

SECCA Newsletter

Issue 3, September 2025

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

1. FOREWORD	2
2. PROJECT NEWS & EVENTS	2
2.1 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	2
2.1.1 ENERGY EFFICIENCY	2
2.1.2 RENEWABLE ENERGY	3
2.1.3 ENERGY MODELLING	5
2.2 HORIZON EUROPE	6
2.3 PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE	8
2.4 SUSTAINABLE ENERGY DAYS 2025	8
2.4.1 EUROPEAN UNION – CENTRAL ASIA SUSTAINABLE ENERGY DAYS	8
2.4.2 EUROPEAN UNION – KAZAKHSTAN SUSTAINABLE ENERGY DAYS	9
2.5 UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES	10
3. SUSTAINABLE ENERGY KNOWLEDGE HUB	10
4. SECCA PODCAST “ENERGIYA JOLY”	11
5. PUBLICATIONS	11
6. ABOUT SECCA & PROJECT CONTACTS	11



1. FOREWORD

Dear Partners, Colleagues, and Friends,

We are delighted to present to you the third issue of the European Union-funded Sustainable Energy Connectivity in Central Asia (SECCA) project's Newsletter. Through the Newsletter, we aim to keep you up to date with the project's progress and key developments.

This edition covers the period from March to August 2025 and shares the stories behind the numbers, highlights the people driving the project's activities, and showcases the results we have achieved together with our partners in Central Asia.

We look forward to staying connected with you and sharing further updates on our work in advancing sustainable energy in the region.

Sincerely,

The SECCA Project Team

2. PROJECT NEWS & EVENTS

2.1 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

2.1.1 ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Kyrgyzstan Launches Working Group to Advance ESCO Market and Building EPC Quality Control

The Ministry of Energy of the Kyrgyz Republic has officially established an Inter-Institutional Working Group (IIWG) to strengthen energy efficiency services market and building energy performance certification standards. Comprising representatives from government bodies and technical experts, the IIWG is tasked to develop decisions on structuring

of the bylaws that will enable the effective operation of Energy Services Companies (ESCOs), as well as monitoring and quality assurance of building Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs).

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

The European Union's SECCA Project Supports Uzbekistan in Developing the Energy Services Market

The SECCA project has submitted a comprehensive package of regulatory and methodological documents to key government bodies of the Republic of Uzbekistan. This package is intended to lay the groundwork for the development of a modern energy services market in the country. The documents were developed at the request of the Agency for Strategic Reforms under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, SECCA's

main partner in the country. The prepared regulatory and methodological materials reflect the government's policy priorities in the field of energy efficiency and the creation of favourable conditions for the growth of Uzbekistan's energy services market.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

SECCA Conducts Building Energy Efficiency Workshops in Kazakhstan



Over 200 representatives of government agencies, affiliate organisations and expert organisations attended the workshops “Energy labelling of buildings and cost-optimal level calculations” organised in Astana, Almaty, and online on 22, 24 and 29 April 2025, respectively. These workshops were jointly held by the Ministry of Industry and Construction of

the Republic of Kazakhstan, the EU-funded SECCA project, and the Chamber of Expert Organisations.

Drawing on the EU experience under the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive, the SECCA experts shared best practices and lessons learned by the EU Member States. The participants improved their capacities and expertise in energy efficiency certification of buildings, calculation of balance of costs, assessment of economic and environmental benefits, and other.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

Workshop materials

- > Astana: [English](#), [Russian](#)
- > Almaty: [English](#), [Russian](#)
- > Online: [English](#), [Russian](#)

The European Union's SECCA Project Supports Turkmenistan in Improving Energy Efficiency

From 10 to 31 March 2025, the State Energy Institute of Turkmenistan (SEIT) of the Ministry of Energy of Turkmenistan hosted a training workshop “Studying the peculiarities of introducing innovative energy efficiency technologies in the manufacturing sectors of the economy in the climatic conditions of Turkmenistan”. This training workshop was organised jointly by the SEIT, the SECCA project, and the UNDP project

“Sustainable Cities in Turkmenistan: Integrated Green Urban Development in Ashgabat and Awaza”, with the aim to review the international experience in legal regulation of energy saving and energy efficiency fields.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

2.1.2 RENEWABLE ENERGY

Turkmenistan Approves Procedure for State Cadastre of Renewable Energy Sources

The Ministry of Energy of Turkmenistan approved “The Procedure for maintaining the state cadastre of renewable energy sources (RES) and the use of its data” on 1 August

2025. This document sets out requirements for the structure, content, and management of the national RES database.

The cadastre will serve as a centralised system of information on potential and actual sites for renewable energy installations, their capacity, and annual energy production. It will also include data on RES producers across Turkmenistan's administrative-territorial units, as well as on the types of renewable sources in use.

