



Contents

1	Greetings
2	Central Asian International Environmental Forum 2018
4	Opening of CAREC-TIIAME Innovations and Scientific Research Cluster
5	News
8	News of the UzWaterAware project
9	News of the Nexus and CAMP4ASB projects
10	News of the Smart Waters project
11	CAREC faces
14	New publications

1 Greetings

Dear readers!

The second quarter of 2018 was marked by the successful Central Asian International Environmental Forum. The event is held on the initiative of CAREC with the support of the governments of Central Asian countries, CAREC is the secretariat of CAIEF.

This year the forum was held on June 5-8 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. It was held for the second time, the first CAIEF was held in 2017 in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. The purpose of these forums is to strengthen cooperation in the field of environmental protection and sustainable development, both at the regional and cross-sectoral levels.

The countries of Central Asia have similar environmental problems, which are mostly transboundary in nature, such as reducing biological diversity, deteriorating water and air quality, degrading arable land and pastures, generating solid household and industrial waste, as well as risks of climate vulnerability and natural disasters. In this regard, it is nec-

essary to recognize the importance of regional cooperation. As noted in various studies, the potential of the partnership of the countries of Central Asia is assessed very highly.

Separately, I would like to note that within the forum, there was an official opening of CAREC-TIIAME Innovations and Scientific Research Cluster on the issues of water resources management. This is the first centre of knowledge on water issues in Central Asia. The main objectives of the cluster: the transfer of experience in the implementation of the projects, scientific research, as well as capacity development. Emphasis will be placed on practical skills: presentation, negotiation, work with documentation, preparation of scientific publications. In addition, the tasks of the cluster will include the search for new approaches in the financing of science. Involvement of private investors, international grants and government funding.

A lot of CAREC activities were carried out within the framework of projects, in this quarterly newsletter we tried to touch upon each one.



We hope that we will be able to fully inform our readers about the efforts of CAREC to preserve and restore our common environment!

*Dr Iskandar Abdullaev,
CAREC Executive Director*

2 Central Asian International Environmental Forum 2018

400 participants, 50 international and regional organizations, 18 reports and more than 70 presentations!

On June 5-8 the Central Asian International Environmental Forum (CAIEF) was held in Tashkent, where the issues of strengthening cooperation in the field of environmental protection and sustainable development were discussed at the regional level.

The forum was organized by the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Ecology and Environmental Protection and the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia with the support of UNDP, European Union, World Bank, USAID and OSCE.

The forum became the second in a row. The first event was held in 2017 in Ashgabat (Turkmenistan); it is initiated and organized by the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia with the support of the governments of Central Asia.

About 400 people from various countries participated in CAIEF 2018. Including the representatives of more than 50 international and regional organizations.



The following events were organized within the forum in Tashkent: 6 plenary and 9 parallel sessions on 3 main topics – conservation of biodiversity and development of a network of protected natural areas, integrated management of solid domestic waste, renewable energy and energy efficiency. The discussions on main topics included 3 directions: the legal and institutional framework; scientific cooperation and best practices; public-private partnership.

The forum became a platform for the first specialized International exhibition “Green Ecology Technologies Central Asia – GETCA 2018” and for the Business Forum on Green Ecology Technologies.

Also, International Conference on “Joint Actions to Mitigate the Consequences of the Aral Sea Catastrophe: New Approaches, Innovative Solutions, Investments” was held within CAIEF 2018.

The forum allowed informing the participants on the trends at the global, regional and national levels. Participants also explored opportunities to strengthen regional cooperation and formulated joint actions in the context of achieving SDGs for Central Asia.

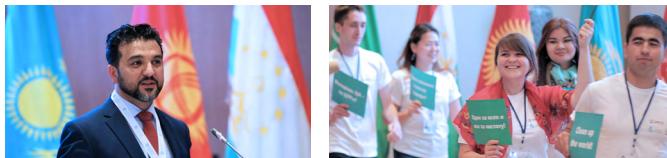
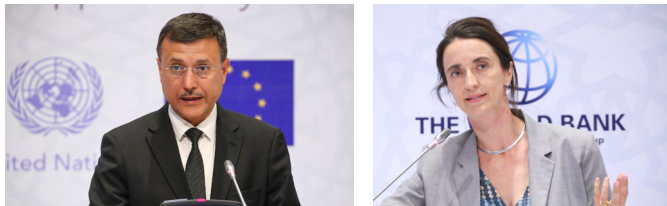
3

