

Support Climate Policy Cooperation with the EU's Eastern Partners

(Russia, Eastern Partnership, Central Asian countries)



Sample deliverables produced for
EU DG Clima during contractual period
December 2013 - December 2016



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1. Summary leaflet (English, Russian)

Support climate policy cooperation with the EU's Eastern partners

DG Climate Action contract 071301/2013/888454/B5N/CLIMA-C.1
Geographic focus: Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Central Asia
Duration: 2013-2016
Contractor: Zel environment network, Geneva, Switzerland

Objectives

- Analysis** help DG Climate Action analyse country-specific information about the climate-related set-up, current momentum, trends and future development of partner countries in the Eastern partner countries to establish a firm basis for further dialogue and cooperation.
- Policy** assist DG Climate Action in developing a coherent approach to the Eastern partner countries, to promote the European approach and position related to climate change, and to support the development of low-carbon policies.
- Communication** provide Eastern partners with easily accessible information about EU climate policies and cooperation opportunities; provide EU institutions with up-to-date visual information about climate-related issues, policies and plans of the Eastern partners.

Activities

- Dialogue with European and international actors in the climate field (interviews and discussions over plans, actions and possible synergies in the region)
- Dialogue with the Eastern partners (interviews and discussions over status, plans, needs and opportunities for Eastern cooperation; in-depth missions to the countries – focus on Central Asia in 2014)
- Development of concrete suggestions for strengthening longer-term cooperation with the EU over climate change
- Creative communication on climate policies (east > west and west > east)

Some questions to be answered

- What are the Eastern partners' climate-related issues and grievances?
- How far are the countries prepared to go to reduce their impact on the global climate?
- What are the best ways for the EU to help them make this happen?
- Who are EU's natural allies within the region and internationally, and how to build or strengthen cooperation with them?
- How can regional cooperation over climate change be strengthened and supported among EU's Eastern partners?

Important milestones

- Climate Summit 2014 (New York)
- UNFCCC negotiations, Conference of the Parties 2015 (Paris), interim meetings
- EU association talks 2014
- Programming of EU's extended foreign assistance on climate change 2015+*
- Major national and regional events (e.g. EXPO 2017 in Kazakhstan)

and synergies

Climate-related activities in the Eastern region supported by the EU

- Other players and processes – multilateral and bilateral
- Country-scale institutions and processes, governmental and not (academia, private sector, civil society, media)

Contacts

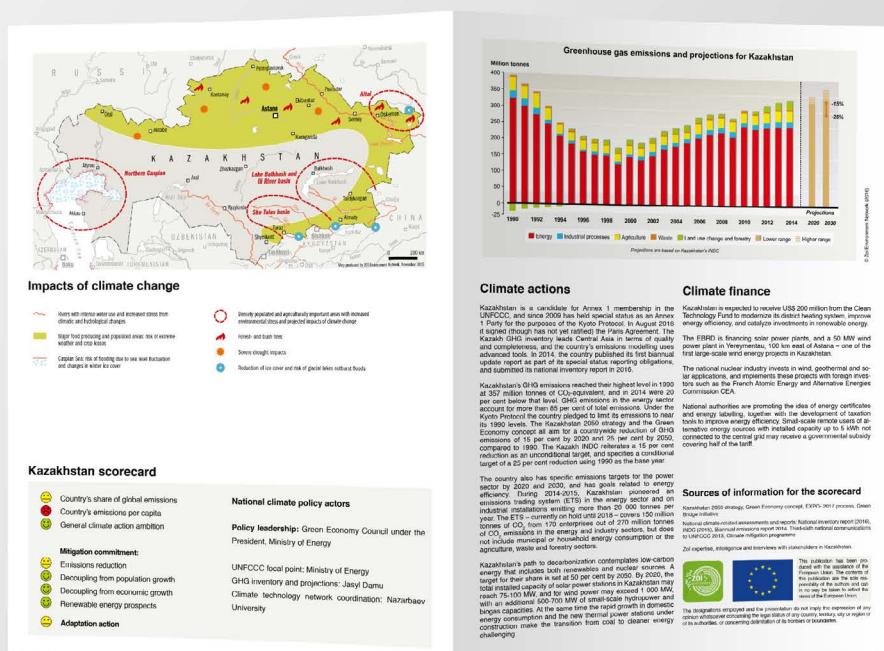
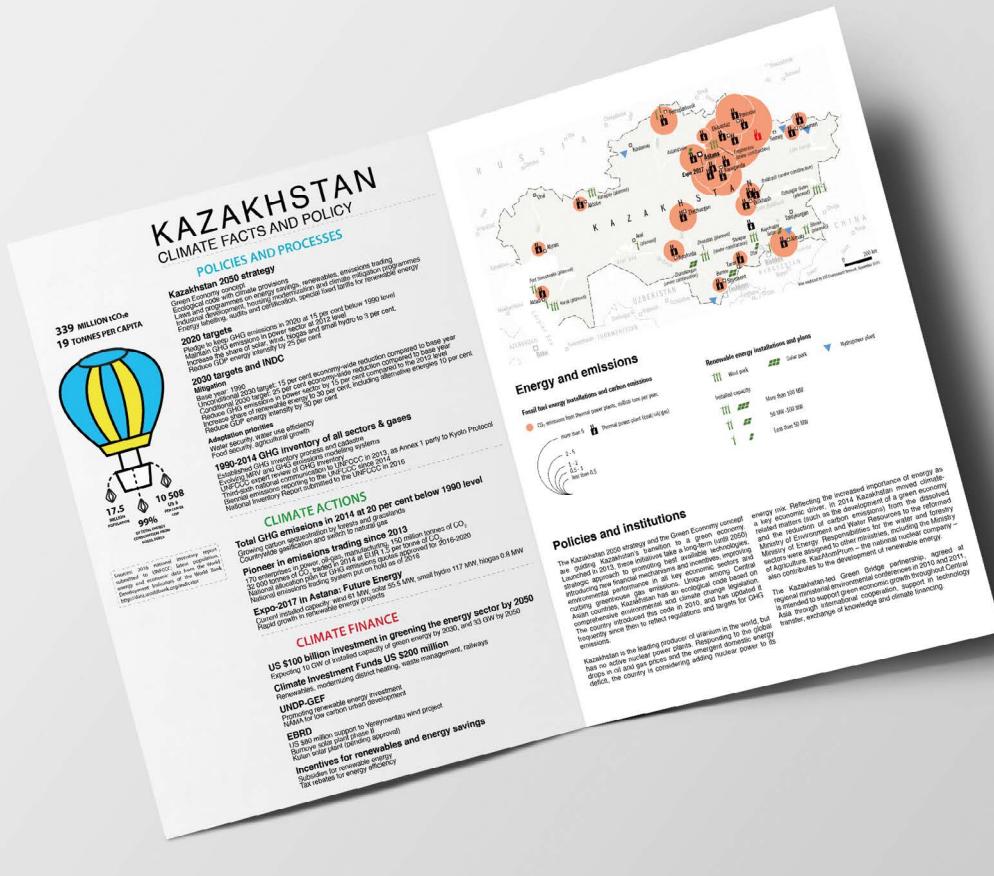
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This is an overview of the approach, activities and milestones per March 2014.
The content will be regularly updated in line with evolving priorities and progress.

