Green Central Asia - Weekly Newsletter

featuring the Central Asian Republics and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

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Climate Change and Environment

KYRGYZSTAN HAS LAUNCHED A NEW PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE AND DEVELOP THE CAPACITY OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES. 24/03/2022

The project " Improving the Management of the Chychkan Gorge in Kyrgyzstan" was launched in Kyrgyzstan with the support of the Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund (CEPF). The aim of the project is to encourage local people to participate in decision-making processes and in aspects of development policy. The project is being implemented in the Toktogul district of the Djalal-Abad region of the Kyrgyz Republic. The pilot area is the Chychkan Gorge.

On 22-24 March 2022, the project kick-off workshop was held in Toktogul. Representatives of Toktogul district state administration, Jany-Jol local self-government, Toktogul forestry, the business community and municipal enterprises, pasture users, forest users and beekeepers took part in the workshop. The event was organised by project initiators and implementers PF Rural Development Fund and the Country Office of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) in Kyrgyzstan with the participation of representatives of the State Forest Service of the Kyrgyz Republic.

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A conference was held on the main results and achievements of the UN Conference on Climate Change 2021 COP26 25/03/2022

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On March 24, 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, together with the British Embassy and the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan, organized an online conference in Ashgabat dedicated to the results and achievements of the UN Climate Change Conference 2021 COP26.
The conference was a continuation of the joint round table held in March 2021 in Ashgabat on the eve of the COP26 conference, held last November in the British city of Glasgow.

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Turkmenistan on the way to a low-carbon economy 25/03/2022

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, together with the British Embassy and the office of the UN Resident Coordinator in Ashgabat, held an online meeting on the results of the UN Conference on Climate Change (COP26), held last November in British Glasgow.

The parties discussed the main steps to implement the decisions taken at COP26 and ways of cooperation in promoting the Glasgow Climate Pact.

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Water resources

Muhriddin and El-Hashemite Discuss Preparations for the Second International High-Level Water Conference in Dushanbe 20/03/2022

DUSHANBE, 20.03.2022 (NIAT Khovar) – On March 18, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Sirojiddin Muhriddin had a virtual meeting with the Head of the Royal Academy of Science International Trust Princess Nisreen El-Hashemite.
Muhriddin briefed about the process of preparations for the Second International High-Level Conference on the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028" entitled "Catalyzing water action and partnership at the local, national, regional and global levels" (Dushanbe, 6-9 June 2022).

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Tajik Delegation Attends Sixth Meeting of the International Advisory Committee of the Dushanbe Water Process 22/03/2022

DUSHANBE, 22.03.2022 (NIAT Khovar) – On March 20 in Dakar of Senegal, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Sharaf Sheralizoda took part in the Sixth meeting of the International Water Advisory Committee of the Dushanbe Water Process to promote the implementation of the International Decade for Action «Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028», co-chaired by the Committee — Head of the Secretariat of the Conference Sulton Rahimzoda and Director of the World Bank Water Policy Department

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Jennifer Sara.

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Bishkek hosts round table dedicated to World Water Day 22/03/2022

Bishkek, March 22, 2022. / Kabar /. Today March 22 is World Water Day #WorldWaterDay

Established by the UN in 1993, World Water Day is held annually on March 22. This day emphasizes the importance of water as a precious natural resource.

On this day, the Institute of Water Problems and Hydropower of the National Academy of Sciences of the Kyrgyz Republic hosted a round table "Water and energy resources of Kyrgyzstan in the context of climate change and anthropogenic pressure", dedicated to World Water Day and timed to the Year of Protection of Mountain Ecosystems and Climate Resilience.

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Tajik delegation attends World Water Forum in Senegal 24/03/2022

Bishkek, March 24, 2022 . / Kabar / . On March 21, Tajik delegation headed by the Minister of Energy and Water Resources Daler Juma with participation of the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Sharaf Sheralizoda and the Head of the Secretariat of the Second High-Level International Conference dedicated to the International Decade for Action «Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028» (June, 6 — 9, 2022 in Dushanbe) Sulton Rahimzoda took part in the opening ceremony of the 9th World Water Forum, which takes place from March 21 to March 26, 2022 in Dakar, Senegal, Khovar reported.

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Special session of the Executive Committee of IFAS within the framework of the 9th World Water Forum 24/03/2022

On 24 March 2022 in Dakar, Senegal, within the framework of the 9th World Water Forum, the Executive Committee of IFAS held a special session entitled "Cooperation of the Central Asian countries to ensure Water Security in the context of climate change".

