

SECTION 7

2024 Calendar of Events

January

- **January 17** – [Capacity-Building](#) on the Nexus between Sustainable Trade, Water Management, Food Security, Trade Facilitation, and Circular Economy, Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- **January 17-19** – International Exhibition “Water India 2024”, New Delhi, India
- **January 17-20** – [Global Forum](#) for Food and Agriculture (GFFA), Berlin, Germany
- **January 18** – 31st Governing Council Meeting of Asian-Pacific Water Forum (APWF), online
- **January 30-31** – Meeting of the Bureau to the Water Convention, Geneva, Switzerland

February

- **February 2** – World Wetlands Day
- **February 6** – South Asia Hydromet Forum IV- 2024, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- **February 8-9** – [8th International Conference](#) on Climate Change 2024, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- **February 10** – [Meeting of Central Asian states](#) “Central Asia at Climate Change Negotiations: COP28 Outcomes and Plans for COP29”, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- **February 12-17** – 14th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, Samarkand, Uzbekistan
- **February 16-18** – [86th World Water Council Board](#) of Governance's Meeting, Istanbul, Turkey
- **February 20-22** – International Congress and Exhibition E-world Energy & Water 2024, Essen, Germany
- **February 21** – All-Russian Scientific and Practical Conference “Role of Land Reclamation and Water Management in Ensuring Sustainable Agricultural Development”, Novocherkassk, Russia
- **February 22-24** – International Conference: Silk Road of Knowledge: Science meets Green Policy, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- **February 25-28** – [1st Middle East Regional Conference](#) on Irrigation and Drainage, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- **February 26-27** – Global Workshop on Droughts in Transboundary Basins, Geneva, Switzerland
- **February 26-March 1** – 6th session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-6), Nairobi, Kenya
- **February 28** – 14th Meeting of the Task Force on Water and Climate, Geneva, Switzerland

March

- **March 3** – World Wildlife Day
- **March 3-6** – [Conference](#) “Responsible Water Management and Circular Economy”, Uttarakhand, India
- **March 4-7** – WaterEX World Expo 2024, Mumbai, India
- **March 4-7** – [Women in Water Diplomacy: Second Global Network Forum](#), Vienna, Austria
- **March 5-7** – 1st Arab Academic Water Summit, Rabat, Morocco

- **March 6-7** – International Scientific-Practical Conference “Sustainable Management of Water Resources - the Basis for Solving the Strategic Goal of Food Security in a Changing Climate”, Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- **March 7-8** – [17th meeting](#) of the Implementation Committee of the Water Convention, Italy
- **March 12** – International Scientific and Theoretical Conference “Climate Change and Its Impact on the Economic and Social Development of Countries”, Khujand, Tajikistan
- **March 12-14** – [Baku Water Week](#), Baku, Azerbaijan
- **March 12-14** – 19th International Exhibition on Agriculture /AgroWorld Uzbekistan 2024
- **March 13-14** – [8th Annual International Congress and Exhibition: Hydropower Central Asia and Caspian](#), Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- **March 14** – World Rivers Day
- **March 21** – International Day of Forests
- **March 22** – World Water Day
- **March 23** – World Meteorological Day
- **March 26** – Aral Sea Day

April

- **April 9-12** – [5th Global Food Security Conference](#), Leuven, Belgium
- **April 10-13** – [4th International Conference](#) “Waters in Sensitive and Protected Areas”, Pula, Croatia
- **April 12** – [86th ICWC meeting](#), Shymkent, Kazakhstan
- **April 14-17** – [Water Loss 2024](#), San Sebastian, Spain
- **April 14-22** – 2nd Central Asian Dust Conference (CADUC-2), Nukus, Uzbekistan
- **April 15-17** – Global Water Summit 2024, London
- **April 15-17** – [Ecosperity Week 2024](#), Singapore
- **April 15-22** – 2nd International Conference “Environmental Progress in the Aral Sea Region”, Nukus, Uzbekistan
- **April 16-17** – 14th Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, Geneva, Switzerland
- **April 16-18** – [World Future Energy Summit](#), Abu Dhabi, UAE
- **April 17** – International Scientific-Practical Conference “Goodwill Ambassadors”, Nukus, Uzbekistan
- **April 22** – International Mother Earth Day
- **April 22-23** – International Scientific-Practical Conference “Environmental Impacts of the Desiccation of the Aral Sea”, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- **April 23-24** – [UNECE Workshop](#) on Increasing Capacities to Prevent, Prepare for and Respond to Accidental Water Pollution from Tailing Facilities, Bratislava, Slovakia

