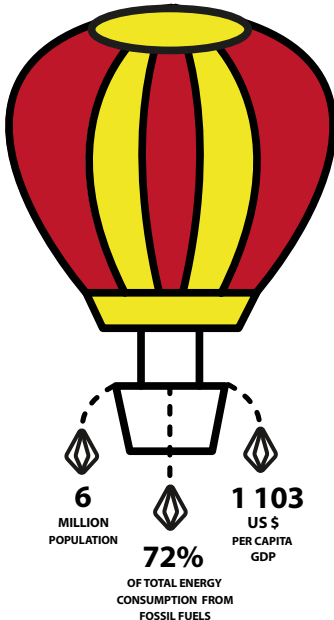


KYRGYZSTAN

CLIMATE FACTS AND POLICY

POLICIES AND PROCESSES

12 MILLION tCO₂e
2 TONNES PER CAPITA



Sources: 2005 national GHG inventory data submitted to UNFCCC; latest population, energy and economic data from the World Development Indicators of the World Bank <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator>

Multidimensional policy framework

National sustainable development strategy 2013-2017
National programme and laws for improving energy efficiency and renewable energy
Priority directions for adaptation to climate change until 2017 with sectoral action plans
High-level Inter-agency Coordination Commission on Climate Change, intersectoral climate dialogue platform

2020 targets

Reduce GHG emissions by 20 per cent under adequate support for actions

2030 targets and INDC

Mitigation

Base year: not considered
Absolute growth of emissions in all scenarios with decoupling from population and economic growth
Unconditional target 2030: 13 per cent economy-wide reduction compared to business as usual
Conditional target 2030: 30 per cent economy-wide reduction compared to business as usual
Long-term 2050 target range: 1.2-1.6 tonnes CO₂e per person

Adaptation priorities

Agriculture and water systems
Energy
Forests and biodiversity
Health care sector
Disaster risk reduction and investments to reduce losses and damage

GHG inventory of all sectors & gases

Third national communication prepared but not yet submitted to UNFCCC
Second national communication to UNFCCC (2008) covers 1990-2005
No advanced MRV and GHG emissions modelling systems established yet

CLIMATE ACTIONS

Low overall and per capita GHG emissions

Plans for expansion of gasification of the country (Gazprom)
Hydropower potential expected to decrease after the 2030s in view of climate impacts on water sources
Significant role of grasslands and forests in GHG balance

Considerable attention to adaptation and loss and damage estimates

Adaptation policy framework adopted
Sectoral action plans developed (health, agriculture-water, biodiversity-forests, emergency response)
Evolving domestic approaches to the estimation of losses and damages expressed in monetary terms
Climate adaptation initiatives at local level, especially in forest-rich regions
Numerous NGOs active on climate change education and awareness, energy efficiency and adaptation

Regional actions

Hosts the Regional Mountain Centre
Works with Kazakhstan on Chu-Talas River basin cooperation and adaptation to climate change

CLIMATE FINANCE

Very limited own resources

Sufficient for soft measures (legal, institutional) but inadequate for tangible action

Strong reliance on Russian energy investments

45 billion rubles (US \$714 million in 2016 prices) in gas distribution network

EBRD

Kyrgyz Sustainable Energy Financing Facility
Climate resiliency of urban water supplies
District heating modernization, energy efficient street lighting in Bishkek, Osh urban public transport

