



REGIONAL FORUM – MEETING OF THE HEADS OF EMERGENCY AUTHORITIES OF CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES

4 – 6 October in Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Information Note for Participants

This year’s ‘Regional Forum – Meeting of the Heads of Emergency Authorities of Central Asian countries’ is hosted by the Committee for Emergency Situations and Civil Defense of Tajikistan (CoES) at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dushanbe on 4 - 6 October 2022.

The organization of the Regional Forum is supported by the Center of Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction (CESDRR)¹, which acts as the Secretariat for the Regional Forum, with financial support from the European Union, and technical support from the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), the World Bank and the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR).

The Regional Forum, held annually since 2018, convenes disaster management authorities of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Republic of Uzbekistan. It acts as an auxiliary mechanism for strengthening and developing regional cooperation in disaster risk reduction, climate change, and prevention and response to emergencies, and acts as a permanent consultative platform. It has been established in compliance with outcome documents adopted during previous regional ministerial conferences:

- Regional Ministerial Conference “Regional Cooperation in the field of disaster risk reduction in Central Asia”, 2013, Bishkek;
- Second Regional Ministerial Conference of Emergency Authorities of Central Asian countries within the “Central Asia + Japan” Dialogue, 2014, Bishkek;
- Regional Ministerial Conference of Central Asian and South Caucasus countries for disaster risk reduction, January 2015, Bishkek;
- Regional Ministerial Conference of Central Asian countries on disaster prevention and response, 2015, Ashgabat;
- Regional Meeting of the Heads of Emergency Authorities of Central Asian countries for disaster risk reduction, 2017, Dushanbe.

This year’s Regional Forum builds on progress over the last two forums, hosted virtually by the Government of Kyrgyzstan in 2020, and in person by the Government of Uzbekistan Tashkent in 2021, which resulted in the heads of national delegations of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

endorsing the first ever ‘Strategy of Cooperation in Central Asia for Disaster Risk Reduction for 2022 – 2030’,² including the roadmap for its implementation in 2022-2023, amongst other key documents.³

¹ <https://cesdrr.org/en>

² <https://cesdrr.org/uploads/en/regforum/01%20-%20Strategy%20for%20cooperation%20development.pdf>

³ <https://cesdrr.org/en/regional-forum-meetings>



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Objectives:

- Further enhance cooperation in Central Asia on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.
- Allow countries to jointly review, analyse and make recommendations and adjustments on the implementation of the Roadmap of Regional DRR strategy.

Expected outcomes

- Actions and priorities determined in implementation of the Roadmap for 2023-2024
- Actions on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation are discussed and acknowledged as priority for sustainable development at national and regional levels
- Areas identified for strengthening cooperation and partnerships between Central Asian countries and donors, partners, and technical assistance organizations

Participants:

Heads of National Disaster Management Authorities (NDMAs); National Coordinators for Sendai Framework Program; members of the Regional Scientific and Technical Council (RSTC); technical experts and other government officials; international technical assistance organizations; and donor agencies

Program

4th October: Extended Meeting of the RSTC within the Strengthening Financial Resilience and Accelerating Risk Reduction (SFRARR) in Central Asia Program implemented by the World Bank/GFDRR. The participants will be presented with the following reports in the areas of disaster risk management and financing:

1. Final report and country summaries of the regional multi-peril risk assessment task.
2. “Adaptive Social Protection System Assessment in Central Asia” country report for the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan
3. The concepts of Disaster Risk Financing (DRF) will be shared through the presentation on “Supporting Emergency Preparedness and Response through DRF”

While the implementing team will present the variety of the reports, in the separate session, the participating technical experts and government officials will also hear about alternative models for the regional disaster risk assessment. Finally, the day will wrap up with the discussion on the vision for disaster risk management and financing in the region as well as the role of the RSTC.

5th October: Preparatory day consisting of four thematic sessions, bringing together representatives of Forum countries and international organizations providing technical assistance to discuss the four priority areas of the Regional DRR Strategy

1. Strengthening the regional institutional and legal framework for disaster risk management.
2. Improving knowledge and understanding of disaster risk, with a particular focus on transboundary risks.
3. Investing in disaster risk reduction at the regional level.
4. Strengthening preparedness to respond to emergencies.

The preparatory day also includes a meeting for Sendai Technical Focal Points on National Sendai Monitor reporting.

6th October: Plenary day consisting of the following sessions:

1. Implementation of Roadmap of the Strategy for development of cooperation of Central Asian countries in the field of DRR in 2022 and the Action Plan for 2023-2024.



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2. Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
3. Strengthening resilience of Central Asian countries to climate change
4. Parallel sessions:
 - a. Prospects for a Regional Early Warning System and Implementation of Information and Communication Technology for DRR in Central Asia
 - b. Measures to Strengthen Regional Resilience of Central Asian countries to Multiple Risks
5. DRR cooperation in Central Asia in 2023: Aligning international programmes with national and regional priorities.
6. Closing Session, including the adoption of the Protocol of the Forum.