- **April 25-26** – Scientific-Practical Conference “Extending Water and Energy Cooperation between the Central Asian Countries”, Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- **April 27-29** – [4th Baghdad International Water Conference](#), Bagdad, Iraq
- **April 29** – International Conference “Water Resource Scarcity in Central Asia: Ways to Address Water Challenges at the Regional and International Levels”, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

May

- **May 6-7** – International Conference on Climate Change and Adaptation, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- **May 9-10** – [9th Multi-stakeholder Forum](#) on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, New York, USA
- **May 14-15** – [3rd International Conference](#) “Water Management in Changing Conditions”, Munich, Germany
- **May 14-15** – 7th International Energy Summit, St. Petersburg, Russia
- **May 17-20** – [18th IWA Conference](#) on Sustainable Sludge Management, Beijing, China
- **May 18-25** – [10th World Water Forum](#), Bali, Indonesia
- **May 27-29** – Central Asia Climate Change Conference (CACCC-2024), Almaty, Kazakhstan
- **May 27-30** – [15th International Conference](#) on Hydroinformatics “From Nature to Digital Water: Challenges and Opportunities”, Beijing, China
- **May 30-June 1** – [14th International Drainage Workshop](#), Dushanbe, Tajikistan

June

- **June 3-5** – International Exhibition on Environmental Technology & Green Energy ([ENVEX 2024](#)), Seoul, South Korea
- **June 3-7** – [Asia Clean Energy Forum 2024 / ACEF 2024](#), Manila, Philippines
- **June 5** – World Environment Day
- **June 5-6** – International Scientific Conference “Energy prospects, new technologies and environmental aspects of the development of hydrocarbon fields” (TESC-2024), Ashgabat, Turkmenistan
- **June 8** – World Oceans Day
- **June 9-14** – 16th International Conference on Urban Drainage, Delft, the Netherlands
- **June 10** – 3rd Regional Forum of Basin Organizations, Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- **June 10-13** – 3rd International High-Level Conference on the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028, Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- **June 16-19** – European Young Water Professionals Conference [YWP 2024](#), Copenhagen, Denmark
- **June 17** – World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
- **June 18-20** – [8th Russian Water Congress](#) and Exhibition VODEXPO 2024, Moscow, Russia

- **June 18-21** – International Conference on Wider-Uptake of Water Resource Recovery from Wastewater Treatment (ICWRR2024), Palermo, Italy
- **June 18-22** – [Singapore International Water Week 2024](#), Singapore
- **June 19** – High-level Political Regional Dialogue “Building a Future with Clean Air in Central Asia”, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- **June 24-28** – [19th IWA Leading Edge Conference on Water and Wastewater Technologies \(LET2024\)](#), Essen, Germany

July

- **July 1-5** – [CGIAR Science Week](#), Nairobi, Kenya
- **July 3-5** – International Conference “Nature-Based Solutions for Water Security and Climate Adaptation”, Belgrade, Serbia
- **July 8-17** – [High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development](#), New York, USA
- **July 12** – International Day of Combating Sand and Dust Storms

August

- **August 1** – Earth Overshoot Day
- **August 7-10** – 1st Annual General Meeting and Scientific Symposium of the International Scientific Committee on Water and Heritage, Pune, India
- **August 11-15** – [IWA World Water Congress & Exhibition](#), Toronto, Canada
- **August 12** – Caspian Sea Day
- **August 25-29** – [World Water Week](#), Stockholm, Sweden