GEF

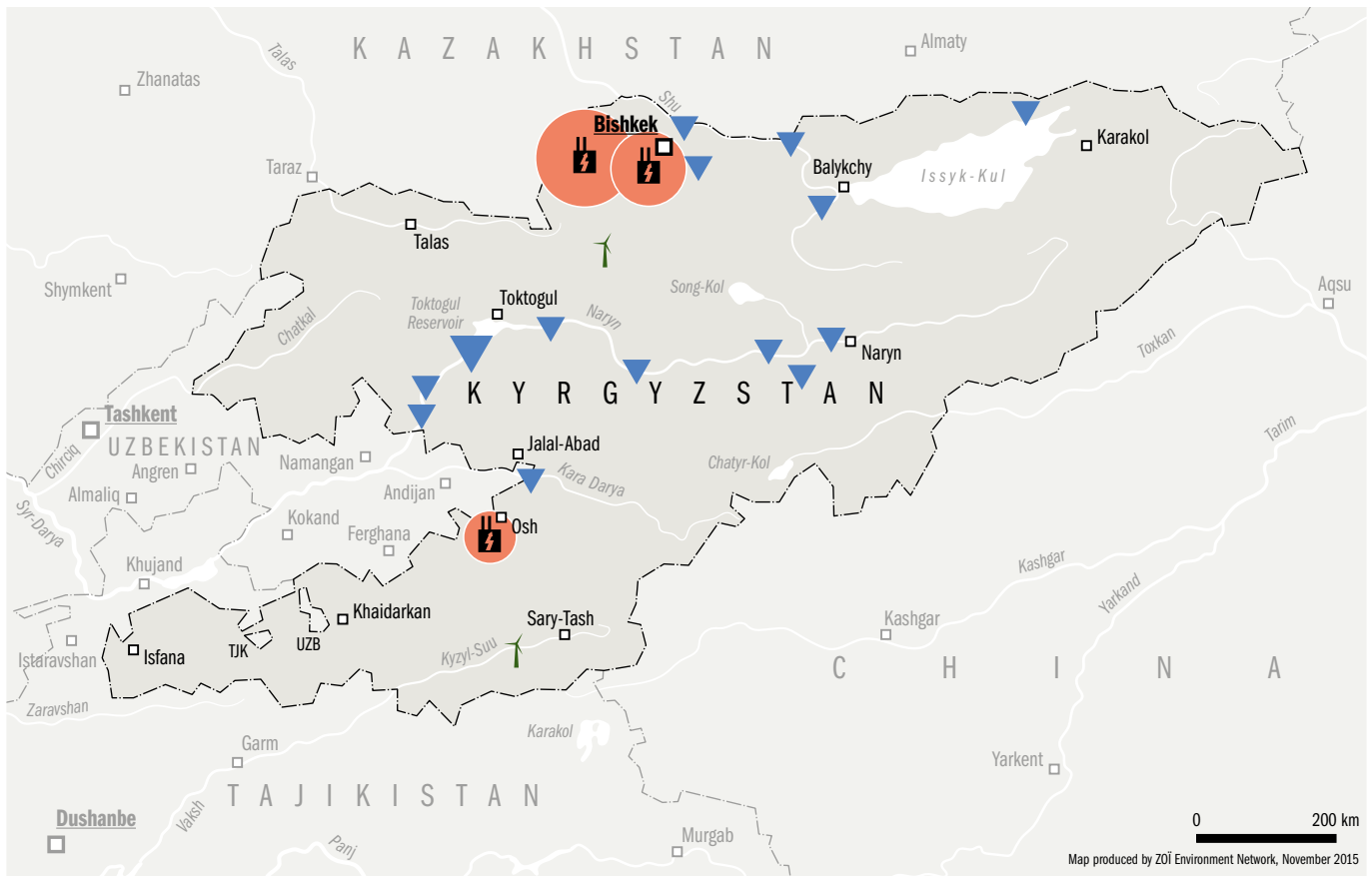
Sustainable forest and land management (World Bank), mountain forests under climate change (FAO)

Pilot Program on Climate Resilience

Climate resiliency in the agricultural, water and energy sectors, institutional capacity-building

ADB

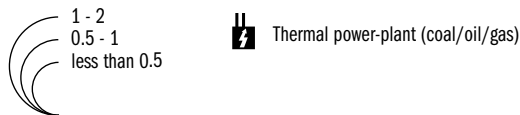
Power sector rehabilitation programme, such as Toktogul hydropower plant



Energy and emissions

Fossil fuel energy installations and carbon emissions

● CO₂ emissions from thermal power plants, million tons per year.



