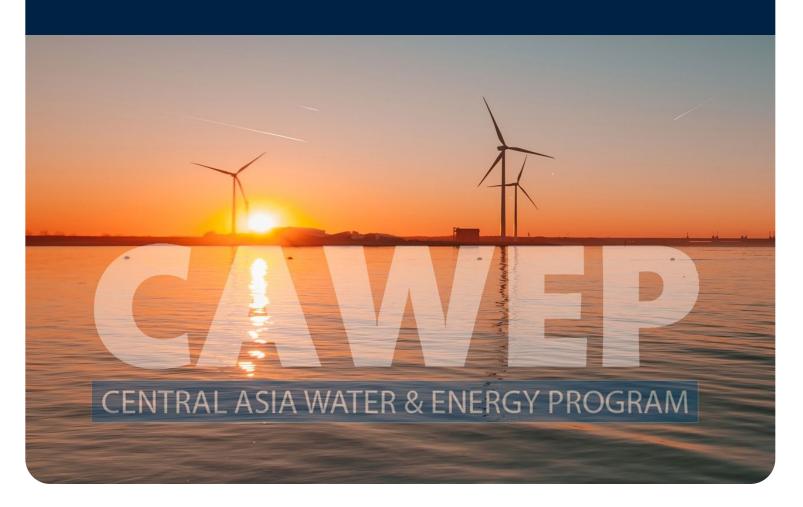


Welcome to the second edition of CAWEP-4 Newsletter with the updates on the first results of our analytical work on water-energy-climate nexus, the progress of the preparation of the Kambarata-1 hydropower investment project, and CAWEP support of capacity development and resilience in water and energy sectors. This edition also includes a special section with the highlights of the Central Asia Climate Change Conference and the Kyrgyz Republic International Energy Investment Forum in Vienna, two high-profile events supported by CAWEP in 2024 financial year.

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CAWEP-4 Is Growing Stronger



CAWEP-4 program, though still in its first year, is gaining momentum and showing promising growth and impact. We are thrilled to announce a major boost in support with a new contribution of £3 million from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) of the United Kingdom. This generous additional funding underscores FCDO's trust in our mission and reinforces our shared commitment to improving water and energy management in Central Asia amidst the challenges posed by climate change. With the continued support of FCDO, the European Union (EU), and the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) we are creating meaningful partnerships that will benefit the region and foster sustainable solutions for the future.

Second Steering Committee Meeting in Tashkent Reaffirms Joint Commitment to Address Water and Energy Challenges



Photo: member of the steering committee at the meeting in Tashkent. (C) World Bank

In September 2024 in Tashkent CAWEP team had a productive meeting with our program partners – the European Union, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom – to review the progress of the fourth phase of the program and discus the work plan for 2025.

During the meeting, CAWEP team presented updates on operations, finances, and communications. The partners reaffirmed their commitment to CAWEP's mission to address pressing water and energy challenges in Central Asia and provided valuable feedback on areas for further program development.

> First Results of Water–Energy Nexus Systems Modelling Will Support Transboundary Resource Planning in the Aral Sea Basin



