



## EU – CENTRAL ASIA STRATEGY FOR A NEW PARTNERSHIP PLATFORM FOR ENVIRONMENT AND WATER COOPERATION

### The 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EU-Central Asia Working Group on Environment and Climate Change

Hyatt Regency Hotel  
Uzbekistan, Tashkent

7-8 June 2018

### MEETING AGENDA

#### OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EU-Central Asia Working Group on Environment and Climate Change (WGECC) are to:

- Take stock of policy developments at regional and bilateral level and provide update on progress in EU-CA regional cooperation in the areas of environment and climate change since the 7<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting in February 2018;
- Improve access by CA countries to the Green Climate Fund and IFIs funding for projects on environment, energy, waste management and water sectors, also using EU IFCA support;
- Present and discuss the outcomes of the on-site visits to CA countries aiming at reviewing the selected investment project proposals in waste management, air quality management and climate change adaptation to be submitted to European and other Financial Institutions;
- Agree on the next phase of the support (technical workshop) aiming at reviewing projects in a 'clinic' format;
- Discuss and agree on proposals for hosting the forthcoming EU-CA High Level Conference, envisaged to be held in late 2018 and identify priorities in the preparation of the Conference;
- Discuss and agree on proposals for a new mandate of the WG (e.g. including water), and on the future governance of the process.

#### BACKGROUND

The Platform for Environment and Water Cooperation was established at the EU-CA High Level Conference in Rome (Italy) in 2009. The Platform is a framework for the implementation of the EU-CA Cooperation in water and environment, based on the EU Strategy for Central Asia agreed by the CA countries. The EU-CA WGECC assists in identification of EU-CA regional cooperation priorities in environment and climate change and supports the Platform by strengthening policy dialogue and cooperation at the regional level and between EU and CA. Seven WGECC meetings took place since 2010. The Italian Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea has been chairing the Working Group since its establishment in 2009.

The EU-CA Cooperation priorities are based on the Joint Declaration of the EU-CA High Level Conference in Milan in October 2015 and reflected in the Action Plan, which was endorsed by the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Group in December 2016 (see <http://wecoop2.eu/events/wgecc-gathers-in-brussels>). The Action Plan foresees improving access by the countries of Central Asia to international funds for climate resilient environment/water infrastructure, green finance and eco-innovation. This topic was thoroughly discussed at the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the WGECC, which took place in Astana (EXPO 2017) on 10-11 July 2017. The meeting conclusions are highlighted in the Summary by the Chair (see <http://wecoop2.eu/events/6th-wgecc-meeting-astana>). The follow-up workshop was organised on 23-24 November 2017 in Almaty where the relevant Ministries of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan had face-to-face meetings, facilitated by the EU Delegations, with the major International Financial Institutions (EBRD, EIB, ADB), GCF and other institutions to discuss the related pipelines, including project identification and preparation, while reporting the progress made on the environmental and climate change policies in the EU and CA countries. The 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Working Group held on 6-7 February 2018 in Brussels amplified the call for a closer cooperation with IFIs, donors and partners in order to adopt international best practices and translate policies into concrete investment projects in line with the countries' development priorities (see <http://wecoop2.eu/events/7WGECC>).





