



# **The Eighth Annual Life in Kyrgyzstan Conference 2022**

*Promoting Research, Exchange, and Evidence Based Policy Making  
in Central Asia*



**10–12 October 2022  
Orion Hotel and online  
Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan**

## WELCOME

On behalf of the University of Central Asia's (UCA), Graduate School of Development (GSD) it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 8th Annual Life in Kyrgyzstan Conference, hosted in Bishkek and organised jointly by UCA, The Leibniz Institute of Vegetable and Ornamental Crops and the International Security and Development Center.



The breadth and depth of topics covered in this year's conference, incorporating over 20 separate sessions and over 70 papers, is testament to the value of this unique source of data. The conference brings together a community of scholars, practitioners, and policy makers to present rigorous evidence-based studies on topics ranging from the labour market, to agriculture, to macroeconomic performance, to poverty, to biodiversity conservation, to civil society, to health, gender, climate change and so much more. In combination this represents an exciting demonstration of the incredible value of household and longitudinal survey data capturing the lives and livelihoods of a nation.

While such survey data is commonplace in advanced economies, the Life in Kyrgyzstan data is unique in Central Asia and rare among less advanced economies and we must all therefore cherish it. UCA has been and remains deeply supportive of the regular collection of these invaluable data, as well as to these annual conferences, which teach us – and the international community – so much about Life in Kyrgyzstan.

On behalf of all those that use and/or benefit from these data and the insights they give us, we express our gratitude to Professor Tilman Brück and his team, whose unyielding efforts and intellectual leadership resulted in the initiation and continuation of the Life in Kyrgyzstan survey and therefore these annual conferences too. Our gratitude also goes to our other partners, in organising this conference: American University of Central Asia, Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund, Mercy Corps, World Bank and the UN Population Fund.

We all hope you will enjoy the conference, whether in-person or joining online, and that you will continue to work with and publicise the Life in Kyrgyzstan survey.

**Professor Christopher J Gerry**

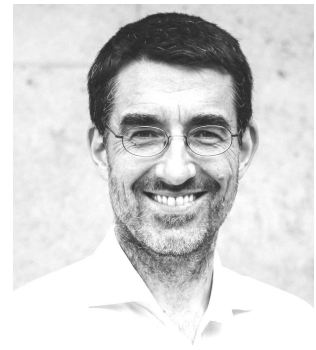
Dean, Graduate School of Development  
University of Central Asia

Conference webpage: <https://lifeinkyrgyzstan.org/lik-conference-2022/>.  
For Conference related Twitter posts, please use the hashtag **#lik2022**.  
You may want to refer to the LiK Study twitter account **@LiK\_Study**.

**Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Welcome to the 8th Annual Life in Kyrgyzstan Conference!

We are proud to bring together - mostly in person in Bishkek - once more, representatives from academia, policy making and practice who share an interest in information, data and evidence from Kyrgyzstan and Central Asia.



The origin and foundation of this conference is the Life in Kyrgyzstan Study, a research-based, open access knowledge infrastructure for Central Asia, which has been collecting information on the lives and livelihoods in Kyrgyzstan since 2010. If you are a student, a researcher, an expert in government or civil society or a journalist, you are welcome to use our data for your work and to help make Kyrgyzstan a more prosperous and equitable country.

In fact, we held a LiK Data User Workshop the day before the 8th Annual Life in Kyrgyzstan Conference, to help new users of the data to learn more about this amazingly detailed and rich information resource. If you are also interested in using the LiK data for your work and missed the LiK Data User Workshop, please talk to me and we will find a way for you to become a LiK expert!

I know I have said this before but, sadly, it remains true today as well: We live in truly turbulent times! With medical, political, military, social and economic challenges all compounding, it is more important than ever to make sense of what is happening and how these events shape our lives and livelihoods. The Life in Kyrgyzstan Study aims to do exactly that, by delineating how people choose to live and how they manage every day. By tracking these many small incremental outcomes, we aim to contribute to human development in Kyrgyzstan. We also hope to provide a role model for the region on how to conduct evidence-based policy advice.

