

## United Nations Development Programme



COUNTRY: TAJIKISTAN

## INITIATION PLAN

<b>Project Title:</b>	<b>Policy Action for Climate Security in Central Asia</b>
<b>Expected UNDAF/CP Outcome(s):</b>	UNDAF Outcome 6: People in Tajikistan are more resilient to natural and human-made disasters benefiting from improved policy and operational frameworks for environmental protection and sustainable management of natural resources
<b>Expected CPD Output(s):</b>	Output 6.2. Strengthened institutional frameworks and capacities for disaster risk management and emergency preparedness, conflict prevention, sustainable natural resource management and environmental protection, mine action.
<b>Initiation Plan Start/End Dates:</b>	07 December 2020 – 06 May 2022
<b>Implementing Partner:</b>	UNDP Tajikistan
<b>Responsible Parties:</b>	Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan

## Brief Description

Regional “Policy action for climate security in Central Asia” project aims to enhance policy action for climate security in Central Asia through supporting more robust and coherent climate change action and increasing public awareness. It targets Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan and will be spearheaded by UNDP Kyrgyzstan, which will work closely with Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. The project will feed into broader HMG efforts including the regional FCDO climate programme and will contribute to stronger COP26 commitments.

This will be achieved via working on following three overarching outputs:

1. Enhanced technical, political economy and climate risk sensitivity analysis and scientific data available to national climate change decision makers;
2. Countries step up engagement in COP 26 and advocate for more coherent, risk informed climate change policies;
3. Increased public awareness and advocacy for locally appropriate, climate change actions.

Programme Period:	2016-2021	Total resources required:	USD 200,801.00
Atlas Award ID:	00132513	Total allocated resources:	USD 200,801.00
Output ID:	00124991	In-kind Contributions:	N/A
Gender Marker:	GEN 1		

Agreed by UNDP Country Office in Tajikistan:

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## I. PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS

The Central Asian countries remain vulnerable and unprepared to climate change. Annually, temperatures have risen by 0.5 degrees Celsius over the last three decades and are forecasted to increase by 2.0 to 6.5 degrees by 2100 (IPCC, 2018). The sectors most at risk are agriculture, energy and water resources, with women disproportionately affected, particularly in rural areas.

Social, economic and institutional factors are increasing sensitivity to climate change in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, including reliance on natural resources (75% of cultivated area relied on irrigation for Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and 90% for Uzbekistan; hydropower accounts for more than 90% of electricity production for Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and 12% for Uzbekistan; non-hydro power generation depends almost exclusively on coal or imported/nationally available fossil fuels (e.g. natural gas, which reserves are shrinking), aging infrastructure (energy losses reach up to 20% and water losses in irrigation averages 48%), unsustainable water (irrigation and safe drinking) and land management (aggravating degradation and desertification), reliance on migrant remittances, rural poverty and low adaptive capacities.

Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan ratified the Paris Agreement respectively in 2019, 2017 and 2018. Similar to other Central Asian states the targeted three countries have not been active in climate advocacy or in gaining skills and experience in renewable energy potential. These three countries will update their Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation Plans in 2020 and early 2021 and are drawing on global NDC support programmes. The region lacks robust, coherent climate and energy policies and common institutional platforms in developing common climate positions, prioritizing actions, and delivering advocacy. Yet, COVID-19 induced social, economic and political developments create an opening for potential to learn from each other on joint adaptation and mitigation priorities and implementation strategies. More regional dialogue is required to create synergies and complementarities across such actions as GCF Readiness programmes, experience sharing, innovation and knowledge management.

The project's **objective is** to enhance policy action for climate security in Central Asia through supporting more robust and coherent climate change action and increasing public awareness. It targets Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan and will be spearheaded by UNDP Kyrgyzstan, which will work closely with Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.

Countries are at various stages of action to implement the Paris Agreement agenda; Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan ratified the Paris agreement respectively in 2019, 2017 and 2018, and similarly to other Central Asian states have not been active in climate advocacy or in gaining skills and experience in renewable energy potential. The three countries will strengthen their Nationally Determined Contributions and National Adaptation Plans in 2020 and early 2021 and are drawing on global NDC support programmes and the EU-funded sub-regional project 'Climate Change and Resilience in Central Asia'.

