Green Central Asia - Weekly Newsletter

featuring the Central Asian Republics and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

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Climate Change and Environment

Socio-economic and environmental aspects of the development of the Aral Sea region discussed in China 04/04/2022

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- A discussion of the research project "Plant-soil-hydrological processes and synergistic management at the bottom of the Aral Sea" and a seminar on innovative cooperation "Green Aral Sea" were held in Beijing, Dunyo news agency reported.

Read more: here

Limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius is 'wishful thinking' 04/04/2022

ISTANBUL. KAZINFORM With the average temperature of Earth rising every year, there could be a spike in extreme weather conditions worldwide.
Numerous studies indicate the increasing number of floods, storms, droughts and extreme weather conditions as the most striking outcomes of the global rise in temperatures, Anadolu Agency reports.

Read more: here

Green Financing and Private Sector Can Support Uzbekistan's Transition to a Green Economy — ADB 06/04/2022

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — Uzbekistan's growth is expected to slow in 2022 due to lower investment and remittances from the Russian Federation before rising slightly in 2023, while green financing can support the country's transition to a greener economy, a new Asian Development Bank (ADB) report says.

Read more: here

AKAH and GBAO government contribute to green environment in the region 06/04/2022

On Monday April 4, the Aga Khan Agency for Habitat (AKAH) and the Government of the Gorno Badakhshan Autonomous region (GBAO) planted over 2000 trees in GBAO across Khorog city as well as Shugnan, Darvoz, Vanj, Rushan, Roshtqala and Ishkashim districts.

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A press release issued by the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) Resident Office in Tajikistan says this initiative is aimed to promote green environment, the environmental protection and alleviatiion of climate change impact on environment that are common priorities for both AKAH and GBAO Government that consider an environment and climate change perspectives in all the current and future initiatives across the region.

Read more: here

EBRD and Green Climate Fund promote green lending in Tajikistan 06/04/2022

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) continue supporting small private companies in Tajikistan, which are willing to invest in green technology solutions by offering new funds to the one of the country's leading microlenders, MDO HUMO.

According to the EBRD Dushanbe Resident Office, the official signing ceremony was held in Kulob City on April 5 with participation of Kulob Deputy Mayor Orzu Homidiyon.

A new financial package of US$4 million will be provided by the EBRD and the GCF under the Bank's Green Economy Financing Facility (GEFF). It will consist of an EBRD loan of US$3 million, which will be disbursed in local currency, and concessional financing of US$ 1 million by the GCF.

Read more: here

German Development Bank provides EUR 10 mln grant to Kyrgyzstan 08/04/2022

Bishkek, April 8, 2022 . / Kabar /. A grant financial agreement was signed between Kyrgyzstan and the German Development Bank (KFW) on the project "Agriculture Value Chain Finance. Phase 2" worth EUR 10 million to support the agro-financial sector.

The Agriculture Ministry of Kyrgyzstan reported that the project aims to help farmers and businesses gain access to long-term agricultural investment loans in local currency to upgrade equipment and apply modern technology through selected commercial banks.

Read more: here

Uzbekistan invites SCO member states to cooperate in development of "Innovations for the Aral Sea Region" program 08/04/2022

During the 6th Meeting of the Heads of Ministries and Departments of Science and Technology of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States, the participants discussed the Action Plan for scientific-technical cooperation in priority areas between the SCO Member States for 2022-2025, a Dunyo correspondent reports.

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Water resources

Discussion of issues of cooperation between the Executive Committee of IFAS and UNECE 06/04/2022

Today in Geneva, Switzerland, a meeting was held between the Mr. Sulton Rahimzoda- Chairman of the Executive Committee of IFAS and Ms. Francesca Bernardini- Secretary of the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, UNECE.

During the meeting, the parties discussed priority areas of cooperation between the Executive Committee of IFAS and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, including issues of cooperation within the framework of the implementation of individual projects of the Aral Sea Basin Program (ASBP-4).

Read more: here

EU STIMULATES INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF WATER AND ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE IN TAJIKISTAN 06/04/2022

DUSHANBE, TAJIKISTAN – Today the third meeting of the intersectoral working group on the implementation of the ***demonstration project in the Republic of Tajikistan*** took place online within the framework of ***the European Union (EU) funded project "Nexus Dialogue in Central Asia"***. The experts handed over the key results of the executed works on demo project to the Agency of Land Reclamation and Irrigation under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (ALRI) and the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan (MEWR) for further use and identification of investment opportunities.

Read more: here

STUDY TOUR BY THE CENTRAL ASIAN DELEGATION TO THE SENEGAL RIVER BASIN 08/04/2022

From 22 to 31 March 2022, a delegation from Central Asia visited the Senegal River basin as part of the Blue Peace Central Asia Project study tour. The delegation consisted of representatives from ministries of Central Asian countries, intergovernmental organizations such as ICWC and IFAS, as well as members of the regional Youth Water Network. CAREC, as the secretariat of the Blue Peace Platform, supported the organization of the study tour.