2. Climate policy scorecards

CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan ([English](#), [Russian](#))



Kyrgyzstan (English, Russian)



Impacts of climate change

- Projected shifts in natural habitats and growing uncertainty of water availability
- Areas most exposed to weather and climate risks
- Reduced ice cover

Kyrgyzstan scorecard

Mitigation commitment:	Emissions reduction	Decoupling from population growth	Decoupling from economic growth	Renewable energy	Adaptation action
Country's share of global emissions	●	●	●	●	●
Country's emissions per capita	●	●	●	●	●
General climate action ambition	●	●	●	●	●

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

Sources of information for the scorecard

National strategy for sustainable development of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2013–2015. Ministry of Environment of the Kyrgyz Republic. 2013.

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

UNFCCC, and other sources with references in Kyrgyzstan

The designations employed and the presentation do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country or territory, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Greenhouse gas emissions and projections for Kyrgyzstan

Climate actions

Kyrgyzstan has prepared its first national communication although it is not yet submitted to the UNFCCC. According to data published in the national communication, greenhouse gas emissions in 2010 were 2.2 tonnes CO₂ per capita. Total greenhouse gas emissions remained low (about 2.2 tonnes CO₂ per capita) until 2010. Due to the collapse of the former Soviet economy and structural changes in the economy, emissions decreased by about 70% between 1990 and 2000. The emissions followed a steady increase until 2010, followed by agriculture. The planned mass greening of the country will contribute to further emissions reductions and the entry into the European Economic Union are also expected change the energy balance.

The country has developed a 10-peta watt potential for hydropower potential, and its energy development strategy calls for the construction of multiple small hydropower plants by 2025, as well as through solar energy, wind, 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 play a significant role in regulating climate balance, reducing the impact of extreme events, and increasing energy efficiency.

Kyrgyzstan's adaptation is one way to attain much-needed foreign investments and aid, and especially lies in mitigation targets to suit itself. Being highly vulnerable, Kyrgyzstan needs to develop approaches to loss and damage risk-reduces and political action to minimize climate impacts. The government has adopted a long-term adaptation development, ranging from glaciars and endemic species to the adaptation approach with Kazakhstan in the Osh-Ili River basin is frequently mentioned.

Kyrgyzstan signed the Paris Agreement in 2016. The Kyrgyz INDC document states that the country aims to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 20% by 2030 compared to 2010 levels. The document also recognizes the damages already inflicted. Hence, the country will take measures to mitigate climate change and adapt to climate change. In keeping with the results of the national communication, the mitigation targets are particularly for the adaptation targets.

