

**AARHUS  
CENTRE**



**ОРХУССКИЙ  
ЦЕНТР**

## **ОРХУС БОРБОРУ**

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### **ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT FOR 2019**

#### **1) Brief summary of project objectives:**

In accordance with the Memorandum of Cooperation between the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry (SAEPF) under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the OSCE Center in Bishkek dated December 23, 2014, the following tasks were assigned to the Aarhus Center in Bishkek:

- interaction between environmental non-profit organizations, government bodies, local authorities, international organizations and other interested parties;
- creation of information-analytical and training materials, based on official information and the results of studies, to present objective information to the general public and systematically increase the potential of all interested parties;
- fostering cooperation between environmental organizations and their potential partners among international and non-profit organizations.

#### **2) Short summary of the activities:**

The activity of the Aarhus Center in Bishkek, according to the signed contract with the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek, started on April 18, 2019 and ended on December 18, 2019.

#### **The functioning of Aarhus Centre in Bishkek**

***Activity 3.2. “Support of the Aarhus Center in conducting round tables on environmental topics in three areas (Chui, Talas, Naryn)”***

##### ***A) Round table in Naryn region***

The Aarhus Center in Bishkek, under the support of the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek and the Naryn Territorial Department of the SAEPF, conducted a round table in Naryn region on May 17, 2019 on the topic “Current Issues in the Field of Ecology: Joint Tasks of State

Environmental Services and Public Organizations in Enhancing the Accessibility of Public Information region”. Employees of Naryn State Administration, Naryn administrations of SAEPF, SIETS, natural parks and reserves, sanitary and epidemiological stations, NGO Employment, Naryn State University, NGOs and independent ecologists of the region participated actively in this round table. The Naryn media KTRK and the local representative office of the Republican newspaper “Kyrgyz Tuusuu” have provided coverage of this event.



The fundamental goal of this event was the public awareness about the ongoing progress in the field of environmental protection by local environmental services and discuss existing problems for future joint actions to overcome them. The keynote speakers of the round table were the staff of Naryn TA SAEPF Minazarova N.R. – Head of the Department of State Expertise and Use of Natural Resources, Abdraev TK – Head of the Department of Ecosystem Development and specially protected natural areas, Sagynbaev M.M. – Head of financial and economic department. In addition, Osmonova R. – Executive Director of the Association “Alliance of Naryn NGOs “Tenir Too” and Nurbekov A. – Head of the Aarhus Center of Bishkek shared presentations.



Following the presentation, a discussion was held, during which many issues were raised and interesting proposals were delivered in order to improve the state of the environment in the region.

At the end of the round table, some participants took part in community work days. They were organized by employees of the Karatal Japyryk natural park with the participation of students from Naryn State University.

### ***B) Round table in the Chui region.***

Aarhus Centre in Bishkek, in collaboration with the Chui-Talas Territorial Department of the SAEPF, under the support of the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek, on June 21 organized a visiting round table in the Kemin District. The round table was attended by representatives of regional environmental services, public organizations, universities and business structures.



The round table was conducted in the framework of the planned meetings of SAEPF representatives with local public to inform about their activities. During the round table, representatives of SAEPF prepared presentations on their work, on how the planned issues have been implemented, on the shortcomings and problems in the region. Also during the event, presentations were prepared by partner organizations from NGOs such as the Association of Land Users and Forest Users of Kyrgyzstan, the FAO / GEF project “Sustainable management of mountain forest and land resources in a changing climate”, NGO “Ecois”, the Aarhus Center of Bishkek and others. The meeting was open for the discussions, therefore were raised a lot of questions.

### ***C) Round table in the Talas region.***

On May 30, 2019 the round table was held in Talas city on the topic of “Current issues and problems in the field of ecology: the participation of government agencies and public organizations on awareness of the region population”. The event was attended by representatives of the Talas Department of the SAEPF, SIETS, Talas University, Association “Alliance of NGOs of Talas Region”, independent ecologists and civil society. The round table was covered by Talas KOORT, private television “NEXT TV” and the newspaper “Talas Turmush”.





The main objective of this event was to show to the public in Talas region the work carried out by environmental public services in environmental protection, measures taken in nature conservation and methods taken in their work. Another objective of this event was to consider how public organizations react to this work from the state side and how they can assist in implementing the tasks on a favorable state of the environment. The report was presented by representatives of the Talas Department of SAEPF, that provided information on their activities for 2018-2019 and activity plan before the end of this year.



Representatives of public organizations and civil societies raised their opinions about their participation in solving environmental problems and made various observations and suggestions on work improvement in developing the state of the environment.

Special attention was paid to the problems of garbage collection and storage (plastic bags and plastic bottles). It was also proposed to study problems in ecology at an early stage of development – in schools. To this end, it was proposed to conduct environmental studies in schools with the participation of representatives of government agencies and public organizations. To ensure this action, it was proposed to send a letter of this proposal to the regional administration and develop an action plan for its implementation.

