



EU – CENTRAL ASIA STRATEGY FOR A NEW PARTNERSHIP PLATFORM FOR ENVIRONMENT AND WATER COOPERATION

The 7th meeting of the EU-Central Asia Working Group on Environment and Climate Change

Albert Borschette Congress Centre, room 1.A

European Commission, Brussels

6-7 February 2018

MEETING AGENDA

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the 7th meeting of the EU-Central Asia Working Group on Environment and Climate Change (WGECC) are to:

- Take stock of policy developments at regional (EU and CA) and bilateral level and to update the EU and Central Asian countries of the progress in EU-CA regional cooperation in the area of environment and climate change since the 6th Working Group meeting in July 2017;
- Improve access by CA countries to the Green Climate Fund and IFIs investment for projects in environment, energy, waste management and water sectors using EU IFCA support;
- Provide update on the identification of infrastructure-related projects for each CA country in environment, energy, waste management and water, for consideration by IFIs;
- Identify key directions for further strengthening of CA regional organizations active in environment, climate change and water;
- Discuss and agree priorities in preparation of the 8th meeting of the EU-CA WGECC to be held in June 2018 in Tashkent;
- Discuss and agree on proposals for hosting the forthcoming EU-CA High Level Conference envisaged to be held in late 2018.

BACKGROUND

The Platform for Environment and Water Cooperation was established at the EU-CA High Level Conference in Rome (Italy) in 2009. The Platform is a framework for the implementation of the EU-CA Cooperation in water and environment, based on the EU Strategy for Central Asia agreed by the CA countries. The EU-CA WGECC assists in identification of EU-CA regional cooperation priorities in environment and climate change and supports the Platform by strengthening policy dialogue and cooperation at the regional level and between EU and CA. Six WGECC meetings took place since 2010. The Italian Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea has been chairing the Working Group since its establishment in 2009.

The EU-CA Cooperation priorities are based on the Joint Declaration of the EU-CA High Level Conference in Milan in October 2015 and reflected in the Action Plan, which was endorsed by the 5th meeting of the Working Group in December 2016 (see <http://wecoop2.eu/events/wgecc-gathers-in-brussels>). The Action Plan foresees improving access by the countries of Central Asia to international funds for climate resilient environment/water infrastructure, green finance and eco-innovation. This topic was thoroughly discussed at the 6th meeting of the WGECC, which took place in Astana (EXPO 2017) on 10-11 July 2017. The meeting conclusions are highlighted in the Summary by the Chair (see <http://wecoop2.eu/events/6th-wgecc-meeting-astana>). The follow-up workshop was organised on 23-24 November 2017 in Almaty where the relevant Ministries of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan had face-to-face meetings, facilitated by the EU Delegations, with the major International Financial Institutions (EBRD, EIB, ADB) GCF and other institutions to discuss the related pipelines, including project identification and their preparation.



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Day 1: Tuesday, 6 February 2018	
09:00 – 09:30	Registration of participants
09:30 – 09:50	<p>Opening and welcome: Meeting Chair: Massimo Cozzone, Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea, Italy</p> <p>Welcome addresses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ambassador Peter Burian, EUSR for Central Asia • Philippe Van Amersfoort, Deputy Head, Central Asia Division, EEAS • Raffaella Iodice, Head of Unit, Middle East, Central Asia, South Asia, DEVCO
09:50 – 10:00	<p>Adoption of the agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Massimo Cozzone, Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea, Italy
Session 1: Taking stock - Update on progress since the 6th WGECC meeting and perspectives of future developments	
Chair: Johannes Stenbaek Madsen, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Kazakhstan	
10:00 – 11:00	<p>Overview of recent developments in EU-CA regional cooperation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 min presentation by Jürgen Heimann, DG DEVCO <p>Overview of the recent EU policy developments on environment and current trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 min presentation by Andreja Skerl, DG ENV <p>Overview of the recent developments and perspectives in EU approach and policies on transition to low-emission and climate-resilient economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 min presentation by Niels Schuster, DG CLIMA <p>Implementation of the EU-funded project “Central Asia Nexus Dialogue: Fostering Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus Dialogue and Multi-sector Investment in Central Asia”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 min presentation by Iskandar Abdullaev, CAREC <p>Horizon 2020: EU-CA Water Regional Science Diplomacy Initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 min presentation by Gediminas Ramanauskas, DG Research & Innovation <p>Open discussions and Q&A</p>
11:00 – 11:15	Coffee/tea break
11:15 – 12:30	<p>Delegations of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan are invited to inform on recent and future developments in the areas of environmental governance and climate change mitigation and adaptation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 min presentation by Zhan Nurbekov, Kazakstan • 8 min presentation by Aizada Barieva, Kyrgyzstan • 8 min presentation by Suhrob Olimov, Tajikistan • 8 min presentation by Berdy Berdiyev, Turkmenistan • 8 min presentation by Tolegen Abdulgaziev, Uzbekistan • 8 min presentation by Yuri Skochilov: Views from CA NGOs <p>Open discussions and Q&A</p>
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch break