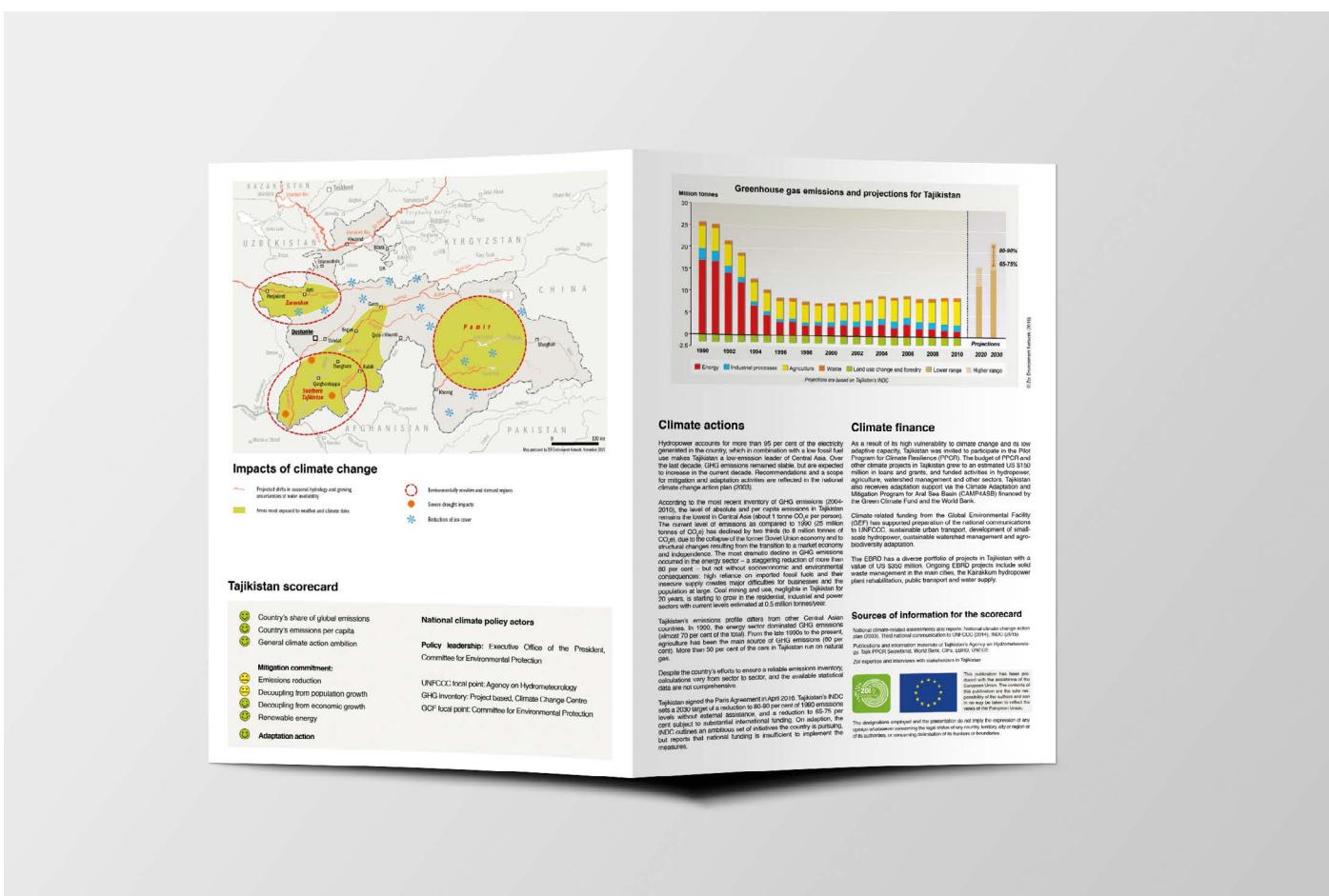
Climate finance

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

Due to Kyrgyzstan's climate vulnerability, it was accepted as a partner in the Least Developed Countries Fund. The EBRD supports climate resilience and energy efficiency improvements and energy efficiency. Also the ADB provides strong support to hydropower development, which is the main source of energy and hydropower plant and assistance to the development plan of the country.

The World Bank provides support for hydro-meteorological services to access, improve and manage climate data, and for climate-resilient infrastructure. The World Bank also provides support for national climate reporting, preparation of national adaptation priorities, and climate risk management.

Tajikistan (English, Russian)



Turkmenistan (English, Russian)



Impacts of climate change

- Rivers with reduced water use and increased stress from drought and hydrological change.
- Directly populated and agriculturally important areas with increased hydrological stress and projected climate change.
- Extreme heat waves and impacts on human health.

