

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

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Climate Change and Environment

Eldor Aripov: Uzbekistan to become a center for climate dialogue in Central Asia and the EU 17/02/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — From 14 to 16 February, the 61st Munich Security Conference was held in Germany, with the central theme being "Multipolarity." This annual international forum brought together nearly sixty heads of state and government, over one hundred fifty foreign and defense ministers, as well as leaders of major international organizations. In total, more than eight hundred participants attended the conference, including experts, business representatives, and members of non-governmental organizations.

Read more: [here](#)

Nodirbek Rahimjonov Takes Office as Country Director of CAREC Office in Uzbekistan 18/02/2025

Nodirbek Rahimjonov, the Country Director of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) in Uzbekistan, took office on 17 February 2025.

[Nodirbek Rahimjonov](#) has over 15 years of experience in public administration and sustainable development, with a focus on climate policy, water management, and agriculture.

Read more: [here](#)

Education specialists from Turkmenistan participated in a regional seminar as part of the "Climate Box" project 18/02/2025

Education specialists from Turkmenistan took part in a regional webinar within the framework of a project aimed at educating and raising awareness about climate change among schoolchildren, called "Climate Box."

Read more: [here](#)

FAO and Uzbekistan launch a large-scale project to combat land degradation 20/02/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in collaboration with the government of Uzbekistan, has launched an ambitious project aimed at reducing land degradation and improving the management of natural resources.

Read more: [here](#)

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Global problems require global solutions 20/02/2025

This was stated by Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), at the launch of the agency's annual report on February 18. The head of UNEP called for urgent action to combat the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, warning that progress on all fronts remains slow and uneven.

Read more: [here](#)

Farrukh Sattarov appointed as Director of the National Climate Change Center 24/02/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — Farrukh Sattarov has been appointed as the Director of the National Climate Change Center under the Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection, and Climate Change, according to a ministerial order.

Farrukh Sattarov was born on 28 July 1986, in Jizzakh, the administrative center of Jizzakh region. In 2007, he graduated from Tashkent State Technical University with a bachelor's degree, and in 2023, he completed his master's studies at the Higher School of Entrepreneurship and Business.

Read more: [here](#)

Environmentalists from four Caspian states created Caspian House 25/02/2025

The Caspian House has been established, bringing together environmental public organizations from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Turkmenistan, reports *Orient.tm*.

According to the *Report* portal, the creation of *The Caspian House* - organized as part of the project "*The Caspian House: A Platform for Environmental Organizations of the Caspian Countries*" by the Public Association "*Promotion of Public Relations Development*" - was financially supported by Azerbaijan's Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources and the Agency for State Support of Non-Governmental Organizations.

Read more: [here](#)

ADB to support Tajikistan in preserving glaciers and combating climate change 27/02/2025

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will launch four new projects in Tajikistan in 2025 aimed at glacier conservation, improving water security, financing the Rogun hydropower

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plant, developing transport infrastructure, and digitalizing agriculture, Avesta reports, citing the bank's representative office.

Read more: [here](#)

Changes in biodiversity in Turkmenistan over five years: outcomes of the Central Asia program 28/02/2025

A five-year program, "Conservation of Rare Animals and Unique Natural Areas in the Mountains of Central Asia", aimed at protecting the region's ecosystems, has concluded, reports DKnews.kz. The final meeting in Tashkent was attended by grantees, donors, and representatives of government agencies from five Central Asian countries, including Turkmenistan.

Read more: [here](#)

Water resources

Kazakhstan to direct 2.5 bln cubic m of water to protect environment 17.02.2025

In 2025, Kazakhstan plans to allocate 2.5 billion cubic meters of water for environmental releases to support local ecosystems, *Kazinform* reports, citing the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation of Kazakhstan.

In 2024, 1.5 billion cubic meters of water were allocated for these purposes

Read more: [here](#)

Kyrgyzstan has lowest price for irrigation water supply in Central Asia 18/02/2025

Kyrgyzstan has the lowest tariff for irrigation water supply in Central Asia. This was stated by Ulan Chortombayev, Director of the Kyrgyz Research Institute of Irrigation under the Water Resources Service, during a roundtable discussion on "Climate Change and Water Use Issues in Central Asia," reports *24.kg*.