Central Asian International Environmental Forum 2018

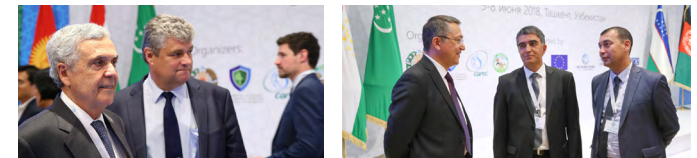
Read more in the materials published on CAREC website:

- [CAIEF detailed review: figures and facts](#)
- [Results of the Aral conference](#)
- [Opening of the forum](#)
- [The first day of CAIEF 2018: Conservation of biodiversity](#)
- [The second day of CAIEF 2018: Solid Waste Management and Renewable Energy Sources](#)
- [Closing ceremony](#)
- [How to mainstream technology in climate action plans? CTCN workshop in Uzbekistan](#)
- [Investments to strengthen water, energy and food security in Central Asia were discussed at CAIEF 2018](#)

Download photos



Download presentations

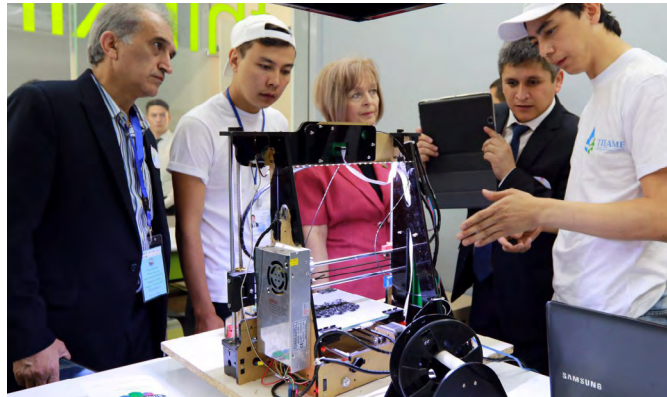


Opening of CAREC-TIIAME Innovations and Scientific Research Cluster

On June 8 the Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers (TI-IAME) hosted the opening ceremony of Innovation and Scientific Research Cluster in the field of water management, the first in Central Asia. The cluster is established with the support of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia.



“The purpose of this cluster is to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of development projects. By creating a transfer of know-how to students and young researchers. The popularization of scientific activities among young people and development of critical thinking skills” said the TIIAME rector professor Uktam Umurzakov.



The opening ceremony was attended by the Minister of Water Resources of Uzbekistan Shavkat Xamraev, Minister of Higher and Secondary Education of Uzbekistan Inom Mazhidov, Minister of innovative development of Uzbekistan Ibrokhim Abdurahmonov, as well as more than a hundred members of CAIEF 2018. Within the framework of which there was an opening.

CAREC Executive Director Dr Abdullayev explained that the cluster is called upon to become the centre of attraction for scientists, practitioners and decision-makers.

[Read more](#)

Read more about the activities of the Cluster Innovation and Scientific Research CAREC-TIIAME

- [Geographic Information System and Remote Sensing: summer school in Tashkent](#)
- [The workshop in Tashkent united climatologists and water specialists](#)





Delegation from the Central Asia studied the experience of water cooperation in the Senegal River Basin

Within the Blue Peace Central Asia High-Level Dialogue Platform, representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Water Ministries of Central Asian countries took part in a working visit to study the experience of the Senegal River Basin Development Authority.

[Read more](#)



Results of the “Innovative Service Academy” II phase - new specialties in Tashkent college

The project allowed introducing new demanded specialties into the educational programme of the Tashkent Professional College of Information Technologies: “Repair of digital TVs” and “Repair of mobile communication devices”.

[Read more](#)



Pak-Afghan meeting of the Kabul river basin stakeholders was held in Almaty

The event was held within the project “Understanding our Joint Water-Climate Change Challenge and Exploring Policy Options for Cooperation on the Kabul River Basin.”

[Read more](#)



Migration, remittances and climate resilience in Tajikistan

The results of the research project on migration, remittances, and climate resilience in arid and semi-arid regions of Tajikistan were presented in Dushanbe.

[Read more](#)





CAREC took part in the international conference “Water for Sustainable Development”

On 20-22 June 2018 an International High-Level Conference on the International Decade for Action «Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028, was held in Dushanbe.

[Read more](#)

Transboundary water cooperation discussed at the Astana Economic Forum

A separate high-level panel session was devoted to challenges related to access to water “Water and peace. How to promote transboundary water cooperation?”

[Read more](#)

UN General Assembly adopted a draft resolution on cooperation with the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea

[Read more](#)



Selection of participants for the 9th CALP is over!