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To provide settlements 04/04/2022

A set of measures to search for new deposits of fresh underground water with operational prospects and assess their operational resources was carried out this year by specialists from the Dashoguz hydrogeological expedition of the State Corporation "Türkmengeologiýa" on the territory of several etraps of the northern region of the country. Their goal was to find ways to further provide high-quality drinking water to the residents of the Akdepe etrap, the Ýagtylyk and Yzmykşir geneshliks of the Gyorogly etrap, the administrative center and the Oguzhan and Ruhnama geneshliks of the Ruhubelent etrap. The ongoing work made it possible to determine the thickness, depth of occurrence and boundaries of new aquifers located, including on the virgin Shakhsenem massif. In addition, preliminary studies of underground fresh water deposits in the “Hamaýýap” area have been completed, which will improve the water supply of rural settlements of the “Bitarap Türkmenistan” geneshlik of the Gubadag etrap in the future. A report on the data explored here will be sent to the State Commission for Mineral Reserves.

Read more: here

Energy sector

Rosatom, Uzbekistan discussing details of the project of future NPP 05/04/2022

Earlier it was reported that the implementation of the “strategic project” could begin before the end of 2022.

Rosatom continues to develop a project for the construction of a NPP in Uzbekistan with local partners, TASS reports with reference to the representative of the state corporation Vadim Titov.

Read more: here

Kyrgyz Cabinet of Ministers to hold forum on energy sector development 06/04/2022

Bishkek, April 6, 2022. / Kabar /. The Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan with the assistance of the World Bank Group will hold an energy forum "Transformation of the energy sector of the Kyrgyz Republic on the way to affordable and sustainable energy of the future" on April 8 in Bishkek.

The event will discuss the main directions of energy reforms and investment cooperation, issues of improving cooperation between international development partners in support of energy sector reforms in the country.

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Energy Minister Alisher Sultanov resigns 07/04/2022

By the presidential decree, Alisher Sultanov was relieved of the post of Minister of Energy in connection with his transfer to another job for health reasons, Kun.uz source reported.

Read more: here

World Bank developing two projects to revitalize energy sector in Kyrgyzstan 08/04/2022

Bishkek, April 8, 2022 . / Kabar /. The World Bank is developing two projects to revitalize the energy sector in the Kyrgyz Republic, Charles J. Cormier, the World Bank Infrastructure Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia said during the International Energy Forum "Transformation of the Energy Sector of the Kyrgyz Republic on the Way to Affordable and Sustainable Energy of the Future".

Read more: here

Investment agreement and memorandum signed within International Energy Forum 08/04/2022

Bishkek, April 8, 2022. / Kabar /. An investment energy and memorandum were signed within the framework of the International Energy Forum "Transformation of the Energy Sector of the Kyrgyz Republic on the Way to Affordable and Sustainable Energy of the Future".

Thus, the investment agreement for the construction of a 1 thousand MW power plant in Issyk-Kul Oblast was signed by Minister of Energy of Kyrgyzstan Doskul Bekmyrzaev, Minister of Economy and Commerce Daniyar Amangeldiev and representative of the consortium of energy companies Zhao Zhanggang (company CPID), Gu HeyYun (company CR20G).

Read more: here

About 30 small HPPs are planned to be launched this year: Kyrgyz Cabinet chairman 08/04/2022

Bishkek, April 8, 2022 . / Kabar /. Work on 15-20 small hydropower plants (HPPs) has already been launched as part of the increase in generation capacity, Head of the Presidential Administration - Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan Akylbek Zhaparov said this at the International Energy Forum.

He noted that currently the work on preparation of sites for small HPPs is underway, the

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design and ordering of the necessary equipment is in progress.

"Thus, about 30 small HPPs are planned to be launched this year, of which 4 will be launched by their own efforts, the rest - under the public-private partnership (PPP)," Zhaprov said.

Read more: here

European Union supports Central Asia in application of waste-to-energy solutions 08/04/2022

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) – About 70 experts from Central Asia (CA), representatives of the European Union (EU) and the International Financial Institutions (IFIs) discussed the ways to apply waste-to-energy solutions in the CA cities and green investments during a two-day online workshop.

When waste cannot be prevented, reused or recycled, recovering its energy content is in most cases preferable to landfilling it, in both environmental and economic terms. The energy recovered from waste could also contribute to climate change mitigation and security of energy supply, by substituting traditional fossil fuels that would have been used to produce energy. Treatment of waste with recovery of generated energy and other waste-to-energy techniques are gaining more and more interest in the CA region.

Read more: here

Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries

New initiative of the European Union and UNDP to support the education of Afghan citizens in Uzbekistan 04/07/2022

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- The Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan (MHSSE), the Delegation of the European Union (EU) to Uzbekistan, and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) today launched an initiative aimed at creating new and expanding existing opportunities education for Afghan citizens, with a focus on women and youth.

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Taliban ban poppy cultivation in Afghanistan 05/04/2022

The corresponding order was issued by the supreme leader of the Taliban movement Haibatullah Akhundzada. The order was released at a press conference in Kabul and circulated by local and international media.

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It is noted that all Afghans are now informed of the strictest ban on poppy cultivation throughout the country.