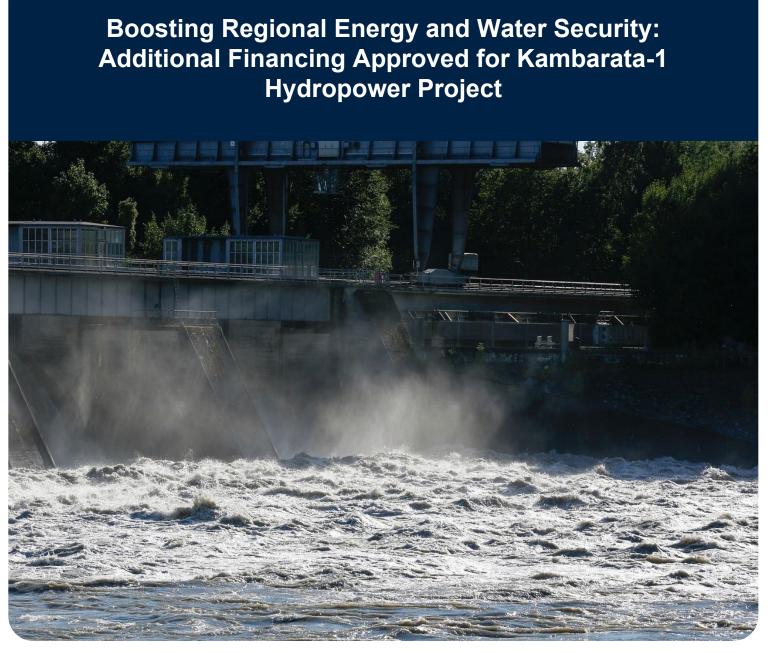
Aral Sea by WaSZI from Pixabay

Integrated water-energy modelling of the Aral Sea basin has shown that it has the capacity to produce 48 terawatt-hours of hydropower electricity and US\$ 47 billion worth of irrigated agricultural produce a year simultaneously. The analysis also shows that this balance won't be easy to achieve because energy generation and agriculture compete for water in the context of climate change and increased water scarcity. This is where the water-energy nexus system modelling can support resource planning by showing the likely results of today's decisions in each subsystem for the future of the whole basin.

The systems model combines data on water infrastructure, hydropower, and energy facilities, climate change and biophysical systems, while also incorporating institutional and economic factors. It shows that prioritizing irrigation for agriculture can lead to significant gains in annual crop production, however, this may result in substantial economic losses in energy generation—and vice versa. Prioritizing water for agriculture expands crop output by 4 percent per year but can come at the cost of reducing hydropower generation by 16 percent per year. When hydropower generation decreases, the deficit has to be filled by fossil fuels, which can have negative environmental and economic implications for the region.

At the same time, the model identifies potential win-win scenarios. Optimizing irrigation and investing in irrigation efficiency—modernizing canals, adopting efficient agricultural practices, and reducing water loss—can increase agricultural productivity without reducing energy generation. Given the regional interconnectedness and complexity of the water-energy-climate system, regional dialogue is the only way to identify opportunities and prioritize investments for mutual benefits and regional gains.

CAWEP supported water-energy nexus system modelling will continue to provide vital evidence for the



Hydropower plant by Kurt Bouda from Pixabay

We are pleased to announce that in July 2024 the World Bank Board of Directors approved additional financing for the Technical Assistance for the Kambarata-1 Hydropower Plant (HPP) Project in the Kyrgyz Republic. This financing package including an \$11 million IDA credit and a \$2.6 million grant from CAWEP-4 will enable further progress on the comprehensive preparation of this transformative regional HPP project, which is scheduled for Board approval in mid-2025.

The additional financing will ensure a sustainable structure for the Kambarata-1 HPP, that will balance energy generation and water resource management needs. The studies on energy and water aspects of the project will be supported by a CAWEP-4 recipient-executed grant. The grant will also fund

essential transaction advisory work, facilitating consultations among countries to reach long-term agreements on the joint development of the project.

A significant milestone in water–energy cooperation in Central Asia was achieved during the Kyrgyz Republic International Energy Investment Forum in Vienna, which was also financed by CAWEP-4. At the forum, representatives of the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan signed an agreement to jointly develop Kambarata-1 as a regional energy and water initiative. This agreement promises to enhance energy security, regional integration, and sustainable water management for irrigation and domestic supply across borders.

Find out more about the outcomes of the Kyrgyz Republic International Energy Investment Forum.

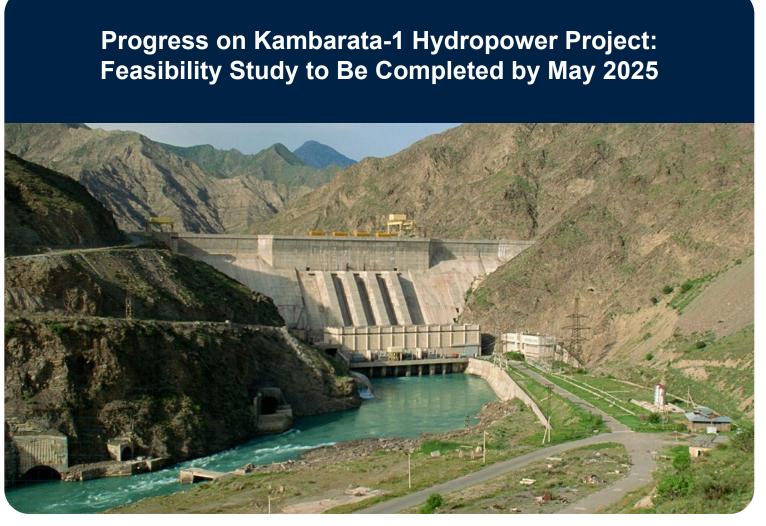


Photo by WORLDBANK

On September 4, 2024, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic and the World Bank, with the support of CAWEP, organized a roundtable to discuss the selection of the dam type for the Kambarata-1 HPP. The event was attended by representatives from the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, the World Bank, and a group of international experts.