This year, CALP will be closely linked to the Central Asian International Environmental Forum which was held on June 5-8 in Tashkent. The program will reflect the main focus of CAIEF 2018 - strengthening cooperation on environment and sustainable development in Central Asia.

[Read more](#)



The 40th meeting of CAREC Board of Governors held in Tashkent

CAREC Board of Governors is the management body of the organization. The board includes representatives of the public sector and non-governmental organizations of Central Asian countries, as well as representatives of international organizations.

[Read more](#)





- [CAREC initiatives in the field of water management were presented in Tashkent](#)
- [Dissemination of Kazakhstan's experience in the safe and integrated use of hydropower installations](#)
- [21st meeting of the Joint Task Force on the Health Aspects of Air Pollution](#)
- [CAREC met national partners in Tajikistan](#)
- [Environmental impact assessment discussed in Tashkent](#)
- [CAREC attended Ministerial Roundtable on forest landscape restoration](#)

8

News of the UzWaterAware project

- [The Earth Protection Day: drawing and essay contest for children](#)
- [Media tour to the Aral Sea](#)
- [A new turn to the development of environmental journalism in Uzbekistan](#)
- [The renewal of the dialogue between public organizations, the media and the State Ecology Committee of Uzbekistan](#)
- [Awarding journalists within the UzWaterAware project](#)
- [The first eco-KVN in Central Asia took place in Uzbekistan](#)
- [Meeting with a foreign expert on the mid-term evaluation of the project “Sustainable Management of Water Resources in Rural Areas of Uzbekistan”](#)



The project is funded by the European Union



News of the Nexus and CAMP4ASB projects

nexus



- The first meeting of the Regional Working Group on the development of a new Action Program to assist the countries of the

Aral Sea Basin

- Investments to strengthen water, energy and food security in Central Asia were discussed at CAIEF 2018
- Water-Energy-Food Nexus was discussed at the Conference “Water for Sustainable Development”
- Ten project proposals based on water, energy and food security approach discussed in Turkmenistan

The project is funded by the European Union



- Competition for journalists from Central Asia
- Training series:



CAMP4ASB
Climate Adaptation & Mitigation
Program for Aral Sea Basin
CENTRAL ASIA

Applications of methods of hydrological modeling

Processing and modeling of climate data

- CAMP4ASB project to support Central Asian universities in the development of educational modules on hydrological and climate modelling
- Training on climate change for journalists of Central Asia was held in Almaty
- How to mainstream technology in climate action plans? CTCN workshop in Uzbekistan

The project is funded by the World Bank



- [Contribution to the achievement of SDG4 “Quality Education”](#)
- [Isfara river – river of friendship](#)
- [Demonstration tour to Kazakhstan part of the Aral-Syrdarya basin](#)



- [Kyzylorda hosted the conference on strengthening the cooperation in Aral Sea region](#)
- [Representatives of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan discussed water sharing in the Chu-Talas basin at a conference in Taraz](#)
- [The first meetings of the Smart Waters project on the Tajik side of the Isfana River](#)
- [Basin planning on transboundary rivers Isfana and Aksuu - the first training](#)

na and Aksuu - the first training

- [Small Basin Council of the Isfara river \(Kyrgyz part\) is going to open a demonstration site on the efficient use of water resources](#)
- [The status of the transboundary waters in the Shu-Talas river basin was discussed in Astana](#)
- [Regional training on «The institutional framework for the implementation of IWRM principles in the field: Basin Councils»](#)
- [USAID and CAREC met with national partners of Smart Waters project in Kyrgyzstan](#)



Проект финансируется USAID



I was born in the South-Kazakhstan region, in Shymkent, but grew up in Almaty. Back at school I started to volunteer, passed internships in public organizations, the university was active, I participated in organizing events, conferences inside and outside the university.

So, I decided to build a career in the field of public non-profit organizations. I've collected the recommendations and I went to work for the Eurasia Foundation (EFCA) after graduation. Then I went to a larger project in ARGO.

Of course, at the moment, I get the most interesting work experience in CAREC. This place is the focus of activity. As in the plan of activities, and with regard to people. Colleagues try to work together in all contiguous topics, and they don't forget about self-development.

It was here that I developed the ability to keep the "multitasking" mode. As well as a habit of thinking bigger and a few steps

forward, the pace of work does not allow to grow lazy. This influenced my approach to personal matters. You put tasks, terms, and getting out of the plan, you find other options flexibly and quickly. Useful skills, I believe.

