

EU Global Gateway Multi-Stakeholder Consultation in Central Asia: Strengthening Policy Ambitions through Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and Circular Economy (CE)

SWITCH-Asia Policy Support Component (PSC) Events

Dates: 22-23 May 2025

Venue: Park hotel, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Central Asian countries are increasingly aspiring toward greener, low-carbon development pathways, recognizing the urgency of addressing climate and environmental challenges while pursuing sustainable economic growth. Several countries in the region have adopted national strategies or roadmaps on green economy and climate action - Kazakhstan was among the first in the region to adopt a Green Economy Concept in 2013, while Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan have recently integrated circular economy principles into national development plans. The government of Turkmenistan has expressed an interest in the area of Circular Economy and facilitates regional alignment of climate work. Renewable energy targets, efforts to improve energy efficiency, and emerging climate legislation reflect the growing commitment to a more sustainable future.

Within this context, the adoption of circular economy principles - such as resource efficiency, waste reduction, and material recovery - is gaining traction, especially in key sectors like construction, food systems, and manufacturing. Policy tools such as green public procurement and extended producer responsibility are beginning to shape more circular and resilient supply chains, facilitating the region's integration into sustainable trade and production networks.

These developments towards circular economy strongly align with the broader goals of the EU Global Gateway, which places circular economy and resource efficiency, along with pollution and greenhouse gas emission reduction, at the core of its green and sustainable development agenda. These priorities are reflected in the Gateway's focus on Green Transition and Climate Action, Sustainable Infrastructure, and Support for Sustainable Value Chains. By fostering policy dialogue, knowledge exchange, and legislative engagement, the Global Gateway can support Central Asia's transition toward circular value chains - enhancing regional sustainability, economic resilience, and alignment with global green economy standards.

This meeting will centre on advancing the circular economy agenda through dialogue with parliamentarians from Central Asian countries, focusing on strategic directions, key opportunities for action, and pathways for legislative development. Contributions from various SWITCH-Asia Technical Advisory projects will enrich the discussion by offering practical insights from ongoing work in areas such as sustainable tourism, circular economy in construction, green public procurement (GPP), strengthening NDCs through sustainable consumption and production (SCP) and extended producer responsibility (EPR).

Format: Hybrid meeting (In-person meeting and available virtually through Zoom)

Registration [here](#):

Co-organisers/supporters: Delegation of the European Union in Kyrgyzstan, SWITCH-Asia PSC, The Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC)

Invited participants: EU INTPA HQ, EU Delegations in Central Asia, SWITCH-Asia Policy Support Component (PSC), parliamentarians, SWITCH-Asia National Focal Points (NFPs), other representatives of governments in the Central Asian region, Partners and stakeholders of the

SWITCH-Asia Technical Advisories on Strategic Foresight for Tourism with a Food Angle in Central Asia and on Advancing Circular Economy and Policy Dialogues in collaboration with the Parliamentarians' Platform in Central Asia, ACTED, KAGIR, American University of Central Asia, UNDP, relevant international organisations and projects among others.

Access Reading Resources [here](#).

Objectives:

- **Support Parliamentarians in Central Asia in shaping policy and legislative Frameworks for SCP and Circular Economy**

Support parliamentarians in Central Asia to develop, refine, and advocate for policies and legislation that promote Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and Circular Economy (CE), including integration into national strategies, legal frameworks, and climate commitments such as NDCs and LT-LEDS.

- **Facilitate Parliamentary Dialogue and regional exchange for informed action**

Enable structured dialogue and peer exchange among parliamentarians across Central Asia, supported by experts and stakeholders, to share experiences, lessons from technical assistance, and opportunities for CE policy innovation tailored to national contexts and regional cooperation.

- **Strengthen Parliamentarians' role in scaling Circular Economy practices through stakeholder engagement**

Equip parliamentarians with insights and partnerships necessary to champion the replication and scaling of CE and SCP practices in key sectors such as construction, food, and tourism - leveraging tools like Green Public Procurement (GPP), Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), and public-private collaboration.

BRIEF PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

Thursday, 22 May 2025	
Time	Session
8:30AM registration	DAY 1 STARTS
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome and Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Dinara ASHIMOVA, Deputy of Juroku Kenesh of Kyrgyzstan, Leader of the Parliamentary Fraction “Yiman Nuru” • Mr. Amanak KENJEBAEV, Chair of the Committee on Agriculture, Waster Resources, Environment and Regional Development of the Jogorku Kenesh of Kyrgyzstan • Mr. Stefano CORRADO, Programme Manager at the EU Delegation to the Kyrgyz Republic • Mr. Zafar MAKHMUDOV, Executive Director, CAREC • Dr. Zinaida FADEEVA, Team Leader, SWITCH-Asia Programme PSC
9:30 – 10:30	Session 1: Circular Economy as a pathway to net zero and green growth Introduction to the Session