Turkmenistan scorecard

Scorecard Category	Score	Description
Country's share of global emissions	1	Low
Country's emissions per capita	1	Low
General climate action ambition	1	Low
Mitigation commitment:	1	Emissions reduction
	1	Doubling from population growth
	1	Doubling from economic growth
	1	Renewable energy prospects
Adaptation action	1	Low

National climate policy actors

Policy leadership: President, Cabinet of Ministers and Committee for Environmental Protection and Land Resources

UNFCCC focal point: Committee for Environmental Protection and Land Resources

GHG inventory and projections: project-based and Land Resources

GCF focal point: Committee for Environmental Protection and Land Resources

Greenhouse gas emissions and projections for Turkmenistan

Bar chart showing projected GHG emissions in million tonnes from 1994 to 2050. The chart shows a significant increase in emissions over time, reaching approximately 120 million tonnes by 2050.

Climate actions

Turkmenistan's emission profile is similar to other energy-rich countries, especially those rich in natural gas, and methane constitutes about 40 per cent of total GHG emissions. Energy efficiency measures are being implemented to reduce CO₂ per year by 85 per cent of the total.

The majority of Turkmenistan forests are sparse desert salsoul with limited regeneration capacity. Turkmenistan has a relatively low dependency for protecting people and infrastructure from weather extremes, providing valuable shelter for biodiversity and ecosystem services.

A team within the Committee for Environmental Protection and Land Resources completes Turkmenistan's GHG inventories and projections. This work is currently being nationally supported via UNEP. Much of the statistical data in Turkmenistan is restricted, and nearly all information is not easily available domestically or through international sources. This challenge even though the information is published on websites of international organizations.

In October 2016 Turkmenistan ratified the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. In the INDC Turkmenistan committed to the stabilization of greenhouse gas emissions or the beginning of reductions by 2030 while allowing the country to pursue low-carbon development.

Climate finance

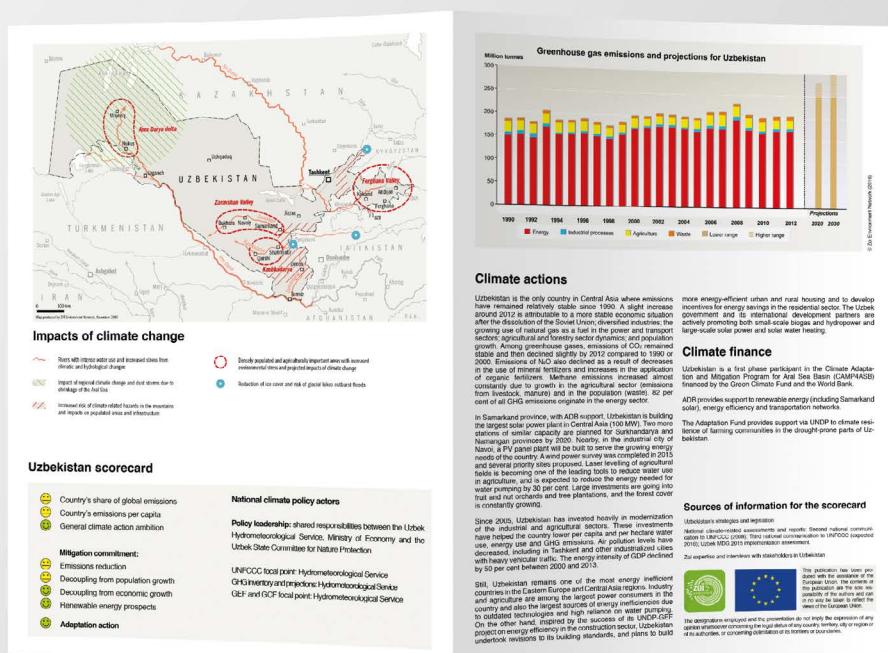
Most of the funding on climate action in Turkmenistan comes from the state budget. Some funds come from GEF and the Adaptation Fund and cover activities on disaster-risk management, climate change adaptation, and climate-resilient agriculture. A small amount of funding comes from the World Bank for urban development in the cities of Ashgabad and Ahalva. In its INDC Turkmenistan committed to seek additional funding for the introduction of sustainable development policies and for the protection of natural resources in the energy and environment sectors in Turkmenistan.

Sources of information for the scorecard

Turkmenistan's strategies and legislation
National climate strategy (2014); INDC (2015)
UNFCCC reports and submissions to UNFCCC
EU reports and submissions to UNFCCC

