



**Green Central Asia**  
Enhancing environment, climate and water resilience

<b>Green Central Asia - Weekly Newsletter</b> <b>featuring the Central Asian Republics and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan</b>	
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## **Climate Change and Environment**

### **Innovative Restoration Plans for Aral Sea Region Announced at Global Disruptive Tech Challenge 2021 13/04/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** – From flowering tree plantations that will grow a beekeeping industry to women-centered training in natural resource management to the restoration of salt-dried landscapes - these are some of the disruptive innovations that won the grand prize in the Global Disruptive Tech Challenge 2021: Restoring Landscapes in the Aral Sea Region.

The four grand prize winners were announced today during a virtual ceremony hosted by the World Bank, in partnership with the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF), the Kazakh-

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German University (DKU), and Plug and Play (P&P).

Read more: [here](#)

## **Samarkand begins measuring level of air pollution 16/04/2021**

**Mobile environmental laboratories have begun to work in all districts of Samarkand region.**

These measuring stations are capable of determining atmospheric air pollution by 20 parameters, including atmospheric pressure and humidity.

“If earlier it took an average of 3 hours to analyze one ingredient, then modern systems allow such work to be done in 30 minutes,” the press service of the regional department for ecology and environmental protection reports.

Read more: [here](#)

## **Water resources**

### **Russian companies to build wastewater treatment plants in Uzbekistan 15/04/2021**

According to official data, the length of the drinking water supply network in the republic is 70.4 thousand kilometers, of which more than 1/3 is in need of an overhaul.

The drinking water supply operator in Uzbekistan, Uzsuvtaminot JSC, will cooperate with Russian companies to build wastewater treatment plants.

“Uzsuvtaminot JSC, Russian Ekolos-Proyektstroy LLC and UzEkolos LLC signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of water disposal and wastewater treatment,” a representative of the company informed RIA Novosti.

Read more: [here](#)

### **Webinar: “Outlining the economic foundations of regional cooperation on water in Central Asia” 15/04/2021**

On 15 April 2021, the Chairman of the IFAS Executive Committee, Mr. Sulton Rahimzoda made a speech at the webinar “Determining the economic foundations of regional cooperation in the field of water resources in Central Asia.”

The webinar was organized as part of the research program “Water as a driver of sustainable recovery: economic, institutional, and strategic aspects of water resources

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management in Central Asia”, with the support of the Blue Peace of Central Asia (BPCA) an initiative of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), The Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), the Center for Central Asian Studies at Corvinus University in Budapest (CUB) and the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia (CAREC).

In his speech, the Chairman of EC IFAS noted that considering environmental benefits will serve as an important basis not only for solving problems of water, but also for other sectors, and regional approaches to the use of water and energy resources will contribute to their more efficient management to ensure water security, economy growth, improving the well-being of the population and, in general, achieving sustainable development.

During the webinar, it was also determined that the application of the IWRM concept to the Amudarya and Syrdarya rivers and the development of the concept of regional smart investment will contribute to the development of a comprehensive economic framework for regional cooperation on water in Central Asia.

Read more: [here](#)

## Energy sector

### **Participation of the Deputy Chairman of EC IFAS in the regional dialogue “Promoting water-energy-food nexus approaches to food systems transformation in Central Asia” 15/04/2021**

On 15 April 2021 Deputy Chairman of the Executive Committee of IFAS, Mr. Husniddin Sharofiddinov took part in the regional dialogue “Promoting water-energy-food nexus approaches to food systems transformation in Central Asia “, which was organized by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI).

During the dialogue, the participants exchanged views on the nexus approach and transformation of food systems in achieving water, energy and food security in Central Asia.

Read more: [here](#)

### **The Ministry of Energy and Siemens Energy AG sign memorandum and roadmap 16/04/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- On 16 April 2021, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Siemens Energy AG (Germany), as well as a Road Map for the implementation of joint

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projects.

The documents were signed by the Minister of Energy Alisher Sultanov and the President of Siemens Energy AG Christian Bruch, who arrived on a visit to Uzbekistan.

The signing of the Memorandum expresses the interest of the parties in studying the possibility of implementing joint projects, as well as the existing potential for expanding strategic partnership in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Read more: [here](#)

## **SIEMENS AG modernizes 4 thermal power plants in Tashkent 16/04/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** - Today, on 16 April, a meeting with officials of SIEMENS AG was held at the khokimiyat of the city of Tashkent. The meeting was attended by the khokim of Tashkent city Jakhongir Artikkhodjaev, Energy Minister Alisher Sultanov, Deputy Minister of Housing and Communal Services Nazirjon Nazirov, Director of SIEMENS AG Christian Bruch and other officials.

The meeting discussed cooperation with SIEMENS AG in the field of energy, in particular, the construction of power plants and thermal stations, the development of hydrogen fuel and a number of other areas.