The project will contribute to enhanced climate change policies, to be reflected in the countries' commitments under the UNFCCC at COP26, which will reduce conflict, promote energy/food and climate security, stability and resilience to climate change risks. Key outputs of the project will be enhanced technical, political economy and climate risk sensitivity analysis and scientific data available to national climate change decision makers; and target countries step up engagement in COP 26 and advocate for more coherent, risk informed climate change.

### **Output 1: Enhanced technical, political economy and climate risk sensitivity analysis and scientific data available to national climate change decision makers**

Under this component, UNDP will attract national and international expertise to produce the research studies on options for scaled up climate change action and ambition options that complement the national NDCs in countries. The rationale of these research studies is to increase the quality and utility of their research and policy advice.

The project will assist to establish the partnership with national institution/ university and UK university to analyze the political economy determinants of climate change policy and understand the factors driving to adopt politically costly and economically challenging climate change mitigation policies.

The project will provide a space for the national debates on climate diplomacy issues that requires high level buy-in by senior officials to building political momentum to secure the ambitious outcomes. Three national outreach events will be organized on climate diplomacy issues to explore options for increased dialogue and

virtual communities of practice and one regional climate diplomacy dialogue with participation by colleagues from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

This assumes that the COVID-19 crisis will still enable dialogues and virtual meetings between Government colleagues, and that the peak of current disruptions will be passed within the coming 3 months, enabling the COP 26 to proceed as planned. It also assumes current engagement from climate change policy makers will be maintained and that UK based academic institutes will be willing to step up their partnerships in country. Ahead of COP26 there is a window of opportunity for HMG to work with governments on preparations for the conference and meeting key commitments, and to establish new partnerships, strengthen analysis and achieve policy impact. It will also help ensure that there is dedicated national Climate Change expertise in place to support Central Asia's preparations for the COP and to explore option for coordinated approaches across countries, agencies and between universities in the region and the UK.

- *Activity 1.1. Conduct research studies on options for scaled-up climate change action and ambition options*
- *Activity 1.3. Conduct outreach events (one per country, and possibly virtual if needed given COVID-19) to regional government officials on climate diplomacy issues and to explore options for increased dialogue and virtual communities of practice. One regional climate diplomacy dialogue with participation by colleagues from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan*
- *Activity 1.4. Provide International climate change expertise to local institutions, including universities and think tanks in the course of analysis and opportunities to strengthen virtual communities of practice and potential further partnerships between UK and local institutions*

## **Output 2: Countries step up engagement in COP 26 and advocate for more coherent, risk informed climate change policies**

UNDP will support in preparation for a variety of climate-focused capacity building activities that strengthen and reinforce countries of the Central Asia region to effectively communicate and present their specific and common concerns, plans and initiatives related to climate change at the 26th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC. Enhancing negotiation skills and climate diplomacy, in addition to strong science-based ambitious commitments and country positioning, will help to deliver effective climate diplomacy. Through close consultation with the national UNFCCC focal points in each country, Ministries of Foreign Affairs and other key agencies, as well as in collaboration with civil society, academia, UNDP will provide expert support for organizing the high-quality e-training course for governmental and non-governmental officials on climate diplomacy and key negotiation skills/ issues (mitigation, NDC targets, adaptation, co-benefits) on the local languages.

In close consultations with key stakeholders in each country the project will assist to prepare the concept of the Central Asian side event for the COP 26 based on the national commitments reflected in national policies and NDCs.

The countries will be supported in organizing the national dialogues on climate resilience and energy security and regional event (could be virtual depending on COVID19 developments) bringing together the governmental officials from Central-Asian countries, academia, CSOs, business and donor community.

- *Activity 2.1 Design concepts of Central Asia side-events of COP26 jointly by Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan*
- *Activity 2.2 Provide at least 3 training (one per country) to governments officials on climate diplomacy and key negotiation skills/ issues for in the preparation of COP 26*
- *Activity 2.3 Conduct a regional conference on climate resilience and energy security (virtually if required).*

## **Output 3: Increased public awareness and advocacy for locally appropriate, climate change actions**

The project will contribute to public awareness to increase support and stimulate mobilisation for climate action and mobilise local knowledge and resources. Awareness raising campaigns will increase concern, informing the targeted audience, creating a positive image, and attempts to change their behavior through the different channels. The project will support the local universities, think tanks or civil society group to prepare the position paper or policy brief on climate action to be presented to the Governments. Recognizing the key role that youth play in tackling climate change UNDP in three countries will work closely with youth-led organizations to empower youth to take adaptation and mitigation actions and enhance

effective participation of youth in climate change policy decision-making processes through the innovative information campaigns.

