Green Central Asia - Weekly Press Review featuring the Central Asian Republics and Afghanistan

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Climate Change and Environment

Locust infestations are a serious problem for agricultural production in Tajikistan 11/04/2024

Locust infestations, aggravated by climate change and environmental factors, are a serious problem for agricultural production in Tajikistan, threatening food security and economic stability.

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The OSCE Center in Ashgabat held a seminar on the implementation of a methane emission control system 13/04/2024

The implementation of a methane emission control system was the focus of a seminar organized by the OSCE Center in Ashgabat on April 11 and 12, 2024. The event was aimed at sharing international best practices in the field of carbon credit trading and familiarization with government measures aimed at regulating methane emissions.

Read more: here

A series of workshops on integrating adaptation to climate change has ended in Turkmenistan 12/04/2024

The final workshop was held in Turkmenistan as part of a series of events on integrating adaptation to climate change.

It is provided within the framework of the project «Development of the national adaptation planning process in Turkmenistan», which is being implemented by the UN Development Program in cooperation with the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan.

Read more: here

Karakalpakstan to host Aral Sea Eco Race 12/04/2024

On April 18, the Aral Sea Eco Race will be held in the city of Muynak, designed to encourage the desire to protect the environment and restore the Aral Sea by planting trees to create a park, the Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change reported.

Read more: here

Turkmenistan strengthens international cooperation on the environmental track 13/04/2024

Turkmenistan intends to intensify partnership on the environmental track and, based on the country's priority positions voiced at the 78th session of the UN General Assembly, is ready to take a number of new steps in the environmental component of international cooperation.

Read more: here

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Students from Tashkent tested their environmental knowledge 13/04/2024

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) -- On 13 April, an environmental knowledge competition - the intellectual game “Eco-Zakovat” was held in Tashkent.

The event was organized in connection with the 15 April – Day of Environmental Knowledge.

Read more: here

CACCC-2024 EXTENDS REGISTRATION UNTIL 13 MAY 15/04/2024

The Central Asia Climate Change Conference (CACC-2024) will take place Almaty on May 27-29, 2024.

It will bring together leading regional and national experts on climate change, water management, food security and sustainable development.

This year, CACCC-2024 idea is expressed in the slogan - Bridging Climate Goals with Action: Making Ambitions a Reality.

Read more: here

Water resources

CAREC TEAM SHARED EXPERIENCE IN PROMOTING WATER DIPLOMACY IN CENTRAL ASIA 12/04/2024

The team of the Water Initiatives Support Program (WIS) of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia gave a leadership lecture on the topic **“Experience of CAREC in Promoting Water Diplomacy in the Region”** at al-Farabi Kazakh National University.

The Lecture brought together approximately 20 students, master's students, doctoral candidates, and faculty members of the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.

Read more: here

5 new reservoirs to be constructed in Kazakhstan: another 15 to be reconstructed 12/04/2024

In Kazakhstan, the construction of five new reservoirs will begin in 2024. These projects are aimed at preventing flooding of populated areas, reports the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation of Kazakhstan, *Eurasia Today* reports. This year, Kazakhstan is

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experiencing the most severe flooding in 80 years.

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BLUE PEACE CENTRAL ASIA LABORATORY TRAINING: THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL COMPETENCIES OF UNIVERSITY INSTRUCTORS ENHANCED 12/04/2024

A training session on laboratory analysis and analytics of drinking and wastewater parameters took place at the Kyrgyz State Technical University named after Razzakov in Bishkek. The training was organized for instructors from Kyrgyzstan's universities who are part of the Community of Practice for Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (CoP4WASH Central Asia), supported by the Swiss initiative Blue Peace Central Asia. **Patrick Eckert**, a staff member from the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland (FHNW), served as the trainer.

Read more: here

Up to 4,800 homes under water in Kazakhstan 14/04/2024

As of today, 4,870 private houses, 1,264 courtyards, 2,035 country houses are under water across Kazakhstan, chief officer of the committee on civil defense and military units of the emergency situations ministry of Kazakhstan Yerassyl Saipash said, Kazinform News Agency correspondent reports.

Read more: here

Energy sector

Turkmenistan adopted new law on energy saving and increasing efficiency 11/04/2024

In Turkmenistan, a new Law "On Energy Conservation and Energy Efficiency" has been officially published and entered into force. The document establishes legal, economic, and organizational frameworks for stimulating energy conservation and improving energy efficiency in the country, Turkmenportal reports.

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Innovations in energy and new achievements in engineering to be presented in Almaty 11/04/2024

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Almaty will host the International Industrial Forum on Energy, Renewable Energy, Engineering, and Metalworking from April 10th to 12th at the KCD "Atakent". The forum will unite four exhibitions of 2024: Mechanical Engineering and Metalworking, PowerTech Expo, Renewable Energy Expo, and EnergySaveExpo.