#### ***D) Round table in Bishkek.***

Under the framework of the launched Kyrgyz Green Economy Week 2019 under the slogan “Green Economy - Strong Regions - Sustainable Development of the Country”, the Aarhus Center, with the support of the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek and the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under the GKR, together with the Association of Forest Users and Land Users of Kyrgyzstan on November 15, a round table was held on the theme “Development of rural regions in accordance with the principles of a green economy in the context of climate change”. The event was attended by representatives of the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic, ministries and departments, academia, public organizations and the media. The main speakers made their presentations: independent expert V. Surappaeva, employees of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Kyrgyz Republic - Sagynbaev A., SAEPF - Aliyev M., Ministry of Economics - Mamatov I., AZLK - Burkhanov A., Yuldashev S., Tazhibaeva S. and Kanatbekov N.



Among the presentations, V. Suppatayeva's presentation, “Program for regulating greenhouse gas emissions and absorption of the forestry sector and other land uses for the period up to 2030” and N. Kanatbekova, “Electronic management of forest users of the Kyrgyz Republic” were the subject of particular focus. The problems of agroforestry and the ecological attitude to forestry were the main topics of discussion.



Following the discussions, recommendations were accepted from the participants of the round table, which will be processed and sent to the Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic as one of the organizers of the Kyrgyz Green Economy Week.

### ***Activity 3.3. “Support for monitoring and analysis of municipal solid waste (MSW) management in Issyk-Kul and Talas region”***

#### ***A) Monitoring in the Issyk-Kul region***

On May 2, 2019, the Aarhus Center in Bishkek in collaboration with the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center monitored the state of landfills in Balykchy and adjacent villages. Experts of the Aarhus Center and representatives of the Issyk-Kul Territorial Department of SAEPP participated in this event. During the monitoring, they visually inspected the dumps, the ways to drive for vehicles with garbage, the methods of placing garbage on the landfill, as well as the Safety Regulation of the landfill workers. Employees of the laboratory from Engineering technology conditions from SAEPP carried out soil and water sampling at the landfill and the sites adjacent for the landfill for comparison.



Further, after studying and preparing recommendations, the results of the analysis of the landfill state and the impact of garbage on the environment will be sent to SAEPF, SIETS and the Balykchy Mayor's Office to take the necessary measures to improve the state of the environment in the region.

### ***B) Monitoring in Talas region***

In accordance with the technical specifications of the Aarhus Center in Bishkek, on May 30, monitoring of the storage of municipal solid waste in a landfill belonging to the city of Talas and nearby villages in the region was carried out.

The landfill is located outside the city of Talas on the south side. Landfill area is 5 hectares. The landfill is fenced on the north side with a metal mesh. Entry to the landfill is through a checkpoint. Garbage is delivered daily on specialized machines of the housing complex in the city of Talas.



During the inspection, various objects were dumped to the landfill - cellophane and paper bags, various plastic and glass bottles, construction waste, food waste, the remains of industrial products, etc. Every day, this garbage is buried in a pit with a bulldozer, which is prepared using a large excavator. The landfill is guarded 24 hours a day by the landfill workers.

This landfill is located 5 km away from the city of Talas. There are no nearby settlements. We took samples of soil and groundwater from the territory and nearby places from the landfill for laboratory studies on the impact on the environment and human well-being, as well as the impact on the city of Talas. These studies will be carried out in the laboratory of the Issyk-Kul TA SAEPF, which has a certificate for laboratory research.



***Activity 3.4. “Support for organizing environmental training monitoring for employees of the SIETS and public inspectors in Issyk Kul, Talas and Naryn regions”***

The Aarhus Center in Bishkek in cooperation with the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek and the State Inspectorate for Environmental and Technical Safety under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (SIETS) conducted trainings on the topic “Enhancing the capacity of inspectors of the State Inspectorate for Environmental and Technical Safety under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and public inspectors on conducting industrial and public environmental monitoring as part of the project of the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek; Promoting Environmental Safety Clarity and Natural Resource Management”. This training was held on August 24, in Bishkek (for employees of the Chui region), on August 6 - in Talas, on August 13 - in Naryn and on August 14 - in Cholpon-Ata, in which regional employees of the SIETS and public inspectors of these regions participated.



Bishkek



Cholpon-Ata



Naryn



Talas

These trainings were designed for training inspectors in order to ensure their effective work on environmental monitoring, to study and gain knowledge on the use of new Regulations and Instructions on environmental monitoring, to discuss the nuances in conducting inspections and to confirm their skills in today's context. Such trainings have not been held for many years and the importance of its need was confirmed by all participants in the trainings. The program itself and questions to study were agreed upon with the leadership of the SIETS. The trainers in these trainings were international experts of the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek, Mr. A. Abduvaliev and Ms. Neronova T.I., who presented their developed modules. The

training was divided into 6 sessions, which included the following presentations - Industrial Environmental Monitoring, Water Protection, Air Protection, Waste Management and Land Protection, Public Environmental Monitoring.