The preparation of this regulatory framework was supported by the European Union's SECCA project, which provided Recommendations for this new Procedure, as part of the ongoing technical assistance aimed at developing a regulatory framework in the field of renewable energy.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

Turkmenistan Approves Guaranteed Grid Connection for Renewable Energy Installations

The regulatory document titled *"Ensuring Guaranteed Connection for Renewable Energy Installations to State Energy Systems"* was approved by the Minister of Energy of Turkmenistan on 1 July 2025. The document is intended to simplify procedures and create transparent conditions for connecting solar and wind power plants to the national grid, regardless of ownership type. It was developed in accordance with the "Law on Renewable Energy Sources" and applies to both new and renovated facilities.

The preparation of this regulatory framework was supported by the European Union's SECCA project, which provided Recommendations for this new regulatory document, as part of the ongoing technical assistance aimed at developing a regulatory framework in the field of renewable energy.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

SECCA Participates in International Renewable Energy Conference in Tajikistan

The III International Conference *"Current State and Prospects for the Development of Renewable Energy in Tajikistan"* was held in Dushanbe from 23 to 25 June 2025. The event brought together the high-level officials, experts, and researchers from across Central Asia, as well as representatives of international organisations and donors. The Conference served as a platform to foster regional cooperation and emerging initiatives in the renewable energy sector.

The SECCA project contributed to Session VII of the Conference focused on the prospects for the development of rooftop solar installations in Central Asian countries.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

Geothermal Energy in Kazakhstan: Experts Discuss Prospects and Challenges

On 19 June 2025, a Roundtable *"Development of Geothermal Energy in Kazakhstan: Prospects and Challenges"* gathered representatives of the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, research institutes, universities, and the private sector from Kazakhstan, as well as experts from Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. This event was organised jointly by the Ministry of Energy of Kazakhstan and the European Union funded SECCA project.

geothermal energy resources in Kazakhstan, as well as the prospects for using geothermal heat pumps to decarbonize energy supply systems in various climatic regions of the country. A private sector representative shared experiences from implemented geothermal heating projects. The experts from Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan also presented their countries' experiences in utilizing geothermal resources.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

> Roundtable materials: [English](#), [Russian](#)

SECCA Participates in Central Asia Climate Conference in Ashgabat

The Central Asia Climate Change Conference, convened in Ashgabat from 13 to 15 May 2025, brought together government officials, international partners, and academic experts under the theme *“Achieving the Global Climate Finance Goal through Regional and National Actions in Central Asia”*.

The European Union funded SECCA project contributed to the conference session on renewable energy in Central Asia

focusing on the importance of small-scale renewable energy projects deployment to advance sustainable energy goals across the region.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

SECCA Project Supports Turkmenistan in Improving the Legal Framework for Renewable Energy Development

The SECCA experts prepared “Safety Recommendations for the Operation of Electricity Facilities”, as part of the ongoing technical assistance aimed at developing the regulatory framework in the field of renewable energy sources. The draft Recommendations were handed over to the Ministry of Energy of Turkmenistan during SECCA’s visit to Ashgabat between 31

March and 5 April 2025. They provided the basis for a new regulation adopted by the Ministry of Energy on 2 May 2025 – *“Safety Rules for the Operation of Electricity Facilities”*.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

2.1.3 ENERGY MODELLING

Regional Group on Modelling Explores Country Energy Planning Elements at Workshop in Tashkent



On 1-2 July 2025, the Regional Group on Modelling convened in Tashkent for the Regional Workshop on Elements of Country Energy Planning. During the event, country teams presented priority elements that can be explored through energy-climate scenario analysis. Representatives of the State Partners, participating online, contributed comments, additional information, and insights. Rocco De Miglio, Workstream Lead on Energy Modelling, presented the draft workplan of SECCA’s regional energy modelling initiative, which recently entered its Phase II.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

> Workshop materials: [English](#), [Russian](#)

SECCA’s Regional Energy Modelling Initiative Enters Second Phase

Representatives of the state partners, SECCA national coordinators, and members of the Regional Group on Modelling attended the *“Online Regional Workshop on Energy Modelling”* organised by the SECCA project on 11 June 2025.