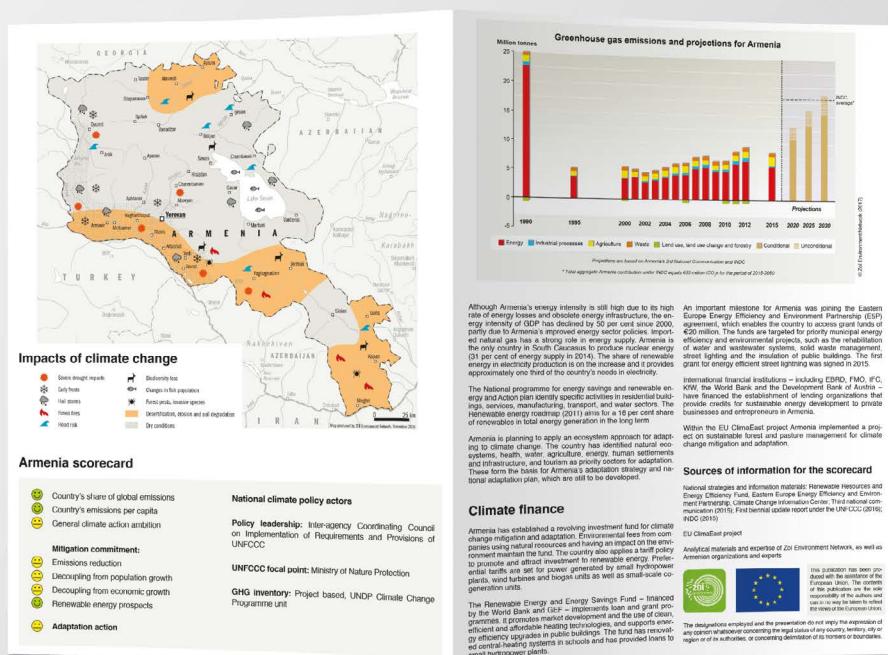
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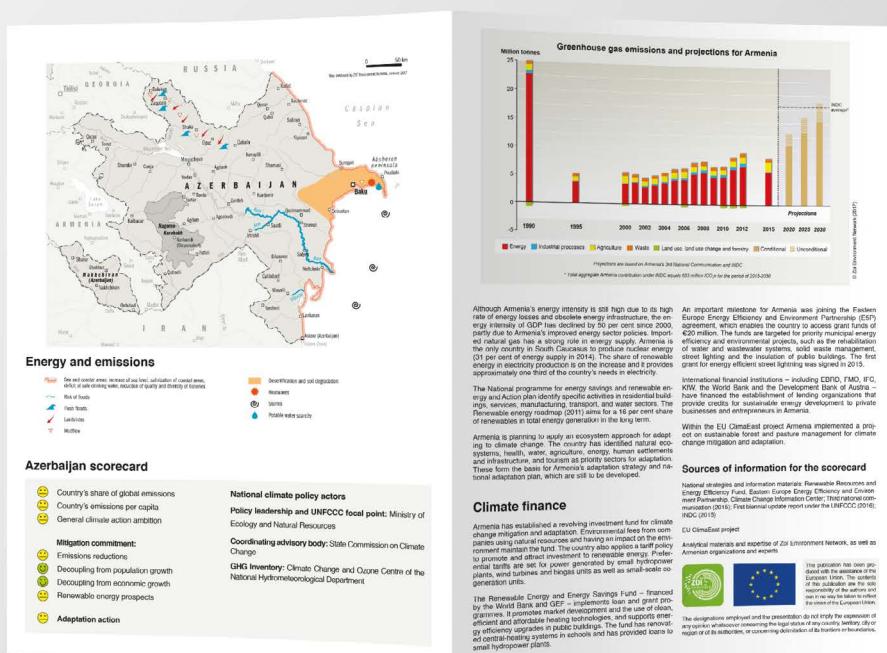