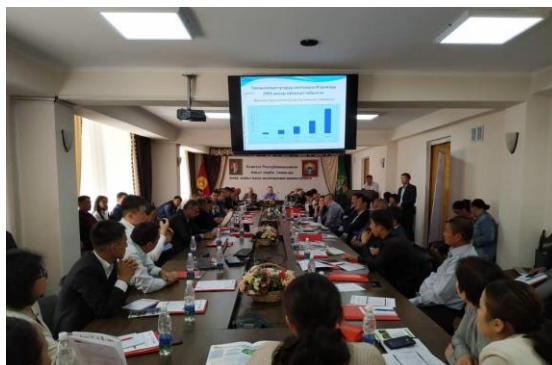


On the final session participants raised questions to the trainers and expressed their views on the training. At the end of the training, all participants were awarded with Certificates of participation in the training on behalf of the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek, SIETS and the Aarhus Center in Bishkek.

***Activity 3.5. “Support in organizing a course in environmental journalism for university students, press secretaries of environmental authorities and media workers”***

On September 27, a training and workshop was held on the topic “Modern Systems and Advanced Technologies for Effective Land Use in the Kyrgyz Republic under Climate Change. Attracting media for the dissemination of advanced technologies”, which was organized by the Aarhus Center in Bishkek with the support of the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek, the Association of Forest and Land Users of Kyrgyzstan (AFLUK), the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Management (MAWM) and the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry with GKR (SAEPF). The participants were representatives of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, MAWR, SAEPF, farmers of several regions, employees of scientific organizations, representatives of public organizations and the media.

The first part of the seminar was held in the building of the Ministry of Agriculture, where the seminar participants received presentations from the organizers. In total, 6 materials were presented, the speakers of which were employees of the Center and AFLUK. Upon completion of the consideration of the presentations and their discussions, the seminar participants visited the Agro TEXEXPO 2019 exhibition, which began its work on the territory of the Ministry of Agriculture.





In the afternoon, the participants were transported to the demonstration sites of the AFLUK in the village of Arashan, Chui region, where they showed the application of modern technologies for growing new species of plants and trees.



***Activity 3.6. “Support for organizing of a round table on environmental issues in Kyrgyzstan with the participation of youth from universities”***

On November 20, at the conference hall of the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, a coordination meeting was held with representatives of the public on the preparation of draft analytical documents for the “National Voluntary Review of Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the Kyrgyz Republic (SDG)” (section - ecology and environmental protection environment) and the “National Report on the State of the Environment of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2015-2018.” This meeting was organized by the SAEPF under the GKR and the Aarhus Center in Bishkek with financial assistance from the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek. The meeting was attended by representatives of NGOs, POs, public funds, environmental alliances, universities with environmental issues, the media, international projects and independent experts in the field of ecology.



At the beginning of the meeting, Deputy Director of the SAEPF E. Sheripov E.Zh. made a welcoming speech. Then, A. Amanova, Head of the Strategic Planning Department of the Ministry of Economics of the Kyrgyz Republic, made the presentations - The process of developing the “National Voluntary Review of Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the Kyrgyz Republic”. Following him, N. K. Kerimalieva, Head of the Department of Sustainable Development and Environment Statistics of the National Statistics Committee- Adaptation of sustainable development goals in the national statistical system of the Kyrgyz

Republic; expert in the field of environment and climate change V. Grebnev - Draft section structure and SDGs included in the Ecology and Environmental Protection Unit of NDOs; SDG Specialist, UN Resident Coordinator's Office in KR Perfilieva E. and the youth leader in the SDGs - Program of Youth Envoys for the Sustainable Development Goals. The materials presented were listened attentively by the meeting participants and numerous questions were asked.



During the discussion SAEPF raised the issue of the participation of public representatives in the working group on the preparation of materials on the implementation of the SDGs on the environmental section (SDGs 6,7, 13,14,15,17). They suggested to nominate members of the public to the working group right at the meeting, but some participants suggested to postpone this process for a week to consult with their partners. In general, the issue of creating a working group among the public by participants was welcomed.

In the second part of the meeting, presentation were introduced by the chief specialist of the SPMS SAEPF, N. Baydakova – The development process and structure of the “National Report on the State of the Environment of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2015-2018”; and the expert in the field of environment and climate change V. Grebnev – “National Report on the state of the environment in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2015-2018. Facts from the sections”. The information provided is preliminary and given to participants to familiarize themselves with the procedures for its preparation. The report itself will be formed after receiving proposals from all interested parties and persons who can give their suggestions for writing



Upon completion of the meeting, on behalf of SAEPF, N. Baidakova expressed the gratitude the Aarhus Center for organizing the event and noted that thanks to the Center, a platform was created for holding joint meetings of state institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic with the public.

### *Activity 3.7. « Joint organization of environmental pilot modeling for law students »*

On October 25, this year, in one of the classrooms of the campus of the American University of Central Asia (AUCA), the Aarhus Center in Bishkek, with the support Of The OSCE Program Office in Bishkek and the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, was held practical training for students of various faculties of AUCA on the theme "Aarhus Convention – one of the instruments of access to justice in case of violation of environmental rights of citizens". This event was held jointly with teachers of the faculty "jurisprudence" at AUCA, in which 37 students took part. At the beginning of the training, information was provided on the activities of the Aarhus Center in Bishkek and a presentation on the implementation of the programs for 2015-2019.



