



# Effective Governance for Economic Development

## Regional Conference

May 17-18, 2023

Rixos Hotel  
Almaty, Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and the Kyrgyz Republic have highly ambitious goals to generate sustained and inclusive economic growth. The importance of governance quality to achieve these goals – together with the closely related issue of routinely using evidence in policymaking – cannot be overstated.

The Effective Governance for Economic Development (EGED) conference will bring together experts in developing evidence-based policies and reforms from across the region. Participants will share (i) lessons on the interface between data production, data analysis, and use of data for public policies, (ii) progress in evidence-based policy implementation, and (iii) approaches to strengthening the role of civil society. Presentations will focus on pressing challenges such as gender inequality, resource allocation, and public administration. Experts will show how cutting-edge analytical methods greatly improve the capacity of governments to create policy solutions.



## Agenda Day 1: May 17, 2023

08:30-09:15	<b>Registration and Welcome Coffee</b>
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<b>Setting the Stage</b>	
09:15-10:00	<p><b>Opening Remarks:</b> Introduction to the conference, reflections on data and evidence use, and welcoming Kazakhstan to the EGED program</p>

<p><b>Aset Irgaliyev</b> Chairman of Agency for Strategic Planning and Reforms of Republic of Kazakhstan</p> <p><b>Almaz Isanov</b> Presidential Administration, Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><b>Lalita Moorty</b> Regional Director, for Equitable Growth, Finance, and Institutions, World Bank</p> <p><b>Hilolbi Qurbonzoda</b> Chairperson of the Committee for Women and Family Affairs, Tajikistan</p> <p><b>Bakhodir Begalov</b> Agency on Statistics, Uzbekistan</p> <p><b>Kathy Leach</b> British Ambassador to Kazakhstan</p>
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<b>Session 1</b>	
<p>This session will shed light on the importance of bringing evidence to advance gender equality, especially as a core driver of inclusive growth and poverty reduction. Government representatives and NGOs will discuss how data is used to inform the design of gender inclusive legislation, develop national programs, and the importance of gender equality for economic development in Central Asia.</p>	
10:00-11:00	<p>Keynote: <b>Poverty reduction and gender equality</b></p> <p><b>Luis-Felipe Lopez-Calva</b> Global Director for Poverty and Equity, World Bank</p> <p><i>Discussants</i></p> <p><b>Mavluda Nizamova</b> Women's Committee, Uzbekistan</p> <p><b>Ainura Sagynbaeva</b> Women's Forum "Kurak", Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><b>Sharif Rahimzoda</b> Director of the Institute of Economics and Demography, Tajikistan</p>

11:00-11:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>
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## Session 2

The transformation of statistical systems is not just a technical matter. It involves high-level political commitment to the availability and use of administrative records, big data, and geospatial information for statistical purposes through appropriate national legislative mechanisms and partnerships established with public and private data providers. This section will focus on sharing good practices and exploration of new methodologies in statistical data collection and use of data for evidence-based policymaking. The section will also introduce a new online training program for the Central Asian countries, data literacy for policymakers, researchers, and citizens. Topics will include:

- Strengthening the analytical capacity of all parties and increasing access to data,
- Active use of administrative and alternative sources,
- Institutional and organizational transformation

11:30-13:00	Presentation: <b>Modernizing statistical systems in Central Asia, and data literacy</b>	<p><b>Chair: Zhandos Shaimardanov</b> Bureau of National Statistics, Kazakhstan</p> <p><b>Baktybek Kudaibergenov</b> National Statistical Committee, Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><b>Bakhodir Begalov</b> Agency on Statistics, Uzbekistan</p> <p><b>Zarina Nazarzoda</b> Agency for Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan</p> <p><b>Lkhamsuren Damdinsuren</b> National Statistics Office of Mongolia</p> <p><b>Mechael Qaasim Alamgir</b> Office of National Statistics, United Kingdom</p>
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13:00-14:15	<b>Lunch</b>
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## Session 3

This session will report the latest findings from the Listening to Central Asia surveys, highlighting recent reforms, drivers of improved livelihoods across the region, and mechanisms to engage with the public.