Akhundzada stressed that those who violate the decree will be judged according to Sharia law, and the entire harvest will be immediately destroyed.

Read more: here

President Emomali Rahmon Receives EU Special Envoy for Afghanistan Tomas Niklasson 08/04/2022

DUSHANBE, 08.04.2022 (NIAT Khovar) – The Founder of Peace and National Unity, Leader of the Nation, President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon received the Special Envoy of the European Union for Afghanistan Tomas Niklasson, who is in Dushanbe on a working visit.

Read more: here

Tajik Interior Minister and EU Representative Discuss Afghan Situation 08/04/2022

DUSHANBE, 08.04.2022 (NIAT Khovar) – Yesterday, Minister of Internal Affairs Ramazon Rahimzoda met with the Special Representative of the European Union for Afghanistan Thomas Niclasson.

The meeting focused on issues of cooperation, strengthening of regional and international security, combating terrorism, extremism, and drug trafficking.

The parties paid special attention to the current situation in Afghanistan and the expansion of the united position of the world community to prevent a humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan.

Read more: here

Cooperation between Central Asian countries

Working Groups of Tajik and Uzbek Demarcation Commission Held Joint Meeting in Bokhtar 04/04/2022

DUSHANBE, 04.04.2022 (NIAT Khovar) – From March 28 through April 2, a meeting of the working groups of the Joint Tajik-Uzbek Demarcation Commission was held in Bokhtar. The meeting focused on demarcation work. Mutually agreed proposals were prepared on the project demarcation line of the Tajik-Uzbek border.

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Kyrgyzindustriya presents number of projects to delegation from Uzbekistan 05/04/2022

Bishkek, April 5, 2022. / Kabar /. President of Kyrgyzindustria OJSC Zharasul Abduraimov presented a number of projects to the delegation from Uzbekistan at the fourth meeting of the Council of Plenipotentiaries of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic in the border areas and akims of the border regions of Uzbekistan.

Read more: here

Tokayev congratulates Zhaparov on signing agreement to resolve dispute with Centerra 06/04/2022

Bishkek, April 6, 2022 / Kabar /. President of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Zhaparov had a telephone conversation with President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev.

During the conversation, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev congratulated Sadyr Zhaparov on signing an agreement to resolve the dispute with Centerra, the press service of the Kyrgyz president reported.

Sadyr Zhaparov, for his part, thanked Kassym-Jomart Tokayev and noted that reaching an agreement was not easy. He stressed that the interests of the Kyrgyz people were put at the forefront from the Kyrgyz side. As a result of a long negotiation process, it was possible to achieve the most possible results beneficial for Kyrgyzstan today.

Read more: here

Kyrgyz-Kazakh consultations at level of deputy foreign ministers held 06/04/2022

Bishkek, April 6, 2022 . / Kabar /. Bishkek hosted on Wednesday Kyrgyz-Kazakh consultations at the level of First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyzstan Nuran Niyazaliev and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan Marat Syzdykov, the press service of the Kyrgyz Foreign Ministry said.

Read more: here

Kazakh president to visit Kyrgyzstan 06/04/2022

Bishkek, April 6, 2022 / Kabar /. President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Joomart Tokayev will visit Kyrgyzstan on May 26, 2022.

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Minister of Economy and Commerce of Kyrgyzstan Daniyar Amangeldiev during the meeting with Ambassador of Kazakhstan to the Kyrgyz Republic Rapil Zhoshybaev discussed preparations for the visit of President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Joomart Tokayev to Kyrgyzstan on May 26, 2022, the press service of the Economy Ministry reported.

Read more: here

Kyrgyz and Kazakh sides discuss plans for holding First Forum of Interregional Cooperation 06/04/2022

Bishkek, April 6, 2022 / Kabar /. Minister of Economy and Commerce of Kyrgyzstan Daniyar Amangeldiev met with Ambassador of Kazakhstan to the Kyrgyz Republic Rapil Zhoshybaev, the press service of the ministry reported.

The sides discussed preparations for the upcoming 10th meeting of the Kyrgyz-Kazakhstani IPU, which will be held on April 29, 2022 in Bishkek and the visit of the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Joomart Tokayev to the Kyrgyz Republic on May 26, 2022.

Read more: here

Phone talk held between Presidents Zhaparov and Mirziyoyev 08/04/2022

Bishkek, April 8, 2022. / Kabar /. A phone talk was held on Friday between Presidents of Kyrgyzstan Sadyr Zhaparov and Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev.

During the talk, Mirziyoyev congratulated Zhaparov on the successful completion of negotiations with Centerra on the status of the Kumtor gold deposit and the signing of a corresponding agreement, the press service of the Kyrgyz president said.

Read more: here

Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan discuss scientific and technical cooperation 09/04/2022

Bishkek, April 9, 2022 / Kabar /. On the sidelines of the Meeting of the Heads of Ministries and Departments of Science and Technology of the SCO Member States in Tashkent, a bilateral meeting was held on April 8, 2022 between Minister of Education and Science of Kyrgyzstan Almazbek Beishenaliev and Minister of Innovative Development of Uzbekistan Ibrokhim Abdurakhmonov.

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