The second part of the training was moderated by D.Arstanbayeva and V.Bolotbayeva. They presented an expanded module, which included presentations on the Aarhus Convention and the practice of applying the provisions of the Convention. During the presentation of the module, a lot of interested questions were asked about the various environmental topics to which detailed answers were given by the trainers. After the theoretical part of the presentation, they played a role-playing game with the participants of the training, during which they lost in practice consideration of the environmental dispute in court. In this practical lesson, the trainer was able to interest participants how to correctly present their environmental rights to the justice authorities when they were violated.



At the end of the training, the participants were awarded certificates of training, which confirmed the completion of a short course on the introduction and application of the Aarhus Convention. At the end of the meeting, some students expressed a desire to cooperate with the Aarhus Center and become a volunteer of the organization.

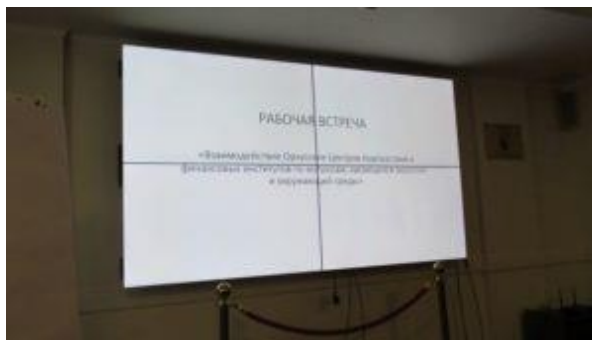


### ***Activity 3.8. “Support for the analysis of environmental complaints filed by the public under the Aarhus Convention”***

#### ***A) Work session with bank employees of Kyrgyzstan***

On November 25, a working session of the Aarhus Center network of Kyrgyzstan with representatives of the leading national banks of Kyrgyzstan was held in the conference hall of the Park Hotel in Bishkek with the participation Of The OSCE Program Office in Bishkek. The participants of the event were: Chairman of the Union of Banks of Kyrgyzstan A.Abdraev, Head of the Association of Microfinance organizations of Kyrgyzstan A.Akbaraliev, representatives of banks "Kompanion", BTA, Capital Bank, JSCB Kyrgyzstan, BayTushum, Ayyl Bank, ICK Baylyk Finance. The OSCE Program Office in Bishkek was attended by the OSCE Secretariat in Vienna, S. Ospanova, the economic and social security adviser D. Prudtskikh, the staff of the Department of Economics and OS A. Molobaev, M. Osmonov and N. Bayzakov. The network of Aarhus Centers of Kyrgyzstan was represented by the head of the AC in Bishkek A.Nurbekov. city Osh K.Isabaev, IAC S.Tursunakunov, NAC S.Kalmuratov, mediacenters city Min Kush A.Narynbaev, c.Maily-Suu A.mamasaliev, village Shekoftar B.Botobekov.

The main meeting was aimed at possible mutual cooperation between Aarhus Centers and banking structures in environmental matters. Before the banking employees, the heads of the OC provided brief presentations about their activities and plans for the future. Several proposals for the participation of the banking sector in the implementation of program activities were also proposed by the AC.



The representatives of banks also presented several presentations about their banks' activities in implementing their plans to participate in the program of the green economy of Kyrgyzstan.



After all the presentations, a discussion took place, during which several interesting proposals were made on joint plans and clarifications on possible ways of cooperation. At the end of the meeting, a non-binding protocol was adopted, but the proposed signing of a memorandum of cooperation between the AC network of the KR with the banks of the country and several proposals for specific joint activities.

### ***B) Developing a review of complaints in accordance with the principles of the Aarhus Convention***

In 2018, participants in the Aarhus Convention training sessions requested for an examination of environmental complaints received from the public by various government bodies. The proposed review will include data on existing public complaints about various environmental problems. The review was prepared by the lawyers experts and was sent for discussion to interested organizations and individuals. This review is presented as an information and analytical material with statistical data. The main objective of the review is to present a picture of the complaints received by the State and judicial bodies and the process of their consideration.

#### ***Activity 3.9. “A coordination meeting of environmentalists was held in Bishkek.”***

On November 20, at the conference hall of the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, a coordination meeting was held with representatives of the public on the preparation of draft analytical documents for the “National Voluntary Review of Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the Kyrgyz Republic (SDG)” (block – ecology and environmental protection environment) and the “National Report on the State of the Environment of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2015-2018.” This meeting was organized by the SAEPF under the KR and the Aarhus Center in Bishkek with financial assistance from the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek. The meeting was attended by representatives of NGOs, POs, public funds, environmental alliances, universities with environmental issues, the media, international projects and independent experts in the field of ecology.



***Activity 3.10. “Support for the development of a handbook for citizens on environmental rights under the Aarhus Convention”***

The manual is meant for the public and will provide accessible and visible recommendations to citizens who need to protect their rights to access information and make environmental decisions. At present, most citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic do not have sufficient knowledge to protect their environmental rights in courts, higher administrative institutions, as well as in the prosecutor's office and law enforcement agencies. The lack of information and knowledge is an obstacle to the protection of the rights guaranteed by the Aarhus Convention. Two experts from the Aarhus Center have developed a simple and accessible manual for potential applicants, which will provide a step-by-step guide to the protection of environmental rights in the executive and judicial branches. The printout was organized in typographie. The manual will be available on Russian language (300 copies).