September

- **September 1-7** – 9th Asian Regional Irrigation and Drainage Conference and 75th IEC Meeting, Sydney, Australia
- **September 4** – Forum on Sustainable Use of Water Resources in Central Asia, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- **September 4-5** – [12th Meeting of the Working Group on the Institutional and Legal Improvement of IFAS](#), Astana, Kazakhstan
- **September 4-6** – [1st Islands Water Congress](#) “Freshwater and Islands: Administration, Innovation, Collaboration”, Faroe Islands, Island
- **September 5-6** – International Forum “Food Security and Sustainable Development Goals of Landlocked Developing Countries”, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- **September 9-13** – The 14th Central Asian Leadership Program on Environment for Sustainable Development (CALP), Almaty, Kazakhstan
- **September 10-12** – International Exhibition of Technologies and Equipment for Water Treatment Supply and Disposal “[ECWATECH](#)”, Moscow, Russia

- **September 16-18** – [Ecumene Global Forum](#), Moscow, Russia
- **September 17-20** – 8th India Water Week “Partnership and Cooperation for Inclusive Water Development and Management”, New Delhi, India
- **September 18-20** – 4th Eurasian Women's Forum, St. Petersburg, Russia
- **September 19** – World Cleanup Day
- **September 22-23** – [Summit of the Future: Multilateral Solutions for a Better Tomorrow](#), New York, USA
- **September 23-27** – [IWA conference](#) “Water in Industry”, Nanjing, China
- **September 26** – World Environmental Health Day
- **September 28** – World Maritime Day

October

- **October 1-3** – Water, Energy, Technology, and Environment Exhibition ([WETEX 2024](#)), Dubai, UAE
- **October 7-9** – [12th INBO World General Assembly](#), Bordeaux, France
- **October 14-18** – 2nd World Food Forum, Rome, Italy
- **October 15** – International Day of Rural Women
- **October 16** – World Food Day
- **October 21-November 1** – UN Biodiversity Conference, Cali, Colombia
- **October 23-25** – [10th session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention](#), Ljubljana, Slovenia
- **October 28** – International Scientific and Practical Conference “Water Challenges and Opportunities for Mutually Beneficial Water-Energy Cooperation among Central Asian Countries”, dedicated to the memory and 90th anniversary of the birth of the late Academician D. Mamatkanov (IV Mamatkanov Readings), Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

November

- **November 6** – [87th ICWC Meeting](#), Ashgabat, Turkmenistan
- **November 7-13** – International Week of Science and Peace
- **November 8** – Scientific-Practical Conference “Water in Central Asia: The Future in Cooperation”, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- **November 10** – World Science Day for Peace and Development
- **November 11-22** – UN Climate Change Conference ([COP29](#)), Baku, Azerbaijan
- **November 12-14** – [IWA Digital Water Summit](#), Bilbao, Spain
- **November 18-20** – [HYDRO 2024](#) International Conference and Exhibition, Graz, Austria

- **November 22** – International Scientific and Practical Conference “Global Initiatives of the Republic of Tajikistan – A Basis for Dialogue and Finding Solutions to Issues of Water Resource Protection and the Climate Agenda”, Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- **November 25** – [27th Session of the SPECA Working Group](#) on Water, Energy, and Environment, Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- **November 26-27** – [2024 SPECA Economic Forum](#), Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- **November 28** – International Conference “Sustainable Energy for Environmental Protection – Reviewing International Best Practices”, Mary, Turkmenistan
- **November 29** – 3rd meeting of the Regional Working Group on the Implementation of the Regional Strategy for Climate Change Adaptation in Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

December

- **December 2-13** – 16th session of the UNCCD's Conference of the Parties ([COP16](#)), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- **December 3** – [One Water Summit](#), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- **December 4** – 2nd meeting of the Basin Dialogue in the Amu Darya River Basin, Urgench, Uzbekistan
- **December 4-5** – International Wind Energy Forum, Moscow, Russia
- **December 5** – World Soil Day
- **December 8-9** – International Climate Investment and Financing Conference, Guangzhou, China
- **December 8-12** – 2024 World Congress and Exhibition on Desalination, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- **December 9-10** – World Agri-Tech Innovation Summit, Dubai, UAE
- **December 9-11** – International Soil and Water Forum 2024, Bangkok, Thailand
- **December 10** – [3rd meeting of the Regional Working Group](#) on a mutually beneficial mechanism for water and energy cooperation in Central Asia, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
- **December 11** – International Mountain Day
- **December 12-13** – [13rd Meeting of the Working Group](#) on Institutional and Legal Improvement of IFAS, Almaty, Kazakhstan
- **December 17** – Annual online event of the [Women in Water Diplomacy Network](#)

