

MONE GREEN

Annual Report

Public Association "MoveGreen"

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LETTER FROM THE SUPERVISORY BOARD AND CHAIRWOMAN

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to present to you the MoveGreen annual report for 2023. The report highlights MoveGreen's key achievements in advocating for air quality improvements and encouraging climate action and environmental protection. The use of data, building of communities, and strengthening capacities of key stakeholders are at the heart of MoveGreen's work and although 2023 was a challenging year both globally and locally, MoveGreen's actions demonstrated again that positive change is possible.

Throughout 2023, MoveGreen was able to increase the impact of its work on air quality, facilitate the dialogue on air quality in the wider Central Asia region and embark on new partnerships to address climate change. Some highlights include:

- As a result of MoveGreen's efforts, the network of citizen air quality monitoring in Central Asia has been expanded and data accessibility has been improved. More than 100 low-cost air quality sensors were installed in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan. Current and accurate data about key air pollutants such as PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀ is now available in real-time and can be accessed by citizens and interested stakeholders via a new phone app and an online platform AQ.kg.
- A key highlight from MoveGreen's work in 2023, is the strengthened dialogue on air quality between the Central Asian countries. MoveGreen helped expand the Air Quality Central Asia network to 39 members and establish an online portal for sharing knowledge, and resources among members and the wider public. Various research outputs and knowledge products demonstrated the added value and impact of measures that reduce air pollution and increase energy efficiency were produced and shared with relevant stakeholders.
- MoveGreen introduced research, policy briefs and pilots to showcase the need to create an energy efficiency fund in Bishkek to both improve air quality and reduce emissions. This initiative was supported by the local government and we hope to expand it to the other cities in Kyrgyzstan. This year we were also able to explore the area of biodiversity via activities to protect the unique ecosystem of the national park Ala-Arch in Kyrgyzstan.

In the area of climate change, MoveGreen worked with partners to strengthen civil society organizations across the entire Eastern Europe and Central Asia region and engage with youth, media representatives. In a first for Kyrgyz civil society organizations working on environmental issues, MoveGreen attended the Conference of Parties under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Dubai (COP28) to deliver a message on behalf of Kyrgyz youth about the impacts of climate change on youth in Kyrgyzstan and the need for concerted action on mitigation and adaptation.

Looking ahead, MoveGreen is grateful to have the support of funders, partners, volunteers and the wider civil society community and will continue to work passionately towards its mission. Despite the emerging challenges in Kyrgyzstan, **MoveGreen will remain committed to addressing the root causes of air** pollution and climate change and strive to make a positive difference in the region.

With warm regards,



Bozhil Kondev Chair of the Supervisory Board



Ilyas Vadud Board Member



Rahat Yusubaliev Board Member



Maria Kolesnikova Chair of NGO "MoveGreen"

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

35 sensors

installed in 16 cities and villages in Kyrgyzstan: Bishkek, Tokmok, Kant, Kara-Balta, Kochkor, Naryn, Karakol, Balykchy, Cholpon-Ata, Talas, Zh-A, Osh, Uzgen, Suzak, Kara-Suu, Batken

71 SENSORS

installed in the most polluted areas of Kazakhstan

17 SEASONAL REPORTS AND ANALYSES

were developed on air quality in Bishkek and other regions. The data is freely available on the organization's website

< 30+ ANALYTICAL MATERIALS

on air quality in Central Asia were added to the AQCA platform's database <u>https://aqcaplatform.asia/</u>

< 3000 DOWNLOADS

of the MoveGreen mobile apps AQ.kg and AQCA.asia providing real-time air quality information

27 107 865

was raised for air quality and other statutory objectives

1,3 MAH USERS

were reached through Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok

505 ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISTS

enhanced their capacity to address climate change, engaging effectively with the public, media, and decision-makers

12 000 EUROS

in financial and mentoring support were provided to five environmental organizations in Kyrgyzstan to implement advocacy projects

< 10+ NATIONAL MEDIA ORGANIZATIONS

partnered with MoveGreen to increase climate content and public understanding of climate issues

