

Overview of the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia

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An overview of the CA REC will be presented: its origin, purpose, organizational structure, main functions and examples of projects and activities. The CA REC is one of the regional environmental centers (RECs) established under the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN-ECE). These centers are to be set-up as independent, not for profit, non-political sub-regional organizations of international character to address regional environmental issues and concerns. These centers are also designed to provide a framework for regional cooperation among governments, NGOs and businesses on such regional issues as sustainable development, public participation, information exchange and for conducting research and training. Other RECs have been established by UN-ECE in Central Europe, the Caucasus and Russia. The CA REC was established in Almaty, Kazakhstan during 2000.