

Matrix of Capacity Building events and Initiatives for Transparency for Central Asian Countries 2025-2026

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Initiative for Climate Action Transparency – ICAT

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Authors: Nailia Timerkhanova, ReCATH Project Regional climate transparency specialist, CAREC
Oxana Kravtsova, ReCATH Project Specialist, CAREC
Dilovarsho Dustzoda, ReCATH Project Manager, CAREC

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Table of contents

Table of contents.....	2
Introduction.....	3
Transparency Partners.....	3
Purpose of the Matrix of the events	6
Limitations of the Matrix of the events	7
Events and activity Matrix for 2025–2026	7
A. Activities in 2025.....	7
B. Activities in 2026.....	9
Conclusion.....	10
Annexes.....	11

Introduction

Capacity building in climate transparency is critical for ensuring accurate, consistent, and timely reporting on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, climate mitigation measures, and adaptation. It not only builds trust among countries and international partners but also enables Parties to effectively plan, monitor, and adjust their climate actions to achieve the NDC goals. Investments in institutional, technical, and human capacity lay the foundation for sustainable and accountable climate policy.

Transparency Partners

In Central Asia, a wide range of development partners provide technical support in the area of climate transparency. The regional ReCATH project (Regional Climate Action Transparency Hub), implemented by the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) with technical support from the Greenhouse Gas Management Institute (GHGMI) with funding from the Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT), has been the key regional initiative from 2021. ReCATH provided capacity building, technical support, and peer learning to strengthen national systems for reporting under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) of the Paris Agreement. Its activities covered all main components of Biennial Transparency Report (BTR), including GHG inventories, NDC tracking, adaptation monitoring, projections, and climate finance.

The project organized more than 28 regional trainings, summer academies, and technical workshops, producing practical outputs such as institutional arrangement records for GHG inventories, emission estimation guides, adaptation indicators and impact chains, NDC tracking tools, climate finance data flow maps, and scenario modeling exercises. ReCATH also established regional technical working groups on GHG inventory/mitigation, adaptation, and climate finance, ensuring



coordination, harmonization of approaches, and continuous knowledge sharing among the five Central Asian countries. Through these efforts, ReCATH has significantly enhanced institutional and technical capacities for transparency, laying the groundwork for systematic and ETF-aligned BTR reporting in the region.

The global Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency – Global Support Programme (CBIT-GSP) offers comprehensive assistance at global, regional, and national levels, helping to strengthen reporting systems in accordance with the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement.



The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is actively engaged both globally-through the CBIT-AFOLU+ initiative- and nationally, through CBIT country projects currently being implemented in Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan. Country offices of UNDP and UNEP also carry out targeted capacity-building activities through their projects to support the preparation of Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs) and National Communications (NCs).

Other initiatives such as PATPA (Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement) and UNOSD (United Nations Office for Sustainable Development) also contribute to building capacity in specific Central Asian countries by supporting institutional strengthening, enhancing national inventory systems, and tracking progress on NDCs.

The landscape of transparency support in Central Asia is characterized by a division of labor. ReCATH and CBIT-GSP serve as the primary regional coordinators and capacity builders, offering cross-cutting support. FAO provides deep technical expertise on AFOLU, a critical sector for the region. National CBIT projects (via UNDP, UNEP) focus on country-specific institutional strengthening and direct report preparation, while global actors like PATPA and UNOSD provide specialized, on-demand technical assistance.

