

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

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Climate Change and Environment

Tajikistan and China open joint environmental laboratory in Dushanbe 12/12/2025

On December 10, a joint Tajik-Chinese environmental research laboratory was officially opened in Dushanbe. Located within the Institute of Water Problems, Hydropower, and Ecology of the National Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan, the laboratory is designed for environmental monitoring, water and air quality analysis, and evaluating the effectiveness of natural resource use.

Read more: [here](#)

Forests are disappearing, and natural disasters in Tajikistan are becoming more frequent 12/12/2025

Climate change poses a significant threat to the ecosystems of Tajikistan, particularly its forests. Forests [cover](#) only 3% of the country's territory, but their role in maintaining ecological balance is crucial. They regulate the climate, prevent soil erosion and landslides, and provide local populations with fuel, medicinal plants, and fodder. However, the impacts of climate change, such as rising temperatures and reduced rainfall, are having a devastating effect on these natural resources.

Read more: [here](#)

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Pamir and Tien Shan glaciers are melting: can the ADB's program save the region's water? 13/12/2025

Central Asia is increasingly dependent on the glaciers of the Pamir and Tien Shan mountains, which are rapidly melting. As a result, the region is facing rising risks of floods, mudflows, and droughts. To address this, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has launched a \$3.5 billion program called "From Glaciers to Farms."

Read more: [here](#)

UN Environment Assembly Adopts Tajikistan-Initiated Resolution on Glacier and Cryosphere Preservation 15/12/2025

The UN Environment Assembly (UNEA), following the conclusion of its seventh session held at the UNEP headquarters in Nairobi, has adopted a resolution titled "*On the Preservation of Glaciers and the Cryosphere*", initiated by the Republic of Tajikistan, *Khovar.tj* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

ADB supports glacier monitoring and disaster resilience in Tajikistan 18/12/2025

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \$3 million grant to strengthen Tajikistan's capacity for glacier monitoring and hazard forecasting. The grant comes from the Japan Fund for Prosperous and Resilient Asia and the Pacific (JFPR) financed by the Government of Japan through ADB.

Read more: [here](#)

Turkish Zero Waste Foundation to unveil global framework ahead of Türkiye hosting UN climate change conference 19/12/2025

The Turkish Zero Waste Foundation is preparing a new global zero-waste framework document that aims to benefit the world, to be presented during the 31st UN climate change conference (COP31), which Türkiye will host and chair next year.

Speaking to Anadolu, Samed Agirbas, head of the Zero Waste Foundation, said: "During COP31, we will take a leading role in advancing decisions on waste reduction and preventing food waste, which critically impact the world's future."

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Read more: [here](#)

Tajikistan presents draft of Environmental Code 19/12/2025

Tajikistan is preparing to adopt an Environmental Code, a significant step in protecting the environment and ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources. On December 18, 2025, a consultative meeting was held in Dushanbe to discuss the draft of the code.

Read more: [here](#)

International Experts Discussed Nature-Based Solutions to Environmental Challenges in Tashkent 20/12/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — On 19–20 December, the III International Scientific and Practical Conference “Nature-Based Solutions to Environmental Challenges” was held at the Central Asian University for Environmental Studies and Climate Change (Green University).

Read more: [here](#)

Public Participation in the Process of Updating Turkmenistan's NDC 3.0 Was Discussed in Ashgabat. 22/12/2025

A climate dialogue entitled "Inclusive Future: Developing a Plan for Public and Women's Participation in Turkmenistan's NDC 3.0" was held on December 22. The event was organized by the public organization "Young Naturalist" in partnership with UNDP (United Nations Development Programme).

NDC 3.0 is the country's revised Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), which represents the country's national climate action plan under the Paris Agreement.

Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan Turns Climate Challenges into Bold Action 23/12/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — Uzbekistan unveils its NDC 3.0 commitment at the COP30 Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC, hosted by Brazil.

Read more: [here](#)

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Turkmenistan and Iran Strengthen Caspian Cooperation: From Ecological Challenges to Preparations for the 2026 Summit 24/12/2025

The Caspian agenda has always held a prominent place in the dialogue between Ashgabat and Tehran. Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Garibabadi and Turkmenistan's Special Representative for Caspian Affairs, Murad Atajanov, held consultations, outlining the contours of bilateral cooperation for the coming year, according to the Iranian news agency *IRNA*.

Read more: [here](#)

Seminar on Updating the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan Held in Turkmenistan with UNDP Support 24/12/2025

Ashgabat, 24 December: An introductory seminar was held in Turkmenistan under the UNDP Global Project "Global Programme for Supporting the Update of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and the Preparation of the 7th National Report on the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)," funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan.

Read more: [here](#)

Climate Record: The Arctic Experienced Its Warmest Year in the Past 125 Years 24/12/2025

The Arctic has faced significant climatic changes. The period from October 2024 to September 2025 has been officially recognized as the warmest on record in the 125-year history of observations.

According to a report by scientists from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the northern region of the planet is warming much faster than the Earth as a whole. Researchers attribute this to disruptions in the heat balance caused by the accumulation of greenhouse gases.

