



Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe

Seventh EU–Central Asia High-Level Conference

Rome, Italy, 22-24 February 2023

Ralf Ernst

Deputy Co-ordinator

Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental
Activities



Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe

Water Management - Women, Water Management and Conflict Prevention – Phase III

Overall objective:

To contribute to more inclusive and participatory water governance and capacity building of women professionals in the water sector

Project Duration: February 2023 – December 2025

Project Area: Central Asia and Afghanistan (with cross-regional components)

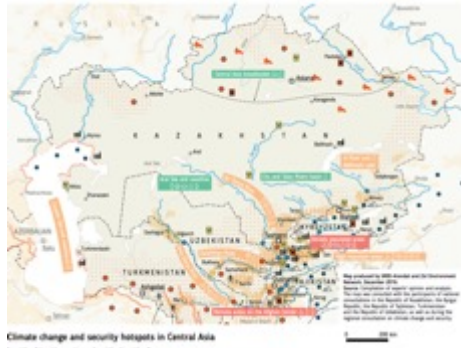
Upcoming Activities:

- **Women in Water Management Network in CA and Afghanistan:**
 - UN 2023 Water Conference (22-24 March, New York).
 - Monthly capacity-building and knowledge exchange activities for women water professionals in CA and A.
- **Capacity building** for water professionals in water diplomacy, **negotiation, mediation**, peacebuilding and conflict prevention, including interactive simulations.
- Organization of **awareness-raising** events on **climate change implications on transboundary water management**, including gender considerations.



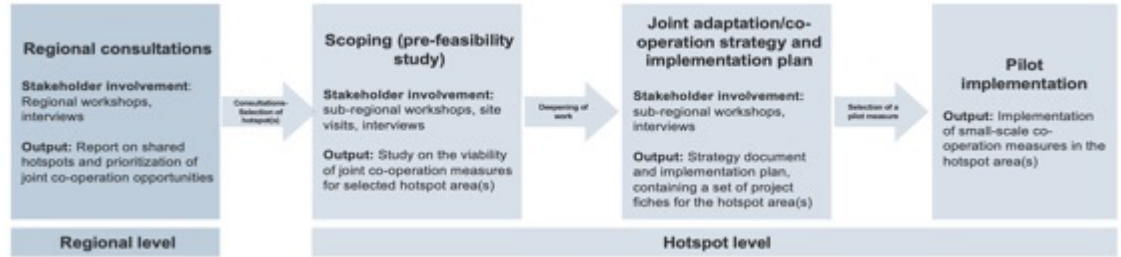
OSCE- Climate & Security in Central Asia

2013-2017
OSCE- ENVSEC



11 climate & security hotspots

2022-2024
OSCE- adelphi



Highlights from 2022



Regional Consultation Workshop on Climate Change and Security
13-14 July 2022, Almaty



Regional Conference of Youth on Climate Change in Central Asia
24-27 October 2022, Bishkek

Strengthening national and regional capacities and co-operation on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in Central Asia, including as a response to climate change

- Started in 2019
- Implemented in close collaboration with **UNECE**
- Donor: **German Environment Agency (UBA)**
- Beneficiaries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan
- Results:
 - Raising awareness and strengthening capacities about **SEA** and **Environmental Impact Assessment**
 - **Enhancing co-operation** within and across countries
 - Needs assessment and action plan for **establishing national SEA systems**



- **Phase II** of the project expected to start in mid 2023
- It will further support the establishment of effective national SEA systems and facilitate **transboundary consultation** in environmental impact assessment in Central Asia, as a contribution to sustainable economic development

Response to the Implications of Afghanistan for the OSCE Region

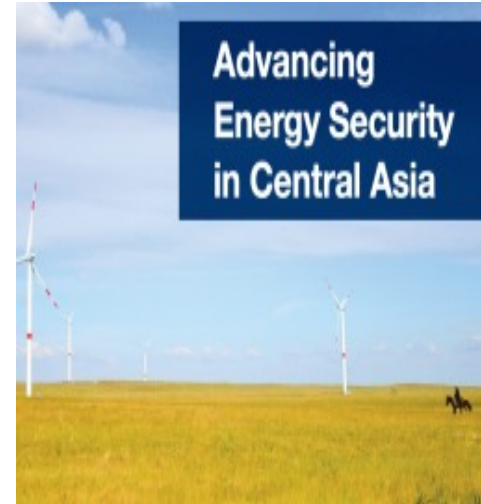
Addressing vulnerabilities and improving resilience in communities in the Central Asian border regions with Afghanistan: natural resource management (water management and energy security) 2022-2025

Objective: to enhance the resilience of border communities in Central Asia to address challenges imposed by political insecurity in Afghanistan on natural resource management

Countries: Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

Strengthening Energy Sector Co-operation and Analysis in Central Asia in the Context of Afghanistan's Energy Crisis

Analytical study on the implications of the situation in Afghanistan on trade connectivity in Central Asia



Thank you!

Any questions?

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