



THE 12TH CENTRAL ASIAN LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME ON ENVIRONMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (CALP)

REPORT

«SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY POLICIES AND TOOLS AS DRIVERS TO GREEN RECOVERY AND BUILDING FORWARD BETTER»

ON-LINE EVENT COVERING CENTRAL ASIA AND AFGHANISTAN
SEPTEMBER 20-24, 2021





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GRATITUDE TO PARTNERS

In 2021 the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) in cooperation with partners conducted the 12th CALP for environmental young leaders of Central Asia and Afghanistan with a thematic focus on sustainable consumption and production (SCP), green economy, low-carbon, resource-efficient and circular economy, leadership, and recovery after COVID-19.

CAREC is grateful to all partners and donors for the support, commitment and contribution in organizing of the online 12th Central Asian Leadership Programme on Environment for Sustainable Development (CALP) in 2021, namely: the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan, Switch Asia SCP Facility Programme of the European Union, the OSCE Secretariat, the UN Environment, and the World Bank. Our partners provided a great support to the enhancement of youth programs and networks, capacity building of the young leaders from Central Asia and Afghanistan by promoting the values of regional cooperation, leadership, sustainable production and consumption, green economy and circular economy.

Despite the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic brought, we were lucky to be able to gather 38 young leaders from Afghanistan and Central Asia, about 20 master students of the Kazakh-German university (DKU), and more than 60 exceptional speakers from all around the world. Thanks to inspired partners and speakers, our participants were able to participate actively. That means a lot to us!

CAREC is grateful to the CALP facilitator, moderators and speakers, representatives of state bodies of the Central Asian countries and Afghanistan, international, regional and non-governmental organizations, programs and projects, and mass media for the participation and contribution to the success of the 12th CALP.

Special thanks go to the members of the Organizing Committee of the CALP Alumni Network, who are working for the period 2019-2021 and providing support to CAREC and the CALP alumni.

CAREC is also grateful to all the staff members, consultants and experts of CAREC, who shared their invaluable experience with the participants of the online 12th Leadership Programme on priority environmental, leadership, sustainable production and consumption, green economy and circular economy issues of the Central Asian region.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ASBP	The Aral Sea Basin Program
CA	Central Asia
CALP	Central Asian Leadership Programme on Environment for Sustainable Development
CAREC	The Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia
CLI	Collective Leadership Institute (Germany)
ESD	Education for Sustainable Development
DKU	Kazakh-German University
EU	European Union
GIZ	German Society for International Cooperation
IFAS EB	Executive Board of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
KazBCSD	Kazakhstan Business Council for Sustainable Development
KazWaste	Kazakhstan Association of Organizations and Individual Entrepreneurs
MEGNR	Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
NEXUS	Water, energy and food security nexus approach
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PNA	Protected natural areas
REPPSD	Regional Environmental Program for Sustainable Development of Central Asia
SCP	Sustainable Production and Consumption
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIWI	Stockholm International Water Institute
UNDP	UN Development Program
UNEP	UN Environment Program
UNESCO	UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNECE	UN Economic Commission for Europe
UN ESCAP	UN Economic and Social Commission for the Asian Pacific
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UzWaterAware	EU Water Awareness Project
WB	World Bank
Zoinet	Environmental Network, Switzerland



INTRODUCTION

3.1. Global and regional challenges of 2020-2021

In 2020-2021, humanity met a new challenge – the corona virus pandemic. In the light of the global pandemic COVID-2019, there is an immediate need for an urgent recovery of economies, the environment, and adaptation to the new challenges in relation to the health and education systems, including the Central Asian region. The world faced not only a serious health crisis with a relative new disease, with over 240 million infected people and 4,9 million of people dead, but also society was in lock-down, social contacts were restricted to minimum, schools were closed, economies were locked, millions of jobs lost, and significant travel restrictions as a result¹.

At the same time, today humanity has opened up new opportunities for development, especially in the field of environmental protection. ***Environmentalists today can act as agents of green change***, and approaches such as green recovery, building back better and risk informed development are the important thematic areas that both governments of many countries and international organizations are working on.

3.2. Sustainable consumption and production as regional response to challenges

In 1972, at the first UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm, the global community started questioning the impacts of *consumption and production* patterns. The 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development sought to help Governments find ways to halt the destruction of irreplaceable natural resources and pollution of the planet, highlighting the necessity for cleaner production. At the Earth Summit 2002, the necessity for promoting sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns has been clearly recognized, emerging as a practical and systemic approach to sustainability issues in the global context.

Later the concept of SCP has integrated the need for decoupling economic growth from environmental impacts and increased resource use. Promoting resource efficiency and SCP are essential for delivering a green growth/economy, a low carbon economy, a circular economy and sustainable development. This was in fact the main rationale for establishing the SWITCH-Asia programme. ***The aim is to provide necessary knowledge and capacity to government bodies and other stakeholders in order to facilitate their “Switching to SCP”.***

SWITCH-Asia is the largest Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) programme supported by the European Union involving 24 countries across the whole Asia. In line with the priorities of the European Green Deal, the programme aims to promote sustainable and inclusive growth in Asia decoupling it from environmental degradation and to support partner countries in their transition towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient and a more circular

1. Draft Outline document on the UNECE ESD Strategic Planning for 2030, 2021

economy while contributing to poverty reduction. The programme promotes mainstreaming sustainable consumption and production in relevant national policies and supports the transition towards a green economy, poverty reduction and climate mitigation. The second phase of SWITCH-Asia was launched in 2018, and in July 2019, the programme was extended to five Central Asian countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The last call for proposal was launched in 2019 and 22 new grant projects were awarded, out of which seven grant projects were awarded to the Central Asian region focused on tourism, agri-food and textile sectors. Grant project “Green Homes” implemented in Afghanistan was completed in 2020.

Central Asian countries and Afghanistan are at different stages in terms of awareness raising and policies towards shifting to SCP. Most of SCP related activities have been conducted and implemented by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Secretariat of the One Planet Network/10 Year Framework of Programmes on SCP (10 YFP). The first regional meeting on SCP for Central Asian countries was organized by UNEP and the Secretariat of 10YFP in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in November 2015. During the Workshop, challenges and opportunities were discussed together with priority areas for the implementation of SCP policies and tools. ***Main regional challenges traced the link between poor management of water and energy resources and the significant impact this has on food supply and security, ecosystem services and biodiversity conservation.*** A second meeting for Central Asia and East European countries was held in Romania in 2016. Moreover, the Secretariat of 10YFP started a regional project on Sustainable Public Procurement for three Central Asia countries – Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan.

Currently, the SWITCH-Asia Sustainable Consumption and Production Facility (SCPF) is providing Technical Assistance to four Central Asian Countries, at their demand, structured around priorities identified by concerned stakeholders in those countries. Aiming at assisting the countries in better delivering their sustainable development and green economy policies, the SCP Facility is actually providing needed support for a series of priorities and activities, such as preparation of SCP Action plans for Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, implementation of SCP tools and circular economy approach in the following sectors: textile and garment (Uzbekistan), food/biodegradable waste management (Kazakhstan), agri-food and energy efficiency in buildings (Kyrgyzstan). While these could be better perceived from a production side perspective, the other side of the coin, the consumption patterns are also given due attention, being extremely relevant for Central Asian region and Afghanistan, when considering their quickly evolving life style and consumer behavior, that should be put back on the sustainability and responsibility path, so as to minimise the impact on the environment and build forward more resilient societies.

Regional structures such as the Inter-state Commission on Sustainable Development (ICSD) and CAREC play important roles in promoting SCP at regional and national levels, as well as providing the framework for capacity building to deliver needed changes.

3.3. Regional responses and solutions

In 2021 the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) marked 20 years of activities, and it continues to develop as a regional environmental organization that promotes and supports initiatives in the field of environmental protection and sustainable development. This year CAREC celebrates its 20th anniversary, which implements a unique

mandate - to assist the countries of Central Asia in solving national and regional problems in the field of environmental protection. The need for regional cooperation has existed since the independence of the Central Asian countries, and is clearly felt to this day. Realizing the need and importance of this kind of cooperation, the Governments of the five countries have created such organizations as the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) and its institutions - ICWC and ICSD, as well as CAREC as an alternative independent platform for regional cooperation.

CAREC facilitates regional environmental cooperation platforms in Central Asia, by increasingly involving young people and providing a neutral dialogue platform for the youth dialogue, capacity building, and sharing experience of leadership and volunteering. Young people represent a key stakeholder group that CAREC engages to help drive environmental transformations through collective leadership across the borders of Central Asia.

Regional cooperation can significantly influence not only the achievement of the national SDGs set by the countries, but also the effectiveness of implementation of the national development programs and strategies, including using the potential of the younger generation. In the context of globalization, the growth of the world's population, the limited natural resources, and post-COVID development, ***it is important that young people can make a significant contribution to solving complex socio-economic and environmental problems.***

The regional initiatives established by CAREC in cooperation and with support of international, regional and national partners: the Central Asian Conference on Climate Change (CACCC), The Central Asian International Environmental Forum (CAIEF), and the CALP are the examples of effective regional dialogue platforms for politicians, decision-makers, NGOs, academia, and young environmental leaders.



CALP AS A TOOL FOR LEADERSHIP

4.1 Role of youth in leadership

ACCORDING TO THE UN DATA²,

today more than one billion people fall within the age bracket 18 to 35, the largest group ever to make the transition to adulthood. Their numbers are expected to grow—between 2015 and 2030 alone, about 1.9 billion young people are projected to turn 15 years old. This growth rate is very high especially in the region of Central Asia. Being home to almost 70 million people, the region's youth population equals approx. 40% of the overall population.



In September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted the Agenda-2030 for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). One of the important goals is the **SDG4: "Ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all"**. It is assumed that by 2030, young people will be provided with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for sustainable development, including by promoting green and healthy lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, a culture of peace, global citizenship and understanding of cultural diversity.

"The present generation of youth is the first generation that can see the accumulated impact of crises in climate change and loss of biodiversity in the full scale, but also, perhaps, the last generation that can turn the tide and set compass for the needed transitions. This not only requires that they have to be appropriately educated, equipped and prepared for transitions towards a more sustainable world, but their active participation aspirations and creativity is needed now, during the formulation of critical policies, as major decisions of today will influence and, to some extent, will define their future, their role, their impact, and finally the shape of the world in which they will live in and they are expected to manage"³.

4.2. Leaders of new generation

In Central Asia, the role of young leaders in transformations in the field of the environment and sustainable development and in promoting the regional dialogue is becoming more visible from day to day. The role of new generation managers, regional leaders who have global thinking, regional vision, understanding of the importance of regional cooperation and are ready to embrace innovative approaches is becoming increasingly important.

Young people represent a key stakeholder group that CAREC engages to help drive environmental transformations towards sustainability through collective leadership across the borders of Central Asia, with the understanding of collective leadership as *"the capacity of a collective to catalyze change for the common good"*⁴.

Young leaders with high qualifications and professional skills are needed to respond to the global challenges and jointly solve regional problems on water, climate change, gender, environmental, green economy and post-COVID development issues.

2. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/youth/>

3. Draft Outline document on the UNECE ESD Strategic Planning for 2030, 2021

4. <https://www.collectiveleadership.de/blog/article/the-future-of-leadership/>

4.3. CALP history and role

CALP is a unique leadership programme of CAREC undertaken since 2010. It is designed to improve leadership capacity of young and mid-level managers of various environmental agencies and focuses on multiple sustainable development challenges in the region. CALP also promotes participation of young leaders in environmental decision making by using their leadership skills and increasing their knowledge⁵.