Read more: [here](#)

## **Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries**

### **Abdulaziz Kamilov meets with the Special Representative of the State of Qatar for Afghanistan 10/04/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- On 10 April 2021, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan Abdulaziz Kamilov in Doha met with the Special Representative of the State of Qatar for Afghanistan Mutlak bin Majid al-Kakhtani.

The parties discussed the topical aspects of interaction to advance the political peace process in Afghanistan through the continuation of inclusive inter-Afghan negotiations.

The importance of joining the efforts of the international community to help establish a lasting peace in Afghanistan was noted.

Mutlak bin Majid al-Kahtani also stressed the importance of the infrastructure projects being implemented by Uzbekistan in Afghanistan for the speedy recovery of the country's

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economy.

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## **A delegation of Uzbekistan meets with the head of the political office of the Taliban Movement in Qatar 10/04/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- On 10 April 2021, a delegation of the Republic of Uzbekistan headed by Minister of Foreign Affairs Abdulaziz Kamilov, who arrived in Doha on a working visit, met with the head of the political office of the Taliban Movement in Qatar, Mullah Barodar Akhund.

During the meeting, issues related to the advancement of the political peace process in Afghanistan in order to establish a stable and long-term peace in the country were discussed, the Uzbek Foreign Ministry said.

Read more: [here](#)

## **CENTRAL ASIA IS COMMITTED TO TACKLING DESERTIFICATION THROUGH SETTING AND ACHIEVING LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRALITY TARGETS 13/04/2021**

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), established in 1994, is centred on sustainable land management – a key aspect of environmental sustainability and development.

Desertification and land degradation are real threats to a large proportion of the global population. Restoring the productivity of degraded land and reducing the impacts of drought can improve the livelihoods of more than 1.3 billion people. The UNCCD's 197 parties are working hard to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) goals under the new UNCCD 2018-2030 Strategic Framework.

Read more: [here](#)

## **EU and Central Asian countries discuss international efforts to peacefully resolve the Afghan crisis 15/04/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** – On 15 April 2021, Special Representative of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Afghanistan Ismatulla Irgashev took part in an online video conference of the special representatives of the European Union and Central Asian countries for Afghanistan.

During the meeting, they discussed international efforts to peacefully resolve the Afghan crisis, actively involve Afghanistan in regional integration, economic recovery of this country and the implementation of various infrastructure projects on the territory of

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Afghanistan.

Read more: [here](#)

### **Uzbekistan to attend Istanbul Conference on Afghanistan 15/04/2021**

Uzbekistan and a number of other states and international structures received official invitations to an international conference on Afghanistan in Istanbul, which will be held from April 24 to May 4.

According to the TASS agency, the event is being organized by the UN, Turkey and Qatar.

Invitations were sent to Austria, Azerbaijan, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Norway, Great Britain, USA, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, the High Representative of the European Union, NATO Secretary-General and Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, writes TASS.

According to the agency, UN head Antonio Guterres plans to attend the conference online.

Read more: [here](#)

### **The launch of the Mazar-i-Sharif - Kabul - Peshawar railway to be an important milestone in the revival of the historical interconnectedness of the cities of Termez and Peshawar 16/04/2021**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- The launch of the Mazar-i-Sharif - Kabul - Peshawar railway will become an important milestone in the revival of the historical interconnectedness of the cities of Termez and Peshawar. Shabir Ahmad Khan, Director of the Center for Central Asian Studies at Peshawar University, said this during a video conference on the topic "Uzbekistan - Pakistan: Prospects for Mutually Beneficial Cooperation".

According to the expert, in recent years, Uzbekistan and Pakistan have taken unprecedented steps towards ensuring trans-regional integration between Central and South Asia, actively involving Afghanistan in these processes. The implementation of these plans is becoming a cornerstone in the socio-economic reconstruction of Afghanistan.

Read more: [here](#)

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## Cooperation between Central Asian countries

### Shavkat Mirziyoyev to visit Tajikistan – report 13/04/2021

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com)** -- The visit of the head of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev to Tajikistan is scheduled for 10-12 June, Sputnik Uzbekistan reported.

It is expected that Dushanbe and Tashkent will sign a number of new agreements in the fields of transport, energy, trade, finance, agriculture, culture and science.

This is the 4th visit of Mirziyoyev to his neighbors as president.

Read more: [here](#)

### Tajik Delegation Attends Visegrad Group and Central Asian Political Consultations 16/04/2021

**DUSHANBE, 16.04.2021 (NIAT Khovar)** – Yesterday, the Tajik delegation headed by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Muzaffar Huseinzoda attended online political consultations between Visegrad Group (Hungary, Slovakia, Poland and the Czech Republic) and Central Asian countries.

The parties exchanged views on strengthening interregional ties, expanding cooperation in the fields of trade, energy, tourism, education, **and environmental protection**.

Consultations focused on the implementation of the new EU Strategy for Central Asia, economic recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and the regional security issues.

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