

Report on CAREC activities

Item 11. Mainstreaming gender issues in education for sustainable development

Timing: Tuesday, 31 May, 3–3.30 p.m.

- **Gender mainstreaming in environmental issues and ESD** is important as women are often disproportionately affected by unsustainable natural resources management in Central Asia, and often are responsible for energy and water use and distribution in their families and local societies.
- **Gender mainstreaming in governance** can lead to more effective and responsive policies that reduce social imbalances for the benefit of the society, contributing to conflict prevention. Truly equitable and sustainable natural resources management necessitate the inclusion of women in all levels of decision-making.
- **Gender-sensitive policy interventions in the environment, energy and water sectors** contribute to fair natural resources distribution and maximize the social, economic and environmental benefits of sustainable development. In this regard, gender mainstreaming in water and energy governance can lead to more effective and responsive policies that reduce social imbalances for the benefit of the society as a whole and therewith contribute to conflict prevention*.
- **CAREC has a 20-years’ experience in organising and conducting different capacity-building events** (workshops, trainings, CALP, etc.) with various thematic focuses (water, energy, climate change, NEXUS, etc.). This experience allows to prognose that CAREC is able to keep a gender balance during all future projects’ implementation and organising different capacity-building events.
- Starting from 2015 until now, CAREC cooperates with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Secretariat on the issues of gender-sensitive water governance and water diplomacy:
 - **The first “Regional training workshop on gender mainstreaming and conflict resolution in water governance”** was conducted in 2015 in Almaty under the OSCE project “Women, Water Management and Conflict Prevention – Phase I”.
 - **The second “Regional training course on water diplomacy with a special focus on gender-sensitive negotiation and mediation skills”** was conducted in conjunction with the 10th Anniversary CALP by the OSCE Secretariat’s in Almaty in 2019 under the OSCE project “Women, Water Management and Conflict Prevention – Phase II”.
 - Starting from 2020 CAREC cooperates with the OSCE on gender-related issues in the frames of implementation of the project **“Career Development Course & Mentoring Programme “Women, Water Management and Conflict Prevention – Phase II”**, which runs in June 2021 - May 2022. This one-year Programme is designed to advance the professional development of women water professionals from Central Asia and Afghanistan, representing the state, academic and non-governmental sectors.

**The text is from the Concept of the 10th Anniversary Central Asian Leadership Programme on Environment for Sustainable Development (CALP) and “Advanced mid-level male and female professionals of Central Asia and Afghanistan - for regional cooperation and promotion of green innovations” (OSCE), 2019*