



## Astana Green Bridge Initiative: Towards Inter-regional Partnerships for Sustainable Development

Organizers: Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan and co-organizers: United Nations Development Programme in Kazakhstan, "Coalition for Green Economy and Development of G-Global" ALE

**12:30-14:00, Wednesday, 6 September 2017**  
**United Nations Conference Centre**  
**Bangkok, Thailand**

### Background

To date, the green economy framework is one of the most important strategic tools guiding the development of Kazakhstan. The regional Astana Green Bridge Initiative and the Green Bridge Partnership Program initiated by Kazakhstan were further supported at the VI Ministerial Conference on the Environment and Development of the Asia and the Pacific region and the VII Pan European Ministerial Conference for the Environment. The main goal of the program is to facilitate the transition to the green economy model through the implementation of investment projects based on multilateral cooperation and public-private partnership. This program has been widely recognized in the world and was adopted in the final document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Rio + 20.

The program aims to uniting efforts of countries in providing "green" economic growth in the region through technology transferring, knowledge sharing, and financial support from financial institutions and private sector. At present, Kazakhstan, Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, Germany, Mongolia, Belarus, Montenegro, the Republic of Latvia, Albania, Finland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Sweden, Spain are signatories of the Charter of the Green Bridge Partnership Programme.

To follow up on national commitments to the Green Bridge Partnership Program at the 70th session of the UN General Assembly President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev has proposed a new initiative on establishing the *International Center for Green Technologies and Investment Projects development "Future Energy" in Astana as a legacy of the EXPO-2017 Exhibition*.

The mission of the International Center is to contribute to global sustainable development through the support of green technologies. The Center will facilitate the transition of Kazakhstani and Central Asian companies to a green economy by providing them with information on best available practices and appropriate technological solutions to decrease CO2 emissions and pollutions into environment in the region. Capacity building and green financing are also at the Center's scope. Ultimately, the International Center for Green Technologies and Investment Projects development "Future Energy" as the continuation of the Astana Green Bridge Initiative should become the platform for countries, international organizations and companies interaction for the sustainable development and green economy.

### Scope of Discussions

- Astana Green Bridge Initiative - Achievements and Prospects
- National initiatives and Implementation towards Sustainable Development of the Asia-Pacific Region

### Expected Outcome

The proposed parallel event is aimed to overview the achievements of the implementation of the Astana "Green Bridge" Initiative and to define the way forward towards intra-regional partnerships for sustainable development. Speakers will share their perspectives for cooperation within the Green Bridge Partnership Program and beyond. Participants are encouraged to join and to get involved in the process of interaction of the AGBI and *the International Center for Green Technologies and Investment Projects Development "Future Energy"*. The Center is Kazakhstan's new initiative *as the legacy of the EXPO-2017 Exhibition* and will be presented to the audience of the side event.



## Key Questions

- How does the Green Bridge Partnership Program impact on the region and what are the ways to move forward?
- What are the achievements and prospects of the Astana Green Bridge Initiative?
- How does the establishment of the International Center for the Green Technologies Development how facilitate the dynamics of the resource-efficient and environmentally friendly Asia-Pacific region?

## Tentative Programme

**Moderator: Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, Executive Secretary, ESCAP**

Time	Agenda
	<b>Opening segment</b>
13:05-13:10	Welcome address by Vice-Minister of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan Mr. Gani Sadibekov
13:10-13:20	Speeches of the signatories of the Charter of the Green Bridge Partnership Program
	<b>Presentations</b>
13:20-13:25	Statement by Head of Sustainable Development Unit United Nations Development Programme in Kazakhstan Mr. Rakhimov Rassul
13:25-13:30	Statement by Chairman of the Board of OYL "Coalition for Green Economy and Development of G-Global" Ms. Rakhimbekova S.T.
13:30-13:40	Presentations by Pacific Member States and pilot countries
13:40-13:50	Statement by «Green Economy» Department Director at the Ministry of Energy Republic of Kazakhstan Ms. Aliya Shalabekova
	<b>Moderated Discussions</b>
13:50-14:00	Q & A for the Panel Discussions
	<b>Closing segment</b>

## Focal Point and Contacts

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