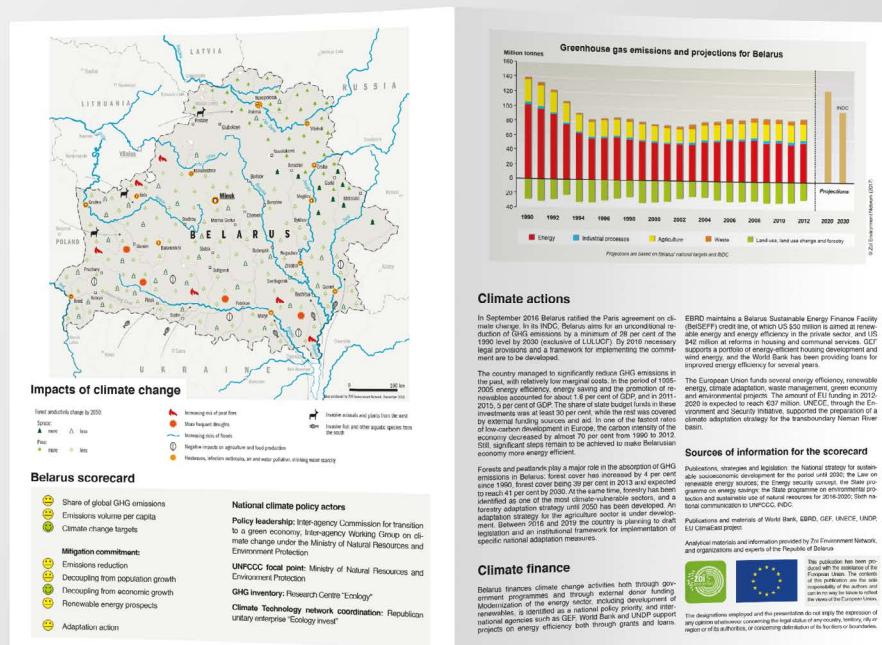
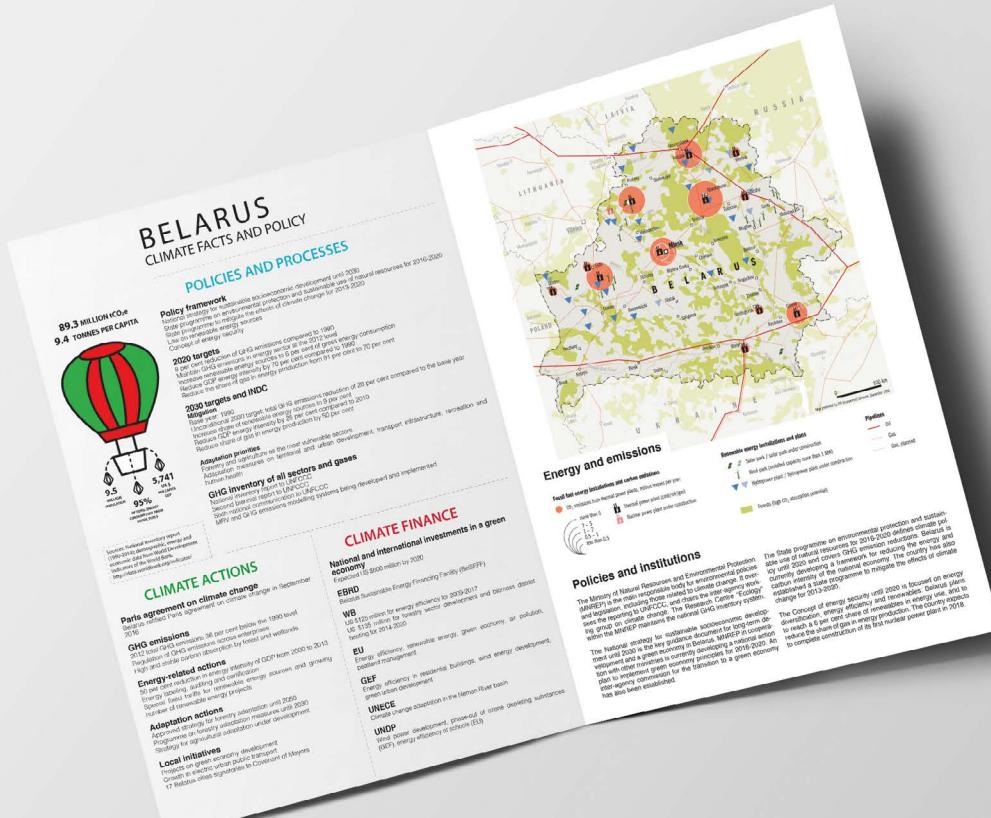
CAUCASUS AND EASTERN EUROPE

Armenia (English, Russian)

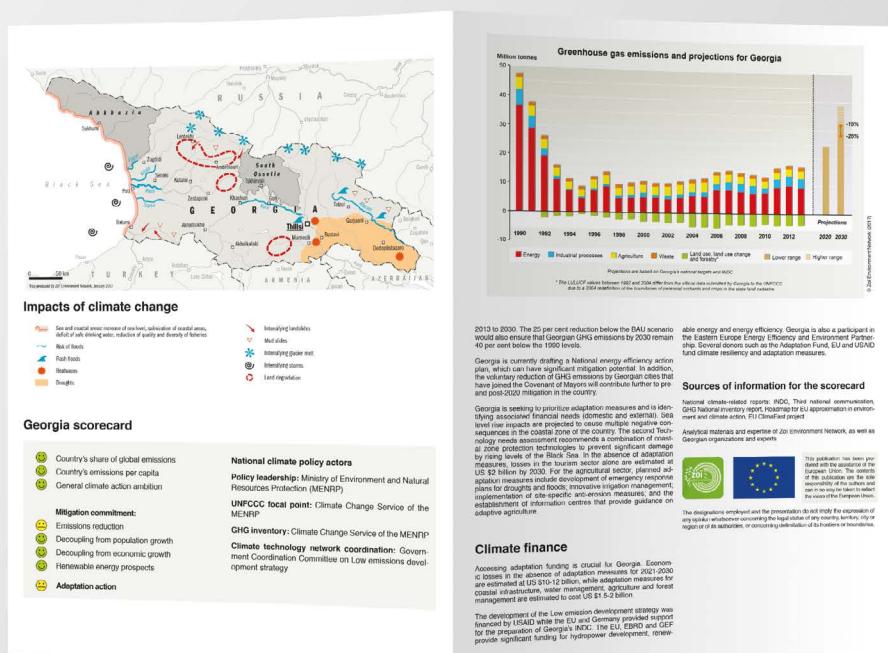


Azerbaijan (English, Russian)