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Session 2: Improving access by CA countries to IFI investments – follow-up on Almaty Workshop Nov 2017 Chair: Alessandra Fidanza, Sogesid S.p.a. - Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea, Italy	
14:00– 15:00	<p>Overview of EBRD projects pipeline in CA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 min presentation by James Falzon, EBRD <p>Overview of AFD projects pipeline in CA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 min presentation by Fanette Bardin, AFD <p>Overview of EIB projects pipeline in CA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 min presentation by Marco Beros, EIB <p>Feedback from CA countries</p>
Session 3: Improving knowledge about the IFI requirements and the process of bankable project preparation Chair: Massimo Cozzone, Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea, Italy	
15:00 – 16:15	<p>Part 1: Presentation of Investor Guide and the Knowledge Centre Web Platform for CA – purpose, objectives, key points and future developments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 min presentation by Valts Vilnitis, Key Expert, WECCOOP2 <p>Panelists (comments, views, opinions):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zhan Nurbekov, Kazakhstan • Asel Begmatova, Kyrgyzstan • Yuri Skochilov, Tajikistan • Berdy Berdiyev, Turkmenistan • Nobijon Kuvondikov, Uzbekistan <p>Open discussion and Q&A</p>
16:15 – 16:45	Coffee/tea break
16:45 – 17:30	<p>Part 2: Future perspectives and requirements for IFIs investments</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Falzon, EBRD • Fanette Bardin, AFD • Marco Beros, EIB <p>Open discussions and Q&A</p>
17:30 – 17:45	<p>Conclusion of Day 1: Concluding remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Johannes Stenbaek Madsen, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Kazakhstan
19:00 – 21:00	Dinner (Sofitel Hotel, Place Jourdan)





Day 2: Wednesday, 7 February 2017	
Session 4: Identification of projects in CA countries in water, environment, energy efficiency or waste management sectors for IFIs investment including IFCA support Chair: Johannes Stenbaek Madsen, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Kazakhstan	
09:00 – 10:30	<p>EU grant support to boost investment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 min presentation by Anja Nagel, DEVCO, European Commission <p>Presentations by CA countries of updated projects concepts for IFIs consideration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 min presentation by Zhan Nurbekov, Makka Shingazieva, Bolat Bekniyaz, Kazakhstan 15 min presentation by Maksat Amiraev of Kyrgyzstan 15 min presentation by Bakhodur Akhadzoda, Shukhrat Murodov of Tajikistan <p>Open discussions and Q&A</p>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee/tea break
11:00 – 12:00	<p>Presentations by CA countries of updated projects concepts for IFIs consideration (cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 min presentation by Berdy Berdyiev, Serik Bekmaganbetov, Turkmenistan 15 min presentation by Tolegen Abdulgaziev, Uzbekistan <p>Open discussions and Q&A</p>
12:00 – 13:30	Lunch Break
Session 5: Key directions for further developments of EU-CA regional cooperation in environment and climate change Chair: Massimo Cozzone, Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea, Italy	
13:30-14:30	<p>Outline of WECOOP2 work plan towards completion in Feb 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 min presentation by Snejana Popova, EU Delegation to Kazakhstan <p>Presentations by international and CA regional organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 min presentation by Iskandar Abdullaev, CAREC 7 min presentation by Batyr Mamedov, ICSD 7 min presentation by Bolat Bekniyaz, IFAS 7 min presentation by Zhanar Mautanova, IWAC 7 min presentation by Vadim Ni, Environmental NGOs Forum <p>Open discussions and Q&A</p>
14:30 – 15:00	Coffee/tea break
15:00 – 15:45	<p>Presentations by international and CA regional organizations (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 min presentation by Felix Beck, GIZ CA Regional Environmental Program 7 min presentation by Jean-Gabriel Duss, SDC 7 min presentation by Jenniver Sehring, OSCE 7 min presentation by Sylvie Motard, UN Environment 7 min presentation by Sarangoo Radnaaragchaa and Peep Mardiste, UNECE <p>Open discussions and Q&A</p>
Session 6: Meeting conclusions and recommendations Chair: Massimo Cozzone, Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea, Italy	



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<p>15:45 – 17:00</p>	<p>Open discussions and Q&A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated project pipeline • Priorities in preparation for the 8th meeting of the EU-CA WGECC to be held in June 2018 in Tashkent • Timeframe and proposals for hosting the forthcoming EU-CA High Level Conference envisaged to be held in late 2018 • - Activities after March 2019? - Reasons to continue? - New title for WECOOP3? - Investment in Green Economy/Development? - Green Investment Development?
<p>17:00 -17:15</p>	<p>Closure of the Meeting: Summary of the outcomes and final remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Johannes Stenbaek Madsen, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Kazakhstan • Massimo Cozzone, Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea, Italy



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