

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


Promoting green investments: experience
and lessons learnt

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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 typical 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.



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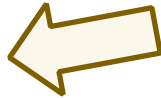


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WECOOP Project – expected results

- 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.

Identification of project proposals – experience

- WECOOP2 (2016-2019); similar set of activities, including “identification of project proposals”
- Two “clinic” workshops:
 - Workshop on access to IFIs investment in water, energy efficiency and waste management (Almaty, November 2017),
 - Tailor-made support for environmental project identification and preparation for consideration by IFIs (Almaty, September 2018),
- 2018 Almaty workshop -> 16 project ideas were identified, analysed and prepared for IFIs or donors’ consideration



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The breakdown of the 16 projects from Almaty-2018

- 9 MSW-related projects in Kazakhstan (Aktobe, Karaganda (2), Ili – Karaoi/Almaty (2), Karasai, Kostanay, Kyzylzhar, Almaty Region)
- 1 MSW-related project in Kyrgyzstan (Issyk-Kul)
- 1 MSW-related project in Tajikistan (Hissor/Dushanbe Region)
- 2 TA projects – capacity development in nature protection areas (Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan)
- Regional TA/grant (3 MEUR) project on air quality management (KG-TJ-UZ)
- 2 water related grant projects (both KZ-UZ)

The breakdown of the 16 projects from Almaty-2018 – status summer 2019

- 9 MSW-related projects in Kazakhstan (Aktobe, Karaganda (2), Ili – Karaoi/Almaty (2), Karasai, Kostanay, Kyzylzhar, Almaty Region): ADB expressed interest in 5 of these; EBRD started discussion with 1
- 1 MSW-related project in Kyrgyzstan (Issyk-Kul): ADB expressed some interest, stayed with the EUD to KG to coordinate
- 1 MSW-related project in Tajikistan (Hissor/Dushanbe Region): no interest from donors and no further activity of the beneficiary
- 2 TA projects – capacity devt in nature protection areas (Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan): no interest from donors and no further activity of the beneficiary
- Regional TA/grant (3 MEUR) project on air quality management (KG-TJ-UZ): WECOOP2 has prepared a draft project proposal and circulated it to DG ENV and 3 EUDs
- 2 water related grant projects (both KZ-UZ): no interest from donors and no further activity of the beneficiary

The breakdown of the 16 projects from Almaty-2018 – status November 2020

- 9 MSW-related projects in Kazakhstan (Aktobe, Karaganda (2), Ili – Karaoi/Almaty (2), Karasai, Kostanay, Kyzylkhar, Almaty Region): 1 advanced using own funds, 1 was discarded, 7 keep searching funding; no involvement of ADB or EBRD reported
- 1 MSW-related project in Kyrgyzstan (Issyk-Kul): ADB expressed some interest, stayed with the EUD to KG to coordinate – no new developments known
- 1 MSW-related project in Tajikistan (Hissor/Dushanbe Region): no interest from donors and no further activity of the beneficiary
- 2 TA projects – capacity devt in nature protection areas (Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan): no interest from donors and no further activity of the beneficiary
- Regional TA/grant (3 MEUR) project on air quality management (KG-TJ-UZ): WECOOP2 has prepared a draft project proposal and circulated it to DG ENV and 3 EUDs – no new developments, beneficiaries keep asking about the progress
- 2 water related grant projects (both KZ-UZ): no interest from donors and no further activity of the beneficiary



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Thank you!



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