Renewable energy installations and plans

Wind park
 Solar park
 Hydropower plant

Installed capacity:

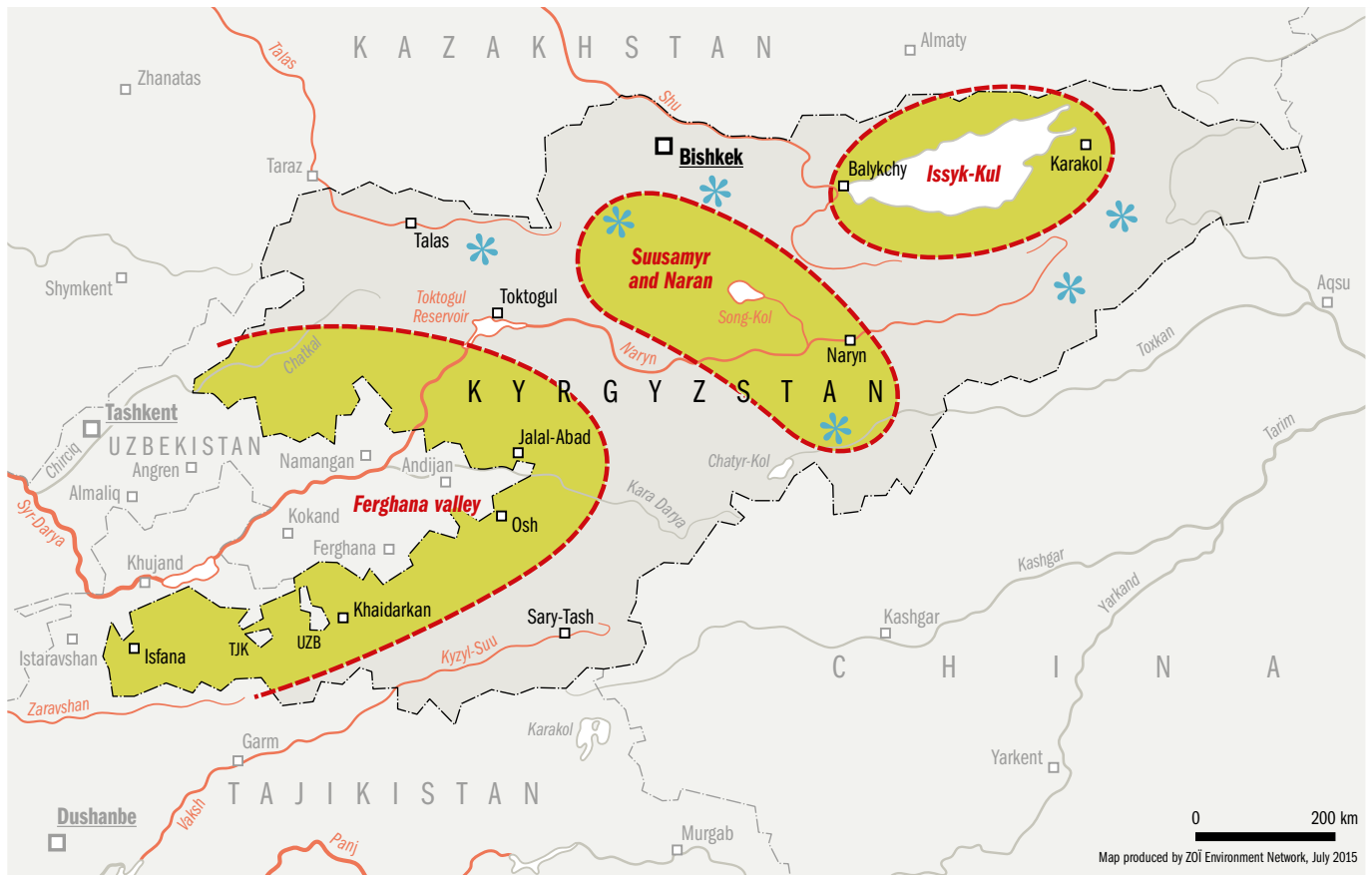
Less than 50 MW

Policies and institutions






The national sustainable development strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2013-2017 sets the country's overall environmental policy framework. The Vice Prime Minister chairs the high-level Inter-agency Coordination Commission on Climate Change, the members of which include heads of key governmental agencies. The State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry, as the lead governmental body for climate change, acts as its secretariat. The non-profit Climate Change Centre works at arm's length to the Agency and provides practical support to the Commission.