Major events in Central Asia

Meeting of Central Asian Countries “Central Asia at Climate Change Negotiations: COP28 Outcomes and Plans for COP29”, February 10, Tashkent, Uzbekistan



The event was organized by CAREC in cooperation with the Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Central Asian University of Environmental and Climate Change Studies (Green University). The meeting was held as part of the “Dialogue of Central Asian countries on joint preparations for UNFCCC COP28”.

The meeting served to evaluate the results of Central Asia's participation in COP28¹ and showcase its achievements. Furthermore, it sought to strengthen regional climate collaboration and coordinate the implementation of the roadmap toward COP29.

The meeting convened heads of Central Asian environmental agencies, UNFCCC national coordinators, and representatives from Ministries of Foreign Affairs. They were joined by stakeholders from academia, NGOs, and youth organizations, alongside international partners and development agencies active in the climate sector.



Unmissable opportunities for Central Asia (5-1-1)

- Central Asia might seriously consider registering at the UNFCCC as a regional negotiation group, enhancing its visibility and maximising potential outcomes in international negotiations.
- Central Asia needs to create a recognizable brand internationally to recognise its extreme vulnerability to climate change, but also as an incredible arena where innovative projects can be implemented, thanks to the precious human capital, the many possibilities to demonstrate how the best available technologies can be modified to serve also regions like Central Asia and beyond.
- Central Asia, exploiting the opportunity of the Global Gateway, perceived as the natural bridge between Asia and the Western World, with its richness in culture, countless unique environmental resources, and technical and professional preparation of its human capital, has to position itself at the top levels of the international arena.
- Geostrategic importance, Trade & supply chain, energy transition
- Central Asia must speak as a Region with one voice, reflecting the peculiarities of the 5 Countries Central Asia 5 countries – 1 region – 1 voice.
- As Azerbaijan has strengthened relationships with CA countries in previous years, the region should take advantage of it at COP29

3 sessions included: (1) the High-Level Session “Shaping Climate Policy in Central Asia”; (2) “The Role of International Partners in Building Sustainable Capacity in Central Asia”; (3) “The Role of NGOs and Youth in the Sustainable Development of Climate Policy in Central Asia”. The meeting also focused on establishing a regional group of Central Asian negotiators for UNFCCC sessions, aimed at elevating the region's profile in global climate diplomacy. A key highlight of the event was the official inauguration of Central Asia's first 'Green University.' The institution is dedicated to training high-level environmental specialists and serving as a regional hub for innovation, scientific research, and collaborative climate action.

Online International Conference “The Silk Road of Knowledge: Science Meets Green Policy”, February 22-24, Almaty, Kazakhstan

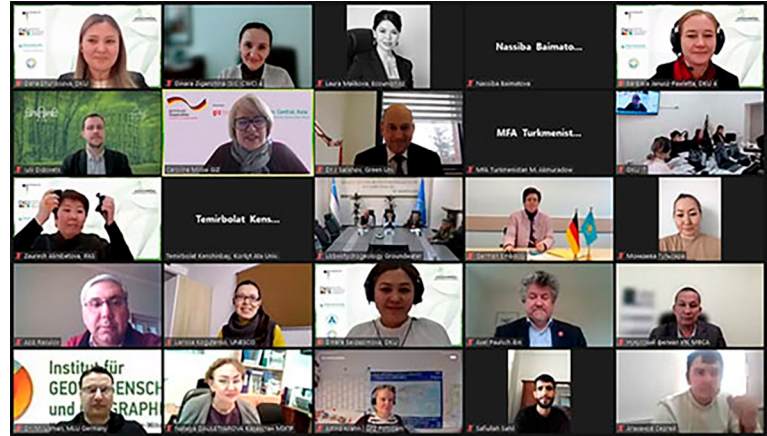
Organized by GKU with financial support from the German Federal Foreign Office, the Conference² aimed to bridge the gap between scientists, policy-makers, and practitioners. It facilitated the exchange of expertise and capacity-building in IWRM, food security, infrastructure development, and energy efficiency in the context of climate change.

