



## Green Central Asia - Weekly Newsletter featuring the Central Asian Republics and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

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## Climate Change and Environment

### Construction of a recreation area starts on the “Altyn kyol” lakeside in Ashgabat 13/02/2021

Work to build a recreation area is in progress on the shore of the Lake “Altyn kyol”, which

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is located in the north of Ashgabat. Today, the President of Turkmenistan has signed the Decree launching a new phase of this project.

The phase is designed for 2021-2024. According to the document, the Ministry of Construction and Architecture will develop and submit within 3 months a master plan for the construction of this recreation area, as well as conduct a tender process to choose contractors to build the facilities.

**Read more:** <https://orient.tm/en/construction-of-a-recreation-area-starts-on-the-altyn-kyol-lakeside-in-ashgabat/>

## **The Kyoto Protocol, the Paris Agreement and environmental policy of Turkmenistan 17/02/2021**

16 years ago, on February 16, 2005, the Kyoto Protocol entered into force. It is an international treaty that commits state parties to reduce greenhouse gas emissions into the Earth's atmosphere to combat global warming.

The Protocol extends the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Kyoto Protocol was adopted in Kyoto, Japan, in December 1997. The first commitment period started in 2008 and expired in 2012. Even before the second commitment period ends in 2020, the Paris Agreement, which is a separate instrument under the UNFCCC, was adopted.

**Read more:** <https://orient.tm/en/the-kyoto-protocol-the-paris-agreement-and-environmental-policy-of-turkmenistan/>

## **FAO and Central Asia work towards climate-friendly and resilient livestock development 18/02/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- A complex, FAO-led effort concluded by addressing the challenges posed by climate change to livestock keepers, as well as exploring opportunities of meat, milk, and wool production with lower emissions in the ecological and social structures of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

The project, entitled "Identifying low carbon and climate resilient pathways for the ruminant sector in the selected countries of Central Asia," was led by a multidisciplinary team of technical experts Yvette Zenina, FAO natural resources officer, and Yuriy Nesterov, FAO sustainable livestock specialist, in close cooperation with the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock.

**Read more:** <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63708>

## **A criminal case has been initiated into the murder of a Bukhara deer 18/02/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- Information and video materials on the fact of

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the killing of a Bukhara deer, which is listed in the Red Book, in the Zarafshan National Natural Park of the Samarkand region, were disseminated on social networks.

According to the information, citizen D.D. applied to the prosecutor's office of Jambay district, who said that on 8 February 2021, while walking in the Zarafshan National Natural Park, he saw the head of the park and the inspectors of the 1st section shot a deer. Then on 9 February, going to the scene of the murder, citizen D.D. filmed the abandoned deer skin, deer head and traces of blood. After the shooting, he took the material evidence home and, having contacted law enforcement agencies, asked to take legal action against the perpetrators.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63738>

## Water resources

### Meeting of the Chairman of EC IFAS and the Head of UNICEF Representative Office in Tajikistan 16/02/2021

On February 16, 2021, a meeting was held between the Chairman of the IFAS Executive Committee, Mr. Rakhimzod S. and the UNICEF Representative in Tajikistan, Mr. Osama Makkawi Kogali. In the meeting, the parties discussed issues of bilateral cooperation, including within the framework of the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028.

The parties also exchanged views on holding a pre-conference event on the topic "Water and Youth" in the framework of the second International Water Conference, as well as ensuring the participation of children from Central Asian countries at this event.

Read more:

<https://www.facebook.com/%D0%98%D1%81%D0%BF%D0%BE%D0%BB%D0%BD%D0%B8%D1%82%D0%B5%D0%BB%D1%8C%D0%BD%D1%8B%D0%B9-%D0%BA%D0%BE%D0%BC%D0%B8%D1%82%D0%B5%D1%82-%D0%9C%D0%A4%D0%A1%D0%90-105488058038747>

### NeroDelta will consider a project to modernize the Uch-Kurgan hydroelectric power station 17/02/2021

NeroDelta may soon begin active work in the Kyrgyz markets. The issue of activating the company in Kyrgyzstan was discussed at the 5th annual international congress and exhibition "Hydropower: Central Asia and the Caspian", according to the website of the International Business Council of the Kyrgyz Republic.

NeroDelta is a gold sponsor of the forum, in addition, it carries out the modernization of hydropower plants, develops individual strategies for clients, from initial project assessment to final installation.