A climate dialogue platform facilitated by the Climate Change Centre is unique among Central Asia countries, and serves as a mechanism for intersectoral dialogue among the authorities, the business community, academia and civil society. The Climate Network of Kyrgyzstan, coordinated by the civic foundation UNISON is an NGO-based vehicle for promoting and coordinating climate change actions. The business and academic networks engaged with climate issues include the Renewable Energy Association and the Kyrgyz Institute of Climate and Green Technologies. The cities of Osh and Talas have signed the Covenant of Mayors.




Kyrgyzstan has not yet adopted comprehensive climate mitigation legislation, and a low-carbon development strategy is seen as the way to operationalize emission targets, which are enumerated in the country's INDC. The energy sector has climate-related legislation and policies such as the National Energy Programme and the Strategy for Fuel and Energy Sector Development for 2010-2025. The strategy calls for the rapid expansion of renewables, especially hydropower, as a priority for energy sector development. Laws on renewable energy and the energy efficiency of buildings, and the national programme for improving energy efficiency – newly developed with EU-GIZ support – also contribute to regulating the energy sector. In 2013 Kyrgyzstan adopted priority directions for adaptation to climate change until 2017, and is developing action plans for agriculture and water resources; biodiversity and forests; and emergency response.








Impacts of climate change

-  Projected shifts in seasonal hydrology and growing uncertainties of water availability
-  Areas most exposed to weather and climate risks
-  Environmentally sensitive and stressed regions
-  Severe drought impacts
-  Reduction of ice cover

Kyrgyzstan scorecard

-  Country's share of global emissions
-  Country's emissions per capita
-  General climate action ambition

Mitigation commitment:

-  Emissions reduction
-  Decoupling from population growth
-  Decoupling from economic growth
-  Renewable energy
-  **Adaptation action**

National climate policy actors

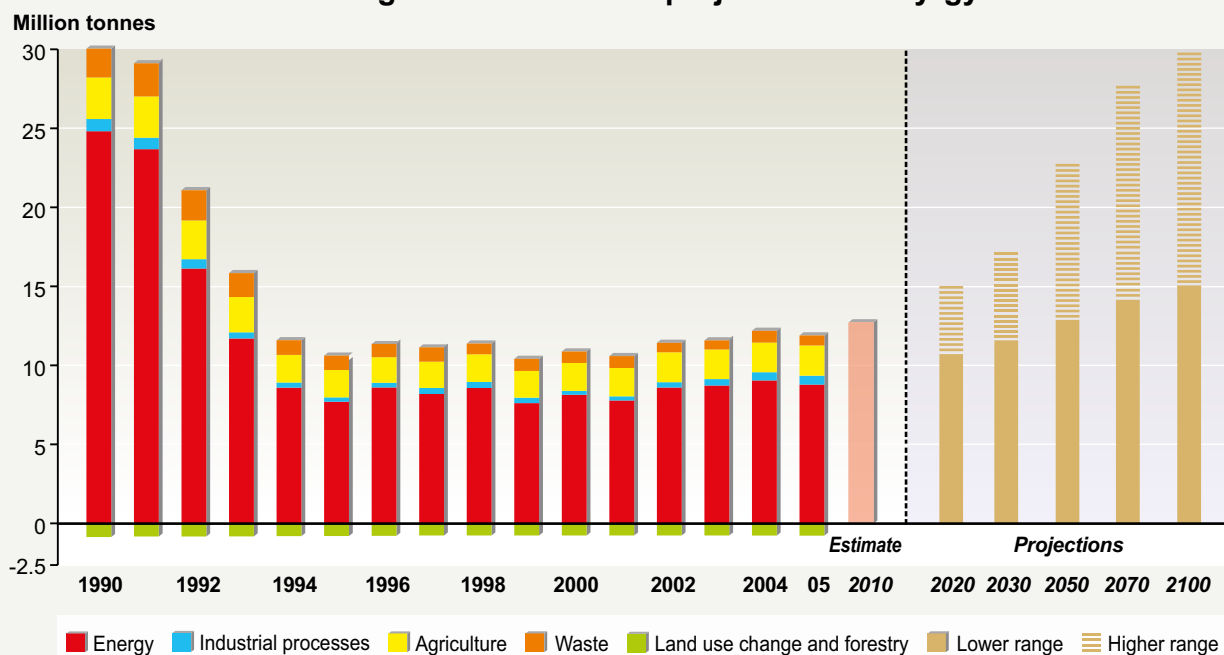
Policy leadership: Coordination Commission on Climate Change

