



Event Report
Kick-off workshop
*"Towards a modern Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
in Uzbekistan"*



26 August 2018
Tashkent, Uzbekistan



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Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

1. Background

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is an essential tool for greening economies and attainment of sustainable development goals. Recognizing the potential of EIA for ensuring incorporation of the environmental considerations into planning and designing economic activities, Uzbekistan has been expressing an increased interest in assessing feasibility of application of EIA procedures in its country. Being a non-Party to the Espoo Convention and having no experience in practical application of EIA, it faces a number of challenges to on its way to modernize its environmental assessment system in line with the international standards. These challenges include absence of relevant legislative frameworks, lack of understanding of the roles and responsibilities of various authorities in the EIA process and limited awareness of EIA and its benefits among the environmental authorities. The Government of Uzbekistan requested to provide support to carry out legislative review and provide recommendations on how to amend the existing legislative system in order to introduce modern EIA into its national legislation.

Kick-off workshop "Towards a modern Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in Uzbekistan" was held on 26 August 2018 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. It was organized by the UNECE in cooperation with the State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the branch office of the CAREC in Uzbekistan. The workshop gathered relevant governmental stakeholders at the decision-making level, national experts from the environmental authorities as well as representatives of international organizations, business, public associations and academia.

2. Workshop objectives

The aim of the workshop is to support development of modern EIA system in Uzbekistan, to raise awareness of the representatives of environmental and sectoral authorities about the EIA benefits, to share the best practices of EIA application in the UNECE region and to facilitate a discussion on the way forward to development of modern EIA system in Uzbekistan.

3. Approach and methodology

The workshop utilized a highly interactive design. Each theoretical block was followed by opened discussion. It was held in English and Russian, with interpretation. The workshop included blocks regarding: concept of EIA, international standards of EIA, role of EIA review, place of EIA in the development control and roles of various actors, activities subject of EIA, concept of screening, scoping and EIA report, public participation, transboundary procedure, taking into account results



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of EIA and final decision, post-project analysis. Each block included detailed presentations by Mr. Jerzy Jendroska, followed by presentation of the preliminary outcomes of the mapping study by Mr. Andriy Andrushevych and discussion. The discussion served multiple purposes, including better understanding by the participants of the issue, clarification of the mapping conclusions and, where relevant, gaps and needs to align national system to international standards.

4. Summary of the Workshop

Mr Feruz Himmatov, Head of State Expertise Center under the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environmental Protection opened the event by welcoming the participants. In his welcoming note he thanked the partners from the UNECE and the branch office of the CAREC in Uzbekistan for their support in providing capacity-building activities to Uzbekistan to strengthen the legal framework related to EIA procedures. Ambassador John MacGregor, Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan, Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), in his speech welcomed the increased interest of Uzbekistan in assessing feasibility of application of EIA procedures and pointed out the importance of introducing modern EIA into its national legislation. Ms. Sarangoo Radnaaragchaa, the Regional Adviser on Environment, Environment Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, in her welcoming speech emphasized the uniqueness of the event which brought together the representative of environmental and sectoral authorities of Uzbekistan and created a dedicated platform for the exchange of experiences.

Following the opening of the meeting, Mr. Jerzy Jendroska, international key legal expert and Mr. Andriy Andrushevych, international legal consultant delivered a series of presentations on Environmental Impact Assessment system and facilitated interactive discussions on the current situation in Uzbekistan.

The first part of the event was focused on introduction to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Mr. Jerzy Jendroska, introduced a concept of the Convention on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary Context (the Espoo Convention) and other international standards, providing key features of European model of EIA. Then, he explained a place of EIA in development control and roles of various national actors, illustrating typical examples of EIA procedures in EU and explaining obligations of competent authorities. During this part conceptual differences between European EIA model and OVOS/expertiza system were discussed with clear references to the national EIA system in Uzbekistan and mapping study conclusions. This included group discussion about the development consent system in Uzbekistan and its relation to the OVOS/Expertiza system based on brief introduction of the mapping study conclusions by Mr. Andriy Andrushevych.

The next part of the event was dedicated to consideration of elements of the EIA scheme. Mr. Jerzy Jendroska, presented the list of activities to be subject of EIA procedure, explaining to participants a concept of screening, procedural requirement and role of national authorities in the process, providing examples of approaches to screening in different countries. Then, he continued his presentation, explaining the process of scoping and the process of preparation of EIA Report according to the Espoo Convention and EIA Directive. Each presentation was followed by group discussion preceded by brief introduction of the mapping study by Mr. Andriy Andrushevych, i.e. bringing specific EIA element into the national context, in order to



facilitate better understanding of the specific EIA element and the extent to which national system reflects (or includes) such element.