	<p>Mr. Zafar MAKMUDOV, Executive Director, CAREC</p> <p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SWITCH-Asia Technical Advisory introduction, Dr. Zinaida FADEEVA, SWITCH-Asia PSC • Circular Economy Concepts and Practices Dr. Rene VAN BERKEL, Senior CE Expert for the SWITCH-Asia PSC • Role of Business in Circular Economy Practices Mr. Arab HOBALLAH, Senior SCP Expert for the SWITCH-Asia PSC • Circular Economy in Central Asia Mr. Kanat SULTANALIEV, Expert for the SWITCH-Asia PSC <p>Discussion and Q&A</p> <p>Closing reflections Mr. Zafar MAKMUDOV, Executive Director, CAREC</p>	
10:30 – 10:45	<p>Coffee Break Group Photo session</p>	
10:45 – 11.45	<p>Session 2: Country reflections on Circular Economy practices in Central Asian Countries</p> <p>Introduction to the Session Dr. Zinaida Fadeeva, Team leader, SWITCH-Asia PSC</p> <p>Facilitated Panel of Parliamentarians</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyrgyzstan: Ms. Dinara ASHIMOVA, Deputy of Juroku Kenesh of Kyrgyzstan, Leader of the Parliamentary Fraction “Yiman Nuru” • Kazakhstan: Mr. Arman KALYKOV, Deputy of the Mazhilis of the Parliament Republic of Kazakhstan • Uzbekistan: Mr. Zakirjon RAKHMANOV, Chairman of the Fergana regional branch of the Nuroniy Foundation, member of the Senate Committee on Agrarian, Water Management and Ecology (TBC) • Tajikistan: Mr. Amirzoda Orif HAMID, Chairman of the Environmental Commission (TBC) • Turkmenistan: Mr. Gurbangeldiyev Begench KERIMOVICH, Deputy of the Committee of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan on Economic Issues <p>Discussion and Q&A</p> <p>Closing reflections Dr. Zinaida FADEEVA, Team leader, SWITCH-Asia PSC</p>	
11.45 – 13:30	<p>Meeting of Parliamentarians (by invitation)</p>	<p>Meeting of NFPs, Members of Government and TA Partners and Stakeholders</p>

13:30 – 14.30	Lunch
14.30 – 15.30	<p>Session 3: Circular Economy Policy Deep dive</p> <p>Introduction to the Session: Mr. Arab HOBALLAH, Senior SCP Expert for the SWITCH-Asia PSC</p> <p>Presentation: Policies facilitating Circular Economy Dr. Rene van Berkel, Senior CE Expert for the SWITCH-Asia PSC</p> <p>Panel discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Shoxzod ISLAMOV, Ministry of Economy and Poverty Reduction, Uzbekistan (TBC) • Mr. Dilovarsho DUSTZODA, SWITCH-Asia Climate Change expert • Dr. Thomas LINDHQVIST, SWITCH-Asia Policy/EPR Expert • Mr. Nurgali RAKHMANOV, Green Public Procurement Expert <p>Closing reflections Mr. Arab HOBALLAH, Senior SCP Expert for the SWITCH-Asia PSC</p>
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee Break
15:45 – 16:45	<p>Session 4: Circular Economy Deep dive – sector perspective to unlock circular economy opportunities</p> <p>Introduction to the Session: Ms. Elodie MARIA-SUBE, Expert SWITCH-Asia PSC</p> <p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation on the Strategic Foresight results in the Tourism & Food sectors in Central Asia Ms. Yelena MUZYKINA, Senior Strategic Foresight expert • Presentation on Circularity in Construction and Buildings in Kazakhstan Mr. Alexander BELYY, Senior Construction and Buildings Expert; Executive Director, Kazakhstan Green Building Council <p>Central Asian reflections Moderated by: Mr Kanat SULTANALIEV, Executive Director, Tian Shan Policy Center, AUCA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Saken KALKAMANOV, Acting Chairman of the Management Board, NJSC (International Green Technologies and Investment Projects Center); SWITCH-Asia NFP National Focal point Kazakhstan (TBC) • Mr. Sanzhar BOLOTOV, Deputy Minister, Department of Green Economy and Tourism, Ministry of Economy and Commerce; SWITCH-Asia NFP National Focal point Kyrgyzstan (TBC) <p>Closing reflections Dr. Zinaida FADEEVA, Team Leader, SWITCH ASIA PSC</p>
16:45 – 17:00	Summary of day 1

Friday, 23 May 2025	
Time	Session
8:30AM registration	DAY 2 STARTS
9:00 – 9:15	Summary of Day 1 and introduction to the Day 2
9:15 – 12:00 (Coffee provided in the rooms)	Bilateral engagement with Parliament representatives In this session, Members of Parliament from each participating country will engage simultaneously in parallel group discussions with national and international experts to explore opportunities for advancing the circular economy in their respective contexts and to identify priorities for next steps. Discussion of each country will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing from the national experts of policies and practices on CE • Discussion on CE policies • Discussion on business engagement and innovation for CE • Discussion of CE in building and construction • Scenarios for CE in tourism and food sector
12:00 – 13:00	Reporting from the sessions (SWITCH-Asia Regional/National Experts to report group discussions) Kyrgyzstan: Ms. Olga FADIEYIEVA Kazakhstan: Mr. Alexey CHEREDNICHENKO Uzbekistan: Ms. Saida YUSUPOVA Tajikistan: Ms. Nasibakhon AMINOVA Turkmenistan: Mr. Kanat SULTANALIEV Discussion of the next steps
13:00 – 13:15	Final Reflections and Concluding Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Kanat SULTANALIEV, Expert for the SWITCH-Asia PSC • Mr. Zafar MAKHMUDOV, Executive Director, CAREC • Dr. Zinaida FADEEVA, Team Leader, SWITCH-Asia Programme PSC
13:15	LUNCH
Afternoon	Bilateral Meetings with partners/ co-organisers (By country) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings with the Delegation of the EU • Meetings with TA partners • Meetings with NFPs • TA experts to meet Parliamentarians/participants