Ahead of the main event, an online youth session on 'Supporting Career Pathways in Green Professions' (December 12, 2023) focused on promoting green careers and fostering experience-sharing among the next generation of environmental leaders. A recording of the session is available on: <https://fb.watch/oWyIPU2Zoz/>.

¹ November 30-December 12, 2023, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/cop28>

² GKU has been organizing the Conference since 2020 as part of the “Green Central Asia” initiative

The Conference programme included a panel discussion “How to bridge the gap between science, education, and political practice”, as well as 6 thematic sessions: (1) “Reviving the Aral Sea Restoration: innovations for sustainable progress”; (2) “Sustainable land management in Central Asia and carbon benefits”; (3) “Hydrogen production in Kazakhstan and Trans-Caspian hydrogen transportation”; (4) “Climate vulnerabilities in Central Asia: universities and policy mainstreaming”; (5) “GIS technologies and modelling approaches for more sustainable management of natural resources”; (6) “Nexus of shared resources management in the countries of Central Asia”.



The 6th Central Asia Climate Change Conference (CACCC-2024) “Bridging Climate Goals with Action: Making Ambitions a Reality”, May 27-29, Almaty, Kazakhstan

The Conference³ aimed to analyze and enhance climate change adaptation initiatives in Central Asia, with a view to strengthening support for government- and community-led climate adaptation actions and reducing the adverse impacts of climate change.

The event brought together over 1,000 participants, including representatives of relevant ministries, civil society, the scientific and academic community, youth, the private sector, media, and international organizations.

The Conference programme included 2 plenary sessions, 5 panel discussions

(“Regional and National Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Policies”; “Climate Capacity, Innovation and Finance: Needs and Opportunities”; “The Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Programme for the Aral Sea Basin (CAMP4ASB): Achievements, Lessons Learned and Future Plans”; “Applying the Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems (WEFE) Nexus to Address Climate Challenges in Central Asia”; “Central Asian Initiatives to Strengthen Regional Climate Cooperation”) and 15 parallel thematic sessions.

During the Conference, three memoranda of understanding were signed between CAREC and EC IFAS; CAREC and the Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction; REC “Green Academy” and the University of Central Asia, aimed at joint efforts to



promote the Concept of the Central Asian Green Tech Climate Hub.

On the margins of the Conference, the winner of the 2024 Dmitry Tereshkevich Youth Environmental Award was announced. Participants also took part in field visits to project sites under the World Bank-funded CAWEP, including the Nurgisa SPP, the Kapshagay HPP and the project area of the Big Almaty Canal.

In the lead-up to the Conference, Almaty hosted a series of related events, including the annual meeting and Steering Committee session of the SWITCH-Asia Programme⁴ (May 20-21) and the event “Towards a Regional Circular Economy for Central Asia” (May 22). In addition, a training⁵ workshop for content creators

³ The Conference was organized by CAREC within the framework of the Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Program for Aral Sea Basin Additional Financing (CAMP4ASB AF), in cooperation with Central Asia Water & Energy Program (CAWEP), WB and GIZ, as well as with the Global Partnership for Sustainable and Resilient Landscapes (PROGREEN), NDCP, Coalition for Climate Action, ADB, Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), SWITCH-Asia Programme, financed by EU, GKU and others

⁴ EU launched the SWITCH-Asia Programme in 2007 to support sustainable consumption and production and the transition to a low-carbon, green, and circular economy in Asia. In 2019, five Central Asian countries were integrated into the Programme. At present, the Programme covers 24 countries across Asia

⁵ with the support of the CAWEP and PROGREEN projects

and journalists from Central Asian countries was organized to raise awareness of climate-related challenges.

In conclusion, participants adopted a final statement reaffirming their commitment to regional coopera-

tion. Key priorities identified include the implementation of the Regional Strategy on Climate Change Adaptation, the preparation of ambitious NDCs for 2025, and the advancement of innovative mechanisms to accelerate the region's clean energy transition.