I am grateful to our partners in the Life in Kyrgyzstan Study, especially at the University of Central Asia under the able leadership of Professor Chris Gerry at the Graduate School of Development. I also thank our many other partners in the LiK Study and at the LiK Conference.

We have once more an exciting agenda. I look forward to hearing the contributions and to discussing our ideas and insights.

Thank you for joining us!

**Tilman Brück**

Principal Investigator, Life in Kyrgyzstan Study  
Group Leader, Leibniz Institute of Vegetable and Ornamental Crops, Germany  
Professor, Humboldt-University of Berlin, Germany  
Director, ISDC - International Security and Development Center, Germany

## ORGANISERS OF THE CONFERENCE



UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL ASIA  
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DEVELOPMENT  
Institute of Public Policy and Administration

**Institute of Public Policy and Administration** at the University of Central Asia (IPPA UCA) provides in-depth analysis on current and emerging policy issues facing the region, and improves the analytical capacity

of governments and civil society to use evidence in decision-making processes through professional development. Established in 2011, is a regional think tank concentrated on economic and social policy. It has published over 60 papers in these areas in English and Russian as part of the IPPA Working Papers Series. More information can be found at <https://www.ucentralasia.org/Research/ippa>.



**IGZ – Leibniz Institute of Vegetable and Ornamental Crops**

carries out research supporting the sustainable production of vegetable and ornamental plants and the rational use of natural resources. It contributes to the success of horticulture in various countries, understanding fundamentals of horticultural and plant science, sustainability in production and use of plants, healthy nutrition and wellbeing of the population. More information can be found at <https://www.igzev.de>.



**ISDC - International Security and Development Center** is a non-profit academic institute. We conduct research to improve lives and livelihoods shaped by violent conflict,

fragility and humanitarian emergencies. We focus our analysis at the micro level, studying how individuals, households, groups and firms react to and cope with extreme adversity – and how policies can best support people and institutions under such conditions. We combine quantitative and qualitative methods and work with international partners from multiple disciplines and sectors. More information can be found at [www.isdc.org](http://www.isdc.org).

## PARTNERS



**American University of Central Asia (AUCA)** is a multi-disciplinary learning community in the American liberal arts tradition with the mission of developing enlightened and impassioned leaders for the transformation of Central Asia. AUCA is the first university in Central Asia to offer US accredited degrees in liberal arts programs through a partnership with Bard College in the United States. With a current enrollment of approximately 1,500 students from over 25 countries AUCA offers students a quality education based on an American college model with a credit-hours system, a liberal arts curriculum and a commitment to freedom of expression and inquiry. The University offers 15 undergraduate educational programs and 10 graduate programs. More information can be found at [www.auca.kg](http://www.auca.kg).



**The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)** enables civil society to protect the world's biodiversity hotspots—biologically rich ecosystems that are essential to

humanity, yet highly threatened. Through grants totaling over US\$277 million and technical assistance to over 2,600 civil society organizations and individuals, we have taken action to conserve more than 1,000 species in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, and strengthened the management and protection of 51.6 million hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas. CEPF is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan and the World Bank. More information can be found at [www.cepf.net](http://www.cepf.net).



**Mercy Corps** is a global team of humanitarians, working together on the front lines of today's biggest crises to create a future of possibility, where everyone can prosper. Our mission is to alleviate suffering, poverty and oppression by helping people build secure, productive and just communities. Mercy Corps has been working in Kyrgyzstan since 1994 providing humanitarian assistance to people, communities and institutions across the country. For more than a decade, Mercy Corps has served as the implementing partner of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) McGovern-Dole (MGD) Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program. Since 2012, Mercy Corps has provided more than 3,000 metric tons of supplemental commodities (fortified flour, rice, peas, lentils and oil) to organize nutritious hot meals to over 150,000 children in kindergartens and primary schools across Kyrgyzstan. In 2021, Mercy Corps launched a new five-year MGD Program with US\$25 million funding aimed at (1) improving the literacy of school-age children and (2) changing social norms and behavior in health, nutrition, and dietary practices among primary grade students and their communities. More information can be found at [mercycorps.org](http://mercycorps.org).



