

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

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Climate Change and Environment

Expert Discussion: Development of Ecological Tourism in Kyrgyzstan 17/01/2025

On 17 January 2025, Bishkek hosted an expert discussion on the "Concept for the

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Development of Eco-Tourism in Specially Protected Natural Areas".

The event was organized by the Silk Road Public Foundation with participation from specialists from the Department of Tourism under the Ministry of Economy and Commerce of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Department of Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas under the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision of the Kyrgyz Republic, non-governmental organizations in the tourism sector, and the branch of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia in Kyrgyzstan.

Read more: [here](#)

Committee for Environmental Protection discussed the draft Environmental Code of Tajikistan 20/01/2025

It was emphasized that the main goal of developing the draft Environmental Code is to improve the legal framework for state regulation of environmental protection and ensure environmental safety based on a balance of environmental and economic interests of society and, on this basis, ensure the implementation of the constitutional right of citizens to a healthy environment.

Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan launches two biodiversity conservation projects with support from UNDP, IUCN, and GEF 21/01/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — Two new projects aimed at biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration have been launched in Uzbekistan.

Read more: [here](#)

UN regrets US withdrawal from WHO, climate change agreement 22/01/2025

On Tuesday, UN agencies responded on US President-elect Donald Trump's executive orders to quit the World Health Organization and the Paris Climate Agreement, the [UN News Centre](#) reports.

Read more: [here](#)

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Initiative of Tajikistan: UNESCO and WMO Launch the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation 2025 23/01/2025

DUSHANBE, 23.01.2025 (NIAT Khovar) – On January 21, 2025, at the headquarters of the WMO in Geneva, Swiss Confederation, a solemn ceremony of launching the International Year of Glacier Conservation was held, where the Chairman of the Committee on Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan Bahodur Sheralizoda made a welcoming speech, reports Khovar citing Tajik Committee on Environmental Protection.

Read more: [here](#)

Conceptual notes on climate change have been presented in Turkmenistan 23/01/2025

A round table was organized within the framework of the project "Advancing a National Adaptation Planning Process in Turkmenistan", implemented by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) in partnership with the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan. The purpose of the round table was to present conceptual notes on climate change-related topics.

Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan President highlights key environmental goals for 2025 27/01/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — On 27 January, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev held a meeting to discuss the draft State Program "Year of Environmental Protection and 'Green Economy'."

Read more: [here](#)

Dushanbe to host International Conference on Glaciers' Preservation 2025 29/01/2025

DUSHANBE, 29.01.2025 /NIAT "Khovar"/. Dushanbe hosted a round table on "Preparations for the International Conference on Glaciers' Preservation 2025", reports Khovar citing press center of the Committee for Environmental Protection.

The event was attended by representatives of the working group of the Coordination Council of Development Partners in the field of environmental protection and climate change, heads of diplomatic missions, as well as representatives of international and

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regional organizations accredited in the Republic of Tajikistan and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Read more: [here](#)

UNESCO and WMO announce the start of the International Year for Glacier Conservation 29/01/2025

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) recently confirmed that 2024 has become the warmest year on record, and it has repeatedly expressed concerns about the state of our climate, which is significantly affected by glacier melt. According to projections by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), glaciers will continue to shrink throughout the 21st century in nearly all regions of the world. The United Nations considers glacier preservation one of the most urgent tasks for humanity, as these ancient ice formations are custodians of the planet's climatic history and provide fresh water to more than 2 billion people worldwide.

Read more: [here](#)

Water resources

Research on the development of biological organic filter for wastewater treatment is being conducted in Turkmenistan 21/01/2025

The Laboratory of Alternative Energy Sources Technology and measuring instruments of the International Scientific and Technological Park of the Academy of Sciences of Turkmenistan is conducting research and experimental work to study the possibilities of using a biological organic filter for wastewater treatment contaminated with organic waste. Special attention is paid to the drains of livestock complexes.

Read more: [here](#)

The Second Meeting of the Amu Darya Basin Dialogue Kicks Off in Tashkent 22/01/2025

The event is organized under the initiative of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) with financial support from the European Union and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The program is implemented by the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) GmbH.

Read more: [here](#)

Zokir Ishpulotov appointed as Deputy Minister of Water Management

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23/01/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — Zokir Ishpulotov has been appointed as the Deputy Minister of Water Management and Director of the Agency for the Operation of Water Management Facilities. The relevant decree was signed by the President of Uzbekistan, as reported by the Ministry's press service. Previously, Ishpulotov held the position of Chief Specialist in the Secretariat for Investments, Exports, Trade, Agriculture, and Water Management at the Cabinet of Ministers.

Read more: [here](#)

Second Meeting of the Syr Darya River Basin Dialogue Held in Tashkent 27/01/2025

On January 22, 2025, the second meeting of the Syr Darya River Basin Dialogue took place at the Crowne Plaza in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The meeting aimed to strengthen regional cooperation in water resource management, focusing on climate resilience, infrastructure development, and modern monitoring techniques for the Syr Darya River Basin.

Read more: [here](#)

Ministers of energy and water resources of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan gather in Tashkent 28/01/2025

A regular meeting with the ministers of energy and water resources of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan was held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, [UzA](#) reported.