Read more: [here](#)

CAREC conducted two national training sessions in Dushanbe for specialists in Tajikistan's water management sector. 19/02/2025

Specialists from Tajikistan's water management organizations participated in the training,

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including staff from the Basin River Organizations (BRO) of Syr Darya, Kofarnihon, Zarafshan, Vakhsh, and Panj; the Basin Water Management Organizations (BWMO) of Amu Darya and Syr Darya; as well as representatives from the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation. The training is part of a series of national events aimed at strengthening the capacity of basin organizations in Central Asia.

Read more: [here](#)

ADB approves \$125mln loan to support Uzbekistan in modernizing water management 20/02/2025

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a \$125 million loan to support Uzbekistan in modernizing water management, improving water security, and increasing access to safe and reliable water in the country, [Trend](#) reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Tajikistan needs \$1.7 bln to modernize water supply and sanitation infrastructure 21/02/2025

The Eurasian Development Bank (EDB) has published a new analytical report diagnosing the drinking water supply and wastewater infrastructure in Central Asia. Bank specialists concluded that to ensure the sustainable development of water supply and wastewater management in the region's countries, it is necessary to significantly reduce the financing gap, according to the EDB report, [Avesta.tj](#) reports.

Read more: [here](#)

How Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan divided the "Golovnoi" water distribution facility 28/02/2025

In a statement delivered in the Jogorku Kenesh (Kyrgyzstan's parliament) regarding the agreement on the delimitation of the border with Tajikistan, the head of the State Committee for National Security (GKNB) of Kyrgyzstan, Kamchybek Tashiyev, noted on February 27 that the "Golovnoi" water distribution facility has been divided equally, with Tajikistan transferring 750 hectares of land to Kyrgyzstan in return.

Read more: [here](#)

Ashgabat and the World Bank focus partnership: water agenda, energy, transport 28/02/2025

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Turkmenistan Foreign Minister Rashid Meredov and World Bank Vice President for Europe and Central Asia Antonella Bassani held a meeting in Ashgabat on February 28. The meeting was also attended by World Bank regional directors and representatives of the International Finance Corporation.

Read more: [here](#)

Energy sector

Iran and Tajikistan Discuss Cooperation in Energy and Industry 18/02/2025

Political relations between Iran and Tajikistan have reached a new peak, as stated by Iran's First Vice President Mohammad Reza Aref, reports *Eurasiatoday.ru*.

At the Sa'dabad Palace in Tehran, he held talks with Tajikistan's Prime Minister Kohir Rasulzoda. The discussions focused on bilateral cooperation and Tajikistan's participation in a special summit of Caspian states.

Read more: [here](#)

Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan are leaders in the growth of the Eurasian electricity sector 25/02/2025

Electricity demand in Eurasia increased by 4% in 2024, driven by population growth and economic development. The International Energy Agency (IEA) forecasts that, excluding Kazakhstan and Russia, electricity demand in Eurasian markets will continue to grow at an average annual rate of 3.7% from 2025 to 2027.

Read more: [here](#)

Tajikistan implemented 36 energy projects worth \$2.7 bln since 2001 28/02/2025

Since 2001, 36 energy projects have been implemented in Tajikistan, with a total investment of \$2.7 billion, reports *Avesta.tj*.

Currently, 18 more projects worth \$1.7 billion are being carried out, excluding the Rogun Hydropower Plant (HPP). This was announced by Tajikistan's Minister of Energy and Water Resources, Daler Juma, during a roundtable discussion held at the Hilton Hotel in Dushanbe, according to the ministry's press service. The event was attended by Dushanbe's Deputy Mayor Sorbon Kholmukhammadzoda, representatives of ministries,

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agencies, and development partners.

Read more: [here](#)

ADB to continue supporting Tajikistan in construction of the Roughen hydropower plant 25/02/2025

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) will continue supporting Tajikistan in the implementation of the Roughen hydropower plant construction project in 2025, the new ADB Country Director for Tajikistan, Mr. Ko Sakamoto, announced during a meeting with reporters in Dushanbe on February 25.