**The World Bank** is an international organization dedicated to providing financing, advice and research to developing nations to aid their economic advancement. By giving loans, and offering advice and training in both the private and public sectors, the World Bank aims to eliminate poverty by helping people help themselves. Since the Kyrgyz Republic joined the World Bank in 1992, the Bank's financial assistance has amounted to over US\$2.1 billion. The World Bank support has helped the country to maintain macroeconomic stability, invest in strategic infrastructure, and improve access to social services. More information can be found at [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org).



UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency. Its mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled. UNFPA presence in the Kyrgyz Republic dates back to 1992, and it has assisted the country by supporting the preparation of the first national census, by delivering reproductive health commodities, and by building national capacity in integrated SRH and youth-friendly health services, in the development of policies in youth and gender equality areas, and on data collection and analysis. More information can be found at [www.unfpa.org](http://www.unfpa.org).



## LIFE IN KYRGYZSTAN STUDY



The Life in Kyrgyzstan (LiK) Study is a research-based, open access, multi-topic longitudinal survey of households and individuals in Kyrgyzstan. It tracks the same 3,000 households and 8,000 individuals over time in all seven Kyrgyz regions (oblasts) and the two cities of Bishkek and Osh. The data are representative nationally and at the regional level (East, West, North, South). The survey interviews all adult household members about household demographics, assets, expenditure, migration, employment, agricultural markets, shocks, social networks, subjective well-being, and many other topics. Some of these topics are addressed in each wave while other topics are only addressed in selected waves. The survey was first conducted in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2016, and 2019.

The LiK Study received funding from the Volkswagen Foundation for the first three waves (2010-2012) when it was hosted by the German Institute of Economic Research (DIW). In the period 2013-2015, Wave 4 was funded by DFID and IZA as a part of the Growth and Labour Market-Low Income Country (GLM-LIC) Programme. The consortium included the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) as the lead institution, UCA as the main Kyrgyz partner, and several research institutions from Asia, Europe and North America. Since then, the study has been hosted by the Leibniz Institute of Vegetable and Ornamental Crops (IGZ) for Waves 5 and 6 and has received funding from UN-FAO, IFPRI, DFID, IZA and, internally, from IGZ and UCA.

The 'Life in Kyrgyzstan' survey data is publicly available. The data can be used by any interested party for non-for-profit research, policy analysis and teaching purposes. The data for 2010-2013 and 2016 can be obtained from the International Data Service Center (IDSC) of the Institute for Labor Economics ([idsc.iza.org/lik](http://idsc.iza.org/lik)). The survey questionnaires and interviewer manuals can be downloaded on the project website at [www.lifeinkyrgyzstan.org](http://www.lifeinkyrgyzstan.org).

The LiK Study today is a global knowledge and research infrastructure, with panel dataset made available for public access. This has resulted in the wide use of the LiK Study for academic research. As of July 2022, 31 scientific academic articles using the LiK data were published in international peer-reviewed journals such as *Agricultural Finance Review*, *American Political Science Review*, *Demography*, *Demographic Research*, *Economic Journal*, *Economics of Transition*, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, *Journal of Development Studies*, *Problems of Post-Communism*, *Social Science & Medicine*, *World Bank Research Observer*, and *World Development*. The LiK data are used for research and teaching purposes in 28 countries by 103 academic, research and development institutions. The list of journal articles based on the LiK data is listed at the end of this brochure.