14:15-15:30	<b>Listening to Central Asia and evidence driven reform in the region</b>	<p><b>Speaker: William Seitz</b> World Bank</p> <p><b>Dinara Duishenkul kyzy</b> Economic Policy Research Institute, Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><b>Zamon Haldarov</b> Institute Macroeconomic Research Studies, Uzbekistan</p> <p><b>Rustam Babadjanov</b> Institute of Economics and Demography, National Academy of Sciences, Tajikistan</p> <p><b>Nasima Nazrieva</b> ACTED</p>
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		<b>Jamshid Sharipov</b> Development Strategy Center, Uzbekistan
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15:30-16:00	<b>Coffee break</b>	
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<b>Session 4</b>		
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This session focuses on the potential for e-government services to transform the relationship between government and citizens.		
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16:00-17:15	Presentation(s) and Discussion: <b>e-services</b>	<p><b>Benu Bidani</b> World Bank</p> <p><b>Yerbol Ospanov</b> Vice Minister of Labor and Social Protection, Kazakhstan</p> <p><b>Mirzo Subkhanov</b> Samarkand Regional Branch, Human Rights Society of Uzbekistan "Ezgulik"</p> <p><b>Aida Darmenova</b> Unified Data Warehouse of Almaty, Kazakhstan</p> <p><b>Nadezhda Dobretsova</b> Development Policy Institute, Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><b>Oyebola Okunogbe (online)</b> World Bank</p>
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<b>Reflection and Concluding Remarks</b>		
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17:15-17:30	<b>Concluding Remarks</b>	<p><b>Salman Zaidi</b> World Bank</p> <p><b>Zhandos Shaimardanov</b> Bureau of National Statistics, Kazakhstan</p>
18:00-20:00	<b>Dinner:</b> Courtesy of conference hosts, the Republic of Kazakhstan/ Akimat of Almaty	



## Agenda Day 2: May 18, 2023

<b>Session 5</b>		
This session reviews the achievements, challenges, and options for improving the use of data and evidence in macroeconomic forecasting and budget planning in Central Asia countries. The session will focus on the importance of accurate modeling for the purposes of financing and implementing development programs.		
09:15-10:30	<b>Presentation: Forecasting and Budget planning</b>	<p><b>Chair: Tatiana Proskuryakova</b> Country Director for Central Asia, World Bank</p> <p><b>Tchoro Seyitov</b> Ministry of Economy and Commerce, Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><b>Begmyrat Miriyev</b> Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan</p> <p><b>Hayot Sayidaliev</b> Institute Macroeconomic Research Studies, Uzbekistan</p> <p><b>Muhammad Jalolzoda</b> Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Tajikistan</p>
10:30-11:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
<b>Session 6</b>		
This session will focus on the latest policy developments in protecting the poor and vulnerable in EGED participating countries. Government representatives will share insights with developments and lessons learned, especially regarding improved targeting and assistance and improved coverage.		
11:00-12:15	<b>Protecting the Vulnerable: Targeted Social Assistance</b>	<p><b>Chair: Marina Novikova</b> World Bank</p> <p><b>Shodikhon Jamshed</b> Deputy Minister of Health and Social Protection, Tajikistan</p> <p><b>Zhanyl Alybaeva</b> Deputy Minister of Labor, Social Protection and Migration, Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><b>Erkin Mukhiddinov</b> Deputy Minister of Labor and Poverty Reduction, Uzbekistan</p> <p><b>Shahlo Abdunabizoda</b> NGO “Jahon,” Tajikistan</p> <p><b>Joragul Halbayeva</b> Division of Social Protection Methodology, Turkmenistan</p>
12:15-13:30	<b>Lunch</b>	



## Session 7

This session will review the latest evidence and reforms to combat gender-based violence in EGED countries. The World Bank team will present findings of the GBV assessment to set the context of discussions. Government representatives and NGOs will share their insights on GBV through prism of legal aspects, economic opportunities, and social norms.

13:30-15:00	<p>Presentation: <b>Gender-based Violence in Central Asia</b></p>	<p><b>Chair: Obert Pimhidzai</b> World Bank</p> <p><b>Presenter: Jennifer Solotaroff</b> Senior Social Development Specialist, World Bank</p> <p><b>Ainur Dossanova</b> Director for International Cooperation and Sustainable Development, Bureau of Statistics, Kazakhstan</p> <p><b>Zulfiya Baisakova</b> National Commission for Women Affairs, Family and Demographic Policy, Kazakhstan</p> <p><b>Aizhan Dzhumanalieva</b> Lawyer and expert on family law and protection from family violence, Kyrgyz Republic</p> <p><b>Viloyat Mirzoeva</b> Gender expert, Tajikistan</p> <p><b>Farzona Khashimova</b> ACTED</p>
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## Session 8

This session presents the latest quantitative research on the inclusiveness of the labor markets in Central Asia and discusses policy options and existing efforts to incubate an inclusive labor market that encourages participation from women, the poor, and youth.

15:00-16:15	<p>Presentation: <b>Using evidence to build a more inclusive labor market</b></p> <p><b>Country Examples:</b></p>	<p><b>Chair: Sarah Cooper</b> FCDO</p> <p><b>Dilnovoz Abdurazzakova</b> World Bank</p> <p><b>Mukhtarama Teshaboeva,</b> Association of Women in Agrarian Sector, Uzbekistan</p> <p><b>Matluba Iskandarzoda</b> Deputy Director, Agency for Labor and Employment, Ministry of Labor, Migration and Employment of Tajikistan</p> <p><b>Askar Niyazov</b> Director of Employment Department, Ministry of Labor and Social Protection, Kazakhstan</p>
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## Reflection and Concluding Remarks

16:15-16:30	<b>Concluding Remarks</b>	<b>Zhandos Shaimardanov</b> Bureau of National Statistics, Kazakhstan  <b>Luis-Felipe Lopez-Calva</b> World Bank
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