This year, the congress participants are considering the possibility of reconstructing the Uch-Kurgan hydroelectric power station - one of the first hydroelectric power stations built on the Naryn River and commissioned in 1962.

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Read more: <https://www.akchabar.kg/ru/news/nerodelta-zajmetsya-modernizaciej-uch-kurganskoj-ges/>

## **Power Machines continues to implement the project to modernize the Farhad hydroelectric power station 16/02/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- Under the contract for the modernization of the Farhad hydroelectric power station, Power Machines delivered a hydro turbine unit No. 2 to the construction site of the station, thereby completing the supply of the main equipment under the contract.

A hydraulic turbine with a maximum capacity of 33.7 MW was produced by the Kaluga Turbine Works, which for the first time in its history manufactured a turbine for a hydroelectric power station, by order of Power Machines. In the process of assembling the turbine, carbon fiber bushings were used, antifriction materials were used, and aluminum spraying was applied as a corrosion protection.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63658>

## **Uzbekistan, Tajikistan to develop a mechanism for stable flow of water from Tajik reservoirs 17/02/2021**

**The Deputy Prime Minister – Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade of Uzbekistan Sardor Umurzakov has held negotiations via videoconference with the First Deputy Prime Minister of Tajikistan Davlatali Said.**

During the talks, the parties exchanged views on topical issues of interaction in the spheres of trade, industrial cooperation, transport, water management and the banking-financial sector, the MIFT press service reported.

Read more: <https://kun.uz/en/news/2021/02/17/uzbekistan-tajikistan-to-develop-a-mechanism-for-stable-flow-of-water-from-tajik-reservoirs>

## **UNDP and Canada working to provide clean water to communities in Northwestern Uzbekistan 18/02/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- Five hundred and fifty years ago Leonardo da Vinci wrote that “water is the driving force of all nature.” Where it is in abundance, we often take it for granted; but where it is absent, we suffer. Nowhere is this truer than in the now dry and deserted wastelands of the Aral Sea Basin, where an innovative new initiative, launched with support from the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives, is setting up the critical infrastructure needed to deliver clean and potable water to every home and school in the Republic of Karakalpakstan, an autonomous region within Uzbekistan.

Matilda Dimovska, UNDP Resident Representative in Uzbekistan, said the infrastructure has helped ensure at least 40,000 people in the area can drink water from their taps

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without getting sick. “This has been particularly important during a year when we are dealing with the worse pandemic in a generation,” she said. “Contracting the coronavirus while also getting sick from drinking unsafe water only worsens the impact of both and makes people even more vulnerable.”

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63709>

## Energy sector

### Uzbekistan to establish a regulator of energy market 13/02/2021

It is planned to establish an energy market regulator in the country, which will control the electricity and natural gas market, perform licensing and other relevant functions. The NGO will be accountable to the President and the Oliy Majlis only.

The draft presidential decree “On additional measures to reform the energy sector” has been [posted](#) on the portal for discussing draft normative-legal acts.

Read more: <https://kun.uz/en/news/2021/02/13/uzbekistan-to-establish-a-regulator-of-energy-market>

### President of Turkmenistan and the newly appointed Ambassador of Pakistan discuss the TAPI gas pipeline implementation 17/02/2021

The construction of the transnational gas pipeline Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) became one of the topics of the meeting of President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov with the newly appointed Ambassador of Pakistan Irfan Ahmed.

The diplomat underlined the interest of Pakistan in the early implementation of the project, as well as the construction of the power lines and fiber-optic communication along the route Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan, which will contribute to the more active economic integration of the participating countries.

Read more: <https://orient.tm/en/president-of-turkmenistan-and-the-newly-appointed-ambassador-of-pakistan-discuss-the-tapi-gas-pipeline-implementation/>

## Afghanistan’s multilateral relationship with CA countries

### Foreign Ministerial Conference of Istanbul Process on Afghanistan is scheduled for the end of March 13/02/2021

President of Afghanistan Mohammad Ashraf Ghani [held](#) a telephone conversation with his Tajik counterpart Emomali Rahmon and discussed preparations for the “Heart of Asia – Istanbul Process” conference.

The event, co-chaired by Afghanistan and Tajikistan, is expected to be held in Dushanbe at the end of March this year.