3rd International High-Level Conference on the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018-2028⁶, June 10-13, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

The Conference⁷ was organized within the framework of the [Dushanbe Water Process](#) and brought together more than 2,500 participants, including heads of state and government, representatives of international and regional organizations, financial institutions, academia, civil society, the private sector and the media. The conference sought to support the goals of the International Decade while reviewing progress made since the 2023 UN Water Conference. Specifically, it focused on the implementation of the Water Action Agenda, identifying both the challenges and the opportunities for fulfilling its commitments.

In the lead-up to the Conference, a number of events took place: (1) Women and Water Forum; (2) [3rd Regional Forum of Basin Organizations](#); (3) [Parliamentarians' Forum](#); (4) [Glacier Forum](#); (5) [Science and Technology Forum](#), at which the [Community of Practice \(CoP\)](#) was launched; (6) [Central Asia Forum on Water and Climate Change](#); (7) [Private Sector Forum](#); (8) [Youth & Children's Water and Climate Forum](#); (9) [African Water Forum](#) “Reviewing Progress and Framing the Agenda for Post-2025 Africa Water Vision”. In addition, the [Water and Glaciers Festival](#) was organized (June 10).

The Conference programme included a plenary session, 5 interactive dialogues aligned with the dialogues of the 2023 UN Water Conference, a number of [side events](#), as well as country overview tours, including visits to the Rogun and Nurek Hydropower Plants.

As an outcome of the Conference, the [Dushanbe Declaration](#) was adopted, calling to: (1) “protect human health and well-being by accelerating progress in the delivery of safely managed water supply and sanitation services and promoting improved hygiene, as well as by strengthening water management...”; (2) “deliver on the promise to leave no one behind...” by developing policies and strategies that prioritize universal and equitable access to safe drinking water,



⁶ The 1st International Conference was held on 20-21 June 2018, resulting in the adoption of the [Final Declaration “Promoting Action and Policy Dialogue”](#). The 2nd International Conference took place on 6-9 June 2022, at the conclusion of which the [Final Declaration “From Dushanbe 2022 to New York 2023”](#) was adopted

⁷ The Conference was organized by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, in cooperation with the UN and other international partners

sanitation and hygiene; (3) “promote resource efficiency and reuse as a standard across economic sectors...”; (4) “strengthen the implementation of integrated water resources management from source to sea and at all levels, and enhance climate resilience through integrated and inclusive planning and policy-making across all sectors...”; (5) “protect and restore ecosystems, including rivers, forests, peatlands, wetlands, lakes and aquifers, to safeguard human health and support climate change mitigation and adaptation...”, among other actions.

Within the framework of the Conference, an international exhibition “Rethinking the Value of Water” was held. The Exhibition sought to raise awareness of measures and progress in the implementation of the International Decade for Action, showcasing the outcomes of the 2023 UN Water Conference, strengthening cooperation, promoting innovative approaches to sustainable water management and facilitating business networking and partnerships.

International Scientific and Practical Conference “Water Challenges and Opportunities for Mutually Beneficial Water-Energy Cooperation in Central Asia”, dedicated to the memory and the 90th anniversary of the birth of Academician D. Mamatkanov (IV Mamatkanov Readings), October 28, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

The Conference was organized by the Institute of Water Problems and Hydropower of the National Academy of Sciences of the Kyrgyz Republic, with the support of the USAID Regional Water and Environment Project.

The event brought together scientists from Kazakhstan, Russia, Uzbekistan, China and Kyrgyzstan, as well as representatives of government authorities, research institutes and higher education institutions.

Key discussion areas included:

- (1) effective mechanisms for expanding inter-basin dialogue and strengthening mutually beneficial cooperation in the water-energy sector;
- (2) challenges in rational water allocation and use, alongside the automated management of surface water;
- (3) safety of hydraulic structures;
- (4) innovative methods for monitoring and refining assessments of water and energy resources in river basins;
- (5) addressing hazardous natural phenomena through monitoring and early warning of water-related disaster risks;
- (6) capacity-building and professional training in hydrology, glaciology, meteorology and hydrogeology.