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

- The project "Initiative for the creation of an energy efficiency fund at the level of the city of Bishkek" united the Parliament and citizens in the search for solutions to improve air quality, and the issue of creating an energy efficiency fund was raised.
 A draft Regulation of the Energy Efficiency Fund at the level of the city of Bishkek was developed.
- MoveGreen's analytical work has contributed to the creation of an updated **plan of priority measures to improve air quality** in Bishkek and the Chui region for 2024-2025.
- The MoveGreen assessment of the natural surface water of the Nizhne-Ala-Archinskoye filling reservoir drew public attention to the pollution and launched a series of inspections by regulatory authorities of persons/enterprises polluting the water protection zone. Six drain pipes were dismantled.
- MoveGreen's active information campaign contributed to the fact that in 2023 the mayor's office began the reclamation of the Bishkek sanitary landfill and the sources of the fire at the landfill were extinguished.



OUR COMMITMENTS AND GOALS

The course of our organization's activities remains unchanged.

MoveGreen is committed to continuing its work to strengthen public influence and civic oversight on environmental protection issues and to build influential public structures that act on behalf of citizens and experts. Additionally, we aim to improve the capacity of decision-makers on air quality and environmental protection, which contributes to advancing the environmental agenda in Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia at both the national and municipal levels.

#ЯхочуДышать ЧистытВоздухот

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF AIR QUALITY WORK

In 2023, **MoveGreen continued its efforts to expand the air quality civic monitoring network**

in Kyrgyzstan and Central Asian countries. Air quality data enables decision-makers to take appropriate measures to improve air quality while raising public awareness. The air quality civic monitoring network in Kyrgyzstan now includes 35 low-cost sensors. Additionally, the network in Kazakhstan was expanded, with 71 sensors installed in the most polluted cities and towns.

As part of the project with Duke University, **47 sensors were obtained to further expand the air quality monitoring network.** A location map for installation was created and agreed upon with KyrgyzHydromet and the Department of Atmospheric Air Protection of the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology, and Technical Supervision of Kyrgyzstan. The sensors underwent initial harmonization in December 2023. The network expansion will extend not only across Kyrgyzstan but also the region, improving data representation. Of the sensors received, 10 are designed for indoor air quality measurement. In addition to PM pollution, they also measure CO₂ and volatile organic compounds (VOCs). This allows us to gather information on what people are breathing indoors during highly polluted outdoor days.

In fall 2023, **the Department of Atmospheric Air Protection initiated amendments to the**

"Air Protection Law." The new version includes the introduction of an "Air Quality Index" (AQI). An interdepartmental working group was created to develop the AQI, with discussions initiated by the Ministry of Health.

The work on air quality data since 2018, along with research conducted with development partners, allowed us to identify pollution sources and control measures. **We continued efforts to promote energy efficiency measures,** developing an analytical note on the mechanism for the Energy Efficiency Fund at the municipal level. Close communication was maintained with the city parliament, and the first draft of the Energy Efficiency Fund's regulation was developed in collaboration with the Bishkek City Kenesh. Another important outcome of 2023 was **the establishment of the Bishkek City Eco-Council.** A roundtable was held with experts, and MoveGreen specialists participated in three meetings of the subgroup on improving air quality in Bishkek.

As a representative of the Urban Hub community, MoveGreen is in close communication with the capital's mayor's office regarding public transportation development. As a result, **the Bishkek mayor's office began actively increasing the number of electric vehicles and allocated lanes for them on several streets** with state budget funding.

To inform both the public and decision-makers, we continue to regularly publish seasonal and other analytical articles on particulate matter and gas pollution levels in Bishkek and various regions of Kyrgyzstan, as well as on solutions that will help improve the situation.

AQCA PLATFORM -AIR QUALITY CENTRAL ASIA

MoveGreen initiated the Air Quality Central Asia (AQCA) platform, a multilateral Central Asian regional dialogue on air quality. The platform was established following the regional air quality conference held in Bishkek in March 2022.