The event marked an important milestone – it has launched Phase II of SECCA’s work on building capacities of the Central

Asian countries to develop national energy sector models, improve local systems thinking and knowledge (data) based decision-making in the energy and climate sectors.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

> Workshop materials: [English](#), [Russian](#)

SECCA visit to Turkmenistan: sharing the EU Experience in Energy and Climate Policy Modelling and Energy Statistics

From 31 March to 4 April 2025, experts and international consultants of the SECCA project visited Turkmenistan and, in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy, organised two international conferences.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

- On 2 April 2025 in Ashgabat, titled “*Decision Support in the Energy Sector for the Sustainable Energy Development in Turkmenistan*”. Conference materials: [English](#), [Russian](#)
- On 4 April 2025 in Mary, titled “*Systems-Thinking for Integrated Energy and Climate Analysis: Study of Peculiarities of Sustainable Energy Development in Turkmenistan*”. Conference materials: [English](#), [Russian](#)

The European Union’s SECCA Project Conducts Initial Training Workshop on Energy Modelling for Turkmenistan

The SECCA project held the “*Initial Training Workshop on Energy Modelling*” (online) for specialists of the Ministry of Energy of Turkmenistan and other relevant agencies, as well as the faculty members of the State Energy Institute of Turkmenistan on 27 March 2025. This online event aimed to enhance the preparedness of the national specialists ahead

of in-person training workshops on energy modelling planned to take place in the country in April 2025.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)
> Workshop materials: [English](#), [Russian](#)

2.2 HORIZON EUROPE

New SECCA Database Links Central Asian Research Organisations to EU Partners for Horizon Europe Cluster 5

The SECCA project released a comprehensive database of Central Asian research institutions and universities to support their participation in Cluster 5 of the Horizon Europe programme, which focuses on climate, energy, and mobility. This new resource is designed to help European stakeholders easily identify and connect with qualified organisations across Central Asia that are both interested in and capable of contributing to Horizon Europe projects. Many institutions

in the region have previously noted the difficulty of finding European partners – a key requirement for third-country participation. The database directly addresses this challenge, facilitates consortium building, promotes knowledge exchange, and enhances the international research collaboration.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

Horizon Europe Info Day Takes Place at Kokand University in Uzbekistan

Kokand University hosted an *Information Day on the Horizon Europe Programme*, organised with the support of the SECCA project. The event brought together around 50 participants, including faculty members, researchers, postgraduate students, and staff from international cooperation departments of several universities across the country, such as Andijan State Technical University, Fergana State Technical University, Tashkent State Technical University, and others.

Nargiza Dalmuradova, SECCA expert on programme’s Cluster 5 in Uzbekistan, led a key session on the opportunities provided by the programme, with a special focus on Cluster 5: ‘Climate, Energy and Mobility’.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

Horizon Europe National Contact Points Convene in Almaty for Professional Development Workshop

On 21 May 2025, Horizon Europe National Contact Points (NCPs) from the Central Asian countries and the EU Member States gathered at Satbayev University in Almaty for a comprehensive professional development workshop aimed at building the capacity of recently appointed NCPs and strengthening collaboration at regional and international levels.

The workshop was organised by the EU-funded SECCA project in cooperation with the Science Fund of Kazakhstan. The NCPs gathered at the event represented Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Iceland, Italy, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. It marked the

very first capacity building activity tailored to the needs of Cluster 5 NCPs in Central Asia.

The workshop's first session focused on best practices, emerging tools – including AI – and national experiences to improve NCP operations and outreach in the Central Asian region.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

> Workshop materials: [English](#), [Russian](#)

Regional Info Day Strengthens EU-Central Asia Research Ties Under Horizon Europe



The Horizon Europe Cluster 5 Regional Info Day, held on 20 May 2025 in Almaty, marked a significant milestone in advancing research and innovation collaboration between the European

Union (EU) and Central Asian countries. Organised by the SECCA project in collaboration with Kazakhstan's Science Fund, the event brought together leading researchers and universities from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.

The Info Day provided participants with in-depth, practical insights into navigating Horizon Europe. Through a mix of expert-led presentations, networking sessions, and targeted discussions, attendees learned how to effectively search project partners and leverage the expanding network of NCPs.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

> Info Day materials: [English](#), [Russian](#)

Opportunities for Turkmenistan's Participation in Horizon Europe Discussed at the International Conference

The Institute of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan hosted an international conference "Possibilities of Turkmenistan's participation in the Horizon Europe Programme, prospects and potential for the development of international cooperation" on 16 May 2025. The event was attended by representatives of universities, government agencies and the European Union to deepen cooperation with the EU in the field of research and innovation.