Maksudjon Safarov, Senior Energy Specialist at the World Bank, highlighted the World Bank's role in

supporting the project: "The World Bank is financing the comprehensive preparation of the Kambarata-1 construction project. The Swiss company AFRY is currently developing the feasibility study, ensuring that world-class expertise is applied to make the project efficient, environmentally sustainable, and viable."

During the roundtable, AFRY presented several dam type options for the Kambarata-1 HPP, which were analyzed in-depth by international experts. Their findings will guide the final selection of the dam type, an important milestone in the project's development. Based on this decision, the feasibility study is expected to be completed by May 2025.

Bakyt Torobaev, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic, reflected on the regional importance of the Kambarata-1 HPP project: "For the first time, the Ministries of Energy of the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan have reached a trilateral agreement to support the project. We are confident that this collaboration will lead to the creation of a high-quality project that will deliver clean and renewable energy to Central Asia, improve the regional water and energy regime, and further strengthen cooperation among our countries.





Image by Joe from Pixabay

Taking advantage of the newly available comprehensive and accurate energy data for Tajikistan and

using a whole energy system model including natural gas, coal, oil, and renewable energy uses across various sectors, the analysis supported by CAWEP has concluded that decarbonization initially slows GDP growth by 1% but accelerates it by 6% in the long term.

To reap economic benefits of a low-carbon transition, substantial investments are needed, with an additional \$18 billion required by 2030 for decarbonizing transport and industry, beyond the \$12 billion needed for the power sector. By 2050, domestic renewables could provide 93% of energy in the Low-Carbon Development Scenario, up from 53% in the Reference Scenario. Technologies like EVs, waste recycling, and carbon capture and storage, as well as rethinking the role of natural gas, can drive economic growth.

This analysis has also enhanced the understanding of the role of hydro and renewable energy in the decarbonization of Central Asia and meeting regional energy security goals. Under the Net Zero 2050 Scenario, Tajik electricity exports to Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan between 2030 and 2040 are projected to be over three times larger than in the Reference Scenario, reaching over 11 TWh/year. This increase would contribute to decarbonization and free up Uzbek natural gas for high-value sectors like industry and fertilizer production.

Results of the modeling project were presented at a live event on November 7, 2024, in Dushanbe, alongside the World Bank Tajikistan Country Climate and Development Report launch. A virtual event with CAWEP donors will follow in mid-December.

Subject to additional funding, the next steps include creating a regional energy data hub to improve access to the produced data for a wide range of stakeholders, which would enhance regional collaboration and data-driven decision-making in the energy sector.

Leveraging Geospatial Data for Enhanced Resilience in Water and Energy Management: Study Tour of Latvia and Lithuania



Photo: Participants of the study tour ©World Bank

As Central Asia faces mounting challenges from climate change, effective management of water and energy resources becomes ever more critical. Geospatial data plays an important role in this effort, directly supporting the broader agenda of CAWEP by enhancing resilience, improving disaster risk management, and fostering regional cooperation.

The use of geospatial data can help to strengthen climate resilience and optimize water and energy resource management across Central Asia. Geospatial data provides the foundation for informed decision-making by enabling precise mapping, monitoring, and management of natural resources.

In July 2024, CAWEP supported a study tour to Latvia, and Lithuania focused on the implementation of National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) and the use of geospatial data in water and energy resource management. The tour, first of its kind under CAWEP 4, was organized for senior civil servants from the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan directly involved in NSDI development and resource management.

The five-day program focused on learning from the successful Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian experience, but also fostered peer learning and collaboration among participants from Central Asia. The study tour achieved the following:

- Understanding NSDI Reforms: Participants explored the reform processes involved in NSDI development in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and examined how these best practices could be adapted to the context of Central Asia.
- Leveraging Geospatial Data: Through presentations and site visits, the tour showcased effective use of geospatial data in the management of water and energy resources, highlighting its potential to enhance decision-making and resource efficiency.

