

Enhancing Climate Ambition through Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and Circular Economy in Central Asia



WHERE WE ARE

Unsustainable patterns of consumption and production are key drivers of the triple planetary crises, climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. The Central Asian region, with its abundant natural resources and rapid economic transformation, faces mounting sustainability challenges. The region's high dependence on resource extraction industries, combined with increasing climate vulnerabilities such as water scarcity, desertification, and extreme weather events, underscores the urgency of integrating sustainability principles into economic and climate policies.







Central Asian countries, namely, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, have all recognized the importance of a green economy transition. Each country has made strategic commitments toward sustainable development, and the integration of Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) and Circular Economy (CE) approaches into their climate policies, including Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS), presents an opportunity to strengthen climate ambition. Given the upcoming NDC updates in 2025, this is an opportune moment to support these countries in identifying and implementing SCP and CE strategies to enhance their climate targets while ensuring sustainable economic growth.

WHAT WE ARE DOING

This Technical Advisory (TA) project aims to identify opportunities to align SCP and Circular Economy principles with the climate ambitions of Central Asian countries, particularly in the context of NDC 3.0 and LT-LEDS. The project will enhance synergies among policies on climate action, material resource efficiency, and sustainable development by engaging key national and regional stakeholders in knowledge exchange and policy co-creation.

The overall objective of this TA is to integrate SCP and Circular Economy policies and actions into the climate commitments of Central Asian countries, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of their NDCs and LT-LEDS.

This initiative will :

-  Conduct a rapid assessment of climate policies, SCP priorities, and material resource use across Central Asian countries to identify key synergies and gaps.
 -  Organize multi-stakeholder consultations at national and regional levels to explore the potential of SCP and CE strategies in climate mitigation and adaptation.
 -  Develop policy recommendations in collaboration with national and regional stakeholders to strengthen climate ambition through SCP and CE integration.
 -  Establish a knowledge exchange platform to facilitate regional dialogue, promote best practices, and engage in UNFCCC and other global processes.
 -  Provide on-demand technical assistance to support specific sectoral SCP and CE target development within NDC 3.0 and LT-LEDS.
-  Five countries were selected for this work: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan

WHERE WE WISH TO BE

- Strengthened climate action in Central Asia through the integration of SCP and CE strategies into national policies.
- Enhanced national and regional collaboration on sustainable resource management and climate mitigation.
- Increased engagement of stakeholders, including government agencies, private sector actors, and civil society, in SCP and CE policy development.
- Development of actionable policy recommendations and technical support to facilitate the transition to a low-carbon, resource-efficient economy in Central Asia.

SYNERGIES

The initiative will capitalize on the synergies with other EU SWITCH-Asia circular economy related projects implemented in the region including:



[Circular Economy Policy Dialogues with the Parliamentarians' Platform in Central Asia](#)



[Building for a Circular Future: Policies and Partnerships for the Construction Sector](#)



[Identifying Enablers for Effective Extended Producer Responsibility \(EPR\) systems](#) in Asia Pacific Region: Drawing Lessons from Developed and Developing Countries in the EU and Asia

WHO WE ARE

switchasia



Funded by
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SWITCH-Asia is a programme funded by the European Union (EU). Active since 2007, it seeks to promote Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) in the region. Through its 2019 EU Green Deal and Global Gateway, the EU has further committed to supporting the transition of countries to a low-carbon, resource-efficient and circular economy.

The SWITCH-Asia Policy Support Component provides direct support to regional organisations, national governments and related implementing agencies in charge of policies and regulatory frameworks relevant to SCP. This is done in the form of on-demand advisory on scaling up SCP policy and implementation as well as through creating a platform for knowledge exchange, and building capacities of regional institutions. All activities rely on the strong engagement of partner countries and organisations in co-creating the requested policies, processes and other deliverables.

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