***The functioning of Issyk- Kul Aarhus Center***

***Activity 3.11. “Organization of round tables in the Issyk-Kul region on the application of the Aarhus Convention”***

***A) Round table in city Cholpon-Ata***

On May 14, 2019 in village Kara-Oi in conference hall of the Ak Bermet hotel a round table was conducted on the topic: “On the state of treatment facilities of boarding houses, private guest houses of the Issyk-Kul district, ways to solve problems”.

In the work of round table participated : D.Imanaliev-akim-Head of Issyk-Kul District State Administration, E.Paziev - Coordinator of the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek, M.Kyshtobaev - Chief Inspector of the Territorial Administration of the State Environmental Inspection in Issyk-Kul, Ton districts, cities of Balykchy, Cholpon - Ata, M. Mambetov, Chief Medical Officer of the Center for Disease Prevention and Sanitary and Epidemiological Control in Issyk-Kul District, N. Asanova, Chief Specialist, T. Mederbekov, Director of BinteKS LLC and heads of boarding houses, private guest houses Issyk-Kul region.





Welcome speech was granted to D.Imanaliev-akim-Head of Issyk-Kul District State Administration. He expressed gratitude to organization of the round table, he identified that Issyk Kul Aarhus Centre undertaken significant work on the ecological issues. He pointed out the problematic issues on the observance of the cleanliness of Lake Issyk-Kul on environmental issues and encouraged the participants to take specific measures to improve the condition of the treatment facilities.

E.Paziev- Coordinator of the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek provided participants with brief information about program and work of OSCE in Bishkek.

Manager of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center S.Tursunakunov presented information about the principals of Aarhus Convention, and work that have been done by Issyk Kul Aarhus Centre in 2018. M.Kyshtobaev-Chief Inspector of the Territorial Administration of the State Environmental Inspection in Issyk-Kul, Ton districts, cities of Balykchy, Cholpon-Ata informed about the state of the treatment facilities of boarding houses, guest houses of the Issyk-Kul district, on penalties for administrative delict under the new codes and answered the participants' questions.



T. Mederbekov, Director of Binteks LLC, presented the facilities treatment information "Topaz", Czech production, also, M. Mambetov, Chief Medical Officer of the Center for Disease Prevention and Sanitary and Epidemiological Control in Issyk-Kul District explained to the participants about the sanitary-epidemiological norms, discussed in detail what documents are required for boarding houses, guest houses for the summer tourist season.

During the round table, the participants raised the problem on the lack of professional operators for maintenance of treatment facilities such as KU-200 and Topaz. They also demanded to organize a training workshop for operators of wastewater treatment facilities.

At the end of the round table, the participants were organized an introductory expedition to the treatment plant “Topaz” in boarding house “Ak bermet”.

Following the round table, the participants adopted a resolution:

- to carry out relevant work to improve the condition of state of treatment facilities;
- to propose to the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek organization a training seminar for the operators of the treatment facilities of the boarding houses.

### ***B) Round table in Jeti-Oguz district***

On July 4, 2019, in the village Kyzyl – Suu of Jeti-Oguz district, in the conference hall of the Jeti-Oguz district state administration, with the financial support of the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek, a round table was held on the theme “Legalization of land plots for municipal solid waste of Jeti - Oguz district ”organized by the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center.

A. Daliev, first deputy akim, head of the Jeti-Oguz district state administration, A. Umetov, chief physician of the center for disease prevention and sanitary-epidemiological control in the Jeti-Oguz district, T. Ulanbekov, chief specialist Issyk -Kul territorial administration SIETS , as well as the heads of aiyl aimaks, specialists in land issues took part in the round table.

The first speaker was U. Daliev, first deputy akim, head of the Jeti-Oguz district state administration. He expressed gratitude to the organizers, identified the problematic issues of the ecology of the area, asked the heads of aiyl aimaks to actively participate in the round table.



The manager of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center S.Tursunakunov made a presentation on the principles of the Aarhus Convention, on the work of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center for 2018.

Chief Specialist of Issyk-Kul Territorial Administration IKTA SIETS T. Ulanbekov presented about the work of management and replied to the participants’ questions about obtaining

opinions. The manager of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center S.Tursunakunov provided detailed information on the transfer (transformation) of land from one category to another, explained the steps on obtaining documents for organizing landfills.

The roundtable participants noted all the difficulties of transferring land from one category to another, which takes a lot of time to prepare and receive the necessary documents. If the relevant decisions are not taken by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, then serious environmental problems may arise in the near future.

According to the results of the round table, the participants adopted the following resolution:

*- to recommend in the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic to make a change in the relevant law for a swift decision on the transfer (transformation) of land from one category to another at the level of aiymaks and district state administration.*

### ***B) Round table in Ton district***

On June 14, 2019 in the conference hall of Kun-Chygyysh ayyl okmotu of the Ton district there was a round table on the topic "problem environmental issues of the region, joint work of state bodies with local self-government bodies", organized by the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center. The round table was attended by M.Kydyrbaev – deputy head of Ayyl okmotu, K.Sultanov – chief specialist of IKTASAEPF, M.Tazhiev – inspector of IKTASIETS city Balykchy, Cholpon-Ata, Issyk-Kul and Ton districts, as well as representatives of quarterly committees. At the beginning of the round table the welcoming speech was presented by the deputy head of Kun-Chigysh ayyl okmotu M.Kydyrbaev, who expressed gratitude to the organizers of the events and wished success in the work of all. Then according to the agenda with presentation of the work of Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center presented manager S.Tursunakunov, who briefly summarized the work for 2018-2019 in the district, and informed on the types and methods of household waste disposal. In addition, a video was presented about the ecological actions of the “Clean Issyk-Kul Foundation” to clean the coastal zone of Issyk-Kul Lake this year.