The final part of the event was focused on importance of public participation in accordance with the Espoo Convention. Mr. Jerzy Jendroška described the obligations of public authorities in providing an access to information and role of private actors involved in public participation. Then, talking about transboundary procedure, Mr. Jerzy Jendroška explained the concept and stages of transboundary procedure.

In conclusion, Mr. Jerzy Jendroška described the process of post-project analysis according the Espoo Convention and EIA Directive. He gave some useful examples of post-project analysis based on Polish legislation.

As noted, each presentation was followed by opened interactive discussion, facilitated by Mr. Jerzy Jendroška, international key legal expert and Mr. Andriy Andrusevych, international legal consultant. The discussions seemed to generate much interest and exchange of views among the participants, including between EIA personnel and health authorities, developers.

5. Workshop conclusions

The workshop was carried out as it had been planned and, following the prepared agenda, it fulfilled its objectives. Thus, as a result of the workshop, the participants have:

- (a) learned about the experience of the countries of Eastern Europe and the Caucasus in reforming their national environmental assessment systems and the practical application of the transboundary EIA procedure in accordance with the Espoo Convention;
- (b) increased awareness on benefits of transboundary EIA and its practical application;
- (c) identified existing challenges related to the application to transboundary EIA and actions needed to address these challenges.
- (d) gained good understanding of the national EIA system as compared to international standards and European model of EIA.



Towards a modern Environmental Impact Assessment system in Uzbekistan

KICK-OFF WORKSHOP

26 August 2018
Tashkent, Uzbekistan
Wyndham Hotel

PROGRAMME

08:30 – 09:00 **Registration**

09:00 – 09:30 **Opening of the meeting, welcome comments**

Mr. Bahrom Kuchkarov, Chairman of the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environmental Protection;
Ambassador John MacGregor, Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE); Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan;
Ms. Sarangoo Radnaaragchaa, Regional Adviser on Environment, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE).

Introduction of the participants

Mr Feruz Himmatov, Head of State Expertise Center under the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environmental Protection.

09:30 – 10:30 **PART I. Introduction to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)**

I.1 Concept of the Convention on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary Context (the Espoo Convention) and other international standards; and role of the review of the national EIA system via-a-vis the provisions of the Convention and other international standards
Presentations

Mr. Jerzy Jendroška, international key legal expert;
Mr. Andriy Andrusevych, international legal consultant.
Questions and answers session

10:30 – 11:00 **I.2. Place of EIA in development control and roles of various national actors**
Presentation and facilitated discussion on the situation in Uzbekistan

Mr. Jerzy Jendroška, international key legal expert;



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Co-operation in Europe
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Mr. Andriy Andrusevych, international legal consultant.

Questions and answers session

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee break

11:30 – 12:30

PART II. Elements of the EIA scheme build on the principles of the Espoo Convention and other international standards:

II.1. List of activities to be subject of EIA procedure

Concept of screening and role of national authorities

Presentation and facilitated discussion on the situation in Uzbekistan

Mr. Jerzy Jendroška, international key legal expert;

Mr. Andriy Andrusevych, international legal consultant.

Questions and answers session

12:30 - 13:30

II.2 Scoping, role of national authorities and EIA Report

Presentation and facilitated discussion on the situation in Uzbekistan

Mr. Jerzy Jendroška, international key legal expert;

Mr. Andriy Andrusevych, international legal consultant.

Questions and answers session

13.30 – 14.30

Lunch

14:30 – 15:30

II.3. Public participation and role of national authorities

Presentation and facilitated discussion on the situation in Uzbekistan

Mr. Jerzy Jendroška, international key legal expert;

Mr. Andriy Andrusevych, international legal consultant.

Questions and answers session

15:30 – 16.00

II.4. Transboundary procedure and , role of national authorities

Presentation and facilitated discussion on the situation in Uzbekistan

Mr. Jerzy Jendroška, international key legal expert;

Mr. Andriy Andrusevych, international legal consultant.

Questions and answers session

16:00 – 16.30

Coffee break

16:30 – 17.00

II.5. Taking into account the results of EIA and final decision

Presentation and facilitated discussion on the situation in Uzbekistan

Mr. Jerzy Jendroška, international key legal expert;



*Mr. Andriy Andrusevych, international legal consultant.
Questions and answers session*

17:00 – 17.30

**II.6 Post-project analysis
*Presentation and facilitated discussion***

*Mr. Jerzy Jendrośka, international key legal expert;
Mr. Andriy Andrusevych, international legal consultant.*

Questions and answers session

17:30 – 18.00

PART III. Conclusions and closure of the day: summary of discussion outcomes and the way forward toward development of modern EIA system in Uzbekistan



Towards modern Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment systems in Uzbekistan

