

Capacity Building of Young Researchers from Central Asia and Afghanistan in Water for Policy Studies

OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe (POiD) anticipates to follow the foot-steps of the Capacity Building Workshop held in 2016 (<https://www.osce.org/tajikistan/283581>), which was jointly organized with the German Kazakh University (GKU) and aimed at the development of a "critical intellectual mass" of researchers and professionals in the region. POiD will organize a 5-days scientific writing course with focus on water resources management issues for the most talented researchers and academics from Central Asia and Afghanistan. The training course will take place in Dushanbe, Tajikistan at 3-7 September 2018. OSCE will cover the travel costs (from within Central Asia and Afghanistan) and will provide per diem for the course participants. POiD and GKU will disseminate the Call.

Background:

Water resources management in Central Asia and Afghanistan is one of the major drivers of economic development in the region. Often, the research and academic community of Central Asia and Afghanistan is actively engaged in water resource management initiatives leading to relevant policy studies.

Researchers and academics are closely interacting with policy makers from national and international agencies for the development of water resources management agendas on national and regional level. A significant contribution of the research conducted by Central Asia and Afghanistan institutions is well reflected in national water policy documents and transboundary policy frameworks.

However, the research and academic community is not always well equipped with the essential structural and conceptual background required for the formulation of their outputs in international fora. This sometimes entails inferior results in comparison to the efforts.

Learning from the 2016 Capacity Building Workshop it is anticipated to support a 5-day capacity building training for twelve (12) promising researchers and academics, two (2) from each country of the region – including Afghanistan, who are doing their research or focusing on water-related topics. The selected participants will be guided on how to write up their scientific research findings on water resources management and governance and publish in peer reviewed journals and other means of dissemination.

Aim:

The aim of the training course is the enhancement of the scientific community in Central Asia and Afghanistan in the writing up of research for policy articles related to water resources management and governance issues of the region. As immediate result of the training it is aimed that the participating researchers and academics publish their existing research in a Special Issue of the Central Asian Journal of Water Research (CAJWR). In the long run, it is anticipated that the participants contribute to the regional water cooperation and establishing sustainable transboundary water polices.

Target group:

The training course is intended for Central Asia and Afghanistan PhD students (докторант), PhD fellows (Soiskateli na doctoranturu), Post-Doctoral Fellows, Assistant Professors and Associate Professors who conduct their research in water related issues and have a strong command of English language. Twelve (12) researchers and academics in total will be nominated as below: 2 from Tajikistan, 2 from Kyrgyzstan, 2 from Turkmenistan, 2 from Kazakhstan, 2 from Uzbekistan and 2 from Afghanistan.

Eligibility:**Applicants should:**

- Be officially enrolled or graduated from a Master or PhD program (Кандидатская диссертация), Post-Doctoral Fellowship or enrolled as Assistant Professors/Associate Professors in any accredited university of Central Asia and Afghanistan;
- Have a strong background in development studies, policy and law science, international studies, economics, engineering, agronomy or related fields while their research should focus on one of the following topics: 1) water resources governance at local or basin level; 2) hydrology and water resources management; 3) drainage and irrigation; 4) climate change
- Have a good command of English;
- Have conducted their research and have started the writing-up process;

Application package:

- CV in English with indication of 2 referees;
- Motivation letter in English (maximum 1 page);
- Summary of their conducted research work in English, structured in: Introduction, Material & Methods, Results and Discussion (maximum 2 pages);
- 1 published or submitted research article in journal or conference in English or Russian (Optional);

Deadline:

Deadline for submission of the documents is prolonged from *May 31 to June 21, 2018 until 17:00*. Semifinalists will be interviewed either in person (Tajik participants) or via teleconference facilities (other participants).

How to apply:

Electronic or paper copy of the application package should be submitted to Ms. Tahmina Jumaboeva, the OSCE Office in Tajikistan, 18A, Akhmadi Donish Str, Dushanbe, Tajikistan or at Tahmina.Jumaboeva@osce.org