<b>Day 1: Thursday, 7 June 2018</b>	
<b>13:30 – 14:00</b>	<b>Registration of participants</b>
<b>14:00 – 14:20</b>	<p><b>Opening of the meeting:</b> Meeting Chair: Massimo Cozzone, Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea, Italy</p> <p><b>Welcome by the host country:</b> Vice-Chair: Bakhrom Kuchkarov, Chairman, State Committee for Ecology and Environmental Protection, Republic of Uzbekistan</p> <p><b>Welcome addresses:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radoslaw Darski, Head of Political Section, EU Delegation to Uzbekistan</li> <li>• Piotr Byczkowski, Central Asia Division, EEAS</li> <li>• Helge Zeitler, Deputy Head of Unit, Bilateral and Regional Environmental Cooperation, DG ENV</li> <li>• Giovanni Brunelli, Head of Division, International Affairs, Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea, Italy</li> </ul>
<b>14:20 – 14:25</b>	<p><b>Adoption of the agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Massimo Cozzone, Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea, Italy</li> </ul>
<b>Session 1: Taking stock – Update on progress since the 7<sup>th</sup> WGECC meeting and perspectives of future developments</b>	
Chair: Helge Zeitler, Deputy Head of Unit, Bilateral and Regional Environmental Cooperation, DG ENV	
<b>14:25 – 15:00</b>	<p><b>Overview of recent developments in EU-CA regional cooperation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 min presentation by Johannes Stenbaek Madsen, Head of Cooperation Section, EU Delegation to Kazakhstan</li> </ul> <p><b>Overview of the recent EU policy developments on environment and current trends</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 min presentation by Andreja Škerl, Policy Officer, DG Environment, F2 International, Regional &amp; Bilateral Relations</li> </ul> <p><b>Overview of the recent EU policy developments on climate action and international priorities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 min presentation by Niels Schuster, Policy Officer, DG Climate Action</li> </ul> <p><b>Implementation of the EU-funded project “Central Asia Nexus Dialogue: Fostering Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus Dialogue and Multi-sector Investment in Central Asia”</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 min presentation by Ludmila Kiktenko, CAREC</li> </ul> <p><b>Sustainable Infrastructure and its impact on environment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 min presentation by Nara Luvsan, Senior Regional Advisor, UN Environment</li> </ul> <p><b>Open discussions and Q&amp;A</b></p>
<b>15:00 – 16:00</b>	<p><b>Delegations of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan are invited to inform on recent and future developments in the areas of environmental governance and climate change mitigation and adaptation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 min presentation by Gulmira Galiyeva, Head of Division, Department of Climate Change, Ministry of Energy, Kazakhstan</li> <li>• 7 min presentation by Arsen Ryspekov, Deputy Director, State Agency of Environmental Protection and Forestry, Kyrgyzstan</li> <li>• 7 min presentation by Suhrob Olimov, Committee of Environment protection, Agency for Hydrometeorology, Tajikistan</li> <li>• 7 min presentation by Mergen Yusupov, State Committee for Environment Protection and Land Resources, Turkmenistan</li> <li>• 7 min presentation by Tolegen Abdulgaziev, State Committee for Ecology and Environmental Protection, Uzbekistan</li> </ul>





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7 min presentation by Yurii Skochilov, Tajikistan Climate Network</li> </ul> <p><b>Open discussions and Q&amp;A</b></p>
<b>16:00 – 16:30</b>	<b>Coffee and group photo of the participants</b>
<b>19:30 – 22:00</b>	<b>Gala dinner, «Ballroom»</b>

**Day 2: Friday, 8 June 2018**

**Session 2: Improving access by CA countries to IFI investments – progress on the tailor-made support to CAs**  
Chair: Johannes Stenbaek Madsen, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Kazakhstan

<b>09:00-10:30</b>	<p><b>Overview of the process and outcomes from the on-site visits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 min presentation by Valts Vilnitis, Team Leader, WECCOOP2</li> </ul> <p><b>Overview of the projects selected:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 min presentation by Arsen Ryspekov, Deputy Director, State Agency of Environmental Protection and Forestry, Kyrgyzstan</li> <li>8 min presentation by Suhrob Olimov, Committee of Environment protection, Agency for Hydrometeorology, Tajikistan</li> <li>8 min presentation by Nodirjon Yunusov, International Cooperation and Projects Department, State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection, Uzbekistan</li> <li>8 min presentation by Yuliya Dushkina, KazWaste Association</li> </ul> <p><b>Feedback from IFIs</b></p> <p><b>Case studies and lessons learnt from environmental investment projects development in the region:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 min presentation by Alexander Rogachevsky (EBRD)</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposal for the workshop for “clinic” review in September in Almaty</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8 min presentation by Valts Vilnitis, Team Leader, WECCOOP2</li> </ul> <p><b>Feedback from CA countries</b></p>
<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>	<b>Coffee break. Press point.</b>