It should be recalled that the participants of the Istanbul process are Afghanistan,

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Azerbaijan, China, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, the United Arab Emirates, as well as the United Nations.

The previous, eighth ministerial conference “Heart of Asia – Istanbul Process” was held in December 2019 in Istanbul. The forum is an important regional platform for political dialogue and cooperation to promote stability, peace and prosperity in the “Heart of Asia” and to expand Afghanistan’s ties with the countries of the continent.

Read more: <https://orient.tm/en/foreign-ministerial-conference-of-istanbul-process-on-afghanistan-is-scheduled-for-the-end-of-march/>

### **Practical aspects of Uzbek-Afghan cooperation discussed 14/02/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- On 13 February 2021, Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sardor Umurzakov in the format of a video conference discussed topical issues of bilateral cooperation and the course of implementation of mutual agreements in the trade, economic, transport, logistics and cultural and humanitarian spheres with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Muhammad Hanif Atmar and the head of the Presidential Administration of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan Muhammad Shakir Korgar.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63632>

### **Tajikistan and Afghanistan Discuss Security Cooperation 16/02/2021**

**DUSHANBE, 16.02.2021 (NIAT Khovar)** – On February 14-16, the Chairman of the State Committee for National Security of Tajikistan Saimumin Yatimov paid a working visit to Kabul in order to take part in the International Conference on combating terrorism and expansion of regional cooperation to eliminate terrorist threats.

Yatimov held separate meetings with Afghan President Mohammad Ashraf Ghani, Chairman of the High Council for National Reconciliation Abdullah Abdullah, First Deputy President Amrullah Saleh, Speaker of the Parliament Mir Rahman Rahmani, Chairman of the National Security Council Hamdullah Mohib, Head of the National Directorate of Security Ahmad Zia Saraj, Minister of Foreign Affairs Hanif Atmar, and other senior Afghan officials and representatives.

Read more: <https://eng.khovar.tj/2021/02/tajikistan-and-afghanistan-discuss-security-cooperation/>

### **Director of ISMI and Ambassador of Afghanistan note the high dynamics of Uzbek-Afghan cooperation 17/02/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** – On 12 February 2021, a meeting was held between the Director of the Institute of Strategic and Regional Studies (ISMI), Eldor Aripov, with the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to our country, Ahmad Khold Elmiy. The parties discussed the current state

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and prospects of Uzbek-Afghan interaction, as well as issues of developing trans-regional cooperation between Central and South Asia.

Welcoming the guest, E. Aripov stressed that expanding long-term and multifaceted cooperation with Afghanistan and promoting peace in the neighboring country is one of the most important priorities of the foreign policy of the President of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyev. The sincere interest of Uzbekistan in peace on Afghan soil, in the economic prosperity of Afghanistan was noted.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63695>

## **Issues of cooperation between Uzbekistan and Japan on assistance to Afghanistan discussed 18/02/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- In order to discuss issues of cooperation between Uzbekistan and Japan to assist Afghanistan, the Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Japan held a meeting with the Special Representative of the Japanese Foreign Ministry for Afghanistan and Pakistan K. Takahashi. The embassy of Uzbekistan in Tokyo reports.

During the negotiations, the Japanese side was informed of the results of meetings of representatives of Uzbekistan, Afghanistan and Pakistan, which was held on 2 February 2021 in Tashkent.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63721>

## **Cooperation between Central Asian countries**

### **Berdimuhamedov summed up the past year: from the speech of the president 13/02/2021**

President Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov at the enlarged meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan which took place on Friday, February 12, briefly summed up the past year.

Though for all of us the past year appeared heavy, difficult, we, despite crisis in the world economy, could achieve successes, fulfil almost all plans, the head of the state said.

Rates of increase of national economy remained. Past year GDP growth made up 5, 9 %, including in the industry – 3, 3 %, trade – 15, 1 %, transport-communication sector – 4, 7 %.

Read more: <https://orient.tm/en/berdimuhamedov-summed-up-the-past-year-from-the-speech-of-the-president/>

### **Further steps are outlined to expand multifaceted cooperation with the**

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## **Republic of Tajikistan 16/02/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** - On 15 February this year, in the format of a video conference, negotiations were held between the Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Investments and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sardor Umurzakov with the First Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Tajikistan Davlatali Saidov.