UNFCCC focal point: State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry

GHG inventory and projections: Climate Change Centre

GCF focal point: State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry

Greenhouse gas emissions and projections for Kyrgyzstan



© Zoi Environment Network (2016)

Climate actions

Kyrgyzstan has prepared its third national communication although it is not yet submitted to the UNFCCC. According to data published in the second national communication (2009), absolute and per capita emissions remained low (about 2.2 tonnes CO₂e per person) until 2010. Due to the collapse of the former Soviet economy and structural changes resulting from the economic transition, the 2005-2010 emissions totalled only one third of the 1990 level. The most notable decline occurred in the energy-use sector, which is still responsible for over 70 per cent of the emissions, followed by agriculture. The planned mass gasification of the country by Russia's Gazprom and the entry of Kyrgyzstan in 2015 into the Eurasian Economic Union are also expected change the energy balance.

The country has developed only 10 per cent of its hydropower potential, and its energy development strategy calls for the construction of multiple small hydroelectric plants by 2025. Other renewable energy development options include heat supply through solar energy and biogas, and electricity from wind and solar. There are no existing projects using these technologies.

The energy savings potential in buildings is estimated at 15 per cent at least, while modernization and rehabilitation in the energy system can lead to 25 per cent savings.

While Kyrgyzstan has only 6 per cent forest cover, forests and grasslands play a significant role in regulating climate balance, reducing the impact of extreme events, and contributing to carbon sequestration.

Kyrgyzstan sees mitigation as one way to attract much-needed foreign investments and aid, and explicitly links its mitigation targets to such aid. Being highly vulnerable to climate change, Kyrgyzstan is particularly interested in climate change adaptation and in developing approaches to loss and damage estimates and compensation. Given its topography, Kyrgyzstan has traditionally paid high-level political attention to mountain development, ranging from glaciers and endemic biodiversity to mining. Cross-border cooperation is seen as important, and the joint adaptation approach with Kazakhstan in the Chu-Talas River basin is frequently referred to as pioneering.

Kyrgyzstan signed the Paris Agreement in 2016. The Kyrgyz INDC recognizes the damages already inflicted across the country's most vulnerable sectors, particularly to water resources, and adopts an adaptation target of preventing further climate change damage and losses. In keeping with the country's climate change priorities, the mitigation targets are secondary to the adaptation targets.

Climate finance

Kyrgyzstan's own financial resources for tangible climate action are limited.

Due to Kyrgyzstan's climate vulnerability, it was accepted as a participant to the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience. The EBRD supports climate resilience and energy system modernization and energy efficiency. Also the ADB provides strong support to Kyrgyzstan's power sector, such as reconstruction of the Toktogul hydropower plant and assistance to the development plan of the energy sector.

The World Bank provides support for hydrometeorological services to access, improve and manage climate data, and for sustainable land management under climate change. UNDP provides support for national climate reporting, preparation of national adaptation priorities, and climate risk management.

Sources of information for the scorecard

National strategy for sustainable development of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2013-2017, Priority directions for adaptation to climate change in the Kyrgyz Republic till 2017.

National climate-related assessments and reports: Second national communication to UNFCCC 2009, INDC (2015).

Zoi expertise, and interviews with stakeholders in Kyrgyzstan



This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the authors and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

The designations employed and the presentation do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or region or of its authorities, or concerning delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.