Read more: [here](#)

Climate as Economy: Why Green Transformation Matters for Uzbekistan 26/12/2025

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Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — Climate is no longer a topic only for environmentalists. Today, it directly affects the economy, investment, agriculture, and quality of life. Globally, annual greenhouse gas emissions have reached a record approximately 57.4 billion tons of CO₂ equivalent, and this figure continues to rise despite international agreements.

Read more: [here](#)

Environmental Projects by UNDP and IUCN: New Sustainable Development Priorities Outlined in Tashkent 26/12/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — On 26 December, a joint meeting was held at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) office in Tashkent, marking the fifth session of the Coordination Council for the Aral Sea Wetlands project and the first meeting of the Project Council for the EcoLand initiative — “Integrated Management for the Conservation and Restoration of High-Value Landscapes in Uzbekistan.”

Read more: [here](#)

Public Council of Uzbekistan’s National Committee for Ecology Endorses New NGO Environmental Projects 29/12/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — The Public Council of the National Committee for Ecology and Climate Change held its regular meeting, attended by Committee Chairman Aziz Abduhakimov, members of the Public Council, and committee staff.

Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan expands comprehensive measures to adapt to climate change 29/12/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — Climate change is having an increasingly tangible impact on Uzbekistan’s environmental sustainability and socio-economic development, necessitating systematic, consistent and scientifically grounded responses.

As part of the “Uzbekistan–2030” Strategy, the country is implementing a comprehensive set of measures aimed at preventing negative climate effects, adapting territories to

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changing conditions, and reducing the vulnerability of natural ecosystems.

Read more: [here](#)

Water resources

World Bank supports modernization of Shakhimardan irrigation system in Kyrgyzstan 12/12/2025

Bishkek, Dec. 12, 2025. /Kabar/. Time capsule laying ceremony was held at the headwater intake structure of the Mukhtar Nurgazyev main canal in Kadamjay region of Batken oblast.

According to the press service of the Ministry of Water Resources, Agriculture, and Land Reclamation, this event marks the beginning of the modernization of the Shakhimardan irrigation system – an important project for the development of agriculture in the region.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakh President suggests building International Water Organization within UN 12/12/2025

President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev called for the establishment of an International Water Organization under the United Nations, stressing that water diplomacy development urges close interstate coordination, Qazinform News Agency learnt from the Akorda press service.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakh President Proposes International Water Organization and Calls for Caspian and Aral Preservation 12.12.2025

At a forum dedicated to the International Year of Peace and Trust, the International Day of Neutrality, and the 30th anniversary of Turkmenistan's permanent neutrality, Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev emphasized the need to strengthen global water diplomacy through close intergovernmental coordination. He proposed the creation of a specialized international water organization within the UN, reports *Kursiv.kz*.

Read more: [here](#)

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Kazakhstan to build smart water technology plant in Taraz 15/12/2025

Chinese investors will open a plant in Taraz to produce smart technologies for water resource management and irrigation systems, [Qazinform News Agency](#) reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Clean water project underway in Kyrgyzstan's Aravan 17/12/2025

Bishkek, Dec. 17, 2025. /Kabar/. The work on clean water supply to Kerme-Too rural district of Aravan is in full swing, presidential representative office in Osh oblast reports. Head of Osh oblast Amankan Kenzhebayev got acquainted with the progress of the clean water project being implemented by the ARIS organization.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakhstan initiates interstate program to protect Caspian water resources 19/12/2025

Kazakhstan has initiated work on an interstate program to preserve the water resources of the Caspian Sea, [Qazinform News Agency](#) quotes Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources, Yerlan Nyssanbayev, as saying.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakhstan proposes creation of UN Water international organization 20/12/2025

The development of agriculture is directly linked to ensuring water security. Central Asia is already experiencing a shortage of water resources. This was stated by President Tokayev during the First Central Asia - Japan Dialogue Summit in Tokyo, [Qazinform News Agency](#) reports, citing Akorda.

Read more: [here](#)

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ADB–CDIA Launches Study to Develop Climate-Resilient Water Supply and Sanitation in Uzbekistan 20.12.2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — ADB–CDIA has officially launched a project preparation study (PPS) to support Uzbekistan’s climate-resilient water supply and sanitation initiative. The PPS aims to improve access to water supply and wastewater treatment infrastructure in Andijan and Fergana regions, as well as in the Autonomous Republic of Karakalpakstan.

Read more: [here](#)

MODSNOW Water Resources Monitoring System Launched in Jizzakh Region 29/12/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — On the initiative of the Institute of Macroeconomic and Territorial Research under the Cabinet of Ministers (IMTR), a real-time water resources monitoring system using the MODSNOW program has been launched in Jizzakh region.

