

Green Central Asia II

Transboundary dialogue on Climate, Environment and Security in Central Asia - Bridging borders to enhance regional adaptation and mitigation

Context

Central Asia is among the regions of the world that are most affected by and vulnerable to climate change (IPCC Reports 2022, 2023). The region's water, food and energy security are not only threatened by the warming climate, but also by environmental degradation and human interventions.

To address the need for closer regional cooperation on climate security, the German Green Central Asia (GCA) Initiative was launched in January 2020 by the Federal Foreign Office. It also represents a German contribution to the EU-Central Asia Strategy (2019). In this capacity and as part of the Team Europe Initiative (TEI) on Water, Energy and Climate Change in Central Asia, GCA II is also receiving EU co-financing for Turkmenistan to support an EU – Turkmenistan policy dialogue on reducing GHG/methane emissions and preserving the environment.

In the last four years, GCA established a political, technical, and scientific dialogue and decisively contributed to raising awareness about the importance of regional cooperation on climate security. The governments of the five Central Asian countries adopted a Regional Joint Action Plan in November 2021 which will continue to serve as a basis for all joint activities in the region. They include a policy dialogue facilitated by inter-governmental working groups, priority projects on climate-sensitive water, land, and climate risk management as well as support for the cooperation of Central Asian countries in the framework of international environment instruments and capacity building. The centrepiece of the policy dialogue was the elaboration of the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy in 2022 and 2023, which was presented at COP 28 in Dubai. The Strategy has since been adopted by all five Central Asian countries.

Project name	Green Central Asia II: Transboundary dialogue on Climate, Environment and Security in Central Asia - Bridging borders to enhance regional adaptation and mitigation
Commissioned by	German Federal Foreign Office
Budget	7, 500, 000 EUR
Programme region	Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Republic of Uzbekistan
Main partners	Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan. Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change of the Republic of Uzbekistan
Duration	April 2024 - June 2028

Our objective

The overall objective of GCA II is to address climate risks by strengthening transboundary cooperation on climate impacts in Central Asia, thus supporting conflict prevention.

Our measures

The Green Central Asia regional Programme implemented by GIZ under the initiative of the German Government aims at strengthening regional coordination for climate change adaptation with a gender-sensitive approach, including the support to NDC development in the region as well as improving institutional and individual adaptive capacity through better knowledge management and scientific cooperation.



*L. to r. : Tashkent district, Uzbekistan;
Turkmenabat, Turkmenistan;
Almaty, Kazakhstan*

The Programme promotes continuing dialogue between policy makers and science.

Target groups and partners

GIZ, like in the previous programme phase partners up with the Helmholtz-Centre Potsdam - German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ), the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg (MLU), Potsdam-Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) and the German-Kazakh University (DKU).

The programme's national partners are specialists and managers of those entities responsible for foreign policy, climate, water and environment in Central Asia. At the regional level, this is the already existing inter-ministerial platform of the GCA Initiative, the EU-Central Asia Platform for Environment and Water Cooperation, the International Fund for saving the Aral Sea as well as the "Blue Peace" process of Switzerland; at the national level GCA II partners up with the ministries of foreign affairs, climate, environment, water, agriculture and energy, as well as relevant civil society organisations and journalists working on environmental/climate-related issues as well as with the academia.

Through these partners, the entire population of the Aral Sea Basin (a total of 75.6 million people) is reached, who benefit from the improved regional cooperation on climate change adaptation and mitigation (as in enhanced NDCs) regardless of age, gender and social status.

The programme will especially target women policymakers and scientists.

Intended results

- Implementation of the Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and establishing a regionally agreed and lean coordination and cooperation system
- Continuation of functioning political dialogue based on the Regional Action Plan (GCA I) with particular emphasis on a gender-sensitive approach
- Support the Central Asian countries in updating their NDCs until early 2025 in the context of regional cooperation and by considering strengthening mitigation aspects and applying synergy effects to attract more financing for mitigation and adaptation measures
- Development of unified methodologies for assessing the vulnerability of territories and economic sectors to climate change
- Identification of main opportunities for improving the efficiency and volume of attracting climate finance in CA
- Further development of capacities of national governmental actors on climate change in different sectors

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In cooperation with



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