The adopted Resolution emphasized several critical priorities: strengthening regional scientific platforms for water research, jointly adapting to glacier loss and climate change, and developing innovative forecasting tools.

It further called for sustained monitoring of Central Asian water sources and ecosystems, enhanced knowledge-sharing among specialists, and a commitment to training and engaging young professionals in the field.



Scientific and Practical Conference “Water in Central Asia: The Future in Cooperation”, dedicated to the 90th anniversary of V.A. Dukhovniy (posthumously), N.K. Kipshakbaev, and the 80th anniversary of R.A. Giniyatullin, November 8, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

The Conference was convened by decision of ICWC⁸ to foster an intergenerational dialogue between policymakers and experts. Its primary objective was to refine water management strategies through the water-energy-land nexus, while building a robust expert partnership to bridge the gap between science and policy in Central Asia.

Participants included ICWC members, alongside researchers and practitioners from academic, water management, and international organizations, young scientists from Central Asia, the Russian Federation, and Switzerland (attending virtually), as well as media representatives.

The Conference programme included a session in honor of celebrants and 4 thematic sessions: Water security in Central Asia in the context of climate change: challenges and opportunities; Sound water use, water conservation and ecosystem protection; Transboundary cooperation and water-food-energy-environment nexus; Information, education and science for water security and cooperation.

As a result of the Conference, the following recommendations were adopted: (1) to rename the SIC ICWC Regional Training Center in honor of V.A. Dukhovniy; (2) to continue developing initiatives aimed at preserving scientific heritage and transfer-

ring knowledge to future generations; (3) to reinforce joint water management mechanisms via regional platforms and elevate the strategic role of international organizations in this process; (4) to deploy innovative technologies within the water-energy nexus and expand regional adaptation programs, leveraging initiatives such as GLZ’s “Green Central Asia”; (5) to promote green technology adoption and modernize regulatory and legal frameworks to enhance water-use efficiency; (6) to establish (or restore) a unified educational platform for regional university collaboration and experience-sharing, while improving graduate employment tracking within the water sector; (7) to develop integrated information platforms for water resource analysis, ensuring more effective interstate cooperation and timely decision-making.

Ahead of the Conference, a call for papers was announced for young professionals on topics related to the Conference themes.

Following the Conference, the official proceedings were published in commemoration of the 90th anniversary of V.A. Dukhovniy (posthumously) and N.K. Kipshakbaev, and the 80th anniversary of R.A. Giniyatullin, entitled “Water in Central Asia: the Future in Cooperation” (November 8, 2024).



⁸ Decision of the 86th ICWC meeting, see: <http://www.icwc-aral.uz/minutes/86-en.pdf>

International Conference “Sustainable Energy for Environmental Protection – Reviewing International Best Practices”, November 28, Mary, Turkmenistan

The Conference was organized by the Ministry of Energy of Turkmenistan, the EU SECCA⁹ Project and the UNDP project “Sustainable Cities in Turkmenistan: Integrated Green Urban Development in Ashgabat and Awaza”. The event aimed to explore best practices in sustainable energy policy within the European Union and Central Asia, with a focus on accelerating renewable energy adoption and enhancing energy efficiency in Turkmenistan. The gathering brought together Turkmen ministry specialists, academics, and youth, alongside international experts from Kazakhstan, Georgia, Latvia, and Poland.

The Conference programme included two sessions – “Comprehensive Solutions for Sustainable Energy Development” and “Sustainable Energy – the Energy of the Future”. Discussions focused on the feasibility of bioenergy and biofuel production, alongside innovative green energy solutions proposed by national researchers. The event also featured a seminar “Sustainable Energy Connectivity in Central Asia” and a scientific exhibition showcasing regional advancements.



⁹ The EU-funded project “Supporting the EU-Central Asia Sustainable Energy Connectivity (SECCA)” (2022-2026), financed by the European Union and implemented by STANTEC in consortium with Intec-GOPA International Energy Consultants, ACTED, and the Florence School of Regulation (FSR) – Energy, across five Central Asian countries