CALP builds on the achievements and lessons of the CAREC Young Leaders Programme, which was in operation in 2006-2008 (with support from the EU and the Government of the Netherlands), and the **UNEP Leadership Program in Tongji University, China**. Nowadays it became one of the most successful examples of multi-pair partnership, cross-sectoral capacity building initiative the region of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA). **In 2010 on the sidelines of the Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development of the Asia-Pacific Region**, the 1st CALP was organized at the Nazarbayev University. The three-day program was designed for mid-level officials interested in sustainable development, and comprised of three dimensions - human, environment and sustainable development.

CALP is organized annually and involves government, academic, private sector, and NGO representatives – a multi-stakeholder approach that helps to ensure a comprehensive understanding of environmental and sustainable development issues from a regional perspective and that enables decision-makers to better deliver on sustainability through water, climate, energy and SCP, green and circular economy.

After 12 years **CALP remains a recognized platform for youth regional dialogue and cooperation**. The geography and the number of the CALP participants has significantly increased with more involvement of different international partners and donors – all this made the program agenda more innovative, rich, extensive and targeting global water and climate challenges including recovery after COVID-2019.

In 2021, the **12th CALP was mainly focused on promoting of SCP, green and circular economy**; raising awareness and promoting implementation of the SCP policies at national and regional level, as well as water and climate cooperation issues. The lectures provided latest innovative solutions to environmental challenges on national, regional, and global levels. In addition, in connection with the global COVID-2019 pandemic, the 12th CALP discussed a number of thematic areas related to green recovery.

4.4. CALP alumni network

Over 12 years, about 370 young people from five countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan - representatives of state environmental, water and energy sectors, NGOs, universities, and the green business - have graduated from the CALP. From year to year, CAREC receives more and more nominations from state bodies of Central Asian countries, NGOs, and regional organizations, which confirms recognition and relevance of the programme by national partners.

Today, graduates of the CALP make significant contributions to the promotion of regional cooperation and sustainability in various sectors throughout the region. The graduates not only collaborate, share experience, take part in regional meetings and forums, but also study together at foreign universities, set friendships and support each other.

CALP graduates today work in the water, environmental and energy agencies of the region, at CAREC head office and its branches, civil society and academia sectors and promote the values and benefits of regional cooperation in their daily work.

Many graduates have been appointed to key positions in the various sectors: one of the graduates of the CALP **Mr. Idrees Malyar** was on the position of Deputy General Director of the National Environmental Protection Agency of Afghanistan for the period of 2018-2020; member of the first

5. https://carececo.org/en/main/ckh/publications/otchet-o-10-y-yubiley-noy-tsapl_2/

Organizing Committee of the CALP network **Ms. Nodira Dzhanibekova** is a Deputy of the Oliy Majlis Parliament of the Republic of Uzbekistan from 2019; **Ms. Zulfiya Suleimenova** is a deputy of the Mazhilis of Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan from January 2021; **Ms. Danara Saranova** is a well-known National UN Youth Volunteer, United Nations, who led many volunteering campaigns and activities in 2020. CAREC is proud of them!

4.5. CALP timeliness

The CALP not only responds to global, regional and national environmental and development challenges, but also provides opportunities for young leaders to learn how to make environmentally friendly decisions and how to use and enhance their collective leadership and volunteering skills and knowledge. Today, there are emerging global and regional challenges in the fields of environment protection, water management, climate change adaptation and mitigation and post-COVID-2019 recovery, including:

- ☑ The need to develop a regional dialogue for a faster response to global environmental and development challenges;
- ☑ Needs of building collective leadership and volunteering skills for the COVID-2019 pandemic period;
- ☑ The need to introduce innovative approaches and programs, updating databases in the field of environmental protection, water resources, climate change, health and education for sustainable development;
- ☑ The importance of capacity building of a new generation through the use of modern educational curricula, vocational trainings, development of ICT- and digital learning skills and competences;
- ☑ Lack of certified teachers and trainers to improve the skills of specialists in sustainable development, including digital learning sphere;
- ☑ The fragmentation and instability of project results: low “institutional memory”, replication of knowledge, and update of information, etc.

In accordance with the global and regional challenges, the following thematic areas of the 12th CALP were identified:

1. Sustainable consumption and production (SCP)
 - ☑ Resource efficiency (materials, water, energy)
 - ☑ Textile and garment
 - ☑ Housing and building
 - ☑ Agri-food/value chain approach
 - ☑ Sustainable tourism
 - ☑ Waste/ plastics Management including prevention, re-using, recycling
 - ☑ Sustainable Public Procurement/eco-labelling
 - ☑ Consumers change behavior awareness raising and promoting sustainable behaviors:
 - Consumers change behavior and awareness raising campaigns
 - Sustainable/healthier lifestyle
 - Value chain towards consumers to make sustainable choices
 - Marketing of environmentally friendly products
2. Management of water and energy resources and the significant impact on food supply and security, ecosystem services and biodiversity conservation
3. Collective Leadership and multi-stakeholder partnerships, with a focus on SDG 17
4. Role and capabilities of youth in strengthening regional cooperation in Central Asia and Afghanistan.

5

CALP INPUT INTO THE CAREC KNOWLEDGE CENTER

The role of the CALP, as a regular programme to enhance the potential of young leaders in the region, is increasing from year to year, as evidenced by the increasing number of applications from the region’s youth and nominations from national partners represented by ministries and departments of Central Asian countries.

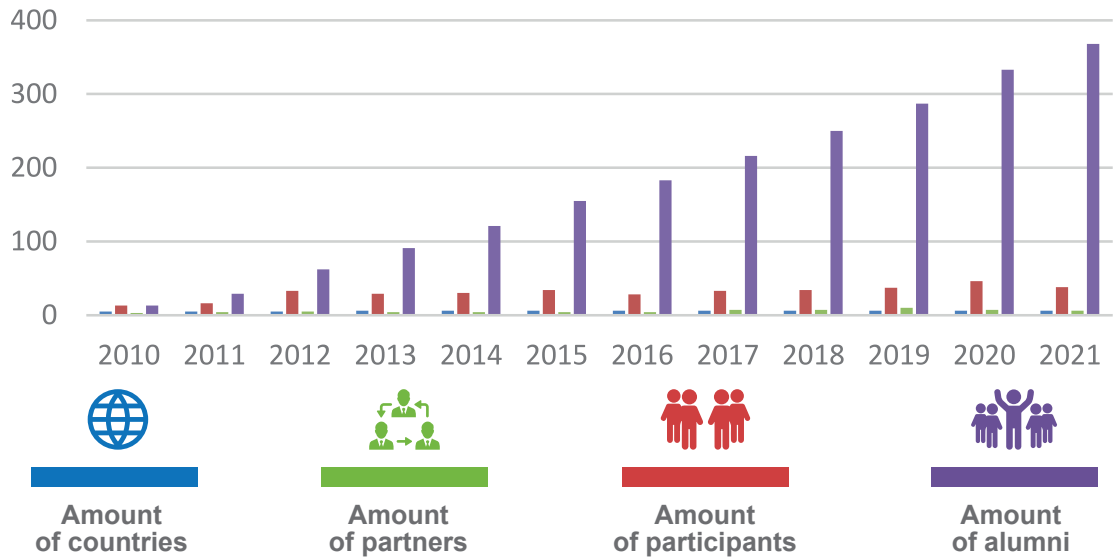
As noted above, in 2010-2021 CAREC, in collaboration with partners and donors, successfully conducted twelve CALPs.



Each year there is a growing dynamic in terms of the thematic content and number of participants. The 1st CALP was held in Astana in 2010 with participation of only 13 people, this year the 12th CALP brought together 38 participants. **Today, there are about 370 people in the CALP alumni network** (Figure 5.1).



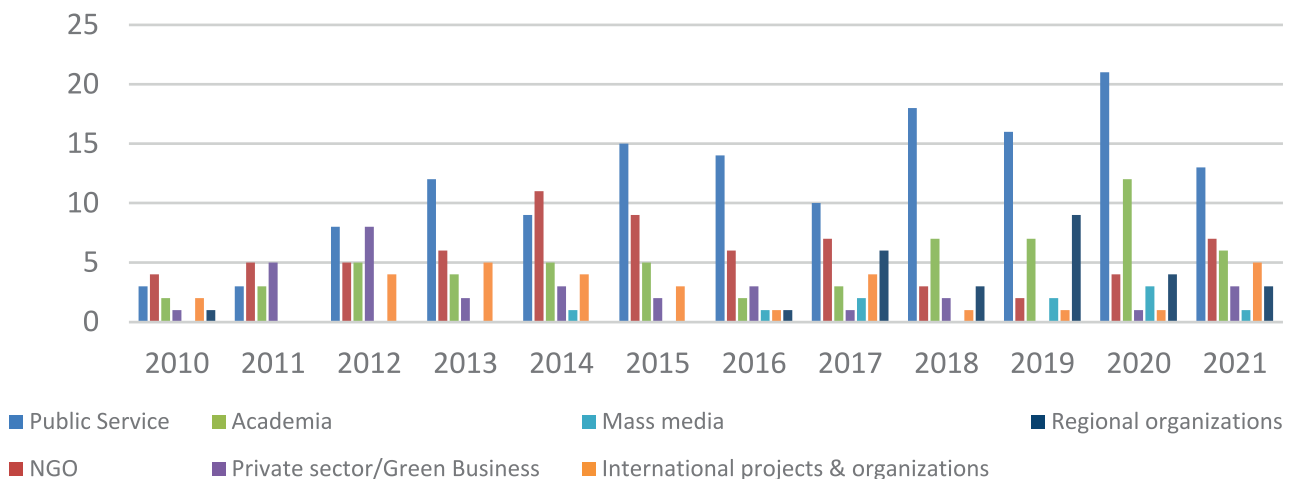
Figure 5.1. CALP ALUMNI NETWORK 2010-2021

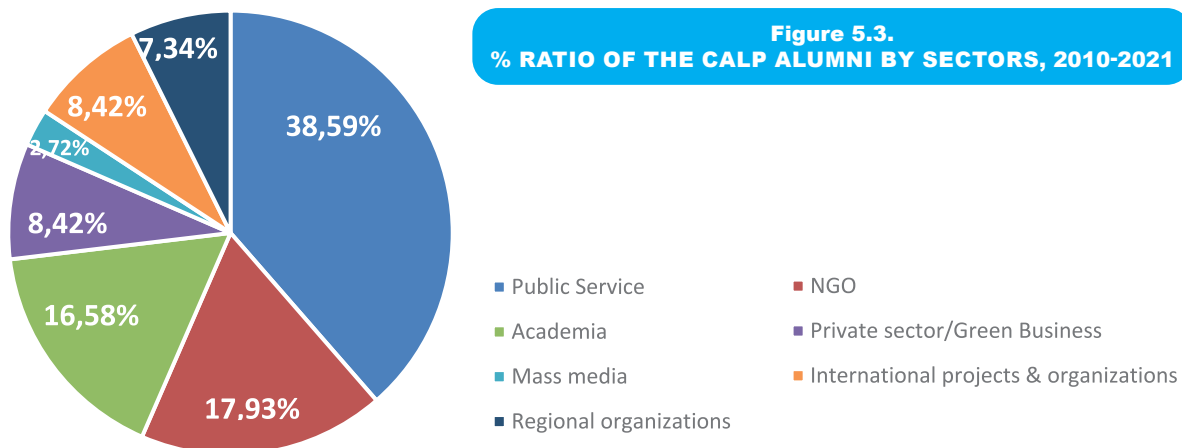


In the early years of the programme (2010-2016) the number of participants from NGOs and the private sector prevailed. In the following period of 2016-2020 there is a persistent trend of growing interest from the participants representing public and academic sectors. **From year to year, CAREC receives more official nominations from state bodies of CA countries, which proves the importance, recognition and demand of the CALP by the national partners.** There is also a growing interest in participating in the CALP from representatives of academia and international programs, projects and regional organizations. In addition, CALP helps to improve the situation in the field of environmental legislations to ensure more sustainable environmental decisions.