The next speaker, the inspector of IKTASIETS M. Tazhiev, gave a brief information on the state of landfills in the Tonsky district. He raised the question of the need to legalize natural landfills in accordance with the law and provided information on the amount of fines for administrative violations under the new Codes. The specialists of IKTASAEPF, K.Sultanov then provided information on the activities of the management and problems in the protection of the environment. He also answered questions on obtaining conclusions for the construction of the facilities and what permits are needed to obtain permission to cut trees.

During the discussion of the presented materials and information, participants noted the harm of cellophane bags and plastic bottles to the ecology of the region and presented the experience of work carried out in the ayyl okmotu named after B.Mambetov, on the use of plastic as a secondary raw material for use in everyday life.





Following the results of the round table, the participants adopted a resolution;  
 - to propose Zhogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic to develop and adopt a corresponding law prohibiting the use of cellophane bags and plastic bottles.

### ***Activity 3.12. «Promotion and support to clean Issyk-Kul lake»***

#### ***A) Round table and community work day in village Chok-Tal***

On July 19, 2019, in the village of Chok-Tal, Issyk-Kul District, with the financial support of the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek, a round table was held on the topic “Actual environmental problems. The importance of the participation of state bodies and the public” organized by the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Centre.

The round table was attended by M. Sarbagyshev, Head of the Chon-Sary-Oy Aiyl Okmotu, E. Paziev, Environmental Advisor of OSCE Program Office in Bishkek, A. Shamsutdinov, Chairperson of the “Clean Issyk-Kul” Public Foundation, and residents of the village of Chok- Tal.



The first speaker was the head of the Chon-Sary-Oy ayil okmotu M. Sarbagyshev, he expressed gratitude to the organizers of the round table, briefly informed about environmental problems, about the work done.

The manager of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Centre S. Tursunakunov presented the participants of the round table the principles of the Aarhus Convention, the work of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center for 2018.

A. Shamsutdinov, Chairman of the Clean Issyk-Kul Public Foundation, presented the work of a public fund for cleaning of Lake Issyk-Kul from garbage, and showed a video about the state of the bottom of Lake Issyk-Kul.

In the second part of the round table, the participants took part in a cleanup of the rural beach from debris. Divers PF “Clean Issyk-Kul” cleaned the bottom of the lake from debris and removed about 500 kg of various debris from the bottom of the lake.



### ***B) Round table in village Bosteri***

On September 24, 2019, in the conference hall of the “Goluboi Issyk-Kul” sanatorium, a round table was held on the topic “Environmental problems in rural areas and ways to solve them. Work of local authorities and objectives” organized by the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Centre with financial support from the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek.

The round table was attended by U. Bekturganov, chief inspector of the territorial administration of the SIETS, Ton districts, the cities of Balykchy, Cholpon-Ata, as well as the heads of the ayil okmotu of Issyk-Kul region.



S. Tursunakunov manager of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center introduced the participants the agenda, informed the participants about problematic environmental issues that would be discussed and asked to actively participate in the round table. He also made a presentation on



the principles and objectives of the Aarhus Convention, on the work of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center for 2018-2019 and answered questions from participants.

The chief inspector of the territorial administration of the SIETS of Issyk-Kul, Ton districts, the cities of Balykchy, Cholpon-Ata, U. Bekturganov noted the main environmental problems of Issyk-Kul region, the special attention to the work of treatment facilities of boarding houses and private guest houses. He also presented about the examination of boarding houses, their number, and the amount of fines imposed according to the results of the audit. Answered questions from participants about the amount of fines imposed on the basis of new codes.

The head of the Kara-Oy ayil okmotu K. Tyulegenov, informed the participants of the round table in detail about the work being done by the ayil okmotu, on garbage removal, on tariffs for garbage removal from individuals and legal entities. Answered the questions of the participants.



During the round table, participants noted the particular importance of preserving Issyk-Kul Lake, nature, of introducing environmental subjects in schools to educate the younger generation, in order to ensure order to create an ecological police.

Following the results of the round table, the participants adopted the following resolution:

- 1. To recommend the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic to introduce environmental subjects in schools to educate the young generation to take care of nature and preserve the environment;*
- 2. To recommend the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic to make amendments and supplements to the relevant law requiring boarding houses to sort garbage.*
- 3. To recommend the Jogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic to make amendments and supplements to the relevant law enhancing the authority of the State Inspection for Ecological and Technical Safety or create an environmental police to preserve the cleanliness of Issyk-Kul Lake and limit the access of vehicles to the lake.*

### ***C) Events in village Grigorievka***

On August 13, 2019, a round table on "Joint actions of State bodies and the public in solving environmental problems" organized by the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center was held in the village of Grigorievka in Issyk-Kul region with the financial support Of the OSCE office in Bishkek.