- **Cross-Sectoral Collaboration:** The tour provided a platform for interactive sessions, at which participants discussed the findings of a recent assessment report on NSDI implementation in Central Asia. These discussions were crucial in identifying the uses of NSDI for regional collaboration and sustainable resource management.
- **Planning for the Future:** The study tour also facilitated the development of action plans and identified opportunities for collaboration among countries in Central Asia.

Having learned from the experiences of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, participants are now better equipped to drive the implementation of NSDI and improve geospatial data management in their respective countries. The study tour marks a significant milestone in CAWEP's ongoing efforts to enhance regional cooperation and build resilience to climate change. The lessons learned and the networks established during this tour will play a crucial role in shaping future initiatives under CAWEP-4.

Advancing Water and Energy Security in Water Supply Sector



Photo: Water utility professionals from Uzbekistan and Türkiye exchange insights on energy efficiency in water supply. © World Bank

CAWEP continues to be a key partner of governments of Central Asia in ensuring water and energy security in the region, fostering collaboration and capacity-building across the region.

As part of its capacity building effort, CAWEP supported a regional workshop with utilities from the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan to discuss best practices and develop a roadmap for joining the <u>International Benchmarking Network for Water and Sanitation Utilities (IBNET)</u>. This initiative supports utilities in cross-learning and peer-to-peer benchmarking to incentivize improvements in performance management and operational efficiency.

CAWEP also supported the provision of technical assistance and quality assurance on energy audits for 14 utilities in Uzbekistan, which will inform the proposed energy efficiency financing facility being established by Uzsuvtaminot, Uzbekistan's national water supply company. The audits have identified priority investments to promote energy efficiency in both water supply and sewerage operations, and will form the basis for the regional utilities performance improvement plans aimed at optimizing the use of water and energy, and ultimately enhance the sustainability of the sector.

In another effort to strengthen capacity, utilities in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz Republic participated in

procurement and contract management training to complement the efforts on the design of energy efficient infrastructure and enable more efficient market outreach for innovative technology. The training enhanced their ability to develop and procure energy efficiency services and technical assistance, in line with CAWEP's broader goals for capacity-building in the region.

Additionally, CAWEP supported an exchange visit between Uzsuvtaminot regional utilities and municipal utilities in Türkiye, with experience in implementing energy efficiency improvements. Seventeen water and sanitation experts from Uzbekistan visited Ankara and Konya water and sanitation utilities between September 15 and September 19, 2024. Experts from both sides exchanged lessons from ongoing projects on energy efficiency improvements on drinking water and wastewater treatment digital solutions to enable operational efficiency, as well as knowledge management initiatives. Participants will use the knowledge gained during the tour in improving water services and customer service systems in Uzbekistan's Karakalpakstan, Syrdaryo, and Samarkand regions.

CAWEP Supports Initiative for Climate-Resilient Agriculture in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan



Photo: Sprinkle irrigation scheme for growing potatoes, used in Turkmenistan. © World Bank

As Central Asia faces increasing challenges from water scarcity and climate change, CAWEP is supporting climate adaptation in agriculture through projects dedicated to identifying the impacts of water scarcity and developing actionable solutions to support agricultural resilience in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan.

In spring-summer of 2024, a rapid field assessment of the impact of water scarcity and climate change on agriculture in selected regions of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan was completed. This work included a comprehensive evaluation of key agricultural areas, such as the Republic of Karakalpakstan, Khorezm, and Bukhara regions in Uzbekistan, as well as the climate-vulnerable regions of Dashoguz and Lebap in Turkmenistan. The field visits involved meetings with local farmers, agri-businesses, and researchers to gather insights into the feasibility and challenges of implementing climate-smart agriculture (CSA) practices under varying agro-ecological conditions.

Field observations from Uzbekistan's lower Amu Darya regions revealed that arable land in Karakalpakstan has halved over the past 30 years due to water scarcity. The results from these field visits and workshops are currently being finalized in a detailed report.