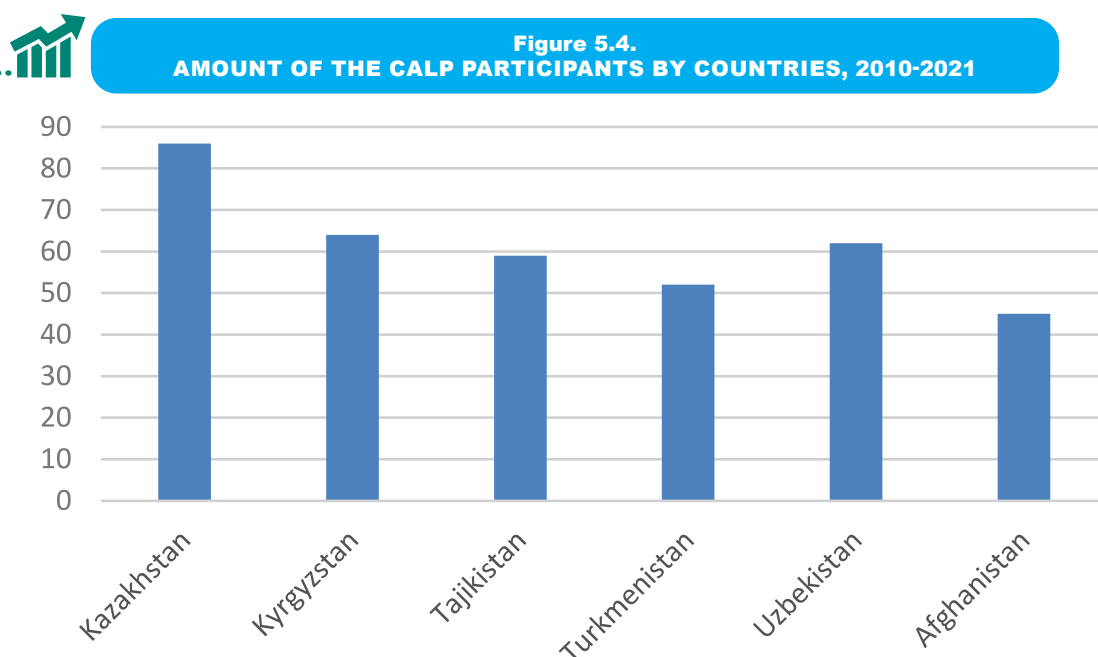


Figure 5.2. THE NUMBER OF THE CALP ALUMNI BY SECTORS AND YEARS, 2010-2021





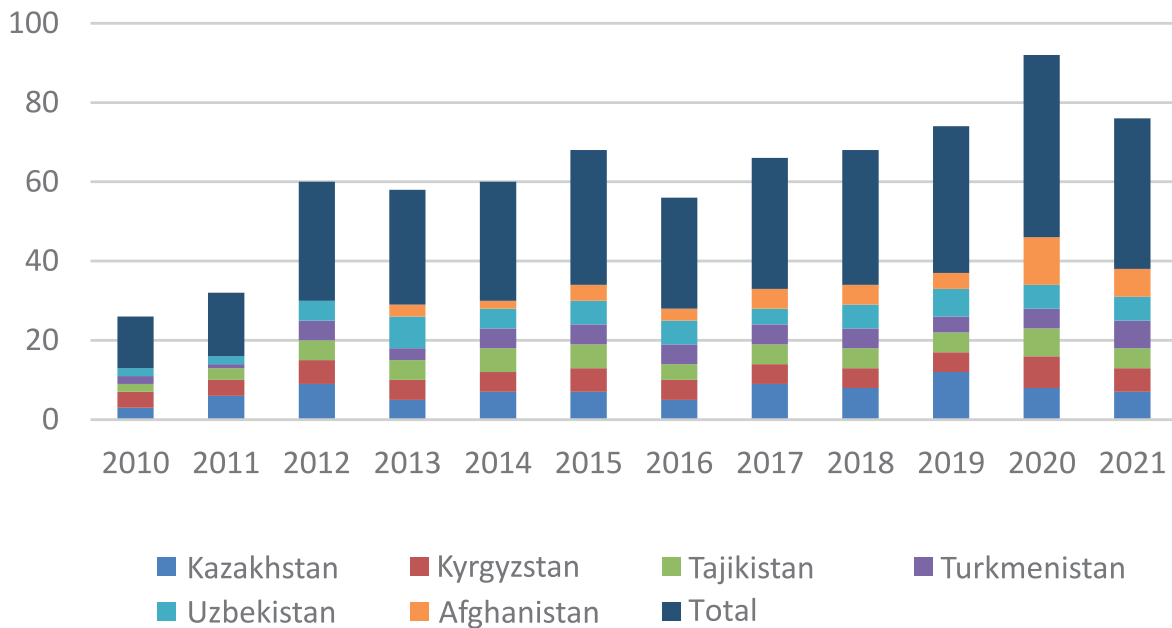
The number of the CALP alumni by countries in the period of 2010-2021 varies from 45 (Afghanistan) to 86 (Kazakhstan). Due to the fact that participants from Afghanistan joined the CALP only in 2013, the number of graduates from this country show less numbers. The majority of participants are from Almaty city, including CAREC junior staff and interns, which participation did not require an additional financial support (*Figure 5.4*).



Gender aspect. Gender mainstreaming in environmental issues is important as women are often disproportionately affected by unsustainable natural resources management. Gender-sensitive policy interventions in the environment and water sectors contribute to fair natural resources distribution and maximize the social, economic and environmental benefits of sustainable development. In this regard, gender mainstreaming in water governance can lead to more effective and responsive policies that reduce social imbalances for the benefit of the society as a whole and therewith contribute to conflict prevention.



FIGURE 5.5. RATIO OF THE CALP PARTICIPANTS BY COUNTRIES, 2010-2021



Based on the gender balance criteria, in 2021 **women made up 34,21% of the 12th CALP participants, with 25 men (65%) and 13 women (35%)**. The breakdown of women by national delegations was the following: Kazakhstan - 2 participants are men (28,5%) and 5 women (71,5%), Kyrgyzstan - all 6 participants are women (100%), Turkmenistan - 1 participant is woman (15%), 6 participants are men (85%), Tajikistan - all 5 participants are men (0%), Afghanistan - 6 participants are men (85%), and 1 woman (15%), and Uzbekistan - all 6 participants are men (0%). In general, participation of women in national leadership teams of the CALP had a positive impact on its success and team building.

As for the information on gender balance among the CALP speakers: 63 – was total amount of speakers; 41 – were women; 22 – men, so 65% of speakers were women and 35% - men.

By promoting the dialogue and cooperation between all stakeholders engaged in the environmental protection, CAREC continues to develop as a regional Knowledge Center on environmental issues in Central Asia and views knowledge and innovation as the key instrument to respond to global challenges and regional environmental needs in Central Asia. In this regard, **CALP today is one of the most important tools for the development of the CAREC Knowledge Center**, taking into account the role of youth in promoting innovations, green best practices, the ability of young people to change, lead and take responsibility at all levels.



ROLE OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF THE CALP ALUMNI NETWORK



2017 the first Organizing Committee of the CALP Alumni Network (hereinafter - the CALP Organizing Committee) was established,

comprising 6 graduates of Leadership programmes. The Organizing Committee of the CALP was working on a rotational basis for 2 consecutive years until September 2019. It helped CAREC to develop mechanisms of dissemination information, knowledge, best practices and success stories at both national and regional levels and assisted in the implementation of the various CAREC events. CAREC regularly held separate youth events in the sidelines of its regional platforms such as CAIEF and CACCC, inviting the CALP graduates - members of the Organizing Committee of the CALP Alumni network and giving them opportunity to present their experiences, lessons learned and achievements.

In 2019, the new members of the CALP Alumni network were proposed to the new composition of the Organizing Committee until 2021, including: **Ms. Saule Agataeva** (Kazakhstan), **Ms. Aiperi Dzhayloobaeva** (Kyrgyzstan), **Ms. Takhmina Akhmedova** (Tajikistan), **Mr. Hemra Atabaev** (Turkmenistan), **Ms. Shahzoda Alikhanova** (Uzbekistan) and **Mr. Hussein Alemi** (Afghanistan). The official introduction of new committee members took place during the 10th Anniversary CALP in 2019. In 2020, **Ms. Beheshta Saboory** (Afghanistan) replaced Mr. Hussein Alemi in the Organizing Committee. This year they made a joint presentation, shared their lessons and experiences and inspired the new CALP participants. They will continue their activities until the end of 2021.



The CALP Organizing committee and members of the Alumni network meet not only at the CALP platform, but also successfully conduct various youth side or pre-conference events during the regional forums. For example, in April 2019, as part of the CACCC in Tashkent, ***the Youth Pre-Conference Event “One Planet, One Future: Motivating young people to take action on climate change”*** with support from the USAID’s Smart Waters project and World Bank’s CAMP4ASB Program took place. The event made a valuable contribution to strengthening the regional cooperation and preparing future leaders who will be playing a major role in ensuring a sustainable development of the region.

Therefore, ***CAREC CA Leadership programme is an effective tool for building partnerships and youth’s cooperation in Central Asia.*** Participation in the Leadership programme allows young specialists to acquire a new set of knowledge and skills on environment and sustainable development, as well as to benefit from CAREC’s firsthand information and broad partner networks.



THE 12TH CALP:



7.1. Goals and objectives

The 12TH CALP was mainly focused on sustainable consumption and production/circular, green economy, management of water and energy resources and their significant impact on food supply and security, ecosystem services and biodiversity conservation, transition towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient and circular economy. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the development of Central Asia countries and Afghanistan was also discussed from the point of view of recovery of economies, environment, and adaptation to the new challenges in relation to the health and education systems.

The overarching goal of the 12th CALP is provision of necessary knowledge and capacity to young leaders from government bodies and other stakeholders in order to facilitate their switching to Sustainable Consumption and Production/circular economy in Central Asia and Afghanistan.



THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE 12TH CALP ARE:

- 1 Raising awareness on the necessity for SCP policies and tools to foster green economy delivery and transition towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient and circular economy among the 12th CALP' participants;
- 2 Strengthen capacity of young people and increasing the role of youth in promoting of SCP and green economy;
- 3 Discuss a link between management of water and energy resources and their significant impact on food supply and security, ecosystem services and biodiversity conservation and how implementation of SCP tools and circular economy approach can be impactful to resource efficiency in these sectors;
- 4 Promote of implementation of the SCP policies at the national level, demonstration of results of the grant projects and supports dialogue with interesting stakeholders in Central Asia and Afghanistan;
- 5 Provide an innovative and action-oriented regional platform on SCP and green economy for youth dialogue in Central Asia;
- 6 Raise awareness on sustainable consumption and responsible consumers' behavior among communities in Central Asia and Afghanistan;
- 7 Build capacity for Collective Leadership at the individual, team, and stakeholder systems levels for analyzing and planning transformative decision-making processes, and concrete initiatives for sustainable development;
- 8 Demonstrate public and youth engagement, regional and local mobilization and actions, and involvement of communities, civil society, public sector, private sector, and youth in multi-stakeholder partnerships in the COVID-19 and post-COVID activities.

7.2. Partnership as a key element success factor

The Leadership Programme-2021 was organised and conducted by CAREC in cooperation with the European Union SWITCH-ASIA Programme SCP Facility, the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan, the OSCE Secretariat, EU Delegations in Kazakhstan and Central Asia, and the World Bank. Along with CAREC, the Kazakh-German University (DKU) is a co-partner in this project.