- *Activity 3.1. Conduct at least 3 mass media campaigns (one per country) on climate change held with media, civil society, and/or academia in target counties to raise awareness on the COP process and the rationale for stepped-up climate change action to increase public awareness of the COP process and potential benefits of action in Central Asia*
- *Activity 3.3 Produce at least 1 position paper/policy brief in each participating country produced by universities/ think tanks and/or civil society groups and presented to the Governments for consideration*
- *Activity 3.4 Conduct an Innovative Action Competition for Youth Climate Change Action undertaken in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. The regional level on-line conference will be organized by the national competitions' winners to present their visions/proposals and formulate a joint Youth Statement*

### Partnerships

The **Committee for Environmental Protection (CoEP) under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan**, and its subsidiary institution, **Agency for Hydrometeorology (Hydromet)** are two major beneficiaries of the project. The CoEP was established in 2008 as a specialized agency overseeing the use of natural resources and environmental protection and serves as the central government authority responsible for implementation of public policy in the area of environmental conservation, climate change, hydrometeorology, biodiversity conservation and rational use of natural resources. The CoEP staff at local levels in general have limited knowledge on climate change and climate change adaptation, and they have no guidance or procedures on how to advise or monitor adaptation activities that take place at national and subnational levels. This makes it difficult for CoEP comprehensively conduct an inventory and track adaptation activities.

The **Agency for Hydrometeorology (Hydromet)** reports to the CoEP and is the lead agency for climate change. Hydromet is responsible for leading the preparation of national communications to the UNFCCC in coordination with key ministries and agencies as well as the preparation of GHG inventories. In addition, Hydromet is the government agency providing climate and weather information and forecasting to the general public in Tajikistan.

It is expected to ensure synergies and consolidation of efforts with activities under several UNDP projects, focusing on climate policies, including UNDP/GEF project "Enabling activities for preparation of First Biennial Update Report and Fourth National Communication under UNFCCC" (UNDP/GEF BUR and 4NC project), PIP Climate Promise: "Support to NDC revision in Tajikistan" and UNDP/GCF project "Support to National Adaptation Planning in Tajikistan", more specifically in ensuring linkages in policy development supported by these projects to facilitate further implementation of NDCs that will be of longer-term journey for the country.

Other potential partnerships include:

- President's Administration: low interest, high influence
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan: medium interest, high influence
- Executive Committee of the International Fund for saving the Aral Sea: medium interest, medium influence
- Tajik Climate Network (Association of NGOs): high interest, low influence
- Youth NGO Little Earth; medium interest, low influence
- Youth NGO Peshsaf: medium interest, low influence
- Youth NGO Ilmhona: medium interest, low influence
- Tajik State National University: low interest, low influence

### Direct project beneficiaries:

- Policy-makers training on climate diplomacy and stronger better negotiation skills for climate action;
- Civil society and youth and women organisations enabled to access information on climate risks and opportunities and contribute to greater public awareness;

- National academic institutes and think tanks benefit from global expertise and able to increase the quality and utility of their research and policy advice;
- Outreach and partnership with youth and civil society contribute to sharing knowledge and lessons to making the public case for stepped up climate change action

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## **II. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

The project will be implemented through a direct implementation modality (DIM), with UNDP working closely with key government partners, namely the Committee for Environmental Protection (CoEP) under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, and its subsidiary institution, Agency for Hydrometeorology (Hydromet).

The following UNDP officials will lead the implementation of the activities planned under this Initiation Plan:

- Team Leader of Climate Change, Disaster Risk Reduction, Energy and Environment Cluster: The TL will lead on day to day management of project activities (as assigned) and will provide both technical and managerial support to the implementation of activities.
- Programme Associate of Climate Change, Disaster Risk Reduction, Energy and Environment Cluster: The Programme Associate will provide support to the day-to-day management of the project and will be responsible of providing administrative and programmatic support in accordance to UNDP's rules and regulations.
- A team of international and national consultants will be recruited to support the project on conceptualizing, finetuning, developing the research pertaining to the project, as well as capacity building and awareness raising activities among government and civil society stakeholders and documenting knowledge products.
- M&E Analyst will ensure that regular monitoring is performed and reporting on results is being effectively captured. This will be done through regular M&E channels and tools.
- Communications Analyst will ensure the visibility of the project and will contribute to reporting on activities on UNDP's communication platforms and will regularly develop stories and document project achievements.