Annotated agenda

2-3 OCTOBER	
Arrival of Participants	
4 OCTOBER, TUESDAY	
Extended Meeting of the Regional Scientific and Technical Council within the framework of the European Union funded "Strengthening Financial Resilience and Accelerating Risk Reduction in Central Asia" (SFRARR) Program implemented by the World Bank under the management of GFDRR	
08:30 -09:00	Registration of participants
09:00 - 09:20	Introduction & greetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Representative CESDRR - Representative of the EU - Representative of the World Bank - Mr. Octavian Bivol
09:20 - 09:40	SFRARR Program presentation
09:40 - 10:40	Regional Disaster Risk Assessment: Presentation of the final report and country summaries, Consortium led by Risk, Engineering + Development (RED)
10:40 - 11:20	Q&A session for the Regional Disaster Risk Assessment
11:20 - 11:30	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:30 - 12:30	Presentation on Supporting Emergency Preparedness and Response through Disaster Risk Financing (including Q&A), World Bank;
12:30 - 1:30	<i>Lunch</i>
1:30 - 2:30	Presentation of "Adaptive Social Protection System Assessment in Central Asia" country report for the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan (including Q&A), World Bank
2:30 - 3:00	"Developing a Disaster Risk Transfer Facility in the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Region": program scope & progress presentation (including Q&A). Asian Development Bank and Consortium led by Willis Towers Watson (WTW);
3:00 – 4:00	"Strengthening disaster resilience in Central Asia" (including Q&A), UNDRR
4:00 - 4:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
4:15 - 6:00	Roundtable: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Next steps: What's the vision of Disaster Risk Management and Financing in Central Asia?" "RSTC and its role in supporting Disaster Risk Management agenda in the region."



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5 OCTOBER, WEDNESDAY

Review of progress, priorities, and identification of action plans for the priorities of the Action Plan (Roadmap) on the implementation of the Strategy for the development of cooperation between Central Asian countries in DRR.

Time	Event
8.00 – 8.30	Arrival, registration of participants of thematic sessions
8.30 – 8.45	<p>Welcome speeches</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Representative of Government of Tajikistan - Mr. Johannes Baur, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Kazakhstan - Mr. Octavian Bivol, Chief, UNDRR Regional Office for Europe & Central Asia - Mr. Stephan Zimmerman, GFDRR Disaster Risk Management Specialist
8.45 – 13.00	<p>The aim of each focus sessions on Priorities 1, 2, 3 and 4, of the Roadmap on the implementation of the Strategy for the development of cooperation between Central Asian countries in DRR is to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) discuss progress in the implementation of the Roadmap of the Regional Strategy on DRR for Central Asia b) share successful global and regional experience in developing legal and institutional framework for DRR, and c) produce recommendations for the revised Roadmap for 2023-2024.
8.45 – 9.40	<p>Priority 1: Strengthening regional institutional and legal framework for disaster risk governance Moderator: Ara Nazinyan</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - E. Torebekova, CESDRR, on Priority 1 implementation (5min) - J. Kamolov, CoES, and Expert Group members on Tajikistan’s experiences of DRR strategy assessments and the Stress Test of the DRM System (15min) - Nawab Khan, AKAH, to present on MCR2030 (10min) - Rajeev Issar, UNDP, to present on Urban Resilience (15min) - Discussion (10min)
9.40 – 10.35	<p>Priority 2: Enhancing knowledge and understanding of disaster risk, especially of a transboundary nature Moderator: <i>to be confirmed</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - M. Chekirbaev, CESDRR, on Priority 2 implementation (5min) - CIMA on DesInventar-Sendai implementation in Central Asia (10min) - UNDRR on the Risk Information Exchange (RIX) (15min) - Yelyzaveta Rubach, UNECE, on cross-border cooperation on Industrial/NATECH risk reduction in Central Asia (15min) - Discussion (10min)
10.35 – 10.50	<i>Coffee break</i>
10.50 – 11.45	<p>Priority 3: Investing in DRR at the regional level Moderator: Carlos Munos</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - M. Chekirbaev, CESDRR, on Priority 3 implementation (5 min) - Daniel Kull, GFDRR, on strengthening Disaster Risk Financing in Central Asia (15 min) - Baiba Gaile, IIED, on DRR and CCA expenditure tracking (15min) - Discussion (10 min)
11.45 – 13.00	Priority 4: Strengthening disaster preparedness



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	Moderator: <i>to be confirmed</i>	
	Speakers:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - E. Torebekova, CESDRR, to present on progress on Priority 4 (5min) - CESDRR to present on Early Warning Systems (10min) - UNDRR to present on using INFORM database for regional programs (10min) - Sepehr Marzi, Joint Research Centre, European Commission, to present on INFORM climate projections & support for decision-making (15min) - Discussion (10 min on Priority 4) 	
	<i>Remaining time until 13.00 dedicated to overall discussion</i>	
13.00 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>	
PARALLEL SESSIONS		
14.00 - 15.00	Sendai Monitor reporting Meeting of STFPs, relevant ministries, and experts from international organizations.	Rapporteurs' summaries Summarizing findings/outputs of thematic sessions.
15.00 – 15.20	Coffee break	
15.20 – 18.00	Meeting of the Working Group (experts) for drafting Roadmap 2023-2024. Inclusion of recommendations of thematic sessions 1,2,3,4 in the Roadmap for 2023-2024	
19.00	<i>Dinner on behalf of UNDRR and CESDRR</i>	

