



# **CAN EECCA**

## **Climate Action Network Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia**

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Public report 2022

# The biggest challenge of 2022

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On 24 February 2022, Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine was added to the list of already existing conflicts in the EECCA region. This event affected the network from many different angles. It became obvious that the plans we had made for the year were not up to date anymore, we had lost some funding and had to work for several months in rapid decision-making mode, without long-term planning.

We kept in touch with network members in Ukraine to understand what support they needed.

The network's board met regularly to assess the situation and make decisions about our activities.

We strengthened our communication internationally, launched two new social networks and started to write more in English.

At the same time, we kept in touch with our donors and partners in order to respond to the needs of civil society organisations in the region.

During 2022 CAN EECCA openly opposed the Russian invasion of Ukraine and raised the need for sanctions, an embargo on fossil fuels from Russia, and assistance to activists and NGOs through our international network.

The military theme has never been one of our working topics, so we focus on our area of expertise - developing a strong civil society to achieve climate neutrality in the EECCA region. Obviously, this can only be achieved in a peaceful environment.

CAN EECCA Network will continue to support the civil society in the region in every way possible to ensure their effective influence on climate policy.

CAN EECCA coordinator,  
Olha Boiko

# CAN EECCA's organizational development

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## 1.1 CAN EECCA's Vision

**Our Vision:** Strong civil society of the Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and Central Asia countries contributed to preventing climate crisis through achieving climate neutrality, fossil fuels phase out, equitable use of natural resources, and green economy opportunities development.

**Our Mission:** To support, reinforce, and develop civil society organizations in EECCA region in their capacity for influencing development and implementation of climate policy leading to climate neutral and more just future.

### Our Values:

- Climate justice
- Horizontal leadership
- Solidarity and mutual support
- Non-violence
- Safety of activists

### Our strategic priorities for 2021-2023:

1. Support of the ambitious and equitable climate policy development in EECCA countries, including through coordination at UNFCCC negotiations.
2. Mobilization of civil society and strengthening their influence on climate policy on different levels, including local communities.
3. Sharing experience among various stakeholders, creating platforms for collaboration and dissemination of knowledge on climate crisis.
4. Cooperation with mass media, development and support of communication channels in climate mitigation field.

## 1.2 Our structure

Coordination of CAN EECCA (Climate Action Network Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia hereinafter referred to as CAN EECCA) takes place through the work of the Board and the Secretariat. The main decision-making body is the General Assembly of members.

In 2022 the Board consisted of the following people:



**Natalia Idrisova**  
(Little Earth, Tajikistan)



**Nugzar Kokhreidze**  
(RICDOG, Georgia)



**Vasiliy Yablokov**  
(Greenpeace Russia)



**Maria Kolesnikova**  
(Movegreen, Kyrgyzstan)



**Julia Pashkovska**  
(Ekoltava\*, Ukraine)  
\*Left the network in  
April 2022

In 2022 the Secretariat consisted of the following people:



