

HORIZON EUROPE CLUSTER 5 REGIONAL INFO DAY
ENHANCING EU-CENTRAL ASIA RESEARCH COLLABORATION IN HORIZON EUROPE
20 May 2025
Almaty, Kazakhstan

Background

Horizon Europe is the European Union's flagship research and innovation program 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 14th May 2024, marked a significant step in raising awareness about the program in Kazakhstan. At that time, the level of awareness about the program 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 program.

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 program, a regional Info Day is organized. This event aims to provide participants with practical guidance on partner searches and foster new opportunities for networking and collaboration, both regionally and internationally.

The Info Day targets research institutions and universities from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, 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, such as partner search and the use of the National Contact Points network** both **nationally and regionally**, assuming that participants already have basic knowledge of the program and its participation rules.

Target audience for advanced regional workshop: Research institutions and universities that filled the cooperation offer template in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan.

The event will be in English in a hybrid format.

Venue: Satbayev University, Address: Satpaev St 22, Almaty.

Programme

Tuesday, 20 May 2025

Time	Theme	Name and position
08:30 – 09:00	Registration	
09:00 – 09:05	Family photo	
09:05 – 09:15	Opening remarks	Ms Kremena Mileva , International Relations Officer, European Commission, DG Research and Innovation, International Cooperation - Asia, Pacific, Africa and the Middle East Dr Aliya Sembayeva , Horizon Europe National Contact Point Coordinator, First Deputy Chairperson, Science Fund JSC Dr Paata Janelidze , Team Leader, SECCA Host (TBC) , Satbayev University
09:15 – 09:30	Tour de table	
09:30 – 09:50	Title TBC	Ms Kremena Mileva , International Relations Officer, European Commission, DG Research and Innovation, International Cooperation - Asia, Pacific, Africa and the Middle East
09:50 – 10:10	Insights into Kazakhstan's Participation Landscape	Dr Aliya Sembayeva , Horizon Europe National Contact Point Coordinator, First Deputy Chairperson, Science Fund JSC
10:30 – 10:30	Horizon Europe Cluster 5 in Kazakhstan: Achievements, Research Priorities and Future Cooperation	Ms Malika Tazhmuratova , Horizon Europe Cluster 5 National Contact Point in Kazakhstan
10:30 – 10:50	Horizon Europe Cluster 5 in Kyrgyzstan: Role and functions of Horizon Europe Cluster 5 National Contact Point, Research Priorities and Future Cooperation	Mr Khanchoro Murzaliev , Horizon Europe Cluster 5 National Contact Point in Kyrgyzstan
10:50 – 11:20	Coffee break, networking	
11:20 – 11:50	Guide to Partner Search, Participation Rules and Procedures	Ms Natalia Shatirishvili , Senior Expert on Horizon Europe, SECCA
11:50 – 12:10	Horizon Europe Cluster 5 in Turkmenistan: Research Priorities and Future Cooperation	Ms Jemal Durdykova , Junior Non-Key Expert on Horizon Europe networking, SECCA
12:10 – 12:30	Horizon Europe Cluster 5 in Uzbekistan: Research Priorities and Future Cooperation	Ms Nargiza Dalmuradova , Junior Non-Key Expert on Horizon Europe networking, SECCA
12:30 – 13:00	Q&A	
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch break	
14:00 – 14:30	Connecting Through Collaboration-Italian (TBC) Perspectives on Partner Search for Horizon Europe	(TBC) , NCP from EU, Agency for the Promotion of European Research (APRE), Italy (TBC)
14:30 – 15:00	Experience of Czechia (TBC) in Horizon Europe, Opportunities for Cooperation under Cluster 5	(TBC) , NCP from EU (Czech Republic)

15:00 – 15:30	Presentation of Horizon Europe Cluster 5 new work programme for 2025 (TBC)	Ms Natalia Shatirishvili , Senior Expert on Horizon Europe, SECCA
15:30 – 16:00	Q&A	
16:00 – 17:00	Pitching Session: Institutions from Central Asia	
17:00 – 17:15	Closing remarks	Dr Ilze Purina , Key Expert on Energy Sector Governance, SECCA