

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

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Climate Change and Environment

Kyrgyzstan Assumes SCO Chairmanship, Prioritizing Security, Economy, and Climate Agenda 01/09/2025

Kyrgyz President Sadyr Japarov delivered a speech at the 25th meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in Tianjin. The summit was attended by leaders of member states, including Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin, as well as the heads of Central Asian states and other SCO members, according to the press service of the President of Kyrgyzstan.

Read more: [here](#)

Kyrgyzstan Approves Green Economy Development Program Until 2029 02/09/2025

The Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyzstan has approved the Green Economy Development Program through 2029. The decision was signed by Prime Minister Adylbek Kasymaliev, KyrTAG.kg reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Tajikistan has received the first Atlas of Environmental Changes 04/09/2025

A [presentation](#) of the Atlas of Environmental Changes in Tajikistan took place in Dushanbe. This is the first edition to collect data from more than 60 years of observations of the country's nature and ecosystems. The Atlas was created as part of an international project with the support of the

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Russian Government, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia (CAREC).

Read more: [here](#)

Turning Climate Challenges into Opportunities: Advancing SDG 6 in Central Asia 04/09/2025

Regional Climate Specialist of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC), Vladimir Grebnev, presented an in-depth overview of the global climate agenda and its direct relevance for Central Asia at the Session on SDG 6 “Ensure Availability and Sustainable Management of Water and Sanitation for All” during the Ninth North and Central Asia Multi-Stakeholder Forum on the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Read more: [here](#)

One of Tajikistan's Largest Glaciers Is Rapidly Melting 05.09.2025

The Yakarcha Glacier, located in the Gissar Range at the headwaters of the Varzob River, has retreated by 3.5–4 meters over the past two years, according to the Glacier Research Center of the National Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan. The findings come from a joint expedition with researchers from the University of Fribourg in Switzerland, reports *Asiaplus.tj*.

Read more: [here](#)

EU and UNEP Launch Climate Adaptation Initiative in Ferghana Valley 06/09/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — On 25 August 2025, a new regional initiative for Central Asia was launched in Ferghana, funded by the European Union under the EU–UNEP Partnership on Climate, Environment, and Peace.

Read more: [here](#)

Kyrgyzstan Launches Landmark Environmental Initiative: \$52 Million for Nature Restoration 11.09.2025

Kyrgyzstan has launched RESILAND CA+, a large-scale environmental initiative aimed at protecting nature and preventing natural disasters.

Funded by the World Bank, the project will help mitigate mudflows, restore degraded

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lands, and strengthen regional cooperation on sustainable landscape management.

Read more: [here](#)

Water resources

UNDP to join construction of new water reservoirs in Kazakhstan 29/08/2025

Kazakhstan and UNDP discussed joint work as part of the IDB-financed project "Development of Climate Resilient Water Resources", Kazinform News Agency reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Tajikistan presented its initiatives at World Water Week in Stockholm 29/08/2025

Stockholm hosted World Water Week 2025, the largest global conference dedicated to water and its role in the lives of people and the planet, from 24 to 29 August. It is held annually by the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI). The main theme of this year's forum was "Water for Climate Action", as water plays a key role in combating climate change and ensuring a sustainable future.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakhstan proposes to found SCO Water Research Center 01/09/2025

President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has proposed on Monday the creation of a Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Water Research Center in Kazakhstan, highlighting the importance of environmental cooperation during the SCO Heads of State Council meeting in Tianjin, China, Kazinform News Agency reports.

Read more: [here](#)

International Day of the Amu Darya River: Ashgabat celebrated the holiday with public participation 05.09.2025

The capital of Turkmenistan celebrated the International Day of the Amu Darya River. Events dedicated to this date were held on September 4 at the Museum of Fine Arts. The

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celebration brought together hundreds of people and became a platform for drawing attention to the issues of rational use of water resources and environmental education.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakhstan to create unified digital platform of water resources 08/09/2025

In his annual Address to the Nation, President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev raised the issue of water security, which he named “one of the main factors of social stability, sustainable development of the economy, and ensuring national security,” Kazinform News Agency reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Bishkek, Tashkent and Astana agreed on water and energy balance until 2026 08/09/2025

Atrilateral protocol has been signed between Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan on regulating the water and energy balance until 2026, reports the press service of Kazakhstan’s Ministry of Energy.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakhstan sending water to Uzbekistan from Shardara Reservoir in water-sharing deal, says Ministry 10/09/2025

