

Green Central Asia - Weekly Newsletter

featuring the Central Asian Republics and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

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Climate Change and Environment

Emomali Rahmon Instructs to Develop the State Program for Geological Development for 2021-2030 26/01/21

DUSHANBE, 26.01.2021 (NIAT Khovar) – The Main Department of Geology was instructed to strengthen the capacity in the field of geological studies, transition to international standards for minerals management, as well as control of hazardous geological processes and groundwater studies and monitoring. This was noted today by the President Emomali Rahmon in his annual address to the Supreme Assembly.

Read more: <https://eng.khovar.tj/2021/01/emomali-rahmon-instructs-to-develop-the-state-program-for-geological-development-for-2021-2030/>

The issues of improving the socio-economic situation in the Aral Sea region were considered 27/01/2021

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- On 26 January 2021, a meeting was held between the Chairman of the Senate Committee of the Oliy Majlis on the development of the Aral Sea region Boriy Alikhanov with the UNDP Resident Representative in Uzbekistan Matilda Dimovski to consider ways to improve the socio-economic situation in the Aral Sea region.

It was noted that in Karakalpakstan, within the framework of the implementation of the decree of the President of Uzbekistan "On measures for the comprehensive socio-economic development of the Republic of Karakalpakstan in 2020 - 2023", 705 out of the planned 1,359 investment projects were launched, as a result, about 4,500 jobs were

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created. In total, in accordance with this document, it is planned to implement 2 788 projects and objects worth 1 trillion 209 billion soums and attract foreign grants and investments for over 1 billion dollars.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63243>

THE UNCCD DROUGHT TOOLBOX: AN INSTRUMENT FOR MANAGING DROUGHT EFFECTIVELY 27/01/21

In September 2019, during the 14th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 14) to UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the participants discussed drought preparedness. The UNCCD, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the Global Water Partnership (GWP) reiterated the need for swift action to enhance drought preparedness across the globe.

As part of the international communities' efforts to manage drought, an interactive Drought Toolbox was launched. The Toolbox is meant to serve as a platform for developing a proactive approach to drought management. It was developed by the UNCCD in collaboration with FAO, GWP, WMO, the University of Nebraska and the UN Environment Programme's Centre for Water and Environment (UNEP-DHI).

Read more: <https://carececo.org/en/main/news/kompleks-prikladnykh-sredstv-borby-s-zasukhoy-kbo-oon-instrument-dlya-effektivnogo-upravleniya-zasukh/>

Uzbekistan is on Track to ETF Transition 29/01/201

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- In Uzbekistan, a FAO project on the improvement of the national capacity for transparency-related activities in line with national priorities is seeking for GEF funds.

It should assist the government, private sector, academia, in strengthening their current reporting instruments, including more up-to-date inventories of emission sources and sinks using advanced IPCC guidance, and institutional arrangements with the relevant tools, trainings and assistance for progress towards its Enhanced Transparent Framework (ETF).

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63297>

Water resources

President signs amendments to Water Code 25 /01/21

NUR-SULTAN. KAZINFORM – Head of State Kassym-Jomart Tokayev signed the Law of the Republic of Kazakhstan «On amendments to the Water Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the issues of delineation of authority between local representative, central and local executive bodies on subsidy of potable water supply,» Kazinform has learnt from the press service of Akorda.

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Read more: https://www.inform.kz/en/president-signs-amendments-to-water-code_a3745107

A branch of the K-Water Academy of South Korea to be opened in the capital 27/01/21

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- A training center will open in the city of Tashkent, together with the K-Water Academy of South Korea, where workers of the drinking water supply and sewerage system will undergo advanced training courses.

On 27 January 2021, regular negotiations were held between the K-Water Academy and JSC "Uzsuvtaminot" in the format of video conferencing, dedicated to the opening of this center, and advanced training of workers in the field. Consultants from the Asian Development Bank also took part in them.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63247>

A draft resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers “On measures to cover part of the costs of producers in agriculture for the introduction of water-saving technologies” published for discussion 28/01/21

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) - In order to ensure the implementation of the Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan from 11 December 2020 “On measures to further accelerate the organization of the introduction of water-saving technologies in agriculture”, a draft resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan has been prepared.

It is envisaged to invalidate a number of Decrees of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan, including the Regulation on the procedure for reimbursing part of the costs of producers in agriculture for the introduction of water-saving technologies;

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63287>

New facets of cooperation with the French Development Agency 28/01/21

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- On 27 January 2021, a meeting was held between the management of Uzsuvtaminot and a delegation led by the head of the representative office (in Tashkent) of the French Development Agency (FAD) for Central Asia.

The meeting was attended by Sohob Saifnazarov, Chairman of the Board of Uzsuvtaminot JSC, Vincent Caupin, Head of the FAR Representative Office in Central Asia, and Matilda Camus, Representative of the Representative Office.

During the discussion, they discussed cooperation in the field of drinking water supply and sewerage, as well as the processes of preparation for the implementation of investment

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projects.

According to the project, if in 2021 in the cities of Shakhrisabz, Kitab of Kashkadarya region, in the city of Karmana of Navoi region, sewage services will improve, in 2022 in Kuva and Altyaryk districts of Ferghana region, Yuqorichirchiq district of Tashkent region, drinking water supply will improve, in Kamashin and Guzar districts the Kashkadarya region the drinking water supply system will be reconstructed.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63268>

Energy sector

Two SZE and Investment Agreements were signed for two wind farms located in Bukhara and Navoi regions 24/01/21

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) - The Ministry of Energy and the ACWA Power company are going through the main stages on the way of increasing Uzbekistan's potential in the field of clean energy.

