a public, tourist thing. But then a small conference was so successful that they decided to do it next year, and the conference just grew. SIWI as an organization was established, approximately by then.

So, the conference became an institutional part of SIWI from the beginning but it grew exponentially. And now we've been around 2-3 thousand participants for the last 10 years I would say. Now, there are more



conferences on water, but this is the largest annual one and we don't want to grow much more. We don't want to lose the connectivity and at least you can have a fairly good overview of what is happening.

Then if I ask you to name three main differences upon previous years – it can be anything: themes,

topics, speakers, participants, countries even that covered this event, what would you name?

Of course, the themes are different every year. I think what we have done now is to develop the World Water Week into becoming a platform where so many different actors meet. From the beginning, it was only



researchers and then it was more of a civil society and now we have governments – the range of actors have increased.

Then we have worked a lot with different ways of communication, like the SIWI Sofa. So, the meeting points and communication, the way we communicate messages and give the opportunity to organizations to frame that are different from previous, these have all developed over recent years.

As an expert, tell me please, which topics are raised year by year and which one is completely new for like two last years? Are there any really new which are not probably covered in Central Asia, but covered here?

You mean the themes of each conference?

No, not really. Problems, questions which raised suddenly. For example, as a region, we have the Central Asian Environmental Forum. When we firstly conducted it, we talked a lot on water issues and climate issues, and we will continue to do this. However, there are other topics raised to be discussed in Central Asia, and this is for the first time probably. Are there any such topics during the World Water Week?

I would say, what we have seen the last maybe 3 to 4 years is that these are the issues on investments. Infrastructure investments, investments in water storage, water probation, etc. And then another topic, not this year, particularly, but few years: anticorruption or what we call – water integrity to minimize the effects of corruption and to actually get rid of corruption in the water sector. Also, peace and security. Those three topics have been highlighted more strongly.

Can you please, give me more details on investments?

There is a huge lack of funding, the needs to invest in water-related infrastructure: pipes, dams, storage etc. I think they calculated it to 3 billion dollars per year is needed. There are funds available, private capital, investment banks, but there is still a gap. There is a need, there is money, but why are so few investments done? So, what we have done at SIWI is to work a lot with bridging – to help translate the needs of the investors because they think completely differently than governments do.

And then water integrity has been one of the key topics for SIWI, you said.

We are one of the few global institutions worked to minimize corruption. I don't know the exact numbers, but its millions of dollars, which is lost every year in the water sector due to corruption, where decisions weren't taken and there is lack of transparency, decisions impact negatively on people. We have the water governance department, they work very closely in the Middle East, Africa.

Talking about the regions, considering previous years Central Asia was also presented at the World Water Week. However, there were mostly implementations from different countries and this participation was fragmented. But it changed. What do you think, is it good for us to be presented here as a region?

I'm talking from my experience is that I think it's important to gather a group of people that has the same context, geographical context. Even though there might be different experts or representing the government or NGOs. It is important to have people with regional knowledge. Different regional knowledge at the same place at the same time. It has a great value of gathering people with more or less the same political context and environmental and hydrological context.

As I know you have a Water Diplomacy Seminar during the CALP last year, probably you met with some of the representatives before or

after. And also, we have another seminar during this week with representatives of Central Asia. In this contest, how can you characterize the whole situation about understanding on water issues in the region from the state bodies?

There were plenty of questions and the most important thing was that the countries' voice, the need for cooperation towards the end - I think this really shows that the mindset is different, that they are also able to voice that we need collaboration. That is the first step. It can be a small step, it can be a huge step, but at least this is the starting point, where everyone, all the representatives say "let's come together and find solutions". And sometimes you have to be very realistic and pragmatic. My experience is that it's better to take step by step in a slower pace and create a trust and a platform for dialogue.

If we talk about the light about at the global arena, Central Asia, from my perspective it's not really highlighted. And at the same time this region is also really geopolitically important.

I completely agree. I think you have to look historically. I think the mindset of many people who are not from Central Asia is the Aral Sea. That is what we have heard. And then, that region was unfairly closed politically for a long time. And a very few participants from Central Asia applied to come to World Water Week, at the same time Africa has been very involved in World Water Week. We are open for all countries and all regions. Of course, it's a global conference. And Africa has been very eager to participate. So, has Latin America, Asia to some extent, but I think what we are seeing now, is a growing interest from Central Asia, and from other development partners that could interact, so I just welcome more focus in the Central Asia in the future. I think it's a key region and I know that there are interested actors that would be really looking forward to that. But it need to be driven by the region.

Can we name an input from Central Asia region to the work of this Week? That there is not only participation.