The round table was attended by K. Rashov, head of Ayyl okmotu Sadyr ake, A. Shamsutdinov, chairman of the PF "Clean Issyk-Kul", deputies of the local Kenesh and villagers. K.Rashov, the head of Ayyl okmotu Sadir ake, made a welcoming speech, expressed gratitude to the organizers and briefly informed about the work that has been accomplished. The manager of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center S.Tursunakunov provided information to the participants of the round table on the principles of the Aarhus Convention, on the works of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center. Chairman of the "Clean Issyk-Kul" Foundation, A.Shamsutdinov made a presentation about the work of the fund, about cleaning the bottom of Issyk-Kul lake from debris and showed a video about the state of the bottom of the lake. In the second part of the round table, the participants visited the rural beach of the village "Pristan", where they participated in the Saturday cleanup the beach from garbage. Divers of the "Clean Issyk-Kul" PF conducted site sweep of the bottom of the lake from garbage and reached about 400 kg of various garbage from the bottom.



***Activity 3.13. "Support for the organization of a training session on the principles of the Aarhus Convention for students of the Environmental Faculty of the Karakol University"***

On November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in Issyk - Kul National University named by K.Tynystanov under the finance support of the program office OSCE in Bishkek the round table was conducted on the topic of "Participation of representatives of the public and youth in solving environmental

problems. Ways to achieve results ”, organized by Issyk Kul Aarhus Center. The professors and students took active part in the round table.



The dean of the Faculty of Natural Sciences and Physical Education, K. Osmonbaeva made a welcoming speech, she expressed the gratitude to the organizers of the round table, briefly outlined the environmental problems of the city of Karakol and asked the participants to actively participate in the round table.

The manager of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center S. Tursunakunov made a presentation on the Aarhus Convention and principles. He provided information on the undertaken work for the years 2018-2019.

On behalf of faculty of Geography, the student A.Abdieva, presened about the main ecological problems of ciy Karakol.



The dean of the faculty of natural sciences and physical education, K. Osmonbaeva made a presentation on the topic “Environmental assessment of the state of green spaces of the city of Karakol, development of practical recommendations to improve their condition.” A group of teachers and she, herself, are working on the environmental problem of green spaces in the city of Karakol. A practical recommendation for landscaping is being developed for the city of Karakol, tree species for planting are being determined, and will be further recommended to the mayor’s office of the city of Karakol. In this work, the abilities of plants were analyzed such as the absorption of carbon dioxide, trap dust, reduce noise, oxygen evolution.



In addition, the participants were presented a video about the state of Lake Issyk-Kul, about underwater garbage. There were proposals raised to improve the ecology of Issyk-Kul, the city of Karakol. There were many questions regarding the activities of the Aarhus Centers, participants requested to hold such round tables in rural areas with the participation of the population, to introduce environmental lessons in schools, to conduct a wide explanatory work among the population.

***Activity 3.14. “Joint Organization of the Day for Environmental Protection in Issyk-Kul region”***

On November 15, 2019, a round-table discussion on the results of the “Nature and We” contest organized by the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center was held in the Balykchy city education department with financial support from the OSCE program office in Bishkek. The round table was attended by directors of Balykchy secondary schools, students and parents. Welcoming remarks were made by the head of the Balykchy city’s department of education, N. Mambetova, on behalf of teachers and professors, she expressed gratitude to the organizers of the contest and wished further success in the work of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center. All middle school students of Balykchy city took an active part in this contest and there were a lot of competitive works.



The director of secondary school No. 2, A. Duyshenova also thanked the organizers of the competition on behalf of the teachers and wished success to the winners of the competition.

According to the Regulation of the “Nature and We” contest, the winners were determined in the following nominations.

- “The best picture” among students in grades 1-4;
- “The best crafts” among students in grades 5-7;
- “The best essay” among students in grades 8-11.

The winners were awarded with valuable gifts and diplomas. Also, students who took an active part in this competition were awarded by the diplomas of Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center.





### **The functioning of Aarhus Center in city Naryn**

#### ***Activity 3.15. “Creation and support of functioning of Aarhus Center in city Naryn”***

On November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in the city of Naryn at The School of Professional and Continuing Education of the University of Central Asia, the opening ceremony of the Aarhus Center of Naryn was held.

Prior to the start of the main events, the staff of the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek and the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center familiarized themselves with the campuses of the University of Central Asia. The guests were greeted by the public relations manager of the University of Central Asia E. Sulaimanova, who provided detailed information about the university and arranged a orientation visit of the campuses. During the visit, issues of mutual cooperation, joint work between students of the university and the Aarhus Center of Naryn were discussed.