It was organised by the SECCA project with the support of the Ministry of Education of Turkmenistan.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

> Conference materials: [English](#), [Russian](#)

Horizon Europe Info Day Held at National Historical Museum of Kyrgyz Republic

On 16 May 2025, the Horizon Europe National Contact Point for Cluster 5 (Climate, Energy, and Mobility) Mr Khanchoro Murzaliev successfully hosted an *Info Day* on the opportunities and priorities within the European Union's flagship research and innovation programme. The event took place at the National Historical Museum in Bishkek and brought together

representatives of the academic and research community in Kyrgyzstan. Participants included representatives from seven leading universities, among them Kyrgyz National University and Bishkek Humanitarian University.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

2.3 PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

3rd SECCA Project Steering Committee Meeting Convenes in Astana



The Third Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting of the EU-funded SECCA project took place in Astana on 16 April 2025. The meeting gathered officials from the Central Asian countries, who are the PSC members designated by their respective governments, representatives of the EU Delegation to the Republic of Kazakhstan, and the project implementing consortium partners. This annual meeting served as a platform for reviewing progress, exchanging ideas, and planning the next steps.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

> Meeting materials: [English](#), [Russian](#)

2.4 SUSTAINABLE ENERGY DAYS 2025

Every year, the SECCA project hosts the EU–Central Asia Sustainable Energy Days (SEDs) campaign in the beneficiary countries. SEDs are a regional edition of the EU Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW), the largest annual event dedicated to renewables and efficient energy use in Europe, initiated in 2007 by the European Commission. SEDs have become

an important EU initiative across the region to enhance awareness about the significance and benefits of sustainable energy, the relationship between energy and climate change, as well as to promote clean energy and energy efficiency, and contribute to the implementation of climate-neutral solutions for communities, businesses and industries.

2.4.1 EUROPEAN UNION – CENTRAL ASIA SUSTAINABLE ENERGY DAYS

As part of the SEDs campaign this year, the SECCA project organised two regional activities dedicated to sustainable energy promotion and transition:

- **Photo Exhibition “The European Union – Central Asia: Faces of Sustainable Energy Development Cooperation”.** On 1 June 2025, during the EuroFest2025 in Astana, the SECCA project unveiled this photo exhibition, which celebrates the

human faces of sustainable energy cooperation between the EU and the Central Asian countries. It highlights individuals from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan who are driving the energy transition, advancing sustainable development, and taking actions toward a greener and more resilient tomorrow for their countries and for generations to come.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

- **Regional Media Contest “Energy transition for a better tomorrow”.** The contest drew significant interest from the journalistic community across the region. Total 128 journalists from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan applied and submitted 206 entries. After a competitive evaluation process, 15 entries were shortlisted for the final round, and, as a result, the Jury selected 3 winners. The European Union announced the winners at the Award Ceremony held on 1 June 2025 during the EuroFest2025 in Astana.



> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

2.4.2 EUROPEAN UNION – KAZAKHSTAN SUSTAINABLE ENERGY DAYS

The third edition of the European Union – Kazakhstan Sustainable Energy Days took place at the end of May 2025 and featured:

- **Climate Innovation Session at Astana International Forum.** The SECCA project co-organised a panel session titled “*The Innovation Challenge: Making Climate Action Work for All*”. The event took place during the Astana International Forum, in collaboration with Kazakhstan’s ECOJER Association. It fell under one of the three core topics of the Forum – “Energy and Climate Change”. The session brought together a high-level panel of global leaders, experts, investors, international organisations, NGOs, and academia.

> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

- **STEM4Her event for high school children.** The SECCA project organised a field trip, which gathered 30 senior students of School-Lyceum №59 of the Astana city at the wind power plant “Astana EXPO-2017”. This event, called

“STEM4Her”, primarily aimed at the senior schoolgirls. It increased their awareness about clean energy and inspired to pursue higher education and careers in the energy sector and STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, mathematics).



> Read more: [English](#), [Russian](#)

2.5 UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

The present calendar informs of the project's regional and country-specific events and activities planned to take place during the period from September 2025 to April 2026. This is a tentative planning, and changes may occur.