THE AQCA PLATFORM EXISTS TO:

- Initiate dialogue on air quality between Central Asian countries to support the regional clean air movement;
- Create a database of air pollution research in Central Asia;
- Showcase technologies and measures for air quality improvement by civil society, academia, and government agencies in Central Asia;
- Study technologies used to improve air quality in Central Asia and beyond;
- Share experiences on ensuring access to accurate air quality data in Central Asia;
- Explore new air quality topics, including gender, economic, and other aspects;
- Build constructive partnerships among civil society members, academic communities, businesses, media, and government agencies to support the clean air movement;
- Foster regional cooperation to prevent sandstorms in cities and study the effects of anthropogenic air pollution on the environment.



The AQCA approach includes rotating platform leadership annually to increase its sustainability. In 2022, MoveGreen chaired the platform, followed by the Association of Practicing Ecologists (Kazakhstan) in 2023. In 2024, leadership will be handed over to the Youth Environmental Protection Group (Tajikistan).

In 2023, as part of the TechCamp project, the platform's website (<u>https://aqcaplatform.asia/</u>) and social media page (<u>https://www.instagram.com/aqcaplatform/</u>) were launched, featuring analytical and informational materials on air quality in the region. By December 2023, AQCA's network included 34 members, representing both individuals and organizations.

OUR PROJECTS

WE ARE EXPANDING OUR CIVIC AIR QUALITY MONITORING NETWORK IN THE CENTRAL ASIAN REGION

In Central Asia, PM_{2.5} air pollution levels exceed WHO standards, especially during the winter heating season, requiring immediate attention. Unfortunately, air quality data in the region is scarce. Based on this, we concluded that it is essential to expand the PM_{2.5} sensor network in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan, closely collaborating with partners and stakeholders in these countries. Expanding the civic air quality monitoring network is crucial for identifying sources of air pollution and implementing measures to improve the environmental situation.

The main goal of the project, **"Building Capacity for Air Quality Improvement in Central Asia,"** funded by Duke University, is to implement calibrated, low-cost BlueSky sensors to measure PM_{2.5} in key locations across Central Asian countries. This will provide reliable and accurate PM_{2.5} concentration data, easily accessible to both the public and policymakers for science-based decision-making.

Increasing the number of sensors will allow for more precise conclusions about air quality in previously monitored locations, as well as broaden the understanding of the environmental situation by adding new geographic areas. Civic monitoring data will provide up-to-date information collected throughout Kyrgyzstan and strategically selected locations in neighboring countries, enabling real-time public observation of air quality.

By the end of the project (September 2025), 47 PM2.5 sensors are expected to be installed. Currently, the sensors have undergone technical procedures for harmonization, calibration, and certification. They will be distributed and installed in the selected locations.

Additionally, 10 new indoor sensors will be installed. These will help deepen our research, as people spend a significant amount of time indoors, making it essential to pay attention to indoor air quality. Once the new sensors are connected, our network will consist of 120 sensors across three Central Asian countries.



SMALL CITIES OF KYRGYZSTAN MOBILIZE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

In Kyrgyzstan, especially in small cities, the need for increased environmental activity is increasingly recognized. This involves mobilizing local communities to participate in decision-making on environmental safety, in collaboration with experts and responsible authorities. However, raising public awareness requires broad coverage of these issues across various platforms, including social media. Legal support is also needed to integrate these measures and recommendations into local development plans and programs.

Additionally, educational activities are necessary to enhance the public's capacity in this area. These factors combined create a challenge of insufficient interaction between all stakeholders, which in turn affects decisionmaking in cities like Osh, Karakol, and Naryn on environmental safety and the dissemination of best practices. Overcoming this barrier is crucial for achieving sustainable development and environmental conservation. It requires joint efforts from citizens, civil society organizations, local authorities, and environmental experts.

