



WECOOP NEWS BULLETIN

Issue 1 | 20 April 2020

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1. INTRODUCTION

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

The EU renewed the project “**European Union – Central Asia Water, Environment and Climate Change Cooperation (WECOOP)**” in October 2019 to run for three years. The project will continue strengthening the policy dialogue on sustainable development between the CA countries partners, and to facilitate their cooperation with the EU on environment and climate change. Specifically, the project efforts will be focused on improving and rationalising policies and enhancing the capacities of national ministries and government agencies working in the relevant fields.

The WECOOP project aims to enhance environment, climate change and water policies in Central Asia through **approximation to EU standards** and to **promote green investments** in relevant sectors with the aim of contributing to measurable reductions in man-made pollution, including CO₂ emissions.

Priority areas for consultations and cooperation include **environmental governance, circular economy** and **sustainable consumption and production, climate change adaptation and mitigation** and **water resources management**.

This WECOOP News Bulletin provides brief information on the recent developments in EU policies and legislation, as well as on new relevant reports and studies published by the European Environment Agency or other specialized agencies.

Detailed information on the WECOOP project will be available at the project website at <https://wecoop.eu>, once it is launched in April 2020. For the time being, please visit us at <https://wecoop2.eu>.

2. EU POLICIES AND LEGISLATION

2.1. THE EU GREEN DEAL

On 11 December 2019, the European Commission presented **The European Green Deal – a roadmap for making the EU's economy sustainable by turning climate and environmental challenges into opportunities across all policy areas and making the transition just and inclusive for all. The European Green Deal aims at boosting the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean, circular economy and stopping climate change, reverting biodiversity loss and cut pollution.** It outlines investments needed and financing tools available, and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition. **The European Green Deal covers all sectors of the economy**, notably transport, energy, agriculture, buildings, and industries such as steel, cement, ICT, textiles and chemicals.

Full text of the respective Communication in English can be found at https://ec.europa.eu/info/publications/communication-european-green-deal_en

2.2. NEW EU LEGISLATION IN PROGRESS

- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality **and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 (European Climate Law)** – COM (2020) 80 final.
Full text with detailed introductory explanation (English): https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/commission-proposal-regulation-european-climate-law-march-2020_en.pdf

This Regulation establishes a framework for the irreversible and gradual reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and enhancement of removals by natural or other sinks in the Union.

The Regulation sets out a binding objective of climate neutrality in the Union by 2050 in pursuit of the long-term temperature goal set out in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement and provides a framework for achieving progress in pursuit of the global adaptation goal established in Article 7 of the

2.3. NEW EU LEGISLATION IN FORCE

- Directive (EU) 2019/904 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 June 2019 on the reduction of **the impact of certain plastic products on the environment**
Full text (English): <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2019/904/oj>,
Summary (English): <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=legissum:4393034>
- Regulation (EU) 2019/1021 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on **persistent organic pollutants**
Full text (English): <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/1021/oj>,
Summary (English): <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1582877484041&uri=LEGISSUM:4406078>
- Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/2031 of 12 November 2019 establishing **best available techniques (BAT) conclusions for the food, drink and milk industries**, under Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council
Full text (English): http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2019/2031/oj
- Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/2010 of 12 November 2019 establishing the **best available techniques (BAT) conclusions**, under Directive 2010/75/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council, **for waste incineration**
Full text (English): http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2019/2010/oj



3. REPORTS AND STUDIES

3.1. EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

- The first and last mile – the key to sustainable urban transport (EEA Report 18/2019)
Full text (English): <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/the-first-and-last-mile>
- Construction and demolition waste: challenges and opportunities in a circular economy (EEA Briefing 14/2019)
Full text (English): <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/construction-and-demolition-waste-challenges>
- Renewable energy in Europe: key for climate objectives, but air pollution needs attention (EEA Briefing 13/2019)
Full text (English): <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/renewable-energy-in-europe-key>
- The European environment – state and outlook 2020: Knowledge for transition to a sustainable Europe
Full text (English): <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/soer-2020>
- National policies and measures for climate change mitigation (EEA Briefing 11/2019)
Full text (English): <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/more-national-climate-policies-expected>
- Textiles in Europe's circular economy (EEA Briefing 10/2019)
Full text (English): <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/textiles-in-europes-circular-economy>
- Reducing loss of resources from waste management is key to strengthening the circular economy in Europe (EEA Briefing 8/2019)
Full text (English): <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/reducing-loss-of-resources-from>
- The plastic waste trade in the circular economy (EEA Briefing 7/2019)
Full text (English): <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/the-plastic-waste-trade-in>
- EMEP/EEA air pollutant emission inventory guidebook 2019: Technical guidance to prepare national emission inventories (EEA Report No 13/2019)
Full text (English): <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/emep-eea-guidebook-2019>
- Urban waste water treatment for 21st century challenges (EEA Briefing 5/2019)
Full text (English): <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/urban-waste-water-treatment-for>
- Paving the way for a circular economy: insights on status and potentials (EEA Report No 11/2019)
Full text (English): <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/circular-economy-in-europe-insights>

3.2. UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

- 3rd Environmental Performance Review of Kazakhstan (June 2019)
Full text, Synopsis (English, Russian): <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=51819>
- On the Way to Clean Air: The Capacity-Building Programme under the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia
Full text (English, Russian): <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=52692>
- Guide to reporting under the Water Convention and as a contribution to SDG indicator 6.5.2
Full text (English, Russian): <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=53745>
- Protocol on Water and Health and the 2030 Agenda: A Practical Guide for Joint Implementation
Full text (English, Russian): <https://www.unece.org/index.php?id=52057>

4. CONTACTS

European Union

92 Avenue Reine Astrid
1310 La Hulpe, Belgium
Phone: +32 2 655 22 30

Central Asia

Office 15, 5/2 Dostyk street
Z05H9M3 Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan
Phone: +7701 206 6760

✉ info@wecoop.eu

🌐 www.wecoop.eu



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