Read more: here

Uzbekistan intends to increase share of “green” energy to 30% 13/04/2024

Recently, Uzbekistan has connected seven large thermal, solar, and wind power stations to the grid with a total capacity of 2.4 gigawatts. Additionally, with the help of foreign investments amounting to $14 billion, 31 power stations with a total capacity of 12 gigawatts are being constructed, Ritmeurasia reports.

Read more: here

Turkmenistan is negotiating the introduction of advanced European technologies in the fuel and energy sector 14/04/2024

The Turkmen delegation, while visiting Brussels, held a series of important meetings not only with EU officials but also with business leaders, particularly with Bart Wateriks, Managing Director of XP Upgreen. XP Upgreen is a company actively implementing the latest European technologies in enhancing hydrocarbon production volumes and aimed at reducing methane emissions, making it a significant player in the energy technology market.

Read more: here

Future of green energy 14/04/2024

In 2021, the President of Turkmenistan adopted the Law of Turkmenistan "On Renewable Energy Sources", for which regulatory acts are being developed to promote the practical use of renewable energy in various sectors of the country's economy.

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Afghanistan’s multilateral relationship with CA countries

What Afghanistan's Qosh Tepa Canal could mean for Central Asia

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10/04/2024

Water issues are becoming increasingly acute for the countries of Central Asia. The giant Qosh Tepa Canal is being built at an accelerated pace on the Amu Darya River in northern Afghanistan. Experts believe this will dramatically worsen water shortages in downstream countries. In this piece, Kazinform News Agency explores what risks and challenges the Afghan megaproject poses for Central Asia, and whether it is possible to find a mutually beneficial solution to this issue to avoid catastrophic consequences.

Read more: here

On Afghan track, special mission objectively belongs to neighboring countries - minister Meredov 12/04/2024

Turkmenistan is convinced that it is necessary to establish and maintain dialogue with Afghanistan. The criteria should be mutual respect and equality. A clear and coherent strategy for providing assistance in the economic recovery and humanitarian issues of this country is needed, said the Vice Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, Rashid Meredov, at the international conference "Promotion of Peace: Implementation of Strategies to Strengthen Trust among Countries" in Ashgabat, Orient.tm reports.

Read more: here

Cooperation between Central Asian countries

Another round of negotiations on the demarcation of the Turkmen-Uzbek border took place in Nukus 09/04/2024

The next meeting of the working groups of the Joint Turkmen-Uzbek Demarcation Commission was held from April 1 to 7 in the city of Nukus, Karakalpakstan.

During the meeting, work on the demarcation of the common border continued and preparations for the meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission on the demarcation of the State Border between Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan were discussed, the press service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan reported.

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Central Asian region plays pivotal role in global resources politics 12/04/2024

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This article explores three critical inquiries: 1) the authors assess the strategic position of Central Asian nations within the rare earth metals' geopolitical landscape; 2) they identify the risks and prospects these states encounter amid the competitive scramble for these resources; 3) they evaluate the capacity of international players to contest for Central Asia's mineral riches, highlighting the region's pivotal role in global resource politics.

Read more: here

Buston Hosts Regular Meeting of Working Groups of Government Delegations of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic 13/04/2024

DUSHANBE, 04/13/2024 /NIAT "Khovar"/. In accordance with the agreement reached, from April 7 to April 13, 2024, in the city of Buston, Sughd region of the Republic of Tajikistan, a regular meeting of topographic working groups and working groups on legal issues of the Government delegations of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Kyrgyz Republic on the delimitation and demarcation of the Tajik-Kyrgyz state border was held.

Read more: here

Tajikistan increases trade, economic and investment cooperation with Uzbekistan 15/04/2024

The potential for bilateral partnership between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan is enormous and continues to grow rapidly each year, according to an article by Shokhrukh Gulamov on the *Avesta* portal. He is the head of the Department of International Cooperation at the Ministry of Investments, Industry, and Trade of Uzbekistan.

Read more: here

Central Asia has potential to become a region of stability and security 15/04/2024

Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan have prepared in advance for the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Strategic Dialogue "Central Asia - Cooperation Council of Arab States of the Gulf", which begins its work in Tashkent, Eurasia Today reports.

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Top Tajik diplomat meets with his Uzbek counterpart in Tashkent to discuss cooperation 15/04/2024

On Sunday April 14, Tajik Foreign minister Sirojiddin Muhriddin met in Tashkent with his

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Uzbek counterpart Bakhtiyor Saidov in Tashkent, Uzbekistan on the sidelines of the second meeting of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries and the Central Asian countries (C5) Strategic Dialogue, according to Asia-Plus.

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