

OPEN CALL | BLUE PEACE CENTRAL ASIA

Apply Now: Regional Youth Water Solutions Incubator

Blue Peace Central Asia is calling on young water professionals from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan to develop innovative, policy-relevant solutions to the region's most pressing water challenges.

About the Incubator

Central Asia faces growing pressures on its shared water resources — from climate change and competing sectoral demands to fragmented data systems and degrading water quality. Addressing these challenges requires more than institutional coordination; it demands a new generation of professionals equipped with practical, interdisciplinary skills.

The Regional Youth Water Solutions Incubator is a structured, time-bound programme under the Blue Peace Central Asia (BPCA) initiative that supports young professionals in developing realistic, context-sensitive solutions with the potential to be piloted, scaled, or integrated into ongoing regional processes.

What the Programme Offers

- Up to USD 2,500 in financial support per selected participant
- Structured mentoring from regional and international water experts
- A 2–3 day hackathon/bootcamp to refine ideas and connect with peers
- Participation in a final regional showcase with policy and implementation partners
- Visibility within the Central Asian water governance community

Thematic Areas

Applicants are invited to submit concepts under one of the following themes:

- **Water Quality:** Monitoring, pollution tracking, low-cost testing, data visualization, or governance mechanisms.
- **Water and Climate Change:** Drought and flood tools, climate risk assessment, adaptation planning, or early warning systems.
- **Water and Energy:** Hydropower trade-offs, WEFÉ nexus considerations, efficiency and optimization tools.
- **Water Data and Digital Solutions:** Platforms, dashboards, decision-support systems, or data harmonization approaches.

Early-stage concepts and pilot ideas are encouraged. Fully developed products are not required.

Programme Structure

Phase 1 — Hackathon / Bootcamp A 2–3 day online or hybrid event to refine ideas, meet mentors, and align on expected outputs.

Phase 2 — Mentored Development Expert-guided concept development with limited support for applied research, local piloting, or prototype building over several months.

Phase 3 — Showcase and Policy Connection Participants present findings to regional experts and are connected with potential implementation partners at a final online or hybrid showcase event.

Who Should Apply

The incubator is open to young water professionals from all five Central Asian countries. Individual applicants and small teams of up to three members are eligible. Women are strongly encouraged to apply. Five participants will be selected — one per country.

How to Apply

Submit the following by 28 June 2026:

- A current CV
- A short concept note (maximum 2–3 pages) covering:
 - The proposed solution or innovation idea
 - The problem or challenge being addressed
 - Relevance to regional or transboundary water issues in Central Asia
 - Proposed approach or methodology
 - Expected outcomes and potential practical relevance
 - Preliminary implementation considerations and scalability potential

Application Deadline: 28 June 2026 | **Submit to:** m.yodalieva@cgiar.org