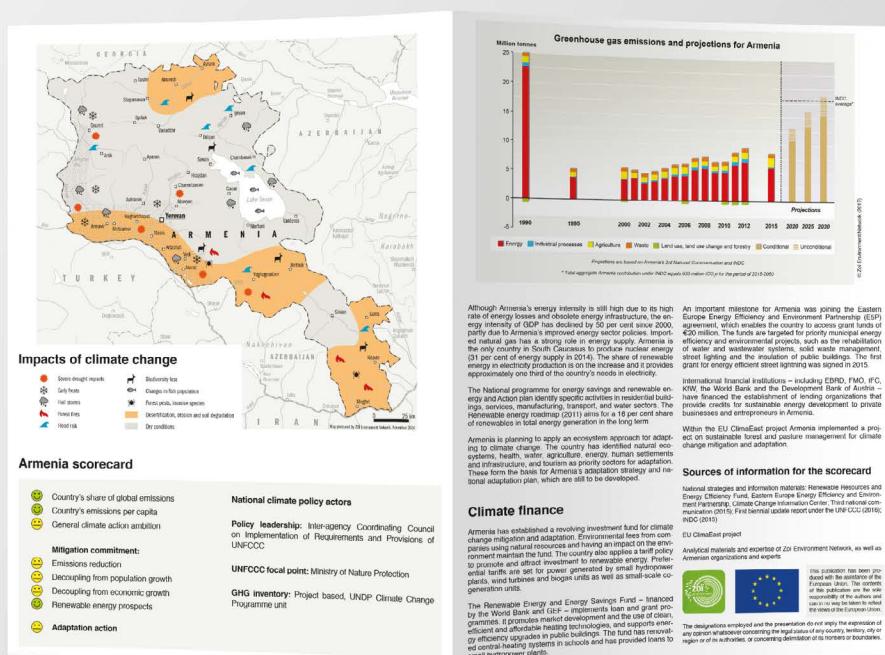


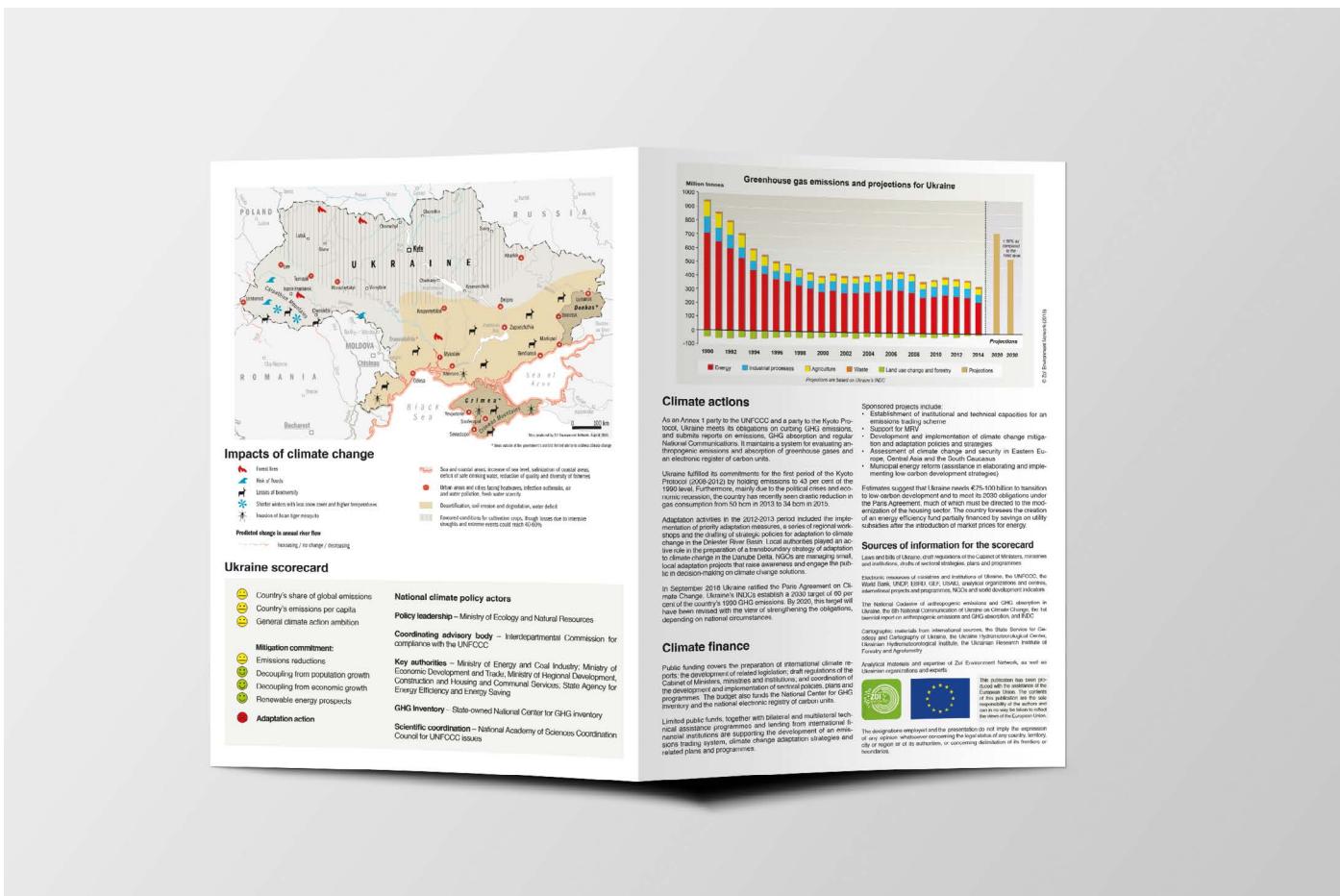


Georgia ([English](#), [Russian](#))