The following partners will be responsible for implementation of the activities under this Initiation Plan:

A dedicated project board will not be required for the implementation of this plan/project. UNDP will substitute the project board structure with quarterly meetings with the leadership of CoEP at the national level and with FCDO at the regional level -to jointly monitor and evaluate the implementation of activities.

Thus, the project will benefit from already existing office space, equipment, vehicle, procurement mechanisms and project personnel employed under the ongoing programmes and initiatives of UNDP Tajikistan.

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## **I. MONITORING**

Ongoing and regular monitoring will be conducted throughout the life cycle of the project and will be the responsibility of UNDP. Monitoring will take the form of regular collection of data. UNDP's Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) guidelines will be applied.

The project will be reported upon on a regular basis.

The Initiation Phase Report will be prepared at the end of the Initiation Plan, using the standard format available in the [Executive Snapshot](#), capturing the project results and lessons learned.

## II. WORK PLAN

**Intended Outcome as stated in the UNDAF/Country Programme Results and Resource Framework:**

Outcome 6. People in Tajikistan are more resilient to natural and human disasters benefiting from improved policy and operational frameworks for environmental protection and sustainable management of natural resources. CPD Output 6.2: Strengthened institutional frameworks and capacities for disaster risk management, emergency preparedness, conflict prevention, sustainable natural resource management and environmental protection.

**Outcome indicators as stated in the Country Programme Results and Resources Framework:** Indicator 6.7. Effective institutional and policy frameworks in place to enhance the implementation of disaster and climate risks at the national level that specifically address equity and gender considerations.

**Applicable Output(s) from the UNDP Strategic Plan:** Area of Work 3: Resilience Building. Output 5.2: Disaster and Climate Risk Management.

**Project title and Atlas Project ID:** 00124991: Policy action for climate security in Central Asia

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)			DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	2020	2021	FINAL	
<b>Output 1: Enhanced technical, political economy and climate risk sensitivity analysis and scientific data available to national climate change decision makers</b>	<i>Number of research studies conducted on options for scaled up climate change action and ambition options</i>	<i>Project reports</i>	0	2020		1	<i>At least 1 research on climate change action/ambition options conducted and presented/discussed with key stakeholders. The research will look into costs and benefits of Net Zero by 2050, for Tajikistan.</i>	Project reporting
	<i>Number of outreach events conducted (virtual if needed given COVID-19) among regional government officials on climate diplomacy issues.</i>	<i>Project reports</i>	0	2020		1	<i>At least 1 outreach event on climate diplomacy issues is conducted engaging businesses and Government from Tajikistan.</i>	Project reporting
	<i>Number of virtual meetings held by International expertise to strengthen virtual communities of practice and potential further partnerships between UK and local institutions</i>	<i>Project reports</i>	0	2020		1	<i>At least 1 webinar is conducted/facilitated by Int. Advisor with participation of local institutions/partners (think tanks, universities and etc.).</i>	Project reporting

<b>Output 2: Target countries step up engagement in COP 26 and advocate for more coherent, risk informed climate change policies</b>	<i>Number of side-events designed for COP 26 (Regional activity)</i>	<i>Project reports</i>	0	2020	0	1	<i>At least 1 content for the potential COP26 side event designed.</i>	Project reporting
	<i>Number of capacity building events conducted for Government stakeholders on climate diplomacy and key negotiation skills/ issues</i>	<i>Project reports</i>	0	2020	0	1	<i>At least 1 capacity building event on NDCs, CCA, CCM and COP conducted &amp; disseminated among key national stakeholders (ensuring project visibility)</i>	Project reporting
	<i>Number of regional events attended by TJK representatives focusing on climate resilience and energy security (Regional activity)</i>						<i>Tajikistan delegation/Gov. representatives participated in the regional conference on climate resilience and energy security (subject to Tajik Government approval)</i>	
<b>Output 3: Increased public awareness and advocacy for locally appropriate, climate change actions</b>	<i>Number of Public awareness on the COP process and potential benefits of action in Central Asia (media, civil society and/or academic to raise awareness on the COP process and the rationale for stepped up climate change action)</i>	<i>CSO, media reports, events</i>	0	2020	0	1	<i>At least 1 public awareness campaign is conducted on COP process and potential benefits of action in Central Asia targeting media and/or civil society.</i>	
	<i>Number of position papers/policy briefs produced by universities/ think tanks and/or civil society groups to be presented to the</i>	<i>CSO reports</i>	0	2020	0	1	<i>At least 1 policy brief is produced by civil society groups and presented to the Government for consideration.</i>	

