

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

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Climate Change and Environment

Legal framework of Tajikistan's government in combating climate change 17/03/2025

CABAr.asia notes that according to independent expert Muhammad Shamsuddinov, one of the biggest challenges for Tajikistan in fighting climate change is funding. Due to limited resources, the Tajik government primarily seeks foreign financing to support its climate initiatives.

Read more: [here](#)

Ashgabat will host the 7th Central Asian Conference on Climate Change 19/03/2025

The 7th Central Asian Conference on Climate Change (CACCC-2025) will take place from May 13 to 15, 2025, in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. This event is being organized by the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) in partnership with the Government of Turkmenistan, with the support of the World Bank project "Resilient Landscape Restoration Project in Tajikistan" (RESILAND Tajikistan), the Central Asia Water and Energy Program (CAWEP), and the Regional Programme "Climate Risk Management in Central Asia" of the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ).

Read more: [here](#)

Kyrgyzstan develops national plan for adaptation to climate change 20/03/2025

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A roundtable discussion on the draft National Adaptation Plan (NAP) to climate change was held in Bishkek, organized by the Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Technical Supervision of the Kyrgyz Republic with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), [Kabar](#) reported.

Read more: [here](#)

Samarkand to host Global Climate Forum 20/03/2025

On April 4-5, 2025, Samarkand will host the First Global Climate Forum, which will bring together world leaders, politicians, experts, and activists to discuss global climate challenges, UzA reported.

Read more: [here](#)

1 in 5 people feel strong climate change influence globally: Report 20/03/2025

The report published by Climate Central, an independent science organization, found that at least 1.8 billion people—22% of the global population—faced temperatures significantly influenced by climate change every day from December 2024 to February 2025.

Read more: [here](#)

A working meeting was held in Ashgabat to discuss Turkmenistan's climate reporting under international agreements 20/03/2025

A working meeting at the national level was held in Ashgabat to discuss Turkmenistan's climate reporting in accordance with its obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) of 1992 and the Paris Climate Agreement of 2015.

Read more: [here](#)

Tajikistan Completes Stage of IRDP TRIGGER Project Implementation with EU and German Support 20/03/2025

Aceremonial event was held at the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Tajikistan to mark the completion of an important phase of the "Integrated Rural

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Development Program (IRDP TRIGGER)", *Avesta.tj* reports.

The project is being implemented with financial support from the European Union and Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), as well as technical assistance from GIZ.

Read more: [here](#)

A delegation from Uzbekistan discusses environmental cooperation in South Korea 25/03/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — From 24 to 29 March, a delegation from Uzbekistan's Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection, and Climate Change is on a working visit to the Republic of Korea. The visit focuses on expanding cooperation in environmental assessment, impact evaluation, and achieving carbon neutrality.

Read more: [here](#)

Kyrgyzstan's climate warming twice as fast as global average 28/03/2025

Climate change is significantly impacting Kyrgyzstan, leading to rising average annual temperatures, worsening water resource shortages, and increased risks of natural disasters.

According to the new Environmental Change Atlas, published on March 26, 2025, by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), temperatures in Kyrgyzstan are rising twice as fast as the global average, *reports Eurasiatoday.ru*.

Read more: [here](#)

Water resources

President of Uzbekistan discusses key reforms in water supply, heating, and agriculture 17/03/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — On 17 March, President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev chaired a videoconference meeting dedicated to improving the country's drinking water supply, heating systems, neighborhood infrastructure, and agricultural development.

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Read more: [here](#)

Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan discussed cooperation on the Amu Darya 17/03/2025

A delegation of the Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan visited Turkmenistan on March 16 on a working visit.

A meeting of heads and specialists of water management departments of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan was held in the city of Turkmenabat, during which topical issues of cooperation in the water sector were discussed, in particular the operation and modernization of water management facilities, flood control and bank protection works on the Amu Darya River, and the rational use of water resources, Dunyo news agency reports.

Read more: [here](#)

EBRD and EU help to improve irrigation in Kyrgyz Republic 17/03/2025

Bishkek, March 17, 2025. /Kabar /. The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the [European Union](#) (EU) are promoting sustainable water resource management and agriculture by financing upgrades to existing water conveyance infrastructure in the [Kyrgyz Republic](#) and helping to build new infrastructure in this area.

Read more: [here](#)

Water infrastructure in Uzbekistan: Systemic reforms and future plans 19/03/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — The significance of drinking water supply and wastewater services in ensuring public well-being and health is unparalleled. In Uzbekistan, the development of this sector and the regular, high-quality provision of drinking water to the population have become priority areas of state policy.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakhstan, China enhance cooperation in water sector 19/03/2025

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First Deputy Prime Minister of Kazakhstan Roman Sklyar paid a working visit to Beijing to participate in the 12th meeting of the Kazakhstan-China Cooperation Committee, Kazinform News Agency learned from the Government's press service.

Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan launches automation of water pollution monitoring 25/03/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — Uzbekistan has launched the "Automation of Surface Water Pollution Monitoring" project, aimed at improving the control and assessment of the country's water resources.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakhstan seeks to prevent 40% of water loss through utilities upgrade program 26/03/2025

Kazakhstan's national project for upgrading the energy and utilities sectors eyes reducing the country's water loss by 15-40%, the failure rate in networks by 30-50% and electricity consumption by 15-20%, Kazinform News Agency correspondent reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Zhaparov ratifies Agreement between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan on ensuring access to water and energy facilities 26/03/2025

Bishkek, March 26, 2025. /Kabar I. President Sadyr Zhaparov signed the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On ratification of the Agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan on ensuring access to water and energy facilities, signed on March 13, 2025 in Bishkek."

Read more: [here](#)

Modern water management facilities have opened in the country's regions 28/03/2025

On the 28th of March, opening ceremonies of modern water treatment facilities and wastewater treatment plants were held in the Ahal, Balkan, Lebap and Mary velayats of the country. The celebrations were attended by heads of local

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governments, respected elders and numerous residents of the velayats.

Read more: [here](#)

Not just frozen water: Why glaciers matter more than ever 28/03/2025

As glaciers continue to melt at an alarming rate, scientists worldwide are focusing on developing technologies to slow down or halt this process. However, researchers warn that without strict international regulations, the implementation of such solutions could result in significant ecological damage, Kazinform News Agency correspondent reports, citing Nature.

Read more: [here](#)

Blue Peace Central Asia Initiative: A new phase of water resource cooperation 28/03/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — A regional seminar was held in Tashkent to prepare for the launch of the next phase of the "Blue Peace Central Asia" (BPCA) project, supported by Switzerland.

The event brought together over 100 representatives from national delegations of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, as well as experts, government partners, and representatives of international organizations.

Read more: [here](#)

Energy sector

Josef Síkela praises construction of Rogun HPP and changes in Tajikistan 17/03/2025

European Commissioner for International Partnerships Josef Síkela and his delegation visited the Rogun Hydropower Plant, one of Tajikistan's largest energy infrastructure projects, *Khovar* reports.

According to Síkela, the Rogun HPP is a grand project, which he described as "the greatest construction site" he has ever encountered.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakhstan prepares to build two more NPP 19/03/2025

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The Prime Minister, Olzhas Bektenov, announced that the authorities of Kazakhstan have begun work to identify locations for the construction of the second and third nuclear power plants, reports *Vesti.kg*. According to Bektenov, electricity consumption in the country has increased by 14% since 2019, reaching approximately 120 billion kWh.

Read more: [here](#)

Tajikistan to create fund for distribution of Rogun HPP revenues 24/03/2025

Tajikistan will establish a Benefit Distribution Fund from the proceeds of electricity generated by the Rogun Hydropower Plant. This was announced by the Ministry of Energy of Tajikistan, *Avesta.tj* reports. A special account will be opened in the Central Treasury of the Ministry of Finance of Tajikistan to operate the fund. The funds will be directed toward the implementation of a benefit distribution program, which will come into effect after government approval.

Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan NPP project ahead of schedule 24/03/2025

The construction project for a small nuclear power plant in Uzbekistan is progressing ahead of schedule, according to Azim Akhmedkhadjaev, Director of the Atomic Energy Agency ("Uzatom"), in an interview with *Alter Ego*, as reported by *Gazeta.uz*.

Read more: [here](#)

Construction of large nuclear power plant discussed with President of Uzbekistan 27/03/2025

President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev received a report on the development of nuclear energy in the country, *Gazeta.uz* reports.

According to the report, electricity production in Uzbekistan has increased by 30% over the past five years, reaching 81.5 billion kWh, due to the implementation of several major energy projects. To meet the growing demand, renewable energy sources are also being developed, now accounting for 16% of total generation, with an additional 3.2 GW of capacity introduced last year.

Read more: [here](#)

Rational Use of Energy Resources Discussed at Presidential Administration in Uzbekistan 28/03/2025

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The rational use of energy resources amid anticipated economic and population growth was discussed at a meeting held at the Administration of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, *the press service of the Uzbek president reports.*

Read more: [here](#)

Strengthening Energy Cooperation in Central Asia 30/03/2025

In recent years, cooperation between Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan has been strengthening across various sectors, including energy, *writes Zuhridin Umarov on Avesta.tj.*

Read more: [here](#)

Kyrgyz, Tajik presidents launch largest energy infrastructure in Central and South Asia 31/03/2025

Bishkek, March 31, 2025. /Kabar /. Within the framework of the international project for the construction of CASA-1000, the largest energy infrastructure in Central and South Asia, the 500 kV Datka-Sughd overhead power line with a total length of 485 kilometers was completed and successfully commissioned.