**Olha Boiko**  
CAN EECCA coordinator



**Baktygul Chynybaeva**  
Regional communications  
manager



**Nargiza Korgoldoeva**  
Expert on social media

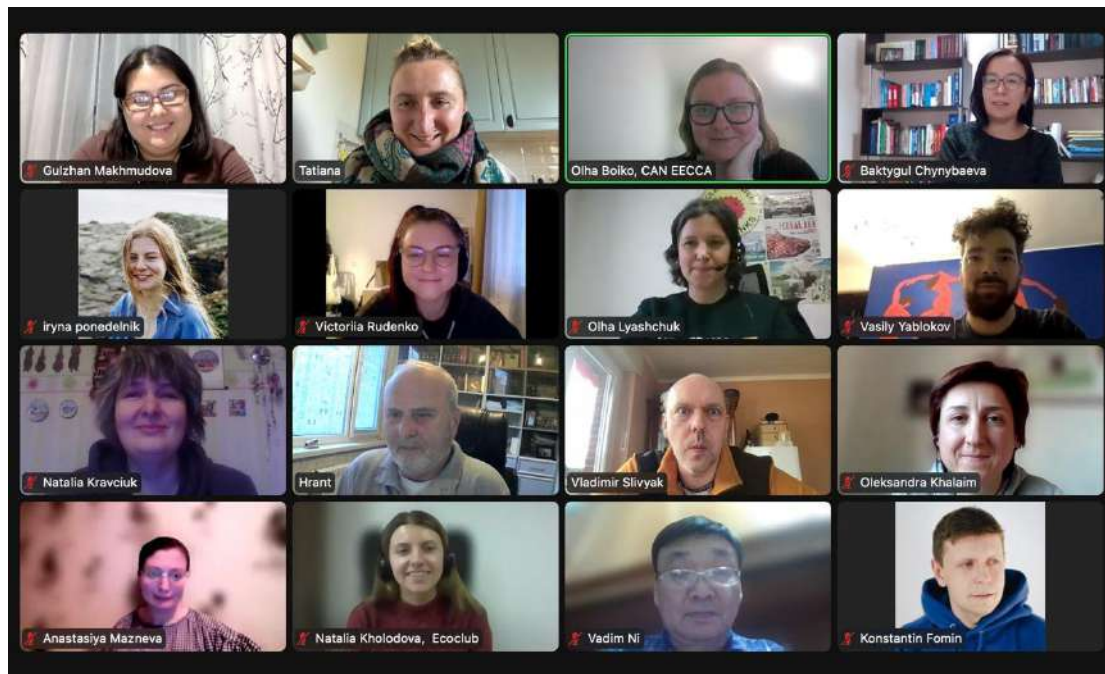


**Nurjan Estebe**  
Coordinator of “Climate  
Dialogues”

CAN EECCA is not legally registered and therefore does not have its own resources. Coordination and activities are carried out on a voluntary basis, thanks to contributions from member organisations or through direct donor support for specific projects.

### 1.3 Regular meetings of CAN EECCA members

During 2022, network members met regularly online to exchange news and plans. These calls helped keep the communication and trust between network members from different countries intact, as well as share plans and opportunities from the CAN network.



Alas, due to the full-scale war and the great uncertainty in the plans, we were not able to get the network members together for a live meeting. However, a large number of network members were able to see each other during the COP27 conference, as we describe in more details in the section "Participation of EECCA civil society in COP27".

### 1.4 Network members

As of the end of 2022, CAN EECCA included 58 NGOs from 11 countries in the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia region.

No	The name of the organisation	Country
1	Eco Club Lore (ECL)	Armenia
2	EcoTeam	Armenia
3	Tapan	Armenia
4	Khazer NGO	Armenia
5	Third Nature	Armenia
6	Country Water Partnership	Armenia
7	Biosophia	Armenia
8	Armenian Women For Health and Healthy Environment	Armenia
9	"Green Armenia" Environmental, Educational NGO	Armenia
10	Climate Change and Development NGO Alliance	Azerbaijan
11	Woman, Development, Future Public Union	Azerbaijan

<b>12</b>	Ecomed	Azerbaijan
<b>13</b>	Centre for Environmental Solutions*	Belarus
<b>14</b>	Ecopartnership	Belarus
<b>15</b>	Ecoproject	Belarus
<b>16</b>	Green Network	Belarus
<b>17</b>	Ecovision	Georgia
<b>18</b>	Green Alternative	Georgia
<b>19</b>	Greens Movement of Georgia	Georgia
<b>20</b>	World Experience for Georgia	Georgia
<b>21</b>	Gamarjoba	Georgia
<b>22</b>	RICDOG	Georgia
<b>23</b>	Socio-Ecological Fund	Kazakhstan
<b>24</b>	Angel	Kazakhstan
<b>25</b>	BIOM	Kyrgyzstan
<b>26</b>	UNISON	Kyrgyzstan
<b>27</b>	MoveGreen	Kyrgyzstan
<b>28</b>	Institute for Sustainable Development Strategy Public Foundation	Kyrgyzstan
<b>29</b>	Gutta-Club	Moldova
<b>30</b>	Renasteria Rurala	Moldova
<b>31</b>	Terra-1530	Moldova
<b>32</b>	Public Association „National Energy Council”	Moldova
<b>33</b>	Buryatsk regional union on Baikal	Russia
<b>34</b>	Center for Environmental Initiatives	Russia
<b>35</b>	Ecodefence	Russia
<b>36</b>	Friends of the Baltics*	Russia
<b>37</b>	Greenpeace Russia	Russia
<b>38</b>	International Socio-Ecological Union	Russia
<b>39</b>	Russian Socio-Ecological Union*	Russia
<b>40</b>	Ural Ecological Union	Russia
<b>41</b>	WWF Russia	Russia
<b>42</b>	Aetas*	Russia
<b>43</b>	Goal Number Seven*	Russia
<b>44</b>	Russian Bureau of Environmental Information*	Russia
<b>45</b>	Green movements EKA	Russia
<b>46</b>	Little Earth	Tajikistan
<b>47</b>	Youth Ecological center of Tajikistan	Tajikistan
<b>48</b>	EcoClub	Ukraine
<b>49</b>	Environment-People-Law	Ukraine
<b>50</b>	Legal Analytics	Ukraine
<b>51</b>	National Ecological Centre of Ukraine (NECU)	Ukraine
<b>52</b>	Our home - Manyava	Ukraine
<b>53</b>	The Voice of Nature	Ukraine
<b>54</b>	Ecodiya	Ukraine

55	Khmelnyskyi energy cluster	Ukraine
56	Ecoclub Green wave	Ukraine
57	Ecolog.uz	Uzbekistan
58	SREDA.UZ	Uzbekistan

\*These organisations have been recognised as foreign agents or have been forced to close due to harassment or restrictions on their operations in their country. We continue to connect with them and offer support from our network where possible.