I would definitely say that what we discussed earlier, putting Central Asia on the World Water Week map. This is the first step. The second thing is that we have few delegations with parliamentarians. We have delegations with ministers and their immediate closest staff. I think there are a number of donors, interested to see what the opportunities are for now. I think next year we can be even better in highlighting. But you need to think through why do we need Central Asia to be

on the map. For a globally transparent discussion or is it an investment? Advising? Why do you want to be highlighted more?

So, the ways will be different in this case, or not?

No, there can be different tracks. I would say parallel tracks. But to be very smart in thinking. Because you don't get many opportunities. It's quite expensive to have many sessions and to bring people here. What do you want them to achieve? This year it was capacity-building and networking within the group and to invite certain external actors, but next year, what would you like to achieve? Show the solutions and advancing collaboration and highlighting something else? So, being smart in what you want to communicate rather than saying "come and listen to us", because there are so many conferences and so many topics, so many regions so be smart in how you frame that, I will advise. This is something that I hope we can do together of course.

You tell that we can do it together, you mean SIWI and CAREC?

Exactly.

Then what are the ways of possible cooperation's expansion between SIWI and CAREC?

I really value our collaboration, so we have discussed scientific and academic collaboration. We have also discussed maybe a regional conference on water diplomacy. We did one in November in Stockholm and thought that concept would be very relevant at a regional conference. We would be more than happy to contribute more to capacity strengthening, but targeted, tailored capacity building.

Let's conclude our conversation with some week results. What do you see as a significant outcome of the WWW this year?

We have again showed how many key global decision makers choose World Water Week. So many global processes gather here. Because the world is discussing climate and funding, and the SDGs, water is becoming more and more on everyone's agenda and I was moderating the seminar on Peace and Water and it is very clear that stability and climate change is governed by water.

There is an understanding that we need to build the capacity of all decision makers on this.

Photo: SIWI

8

TASHKENT HOSTED THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

September 4-5, Tashkent hosted the fifth meeting of the regional organizations involved in sustainable development and water resources management in Central Asia. The meeting was organized by CAREC and Scientific Information Centre of the Interstate Coordination Water Commission of Central Asia (SIC ICWC) with the support of the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) under the project "Strengthening capacities of regional, national and local level institutions and sustaining the experiences gained in the previous phases".

Participants Representatives of the Executive Directorate of the International Fund for Saving Aral Sea in Kazakhstan, the Regional Hydrology Center, the Syrdarya and Amudarya River Basin Organizations, the Regional Mountain Center for Central Asia, the Regional Center for Renewable Energy, the Central Asian Institute of Applied Research, National Water Partnership of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, GIZ and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

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9

THE RIVER DAY UNITES NATIONS OF CENTRAL ASIA

On September 12-13, 2017, the Isfara River Day was conducted with the support of local authorities of the Isfara and Kanibadama cities, the Small Basin Councils of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan sides of the river, and CAREC under the support of GIZ and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The festival gathered together the representatives of government bodies, water management departments, drinking water supply, public and international organizations, the media from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Representatives of water management organization from the Uzbek side of the basin were invited as observers for the first time. River Day this year was celebrated for the second time and aimed at strengthening interstate cooperation while becoming a tradition for the residents of border communities as a day of friendship, cooperation, good-neighborliness, mutual trust, and consent.

The program included discussions on drinking water supply and preventing damage from natural disasters along with children's competitions, an



agricultural exhibition. In addition, as part of the celebration, a football tournament was held between the workers of the district water authorities of the Kyrgyz and Tajik sides.

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10

NEW ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES: COMPETITION, AND KNOWLEDGE CENTRE



THE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WILL BE ESTABLISHED IN TASHKENT

The Centre will be established within Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers (TIAME) and the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC). Memorandum was signed by the Rector of TIAME Mr. Uktam Umurzakov and Executive Director of CAREC Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev at the premises of the institute.

Learn [more](#)

THE REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE FOR CENTRAL ASIA HEREBY ANNOUNCES A CALL FOR STUDENTS' PROPOSALS ON IMPLEMENTING MASTER'S RESEARCH FOR THE 2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR

The main objective of the competition – support scientific research associated with management of water, land and energy resources, as well as

environment protection, in the Central Asian countries.

The competition is held in all Central Asian countries and Afghanistan, for universities with master's programs on management of water, land and energy resources and their sustainable use. The competition enhances development of the masters' practical research areas to ensure they are based on real problems of the research facilities and developed in close connection with managers of research facilities and potential users of the research results.

The competition for the 2017-2018 academic year is held under CAREC's joint projects with USAID "Smart Waters", WB "Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Program for the Aral Sea Basin" (CAMP4ASB), and GIZ "Strengthening Capacities of Regional, National and Local Level Institutions and Sustaining the Experiences Gained in the Previous Phases." [Read](#)



11

WINNERS OF INTERNATIONAL PHOTO CONTEST ARE ANNOUNCED IN UZBEKISTAN

On September 11, CAREC, within UzWaterAware project funded by European Union, participated in ceremony of announcing the winners of the International Photo Contest on Ozone Layer Protection and Climate Change. 20 best photos showing current situation were chosen from 285 photographs submitted by amateur and professional photographers from almost 60 countries.