Transparency Support Partners and type of support for Central Asia

Partner organisation	Thematic focus	Level of interaction	Type of support
Regional Climate Action Transparency Hub for Central Asia (ReCATH / CAREC)	Regional cooperation, and capacity building on GHG Inventory, Adaptation, Climate finance, NDC tracking, alignment with MPGs	Regional - Central Asia	Technical assistance Capacity-building Knowledge sharing platform
United Nations Frameworks Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	ETF and climate reporting under the Paris Agreement, TER process	Global and regional	Technical assistance through CGE and capacity building on ETF tool
Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency – Global Support Programme (CBIT-GSP)	Capacity building and mutual learning on GHG Inventory, Adaptation, NDC tracking and Climate finance tracking; Quality Peer Review of BTRs, NCs	Global Regional National	Technical assistance Capacity-building and training Climate Transparency Platform
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Global AFOLU+ CBIT Programme and National CBIT projects; all aspects of ETF capacity building; transparency tools	Global National	Technical assistance Capacity-building
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Capacity building via CBIT-GSP and national CBIT projects, and technical assistance in climate reporting	Global and National	Enabling Activities (BTR/NC) Capacity-building
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Capacity building via national CBIT projects and technical assistance on climate reporting; Climate Promise - NDC update and formulation of MRV frameworks	National	Enabling Activities Capacity-building
Partnership in Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA)	Capacity building on GHG Inventory and NDC tracking, transparency tools, technical assistance based on specific country requests. Mostly works in Asia.	Global Regional	Technical assistance Capacity-building
United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) ¹ (NDC Partnership)	Inventory, NDC development and tracking, climate reporting (ETF/BTR)	Regional National	Technical assistance Capacity-building

Purpose of the Matrix of the events

The objective of this matrix ¹ of the events and activities is to catalogize, systematize and synthesize information from various sources on ongoing and planned capacity-building initiatives on climate transparency in Central Asia.

The ReCATH Climate Transparency Calendar was developed to facilitate the dissemination of information and ensure transparency of actions undertaken in Central Asia by various stakeholders.

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=c_262545c6c2e79764b7e03eb5868f43575c964c13bd9e8c10085dd21ee40c3bf8%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=Asia%2FAlmaty

CAREC has developed a special form that will be available on the ReCATH webpage² and circulated through the ReCATH network. This form will allow ReCATH partners to submit information about planned events. The collected data will be combined into a single database and subsequently published in the calendar.

https://script.google.com/macros/s/AKfycbxy_hGs-wjEmPnUGgvS-TAu2h0MIJSat3oEw_MtPmhTjvOecUcw8xdt4pT1wFA2dKOKmA/exec

Special attention is given to training, learning sessions, workshops, and other forms of technical support provided or planned at the national, regional, and global levels by various transparency partners. The matrix is complemented by a structured activity template covering 2025 and partially 2026, offering a clear and comprehensive overview. It is planned that the templates and access to the ReCATH - Climate transparency calendar will be shared with international and national partners, who will also be able to update them, ensuring that all activities and actions related to climate action transparency in the region are fully and transparently reflected.

The main goal of this is to inform members of the ReCATH Regional Steering Committee (RSC) and other stakeholders shaping climate policy in the region, raise awareness of available and upcoming support measures, identify potential overlaps or gaps, and promote more effective coordination among international, regional, and national initiatives aimed at improving climate reporting. This approach contributes to a strategic planning, enhancing synergy across programs, and facilitating a more targeted resource allocation.,

¹ <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1wZODFcf7L5IKyZDf9l-8BnT6Z4Acl1s3/edit?gid=1387797639#gid=1387797639>

² https://carececo.org/en/main/activity/projects/Recath_AF/

Limitations of the Matrix of the events

Despite efforts to capture a broad range of capacity-building initiatives on climate transparency across Central Asia, this review faces several limitations due to limited access to information and ad-hoc nature of some activities, which are not reflected in the matrix.

For example, there is a lack of detailed information on national CBIT projects, particularly on specific in-country training, technical assistance, and workshops in many countries. In the case of UNDP and UNEP, although they are actively involved in preparing national climate reports under UNFCCC, information on the content and results of their support remains fragmented and not always publicly available.

Many capacity-building events are organized to address country requests or emerging needs, rather than planned well in advance, which complicates their inclusion in long-term planning matrices.

Moreover, as of the time of this work, some information about national transparency projects in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan remains incomplete, as those projects are still under GEF review and do not yet provide detailed planning information.

Information on activities planned for 2026 is currently limited and based primarily on early plans under ReCATH and regular activities under ICAT, CBIT-GSP and FAO. Since most development partners tend to plan training and workshops in the short term, with 2026 dates and formats still to be confirmed, this review does not reflect the full scope of future support. This highlights the need for regular updates to the matrix as new information becomes available.