Under the deal, Kazakhstan transfers water from the Shardara Reservoir to Uzbekistan once the water level exceeds 12 billion cubic meters, with the excess split 50:50 between the two Central Asia nations that share the Syr Darya River, Kazakh First Deputy Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation Nurlan Aldamzharov explained, Kazinform News Agency correspondent reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Northern Aral Sea Rebounds: Kazakhstan Surpasses Water Restoration Targets by 5 Years 11/09/2025

The volume of water in the Northern Aral Sea has reached 24.1 billion cubic meters — significantly exceeding the national targets set under Kazakhstan’s State Water

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Resources Management Strategy, announced Nurlan Nurzhigitov, Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation. Originally, this milestone was not expected until 2029 — but thanks to proactive measures, Kazakhstan is now five years ahead of schedule, reports *Kazinform.kz*.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakhstan and Hungary to train water diplomacy experts 11/09/2025

Universities of Kazakhstan and Hungary launched the dual master's degree program for water resources management with a focus on water diplomacy, Kazinform News Agency cites the Kazakh Water Resources and Irrigation Ministry.

Read more: [here](#)

Energy sector

Sanzhar Zharkeshov appointed as Kazakh Deputy Energy Minister 29/08/2025

By a government order, Sanzhar Zharkeshov has been appointed to the post of the Deputy Energy Minister of Kazakhstan, Kazinform News Agency reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Turkmenistan Reviews Eight-Month Energy Sector Performance and Sets Year-End Targets 01/09/2025

An operational review meeting was held in Turkmenistan to assess the performance of the oil and gas sector for the first eight months of 2025. Chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Batyr Amanov, the meeting continued discussions initiated at the government session on August 29, according to *Turkmenportal.com*.

Read more: [here](#)

AIIB Boosts Funding for Rogun Hydropower Plant to \$500 Million 02/09/2025

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has decided to increase its financing for the construction of Tajikistan's Rogun Hydropower Plant (HPP) to \$500 million, *Asiaplus.tj* reports, citing the press service of the President of Tajikistan. The announcement followed a meeting between President Emomali Rahmon and AIIB

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President Jin Lique on September 1 in Tianjin, held on the sidelines of the SCO Heads of State Council.

Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan Discusses Nuclear Cooperation with CNNC in Beijing 03/09/2025

President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev held talks in Beijing with Shen Yanfen, Chairman of China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC), *Gazeta.uz* reported.

CNNC is China's largest state-owned enterprise in the field of civilian nuclear programs, implementing the full cycle of projects — from uranium exploration and enrichment to the construction of nuclear power plants both domestically and abroad.

Read more: [here](#)

UNDP and UNECE Support the Development of Renewable Energy in Turkmenistan 05.09.2025

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), together with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), held a two-day training seminar on 4–5 September 2025 at the UN building in Ashgabat titled “Applying Best International Practices to Ensure a Sustainable Energy Transition and the Development of Renewable Energy in Turkmenistan.”

Read more: [here](#)

Turkmenistan and Afghanistan Explore Expansion of Energy Cooperation 08/09/2025

High-level representatives from Turkmenistan and Afghanistan met in Kabul to discuss expanding bilateral cooperation in the energy sector, reports *Turkmenportal.tm*.

Key topics included the transfer of 1,000 MW of electricity from Turkmenistan to Kabul, acceleration of the TAP-500 energy bridge project, which will deliver Turkmen electricity to Pakistan and Afghanistan, and collaboration on the TAPI project (Turkmenistan–Afghanistan–Pakistan–India).

Read more: [here](#)

Kuanysh Assyllov named as chief of staff of Kazakhstan's Nuclear

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Energy Agency 08/09/2025

Kuanysh Assyllov has been appointed as the new chief of staff of the Nuclear Energy Agency of Kazakhstan in agreement with the Presidential Administration, Kazinform News Agency reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakhstan launches first energy and utilities sectors modernization projects 12/09/2025

Deputy Prime Minister of Kazakhstan Kanat Bozumbayev surveyed the progress of the development of the energy and utilities sectors modernization national project, Kazinform News Agency reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Afghanistan's multilateral relationship with CA countries

Kazakh Leader Calls for Continued Assistance to Afghanistan for Its Reconstruction and Integration 01/09/2025

Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has called on member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) to continue providing humanitarian and technical assistance to Afghanistan.