Work of Matkarimov Azamat,

Aral Sea ecological disaster consequences

Climate change in my eyes, Uzbekistan

The international photo contest was organized by UNDP Uzbekistan, State Committee on Ecology and Environment Protection of Republic of Uzbekistan and Centre of Hydrometeorological Service under the Ministry of Emergency Situations. This year marks the 30th anniversary of the Montreal Protocol and the photo contest aimed to send a global message through photographs to protect the ozone layer for this and future generations and contribute significantly to global efforts to address climate change.

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OUR TRADITIONAL COLUMN, WHERE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AS WELL AS UNCONDITIONAL LOVE FOR NATURE ARE EXPRESSED IN SIMPLE WORDS.



Ms. Shynar Toilybayeva

*Director of Country Office of
CAREC in Kazakhstan*

I studied at the Al-Farabi Kazakh National University at the Faculty of International Relations. From 2011 to 2012 I studied at the University of Gloucestershire, in the UK, where received a Master of Business Administration degree. After graduation, worked for an international organization on green growth, trade and investments. This year I entered the Master's program "Integrated Water Resources Management" to the Kazakh-German University.

Now I am a director of the CAREC country office in Kazakhstan, in Astana, and coordinate projects of cooperation in the field of environmental protection at the national level. In 2017, I've

developed Concept on the "green economy" in Central Asia, which examines the progress in promoting this process in the region and the role of the organization in updating existing approaches. Since 2017, I have also been conducting a UNEP project on sustainable transport with low emissions in Kazakhstan.

In my work, I appreciate dedication of staff and commitment to work for the common good. I always try to create a favorable atmosphere in the office, because there is a need of motivation, strength and love for work. The main things are respect and recognition.

Nature does not tolerate emptiness. Expression belongs to the ancient Greek philosopher Aristotle. The most important thing is the rational use of natural resources for the current and future generations.

All of us need to remember that we have one single life, therefore, everyone should be treated easier to different complex situations. The purpose is to be happy.



Ms. Arai Shulgauova

Executive Director Assistant

I was born in Almaty and graduated from school No. 45 in Taraz. In 2002 I graduated from the Shakarim State University of Semey, specializing in an English translator, and then returned to Almaty.

In 2013, I received a Master of Natural Science in the Turar Ryskulov New Economic University.

In CAREC I have been working for more than five years. I started from the position of an office manager, then was invited to the team of a large regional project aimed at raising awareness of the most important environmental issues. Then a year and a half I worked as a coordinator for project management in the department of KPRM.

Now I am an Assistant of Executive Director. My duties include facilitating the work of the director, organizing and thematically filling out the meetings

and meetings of the Board of Governors, the Public Consultative Council of CAREC, preparing speeches, director reports, managing management group documentation and much more.

CAREC is a very dynamic organization, where literally every day the project ideas are discussed, many meetings and events are held in different points of the region and beyond. However, behind each decision or negotiation process is the colossal work of the team members who, through the achievement of certain tasks, contribute to the mission of the organization, which is called upon to help the countries of Central Asia cooperate.

I work in this field because it is interesting for me to see how the region develops, how this or that country of Central Asia is progressing on certain

environmental issues, and as a consequence, to observe how develop, grow our partners and rise to a new level. It is also interesting for me to work in a multicultural environment, to be part of a team of like-minded professionals, supporters of nature conservation.

In the region, it is important to preserve our good-neighborliness, rich nature with all its unique resources, the beauty and identity of our peoples, and not to miss the opportunity for regional cooperation.



Ms. Tatyana Shakirova

*Education for Sustainable
Development Program's Manager*

Being a Candidate of Biological Sciences, I have over 20 years of professional experience in different thematic directions of sustainable development, including energy efficiency, climate change, health and education. It also includes five years of work for the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and work for the Smart Waters project as well as for the "Covenant of Mayors – East" initiative.

Now, I am a manager for CAREC's program, which covers issues of education for sustainable development, and a curator of the Central Asian Leadership Programme.

Speaking about CAREC, it should be said that this organization is my second home, my history.

It's almost 15 years of work and career, it's a world of possibilities, it's a constantly developing expert community of colleagues, like-minded people, partners and friends.

But it is also an opportunity to constantly build up the potential, grow and develop, teach and learn from experts for regional cooperation in the field of water resources, climate change, ecosystem management, and always keep abreast of current trends.