7.3. Participants

In 2021, 38 representatives of the following target groups participated in the 12th CALP:

- young environmental leaders from the following state agencies related to the SCP and green development issues – ministries of agriculture, environment, water and energy;
- green business representatives;
- civil society organizations, working in the field of SCP, green economy, resource-efficient and circular economy;
- academia,
- and mass-media representatives.

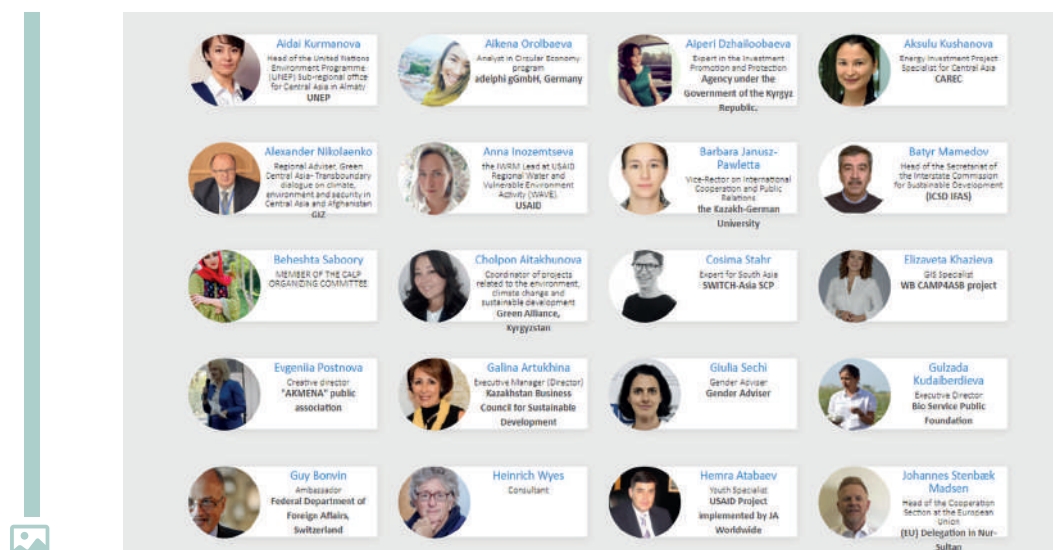
To participate in the 12th CALP, applicants were required to apply via online platform [Register - Twelfth Central Asian Leadership Programme on Environment for Sustainable Development \(carececo.org\)](https://carececo.org) within 2,5 months from June 15 to August 30. The selection of participants was carried out on the basis of the developed selection criteria in consultation with partners from the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan, EU Switch Asia SCP Facility, OSCE Secretariat and other partners. As a result, representatives of state bodies of the countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan made up about 40% of the participants and represented various government ministries and departments – environmental protection, water resources, and energy.

In total, 38 young people of Central Asia and Afghanistan were nominated by national partners and/or selected to participate in the 12th CALP through an open competition on the CALP online platform. In addition to that, according to the DKU request, 22 master students on IWRM participated in the Water Day sessions hold on 23th of September. Totally, about 60 people took part in the CALP, including CAREC staff and interns. This year the programme brought together more than 60 facilitators, speakers, trainers, experts and consultants from international organizations, projects, companies, the expert community, NGOs, national, regional partner organizations and mass media. All in all, *in 2021, more than 100 people participated in the 12th CALP online* <https://calp.carececo.org/mobile/list-of-the-12th-calp-participants-2/> (Annex 1 – List of participants).

In order to build national CALP teams, and based on the national rules related to the COVID-2019 pandemic, *the participants have been partly collected in CA countries* – in CAREC HQs in Almaty, Kazakhstan, country offices and national ministries in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan and Dushanbe, Tajikistan. Participants from Afghanistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan took part in the CALP online. In this regard, the role of the CAREC country offices was crucial and important for the 12th CALP success.

7.4. Speakers and lecturers

The 12th CALP in 2021 was also especial in terms of the largest number of participants and high-level representation of international, regional, national and local speakers: more than 60 speakers from international, regional organizations, state bodies of the countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan, public organizations, scientists, environmental activists, eco-bloggers, and environmental leaders of the CA region took part as speakers of the 12th CALP - <https://calp.carececo.org/mobile/speaker/> (Annex 2 - List of speakers with their BIOS).



In 2021 CAREC invited NGOs’ representatives to be speakers of the special session of the 12th CALP on 24th of September devoted to the role and inputs of the NGOs to the themes of SCP, green economy and circular economy.

This year, **Ms. Evgeniya Postnova**, Creative director of the “AKMENA” public association, Kyrgyzstan was selected as facilitator of the 12th CALP. In addition to her facilitation role for the 12th CALP, **Ms. Evgeniya Postnova**, focused on introducing participants to the topic of circular economy and sustainable development in the region.



During facilitation, she used such various online instruments such as padlet.com; menti.com; learninapps.org; Google Jamboard ([Рецепт хорошего дня/Good day recipe - add your ingredient to our common dish - Google Jamboard](#); [Линейная и циклическая Экономика \(learningapps.org\)](#); [Распорядок дня / Schedule \(padlet.com\)](#); [Что было бы написано на вашей футболке \(padlet.com\)](#); [Voting \(menti.com\)](#)), and others.

7.5. Agenda overview and thematic content

In accordance with the 12th CALP goals, objectives and challenges, during the presentations and lectures, the leaders were presented with the latest innovative solutions to environmental and social problems at the global, regional, national and local levels (*Annex 3 - CALP agenda*).

Thematic focus of the 12th CALP was SCP, green economy, low-carbon, resource-efficient and circular economy, and recovery after COVID-19.

The Programme Overview:

An innovative approach brought together a series of the following trainings and modules:

- ☑ A 5-day series of seminars and interaction with reputable international partners, including CAREC, EU SWITCH ASIA Programme, SCP Facility; OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan; OSCE Secretariat; UN Environment; World Bank, and other international and regional speakers;
- ☑ Regional leaders and CALP alumni that informed and inspired participants, especially on topics of SCP, green economy, low-carbon, resource-efficient and circular economy, and integrating environmental and social initiatives into crisis recovery programs and COVID-19 response strategies;
- ☑ A following 3-day training on IWRM at the DKU that equipped participants with the knowledge and skills to understand the complexities and opportunities of IWRM, in the aspect of regional cooperation.

The 12th CALP Principles founded reflection in the agenda and its sessions:

1. "Think globally, act locally, collaborate regionally!"
2. *Transparency* – online system for registration developed, all countries were represented in the selection committee; the list of selected candidates is published publicly.

3. *Environmentally friendly* – developed and used CALP web application <http://calp.carececo.org/mobile/>
4. *Online learning* – greetings and key presentations by national, regional and international experts were made remotely via Skype, video presentations or on the ZOOM online platform.
5. *Openness* – partners from international organizations and programs, financial institutions, civil society organizations and private sector were given the opportunity to facilitate and moderate CALP thematic sessions.

Day 1: September 20, 2021, the Opening session

The 12th CALP agenda included the issues related to the implementation of the SDGs in the context of sustainable consumption and production, circular/green economy, water and energy resources management and their significant impact on food supply and security, ecosystem services, transition towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient and circular economy.

The 12th CALP Opening Ceremony was held on Monday, September 20 as a virtual event due to the COVID-19 pandemic and was moderated by the CALP facilitator **Ms. Evgeniya Postnova**.

The sessions of the first day were led by **Mr. Zafar Makhmudov**, Executive Director, CAREC and attended by **Dr. Volker Frobarth**, Ambassador, Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan; **Mr. Johannes Stenbaek Madsen**, Head of the Cooperation Section at the EU Delegation in Nur-Sultan; **Dr. Zinaida Fadeeva**, Team Leader, SWITCH-Asia Programme, SCP Facility; **Ms. Aidai Kurmanova**, Head of the UN Environment for Central Asia Office as well as **Ms. Meirgul Alpysbayeva**, Education National Professional Officer at the UNESCO Almaty Cluster Office.

In his welcoming speech, **Mr. Zafar Makhmudov**, CAREC Executive Director expressed his gratitude to all partners for their support and noted that the CALP is the only regular capacity-building and training programme in Central Asia, that has become a recognized platform for the development of youth regional cooperation.



“Over 11 years more than 330 young people from five countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan, representatives of state environmental, water management and energy sectors, non-governmental organizations, universities and environmental businesses, have been trained within Central Asia Leadership Programme”.



Mr. Makhmudov stressed the significant contributions made by the CALP alumni to the advancement of regional cooperation in various sectors throughout the region, and noted that despite the global challenges, the 2020-2021 years have shown real examples of environmental leadership. Taking into account the trends, the 12th CALP, as was adopted, has become a platform for discussion of such relevant topics as SCP, circular economy, ecosystem services and many others. At the end of his speech, **Mr. Makhmudov** expressed a hope that the alumni' leadership stories will inspire the graduates of the 12th CALP, and invited the partners and donors of the CALP to speak.



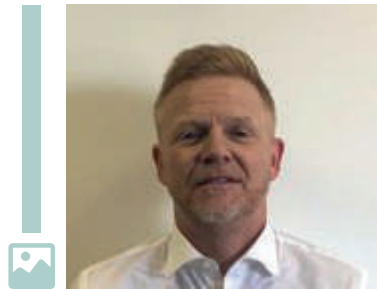
As the first speaker of the 12th CALP, **Dr. Volker Frobart**, Ambassador, Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan, expressed a gratitude to CAREC and other partners for the long-term cooperation and noted that within the framework of the Economic and Environmental Dimension, the OSCE has been supporting the CALP for many years. The Ambassador stressed

that new leaders are needed for new policies in the field of green and circular economies, as well as sustainable use of water and energy resources.

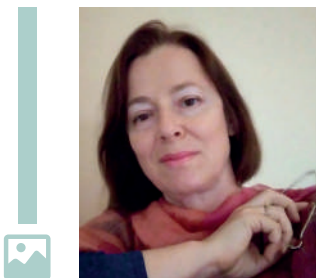
Mr. Johannes Madsen, the Head of the Cooperation Section at the EU Delegation in Kazakhstan in his video greetings expressed a readiness to share their best practices and approaches to the implementation of SDGs and Agenda-2030 and pointed out **five priority pillars of cooperation between the EU and Central Asia** (the EU Strategy for Central Asia on “New Opportunities for a stronger Partnership”): **Green Deals, digitalization, Sustainable Growth and Jobs, migration partnerships, and security.**



“The coronavirus crises have vividly demonstrated the connection between unsustainable human activities and the loss of biodiversity, leading to the spread of new diseases and viruses. Governments should exploit all the opportunities offered by moving from a linear to a circular economy and making our production and consumption models more sustainable. Many good practices in this area have been developed by the EU funded SWITCH Asia programme, which could serve as an inspiration for the countries of Central Asia to ensure a real switch to sustainable development in practical terms”.



Further, on behalf of **Mr. Zulfukhar Zholdasov**, Chairman of the Committee for Environmental Regulation and Control of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Chairman of the CAREC Board, **Ms. Asel Mukhamedzhanova** from the Committee for Environmental Regulation and Control of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources joined the greetings. She highlighted the main priorities of the modern environmental policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Strategy “Kazakhstan 2050”), where a great attention is paid to the issues of resource efficiency, environmentally friendly production and SCP. Legislation, as **Ms. Mukhamedzhanova** emphasized, must be accompanied by the introduction of new technologies.



Dr. Zinaida Fadeeva, Head of the SCP Facility of the EU SWITCH-Asia Programme, spoke for the participants on behalf of co-organisers of the 12th CALP. She said that the SCP Facility of the EU SWITCH-Asia Programme has been implemented in the Central Asia region since 2019, and presented three main directions for the participants: Promotion of Sustainable Development; Contribution to Poverty Alleviation; Resource Efficiency and the Circular Economy. **Dr. Fadeeva** underlined an importance of the regional cooperation of youth in Central Asia.