Events and activity Matrix for 2025–2026

A. Activities in 2025

In 2025, most climate transparency capacity-building activities in Central Asia are either implemented or planned at the regional level. This reflects the nature of current support mechanisms: The ReCATH project will continue to provide exclusively regional assistance, acting as the key platform in Central Asia for strengthening reporting systems and promoting inter-country cooperation. Its activities in 2025 are planned around regional trainings and thematic working groups meetings, and joint exercises that help countries develop practical tools for peer-reviews of the National GHG inventories, policies assessment, and climate finance reporting. By fostering peer learning and

harmonization of approaches, ReCATH ensures that regional priorities are reflected in global processes. In parallel, CBIT-GSP will prioritize work with the wider regional network of Central Asia and the Caucasus, while also responding flexibly to individual national requests.

An analysis of the 2025 matrix shows support across three levels - national, regional, and global - with involvement from ReCATH, CBIT-GSP, FAO, PATPA, UNOSD, UNDP, and UNEP.

At the national level:

Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan are the most active at the national level.

- For instance, in Kazakhstan, a GHG inventory quality review for the waste sector was held in February 2025 and a series of training on emission projection for GHG emissions are planned in September-November 2025 in Kazakhstan under its BTR project (UNDP).
- In Uzbekistan, a mutual learning program on GHG projections under NDC tracking is running from April to July, implemented jointly with Azerbaijan and Japan. Tajikistan and Uzbekistan's CBIT projects also plan a series of in-country training and round tables on transparency in Q3 or Q4.
- In Kyrgyzstan, GACMO modelling training and NDC tracking sessions, and BTR tables training were conducted in Q1, and discussions are ongoing for a quality review of the NDC tracking chapter of their first BTR.
- In Turkmenistan, national activities are linked to the new CBIT project, which has been officially launched in May 2025 in Ashgabat. A series of in-country workshops and activities on ETF are planned in Q3 and Q4 with a particular focus on ETF, GHG Inventory Sessions, Low-Carbon Development Strategy (LEDS) and Adaptation/Climate finance reporting.

The **regional component** includes both in-person and online events. Highlights include:

- Side-event on exchange of experience on NDC 3.0 and role of transparency in the countries' updated climate policies in Central Asia, held on 14th of May 2025 within the Central Asia Climate Change Conference (CACCC-2025) in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.
- A regional workshop on TER readiness under the ETF, held May 27–29, 2025, in Ankara, Turkiye (Central Asia, Caucasus, and Eurasia)
- A regional training on GHG inventory quality review, scheduled for June 30–July 4 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

- A regional training on GHG Inventory for the LULUCF Sector, planned for 6-11 of October 2025.
- FAO's regional workshop in Istanbul (Sept–Oct) with parallel sessions on forestry and transparency.
- A series of webinars and virtual sessions on exchange of experience on support needed and received; adaptation reporting and loss and damage; gender-sensitive toolkit for transparency, are planned and/or delivered across the year 2025.

Regular webinars by ReCATH and other partners cover topics such as inventory quality review, the TER readiness process, and lessons learned from BTR1. In December 2025, the annual Central Asia and Caucasus network meeting will summarize the activities performed in 2025 and preview 2026 plans.

At the **global level**:

- A global training on GHG inventories (UNOSD/UNFCCC) is scheduled in Almaty, on July 15–18th, with participation from Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.
- PATPA plans an Asia-Pacific transparency seminar in autumn with two regional countries, potentially from Tajikistan and Turkmenistan (TBC).
- A Global Transparency Forum organized (CBIT-GSP, ICAT, PATPA, ADB, other) and separate PATPA event will be held in Seoul, September 3–5, 2025 in Seoul, South Korea.
- ReCATH will organize transparency-related side events at COP30 in Brazil (November 2025)

For detailed schedules, formats, and country participation, please refer to the attached activity matrix and request an access to google calendar from CAREC Team.