## 1.5 Participation in CAN Node coordinators meeting

In 2022, for the second year in a row, CAN International's annual strategy meeting took place online. Network members attended it in order to understand where and how the global CAN network is heading. As the global network strives to ensure that work priorities are chosen in the "bottom up" rather than "top down" approach, the participation of local organisations in such meetings is very important.



In June, regional and national CAN coordinators were able to meet live. Synchronisation at this level is necessary for the global network to keep moving in the same direction and to understand the context in which it operates.



# Support and development of network members

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## 2.1 Stories of members from Ukraine

In March and April we published a new column on our website and social media called 'How the war has changed the lives of our network members in Ukraine'.

Our readers could find out how the war had affected the aims, activities and motivation of our members from Ukraine, as well as support the organisations financially.



We invite to to read these stories:

- [Ekoltava](#), Poltava
- [Khmelnyskyi Energy Cluster](#), Khmelnytskyi
- [Ecoclub “Green Wave”](#), Kyiv
- [Ecoclub](#), Rivne
- [Ecoaction](#), Kyiv



## 2.2 Climate Dialogues



In 2022, despite everything, we decided to continue our Climate Dialogues project, but we simplified it considerably. Instead of the working groups that we had planned to continue supporting during the year, we organised three discussions.

Themes of our webinars:

- The impact of the Russia-Ukraine war on energy policy in the EECCA region
- Heating solutions beyond fossil fuels. Energy independence
- Climate change and gender justice

**WEBINAR:**  
«The impacts of the Russia-Ukraine war on energy policies of the EECCA region»

**SPEAKERS:**

 **ALICA KIZEKOVA**  
Senior Researcher in the Centre for the Study of Global Regions, Prague

 **VIBHUSHREE HAMIRWASIA**  
Community and project manager at the REN21

**5 OCTOBER, 2022**  
**08:00 A.M (GMT)**



[www.caneecca.org](http://www.caneecca.org) @canecca

**WEBINAR:**  
«HEATING SOLUTIONS BEYOND FOSSIL FUELS IN THE EECCA REGION»

**SPEAKERS:**

 **OKSANA GUDKOVA**  
ENGINEER AT THE UNION GROUP IN KYRGYZSTAN

 **ALEKSANDRA NOVIKOVA**  
TEAM LEAD OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CLIMATE FINANCE IN IKEM IN BERLIN, GUEST PROFESSOR IN CEU IN HUNGARY, LEAD AUTHOR IN IPCC

**12 OCTOBER 2022**  
**08:00 A.M (GMT)**



[www.caneecca.org](http://www.caneecca.org) @canecca

Through these online meetings we have been able to reactivate the climate dialogue expert community and re-launch public debate on climate and energy issues.



Recordings of all three discussions in English and Russian are available on the Youtube channel [@canecca](https://www.youtube.com/@canecca).

## 2.3 Small grants for the network members

In 2022, for the first time in a long time, CAN EECCA was able to accumulate resources to directly support network members. Five mini-grants of 2,000 EUR each were received by:



1. The environmental and cultural NGO Khazer, Armenia with the project "Laying the foundation for cross-border cooperation between communities in Armenia and Georgia on climate change", which aimed to increase the capacity of local communities in the border areas and create a sustainable mechanism for the implementation of climate change mitigation projects in the border communities of Armenia and Georgia;

2. Public association "Angel", Kazakhstan with the project "We are all responsible for the planet's climate", which aims to strengthen the capacity of environmental initiatives, members of CAN EECCA network, to promote climate policy at national and local levels by informing their local audiences about the climate negotiations at COP-27 and voicing the network's common position (producing short video clips, interviews with network members and country delegations from the event);

3. "Unison Group", Kyrgyzstan with the project "Preparing a National Position on Climate Change on behalf of Civil Society and Youth at COY17, COP27" involved a series of consultations with youth and public/private sector representatives and preparation of the Kyrgyz Public Position for COP27 on climate change;



4. Environmental organisation "Little Earth", Tajikistan. With the project "Review of Climate Education in Secondary Schools" aimed at an overall assessment of climate change education in the secondary school curriculum.