During the dialogue, the high level of strategic partnership between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Tajikistan was noted and commitment was expressed to further develop investment and trade and economic cooperation by intensifying bilateral contacts at various levels.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63676>

## **Foreign Ministers of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan hold talks 17/02/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- On 17 February 2021, within the framework of a working visit to Turkmenistan, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan Abdulaziz Kamilov met with the Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Turkmenistan, Minister of Foreign Affairs Rashid Meredov.

During the talks, the heads of the foreign ministries discussed the current state and prospects for further intensification of the Uzbek-Turkmen relations in the political, trade and economic, transport and communication, water management, cultural, humanitarian and other areas.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63693>

## **The Tashkent Park to be open in Ashgabat 18/02/2021**

President of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan Abdulaziz Kamilov have discussed an extensive agenda of bilateral cooperation and issues of regional economic integration during a personal meeting held today.

The humanitarian sphere was discussed also. Speaking about the development of strong good-neighborly relations, Berdimuhamedov said that a park titled "Tashkent" would be built in Ashgabat.

Read more: <https://orient.tm/en/the-tashkent-park-to-be-open-in-ashgabat/>

## **Population of Kazakhstan has come close to 19 million 19/02/2021**

The Bureau of National Statistics of the Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of the Republic of Kazakhstan has given the data **concerning population** of the country for

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January 1, 2021.

The population of Kazakhstan for January 1, 2021 has made up 18 million 877, 1 thousand people.

In particular, the urban population makes up 11 million 149, 7 thousand people (59,1 %), rural – 7 million 727,4 thousand people (40,9 %).

As compared with January 1, 2020 the population of the country has increased by 245 thousand people or by 1, 3 %.

The greatest general growth was observed in three cities of the country: in Almaty (60, 2 thousand people), the Nur-Sultan (48, 5 thousand people) and Shymkent (38, 0 thousand people).

Read more: <https://orient.tm/en/population-of-kazakhstan-has-come-close-to-19-million/>

### **Tajik and Uzbek FMs Meet in Dushanbe 19/02/2021**

**DUSHANBE, 19.02.2021 (NIAT Khovar)** – Yesterday, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Sirojiddin Muhridin met with the his Uzbek counterpart Abdulaziz Kamilov, who arrived in Dushanbe on a one-day working visit.

The foreign ministers discussed a range of bilateral issues of Tajik-Uzbek political, trade, economic, cultural and humanitarian cooperation.

They also exchanged views on the cooperation of the two countries within international and regional organizations.

While expressing satisfaction with fraternal and mutually respectful bilateral ties, the ministers stressed that through the efforts of the foreign ministries they will continue to maintain a high level of strategic partnership relations and consistently fulfill the tasks set by the heads of state.

Read more: <https://eng.khovar.tj/2021/02/tajik-and-uzbek-fms-meet-in-dushanbe/>

### **Uzbekistan joins the International Open Data Charter 19/02/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- Uzbekistan has joined the International Open Data Charter as the 23rd country, becoming the third country in Asia after South Korea and Philippines.

Ensuring the openness of the activities of State authorities and management is one of the important mechanisms for the democratization of the public administration system in the Republic of Uzbekistan. In the Strategy of Action on the five priority areas of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2017-2021, ensuring the openness of the activities of State authorities and management, the introduction of modern forms of providing information concerning the rights, freedoms and legitimate interests of individuals and

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legal entities is identified as a priority area of reforming the public administration system.

Read more: <http://uzdaily.uz/en/post/63745>

## **Shavkat Mirziyoyev: We are discussing with Kyrgyzstan the issues of Sokh and other border checkpoints 19/02/2021**

**At the extraordinary session of the Namangan regional council of people's deputies, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev spoke about the border checkpoint with Kyrgyzstan, located in the village of Gova, Chust district.**

"We are holding negotiations with the Kyrgyz side regarding not only to this post, but also on the Sokh issue. I personally communicate with the neighboring, fraternal Kyrgyz people and their leadership. Yesterday, Mr. Tashiyev (the head of the Kyrgyz State National Security Committee Kamchibek Tashiyev) [expressed](#) his views on border issues.

Our relationship is drastically different than it was five years ago. We are working hard on these issues," Shavkat Mirziyoyev said.

Read more: <https://kun.uz/en/news/2021/02/19/shavkat-mirziyoyev-we-are-discussing-with-kyrgyzstan-the-issues-of-sokh-and-other-border-checkpoints>

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