The purpose of organizing this session was to attract the attention of the world community, international development partners, academia, civil society and the private sector to the problems of the Aral Sea basin and their solution, presenting the vision of the Central Asian countries on the priorities of the 9th WWF, presentation of the Action Program for assistance countries of the Aral Sea Basin (ASBP-4) in order to attract the attention of donor countries, as well as international partners to its implementation, as well

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as the exchange of views and experience on addressing issues related to water security.

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Energy sector

Sun, wind and water - sources of alternative energy 19/03/2022

Specialists of the "Energy Saving" laboratory of the Technology Center of the Academy of Sciences of Turkmenistan are scientifically developing ways to "extract" a cheap alternative energy source, in particular, "green" hydrogen. This term means environmentally friendly fuel, with which in the future it is possible to replace fossil sources of electrical energy. The object for the experiments will be the water area of the created lake "Altyn Asyr". Scientists will use a unique biocatalyst. By collecting surface water from the Turkmen lake and adding unicellular algae to it in a prescribed proportion, hydrogen will be produced in the Heliobarzh installation through the intensification of the photosynthesis process under the influence of sunlight.

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President Mirziyoyev presses symbolic button to start construction of a TPP in Surkhandarya 24/03/2022

The station will generate 12 billion kWh of electricity per year, part of the electricity is planned to be exported to Afghanistan.

The ceremony of starting the construction of a new thermal power plant in the Angor district of Surkhandarya region was held as part of the Tashkent International Investment Forum, the presidential press service reported.

The total cost of the project is $1.2 billion. The plant with a capacity of 1,560 megawatts will generate 12 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity per year. The technologies that will be provided to the TPP will save 1 billion cubic meters of natural gas per year. Commissioning of the station is scheduled for the end of 2024.

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Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries

Afghanistan on the agenda of the OIC meeting in Islamabad 22/03/2022

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) will hold the 48th session of its Council of Foreign Ministers in Islamabad on March 22-23, and the situation in Afghanistan is on the agenda of this meeting.

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The OIC said this is the second ministerial meeting aimed at advancing the organization's efforts in Afghanistan. In **December** 2021, an extraordinary meeting of the OIC Foreign Ministers was held, during which the political, economic and humanitarian situation in Afghanistan was discussed.

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Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund established 24/03/2022

On the eve of the 48th meeting of the OIC Council of Foreign Ministers, which was held inIslamabad on March 22-23, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and the Islamic Development Bank signed the Founding Charter of the Humanitarian Trust Fund for Afghanistan, established to collect donations to improve the living conditions of the Afghanpeople. The creation of the fund was one of the main outcomes of the 17th Extraordinary Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the OIC, held on December 19, 2021 in thecapital of Pakistan.

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Cooperation between Central Asian countries

Inaugural speech of Serdar Berdimuhamedov – main theses 20/03/2022

The elected president of Turkmenistan took the oath and took office. At a solemn ceremony held in Ashgabat on Saturday, the new head of state delivered a speech.

The inaugural speech of Serdar Berdimuhamedov confirmed that those vectors that were fundamental in the policy of the Turkmen state would continue and take a priority place on the agenda of the president. In particular, the head of state focuses on issues of internal socio-economic development at a new stage in the life of the country and in the context of international relations.

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Central Asian leaders send congratulations to Kyrgyzstanis on Nooruz 21/03/2022

Bishkek, March 21, 2022 . / Kabar / . Presidents of Central Asian countries congratulated President Sadyr Zhaparov and the people of Kyrgyzstan on the Nooruz holiday, his press service said Monday.

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Tajik-Kyrgyz relations discussed in Islamabad 22/03/2022

Bishkek, March 22, 2022 / Kabar/. Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan Ruslan

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Kazakbaev met today in the capital of Pakistan, Islamabad with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan Sirojiddin Mukhriddin, Khovar reported with reference to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan.

At the meeting, the sides discussed key issues of bilateral and multilateral relations between the Republic of Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic.

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FMs of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan discuss cooperation and prospects for future relations 23/03/2022

Bishkek, March 23, 2022. / Kabar /. Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan Ruslan Kazakbaev and Tajikistan Sirojiddin Muhriddin held a bilateral meeting on the margins of the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Islamabad.

The two foreign ministers discussed current issues of Kyrgyz-Tajik cooperation and prospects for further relations between the states, the press service of the Kyrgyz MFA said Wednesday.

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Kyrgyzstan proposes Turkmenistan to speed up opening of Kyrgyz-Turkmen Development Fund 23/03/2022

Bishkek, March 22, 2022 / Kabar/. Kyrgyzstan offered Turkmenistan to speed up the opening of the Kyrgyz-Turkmen Development Fund. This was noted during a bilateral meeting between Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic Ruslan Kazakbaev and his counterpart from Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov as part of a meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the member states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in Islamabad.

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