The project "Strengthening the EkoNet NGO Network for Climate and Environmental Protection in Eastern Europe and Central

Asia" aims to create impulses within the network that will further develop in civil society, political, economic, and scientific circles in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

The following goals have been set:

- Develop recommendations in collaboration with lawyers for local decision-makers (executive authorities, parliaments, administrations) in three cities - Karakol, Osh, and Naryn - to incorporate them into local legislation.
- Engage in work in small cities with civil activists and local decision-makers in a "Shaarkana" format (a public event consisting of discussions on narrow city-related topics, solution pathways, and panel discussions with stakeholders) on environmental safety and climate change in Karakol, Osh, and Batken. A total of 12 events are planned.
- Host a two-day Urban Forum in Bishkek in fall 2024 on environmental safety in Kyrgyz cities, with 500 participants from various sectors of society.
- Organize an educational trip for five ecoactivists from Kyrgyzstan to Germany to expand their knowledge on ecology and urban development.

Currently, at least six national cooperations on environmental and climate issues have been initiated between environmental NGOs and decision-makers in politics and governance. It is important to note that at least 50% of all project events (trainings, report preparation, conferences, etc.) are led by women. The position papers prepared within the project are being considered in political decision-making.

We believe it is essential to continue working on building the capacity of urban activists from both major cities and smaller towns in Kyrgyzstan on environmental safety issues. We also aim to raise awareness among the population, including informing them about the adopted documents and the decisions and measures being taken.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY FUND AS A MEASURE TO IMPROVE AIR QUALITY

During the heating season, the private sector in Kyrgyzstan, especially in Bishkek, becomes the main source of air pollution. This is particularly true for over 47 newly developed neighborhoods where private homeowners live, most of whom belong to socially vulnerable groups. In uninsulated homes, up to 75% of heat escapes into the air, making any form of heating inefficient. However, insulating homes can not only improve air quality but also reduce heating costs for residents by 4-5 times, making it a crucial strategy for improving the environmental situation and living conditions for the local population.

One potential solution to this problem could be the creation of an energy efficiency fund and a subsidy mechanism for households to implement energy-efficient solutions, such as home insulation. Promoting this solution could significantly reduce pollution levels in the city during the heating season and greatly improve air quality for local residents.

However, before developing subsidy mechanisms for the population and establishing the energy efficiency fund, the priority task is to raise awareness and competence within the Bishkek City Parliament (BCP) and the Jogorku Kenesh (JK) regarding energy-efficient solutions. This will help ensure the successful long-term implementation and use of energy-efficient solutions. The project "Initiative to Create an Energy Efficiency Fund at the Level of Bishkek City" aims to address this issue, and also raises the question of creating the energy efficiency fund. Since the project's inception, active deputies of the BCP and JK have been identified to promote energy-efficient solutions aimed at reducing air pollution during the heating season. Private consultations were held with a lawyer to prepare and analyze the legal framework for the initiative to create the energy efficiency fund and its mechanism for providing subsidies to the socially vulnerable population of the city. This project sparked widespread discussion and media publications on energy-efficient solutions for the heating season. The issue has been raised and is attracting interest from the local population and communities.

By the end of 2023, the following activities had been carried out:

- A FIELD TRAINING SESSION ON DEMONSTRATING ENERGY-EFFICIENT SOLUTIONS. Participants observed results and potential solutions for scaling among households, using a completed building with energy-efficient solutions as an example.
- ✓ A CITY EVENT "SHAARKANA" ON THE TOPIC OF ENERGY-EFFICIENT
 - **SOLUTIONS.** All participants received unified information and new knowledge about home insulation measures based on analytical data from MoveGreen's research. The city administration opened a discussion on solutions with active citizens, deputies, and experts.
- ✓ INTERVENTION FOR BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY. The practical implementation of simple energy-efficient solutions was demonstrated with minimal costs.
- ✓ ROUNDTABLE EXPERT DISCUSSION OF THE DEPUTIES' INITIATIVE TO CREATE THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY FUND. The initiative to create the fund using budget or donor funds to provide subsidies to private households was discussed.





As part of the project, BCP deputies became familiar with MoveGreen's analytical data, quarterly reports, recommendations, and research on energy efficiency. This information became the basis for further discussions on reducing air pollution levels during profile committee meetings and for dissemination through the media. A key part of the project was events aimed at raising public awareness. Four such events were held, involving BCP and JK deputies, experts, and active citizens. This expanded the circle of people familiar with the issue and attracted more attention to it.