But most of all in my work I like people. Before the first tests of career counseling, I knew that I needed communication. Colleagues, partners, guests, all around help you in one way or another. They give impetus, motivate, simply by their presence, sharing their experience and energy. Growth among the specialists gathered here is very pleasing to me.

And, of course, the relevance of the issues



*Aigerim Assemova,
Environmental Management
Programme Assistant*

discussed here helps to understand that there are indifferent around, and you can spend your life on something really useful, like, for example, searching for solutions on environmental issues.

I am pleased with the versatility of CAREC's activities. For example, I work in the program "Environmental Management". Our program includes broader issues such as the interrelationship of water, energy, food, wetland research, biodiversity, ecosystem services, desertification.

We also try to transfer our experience, we place online courses and trainings in the open access.

12 CAREC faces

I always dreamt of leadership positions, where together with a team I can work and inspire a wide range of people to do well. I am never a big fan of positions or titles, however, the work and its impact on the society and people's life is the utmost important thing for me.

By profession I am a Water Policy and Management Expert. I do research on Transboundary Waters issues, particular focusing on Afghanistan waters and its relations with neighboring countries.

Few years ago I've participated in CAREC Central Asian Leadership Programme on Environment for Sustainable Development. Well, CALP was the best experience in my life – and its timing for me was perfect. I was coming fresh from the USA in 2016, and I very much needed to connect to the people in Central Asia, and this platform has changed so many things. It is the best platform for

learning, most importantly networking with water and environmental experts in Central Asia and Afghanistan.

Leader means selfless – whoever experiences and shows selflessness is a leader for me. The world today needs leaders who are devoted to their people, and who value others' interests more than their own.

Afghanistan and Central Asian countries share so many things like water (the Amu Darya), environment, trade, culture, and even language with some of the CA countries like Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan. For a better and stable Afghanistan and Central Asia both sides



*Idrees Malyar,
Smart Waters Project
Coordinator in Afghanistan*

need collaborate and work together.

CAREC, currently in Afghanistan is working via Smart Waters Project – funded by the USAID. The project is mainly working to support development of a system that addresses the knowledge disconnect in the region, build working relations among water management specialists in Central Asian (CA) countries and Afghanistan, and demonstrate the potential of basin approach to water resource management and cooperation with academic institutions.

13 CAREC faces

I was born in Astana, the present capital of Kazakhstan. Back then it wasn't a capital and it was called Tselinograd. In my childhood, I dreamed of becoming a flight attendant. I liked how they look, beautiful and strict, besides they travel a lot! I can say that my childhood dream has come true to some extent - the business style and the opportunity to travel are present in my life.

By profession I am an economist. I have more than 10 years of work experience. The profession of an economist is applied in every field, so I managed to work in various fields: transport, health, international trade, and the last two years in the field of green economy and environmental protection.

I started working in the direction of the "green" economy in 2016, under the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan. My job was to coordinate the interaction between the OECD and the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of

Kazakhstan. For me, this direction was new, but very interesting and important.

In CAREC, I work as the Project Management Coordinator. My role is to create a systematic approach to enhance project coordination in order to transfer knowledge and lessons from one to another and improve project management in order to ensure the quality of their results. I consider projects not separately, but in a complex. I find my task both challenging and interesting. I like the opportunity to independently build the system to see the whole picture and make conclusions for the strategic development of the organization.

In CAREC I appreciate the opportunity to



*Bakhyt Bayanova,
Project Management
Coordinator*

learn and grow. The organization encourages the constant development of its employees, sending them to trainings in accordance with their professional needs, and independently organizes trainings. I would especially like to note the development through interaction and communication with employees among themselves. The staff of CAREC consists of professional and highly intelligent employees, who also possess many talents, like singing, drawing or excellent sense of humor. There is so much to learn from them.

14 New publications

- A series of publications dedicated to Smart Waters project:

[Smart Waters project. Enhancing regional cooperation](#)

[Component 1. Capacity building & academic exchange.](#)

[Component 2. Networking and cooperation network development](#)

[Component 3. IWRM promotion & support, laws & regulations](#)

[Component 3. IWRM promotion & support, technical assistance](#)



- CAMP4ASB project publications:

[The public-private partnership mechanism in the energy. Central Asia](#)

[Climate change: melting glaciers of Central Asia](#)

[How climate change affects rivers hydrology in Central Asia?](#)



- [Newsletter of the Nexus project](#)

- Series of publications prepared by CAREC Environment and Health Programme:

[Environment and health](#)

[Air Quality, Climate Change and Human Health](#)



carececo.org
info@carececo.org