The sides will cooperate within three major energy projects with a total investment value of US\$2.5 billion and a capacity of 2500 MW.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63187>

Kazakhstan to develop energy balance until 2035 26/01/21

NUR-SULTAN. KAZINFORM President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev charged the Government to develop the energy balance of Kazakhstan until 2035. It should take into account not only inner aspects, consumption, and generation of capacities, increase of the share of the clean energy but also plans for the development of energy systems of the neighbours. «One of the most important conditions for the country's further development is the uninterrupted reliable operation of the electric system. Power failure occurred on January 10 in the country's west showed insufficiently safe operation of the isolated electricity system of the region,» the President said. The Head of State charged the Government and Samruk Kazyna Fund in a short span of time to develop a scheme for transit links between the western regions of Kazakhstan and to reinforce the electricity system of the southern zone.

Read more: https://www.inform.kz/en/kazakhstan-to-develop-energy-balance-until-2035_a3745465

Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries

A. Nematov: Strengthening interconnection between Central and South Asia will make an important contribution to peace in Afghanistan 28/01/2021

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Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) – On 27 January 2021, in the Chatham House format, the 8th regular online conference on the topic “Building a Peaceful Afghanistan: Regional and International Support for the Peace Process in Afghanistan” was held.

The event was part of a series of expert dialogues on Afghanistan. Since their inception in May 2020, such meetings have brought together prominent foreign experts, politicians, scientists, diplomats, representatives of international organizations. The main goal is a constructive dialogue and the development of concrete proposals and practical recommendations in promoting the peace process in Afghanistan.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63288>

Cooperation between Central Asian countries

Uzbekistan resumes railway service to border with Turkmenistan from Monday 26/01/21

Uzbekistan has restored a rail link to Alat city on the border with Turkmenistan, the Sputnik Uzbekistan Agency reports.

The train services on the route Alat – Tashkent – Alat will be performed from Monday four times a week.

During a working trip to the Bukhara Region, Shavkat Mirziyoyev instructed to resume railway traffic from Alat city located on the border between Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan to Tashkent, the capital city of the Republic. As the head of state stressed, such a request is contained in many applications by local residents.

In this regard, the press service of Uzbekiston Temir Yullari (Uzbek Railways) informed passengers on the resumption of train traffic between Alat and Tashkent as of January 25 this year.

Read more: <https://orient.tm/en/uzbekistan-resumes-railway-service-to-border-with-turkmenistan-from-monday/>

Uzbekistan’s GDP makes up 580.2 trillion soums in 2020 26/01/21

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- According to preliminary estimates, in 2020, the gross domestic product of Uzbekistan at current prices made up 580.2 trillion soums and, compared to 2019, increased in real terms by 1.6%.

The GDP deflator index, in relation to the prices of 2019, was 111.9%. This was reported by the press service of the State Statistics Committee.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63239>

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Tajikistan Establishes Diplomatic Relations with 178 Countries 26/01/21

DUSHANBE, 26.01.2021 (NIAT Khovar) – President Emomali Rahmon in his annual address to the Supreme Assembly noted that during its independence Tajikistan has established diplomatic relations with 178 countries and became an active member of international and regional organizations.

In this context, according to President, Tajikistan has been strengthening friendly relations and cooperation in all areas, first of all with close neighbors — Central Asian states, as well as with the members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, which are of particular importance in Tajikistan's system of interstate relations, and set to further pursue this policy.

Read more: <https://eng.khovar.tj/2021/01/tajikistan-establishes-diplomatic-relations-with-178-countries/>

Address by President Emomali Rahmon On Key Aspects of Domestic And Foreign Policy 26/01/21

Esteemed Compatriots!

Distinguished Members of Majlisi Milli and Majlisi Namoyandagon of Majlisi Oli!

This year I am addressing the supreme legislative body of our country in the truly historic for the glorious people of Tajikistan year — the 30th anniversary of the state independence and freedom of our beloved Motherland.

Everybody, including our dear compatriots, honorable members of the Parliament and distinguished participants have witnessed the 2020 as one of the most difficult years for the people of the planet, including Tajikistan from many perspectives.

Read more: <https://eng.khovar.tj/2021/01/president-emomali-rahmon-delivers-address-on-key-aspects-of-domestic-and-foreign-policy/>

Uzbekistan to take part in a meeting of EAEU Intergovernmental Council for first time 27/01/21

The meeting will consider issues of expanding trade-economic cooperation, removing obstacles to the functioning of the domestic market. Representatives of Uzbekistan are also expected to attend the event.

The next meeting of the EAEU Intergovernmental Council will be held on February 5, 2021, in Almaty, Kazakhstan, the press service of the Kazakh Foreign Ministry [reports](#).

The meeting is expected to be attended by the heads of government of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, the chairman of the Eurasian Economic Commission, as well as representatives of the observer states – Moldova, Uzbekistan and Cuba.

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Read more: <https://kun.uz/en/news/2021/01/27/uzbekistan-to-take-part-in-a-meeting-of-eaeu-intergovernmental-council-for-first-time>

Presidential inauguration kicks off in Kyrgyzstan

BISHKEK. KAZINFORM - The inauguration ceremony of President-elect Sadyr Zhaparov has begun in Bishkek, in the Kyrgyz National Philharmonic building, Kabar reports.

More than a thousand people take part in the official ceremony. In particular, prominent figures of the country, deputies of the Jogorku Kenesh, ex-presidents, ex-speakers of parliament, ex-prime ministers, heads of confessions of Kyrgyzstan, the diplomatic corps, representatives of international organizations, elder people and ordinary citizens have been invited. Also, Zhaparov's opponents at the last elections were invited to the ceremony. Sadyr Zhaparov won the January 10 early presidential elections with 79.2% of the votes.

Read more: https://www.inform.kz/en/presidential-inauguration-kicks-off-in-kyrgyzstan_a3746324

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