By identifying solutions tailored to different agro-ecological zones and building institutional capacity for

climate adaptation, CAWEP is laying the foundation for more resilient agricultural practices in Central Asia. This effort will be critical in supporting long-term food security and sustainable livelihoods for communities affected by the region's changing water landscape.

Highlights of the 2024 Central Asia Climate Change Conference and the Kyrgyz Republic International Energy Investment Forum

Central Asia Climate Change Conference Reviews Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, and Highlights CAWEP Contribution



Photo 1. Panel session on water–energy–food–environment nexus at CACCC-2024. ©CAWEP. Further permission required for reuse.

The Central Asia Climate Change Conference (CACCC-2024) held on May 27–29, 2024, in Almaty addressed critical issues related to water, energy, food security, and environmental sustainability in the context of a climate-affected Central Asia. The majority of CACCC-2024 400 participants hailed from the region, and all five countries were represented (Figure 1).

CAWEP provided support to CACCC-2024 as part of its mission to promote regional cooperation, knowledge sharing, and capacity building for addressing climate change challenges in Central Asia.

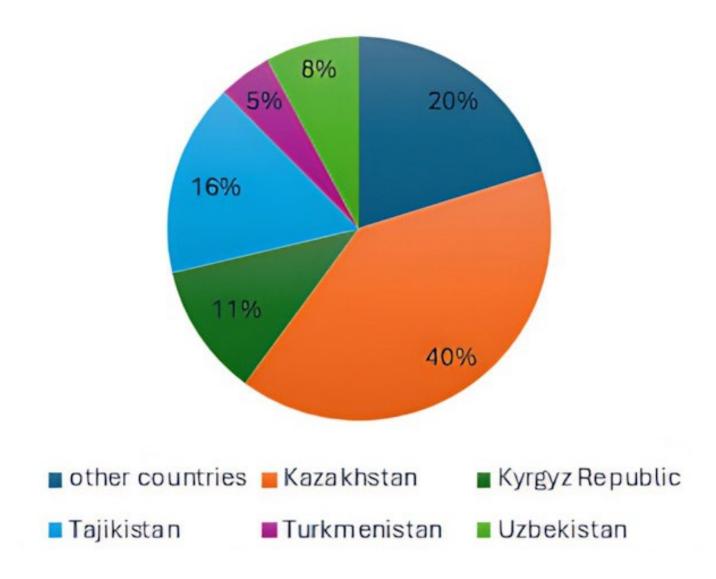


Figure 1. CACCC-2024 Participants, by Country

CACCC-2024 reviewed the progress in climate mitigation and adaptation in the region to date, highlighting cross-sectoral initiatives that bolster climate resilience, explored climate finance mechanisms, and platforms for regional and international cooperation.



Photo 2. Heads of CAREC and IFAS signing Memorandum of Cooperation at CACCC-2024. © Valentin Petrenko / World Bank. Further permission required for reuse.

The conference emphasized the importance of strengthening regional collaboration and cooperation to effectively address climate challenges. Joint efforts are critical for sustainable water management, renewable energy development, climate-smart agriculture, investments in early warning systems, knowledge sharing, developing joint strategies, and enhancing transboundary water management. As part of broader efforts to address climate change challenges in Central Asia, the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) and the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation, focusing on sustainable water and land management, energy, food security, and environmental sustainability.

CACCC-2024 participants discussed the water–energy–food–environment (WEFE) nexus and examined integrated approaches to managing these interlinked resources sustainably and building climate resilience across the region.

Immediate impacts on lowland rivers lead to increased competition for water resources, emphasizing the need for cross-border adaptation solutions. In Kazakhstan, the agriculture sector faces substantial strains, with climate impact expected to increase by 2050. Rain-fed crops are particularly vulnerable, requiring additional irrigation due to increased aridity and soil moisture loss. Land degradation affects 40 percent of the area, with livestock productivity expected to fall by 10 percent by 2030 and 15 percent by 2050.

The conference highlighted the importance of mobilizing additional financial resources from

international climate funds, development partners, and the private sector. The conference stressed the growing role of ministries of finance in climate policy, emphasizing the importance of their involvement in developing and implementing climate strategies to manage macroeconomic impacts, fiscal policies, and financial regulations. CACCC-2024 also emphasized the need for modern and upgraded equipment, advanced weather prediction models, and comprehensive climate change impact assessments.