Thanks to the work carried out, progress has been made toward improving energy efficiency and air quality in Bishkek. BCP deputies were introduced to MoveGreen's analytical data, quarterly reports, recommendations, and research on energy efficiency. They have been sharing this information at profile committee meetings and through the media, which has helped further spread knowledge and understanding of the importance of energy efficiency among a broader audience.



IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION IN CENTRAL ASIA THROUGH AIR QUALITY MONITORING

Central Asia is a region where air quality issues require closer attention due to inefficient energy use, expansion of the transportation network, and inadequate air quality monitoring and regulation. The limited monitoring station network, particularly in remote and hard-to-reach areas of the region, constrains the accuracy and completeness of air quality data, limiting public awareness and hindering the development and implementation of effective air pollution control measures. Often, the public lacks access to monitoring data, making it difficult to control air quality and protect citizens' rights to a healthy environment. It is important to note that improving air quality monitoring is crucial for combating environmental pollution and enhancing the region's ecological situation, as well as fostering cooperation between countries on joint measures to improve public health. The goal of the **"Building Air Quality Management Capacity in Central Asia"** project is strengthening the regulatory and monitoring capacity of government actors and expanding awareness of air quality issues among decision makers and the general public in the KG and KZ. The project also aims to initiate broader regional collaboration on air quality in CA.

A notable achievement of the project lies in the significant progress made in deploying low-cost air quality sensors, particularly in Kazakhstan. The project successfully installed 71 low-cost sensors in the most polluted cities of Kazakhstan, strategically placed on the monitoring posts of KazHydromet. In Kyrgyzstan, MoveGreen took the initiative to deploy a network of 35 low-cost sensors across major cities.

The project's activities extended beyond technical aspects, successfully implementing awareness campaigns. The social media outreach surpassed expectations, with over 1700 pieces posted on platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok, accumulating an impressive 2,856,948 views. Additionally, the project conducted impactful presentations, including "Urban Talks" on air quality and ecological issues, and educational videos.

The project's contribution extends to specific and actionable policy briefs and recommendations aimed at improving air quality monitoring. These recommendations encompass technological upgrades, capacity-building initiatives, and alignment with international standards to enhance the effectiveness of regulatory measures.

A significant and lasting outcome of the project is the establishment of the multi-stakeholder Central Asian regional dialog platform - AQCA. With 34 members representing both individuals and organizations, AQCA serves as a collaborative forum for addressing air quality challenges in the region.



DURING THE PROJECT, THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES WERE CARRIED OUT:

- ✓ 71 low-cost sensors were successfully installed in the most polluted cities of Kazakhstan, strategically placed at KazHydromet monitoring posts.
- ✓ Additionally, 35 sensors (AirKaz + PurpleAir) were installed in Kyrgyzstan.
- ✓ 2 sensors (AirKaz) were installed in the capital of Uzbekistan, Tashkent.
- ✓ 21 seminars were held for 469 participants from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.
- ✓ 3 educational videos were broadcast on 10 national and commercial TV channels in Kazakhstan and 3 TV channels in Kyrgyzstan, reaching over 3 million viewers.
- ✓ An intensive social media campaign on air pollution featured 1,700 posts and videos, with a total reach of over 2.8 million people.
- ✓ 1,450 students and schoolchildren from various regions of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan learned about air pollution.
- ✓ 12 city discussions on air pollution were held with government agencies, civil society, experts, and media in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan (269 participants).
- ✓ Two mobile applications were developed with real-time air quality information: AQ.kg for Kyrgyzstan and AQCA.asia for Central Asia, with corresponding websites <u>www.aq.kg</u> and <u>www.aqca.asia</u>.
- ✓ Two regional conferences were organized as part of the AQCA platform (March 2022 in Bishkek with 61 offline and 74 online participants; February 2023 in Astana with 40 offline and 30 online participants).
- ✓ 8 online seminars were conducted for AQCA participants (225 people).

After the project concludes, work will continue on expanding the civic air quality monitoring network, as well as informing the public about air pollution issues in Kyrgyzstan and the region. Efforts to strengthen the AQCA air quality dialogue platform will also continue, with a third conference planned for Dushanbe.





