

## **Bishkek International Energy Forum**

### **Transforming the Energy Sector in the Kyrgyz Republic**

*Towards an affordable and sustainable energy future*

*Organized by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic  
With support from the World Bank Group*

**Date:** April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 9:00 – 15:00 Bishkek time

**Venue:** Hyatt Hotel, Bishkek + zoom connection

**Objective:** The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (GoKR) is undertaking a review of the energy sector to address the sectoral challenges and is looking to prepare a comprehensive long-term development plan, modernizing the sector assets, exploiting the country’s renewable energy potential, transitioning to wholesale electricity market, and gradual tariff adjustments towards cost recovery, among others. The Government is seeking participation from the development partners to support its initiatives on preparation and implementation of the energy sector priorities.

**Background:** Following the fundamental principle of “leaving no one behind” of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic is preparing an overall development vision, where energy is presented as a key sector to be reformed. Some of the key sector challenges include: *Financial viability* – high reliability on foreign and budgetary loans due to tariffs set below cost recovery, *Supply-demand deficit* - energy deficit driven by insufficient generation especially during the winter season, *Energy security* - perilous as a result of aging assets, hydrology cycles, increasing domestic demand, and regional trade needs, *Operational performance* - compromised by aged infrastructure and significant losses, *Renewable energy* – potential not yet exploited on a large scale, due to combination of challenges including those mentioned above.

**Target audience:** Policy makers, implementing agencies, international development partners, and other stakeholders in the Kyrgyz Republic. Specifically, the Forum will convene the Ministry of Economy and Commerce, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of Labor, Social Security and Migration, local design and specialized institutes, local governments, universities, and other development partners active in this area including ADB, EBRD, AIIB, and more.

#### **Expected Outcomes:**

- Communication from the Government of Kyrgyz Republic to stakeholders in the sector on key pillars of energy reform and priority investments.
- Better communication among international development partners on supporting the energy sector reform of Kyrgyz Republic.

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April 8, 2022  
Shayr Ballroom, Hyatt Regency Bishkek

Moderator: **Mr. Tilek Aitaliev**, Deputy Minister of Energy, KR

**8:00 – 9:00**    **Registration and Coffee**

**9:00 – 10:00**    **Opening Remarks**

- **Transforming the Energy Sector of the Kyrgyz Republic**
  - **Mr. Akylbek Japarov**, Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, KR
  - **Mr. Doskul Bekmurzaev**, Minister of Energy, KR
  - **Ms. Anna Bjerde**, Regional Vice President, Europe and Central Asia, WB
  - **Ms. Tatiana A. Proskuryakova**, Country Director Central Asia Country Unit, WB
  - **Mr. Shixin Chen**, Vice-President for South Asia Department and the Central and West Asia Department, ADB
  - **Mr. Konstantin Limitovskiy**, Vice President, AIIB
  - **Ms. Zsuzsanna Hargitai**, Managing Director, Central Asia, EBRD
  - **Mr. Olivier Bangerter**, Ambassador Swiss Embassy in the Kyrgyz Republic

**10:00 – 10:10**    **Group photo**

**10:10 – 10:50**    **Session 1: Towards Greening the Energy Sector**

- **Presentation: Government priorities on developing solar projects through private sector participation**
  - **Mr. Daniyar Amangeldiev**, Minister of Economy and Commerce, KR
- **Discussion: Enabling environment for deployment of solar project in Kyrgyz Republic**

Moderator: **Mr. Manuel Berlingiero**, Lead Energy Specialist, WB

- **Mr. Daniyar Amangeldiev**, Minister of Economy and Commerce, KR
- **Ms. Silvia Martinez**, Senior Energy Specialist, WB
- **Mr. Rustam Shamuradov**, Investment Officer, IFC PPP Advisory Department
- **Mr. Yerlan Ramazanov**, Regional head, Energy Eurasia, Middle East and Africa, EBRD

**10:50 – 11:30 Session 2: Affordability of Energy Services**

- **Presentation: Government social safety net system and additional efforts to protect the poor from energy reforms**
  - **Mr. Kudaibergen Bazarbaev**, Minister of Labor, Social Services and Migration, KR
- **Discussion: International experience on social mitigation measures associated with subsidy reforms**

Moderator: **Mr. Manuel Salazar**, Lead Social Protection Specialist, Europe and Central Asia, WB

  - **Mr. Kudaibergen Bazarbaev**, Minister of Labor, Social Services and Migration, KR
  - **Mr. Ruslan G. Yemtsov**, Human Development Program Leader for China, Mongolia and Korea, WB
  - **Mr. Nithin Umapathi**, Senior Economist, WB
  - **Ms. Marina Novikova**, Social Protection Specialist, WB

**11:30 – 11:45 Coffee break**

**11:45 – 12:45 Session 3: Energy Sector Reform in Kyrgyz Republic**

- **Presentation: A Roadmap for Reform and Priority Investments in the Energy Sector of Kyrgyz Republic**
  - **Mr. Tilek Aitaliev**, Deputy Minister of Energy, KR
- **Panel Discussion: IFI contribution to Reform of Energy Sector of Kyrgyz Republic**

Moderator: **Ms. Sudeshna Ghosh Banerjee**, Energy Practice Manager of Europe and Central Asia, WB

  - **Mr. Tilek Aitaliev**, Deputy Minister of Energy, KR
  - **Mr. Charles Joseph Cormier**, Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia Infrastructure, WB
  - **Mr. Joonho Hwang**, Director, Energy Division, Central and West Asia Department, ADB
  - **Mr. Mark Chao**, Consultant on Scoping study for the Energy sector in Kyrgyzstan, UNDP
  - **Ms. Nurgul Esenamanova**, Associate, Climate Strategy Delivery, EBRD

**12:45 – 13:00 Q&A Session**

**13:00 – 13:20 Wrap-up Session**

- **Mr. Bakyt Torobaev**, Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, KR
- **Mr. Charles Joseph Cormier**, Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia Infrastructure, WB

**13:20 – 13:40 Media, interview**

**13:40 – 15:00 Lunch in restaurant Crostini**