



Proposed Concept Note

Fostering Resilience: Enhancing Regional Cooperation in Central Asia's Agricultural Sector to Combat Climate Change Impacts **Side-event | December, 9th 2023 | 15:00 - 16:30 | Hybrid mode**

Venue: Central Asian Pavilion, 28th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP-28), Expo Centre Dubai, Dubai, The United Arab Emirates

Background:

Central Asia's agricultural sector plays a pivotal role in the region's economy, food security, and livelihoods of millions of people. However, the sector is increasingly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, including erratic weather patterns, water scarcity, soil degradation, and the shift in pests and diseases. These challenges threaten food production, disrupt supply chains, and jeopardize the well-being of rural communities.

To address these challenges, it is crucial to develop long-term strategies and action plans, update and monitor NDCs, assess agriculture-related GHG emissions, and implement strategies to decrease emissions from the agri-food system. Additionally, promoting climate resilience in the region requires adaptation measures to address changing climate patterns, such as extreme water events like droughts and floods, as well as other economic, social, and environmental shocks and disasters. This involves integrating climate measures and DRR actions into national policies, strategies, and planning.

Central Asian nations share common climate-related challenges and natural resources like rivers, making regional cooperation imperative. By fostering collaboration among these countries, as well as with international organizations, research institutions, and private sector stakeholders, innovative solutions can be developed, and best practices can be shared. Regional cooperation allows for the pooling of expertise, resources, and knowledge, creating a more robust foundation for climate-resilient agriculture in Central Asia.

By fostering resilience and promoting sustainable agricultural practices, Central Asian countries can secure their food systems, support rural communities, and contribute meaningfully to global climate change mitigation efforts. FAO's work extends beyond technical expertise, encompassing collaboration with member nations, farmers, academia, civil society, and the private sector to establish partnerships and mobilize support for climate-resilient and low-emission agrifood systems.

Objective

This event is a response to the growing climate challenges faced by Central Asian countries and aims to facilitate discussions and collaborative efforts that enhance the agriculture sector's resilience. The event will delve into various aspects of climate-resilient agriculture, including the adoption of sustainable farming practices, the use of climate-smart technologies, policy frameworks supporting climate resilience, and community and stakeholder engagement. By highlighting successful initiatives from different countries within the region and beyond, the event aims to inspire action, and promote the widespread adoption of policies practices that support climate action and enhance agricultural resilience while contributing to low emissions economic development.



By facilitating knowledge exchange, collaborative initiatives, and policy discussions, the event aims to:

- **Share Best Practices:** Share successful strategies, technologies, and innovations implemented in different Central Asian countries to enhance agricultural resilience against climate change. Highlight case studies and real-world examples that have proven effective in mitigating climate-related risks.
- **Strengthen Collaboration:** Foster partnerships and collaborative projects among Central Asian nations, international organizations, research institutions, and private sector stakeholders. Encourage joint research, data sharing, and the development of region-specific climate adaptation solutions.
- **Policy Alignment:** Facilitate discussions on policy frameworks and regulatory measures that support climate-resilient agriculture that contributes to lower emissions. Identify policy gaps, harmonize standards, and promote the adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices at the regional level.
- **Capacity Building:** Discuss capacity-building initiatives, training programs, and knowledge transfer opportunities aimed at enhancing the knowledge, awareness and skills of farmers, agricultural practitioners, and policymakers. Explore avenues for technical assistance and skill development in climate-resilient agricultural techniques.
- **Resource Mobilization:** Explore funding mechanisms, international grants, and investment opportunities to support climate-resilient and climate-smart agricultural projects in Central Asia. Encourage collaboration with financial institutions and donors to secure funding for innovative and sustainable agricultural practices.
- **Promote Climate-Resilient Technologies:** Showcase and promote cutting-edge technologies, precision agriculture tools, and sustainable farming practices that enhance agricultural productivity while reducing environmental impact and emissions. Encourage the adoption of climate-resilient crop varieties and livestock breeds.

Format of the event:

Venue: Central Asian Pavilion, 28th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP-28), Expo Centre Dubai, Dubai, The United Arab Emirates

Format of the event: Hybrid

Zoom: XXXX

Zoom access code: XXXX

Conference ID: XXXX

Meeting time and date: 9 December 2023 | **15:00 - 16:30** |



Target audience, language and duration

The event will bring together GEF, GCF focal points, UNFCCC NFP, key experts and specialists of the countries in Central Asia, international organizations.

The meeting will be held in **English** with simultaneous translation in **English/Russian**. Duration of the session is 1.5 hrs.

Proposed Agenda

Central Asia’s climate finance synergy: Unlocking GEF/GCF opportunities with FAO support

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Time	Session
15:00 – 15:10	Opening Remarks Viorel Gutu, Sub-regional Coordinator for Central Asia, FAO
15:10 – 15:25	CACILM2 – regional project in Central Asia Makhmud Shaumarov, Regional Program Coordinator for CACILM2 project
15:25- 15:35	Video about the project “CACILM2 “ Sustainable nature resources management in Central Asian countries - YouTube
15:35- 15:50	GEF regional program “Central Asia Water and Land Nexus (CAWLN) for Ecosystem Restoration, Improved Natural Resource Management and Increased Resilience” Kaan Basaran, REU-GEF Support Specialist, FAO
15:50 – 16:10	Moderator: Evetta Zenina, Natural Resources Officer, FAO Panel Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Mergen Yusupov, Deputy Head of the Department on coordination of the international environmental cooperation and projects of the Ministry of the environmental protection of Turkmenistan - Mr Muhibullo Djunaydov, Director of Projects Investment and Implementation Center of Committee and Environmental Protection in



	Tajikistan - Mr Jakhongir Talipov, GCF Focal Point and Head of International Relations Department in Uzbekistan - TBD Kazakhstan - TBD Kyrgyzstan
16:10- 16:20	Examples of the regional cooperation in CAREC, TBD
16:20 – 16:30	Wrap-up and closing remarks