B. Activities in 2026

The matrix of activities for 2026 currently contains a limited amount of information, mainly related to tentatively planned activities under the second phase of the regional ReCATH project. These include a regional training and a series of virtual webinars on the assessment of climate policies in the forestry sector. These activities will focus on the application of the ICAT methodology and tools, through which the Central Asian countries will be able to carry out practical exercises to assess the effectiveness of implemented policies in the forest sector. This approach aims to deepen institutional skills and increase

the use of analytical tools in climate reporting processes. Tentatively scheduled in February 2026, the regional workshop on adaptation reporting and climate finance is planned to be organized jointly by ReCATH and CBIT-GSP, and will be set on the findings of the assessment work, performed by ReCATH project in 2025/26.

In addition to ReCATH initiatives, the matrix includes annual events, including the FAO Regional Workshop on Climate Action. This workshop traditionally serves as a platform to discuss progress and share experiences on transparency and related aspects of climate change. An annual regional meeting of the Central Asia and Caucasus Network, coordinated by CBIT-GSP and traditionally held in December, is also planned. This meeting usually summarises the results of the year, discusses key lessons learned and agrees on directions for the next cycle of support.

It should be noted that, in general, information on activities for 2026 remains fragmented. This is due to the fact that most development partners form their annual plans closer to the end of the current year. An update of the matrix is expected in the fourth quarter of 2025, when more complete information from key initiatives and projects will be available.

Conclusion

The review of capacity building initiatives for climate transparency in Central Asian countries for 2025-2026 confirms active and multi-layered support from international and regional partners. The year 2025 appears to be the busiest, with a wide range of activities planned and partially implemented at the national, regional and global levels. Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan are the most actively involved, while in Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan national activities are at the planning or launching stage with support from FAO and UNDP.

Regional capacity building components, implemented mainly through the ReCATH and CBIT-GSP projects, demonstrate a sustainable contribution to the development of coordination between countries, knowledge sharing and the formation of a common approach to the implementation of the Paris Agreement requirements. Global events, including forums, training and side events, ensure involvement of the countries of the region in international processes and promote integration of their experience into global practices.

However, the analysis revealed a number of gaps. Information on 2026 remains fragmented and limited to preliminary plans under ReCATH and annual FAO and CBIT-GSP events. Information on national CBIT projects in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, which are still at the approval stage, is poorly presented. Turkmenistan is also at the planning stage. With the full speed of its national CBIT project implementation, a series of in-

country activities are planned in 2026 but without precise naming. In addition, some events are organised in ad-hoc format, which limits their predictability and hampers long-term planning and coordination. There is also a lack of open data on activities conducted by UNDP, UNEP and other agencies, despite their active role in climate reporting.

In view of the above, it is recommended that:

- Regularly update the activity matrix with input from all partners
- Strengthen inter-agency and inter-project coordination at national and regional levels
- Increase transparency and availability of information on planned activities, including short-term and tailored trainings
- Ensure all five Central Asian countries are equally engaged in global initiatives

This approach will ensure sustainable, balanced and targeted capacity development for transparency and effective implementation of the region's climate commitments.

Annexes

Matrix of Capacity Building Initiatives for Transparency for Central Asian Countries 2025-26.

Link to the Google sheets –

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1wZODFcf7L5IKyZDf9l-8BnT6Z4Acl1s3/edit?gid=1387797639#gid=1387797639>

Link to the Google calendar –

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=c_262545c6c2e79764b7e03eb5868f43575c964c13bd9e8c10085dd21ee40c3bf8%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=Asia%2FAlmaty

Event adding Form - [https://script.google.com/macros/s/AKfycbxy_hGs-wjEmPnUGqvS-](https://script.google.com/macros/s/AKfycbxy_hGs-wjEmPnUGqvS-TAu2h0MIJSat3oEw_MtPmhTjvOecUcw8xdt4pT1wFA2dKOKmA/exec)

[T Au2h0MIJSat3oEw_MtPmhTjvOecUcw8xdt4pT1wFA2dKOKmA/exec](https://script.google.com/macros/s/AKfycbxy_hGs-wjEmPnUGqvS-TAu2h0MIJSat3oEw_MtPmhTjvOecUcw8xdt4pT1wFA2dKOKmA/exec)