The conference focused on how human rights relate to infrastructure projects, especially in energy and efforts to reduce carbon emissions. This includes hydropower, gas, and irrigation projects. It also featured discussions on empowering young people, highlighting the importance of their participation in climate action and decision-making.

The European Union's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) was another important topic of discussion, as it could significantly impact Central Asia by introducing a carbon price on exports. This change underscores the importance of these nations developing their own carbon pricing systems to adapt effectively to the new regulations.

EU Reaffirms Climate Commitments in Central Asia

Speaking at the CACCC-2024 <u>Opening Plenary</u>, Mr. Johannes Baur, Head of Cooperation at the EU Delegation in Kazakhstan, reaffirmed the EU's climate commitments in the region, including the launch of a new €20 million Team Europe initiative focused on water, energy, and climate change in Central Asia and the EU's support for Kazakhstan's transition to a carbon-neutral economy by 2060.



Photo 3. CACCC-2024 session. © Valentin Petrenko / World Bank. Further permission required for reuse.

Speaking at the session on climate change and security, Mr. Baur highlighted the interest of the European Union in a stable and secure Central Asia and emphasized the advantages of shared regional approaches to regional challenges and the importance of regional platforms such as CAWEP

for effective tackling of water, energy, and climate challenges.

The contributions of Central Asian countries to addressing climate issues building on previous successful programs related to energy efficiency in Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan will be further discussed at the upcoming COP-29 in Azerbaijan.

CAWEP-4 Strategic Goals Contribute to the Regional Climate Change Agenda

Addressing the panel session on Central Asian initiatives for strengthening regional climate cooperation, Mr. Dmitry Petrin, World Bank Senior Operations Officer and CAWEP Program Manager, presented an <u>overview of CAWEP's</u> achievements to date and its strategic focus for the next five years.



Photo 4. Dmitry Petrin, CAWEP Program Manager, and Urvashi Narain, CAWEP Climate Pillar Leader, at CACCC-2024. © Valentin Petrenko / World Bank. Further permission required for reuse.

Having entered its fourth phase in 2024, CAWEP aims to double its budget to US\$25 million and extend the program until 2028. Over this period CAWEP will prioritize improving the use of water and energy resources as a unified process in the context of climate change through pursuing the following objectives:

- Developing a reliable data-driven water-energy balance model for the region
- Strengthening regional institutions to enable the implementation of water-energy cooperation

projects

- Supporting high-level dialogue on strategic aspects of water-energy cooperation
- Promoting investment projects in the field of water-energy cooperation
- Enhancing climate resilience and just-in-time activities to build regional resilience to climate change
- Ensuring the sustainability of water-energy cooperation projects and rapid response to current needs.

CAWEP collaborates with regional stakeholders to develop capacity-building initiatives, share best practices, and facilitate knowledge exchange to strengthen the region's ability to manage transboundary water and energy resources effectively, while achieving water, energy, and food security and maintaining healthy ecosystems.



Photo 5. Energy policymakers from Central Asia and beyond discuss strategies to ensure water-energy security, accelerate clean transition, and boost regional connectivity at KREF. © World Bank. Further permission required for

reuse.

The Kyrgyz Republic is poised to transform its energy sector, harnessing its vast hydropower and solar potential to drive job-creating economic growth while achieving net zero emissions by 2050. <u>Clean-energy projects</u> prepared by the government with the support of CAWEP will more than double the country's energy supply, providing uninterrupted electricity to businesses and households year-round and without interruptions, while also enhancing energy and water security across Central Asia.

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, in partnership with the World Bank and other development partners, is committed to developing a modern energy sector that attracts private investment and supports the country's goal of becoming an upper middle-income economy by 2040. The World Bank's new <u>Country Partnership Framework</u> prioritizes energy as one of the key sectors for building a more competitive and resilient economy.

In line with this vision, the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the World Bank, with the support of CAWEP, Energy Sector Management Assistance Program (ESMAP), and the Austrian Government, co-organized the Kyrgyz Republic International Energy Investment Forum (KREF) on June 10–11, 2024, in Vienna, Austria. The Forum brought together over 200 delegates and showcased the Kyrgyz Republic's progress in energy sector reforms, explored investment opportunities, and emphasized the region's potential to expedite a clean energy transition. The Government presented <u>12 investments</u> <u>amounting to US\$16 billion</u>, focusing on hydropower and solar initiatives that will expand and diversify the country's power generation and maximize the impact of public and private investments.