Ms. Aidai Kurmanova, Head of the Sub-regional Office of the United Nations Environment Program for Central Asia, drew the participants' attention to the need for a systematic approach to waste management and the particular relevance of the principle of circularity when handling hazardous waste.

The Opening ceremony of the 12th CALP was completed by the address of **Ms. Krista Pikkat**, Head of the UNESCO Cluster Office in Almaty made by **Ms. Meirgul Alpysbaeva**, national specialist of UNESCO. She noted that the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the crisis, inequality and showed the close relationship of people with the world around them. In her speech, she argued the need to reduce the consumption of natural resources in all sectors of the economy and reduce pollution, showing that leaders, as agents of change, can contribute to this. "The time has come for transformation", the speaker called at the end of her speech.

At the end of the Opening ceremony, **Ms. Evgenia Postnova** (Kyrgyzstan), Facilitator of the 12th CALP, invited the participants to discuss the role of young leaders of Central Asia in developing SCP and responding to global challenges and opportunities.

To this end, a joint presentation was made by the members of the Organizing Committee of the CALP alumni network with a presentation "**Prospects for development of a green economy in Central Asia and the role of youth in its promotion**". Examples of youth leadership in Central Asia and Afghanistan in terms of SCP and recovery from the COVID-19 crisis were presented by **Ms. Saule Agatayeva** (Kazakhstan), **Ms. Aiperi Dzhailoobaeva** (Kyrgyzstan), **Ms. Tahmina Akhmedova** (Tajikistan), **Mr. Hemra Atabaev** (Turkmenistan), and **Ms. Shahzoda Alikhanova** (Uzbekistan). **Ms. Beheshta Saboori** from Afghanistan also contributed to preparation of the joint presentation.



Prospects for the development of a green economy in Central Asia and Afghanistan, and the role of youth in its promotion



Further, participants were invited to the introductory session in an innovative online format. To do this, **Ms. Evgenia Postnova** "invited" the participants to the virtual garden of CAREC, where everyone posted their name, picture, and described expectations from participation in the CALP and several poetic lines on the theme of autumn, friendship and cooperation in the form of Japanese poetry "hokku" (Reference to the game: <https://padlet.com/evgeniipostnova/ewdj434ng2gxmuzw>).

Upon completion of the online dating procedure, facilitator gave the floor to the CALP project manager **Ms. Tatyana Shakirova**, who turned to the history of the Leadership programme, presented the achievements of the CALP graduates, and introduced participants to the 12th CALP agenda posted on the CALP mobile App. here: <https://calp.carececo.org/mobile/> along with speakers' information.

The **Session 2: “Responding to the Global and Regional Challenges of Developing a Green Economy and the Transition to a Low Carbon, Resource Efficient and Circular Economy”** was moderated by **Mr. Zafar Makhmudov**, CAREC Executive Director, who noted that the purpose of the session is to demonstrate the initiatives and activities on green development of international partners working in Central Asia.

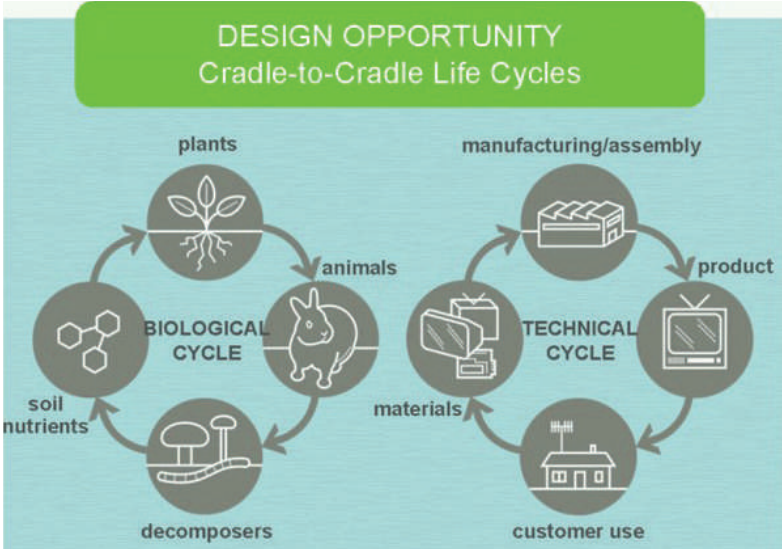
The first speaker was **Mr. Robert Brudzinski**, Project Manager, Cooperation Section, Delegation of the EU to the Republic of Kazakhstan. In his presentation **“EU Global Initiatives and Priorities for Central Asia”**, he described priority areas of cooperation between the EU and Central Asia the EU policy in the field of energy efficiency, circular economy, and its compliance with WTO standards. Also noteworthy is the Carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM).

Further, **Ms. Saule Ospanova**, Senior Environmental Adviser, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, presented a whole range **of OSCE initiatives in the field of sustainable water resources management**, highlighted OSCE activities on Water and Green Economy in Central Asia, the SMART CITIES programme and the activities of the Aarhus Centers (<https://aarhus.osce.org/>). As the following discussion showed, participants were interested in gender aspects of water resources management. Based on the results of her speech, **Ms. Ospanova** provided the participants with links to the OSCE information resources (*Annex 4 - Facilitator’s report*).

The next speaker of the Session 2 **Mr. Heinrich W. Wyes**, International Expert of the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan. In his presentation **“Pathways for Building Circularity into the Economies and Governance systems of Central Asia”**, **Mr. Wyes** described the differences between linear and circular economy models and noted four key political priorities: job creation, balance of payments support, supply chain resilience, and climate change mitigation and adaptation. Transition to circular economy will allow Central Asia to reap the benefits of industrialization, increase prosperity and reduce vulnerability to resource prices and environmental changes, without depleting limited natural resources and without causing environmental degradation.



The session 2 was closed by the presentation of the CALP facilitator **Ms. Evgeniya Postnova** “*Circular Economy and Natural Capital Recovery: Key Concepts and a Brief History of the Idea*”. She provided a detailed overview of the leading schools and concepts of circular economics, originating in the 40-s of the 20th century (and up to the present). Methods of introducing circularity into the production process based on imitation of nature have also been described (Waste = food). At the end of the presentation, attention was paid to the macroeconomic mechanisms of the transition from the Economy of the 20th century to the Economy of the 21st century.



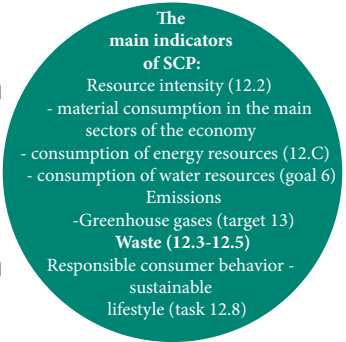
The Session 3 “Introduction to Sustainable consumption and production” was started with the discussion of Sustainable Consumption and Production: challenges, needs and initiatives in Central Asia covered the Regional Programmes towards Green Economy and moving to Circular Economy.

The session was moderated by **Dr. Zinaida Fadeeva**, Team Leader, SCP Facility, EU SWITCH-Asia Programme. She started showing an introductory stimulating video about SCP Facility and then moved on to the presentation “*What is SCP for? What is the SWITCH Asia Programme?* As used in this crisis, COVID-19 graphically behaves between unsustainable human activities and biodiversity loss, leading to the spread of new diseases and viruses. States should use all the possibilities of transition from a linear economy to a circular one, using more sustainable production and consumption patterns.

Further, the work was continued by **Ms. Zulfira Zikrina**, Key Expert for Central Asia of the SWITCH-Asia Programme, SCP Facility, who spoke about the launch of SCP programme in Central Asia to stimulate countries to transition to a green economy.

As it was described in the presentation, the Central Asian countries approved the agenda for “green recovery” and transition to digital technologies:

- ☑ Kazakhstan - achieving carbon neutrality by 2060,
- ☑ Kyrgyzstan is a country of green economy, emphasis on “green procurement”,
- ☑ Tajikistan - introduction of elements of the digital economy,
- ☑ Turkmenistan - transition to a low-carbon economy,
- ☑ Uzbekistan - promoting a green economy, decarbonization and a sustainable growth trajectory.



Then national non-key experts of this Programme **Ms. Nurzat Abdyrasulova**, Non-Key Expert on Energy Efficiency in buildings, Kyrgyzstan, **Ms. Gulzada Kudaiberdieva**, Non-Key Expert in Agri-food, Kyrgyzstan; **Mr. Yerbol Orazbekov**, Non-Key Expert on Waste management, Kazakhstan, and **Mr. Rustam Mirzahalilov**, Non-Key Expert on preparation NAP SCP, Uzbekistan, presented the appropriate thematic aspects of the SCP: emerge efficiency, agri-food, waste management, and conducted a wide discussion of the subjects. During the discussion, the CALP participants were interested in such issues as garbage sorting, food waste management, green loans, energy efficient contracts, CO2 emissions offsets, etc. The session was lively and rich.

The experts were asked the following questions: 1. While carrying out projects, did you gain an understanding of SCP, how is this direction perceived by the public? 2. What lessons have you learned while working towards meeting the project objectives in terms of SCP? 3. What innovations and best practices in SCP have you seen? 4. What is needed to scale up SCP best practices?

Day 2: 21 September, 2021 (Tuesday)

The 2nd day agenda within the framework of the 12th CALP was devoted to discussions of three main themes: one of them was about the resource efficiency in different sectors of economy within the framework of the EU SWITCH-Asia, SCP Facility, to support sustainable consumption and production in South Asia, South East Asia, and Central Asia.

The Session 4 “Switch Asia Programme to support Sustainable Consumption and Production in South Asia, Southeast Asia and Central Asia” was moderated by **Dr. Zinaida Fadeeva**, and **Ms. Zulfira Zikrina** and attended by international and national experts - representatives of the Switch Asia Programme as speakers. The session covered the topics of resource efficiency in agri-food, in agriculture production, in construction sector, in garments, in sustainable public procurement as well as in textile – the RUTSIS grant project. In the presentation made by **Ms. Zikrina**, the participants were introduced to the value chain approaches in the agri-food system, discussed the possibilities of supporting ecological recovery and the transition to a sustainable food system.

Further, **Ms. Valeriya Orlova**, ESD Programme specialist, CAREC, presented examples of resource efficiency in agricultural production in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan (EU project on REAP) related to the practical implementation of the SCP model in Central Asian countries.

Then, a dynamic session was organized by **Mr. Rajat Batra**, Senior Technical Expert of STENUM Asia in the form of an interactive session. Proposed descriptions of mini-projects on SCP were interesting for discussion and stimulated the creative energy of the participants. **Mr. Batra** noted that it is important to train SCP consultants and to date, and highlighted that 400 small and medium-sized enterprises in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan have introduced SCP principles into production.

Ms. Cosima Stahr, Expert, EU SWITCH-Asia Programme, SCP Facility, presented examples of green buildings and housing (Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan) from the SWITCH-Asia Programme grant projects with a special focus on energy efficiency. When discussing the CALP participants, they were interested in the application of SCP and circular economy principles in the construction sector of Kyrgyzstan.

A practical illustration of a participatory energy efficient housing programme implementation model was provided by **Mr. Quentin Moro**, Regional Director for Central Asia, GERES NGO. During his presentation, speaker presented the mission and activities of the GERES NGO and examples from the EU SWITCH Asia Programme, and other projects in East Asia (for example, “Switch off air pollution” project).

