

European Union – Central Asia Water, Environment and Climate Change Cooperation



WECOOP Project – expert team

- Valts Vilnītis – Team Leader;
- Anatoly Krutov, Key expert on Environment Governance and Climate Change Capacity Development;
- Vladislav Bizek, Key expert on EU Acquis and Environment Enforcement;
- Nurgul Smagulova, Event and communication officer;
- A large pool of experts for various tasks depending on the needs of the beneficiaries.

WECOOP Project – context

- Third phase (15 October 2019 – 14 October 2022: 3 years);
- Beneficiary countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan;
- Project office: Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan;
- The project aims to enhance environment, climate change and water policies in Central Asia through approximation to EU approaches and standards and to promote green investments in relevant sectors with the aim of contributing to measurable reductions in man-made environmental pollution and CO₂ emission.

WECOOP Project – Key activities

- Policy dialogue between the EU and CA countries,
- Capacity Building,
- Communication/analysis/networking

WECOOP Project – Policy dialogue between the EU and CA countries

- Support to the EU-Central Asia Platform for Environment and Water Cooperation;
- Organisation of annual meetings of the EU-CA Working Group on Environment and Climate Change (WGECC); and
- The 7th EU-CA High-Level Conference in 2022;
- Support to the EU Water Initiative (EUWI) National Policy Dialogues (NPD) meetings organised by UNECE.

WECOOP – structured approach to policy dialogue

- Structured according to main categories of EU Environmental, Energy and Climate acquis
- 3 levels:
 - ✓ EU policies – explanation;
 - ✓ Implementation of EU policies – approaches, legislation, standards
 - ✓ Implementation of EU policies – examples of best practice in the EU Member States (strategies, plans, programmes, projects) and warning on mistakes made

WECOOP Project – capacity building

- Acquisition of the EU approaches, legislation, and standards and adaptation of national legislative instruments;
- Provision of capacity building through training, policy advice, workshops and study tours at the request of Central Asia stakeholders to present EU environment policies and best practices;
- Assistance in project identification and preparation

WECOOP Project – communication/analysis/networking

- **Communication**

- ✓ improved environmental awareness among decision-makers, industry and civil society,
- ✓ enhancing visibility of the EU's work and cooperation in Central Asia;

- **Analysis**

- ✓ training needs,
- ✓ the most appropriate communication channels,
- ✓ effectiveness of communications;

- **Networking**

- ✓ engagement with main stakeholders and partners,
- ✓ contribute to enhancing synergies between donors and partners in the region.

WECOOP Project – expected results

- Cooperation between EU and CA enhanced,
- Environmental policy documents (at national or regional level) developed or amended,
- Project proposals identified,
- Consultations to / dialogue with the beneficiary, aimed at assistance with a particular task or policy document,
- Training provided,
- Accessibility to the EU *acquis communautaire* improved.

Thanks for your attention!

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European Union

WECOOP

EU – Central Asia Cooperation on
Water – Environment – Climate Change



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This project is implemented by the consortium led by Stantec, with ELLE (Estonian, Latvian & Lithuanian Environment), ACTED, and Kommunal kredit Public Consulting as the consortium partners.