MOBILIZING SOCIETY IN KYRGYZSTAN AND THE EECCA REGION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

Despite the high potential for renewable energy sources (RES), Kyrgyzstan continues to expand the use and production of fossil fuels, which contradicts the international conventions our country has joined. The large volume of documentation, lack of clearly defined responsibilities, and insufficient government oversight hinder the achievement of the SDG goals. Moreover, the lack of awareness among decision-makers, business structures, the public, and the media about the benefits of using RES and their contribution to mitigating climate change exacerbates the situation.

The main goal of the project "Commitment to Climate Protection in Kyrgyzstan and the Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and Central Asia (EECCA) Region" is to improve the environment, resources, and opportunities for successful climate change advocacy in Kyrgyzstan and throughout the EECCA region.

In the first year of the project (launched in November 2021), important analytical work was carried out ("Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving in the Private Residential Sector of Kyrgyzstan," "Calculation of the Funding Required for Insulation Measures in the Private Residential Sector for the Energy Efficiency Fund," and the regulation on establishing the "Bishkek City Energy Efficiency Fund"). Educational tasks were also completed on the contribution of RES to climate change mitigation within the "Climate Change Policy Review and Discussions in Kyrgyzstan" component, involving all key stakeholders: government representatives, experts, civil society, and the media.

Several events were held focusing on energy efficiency and climate education (Youth Climate School_2023, Eco-Advocacy School). The project's informational campaign reached 424,134 people. (Details of the 2021-2022 project can be found in the <u>Annual Report 2022</u>.)



We became the first NGO in Kyrgyzstan to register with the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) and obtained observer status at COP. We participated in COP28 (Dubai) as a speaker at the Central Asia pavilion, where we shared our success stories in combating smog in Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia.



The youth of Kyrgyzstan, through an organizing committee, received permission from the YOUNGO youth body under the UNFCCC to hold the National Youth Conference on Climate Change "LCOY Kyrgyzstan 2023". Together with partners, MoveGreen took the initiative to organize this large-scale event, which attracted over 160 young people from Kyrgyzstan. The event was organized as part of the preparation process for COP-28 UNFCCC in Dubai, UAE.

Key outcomes of the conference include:

- ✓ Participants joined the Kyrgyzstan Youth Climate Network;
- ✓ The position of Kyrgyz youth for COP28 UNFCCC was developed;
- ✓ A COP simulation game was held;
- ✓ Participants developed more than 10 project ideas and presented them during the event;
- ✓ Participants strengthened their knowledge about climate change;
- ✓ Participants learned about NDCs, carbon neutrality, climate finance, the role of youth in climate adaptation, and much more.



We continue our collaboration with CAN EECCA (the largest network of climate NGOs in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia). Through sustained work with network members, we have been able to provide ongoing support on UNFCCC processes and partnership building.

Together with network members, we produced five short films, awarded five mini-grants to members, and involved them in training sessions on climate justice and energy independence at the "Climate Dialogues."

Furthermore, the network helped more members register with the UNFCCC system, providing them with new opportunities to implement their initiatives. All these results were made possible through the institutional development of CAN EECCA.



In the course of the project, we realized the importance of increasing COP coverage by mobilizing journalists in Kyrgyzstan. Therefore, in the second phase of the project, we developed a special media program aimed at developing climate journalism in Kyrgyzstan by improving the professional skills of media representatives in covering climate change, environmental protection, and climate policy issues in the country.

In conclusion, we are undertaking a wide range of measures to phase out fossil fuels in Kyrgyzstan and mitigate the effects of climate change. We are working to raise awareness, develop recommendations, train civil society, and actively participate in international discussions. **Our goal is to create a sustainable and environmentally clean energy system for future generations of Kyrgyzstan.**



PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF CHILDREN IN HIGHLY POLLUTED AREAS OF THE CAPITAL

Bishkek is considered one of the cities with the most polluted air in the world. Pollutant concentrations exceed national and international limits, as well as the World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines, throughout the year, especially during the winter heating season. WHO notes that due to their physiological characteristics, children are particularly vulnerable to the negative health impacts of air pollution. Air pollution affects children's neurological development and respiratory function, even at minimal exposure levels.