Ms. Lunchakorn Prathumratana, Project Manager, the EU SWITCH-Asia Programme, SCP Facility invited participants to discuss resource efficiency in sustainable public procurement. She asked the group to think about the following question **“Do you pay attention to eco/green labelling in your day-to-day shopping? Or how do you make purchasing decisions?”** She went on to show in her presentation that green/sustainable public procurement is an incentive to achieve sustainable consumption and production.



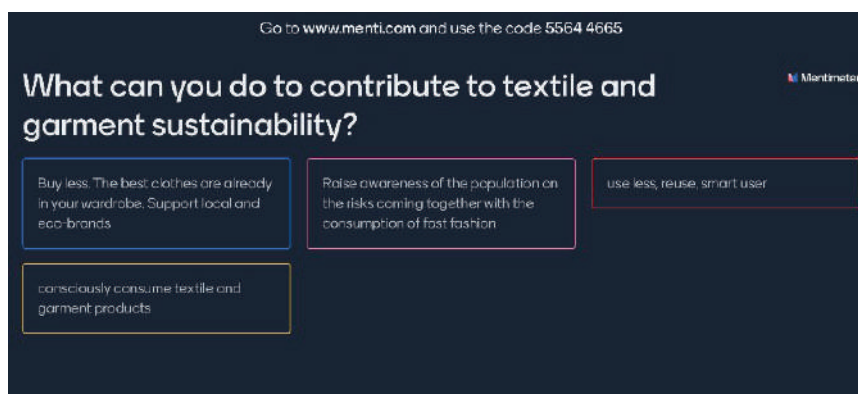
switchasia



Benefits of G/SPP

- Offering opportunity to creation of new green market
- Encouraging a more resource efficient, environmental sound and competitive technologies
- Bypassing the inefficient, polluting, and ultimate costly phases of development
- Boost to tackle climate change and resource efficiency
- Enabling the transition to a green economy

Ms. Lorraine Gatlabayan, Senior SCP Consultant, SWITCH-Asia Programme on SCP, made a presentation devoted to the textile and apparel Industry issues. A video about the SWITCH-Asia Sustainability Study in Fashion was brought to the attention of the 12th CALP participants.



Continuing the discussion, **Ms. Aikena Orolbaeva** from Kyrgyzstan showed the results achieved in terms of resource efficiency in the RUTSIS grant project, implemented in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, aimed at reviving the local production of fabrics such as silk and ikat.

The Session 4 was concluded with a presentation **“Communication in the field of sustainable development, effective strategies for managing behaviour and social change”** by **Ms. Sara Gabai**, Communication Expert of the EU SWITCH-Asia Programme, SCP Facility. Expert presented detailed examples of successful implementation of the communication strategies for participants and shared such a useful resource as the **“Guide for Administration on Circular Economy”**.

“The Role of Regional Programmes towards Green Economy and moving to Circular Economy” was discussed within the extensive **Session 5**, moderated by **Mr. Zafar Makhmudov**, CAREC Executive Director. The aim of the session was to draw attention to initiatives, processes, approaches and examples in the context of Green Economy and moving to Circular Economy in Central Asian countries.

Key-note speakers of the session: **Mr. Serik Bekmaganbetov**, International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS), who described the role of IFAS in “Green Central Asia”; **Mr. Batyr Mamedov**, Interstate Commission for Sustainable Development (ICSD), who presented the role of ICSD in “Green Central Asia”.

H.E. Dr. Guy Bonvin, Swiss Special Envoy for Water in Central Asia, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland, Ambassador shared with the CALP participants the presentation **“Blue Peace: Why addressing regional water issues is an opportunity for the green economy?”** and put on the table the following questions: Water is an enabling factor for sustainable economic development and stability, Water as a Constraint for Future Growth, Water is at the heart of the Central Asia economy and societies; Water is key economic development and stability; Climate change is mostly impacting the water cycle; Climate change as mostly impacting the water cycle factor; Water, Food, Energy security are top strategic issues; Water is not only a subject to tough competition, but also source of valuable cooperation around mutual interests. In order to achieve this “triple” security in sustainable way and to ensure stability on the long run, environment protection or sustainable management of natural resources will come rapidly at the heart of the discussions and become an opportunity for Green Economy.



Mr. Alexander Nikolayenko, Regional advisor, German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), presented the GIZ’s initiatives for a Green Economy in Central Asia; **Dr. Barbara Janusz-Pawletta**, Vice-Rector on International Cooperation and Public Relations, Kazakh-German University, spoke about the role of this university in promotion of the Green Economy of Central Asia, and **Ms. Lesya Nikolayeva**, UNEP international Expert on Sustainable Consumption and Production, described green economy initiatives and approaches to sustainable consumption and production in Central Asia.

In addition, following the theme of the green economy in Central Asia, a presentation as a follow up to the in-depth discussion «WAVE and the Green Economy in Central Asia» was made by **Ms. Yekaterina Strikeleva**, USAID WAVE Project. **Ms. Strikeleva** spoke about the eco-climate scenarios of the Amurdarya and Syrdarya rivers, development of regional cooperation within the framework of the NEXUS approach and in the field of integrated management of natural resources.

Further, moderator **Ms. Tatyana Shakirova** invited **Ms. Lyazzat Syrlybayeva** and **Ms. Cholpon Aitakhunova**, regional coordinators of the “Central Asia Youth and Water network” (CAY4W <http://cay4water.org/>) who spoke about a wide range of youth initiatives, comparing it with the traditional Kyrgyz kurak, combining different fragments into one whole.

At the end of the session, **Ms. Viktoria Demidova**, representative of the French NGO GERES in Tajikistan, made a presentation on engaging youth leaders and civil society in the education sector to improve energy efficiency/resource efficiency and combat climate change. The example of the EU-funded project “DYNAMO” in Tajikistan was very interesting for the CALP participants.

At the end of the day, the participants had the opportunity to discuss and ask all the questions of interest to the speakers. Also, in order to build a team and establish interpersonal communication, the CALP facilitator **Ms. Evgeniya Postnova** suggested the exercises “What would be written on your T-shirt?” and “Alphabet of names”. The results of the exercise can be found at <https://padlet.com/evgeniapostnova/j9fg0n7437nxlqna> (Annex 4 - Facilitator’s report).

Day 3: 22 September, 2021 (Wednesday)

Topic of the day: “CAREC in sustainable consumption and production in Central Asia”.

In order to immerse the participants in the topic of the third day of the training, the CALP facilitator **Ms. Evgeniya Postnova** conducted a small creative exercise for the group, called “The daily routine of a consumer society”, where the participants noted what thing/product they could not do without during the day. The results of the exercise are available at <https://padlet.com/evgeniapostnova/qcgrxdacaadpgej1> The analysis of the exercise was carried out in conjunction with a slide show of the “The Origins of Consumerism” presentation.

The third day within the 12th CALP was devoted to the role of regional organizations such as CAREC and NGO GERES, working on environmental protection and SD, specifics of SCP in Central Asia, regional dialogue on the development of a green economy in Central Asia, promoting the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) NEXUS approach in achieving resource efficiency, contributing to SCP and Green Economy, as well as the role of Climate Information Platform in Central Asia (CACIP) as a main source of information and knowledge for regional stakeholders.

Morning **Session 6 “CAREC Organization, Events and Initiatives for Green Central Asia”** was moderated by **Mr. Rustam Issakhodjayev**, Project Specialist for Environmental Management Programme (EMP), CAREC. The speakers of the session included: **Mr. Zafar Makhmudov**, CAREC Executive Director, who spoke about CAREC’s contribution to promoting sustainable development (production and consumption) in Central Asia through the prism of ongoing projects and CAREC Development Strategy until 2025; **Mr. Quentin Moro**, Regional Director for Central Asia, Geres NGO vividly described its contribution to sustainable practices related to production patterns, efficiency and energy consumption in selected countries of Central / High Altitude Asia.

Geres, an NGO acting in the field of energy for climate solidarity
 The contribution of Geres to sustainable practices linked to energy production, efficiency and consumption patterns in cold climate High Asia
 Central Asia Leadership Programme
 Almaty, 22 September 2021

Ecological ceiling

- Circular economy
- Reduce/Reuse/Recycle
- Decoupling
- Localizing

Food systems & manufacturing of goods – production side

RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

Sustainable use of Environmental & Mineral resources

Cooking/heating-cooling/lighting mobility/communication/data – consumption side

Social threshold

- Access
- Equity
- Knowledge
- Know-how
- Policies

Education, services, finance & institutions – knowledge & support systems sides

Ms. Saltanat Zhakenova, Climate Change Specialist of the World Bank CAMP4ASB project, presented the capabilities of the Central Asian Climate Information Platform and Dialogue Platform: <https://centralasiacimateportal.org>; and **Mr. Ismail Dairov**, Director of the Regional Mountain Center for Central Asia, spoke about **the Regional Dialogue on the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC 26**. Most of the questions were raised by **Ms. Zhakenova**,

including the following: what is the accuracy of the platform's forecasts? What climate/weather forecast grid is available on the platform? Are there any prospects for adding topics such as, for example, industry, construction, etc.? Are there plans to share data with country hydrometeors?

Also, during the Session 6, **Ms. Aksulu Kushanova** and **Mr. Rustam Issakhodjayev**, specialists of the **EU-funded project "Nexus Dialogue in Central Asia"**, highlighted the practical application of the WEF Nexus approach in Central Asia. To meet the growing demand for water, energy and food, the EU promotes the WEF Nexus approach as a fundamental shift from a purely sectoral approach to integrated cross-sectoral solutions. Over 70% of the CALP participants were not previously familiar with the concept of the WEF Nexus approach. During the discussions, participants agreed that water, energy and food security are inextricably linked, thus a multi-sectoral planning approach should be institutionalized at all levels of public administration when designing national development plans and making investment decisions.

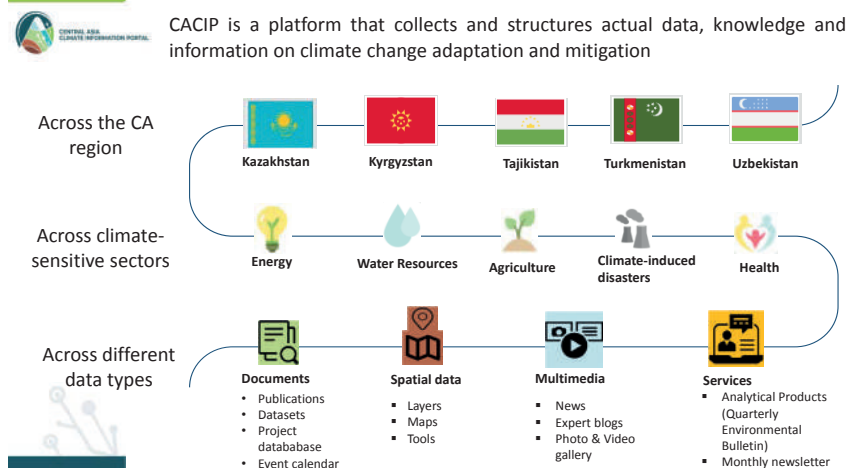


Additionally, **Mr. Rustam Issakhodjayev** spoke about how working with environmental conventions develops SCP and a green economy. As the speaker noted, the synergy of environmental conventions and projects in achieving the goals of a green economy is very important. Participants discussed examples of the projects with an intersectoral approach and shared examples of their work on SCP. In particular, **Mr. Arif Mamedov** from Turkmenistan noted that projects supporting a multisectoral approach (NEXUS, Wave, etc.) are being implemented in Turkmenistan.