Read more: [here](#)

DUSHANBE WATER PROCESS. Dushanbe to host the Fourth Int’l Conference on the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development” 30/12/2025

In May 2026, the capital of the Republic of Tajikistan, Dushanbe, will host the Fourth High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028, NIAT Khovar reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Energy sector

Tajikistan Seeks International Support to Complete Rogun HPP at Riyadh Financial Conference 12/12/2025

At a roundtable event held as part of the Financial Development Conference in Riyadh, Tajikistan’s Minister of Finance, Fayziddin Kahhorzoda, presented updated information on the progress and financing of the Rogun Hydropower Plant (HPP). The Ministry of Finance of Tajikistan reported this via its press service.

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Read more: [here](#)

Uzbekistan Resumed Electricity Exports to Tajikistan 16/12/2025

Uzbekistan is expanding its role in ensuring Central Asia's energy resilience. According to the Ministry of Energy of Uzbekistan, electricity supplies to Tajikistan have resumed since early December—up to 2 million kWh per day—as part of deepening bilateral energy cooperation, *Daryo.uz* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Kazakhstan Must Ensure Energy Independence – Tokayev 19/12/2025

Kazakhstan should not rely on electricity imports from other countries and must fully meet its energy needs using its own natural resources and production capacity, President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev said, according to *Kazinform*.

Read more: [here](#)

Tajikistan needs \$6.5 billion over the next five years to develop energy sector 29/12/2025

The government of Tajikistan will need 60.4 billion somoni (approximately \$6.5 billion) to implement its Electricity Sector Development Program for 2026–2030.

Read more: [here](#)

President Tokayev chairs Security Council meeting on energy resilience 29/12/2025

Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev on Monday chaired a meeting of the Security Council, focusing on national energy system resilience, *Qazinform News Agency* cites Akorda.

Read more: [here](#)

Islam Abdurakhmonov Appointed as Chairman of the Board of “Uzbekhydroenergo” 31/12/2025

Tashkent, Uzbekistan (UzDaily.com) — On 18 December 2025, Islam Abdurakhmonov was appointed as the new chairman of the board of the state company

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“Uzbekhydroenergo.” He succeeded his father, Abdugani Sanginov, who had led the company since 2017.

Read more: [here](#)

Afghanistan’s multilateral relationship with CA countries

Kazakh President calls for continued assistance to Afghanistan 12/12/2025

Speaking at the Forum dedicated to the International Year of Peace and Trust, the International Day of Neutrality, and the 30th anniversary of Turkmenistan’s Permanent Neutrality, President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has emphasized the importance of continuing support for Afghanistan, highlighting Kazakhstan’s role in promoting peace and stability in the region, Qazinform News Agency learnt from the Akorda press service.

Read more: [here](#)

Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan sign 11 agreements worth USD157 mln 18/12/2025

The Kyrgyz Export Center under the Ministry of Economy and Commerce of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Afghan Chamber of Commerce and Investment co-organized the Kyrgyz-Afghan Business Forum in Kabul, Qazinform News Agency cites Kabar.

Read more: [here](#)

Kyrgyzstan and Afghanistan strengthen transport cooperation 19/12/2025

Bishkek, Dec. 19, 2025. /Kabar/. Deputy Minister of Transport and Communications Almaz Turgunbaev met with Deputy Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation of Afghanistan Abdul Haidari in Kabul.

As reported by the department, during the conversation, the parties discussed the prospects for the development of transport cooperation between Kyrgyzstan and

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Afghanistan. In order to expand international cargo transportation, the Kyrgyz side proposed to exchange 1,000 permit forms by 2026, and the Afghan side supported this proposal.

Read more: [here](#)

Afghan and Tajik Foreign Ministers Discussed Border Clash by Phone 29/12/2025

Taliban Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi stated that he had a phone conversation with his Tajik counterpart, Sirojiddin Muhridin, following the recent clash on the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan. Tajik authorities have not officially announced this, *Asiaplus.tj* reports.

Read more: [here](#)

Cooperation between Central Asian countries

Financing and Construction Parameters Updated for China–Kyrgyzstan–Uzbekistan Railway 17/12/2025

The Government of Kyrgyzstan has confirmed the signing of a loan agreement that secures the financial framework for the implementation of the strategic China–Kyrgyzstan–Uzbekistan (CKU) railway project, according to the press service of the Kyrgyz Cabinet of Ministers.

Read more: [here](#)

Tajikistan and Kazakhstan Agree to Increase Trade Turnover to \$2 Billion 19/12/2025

Kazakhstan's Ambassador to Tajikistan, Valikhan Turekhanov, said the two countries are aiming to increase their bilateral trade turnover to \$2 billion, *Asiaplus.tj* reports.

Speaking at a briefing in Dushanbe on the outcomes of cooperation in 2025, he noted that current trade is expected to reach around \$1.2 billion, reflecting steady positive momentum.

Read more: [here](#)

Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov and Shavkat Mirziyoyev Reaffirmed the Strategic Direction of the Partnership 29/12/2025

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Ashgabat – Tashkent | ORIENT. Today, December 29, a telephone conversation took place between National Leader of the Turkmen People and Chairman of the Khalk Maslakhaty, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, and President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev. The exchange of New Year's greetings served as an opportunity for an in-depth analysis of the unprecedented growth of bilateral relations in the past year.

Read more: [here](#)

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