Children living in residential areas on the outskirts of Bishkek are the most exposed to air pollution. Contributing factors include higher dust levels, the widespread use of solid fuels for heating in private sectors, and limited access to medical care due to the socio-economic situation of children, whose parents are mostly labor migrants. In December 2023, we launched the project: **"Empowering Youth for Clean Air: Mitigating Air Pollution Effects in Kyrgyz high schools**" at one of the capital's schools located in one of Bishkek's most polluted areas.

The project aims to raise students' awareness about non-communicable diseases (NCDs), the impact of air pollution on NCD development, and the consequences and solutions to the problem. By increasing awareness, youth can make informed decisions about their behavior and lifestyle, such as reducing personal emissions, avoiding diseasecausing factors, and adopting and supporting sustainable practices and green initiatives. This will help them create an environmentally safe environment for themselves and their community.

During the project, participants attend lectures, workshops, and training sessions. Lectures and medical workshops were conducted by a pulmonologist, who explained to participants the types of noncommunicable diseases caused by air pollutants, the effects on children, and provided recommendations for preventive measures. In the training sessions, children learned how to build affordable air purifiers themselves, which were then installed in school classrooms.



Additionally, we provided factory-made air purifiers to the school for installation in common areas. In eco-advocacy workshops, participants learn how to advocate for their right to clean air, both independently and together with their parents. The project will conclude with a conference on the topic, involving the students' parents.

In addition, tree planting in the schoolyard is planned, involving both students and parents, as well as a field lecture where an environmental expert will explain to children how greenery positively affects the city's ecology and the well-being of its residents.

We expect that the project will involve at least 120 students and, at a minimum, 50 parents will receive information about air pollution, ways to reduce its impact on children's health, and how to protect their rights to clean air through environmental advocacy. The public will learn about the project's results through social platforms, and we plan to share the information with 50,000 social media users.

Engaging youth in the dialogue on environmental issues is a very important step toward solving these challenges. We must provide accurate information to the younger generation so they can properly adapt to existing conditions, be guided in the right direction, and be prepared to participate fully in creating a safe and sustainable environmental future.

PRESERVING THE WILDLIFE OF KYRGYZSTAN'S NATIONAL PARK

Ala-Archa National Park is a nature reserve with breathtaking landscapes and a diverse array of flora and fauna native to Kyrgyzstan. It is located 17 km from the city of Bishkek, the most populous city in Kyrgyzstan with a population of over 1 million people. Due to its proximity and beautiful scenery, Ala-Archa is one of the most popular destinations for city residents and tourists.

The park is visited by 150,000 people annually, primarily for recreational and sports activities. Among the visitors are athletes, mountaineers, families, and groups of friends having picnics and playing outdoor games. Most visitors stay close to their cars in recently renovated parking lots, concentrating the highest visitation in the lower valley near the road and several buildings. The park is of great value and benefit to both people and its wild inhabitants, with a rich and diverse ecosystem.





The main goal of the **"Respect, protect!"** project was to preserve biodiversity in Ala-Archa Park and raise awareness among the public and tourists by:

- Informing visitors about the various species of flora and fauna living in the park.
- Increasing awareness about waste management and fire prevention.

The activities were educational, during which visitors and youth participants learned about the park's wildlife and birds. The project aimed to promote responsible behavior when interacting with the park's nature, encouraging visitors to treat its inhabitants with care. It also sought to demonstrate alternative ways of interacting with nature to minimize human impact.

We achieved the following results:

- ✓ Reached an online audience of 20,988 people.
- ✓ Installed 21 durable information boards (3 large and 18 small), expected to be read by 10,000 people over the next 10 years. These panels will remain in place and be maintained by park staff. They can be used by the general public, as well as associations and schools, to continue educational outreach.
- ✓ 825 park visitors were personally informed about the rules of behavior and the consequences for the natural ecosystem if they are violated.
- ✓ 33 participants learned about flora and fauna through two introductory lectures conducted by a landscape design expert.
- \checkmark 17 participants attended a yoga session in the park.