Read more: [here](#)

Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries

UN Security Council Extends UNAMA Mission In Afghanistan Until 2026 18/03/2025

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) has unanimously extended the mandate of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) until March 17, 2026, reports *Afintl.af.*

Russia's representative at the UNSC stated that lasting peace in Afghanistan is possible but requires a comprehensive and pragmatic approach, including engagement with the Taliban.

Read more: [here](#)

Afghanistan has right to divert water from the Amu Darya for Kosh-Tepa canal - Uzbekistan's minister 20/03/2025

The interim government of Afghanistan also has the right to water from the Amu Darya, believes the Minister of Water Resources of Uzbekistan Shavkat Khamraev. He stated

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this at a meeting with representatives of the public and the media, commenting on the construction of the Kosh-Tepa canal by the Taliban, *Gazeta.uz* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan sends humanitarian aid to Afghanistan 22/03/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — Following the directive of President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, another batch of humanitarian aid has been delivered to Afghanistan's Balkh province.

In celebration of Navruz and the upcoming Eid al-Fitr (Ramazan Hayit), Uzbekistan has sent nearly 200 tons of food supplies as a gesture of generosity and support for the brotherly Afghan people.

Read more: [here](#)

UN and ICRC warn of serious water shortage in Afghanistan 26/03/2025

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat) warned this week that 21 million people in Afghanistan are currently facing a serious water crisis and that the country needs major investments in water infrastructure, reports *Ariananews.af*.

Read more: [here](#)

Afghanistan's Foreign Trade Turnover in 2024 Amounted to \$13 bln 28/03/2025

Despite remaining largely unrecognized by most countries, the Taliban government of Afghanistan has successfully developed economic cooperation with its neighbors and the Islamic world, the Afghan Ministry of Industry and Trade stated, reports *Asiaplus.tj*.

In 2024, Afghanistan's total imports and exports amounted to approximately \$13 billion.

Read more: [here](#)

Cooperation between Central Asian countries

Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan aim to increase bilateral trade to \$1 billion annually – Ambassador 18/03/2025

Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan are planning to significantly increase the volume of mutual trade. This was stated by the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Kazakhstan to Turkmenistan, Nurlan Nogayev, in an interview with a

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correspondent of "Orient" on the sidelines of the "Investments in the Future of Turkmenistan" forum.

Read more: [here](#)

Substations in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan to be connected by single power transmission line 18/03/2025

Issues related to the launch of a new power transmission line within the regional CASA-1000 electricity transmission project were discussed during negotiations between Tajikistan's Deputy Minister of Energy and Water Resources, Manuchehr Safarzoda, and Kyrgyzstan's Deputy Minister of Energy, Nazgul Usenova, in Dushanbe, *Avesta.tj* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan and EU partially complete negotiations on WTO accession 20/03/2025

Uzbekistan and the European Union have concluded negotiations on services as part of the country's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO), Special Presidential Representative for WTO Affairs Azizbek Urunov announced, as reported by *Gazeta.uz*.

"This week in Brussels, we held productive bilateral negotiations with the EU on Uzbekistan's accession to the WTO. I am pleased to announce the completion of negotiations on services. Work on goods remains, but we aim to finalize it in the coming months," he stated.

Read more: [here](#)

Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan reaffirm commitment to strengthening strategic partnership 28/03/2025

Uzbekistan's Foreign Minister Bakhtiyor Saidov held talks with Turkmenistan's President Serdar Berdimuhamedov during his visit to Ashgabat, *the press service of Uzbekistan's Foreign Ministry* reports.

The meeting took place on the sidelines of the 20th Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of Central Asia and the European Union.

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Tajikistan, Turkmenistan discuss implementation of joint agreements

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28/03/2025

On March 27, 2025, in the city of Ashgabat, a meeting of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan Sirojiddin Muhriddin with the Deputy of Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov took place.

Read more: [here](#)

Presidents of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan signed Treaty on Junction of State Borders of Three Countries 31/03/2025

In the Tajik city of Khujand, Presidents Sadyr Japarov, Emomali Rahmon, and Shavkat Mirziyoyev signed a historic Treaty defining the tri-border point of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. Following the signing, the heads of state adopted a Joint Declaration, according to official sources from the three countries. The presidents also attended the inauguration of the Friendship Monument, erected at the exact point where the three borders meet.

Read more: [here](#)

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