Read more: [here](#)

Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries

Afghanistan faces one of the world's highest maternal mortality rates – UN 18/02/2025

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) has warned about the negative impacts of the ban on women's and girls' education in the field of medical sciences in Afghanistan, describing it as a factor that could lead to a long-term crisis in the country's healthcare sector, *Khaama.com* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

What should neighbors expect from Taliban? 19/02/2025

At the end of last year, Tajikistan saw a change in its defense leadership. President Emomali Rahmon appointed Emomali Sobirzoda as the new Minister of Defense, replacing Sherali Mirzo, who had held the position since 2013.

Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan and Afghanistan discuss expansion of economic cooperation 22/02/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — During his visit to Uzbekistan, Afghanistan's Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, held a second joint meeting with Uzbekistan's Deputy Prime Minister Jamshid Khodjayev on 22 February 2025. The Afghan government stated on the meeting.

Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan and Afghanistan Reach Agreement on the Construction of the

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Hairatan–Herat Railway 24/02/2025

On February 23, Taliban Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghani Baradar announced that an agreement had been reached with Uzbekistan on the construction of the Hairatan–Herat railway. The Uzbek side will send a team to prepare a feasibility study (FS) for the project, *Azattyk* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Baradar warns of depleting water resources at Kabul conference 25/02/2025

Afghanistan's Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs, Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar Akhund, addressed participants at the International Water Research Conference in Kabul on Monday and emphasized that sustainable water management is essential if the country hopes to compete globally and attain economic success, reports *Ariananews.af*.

Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan and Pakistan Discuss Trans-Afghan Railway 27/02/2025

President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev and Prime Minister of Pakistan Shehbaz Sharif shared their assessments of the negotiations during a meeting with media representatives on February 26, following bilateral talks in Tashkent.

The head of Uzbekistan noted that he discussed with his counterpart the development of transport connectivity, including the Trans-Afghan railway project Termez - Mazar-i-Sharif - Kabul - Peshawar, *Gazeta.uz* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

More than half million Afghans fled their homes due to climate disasters 01/03/2025

Over the past 12 months, more than half a million Afghan residents have been forcibly displaced due to natural disasters. Floods, droughts, and other climate events have destroyed thousands of homes and worsened the humanitarian crisis in the country, *Avesta.tj* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Cooperation between Central Asian countries

Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan Sign Border Delimitation Agreement

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21/02/2025

Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have signed an agreement on the delimitation of their shared border, *RIA Novosti* reports, citing the press service of the Kyrgyz government.

In Bishkek, the parties signed a package of documents, including a state border treaty, intergovernmental agreements on energy facilities and water resources, as well as an agreement on the joint use of roads and the construction of new highways.

Read more: [here](#)

China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan Railway to Reduce Cargo Delivery by 7-8 Days 21/02/2025

Kyrgyzstan's Minister of Transport, Absattar Syrgabaev, participated in the forum "New Routes, New Markets: Global Gateways and Potential Markets Along the Middle Corridor," which took place in Germany. This was reported by the press service of Kyrgyzstan's Ministry of Transport.

Read more: [here](#)

Turkmenistan completes construction of bridge across Karabogazgol Bay near border with Kazakhstan 21/02/2025

In Turkmenistan, the construction of a new automobile bridge over the Garabogazgol Bay on the Turkmenbashi-Garabogaz-Kazakhstan border highway is nearing completion.

This project is being carried out by the team of the State Agency for the Management of Road Construction of Turkmenistan and its subordinate structures, reports *Eurasiatoday.ru*.

Read more: [here](#)

Leaders of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan to hold first-ever trilateral summit 25/02/2025

The presidents of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan will meet at the first-ever summit on March 31 in Khujand, Tajikistan, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic Edil Baisalov announced this from the UN rostrum during the High-Level Segment of the 58th session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva. This was reported by the Kyrgyz National Information Agency "Kabar".

Read more: [here](#)

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