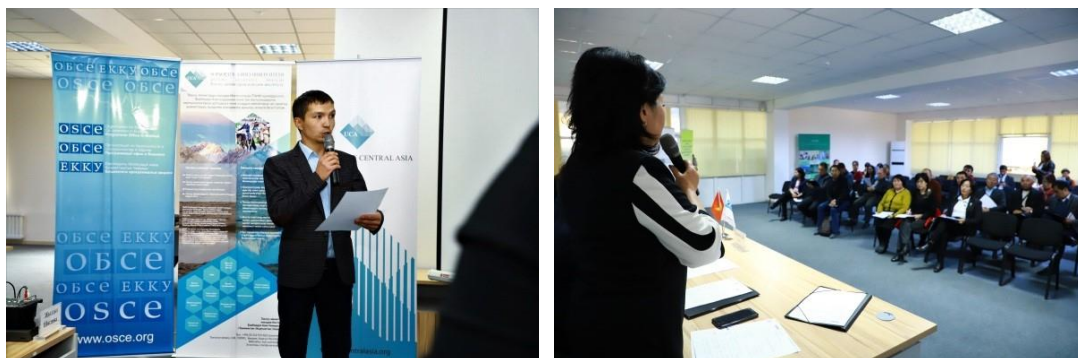
#### ***Activity 3.16. “Support of organization round table on implementation of Aarhus Convention in regions of Kyrgyzstan”***

On November 5, after the opening of the Aarhus Center in Naryn in the conference hall Of The School of Professional and Continuing Education at the University of Central Asia, a round table was held on the topic "Discussion of the implementation of the Aarhus Convention principles in the Kyrgyz Republic: Opening of the Aarhus Center in Naryn".



The round table was attended by D. Zhunusova, Head of the Department of Social Monitoring and Development of Naryn region, N. Baidakova, National Coordinator for the Implementation of the Aarhus Convention in the Kyrgyz Republic, B. Kravchenko, Dean of the Graduate School of Development, University of Central Asia, Eduardo Da Ros-Advisor the regional development of the OSCE program office in Bishkek, E. Paziev - the national environmental adviser to the OSCE program office in Bishkek, S. Tursunakunov - the manager of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center and university students Central Asia, residents of Naryn.

Welcoming remarks were made by D. Zhunusova, head of the department of social monitoring and development of the Naryn region, she, on behalf of the plenipotentiary representative of the Government in the Naryn region E. Alymkulova, congratulated everyone on the opening of the Aarhus Center in Naryn. She informed about the problematic environmental issues of the city of Naryn, expressed her hope that with the opening of the center, new opportunities will appear in solving these problems, because the Aarhus Center of the city of Naryn plays a large role in the work between government bodies and the public. N. Baidakova, National Coordinator for the Implementation of the Aarhus Convention in the Kyrgyz Republic, congratulated on the opening of the Aarhus Center in Naryn. She encouraged the new center to work closely with government bodies and members of the public.



Dean of the Higher School of Development of the University of Central Asia, B. Kravchenko noted the special place of the Aarhus Centers for Ecology and asked the Aarhus Center of Naryn to pay attention to the problem of the Naryn River. Eduardo Da Ros, Advisor on Regional Development of the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek, congratulated participants on behalf of the head of the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek, Mr. Pierre von Arks, with the opening of the Aarhus Center in Naryn and wished the Center successful and productive work.

N. Baidakova, National Coordinator for the Implementation of the Aarhus Convention in the Kyrgyz Republic, made a presentation on the theme “Implementation of the principles of the Aarhus Convention in Kyrgyzstan: challenges and prospects.”

The manager of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center S. Tursunakunov made a presentation on the topic “Activities of the network of Aarhus centers in Kyrgyzstan: lessons learned” and provided detailed information on the activities of Aarhus centers using the example of the Issyk-Kul Aarhus Center.

Zh.Shigaeva, Researcher at the Mountain Studies Research Institute, University of Central Asia, made a presentation on the topic “Research in the Field of Natural Resources Management: Experience in the Naryn Region”.

Upon completion of presentations, moderated by E. Paziev, an open discussion of further action plans of the Aarhus Center in Naryn took place. From the side of the participants of the round table there were many questions regarding the activities of the Aarhus Centers, on joint work with state bodies, with local authorities, and possible collaboration in research purposes.

Following the discussion, the participants raised their suggestions and recommendations and wished success in the work of the Aarhus Center in Naryn.

***Activity 3.17. “Support in organizing the seminar for student of UCA on the Aarhus Convention”***

On December 12, a seminar was held in Naryn for students of the University of Central Asia (UCA) and Naryn State University named after Naamatova. This workshop was organized by the Aarhus Center in Naryn together with the Aarhus Center in Bishkek with financial support from the OSCE Program Office in Bishkek. The main objective of the seminar was to inform youth about the opening of the Aarhus Center in Naryn and to establish cooperation between students of two universities to implement the provisions of the Aarhus Convention in the region.

**3) Expected outcome:**

- ✓ Having experience of monitoring work, we will carry out this activity constantly;
- ✓ Round tables will now be held in the format of discussion of assignments from past meetings and plans for the future;
- ✓ Awareness of the population will be increased with the installation of additional information boards in the regions;
- ✓ Work in universities with students will continue and will be created clubs of young ecologists;
- ✓ After the opening of the Aarhus Center in Naryn, we plan to strengthen the work in this region;
- ✓ Increase the capacity of partners to engage in joint projects;
- ✓ We will monitor the use of the new NLA handbook and consider the need to increase its replication.

**Adil Nurbekov**

**Head of the Aarhus Centre in Bishkek**

**December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019.**