Those attending the meeting were the Minister of Energy of Uzbekistan J. Mirzamaxmudov, Minister of Water Resources Sh. Khamrayev, Minister of Energy of the Kyrgyz Republic T. Ibraev, Vice Minister of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan S. Yessimkhanov, Vice Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation of Kazakhstan N. Aldamzharov and other officials.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakhstan to digitize its water resources by yearend 29/01/2025

According to the ministry, 17,736 rivers and 2,949 small lakes, the boundaries of the Caspian and Aral seas, 8 water management basins and 77 water-resources regions, 377

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main canals, 56 ponds, 297 reservoirs and 548 dams on the territory of Kazakhstan will be digitized and introduced to the system.

Read more: [here](#)

Water diplomacy: Kazakhstan to receive 11bln m³ from Central Asian countries 30/01/2025

By April 2025, Kazakhstan will receive 11 billion cubic meters of water from the Central Asian countries, Kazinform News Agency quotes Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation Nurzhan Nurzhigitov as saying at the 88th Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia in Dushanbe.

Read more: [here](#)

Energy sector

Kazakhstan to attract foreign investment for NPP construction 22/01/2025

The Ministry of Energy of Kazakhstan announced that the construction of a nuclear power plant is currently planned with the help of foreign loans, while funding from the National Fund, the Unified National Pension Fund (ENPF), or the republican budget is not envisaged, *Sputnik Kazakhstan* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

International Day of Clean Energy: Central Asia's Contribution to a Sustainable Future 24/01/2025

On January 26, International Day of Clean Energy, Central Asian countries reaffirm their commitment to promoting sustainable energy and combating climate change. This day, proclaimed by the United Nations, calls for global mobilization toward a just transition to clean energy sources for the well-being of people and the protection of the planet.

Read more: [here](#)

Tajik electricity exports rise by end of 2024 28/01/2025

In December 2024, Tajikistan exported electricity worth over \$6.4 million, which is almost 53% more than in the previous month, a report by the Agency for Statistics under the

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President of Tajikistan says, *Asiaplus.tj* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and WB discussed construction project of Kambarata HPP-1 28/01/2025

The Energy Ministers of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan, along with representatives from the World Bank, discussed the implementation of the Kambarata-1 Hydropower Plant (HPP) construction project.

A roundtable was held in Tashkent, attended by Uzbekistan's Energy Minister Jurabek Mirzamakhmudov, Kyrgyzstan's Energy Minister Talaibek Ibraev, Kazakhstan's Deputy Energy Minister Sungat Yesimkhanov, and World Bank Regional Director for Central Asia Tatyana Proskuryakova, *Trend* news agency reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries

Presidents of Tajikistan, Iran Discuss Afghanistan 16/01/2025

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian announced that he had discussed Afghanistan issues with his Tajik counterpart Emomali Rahmon, reports *Afintl.com*.

He has visited Tajik capital Dushanbe with the state visit.

In a joint press conference with Emomali Rahmon, he said, "Afghanistan is an important country in our neighbourhood and we consider the growth and stability of this country to be in line with our interests, and it is important for us to maintain the security of the borders."

Read more: [here](#)

Afghanistan and Qatar Collaborate to Create Job Opportunities 17/01/2025

A joint working committee meeting between Afghanistan and Qatar, led by Qatar's Deputy Minister of Labor and the head of Afghanistan's Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs employment section, was held in Doha.

Read more: [here](#)

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Uzbekistan and Afghanistan extend agreement on operation of Hairatan-Mazar-i-Sharif Railway line 27/01/2025

The railway administrations of Uzbekistan and Afghanistan have agreed to extend the contract for the operation and maintenance of the "Hairatan - Mazar-i-Sharif" railway, reports *Gazeta.uz*.

Read more: [here](#)

Afghan, Turkmen and Turkish officials meet over key TAP-500 power project 28/01/2025

In line with Afghanistan's aim to implement major projects that have been on the cards for years, the ministry of foreign affairs this week hosted a meeting between Afghan officials, representatives of Da Afghanistan Breshna Sherkat (DABS), Turkmenistan and Turkey's Çalık Holding Group, *Ariananews.af* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Cooperation between Central Asian countries

Uzbekistan's GDP in 2024 reached \$115 bln 16/01/2025

Uzbekistan's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) reached \$115 billion in 2024, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev said at a meeting on attracting foreign investment, *Gazeta.uz* reports.

The country's economy grew by 6.5% compared to the 2023 level (\$90.8 billion). GDP growth was also driven by a revision of data considering the "unobserved" economy.

Read more: [here](#)

Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan expand interregional cooperation 20/01/2025

Bishkek, Jan. 20, 2025. / Kabar /. Representatives of the Uzbek company "Lumiflex" paid a working visit to the regions of Kyrgyzstan, Dunyo News Agency of Uzbekistan reported.

The main purpose of the visit was to further activate trade and economic ties and continue work to increase the volume of exports of Uzbek manufacturers to foreign countries, the report said.

Read more: [here](#)

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Uzbekistan ratifies the treaty on allied relations with Tajikistan 27/01/2025

The Senate (Uzbekistan's upper chamber of parliament) has ratified the Treaty on Allied Relations between Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. The document was ratified on January 25, 2025.

This treaty elevates the friendship and strategic partnership between the two countries to a new level of alliance, a priority direction of Uzbekistan's foreign policy in Central Asia, uzdaily.uz reports.

Read more: [here](#)

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