

In accordance with the provisions of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol and for the implementation of cross-sectoral and inter-agency coordination of government agencies, the Coordinating Committee on Climate Change (Coordination Committee) was formed chaired by Vice - Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic in charge of environmental issues by Decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic dated from 21.11.2012 No. 783. The State Agency on Environment Protection and Forestry of the Kyrgyz Republic (State Agency) was determined as a working body of the Coordination Committee. The composition of the Coordination Committee included leaders of ministries and administrative authorities, committees of the Kyrgyz Republic, National Academy of Sciences and representatives of the public.

The Coordination Committee has been actively leading and coordinating the activities of ministries, agencies and organizations since its inception to meet the obligations of the Kyrgyz Republic under the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol aimed at stabilizing greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.

At meetings of the Coordination Committee the discussions are held on ongoing and planned activities related to climate change (legislative, policy documents, programs and projects, activities to enhance the capacity and awareness), on coverage of issues of adaptation and mitigation of climate change in the sectoral ministries and agencies, increase of the capacity of professionals to fulfill the obligations of the Kyrgyz Republic under the UNFCCC, as well as issues on resource mobilization - intersectoral, interagency, integration of efforts of local governments, international organizations and civil society into the measures and actions to combat the impacts of climate change.

Pursuant to decisions of the meetings of the Coordination Committee, a working group of responsible persons from ministries and agencies on issues related to adaptation and mitigation of climate change was formed.

The work to improve the capacity of experts at ministries and agencies to completely fulfill the obligations of the Kyrgyz Republic under the UNFCCC is being done on an ongoing basis.

The Decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic dated from October 2nd, 2013 No. 549 (published in Kyrgyz, Russian and English) has been developed and approved on Priority areas for adaptation to climate change in the Kyrgyz Republic until 2017, prepared in order to adapt the ecological and economic systems of the Kyrgyz Republic to the changing climate and the implementation of international obligations of the KR under the UNFCCC.

Priority areas for adaptation to climate change in the Kyrgyz Republic until 2017 provide adaptation measures for the main sectors:

- water resources,
- agriculture,
- health,
- climatic emergencies,
- forest resources and biodiversity.

As an implementation of the priority focus areas of climate change adaptation in the Kyrgyz Republic, by decision of the meeting of the Coordination Committee the ministries and agencies is to prepare and submit for consideration the sectoral programs on adaptation to climate change by November 2014. In order to increase the capacity of experts of ministries, agencies and to assist in the preparation of sectoral adaptation programs several working meetings have been held on covering issues of adaptation and mitigation of climate change in line ministries and agencies of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic with the support of the World Health Organization (WHO) has developed a strategy and program of action on climate change adaptation in the health sector.

Currently, the State Agency with the support of UNEP is preparing the Third National Communication on Climate Change.

The work is being done with representatives of international organizations, financial institutions, development agencies and embassies of donor countries on coordination of activities in the field of climate change, implemented in the country with international support in the form of grants and technical advisory services.

The work is being done with non-governmental organizations of the Kyrgyz Republic, operating in the field of climate change, discussion of their activities carried out with the support of international financial institutions and donor countries in the form of grants and technical advisory support.

Joint actions are held for managing and enhancing the contribution of civil society and other stakeholders in the development and implementation of national climate policy, increase of public awareness on the current progress.

On February 25th, 2014 the State Agency conducted panel discussions titled “Overview of institutional and policy framework on climate change” in the framework of the Coordination Committee’s activities in conjunction with the Climate Network of Kyrgyzstan and UNDP, with the support of the Mountain Partnership. The main purpose of the panel discussion was to discuss the existing institutional structure and legal framework in the field of climate change in Kyrgyzstan, the experience of completed and ongoing adaptation and mitigation practices and (frames of) interaction between the stakeholders to implement them (the government, the Coordination Committee, the executive authorities, civil society).

Climate change issues are integrated into:

- National Security Concept of the Kyrgyz Republic, approved by Presidential Decree of June 12th, 2012 No. 120;
- a Package of measures to ensure environmental safety in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2011-2015, approved by the Decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic dated from 23.09.2011 No.599;
- the Programme of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic “Stability and Decent Life” amended with the provision of legal action on adaptation to climate change and low carbon development in the following legislation: Forest Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, Water Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Law “On Environmental Protection”, “On Air Protection”, “On Transport”, “On Protection of Health of citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic”, “On Public Health”, approved by Government Resolution of June 27, 2012 No. 447, 448, 449, 450.

Changes and amendments to the laws were made to conform to the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic “On state regulation and policy in the field of emission and absorption of greenhouse gases”, setting the basis for state regulation, procedures, rights, duties and responsibilities of government agencies, local governments, individuals and legal persons in the field of emission and absorption of greenhouse gases in the Kyrgyz Republic, as well as in accordance with the requirements of the UNFCCC and the decisions of the last Conference of the Parties.

The section “Environment Protection” was worked out to the Program for the transition to sustainable development for 2013-2017 years, developed to implement the provisions of the National Sustainable Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic for 2013-2017 years (Decree of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic dated from November 24th and December 26th, 2012). An action plan including climate change issues to achieve the stated priorities and objectives, indicators matrix and budget for planned activities have been formed under this section.