SEPTEMBER 2025	OCTOBER 2025	NOVEMBER 2025
Online Regional meeting on Energy Modelling	Regional Energy Labelling Conference	Online Regional meeting on Energy Modelling
Meeting with IIWG on ESCO	Online Regional meeting on Energy Modelling	EU-Tajikistan Sustainable Energy Days
Meeting with IIWG on Quality Control of EPC	EU-Kyrgyzstan Sustainable Energy Days	Technical workshop on Solar Water Heating
EU-Turkmenistan Sustainable Energy Days	EU-Uzbekistan Sustainable Energy Days	Roundtable on Secondary legislation on EE
DECEMBER 2025 / JANUARY 2026	FEBRUARY 2026	MARCH 2026 / APRIL 2026
Online Regional meeting on Energy Modelling	Regional Conference on Energy Modelling	Regional Workshop on Rooftop solar and ESCO financing
Roundtable on Methane Mitigation		4 th Project Steering Committee meeting / SECCA Project Closing Event
Technical workshop on prospects of Rooftop solar development		
Technical workshop on ESCO		
Technical workshop on Quality Control of EPCs		

● Regional ● In Kazakhstan ● In Kyrgyzstan ● In Tajikistan ● In Turkmenistan ● In Uzbekistan

3. SUSTAINABLE ENERGY KNOWLEDGE HUB

The Sustainable Energy Knowledge Hub section of the SECCA website provides information and guidance for regional and national stakeholders and experts on the EU policies and regulations, EE and RE implementation practices, financing of the EE and RE projects, energy statistics and energy modelling, as well as participation in the EU's research and innovation programme Horizon Europe.

The new information was added to its "EE and RE Implementation Practices" section during the period March-August 2025:

- > Energy Management System (EMS): [English](#), [Russian](#)
- > Sustainable building certification systems: [English](#), [Russian](#)

4. SECCA PODCAST “ENERGIYA JOLY”

At the end of October 2024, the SECCA project launched its video podcast “Energiya Joly” on YouTube to communicate the key sustainable energy developments in Central Asia, explore the current most pressing opportunities and challenges in the energy sector, and highlight the EU best practices and energy policies.

As of end of August 2025, the podcast channel on YouTube [@EnergiyaJoly](#) has over 4,700 subscribers and more than 240,000 views.

In the present period, the project produced ten new episodes:

1. [Women in Energy](#)
2. [Heat Pumps – Technology of the Future](#)
3. [Latvia's Experience: From Building Certification to De-carbonization](#)
4. [Smart Meters for Energy Efficiency](#)
5. [Energy Sector of Kyrgyzstan: Trends and Prospects](#)
6. [Tajikistan and Regional Energy Cooperation](#)
7. [Uzbekistan's Energy Sector – A Course Toward Sustainability](#)
8. [Sustainable Energy is More Than Just Sun and Wind](#)
9. [Development of the Electric Power Industry through Forecasting, Tariffs, and Accountability](#)
10. [Beyond a Trend: How ECOJER Is Redefining the Green Agenda](#)

5. PUBLICATIONS

Development and publication of media and information materials is an important part of SECCA's communication. During this period, the SECCA project team published the following article:

> “Advancing Gender Equality and Clean Energy in Central Asia”: [English, Russian](#)

6. ABOUT SECCA & PROJECT CONTACTS

THE EUROPEAN UNION SUPPORT TO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY CONNECTIVITY IN CENTRAL ASIA (SECCA)

In line with **the European Green Deal, the European Union Strategy on Central Asia, and the Global Gateway Team Europe Initiative on Water, Energy and Climate Change in Central Asia**, the European Union (EU) is committed to support the countries of Central Asia (CA) in their current energy transition efforts by building upon the region's potential in renewable energy (RE) and capability for improving energy efficiency (EE), as well as promoting sustainable energy connectivity in the region.

The EU launched a four-year project “The EU Support to Sustainable Energy Connectivity in Central Asia (SECCA)” in March 2022. **The mission of this project is to promote a more sustainable energy mix in the CA region in line with the EU best practices.**

Specifically, the SECCA project aims to strengthen and enhance a more inclusive policy, regulatory and institutional framework for the transition to a sustainable energy system within a regional context and focuses on contributing to the fulfilment of international human rights commitments in the CA countries, including equal access to energy and supporting gender-responsive policies and legislation for EE and RE deployment.

Priority areas for consultation and cooperation include development of RE, improvement of EE, regional cooperation in the field of sustainable energy, promotion and integration of gender and rights-based considerations into energy policy and targeted energy programmes.

**PROJECT OFFICE IN BELGIUM:**

92 Avenue Reine Astrid
B-1310 La Hulpe, Belgium
Phone: +32 2 655 2230

PROJECT OFFICE IN KAZAKHSTAN:

Office 3, 5 Dostyk avenue
Z05H9M1 Astana, Kazakhstan
Phone: +7 707 777 5432

Email:
info@secca.eu

Website:

www.secca.eu



 <https://www.facebook.com/secca.eu>

 <https://x.com/seccaeu>

 <https://www.instagram.com/secca.eu/>

 <https://www.linkedin.com/company/seccaeu/>

 <https://www.youtube.com/@seccaeu>