Moldova (English, Russian)





Russian Federation ([English](#), [Russian](#))



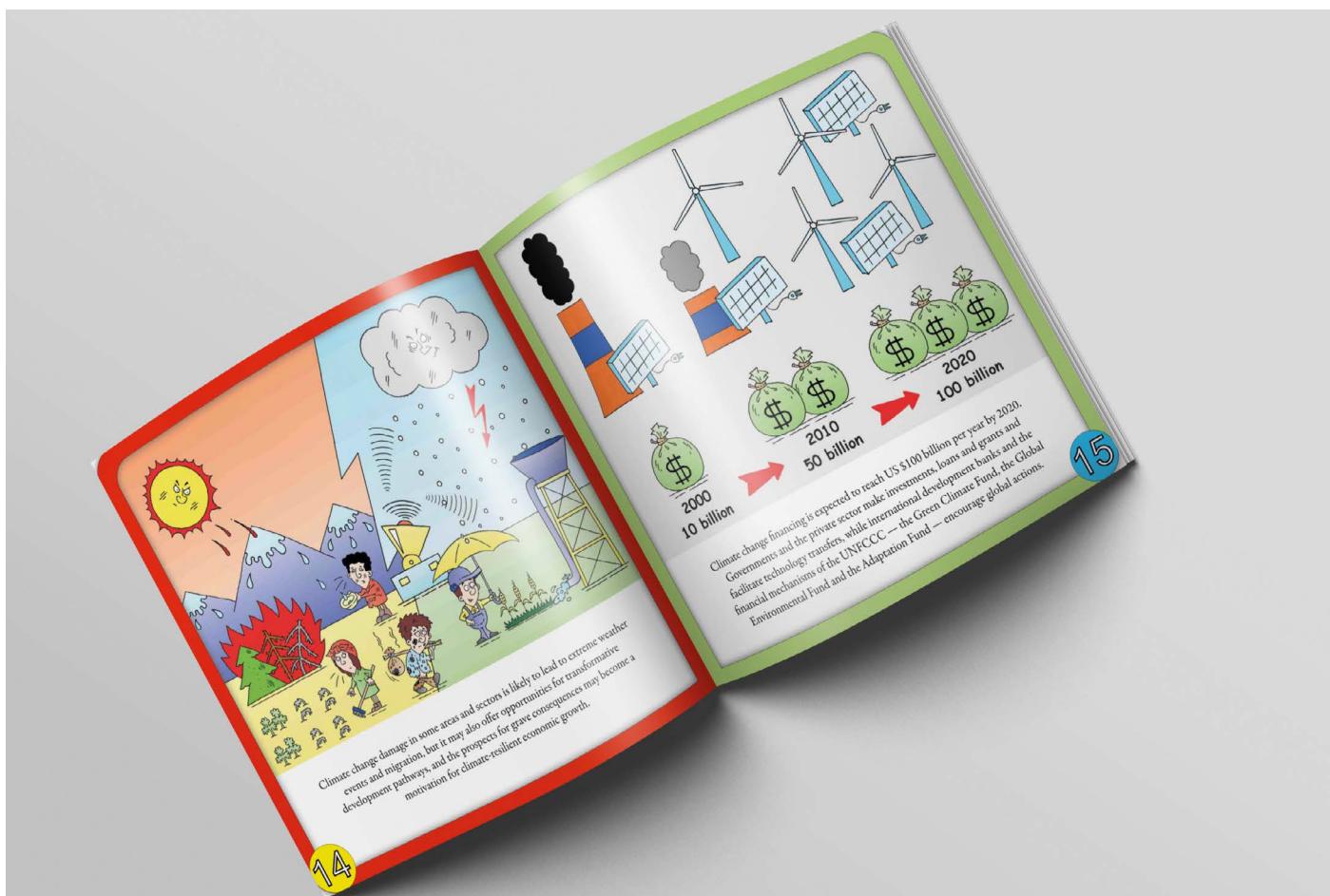
3. Addressing climate change – European Union and Central Asia.

A cartoon summary. ([English](#), [Russian](#))















4. Inputs to meetings and workshop

Adaptation and mitigation priorities of Central Asia and cooperation with the EU in support of future climate action in the region. Leaflet for the side event at Paris COP 21