Kambarata-1 Hydropower Project to be Jointly Developed by the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan with support from International Donors

Representatives from the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan signed an inter-ministerial agreement on the joint development of the Kambarata-1 Hydropower Plant (HPP), which is a significant milestone in regional water–energy cooperation.

A Donor Coordination Committee has been formed to support the Kambarata-1 HPP project, comprising major international financial institutions and development partners. This committee aims to create an effective multilateral platform for a comprehensive support of the project, ensuring alignment with sustainable macro-economic, commercial, environmental, and social frameworks.

Kambarata-1 Will Improve Regional Energy and Water Supply

The <u>Kambarata-1</u> project will help address energy supply challenges in Central Asia and support green transition, while also improving water supply across seasonal and cyclical variations. This, in turn, will bolster irrigation, water supply, and food security in the whole region. Improved water resource management envisaged by Kambarata-1 project will benefit irrigation in Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan.

Kambarata-1 HPP is expected to address seasonal energy deficits, especially in winter, and displace gas and coal-fired generation, significantly reducing emissions of air pollutants and lowering the region's energy transition costs.



Photo 6. KREF highlighted progress in energy sector reforms, investment opportunities, and the acceleration of the clean energy transition, while also focusing on enhancing regional connectivity and improving water–energy management across Central Asia. © World Bank. Further permission required for reuse.

Focus on Kyrgyz Republic's Energy Sector

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic has a clear vision of sustainable energy provision and robust plans to harness its renewable energy potential. The government is pursuing an energy tariff reform, working on ensuring better governance and financial stability of energy enterprises, planning to expand the use of hydro, solar and wind generation, and carrying out grid upgrades to promote energy efficiency. Energy Sector Development Program 2030 is a comprehensive roadmap for energy development and moving reforms forward in a sustainable way. A dedicated Energy Reform Unit is coordinating sector reforms.

Reform milestones to date:

- **Tariff adjustments** implemented in 2023 and 2024: increases of 29.9% and 10.8%, respectively.
- Financial stability of energy companies is improving.
- Remote electricity payments are enabled.
- Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System has been introduced for better energy savings and contract management.

The Kyrgyz Republic participates in regional generation, connectivity and trade agreements, including the collaboration with Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan on Kmabrata-1 HPP, participation in the Central Asian Power System (CAPS) and Central Asia–South Asia (CASA-1000) project, and encourages

large-scale investments in hydropower and renewable energy. The government has developed PPPs, turnkey projects and other financial models for energy sector investments.

KREF Has Highlighted Regional Trade and Connectivity Opportunities

The Central Asian Power System (CAPS) comprising Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Uzbekistan is creating new opportunities for regional electricity trade that would improve energy security and efficiency through collaborative intercountry energy exchange.

The revival of CAPS is being driven by the growing importance of intercountry energy trade, which promises to optimize the use of energy resources of Central Asia's nations, fostering economic growth and regional collaboration. Tajikistan is set to reconnect to CAPS in 2024, enhancing its energy integration within the region. Turkmenistan is currently assessing the feasibility of rejoining CAPS, which could further solidify regional energy cooperation.

Pipeline regional energy-water projects, including Rogun and Zarafshan hydropower projects in Tajikistan, would enhance the energy landscape in Central Asia.

The recently launched Turkmenistan–Afghanistan–Pakistan electricity interconnection expansion project aims to strengthen the energy network and promote regional stability through enhanced energy cooperation.

The Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan participate in the Central Asia–South Asia (CASA-1000) project focusing on hydropower exports to Afghanistan and Pakistan.



Photo 7. Akylbek Zhaparov, Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic, reaffirms the government's strong commitment to energy sector reforms and regional cooperation aimed at enhancing energy security, advancing the green transition,

and supporting national development goals. © World Bank. Further permission required for reuse.

This quarterly newsletter follows the progress of CAWEP-4 and highlights some of the inspiring results achieved by our teams that promote regional cooperation for more resilient and better integrated water and energy management under a changing climate.

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CAWEP funds initiatives that improve water and energy management under a changing climate, strengthen national and regional institutions, and facilitate regional dialogue on water and energy security.

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