

4th SIPA regional webinar in Central Asia

2nd of April 2025 via Zoom

Responsible Business Conduct (RBC) and Sustainable Finance in the context of Sustainable Infrastructure

Webinar organizer: Institute of Public Policy and Administration (IPPA)
of the University of Central Asia (UCA)

Context and objectives

Infrastructure investments are central to the sustainable development strategies of countries in Central Asia and Mongolia. This 4th SIPA Regional Webinar will present and discuss how Responsible Business Conduct, which ensures that activities of businesses align with the needs of societies on the short- and long-term, can help attract qualitative investments, maximises the contribution of infrastructure to sustainable development, and avoids adverse impacts on people and the environment. It will highlight the conclusions of a forthcoming SIPA report on best practices for integrating RBC into legal and policy frameworks, fostering sustainable infrastructure development.

The webinar will also explore the findings from the new OECD report "[Behind Environmental, social and governance \(ESG\) Ratings: Unpacking Sustainability Metrics](#)". The study compares over 2,000 ESG metrics from eight major corporate ESG rating products to reveal insights into the characteristics of ESG metrics, the extent to which different topics are covered and measured by different rating products, and what insights ESG metrics reveal for sustainability due diligence. This discussion will offer insights on corporate sustainability performance measurement and invite a reflection on implications for access to finance of companies operating in infrastructure sectors.

The webinar will bring together a network of experts, policymakers, think tanks, industry leaders, academics, and representatives of government and civil society from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Participants will gain valuable insights into responsible investment, environmental and social governance, and strategies for aligning business practices with long-term sustainability goals.

Organisation details

Participants are invited to register at this link before the March 31, 2025:

[Register here](#)

English and Russian interpretation will be provided.

Contact information

- Kanat Tilekeyev, Associate Director and Senior Research Fellow, IPPA, UCA
kanat.tilekeyev@ucentralasia.org
- Peline Atamer, Senior Policy Analyst and Head of SIPA Central Asia, OECD
peline.atamer@oecd.org

Agenda

Berlin, Paris (UTC+2; CEST)	Ashgabat, Astana, Dushanbe, Tashkent (UTC+5)	Bishkek (UTC+6)	Ulaanbaatar (UTC+8)	
9:30 – 9:35	12:30 – 12:35	13:30 – 13:35	15:30 – 15:35	Welcoming webinar participants <i>Peline Atamer, Senior Policy Analyst and Head of SIPA Central Asia, OECD</i> <i>Dr Kanat Tilekeyev, Associate Director and Senior Research Fellow, UCA IPPA</i>
9:35 – 10:15	12:35 – 13:15	13:35 – 14:15	15:35 – 16:15	RBC and sustainable infrastructure in Kazakhstan, Mongolia and Uzbekistan: key trends, progress and recommendations for further improvement <i>Santhosh Persaud & Dylan van de Ven, Policy Analyst, Responsible Business Conduct Centre, OECD</i> Join this session to learn more about how Kazakhstan, Mongolia and Uzbekistan are integrating responsible business conduct for sustainable infrastructure in their laws and policies. The OECD will share present findings from a forthcoming report and country representatives will share examples from their own experience.
10:15 – 10:55	13:15 – 13:55	14:15 – 14:55	16:15 – 16:55	Behind ESG ratings: Unpacking sustainability metrics <i>Konstantin Mann & Benjamin Michel, Policy Analysts, Responsible Business Conduct Centre, OECD</i> Global ESG-labelled assets are expected to surpass USD 40 trillion in 2030. But how is their sustainability performance measured? Join us for systematic insights into the current ESG rating landscape and implications for policy makers, investors, and businesses. The OECD's presentation will be followed by country representatives sharing examples from their own experience in Central Asia.
10:55 – 11:00	13:55 – 14:00	14:55 – 15:00	16:55 – 17:00	Closing remarks

Background information

The Sustainable Infrastructure Programme in Asia

The webinar contributes to implementing the Sustainable Infrastructure Programme in Asia (SIPA) framework, led by Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and funded by the German Government: www.sipa-centralasia.org. The SIPA aims to help Central and Southeast Asian countries ensure energy, transport and industrial infrastructure investments aligned with low-emission development pathways compatible with the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals.

SIPA's activities target all stages of infrastructure development, from planning and design to financing and delivery. Its activities mainly involve six countries in Asia including three countries in Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Mongolia and Uzbekistan) and three countries in Southeast Asia (Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand). The Programme's period of implementation is 2021 to 2025.

The OECD

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an international organisation that works to build better policies for better lives. Our goal is to shape policies that foster prosperity, equality, opportunity and well-being for all. We draw on 60 years of experience and insights to better prepare the world of tomorrow.

The OECD brings together its 38 Member countries and a range of partners that collaborate on key global issues at national, regional and local levels. Through our standards, programmes and initiatives, we help drive and anchor reform in more than 100 countries around the world, building on our collective wisdom and shared values.

More information on the OECD at <https://www.oecd.org/>.

The University of Central Asia

The University of Central Asia (UCA) is a secular, private, not-for-profit university founded in 2000 through an International Treaty signed by the Ismaili Imamat along with the Governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, ratified by their respective parliaments and registered with the United Nations.

The mission of UCA is to promote the social and economic development of Central Asia, particularly its mountain communities, by offering an internationally recognized standard of higher education and enabling the peoples of the region to preserve their rich cultural heritage as assets for the future.

More information on the UCA at <https://ucentralasia.org/>