



**HORIZON EUROPE CLUSTER 5 REGIONAL INFO DAY:  
ENHANCING THE EU-CENTRAL ASIA RESEARCH COLLABORATION IN  
THE CLIMATE, ENERGY, AND MOBILITY FIELDS**

**20 May 2025  
Almaty, Kazakhstan**

**Target audience:** Research institutions and universities from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan

**The working language of the event is English**

**Format: Hybrid**

**Venue: Satbayev University, Address: 22 Satpaev Street, Almaty**

**Registration link for online participants:** <https://forms.gle/sAwNzq6mJpcRs7FN7>

**Background:**

Horizon Europe is the European Union's flagship research and innovation programme with an ambitious budget of 95.5 billion Euros. One of the key advantages of Horizon Europe is its comprehensive approach, fostering collaborations across various sectors and disciplines.

Since May 2024, with support from the EU-funded project SECCA, several Horizon Europe national and regional informational events have been conducted with a specific focus on Cluster 5 (climate, energy and mobility) in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. The workshop *Horizon Europe in Central Asia – Promoting Research Excellence and Collaboration for Sustainable Energy*, held in Astana on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024, marked a significant step in raising awareness about the programme in Kazakhstan. At that time, the level of awareness about the programme was generally low and the National Contact Points (NCP) were limited to Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, without any NCP designated for Cluster 5.

In less than a year, through various project activities, **NCP networks** were established by the national authorities in two additional countries—Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, while **NCPs for Cluster 5** were nominated in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. This clearly demonstrates will and commitment in the above-mentioned countries to enhance R&I cooperation with EU under Horizon Europe programme.

To assist organizations in finding EU partners for Horizon Europe projects, a **cooperation profile template** was developed by SECCA in collaboration with the Science Fund of Kazakhstan. Following this, 21 organizations from Kazakhstan as well as 13 institutions from Uzbekistan, completed the templates focusing on topics related to Cluster 5. A similar activity is currently ongoing in Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan.

To further assist these organizations and guide them toward building successful partnerships within the programme, a regional Info Day is organized. This event aims to provide participants with practical information related to participation in Horizon Europe programme as well as

guidance on partner searches and foster new opportunities for networking and collaboration, both regionally and internationally.

The present Info Day targets research institutions and universities from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, especially those that have completed the cooperation profile template, as they move toward active participation in Horizon Europe. Therefore, the speakers and topics are designed to focus primarily on **practical information, including partner search and the use of the National Contact Points network both nationally and regionally**, assuming that participants already have basic knowledge of the programme and its participation rules.

### Programme

| Time          | Theme  | Name and position   |
|---------------|--|---|
| 08:30 – 09:00 | <b>Registration</b>  |   |
| 09:00 – 09:05 | <b>Family photo</b>  |   |
| 09:05 – 09:15 | <b>Opening remarks</b>   | <b>Ms Kremena Mileva</b> , International Relations Officer, European Commission, DG Research and Innovation, International Cooperation - Asia, Pacific, Africa and the Middle East<br><b>Dr Aliya Sembayeva</b> , Horizon Europe National Contact Point Coordinator, Acting Chairperson of the Board, Science Fund JSC<br><b>Dr Paata Janelidze</b> , Team Leader, SECCA<br><b>Host (TBC)</b> , Satbayev University |
| 09:15 – 09:35 | <b>TBC (online)</b>  | <b>Ms Kremena Mileva</b> , International Relations Officer, European Commission, DG Research and Innovation, International Cooperation - Asia, Pacific, Africa and the Middle East  |
| 09:35 – 09:50 | <b>Networking for Research – German Universities of Applied Sciences and Researchers Worldwide (TBC)</b> | <b>Dr Jörn Achterberg</b> , Director for International Cooperation, DFG   |
| 09:50 – 10:10 | <b>Insights into Kazakhstan's Participation Landscape</b>  | <b>Dr Aliya Sembayeva</b> , Horizon Europe National Contact Point Coordinator, Acting Chairperson of the Board, Science Fund JSC  |
| 10:10 – 10:30 | <b>Horizon Europe Cluster 5 in Kazakhstan: Achievements, Research Priorities and Future Cooperation</b>  | <b>Ms Malika Tazhmuratova</b> , Horizon Europe Cluster 5 National Contact Point in Kazakhstan   |
| 10:30 – 10:50 | <b>Guide to Partner Search, Participation Rules and Procedures</b>                                       | <b>Ms Natalia Shatirishvili</b> , Senior Expert on Horizon Europe, SECCA  |
| 10:50 – 11:20 | <b>Coffee break, networking</b>  |   |
| 11:20 – 11:50 | <b>TBC</b>   | <b>Ms Miriam de Angelis</b> , Horizon Europe Cluster 5 National Contact Point, Agency for the Promotion of European Research (APRE), Italy  |
| 11:50-12:20   | <b>Navigating Horizon Europe: Finding the Right Opportunities for Your Expertise</b>                     | <b>Ms Kolbrun Bjargmundsdottir</b> , Horizon Europe Cluster 5 National Contact Point, the Icelandic Centre for Research (RANNIS), Iceland   |
| 12:20-12:50   | <b>Key Aspects of Legal and Financial Issues in Horizon Europe (online)</b>                              | <b>Mr Daniele Gizzi</b> , NCP for Legal and Financial aspects, Agency for the Promotion of European Research (APRE), Italy  |
| 12:50-13:10   | <b>TBC</b>   | <b>Ms Karina Anguelieva</b> , Executive Director, International Science and Technology Center (ISTC)  |
| 13:10-13:30   | <b>Q&amp;A</b>   |   |
| 13:30 – 14:30 | <b>Lunch break</b>   |   |
| 14:30-14:50   | <b>Horizon Europe Cluster 5 in</b>   | <b>Mr Khanchoro Murzaliev</b> , Horizon Europe Cluster  |

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|---------------|--|---|
|               | <b>Kyrgyzstan: Role and functions of Horizon Europe Cluster 5 National Contact Point, Research Priorities and Future Cooperation</b>   | 5 National Contact Point in Kyrgyzstan  |
| 14:50 – 15:10 | <b>Horizon Europe Cluster 5 in Uzbekistan: Research Priorities and Future Cooperation</b>  | <b>Ms Nargiza Dalmuradova</b> , Junior Non-Key Expert on Horizon Europe networking, SECCA |
| 15:10 – 15:30 | <b>Horizon Europe Cluster 5 in Turkmenistan: Research Priorities and Future Cooperation</b>  | <b>Ms Jemal Durdykova</b> , Junior Non-Key Expert on Horizon Europe networking, SECCA     |
| 15:30 – 15:50 | <b>Presentation of Horizon Europe Cluster 5 new work programme for 2025 (TBC)</b>  | <b>Ms Natalia Shatirishvili</b> , Senior Expert on Horizon Europe, SECCA                  |
| 15:50 – 16:10 | <b>Q&amp;A</b>   |   |
| 16:10 – 16:50 | <b>Pitching Session: Institutions from Central Asia</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Satbayev University</li> <li>2. Al-Farabi Kazakh National University (KazNU) Almaty</li> <li>3. Abylkas Saginov Karaganda Technical University (STU)</li> <li>4. Energo University</li> <li>5. Sustainable Kazakhstan Research Institute of Narxoz University</li> <li>6. D.V. Sokolsky Institute of Fuel, Catalysis and Electrochemistry</li> </ol> |   |
| 16:50 – 17:00 | <b>Closing remarks</b>   | <b>Dr Ilze Purina</b> , Key Expert on Energy Sector Governance, SECCA                     |