**Session 3: Improving knowledge about the IFI requirements and the process of bankable project preparation**  
Chair: Alessandra Fidanza, Sogesid-spa, Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea, Italy

<b>11:00 – 12:30</b>	<p><b>Presentation of Investor Guide and the Knowledge Centre Web Platform for CA – purpose, objectives, key points and future developments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15 min presentation by Valts Vilnitis, Team Leader, WECCOOP2</li> </ul> <p><b>The role of Strategic Environmental Assessment to promote sustainable and environmentally sound infrastructure development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 min presentation by Alessandra Fidanza (Sogesid-spa, Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea, Italy)</li> </ul> <p><b>Strengthening environmental assessment systems in Kazakhstan by integrating modern SEA and EIA procedure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 min presentation by Sarangoo Radnaaragchaa (UNECE)</li> </ul>
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	<p><b>How to prepare bankable projects for financing climate change adaptation in transboundary river basins: recommendations from the background note developed by UNECE and the World Bank</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 min presentation by Alisher Mamadzhonov (UNECE) and Christina Leb (World Bank)</li> </ul> <p><b>Unlocking finance for private sector engagement and green technologies promotion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 min presentation by Nurzat Abdyrasulova (KyrSEFF)</li> </ul> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robert Adamczyk, Associate Director, Senior Environmental Advisor, EBRD</li> <li>• Raphael Jozan, AFD</li> <li>• Umberto Del Panta, Managerial Advisor, EIB</li> <li>• Christina Leb, CAEWDP Program Manager, World Bank</li> </ul> <p><b>Open discussion and Q&amp;A</b></p>
<p><b>Session 4: Next steps and future developments</b>  <b>Initial concept, topics to be covered and roadmap to the High-level Conference</b>  Chair: Massimo Cozzone, Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea, Italy</p>	
12:30 – 13:00	<p><b>WECOOP 2 Workplan until February 2019</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 min presentation by Snejana Popova, EUD Kazakhstan</li> </ul> <p><b>Next phase (post-February 2019): future governance of the process and new mandate for the WG</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 min presentation by Johannes Stenbaek Madsen, Head of Cooperation Section, EU Delegation to Kazakhstan</li> <li>• 7 min presentation by Gulmira Galiyeva, Head of Department, Ministry of Energy, Kazakhstan</li> <li>• 7 min presentation by Arsen Ryspekov, Deputy Director, State Agency of Environmental Protection and Forestry, Kyrgyzstan</li> </ul>
13:00 – 14:30	<b>Lunch</b>
<p><b>Session 4: Next steps and future developments – continued</b></p>	
14:30 – 16:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 min presentation by Suhrob Olimov, Committee of Environment protection Agency for Hydrometeorology, Tajikistan</li> <li>• 7 min presentation by Mergen Yusupov, State Committee for Environment Protection and Land Resources, Turkmenistan</li> <li>• 7 min presentation by Nodirjon Yunusov, International Cooperation and Projects Department, State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection, Uzbekistan</li> </ul> <p><b>Open discussions and Q&amp;A</b></p>
16:15 – 16:30	<b>Coffee break</b>
16:30 – 17:00	<p><b>Summary of the outcomes and final remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Johannes Stenbaek Madsen, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Kazakhstan</li> <li>• Andreja Škerl, Policy Officer, DG Environment, F2 International, Regional &amp; Bilateral Relations</li> <li>• Massimo Cozzone, Ministry for the Environment Land and Sea, Italy</li> </ul> <p><b>Closure of the Meeting:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice-Chair: Bakhrom Kuchkarov, Chairman, State Committee for Ecology and Environmental Protection, Republic of Uzbekistan</li> <li>• H.E. Andrea Bertozzi, Ambassador of Italy in Uzbekistan</li> </ul>