There is an opportunity to develop my mentor and coach skills. That is why for me the most important achievement of CAREC and myself is our flagship initiative – the Central Asian Leadership Programme on Environment for Sustainable

Development, which is already 8 years old. It lives, grows, develops together with our organization.

I believe that in a few years our youth, today's students and graduates of CALP will become leaders in the regional process of cooperation in Central Asia, will become our partners, experts, colleagues and will promote the values of partnership for environmental protection.

The main values of nature for me are our unique mountains, deserts, steppes and forest ecosystems that guarantee the preservation and sustainable development of the entire region.

WE ARE SEARCHING FOR A CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY PROGRAM MANAGER

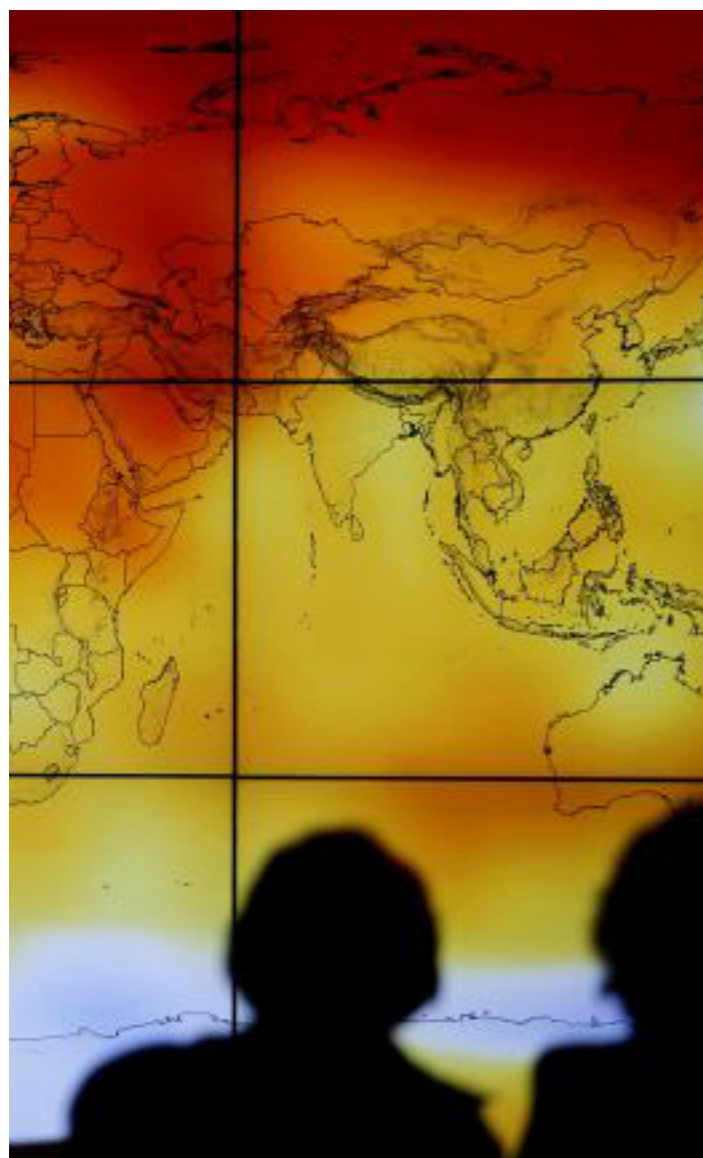
TASKS

- ▶ Oversee the CCSE Program and Regional Coordination Unit (RCU) by ensuring overall functioning in the interests of the Program according to regulatory documents
- ▶ Administer operations of the CCSE/RCU according to the project tasks, coordinating with National Coordination Unit (NCU) offices
- ▶ Ensure that all inputs to the Program are directed towards achievement of outcomes that are in line with the CAREC corporate regulations and World Bank guidelines
- ▶ Ensure updates required to the CAMP4ASB POM are carried out in a timely fashion
- ▶ Ensure effective task performance for all priorities according to fixed quantitative and qualitative indicators (M&E logframe)
- ▶ Take measures to provide the CCSE Program and RCU with qualified human resources, for the best use of knowledge and experiences and create a safe and favourable environment for the work and implementation of the duties
- ▶ Maintain a good reputation and network with the relevant ministries and departments in Central Asia, and promote a sub-regional cooperation
- ▶ Interact with all program stakeholders (Ministries, NGOs, Mass media, private sector) to assure an effective coordination and cooperation in the area of climate change and sustainable energy as well as CAMP4ASB

Learn [more](#)

CAREC OFFICE IN TAJIKISTAN SEEKS A QUALIFIED CANDIDATE TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SMART WATERS PROJECT FUNDED BY USAID

Please, learn more [here](#)



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Prepared by CAREC staff

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2017**



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