5. Khmelnytsky Energy Cluster, Ukraine, with the project "Climate Leadership School". The aim was to create communities of environmentally conscious young people to solve local problems. The participants submitted their ideas for implementation and as a result, the winning initiative was a solar panel bench, which was hand-assembled by the students of the technical school.

## 2.4 Webinars and experience exchange

In 2022 we held 3 online events:

1. [Пресс конференция](#) для международных журналистов о влиянии войны России против Украины на энергетическую безопасность региона.
2. Общественное [обсуждение](#) предварительных итогов климатических переговоров в Бонне 2022 года
3. [Вебинар](#) об экофеминизме для активистов и активисток региона ВЕКЦА



In October 2022, the network secretariat met in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. As 3 new people from Kyrgyzstan joined the team during the year, it was important to work together and to get to know the local members of the network better.



In November, the network's secretariat helped to organise a training session for Central Asian journalists on climate change and climate policy. The main organisers were the German organisation N-Ost, with network coordinator Olha Boiko and media coordinator Baktygul Chynybaeva acting as speakers.

## 2.5 Communication achievements

In 2022 we really strengthened our communications capacity:

- Our audience reach has almost quadrupled from 2021 reaching 1.97 million users in 2022
- We have managed to update our website and improve its English version. We invite you to check it out at [www.caneecca.org](http://www.caneecca.org)
- We launched an [Instagram](#) page and relaunched our [Twitter](#) account in English
- We have continued to produce our weekly news digest, adding the English version for everyone to enjoy. You can subscribe by following [this link](#)
- You can now see much more video footage of our team members, as well as members of the network talking about the highlights of our digest and other news on Instagram
- Overall, our public communication now includes much more bilingual material. We have also started publishing materials in other languages of the region with subtitles.

# Influencing climate policy in the EECCA region

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## 3.1 Kyrgyzstan joining the CVF

For several years, we at Climate Action Network, together with our network members, have been trying to invite the most vulnerable countries in our region to join the CVF. At the COP26 Conference of Parties in Glasgow, together with our network members, Biom, we organised a meeting of the Kyrgyz delegation with the CVF secretariat.

We are pleased that Kyrgyzstan became the first country in the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) region [to join the CVF](#) (Climate Vulnerable Forum). The CVF is a platform that brings together the most climate-vulnerable countries that produce the least amount of emissions. Together, they join together in advocacy at international negotiations, strengthen each other's position and set an example of ambitious climate policy.

### 3.2 Participation of EECCA civil society in COP27

This year, the civil society in the EECCA region was represented by members of the network from 8 countries: Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Ukraine. We were able to meet with the delegations of the five countries, pass on our positions to them and establish links for further cooperation.



CAN EECCA members synchronised daily at regional and international CAN network meetings, which helped them not to get lost in the multitude of negotiation processes.

The network's media coordinator, Baktygul Chynybaeva, gave a presentation at the Ukraine pavilion on the power of small renewable energy sources in times of public crisis.



During the COP27 Conference of the Parties, the CAN EECCA Network Secretariat shared the Network's [common position](#) with country delegates and international partners. We also [compiled](#) all the positions from the civil society of different countries that our network members prepared in one publication.

During the first and second week, we closely followed the speeches of EECCA leaders and shared the reactions of our members:

- Vulnerability, military emissions and promises of decarbonisation. Speeches by EECCA leaders at COP27 ([link](#))
- COP27: Azerbaijan Gas, Kyrgyzstan Calls for Climate Justice, and Uzbekistan's Proposal for a Climate Council ([link](#))

Our social media expert Nargiza Korgoldoeva regularly reported from the scene and recorded interviews with our network members, which you can see on the CAN EECCA Instagram page.



# Fundraising, financial and other type of aid for the Network

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CAN EECCA exists thanks to the support of its members and partners. We are glad that this year we have been able to establish new long-term partnerships and to continue our common work with our regular donors.

CAN EECCA would like to thank Bread for the world for their trust and the opportunity to become stronger through the development of communication capacities, direct support to the network members and the continuation of the Climate Dialogues project. And also the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation for their long-standing support in the production of the information digest and advocacy activities.

CAN EECCA also thanks the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung for the reliable strategic partnership and support of the network members' participation in the COP27 conference. We are grateful to Friends of the Earth Germany for the overall organisation of the Climate Dialogues and the high level of trust in our work.

We are also grateful to the CAN International secretariat for the opportunity to receive support from the Node Development Fund and for supporting the participation of representatives from the region in CAN international meetings.



CAN International is a global coalition of more than 1,900 international, national and local civil society organisations working to reduce the devastating effects of climate change.

[www.caneecca.org](http://www.caneecca.org)

Coordinator: [Olha Boiko](#)

Media coordinator: [Baktygul Chynybaeva](#)