Read more: [here](#)

SCO Calls for Inclusive Government in Afghanistan 02/09/2025

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), in a joint statement, called for the establishment of an inclusive government in Afghanistan, stressing that the participation of all ethnic and political groups is essential for lasting peace and stability, *Khaama.com* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

UN raises alarm over scale of Afghanistan earthquake impact 03/09/2025

The UN said Tuesday that the earthquake in eastern Afghanistan, which has killed more than 1,400 people, could affect "hundreds of thousands" and warned of an "exponential"

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rise in casualties, *Ariananews.af* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Afghanistan and Turkmenistan Discuss Expanding Sports Cooperation 05/09/2025

The head of Afghanistan's National Olympic Committee, Physical Culture and Sports, Maulvi Ahmadullah Wasik, met with Turkmenistan's Ambassador to Kabul, Hodzha Ovezov, to discuss prospects for expanding bilateral cooperation in the field of sports, *Pajhwok* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Turkmenistan sent humanitarian aid to earthquake victims in Afghanistan 05.09.2025

Turkmenistan sent humanitarian aid to Afghanistan, which suffered from a strong earthquake. The aid is provided in accordance with the instructions of President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov.

The humanitarian aid from the Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov Charitable Foundation for providing assistance to children in need of care includes medicines, food and textile products, as well as other necessary goods.

Read more: [here](#)

TAPI and TAP in focus of meeting of energy ministers of Turkmenistan and Afghanistan 07/09/2025

A meeting was held in Kabul between Minister of Energy of Turkmenistan Annageldi Saparov, head of international energy projects of Turkmenistan Murad Artykov and Minister of Energy and Water Resources of Afghanistan Abdul Latif Mansur. The meeting was also attended by Ambassador of Turkmenistan Hoja Ovezov.

Read more: [here](#)

ISMI Delegation Participates in Conference in Afghanistan 08/09/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — On 6–7 September 2025, a delegation from the Institute for Strategic and Interregional Studies (ISMI) under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, led by First Deputy Director Akramjon Ne'matov, took part in the international conference "Attracting Investment and Supporting the Power Sector" in

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Kabul.

Read more: [here](#)

2nd Phase of Qosh Tepa Canal in Afghanistan Nearing Completion, 3rd Phase to Begin Soon 09/09/2025

The second phase of the Qosh Tepa Canal construction will be completed within the next five months, with the third phase set to begin shortly after, said Zabihullah Mujahid, spokesperson for the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, according to *Ariananews.af*.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakhstan to Build 120-km Railway Linking Torghundi to Herat in Afghanistan 10/09/2025

Kazakhstan plans to construct a 120-kilometer railway line connecting Torghundi (on the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan border) to Herat in western Afghanistan within the next two years, Deputy Transport Minister Maksat Kaliakparov announced at a government meeting, *Asiaplus.tj* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Cooperation between Central Asian countries

Tajikistan Officially Joins Central Asia Cooperation Treaty in Dushanbe 29.08.2025

President Emomali Rahmon of Tajikistan has signed the Treaty on Friendship, Good-Neighbourliness and Cooperation for the Development of Central Asia in the 21st Century during a ceremony held at the presidential residence in Dushanbe.

Read more: [here](#)

Mirziyoyev Outlined Uzbekistan's Priorities at SCO Plus Meeting 01/09/2025

On September 1, President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev spoke in Tianjin at the “SCO Plus” meeting, where he presented key proposals on security, transport, investment, and cultural cooperation.

Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan launch direct rail service 01.09.2025

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The state company "Uztemiryulkonteyner" has announced the launch of a new logistics route, dispatching the first container block train from Uzbekistan's capital to the Kazakh station Altynkol, located near the Chinese border. This initiative is a practical step toward strengthening the transport and transit potential in Central Asia, as outlined in previous interstate agreements.

Read more: [here](#)

SCO Summit in Tianjin - A Look to Future 01/09/2025

The new geopolitical and economic challenges have placed the independence and security of every state to a serious test. In this context, the upcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Tianjin holds exceptional importance. Representatives from 26 countries have gathered for this event. Since its founding in 2001, the SCO has dynamically evolved and expanded. Initially comprising only China, Russia, and the Central Asian states, the organization became the world's most powerful regional bloc after the accession of India and Pakistan in 2017 - uniting nations with the largest territorial expanse, population, and economic potential. The subsequent inclusion of Iran and Belarus further solidified its global influence.

Read more: [here](#)

Serdar Berdimuhamedov at SCO+ Summit: Turkmenistan strengthens regional ties 02.09.2025

President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov attended the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit in the SCO+ format, held in Tianjin, China, on September 1. The Turkmen leader spoke as an honorary guest, emphasizing the strategic importance of the expanded format for strengthening multifaceted partnerships.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakhstan Invested \$16 Mln in Turkmenistan's Economy 04/09/2025

Kazakhstan's Senate has approved the law on the ratification of the Agreement between the governments of Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan on the mutual encouragement and protection of investments, *Kazinform* reports.

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