KICK-OFF WORKSHOP

26 August 2018
Tashkent, Uzbekistan
Wyndham Hotel

List of Participants

Participants: 45

Female participants: 14

	Name	Title
1	Mr Bahadir Tajiev	Deputy Chairman of a Committee of the Senate on Agrarian, Water Management Issues and Ecology, Republic of Uzbekistan
2	Mr Rovshan Ibrohimhodjaev	Deputy Head of Analytical Department, the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan
3	Mr Feruz Himmatov	Head of State Expertise Center under the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environmental Protection
4	Ms Tatiana Li	Head of Information system "Ecology and health of population", Ministry of Health, Republic of Uzbekistan
5	Mr Rahim Kulmatov	Head of innovation and methodology Department, Ministry of Construction, Republic of Uzbekistan
6	Mr Botirjon Abdullaev	Director of Institute of Hydrology and engineering geology, State Committee for Geology and Mineral Resources
7	Ms Ramilya Guzelbaeva	Engineer of Environmental Protection Services, Uzbekenergo
8	Ms Tamara Ahmedova	Interim Director of Uzgidromet
9	Mr Otabek Baturov	Infrastructure Analyst, EBRD
10	Ms Feruza Insavaliyeva	Project Analyst, ABD
11	Ms Ida An	Head of Department of industrial and ecology safety, «O'zLITINEFTGAZ»
12	Ms Ludmila Hegai	Leading expert in industrial and environmental safety, «Bezopasnost i Kontrol»
13	Mr Davron Abdurahmanov	Interim Head of Department of environmental protection, Almalyk Mining and Metallurgical Combine
14	Ms Svetlana Li	Deputy Head of Department of environmental protection, Almalyk Mining and Metallurgical Combine



15	Mr Bahtier Temirov	Head of Environmental Protection Service, Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Combine
16	Ms Zuhra Chorlieva	Head of the Environmental Protection Group, Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Combine
17	Ms Marhabo Masharipova	Engineer ecologist of the united energy service, Navoi Mining and Metallurgical Combine
18	Mr Abdurahim Vahabov	Head of Department, Doctor of Economics, Professor, National University of the Republic of Uzbekistan of M. Ulugbek
19	Mr Pulat Kushnazarov	Senior Lecturer of Department of Ecology and Environmental Protection, Tashkent State Technical University
20	Ms Gulnaz Saparova	Associate Professor of the Department of Environmental Safety in Agriculture, Tashkent State Technical University
21	Mr Aziz Muminov	Head of Environmental Impact Assessment Department, the State Expertise Center under the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environmental Protection
22	Ms Karina Bekmirzaeva	Head of the Department of State Environmental Expertise, the State Expertise Center under the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environmental Protection
23	Mr Jahongir Gadaev	Specialist of the Department of State Environmental Expertise, the State Expertise Center under the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environmental Protection
34	Mr Adham Kurbanov	Head of department for work with territorial centers and methodology, the State Expertise Center under the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environmental Protection
25	Ms Nina Koroleva	Consultant on State Ecological Expertise, the State Expertise Center under the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environmental Protection
26	Mr Kairat Taubaev	Interim Director of Center for State Ecological Expertise of the Republic of Karakalpakstan
27	Mr Abdumannob Mamanazarov	Interim Director of Center for State Ecological Expertise of Andijan Region
28	Mr Mahmud Gulaymov	Interim Director of Center for State Ecological Expertise of Bukhara region
29	Mr Zievidin Aglamov	Director of Center for State Environmental Review of the Dzhizak region
30	Mr Jahongir Berdiev	Interim Director of Center for State Ecological Expertise of Kashkadarya region
31	Mr Ahror Uldashev	Director of Center for State Environmental Expertise of Namangan region
32	Mr Akmal Saidov	Interim Director of Center for State Environmental Expertise of Navoi region
33	Mr Zafar Azimov	Director of Center for State Environmental Expertise of Samarkand region
34	Mr Abdukodir Bahshikulov	Interim Director of Center for State Ecological Expertise of Surkhandarya region



35	Mr Donier Muratov	Interim Director of Center for State Ecological Expertise of the Syrdarya region
36	Mr Bahtier Juraev	Director of Center of State Ecological Expertise of Tashkent region
37	Mr Ruslam Kamalbekov	Interim Director of Center of State Ecological Expertise of Tashkent
38	Mr Mahamatmuso Babahodjaev	Director of Center for State Environmental Expertise of the Fergana region
39	Mr Jonibek Haitov	Director of Center for State Ecological Expertise of the Kharezm region

List of speakers

40	Mr. Bahrom Kuchkarov	Chairman of the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environmental Protection
41	Ms. Sarangoo Radnaaragchaa	Regional Adviser on Environment, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
42	Ambassador John MacGregor	Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan, OSCE
43	Mr. Jerzy Jendroška	International key legal expert
44	Mr. Andriy Andrushevych	International legal consultant
45	Ms Shakhnoza Umarova	Director of CAREC Branch in Uzbekistan