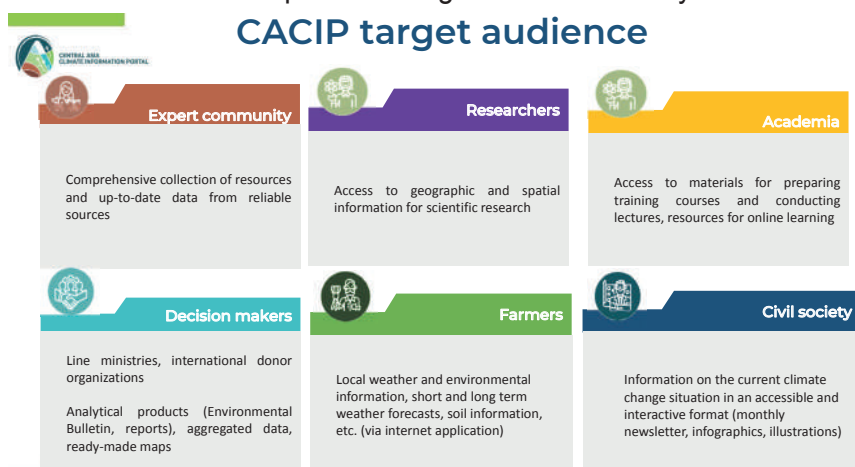
As a part of the Session 7, **Ms. Malika Tazhmuratova**, CACIP Specialist, and **Ms. Elizaveta Khazieva**, GIS Specialist, World Bank CAMP4ASB Project, held a special training course on use of Central Asian Climate Information Platform (CACIP). [#CAREC_Calp](#)

In particular, the following features were presented:

- Review of information products and services of CACIP;
- CACIP tools for the analysis of geo-spatial data;
- Search and visualize a wide range of thematic datasets;



- ☑ CACIP data warehouse: how to make your organization visible, user profile, data loading (events, news, publications, research);
- ☑ Use of applications of the search engine “Google Earth Engine” in CACIP for monitoring climate change and water use in agriculture;
- ☑ CACIP e-learning opportunities: how to design your training course and promote it through CACIP.
- ☑ How to create multi-level maps combining CACIP data and your own datasets.



To summarize the results of the day, the CALP facilitator **Ms. Evgeniya Postnova** organized a small “Circular Economy” quiz. The English version of the exercise is available at the link - <https://learningapps.org/watch?v=pafgaerg221>

Day 4: 23 September, 2021

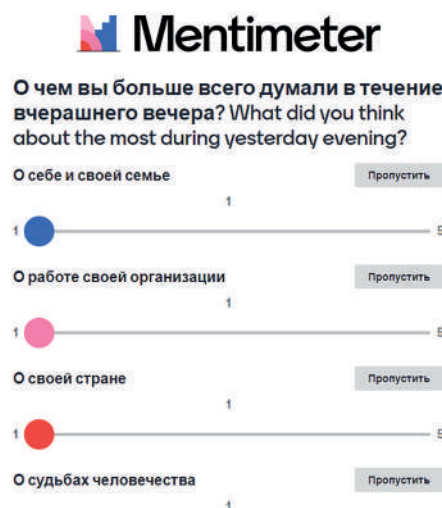
Theme of the day: “Role of Water in sustainable development of Central Asian countries”.

The day was opened by the exercise “Recipe for a good day”, proposed by the facilitator **Ms. Evgeniya Postnova** in order to unite the team and set the group up for work. The results of the exercise are available here: https://jamboard.google.com/d/19kP2ksmUf_6nwtN4WVU2r-pzS3l6mWKTle44PXOp-A/edit?usp=sharing



The issues of *integrated water resources management for sustainable development*, basic approaches and practical application at various levels in Central Asia and Afghanistan, cooperation in transboundary basins as well as sustainable water use have been highlighted within the sessions 8, 9 and 10 of the 12th CALP.

The CALP facilitator **Ms. Evgeniya Postnova** further noted that the sustainable use of water resources is one of the central aspects for all countries of the Central Asia region and Afghanistan. The solution to these problems is in the realm of expanded consciousness, not the ordinary, but how often do we move into it? To answer this question, the facilitator gave the group a State of Mind exercise using the online menti-meter tool - <https://www.menti.com/wh2mt53fqs>



Analysis has shown that people tend to think about their immediate environment within a short period of time, but brainstorming and planning helps to overcome this and expand the scope of thinking.

Water Day' sessions were moderated by **Ms. Tais Reznikova**, Manager of the Water Initiatives Support Programme, CAREC. Speakers of the **Session 8 "Integrated approaches in Water Management for sustainable development of the CA countries"** were the next: **Mr. Alexander Nikolayenko**, Regional advisor, GIZ; **Ms. Yekaterina Strikeleva**, USAID WAVE project and **Ms. Anna Inozemtseva**, USAID WAVE project.

Ms. Yekaterina Strikeleva shared her rich knowledge of what basin management and planning is, what are its institutional and financial aspects. She also gave examples of basin management in Central Asia and talked about ways of financing the plans of basin councils on the example of revolving funds and issuing bonds, sharing a useful link: <https://www.carecinstitute.org/publications/research-report-development-of-wash-systems-in-rural-areas-of-the-carec-region/>.



Mr. Alexander Nikolayenko, Regional Adviser, GIZ, spoke in an accessible way how integrated approaches to water resources management, such as IWRM, can enhance sustainable economic development of the region.

Ms. Anna Inozemtseva, USAID WAVE Project, presented to the participants case studies on basin plans, basin agreements and other opportunities for cross-sectoral coordination. Tools such as WEAP and LEAP were also useful.

Speakers of the **Session 9: “Cooperation in Transboundary Basins”** were the next: **Mr. Matus Samel**, Public Policy Expert at The Economist Intelligence Unit’s (EIU) Resources, Climate & Sustainability, and Globalisation & Trade practices and **Ms. Yekaterina Strikeleva**, USAID WAVE project.

Mr. Matus Samel presented the report **“The Blue Peace Index: A Tool for Understanding the Challenges and Opportunities for Improving Transboundary Water Cooperation in Shared Basins”** (Research Results on basins of the Amu Darya and Syrdarya rivers).



Ms. Strikeleva paid much attention to transboundary basin councils and what opportunities their creation presents for countries. She illustrated the theory with case studies from the USAID Smart Waters Project. She also offered the participants a creative task: **“What tools do you think can be used to involve young people in the work of basin councils? And what role do young people play in decision-making in various basin councils today?”**

During the discussion, the participants noted that while young people are little involved in the work of basin councils, they can be a bridge between what is discussed at the meetings and the formation of public opinion. Solving problems, especially on small rivers, is impossible without the full involvement of all water users. Therefore, young people should promote, popularize the decisions made at the basin councils, talk about what problems are being solved, and what needs to be paid attention to, etc.

Speakers of the **Session 10: “Sustainable Water Management”** were: **Ms. Therese Rudebeck**, Representative of the “Economist” analytical journal (EIU), Programme Officer at the Swedish Water House (SWH), SIWI and **Mr. Luc Alber**, Project Officer, Water Footprint Implementation (WFI). **Ms. Teresa Rudebeck** spoke about integrated and multidimensional indicators for assessing freshwater reserves, the UN Global Compact, life cycle analysis and effective use water resources in industry, rural and urban areas. She also shared the STWI guidelines with the members at <https://stwi.se/guidelines/>. **Mr. Luc Albers** explained how water projects are promoting SCP and a green economy. He introduced the concept of “Water Footprint” to the participants and analysed with the group water use in the Syr-Darya and Amu-Darya basins along the entire value chain (based on research results).

During the further discussion, participants were interested in the issue of the water footprint for the production of hydropower and the fact that due to evaporation the water footprint is large, but the solution could be the use of technologies to reduce evaporation from the water surface.

Types of business water risks

- Companies are exposed to risks as a result of water insecurity.

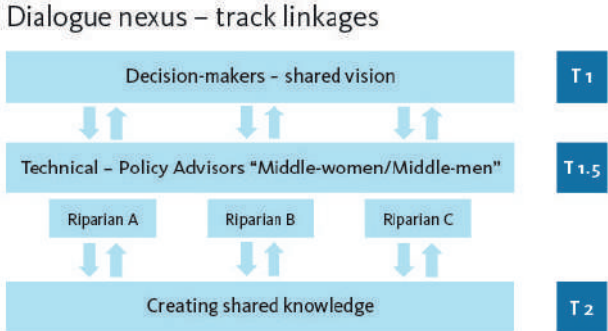


During ***the Session 11: “Water Diplomacy: Regional cooperation on water management”*** a special emphasis was made on the discussion of the vectors of development of Water Diplomacy, Regional Cooperation in the field of Rational Water Use. The session was moderated by **Ms. Tais Reznikova**, Manager of the WIS Programme, CAREC, and attended by **Mr. Kerry Schneider**, Senior Programme Manager, Transboundary Water Cooperation Department, Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI); **Ms. Sogol Jafarzadeh**, Environmental Affairs Adviser, OSCE Secretariat; **Mr. Umidkhon Uzbekov**, National Coordinator CAY4W in Uzbekistan and **Ms. Zhaniya Khaibullina**, National Coordinator CAY4W in Kazakhstan as keynote speakers.



Mr. Kerry Schneider, Senior Programme Manager, Department of Transboundary Water Cooperation, SIWI, spoke about SIWI's Shared Waters Partnership (SWP); SWP Process Support Examples: Dialogue facilitation, Generation of shared knowledge, External actors and opinion-builders. Also, **Mr. Schneider** talked about what water diplomacy is: its definitions, types, features of application and specific application in different basins. *Water diplomacy can help to assess and generate opportunities for cooperation in shared basins and improve water security.*

SIWI: Focus on Strengthening Linkages



Ms. Sogol Jafarzadeh, Environmental Adviser, OSCE Secretariat, highlighted the OSCE's work in water resources management through the prism of water diplomacy and a gender mainstreaming approach to water resources management.

OSCE structure and approach

- 57 participating States
- 16 Field operations in South- Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe, South Caucasus and Central Asia
- Secretariat
 - Conflict Prevention Centre
 - Office for the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
 - Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings
 - Transnational Threats Departments



Mr. Umidkhon Uzbekov, National coordinator of CAY4W in Uzbekistan, presented the work of the network, its initiatives and invited participants to visit the platform (https://instagram.com/cay4water?utm_medium=copy_link).

Ms. Tais Reznikova, Project Manager, Secretariat of the Blue Peace Central Asia High Level Dialogue Platform, CAREC Water Initiatives Support Programme, shared her experience and lessons learned from the implementation of a water diplomacy project of SDC in Central Asia.

In the framework of the final **Session 12: “Women, Water Management and Conflict Prevention”**, Moderator of the session **Ms. Sogol Jafarzadeh**, Environmental Adviser, OSCE Secretariat organized a discussion of the OSCE report “Women, Water Resources Management and Conflict Prevention” presented by **Ms. Giulia Sechi**, Adviser on Gender Issues, the OSCE Secretariat, and **Ms. Tais Reznikova**, CAREC. **Ms. Reznikova** spoke about the mainstreaming of gender issues in water resources management in Central Asia and the assessment of youth involvement in the water sector. **Ms. Giulia Sechi** focused the participants’ attention on the *Gender Approach to Water Resources Management in Central Asia*. She also advised to study the methodology for developing gender plans using the educational resource <https://www.osce.org/ocaaa/465531> (EN/RU).

Promotion of a gender perspective in water governance and water diplomacy given the gender-specific impacts of water policies and the vast potential of the inclusion of gender in this field is vital to more equitable and effective water management. In this light, the OSCE has developed the *Guide on Gender mainstreaming in water governance in Central Asia* for the benefit of water practitioners in the region. The guidance document is available in English and Russian on the OSCE website.