	<i>Government for consideration</i>							
	<i>Number of Innovative Campaigns conducted targeting local youth and supported for participation in COP26</i>	<i>CSO, media reports</i>	0	2020	0	1	<i>At least 1 Innovative Competition on Climate Action is organized targeting at least 30 youth activists. At least 1 youth activist is prepared to participate in COP 26 Youth event</i>	

### III. WORK PLAN

Period<sup>1</sup>: December 2020 – May 2021 (18 months)

EXPECTED OUTPUTS And baseline, indicators including annual targets	PLANNED ACTIVITIES List activity results and associated actions	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
			Funding Source	Budget Description	Budget
<b>Output 1: Enhanced technical, political economy and climate risk sensitivity analysis and scientific data available to national climate change decision makers</b>	Activity 1.1 Research study on options for scaled up climate change action and ambition options	UNDP	UNDP	National Consultants	\$31,704
				International consultant	\$33,025
				Meeting costs (venue)	\$793
				Catering	\$396
				Translation services	\$3,435
				Design and printing	\$3,963
	Activity 1.3 - Outreach event (virtual if needed given COVID-19) to regional government officials on climate diplomacy issues.	UNDP		Translation services	\$396
				National consultant	\$1,453

<sup>1</sup> Maximum 18 months



				Meeting costs	\$396
				Catering	\$396
	Activity 1.4 - International climate change expertise provided to local institutions, including universities and think tanks and opportunities developed to strengthen virtual communities of practice and potential further partnerships between UK and local institutions.	UNDP		Translation services	\$1,982
	<b>Sub-total for Output 1:</b>			<b>\$77,939</b>	
<b>Output 2: Target countries step up engagement in COP 26 and advocate for more coherent, risk informed climate change policies</b>	Activity 2.1 - Central Asia side-event designed for COP 26 (Regional activity)	UNDP	UNDP	Local consultant on stakeholder's engagement	\$8,322
				National consultants	\$2,180
				Translation services	\$859
	Activity 2.2: Capacity building event for Government on climate diplomacy and key negotiation skills/ issues	UNDP		Local consultant on CC	\$8,322
				Venue	\$594
				Catering	\$594
				Translation services	\$4,426
				Printing/visibility	\$264
	Activity 2.3 Conference on climate resilience and energy security held in Q1 2021 (Regional activity)	UNDP		Translation services	\$2,113
				Meeting costs	\$330
				Catering	\$1,982
	<b>Sub-total for Output 2:</b>			<b>\$29,987</b>	

	Activity 3.1 - Public awareness on the COP process and potential benefits of action in Central Asia (media, civil society and/or academic to raise awareness on the COP process and the rationale for stepped up climate change action)	UNDP	UNDP	Contractual services (companies)	\$10,568
				Design infographics	\$793
				Video production	\$2,642
				Design and Printing	\$1,321
				Local communication consultant	\$7,926
	Activity 3.3 - Position papers/policy briefs produced by universities/ think tanks and/or civil society groups to be presented to the Government for consideration	UNDP		National consultants	\$10,568
				Translation	\$1,717
				Meeting costs	\$396
				Catering	\$1,585
	Activity 3.4 - Innovation Climate Action Competition - Youth Climate Action Awards	UNDP		Contractual services (companies)	\$10,568
				Design and Printing	\$3,963
				Travel	\$5,945
	Sub-total for Output 3:			\$57,992	
TOTAL PROGRAMMATIC SUB-TOTAL		\$165,918			
Administrative costs					
Project Finance assistant		\$7,926			
DPC		\$11,691			
Office Support costs (Bank charges, Misc.)		\$396			
GMS - General Management Services		\$14,870			
TOTAL		\$200,801			

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