

**Pavilion at UNFCCC COP29: ‘Kyrgyzstan: Sustainable Development of Mountain Regions’**  
**Venue: Blue Zone of UNFCCC COP29, Pavilion F8**  
Event № \_

**"The Role of Green Buildings in Climate Policy: Regional Integration and Best Practices for Low-Carbon Development"**

**Date: 15 November 2024**

**Time: 90 minutes, 16.00-17.30.**

**Moderator: Ms. Nurzat Abdyrasulova, UNISON Group**

**Online participation:** To participate online, please register using the following link: [link](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with details on how to access the conference. Registration is required only once, and the provided link will grant you access to all events at the Pavilion “Kyrgyzstan: Sustainable Mountain Development” throughout its entire duration November 13-21, 2024.

**Introductory information:**

Central Asia, a region where the average annual temperature is rising 1.5 times faster than the global average, faces unique challenges such as shrinking water resources and soil degradation. Urban areas are expanding rapidly, often without sustainable urban planning, leading to increased energy demand, heat islands, and pressure on water resources. Consequently, countries like Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and the Kyrgyz Republic have prioritized energy-efficient buildings in their climate action plans, setting measurable targets for building energy reductions as part of their NDCs.

Green buildings play an essential role in climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies, especially as countries strive to meet their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement. The construction sector globally is responsible for around 39% of energy-related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, primarily from building operations and the carbon embodied in Central Asia, where rapid urbanization and economic growth are reshaping energy demand, sustainable building practices have the potential to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), decrease energy dependency, and promote healthier urban environments.<sup>1</sup>

Integrating green building standards within NDCs is crucial for meeting Paris Agreement targets. Green buildings help minimize energy use, maximize renewable energy deployment and reduce GHG emissions, making them a natural focus for countries aiming to reach net-zero emissions by mid-century. The buildings and construction sector are a significant contributor to GHG emissions, accounting for approximately 21% of global emissions.<sup>2</sup> In regions like Central Asia, the proportion of emissions from buildings can be as high as 70-80% of total urban emissions<sup>3</sup>. This underscores the

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<sup>1</sup> 2019 Global Status Report for Buildings and Construction: Towards a zero-emission, efficient and resilient buildings and construction sector

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.greenpolicyplatform.org/research/global-status-report-buildings-and-construction-2024>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.climatepolicyinitiative.org/publication/ccfla-central-asia-hub-scaling-up-project-preparation-and-finance-for-net-zero-carbon-buildings-in-kazakhstan-and-uzbekistan/>

critical role that green building practices play in mitigating climate change and achieving the targets set by the Paris Agreement.

In the Kyrgyz Republic and neighboring countries, green buildings feature in NDC commitments, with specific aims to reduce energy demand in residential and commercial sectors by up to 30% by 2030. NDCs are central to global efforts to reduce GHG emissions. Integrating green building standards into NDCs enables countries to address a substantial emissions source. Green buildings are designed to minimize energy consumption, utilize renewable energy sources, and reduce overall environmental impact. By incorporating standards such as LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) and BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method), countries can set benchmarks for energy performance, water efficiency and resource conservation<sup>4</sup>.

Given these challenges, cooperation on green building practices across Central Asia and beyond is essential. Through policy harmonization, knowledge sharing, and financial incentives, Central Asian nations can accelerate the implementation of green building projects that align with NDC targets. Partnerships with international organizations such as the Global ABC and UN Environment Programme (UNEP) provide technical expertise, financial resources and training to build capacity in green building design, construction and management.

The side event will explore the transformative role of green buildings in achieving climate targets and enhancing resilience, with a focus on low-carbon, sustainable building (LSB) practices. It will address key aspects such as the integration of green buildings within NDCs, regional cooperation in Central Asia and lessons learned from global and regional best practices.

This event aligns with Central Asian countries' urgent need to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from urban growth while adapting to climate impacts such as water scarcity and extreme weather events. Speakers from the Green Building Council, The Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction, government agencies, and the private sector will discuss pathways to advance regional cooperation, green finance, and policies that position green buildings as central components of climate and energy policies.

### **Main Objectives:**

- Enhance understanding of the benefits of green buildings for climate resilience and NDC targets among stakeholders.
- Framework for regional cooperation on sustainable building practices, promoting shared resources, training, and policy alignment.
- Encouragement of investments in green buildings through incentives and streamlined regulatory frameworks.
- Initiatives to build local expertise and workforce skills necessary to support a sustainable construction industry in Central Asia.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.gbrionline.org/leed-vs-breeam/>

**Expected outcomes:**

After the event, participants will receive practical guidance on implementing energy efficient solutions, financing opportunities and developing co-operation to achieve climate goals in the region.

**AGENDA**

**Venue: UNFCCC COP29 Blue Zone, Pavilion F8**

**Date: 15 November, 2024 Time: 16.00-17.30**

16:00–16:05	<p><b>Introduction by the event moderator</b> – Ms. Nurzat Abdyrasulova, Founder and CEO of UNISON Group</p> <p><b>Opening remarks</b> – Ms. Nazgul Usenova, Deputy Minister of Energy of the Kyrgyz Republic</p>
16:05-16:35 <i>30 min</i>	<p><b>Accelerating Climate Action through Green Building Standards and Sustainable Practices</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representative from World Green Building Council (TBC)</li> <li>• Ms. Begim Zhanuzakova, UNISON Group, Kyrgyzstan</li> <li>• Mr. Fuat Baghirov, AZ GBC, Azerbaijan</li> <li>• Ms. Shamira, ASEAN countries (TBC)</li> </ul>
16:35-17:20 <i>45 min</i>	<p><b>Panel discussion on Advancing Regional Collaboration for Sustainable Building Standards and Climate Resilience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction (GLOBALABC) – (TBC)</li> <li>• Ms. Arti Ahluwalia, Dimex Green Energy Pvt Ltd, India</li> <li>• Mr. Guy Alexander Eames, Earthbot FZC LLC, United Kingdom</li> <li>• Mr. Germano Bremm, the Secretary of urban planning and Sustainability, Brazil</li> <li>• Mr. Martin Heibel, Interreg NEXT MED (TBC)</li> </ul>
17:20–17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Q&amp;A and open discussion and conclusion</li> </ul>



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**Административная информация:**

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