6 OCTOBER, THURSDAY		
Regional Forum - Meeting of the Heads of Emergency Management Authorities of Central Asian countries		
Time	Event	
OPENING SESSION		
9.00 – 9.45	Welcome speeches (5min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deputy Prime Minister of Republic of Tajikistan - Republic of Kazakhstan - Kyrgyz Republic - Republic of Tajikistan - Turkmenistan - Republic of Uzbekistan 	
9.45 - 10.15	Statements of development partners (5min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, and head of UNDRR - Ambassador Terhi Hakala, EU Special Representative for Central Asia - Representative of World Bank/GFDRR - Secretary General of ICDO - Sezin Sinanoglu, UN Resident Coordinator in Tajikistan 	
PLENARY SESSION: Development of regional cooperation of Central Asian countries in DRR - achievements, challenges, proposals		
10.15 - 11.00	Implementation of the Action Plan (Roadmap) on the implementation of the Strategy for development of cooperation of Central Asian countries in the field of DRR in 2022 and the Action Plan for 2023-2024.	
	CESDRR will provide participants with an update on progress and plans on the regional DRR roadmap.	
11.00 - 11:30	<i>Coffee break, group photo, and press interviews</i>	
11:30 - 12:15	Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for DRR in Central Asia Representatives of national delegations, partners, and experts will share updates on their progress on voluntary reporting on the Midterm Review of	

	<p>the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and its synergies with the Midterm Review of the Water Action Decade, identifying lessons and best practices for bringing disaster risk management, integrated water resources management and climate adaptation closer together at national and regional levels.</p> <p><i>Introduction:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Octavian Bivol, Chief of UNDRR Regional Office for Europe & Central Asia <p><i>Keynote speaker:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dmitry Mariyasin, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE <p><i>National delegates:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Republic of Kazakhstan - Kyrgyz Republic - Republic of Tajikistan 	
12.15 - 13.00	<p>Strengthening resilience of Central Asian countries to climate change Representatives of national delegations, partners, and experts will share insights and discuss the latest evidence on the impacts of climate change on countries in Central Asia, and explore synergies and coherence between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation strategies, as well as opportunities for further regional cooperation</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Karmen Poljansek, Joint Research Centre, European Commission, on the INFORM Climate Risk Index - Tajikistan Agency for Environment on the experience of Tajikistan in climate change adaptation - Salome Steib, Director, Counsellor and Consul, Swiss Cooperation Office Tajikistan - Animesh Kumar, Head, UNDRR Office in Bonn, on comprehensive risk management (DRR and CCA coherence) 	
13.00 - 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>	
PARALLEL SESSIONS		
14.00 - 15:40	Session 1. Prospects for a Regional Early Warning System and Implementation of Information and Communication Technology for DRR in Central Asia	Session 2. Measures to Strengthen Regional Resilience of Central Asian countries to Multiple Risks
14.00 – 14.20	Ulugbek Dedabaev, UNDP Uzbekistan: Prospects for a Regional Early Warning System and Implementation of Information and Communication Technology for DRR in Central Asia	Dr. Pulod Aminzoda, Academy of Science, Tajikistan: Strengthening capacity to reduce seismic risk on the territory of Tajikistan
14.40 – 15.00	Alan Mills, MapAction: Measures for implementation of innovative information and communication technologies for DRR	A.Kayumov, Academy of Science, Tajikistan: Modern and innovative methods for monitoring of glaciers, snow cover and breakthrough glacial lakes under climate change
15.00 - 15.30	F.Tursunzoda, CoES, E.Ayubzoda, CoES: Operation of the Sarez Lake monitoring and early warning system. Expansion and modernization of the Sarez Lake monitoring and early warning system	J. Niyazov, Academy of Science, Tajikistan: Prevention of dangerous hydrological phenomena on the rivers of Tajikistan
15.30 - 16.00	<i>Coffee break</i>	



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CLOSING SESSION

16.00 - 17.00	DRR cooperation in Central Asia in 2023: Aligning international programmes with national and regional priorities. Participants will hear a summary of the regional DRR priorities and are welcome to provide short final remarks on the roadmap priorities and possible areas of collaboration (<i>up to 3min</i>)
17.00 17.30	Closing Session - Adoption of the Final Document - the Protocol of the Regional Forum - Summarizing the results of the Regional Forum-Meeting of the Heads of Emergency Authorities of Central Asian Countries - Closing remarks
17.30 18.00	Press-conference
19.00	<i>Dinner on behalf of the Government of Tajikistan</i>

7 OCTOBER, FRIDAY

Departure of Participants