Water Diplomacy and Conflict Prevention - Phase I (2020-2022)

Output:

- Increased **capacity of stakeholders and institutions**
- **Enhanced knowledge** of the role of transboundary water management in conflict resolution



Recent and Upcoming Activities:

- Three-day moderated online simulation workshop on Transboundary River Basin Agreements [3-5 February 2021]
- E-learning course on water diplomacy [in partnership with **Geneva Water Hub**];
- One-week training in Vienna on "water diplomacy and transboundary water management in a changing world";
- Toolkit on "**Digitalization in the Water Sector**";
- Series of panel sessions, exhibitions and side-events on water diplomacy, including **CALP Water Day**

Women, Water Management and Conflict Prevention – (2014 – onwards)

Implemented by OCEEA in collaboration with the OSCE Programme for Gender Issues

Overall objective:

to foster the incorporation of gender perspectives in water governance and the participation of women in conflict resolution and water management at all levels

Regional outreach: Central Asia and Afghanistan



Summing up the day was carried out by **Ms. Postnova** in the form of a free discussion and exercise on a menti-meter (<https://www.menti.com/teiz4xeboy>), devoted to the analysis of the concept of "Green Economy" and its differences from the Economy of the Vicious Circle.

Day 5: 24 September, 2021

Theme of the day: *The role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in green development and the introduction of sustainable consumption and production.*

The final day of the Leadership programme was opened by the CALP facilitator **Ms. Evgeniya Postnova**, who invited the participants to formulate their impressions of the 12th CALP using the menti-meter resource <https://www.menti.com/8s6iz8s32f>

Then facilitator moved on to Session 13: *"The Role of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Green Business Associations in the Development of Sustainable Consumption and Production at the Local Level"*. The Session moderator **Ms. Tatyana Shakirova**, CALP project manager, CAREC described the session work order and presented the speakers from NGO and green business sectors.

The first presentation was made by **Ms. Svetlana Mogilyuk**, Chairperson of the Eco-Forum of the Republic of Kazakhstan and a member of the CAREC Board, which revealed the role of NGOs in the development of civic initiatives in Central Asia. Speaker presented many vivid examples from the experience of the NGO "ECOM" and Eco-Forum, including actions, campaigns, fairs organized by citizens, including youth. As a result of the speech, a lively discussion took place about the role of eco-subbotniks, which in future may have the opposite effect, since they do not work with the causes of garbage pollution and accustom some people to the fact that others will clean up after them? Ms. Mogilyuk was also asked to share a brochure or infographic on how simple actions in everyday life can improve the environmental situation.

The next presentation was made by **Mr. Zhanibek Mukhanov**, manager of the network of collection and processing of plastics “PlastNet” (<https://www.plastnet.kz/>). Expert presented the experience of the recycling campaign during the presentation **“Circular Economy in Plastic Waste Management”**. The participants’ attention was drawn to the example of the installation of the first fannomat in Kazakhstan (Almaty, in the Dostyk Plaza department store). **Mr. Mukhanov** noted that Operator ROP LLP in Kazakhstan plans to further purchase fannomats, including for glass containers. They also discussed the difficulties associated with the delivery of plastic to the reception centers in Almaty.

The third presentation “Sustainable Development in the Aspect of Innovative Solutions” by **Ms. Maya Suyunchaliyeva**, alumni of the 11th CALP, Researcher and Volunteer Coordinator of the Ban Ki-moon Institute for Sustainable Development at KazNU. The activist presented interesting results of work in the field of ecotourism and introduced the participants to the **“TOURISMQAZ” Mobile App**. It was discussed with participants, whether there is a Regulation in the legislation of Kazakhstan, which lists the criteria by which it is possible to determine whether a tourist facility is ECO logical? The participants were interested in such practical questions as: *is there an application-map of eco-tourist objects (attractions), where you can find data on geolocation, public transport routes, opening hours of the object, ticket prices, etc.* They also asked how they plan to promote the application, and what is the “niche” of TOURSIMQAZ and how it differs from tripadvisor and other platforms.

After a short break, several more speeches took place, including the following presentations:

Ms. Galina Artukhina, Executive Director of the Kazakhstan Business Council for Sustainable Development (KBS/SD), presented **the Ecosystem Approach and new initiatives of KBS/SD in Kazakhstan**. The expert noted that when collecting plastic, it must be remembered that recycling contaminated plastic requires a large volume of water and antiseptics to clean up. A good recycled material is pure plastic! The same situation is with waste paper. **Ms. Artukhina** advised the participants to pay attention to the online platform **“Waste Exchange”**, available at the link: <https://waste-ex.kz/novosti/birzha-othodov-i-vtorichnyh-resursov-rabotaet-uzhe-10-dney.html?lang=ru>

Ms. Pakizat Saylaubekova, project manager, Public Fund “Greenup.kz” presented the experience of the public environmental movement “Recycle BIRGE” (of which she is co-founder) in raising public awareness.

Ms. Lyudmila Petrova, Director of the NGO “Angel”, Kazakhstan, spoke about the initiative of the residents of the apartment building, who independently solved the problems with heating the building and completely changed it in accordance with the principles of sustainable development. During the discussion, issues of energy efficiency in the housing and utilities sector in the Republic of Kazakhstan, the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the role of NGOs as an “engine” of new approaches and technologies were discussed.

At the end of the morning session, the CALP facilitator **Mrs. Evgenia Postnova** worked with the participants to get their feedback (*Annex 4 - Report of the 12th CALP Facilitator*). Each of them was invited to fill the shed placed on the platform www.surveio.com (the link - <https://www.surveio.com/survey/d/R7I8A0M9E3R1C7W7S>). A separate link was provided for English speaking participants - <https://www.surveio.com/survey/d/L2L5G4S4S9J2Y7U1V>.

The results of the questionnaire analysis are available here: <https://my.surveio.com/A3M9Z6K3T3J7N6M2S3E4/results> Participants shared their insights gained from conducting the 12th CALP. They demonstrated a significantly increased understanding of SCP, green economy and circular economy concepts, but also applied these concepts concretely to themselves and their own leadership capacities.

The 12th CALP concluded with an exciting Closing Ceremony and Awarding of Certificates to 38 participants from five Central Asian countries and Afghanistan, which took place on the final day of the 12th CALP. The Closing ceremony was attended by **Mr. Rati Japaridze**, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan; **Dr. Zinaida Fadeeva**, Head of Sustainable Consumption and Production SWITCH-Asia SCP and **Ms. Tatyana Shakirova**, CALP programme manager – on behalf of CAREC Executive Director **Mr. Zafar Makhmudov**, participants of the 12th CALP and partners. **All participants of the 12th CALP were awarded with special certificates for their active participation.**



In addition, on September 26, as a follow-up of the 12th CALP, **CAREC in cooperation with DKU conducted an offline meeting with participants of the 3-days-DKU training and offline certification ceremony.**





LEADERSHIP STORIES OF THE CALP ALUMNI: 2010-2021

In 2021 CAREC in cooperation with the OSCE PR-specialist **Ms. Akbota Sheryazdan** prepared a publication «**CALP Alumni leadership stories**», which was conducted within the framework of the 12th CALP expert. It was aimed to draw public attention to post-COVID-2019 development, environmental issues, personal responsibility, facilitate outreach and awareness-raising as well as to educate and motivate a new generation of leaders.

Collection of leadership stories of the CALP graduates in the period of 2010-2021 was important for CAREC and partners supporting CALP for 12 years (*Annex 5. PR-report of the 12th CALP, Annex 6. List of mass-media, Annex 7. List of publications (Media-monitoring)*). As a part of a survey, the leaders shared their personal opinions and lessons learned about post-COVID development, memories about the Leadership Programme, and offered recommendations to the future participants of the CALP (*Annex 8. “CALP Alumni leadership stories”*).

The event **brought together more than 60 international, regional and national speakers as well as about 38 participants from 5 countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan** – representatives of state bodies, green business, civil society organizations, working in the field of SCP, green economy, resource efficient and circular economy. Furthermore, at the request of partners from DKU, the 12th CALP was attended by 1st - 2nd year students of the MA in Integrated Water Resources Management.

Within the five-day event participants were introduced to key concepts of SCP, green economy, and circular economy by partners and international experts from international organisations and programs such as the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan, EU SWITCH ASIA SCP Facility, OSCE Secretariat in Vienna, European Union Delegation to Kazakhstan, Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, EIU, GERES, GIZ, IFAS, ICSD, SIWI, UNEP, UNESCO, USAID WAVE project, World Bank, WFI, NGOs, green business, CALP alumni network organizing Committee, and etc.

This year, **the 12th CALP agenda covered a wide range of issues**, including sustainable consumption and production, circular/green economy, water management, water diplomacy, IWRM, gender, mentorship, climate change, sustainable energy, NEXUS approach, impact on food security and safety, access to environmental information on the CACIP Platform, as well as the transition to a low- carbon and resource-efficient circular economy, etc.

About 370 participants from environmental, water, energy, non-governmental and academic sectors of the Central Asian region have been trained within the Leadership Programme over the period 2010-2021. Today, CALP alumni make meaningful contributions to advance regional cooperation and sustainability issues in various sectors across the region.

IN RELATION TO THE GOALS, THE MAIN RESULTS OF THE 12TH CALP ARE THE FOLLOWING:

Outputs:

- ☑ Shared information and knowledge on SCP as tools, to foster transition to green resource-efficient economy and interlinked with low-carbon strategies;
- ☑ Built capacities of the 12th CALP' participants for implementing SCP and enhancing policy dialogue at national and regional level and increasing the role in promoting of SCP and green economy;
- ☑ Shared European and Asian good practices on SCP and scaling up it in Central Asia and Afghanistan;

- ☑ Discussed management of water and energy resources and their significant impact on food supply and security, ecosystem services and biodiversity conservation;
- ☑ Strengthened cooperation and networking of young environmental leaders and CALP alumni from governments, NGO and green business on SCP;
- ☑ Increased collective leadership capacity among participants, with a focus on personal development, systems analysis, and concrete planning of sustainability initiatives within the context of strategic COVID-19 responses.

Outcomes:

- ☑ Strengthened a base for the following regulatory framework and business-related environment;
- ☑ Envisaged replication mechanisms and established a base for the best practices developed in the past sharing and exchange between and inside the Central Asian countries and Afghanistan;
- ☑ Strengthened the action-oriented regional platform for going beyond preparatory activities (studies, etc.) and testing new approaches;
- ☑ Provided support of implementation of the SCP policies at the national level, demonstration of results of the grant projects and support of the dialogue with stakeholders in Central Asia and Afghanistan.

We believe that the knowledge our partners have shared will immensely help our young leaders in responding to global, regional, and national environmental challenges. **Partners' support and presence helped to make the 12th CALP a great success.**

In this regard, **CAREC team and the 12th CALP participants would like to express the deepest gratitude to our partners and donors** – OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan, EU SWITCH ASIA, SCP Facility, OSCE Secretariat, UN Environment, and World Bank for their assistance and support in organizing the 12th CALP, as well as to its participants for their efforts to improve personal, interpersonal and professional skills, for active involvement in building collective leadership, regional cooperation and in solving environmental problems with joint efforts.

Today we have a regional CALP alumni' network consisting of **370 graduates from five countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan**, and we hope the stories of leadership from our alumni have exemplified and inspired new young leaders for the regional cooperation and commitment to environmental values for sustainable development of the region.



1. 12th CALP list of participants
<https://calp.carececo.org/mobile/list-of-the-12th-calp-participants-2/>
2. 12th CALP list of speakers
<https://calp.carececo.org/mobile/speaker-2/>
3. 12th CALP agenda
<https://calp.carececo.org/mobile/agenda/>
4. Report of the 12th CALP facilitator
5. PR-report of the 12th CALP
6. List of mass-media
7. List of publications (media-monitoring)
8. Publications «CALP Alumni success stories»
9. Presentations and pictures: <https://gofile-3378496944.cz2.quickconnect.to/fsdownload/gp78ehh4t/CALP%202021>