We hope that the information boards will continue to remind park visitors for years to come of the diverse flora and fauna that inhabit the reserve. They will also serve as a reminder of how fragile the ecosystem is and how careless human behavior can destroy it. Simple rules of conduct in protected areas help reduce litter, fires, and poaching. We believe that future generations of Kyrgyz people will be able to experience the unique nature of Ala-Archa National Park.





ASSESSMENT OF THE NATURAL SURFACE WATER OF THE LOWER ALA-ARCHA RESERVOIR

During the project "Involvement of civil society in the new residential area Altyn-Kazyk for conservation and protection of Ala-Archa water reservoir" an assessment was conducted on the natural surface water of the Lower Ala-Archa Reservoir. Currently, the Lower Ala-Archa Reservoir is experiencing anthropogenic pressure. The extent of this pressure has resulted in changes to the ionic composition of the surface waters, as well as the presence of inorganic compounds such as ammonium, fluoride, and molybdenum, in quantities not typical for the natural environment.

The goal of this study was to collect data on the regulatory requirements for water quality intended for various water uses, followed by the analysis of surface water samples from the Lower Ala-Archa Reservoir and drinking water from a noncentralized water supply source in the Altyn-Kazyk residential area. Water sampling for analysis was performed by MoveGreen staff and experts, in accordance with the standards and procedures adopted in the Kyrgyz Republic. The full analysis, along with general recommendations and suggestions for the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic, has been uploaded to our <u>website</u>.

WHERE WE WORK: UPDATED SCREENSHOTS OF THE SENSOR MAP







Collaboration with Dos-Kredobank began in April 2022 with the installation of 7 sensors in the bank's regional branches. In 2023, the network of sensors installed in Dos-Kredobank branches increased to 17.

FINANCIAL DATA

Since its inception, our organization has consistently adhered to the requirements of the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic, providing all necessary documents and reports. Additionally, in 2023, we updated our accounting policy, procurement procedures, and developed a cost allocation policy. This has been another step toward increasing the financial transparency of our organization, ensuring the standardization of processes, improving reporting, enhancing the trust of partners, donors, and other stakeholders, as well as increasing efficiency and resource savings.

INCOME AND EXPENSES OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR 2023

Income		Amount in KGS
	Grants	27 107 865
	Donations	
	Income	
	Total	27 107 865
Expences	Honorariums	16 278 514
	Events	6 903 305
	Subgranting	2 306 844
	Office expenses	1 565 220
	Unified tax	53 982
	Total	27 361 847

incl. taxes	
Income Tax	167 559
Insurance Fee + State Accumulative	549 624

FINANCIAL DATA FOR NGO "MOVEGREEN" PROJECTS

Existing and Finalized Projects for 2023	Donor	Total Budget in KGS (Exchange rate at the end of 2023: 1 USD = 89.08 KGS, 1 EUR = 98.53 KGS)
Strengthening Air Quality Management Capacity in Central Asia (October 2020 - September 2023)	U.S. Department of State, Office of Environmental Affairs	26 312 985 KGS
Implementing a Network of Low-Cost Air Quality Sensors in Central Asia to Improve Air Quality Through Capacity Building and Public Awareness (October 2022 - September 2025)	Duke University	6 681 000 KGS
Commitment to Climate Protection in Kyrgyzstan and the Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and Central Asia Region (November 2021 - October 2023)	Bread for the World (Germany)	27 266 853 KGS
Initiative to Create an Energy Efficiency Fund at the City Level of Bishkek (February 2023 - June 30, 2023)	National Democratic Institute	1 336 200 KGS
Strengthening the EkoNet NGO Network for Climate and Environmental Protection in Eastern Europe and Central Asia (July 2023 - June 2025)	Austausch e.V.	5 791 002 KGS
Empowering Youth to Fight for Clean Air: Mitigating the Effects of Air Pollution in Kyrgyzstan's Middle Schools (December 2023 - May 2024)	AstraZeneca UK Limited	890 800 KGS