## PROGRAM OF THE CONFERENCE

**DAY 1, 10 October 2022**

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### **The Life in Kyrgyzstan Data Users Workshop**

**10 October 2022, 09:00 - 12:30, [University of Central Asia](#)**

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### **Online Session 0.1: Climate Change in Central Asia: from the Foundation in Physical Sciences to Local Scale Effects And Adaptation: Part One**

**10 October 2022, 19:00 - 20:30 ([Zoom](#))**

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**Moderator: Michael Brody** (George Mason University)

**Peter van Oevelen**, Michael Brody (both at International GEWEX Project, George Mason University): *A Proposed Central Asian Regional Hydroclimate Project to Support Sustainable Development Goals in the International Context*

**Erkin Isaev**, Maksim Kulikov, Roy C. Sidle (all three at UCA); Vitalii Zaginaev, Mariiash Ermanova, Dogdurbek Chontoev (all three at Kyrgyz National Academy of Science): *Reconstruction of Hydrometeorological Data Using Dendrochronology and Machine Learning Approaches to Bias-Correct Climate Models in Northern Tian Shan, Kyrgyzstan*

**Alexander Golub** (American University, Washington DC): *The Value of New Information - Remote Sensing to Improve Adaptation Planning and Investment*

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### **Online Session 0.2: Gender in Central Asia**

**10 October 2022, 19:00 - 20:30 ([Zoom](#))**

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**Moderator: Susan Steiner** (Leibniz University Hannover)

**Zauresh Atakhanova**, Peter Howie (both at Nazarbayev University): *Gender in Kazakhstan's Energy Sector*

**Aksana Ismailbekova** (Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient, ZMO): *Kinship, Women and Property in Central Asia*

**Manzura Jumaniyazova**, Janina Steinert (both at Technical University of Munich), Cara Ebert (RW Leibniz Institute for Economic Research): *The Role of Gender and Birth Order in Child Nutrition: Evidence from Kyrgyzstan*

**Charles Becker** (Duke University), Susan Steiner (Leibniz University of Hannover), **Lin Zhao** (Duke University): *Bride Abduction, Depression, and Labor Market Outcomes*

**DAY 2, 11 OCTOBER 2022**

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**WELCOME REMARKS**

**11 October 2022, 09:00 – 09:20 (Ballroom Karkyra)**

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**Christopher Gerry**

Dean of the Graduate School of Development  
University of Central Asia

**Nurgul Ukueva**

Vice President for Academic Affairs  
American University Central Asia

**Saida Ismailakhunova**

Senior Economist  
Poverty and Equity Global Practice  
World Bank

**Izzat Kurmangaliyev**

MEL Manager  
MercyCorps

**Baktybek Kainazarov**

National Programme Analyst on Youth and Population Dynamics  
UNFPA

**Tilman Brück**

Professor, Humboldt University Berlin  
Group Leader, Leibniz Institute of Vegetable and Ornamental Crops (IGZ)  
Director, ISDC - International Security and Development Center



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## PLENARY SESSION 1. Keynote Speech

11 October 2022, 09:20 - 10:30 (Karkyra)

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### Professor Alisher Aldashev

International School of Economics  
Kazakh-British Technical University, Kazakhstan



### *Economic Persistence Despite Adverse Policies*

This presentation is based on a study of the long-run persistence of relative economic well-being under adverse government policies using a combination of historical and contemporaneous data from Kyrgyzstan. After controlling for unobservable local effects, the economic well-being of Kyrgyz households in the 2010s correlates with the early twentieth-century average wealth of their tribes. Inequality at the tribe level in the 2010s correlates with wealth inequality in the early twentieth century. The likely channels of persistence are the intergenerational transmission of human capital, relative status, political power and cultural traits. Transmission of material wealth, differences in natural endowments or geographic sorting cannot explain persistence.

### Moderator

#### Professor Christopher J Gerry

Dean, Graduate School of Development  
University of Central Asia

**Bio:** Prof Alisher Aldashev is a research-active economist with experience in education, management, and consulting across various countries spanning Europe to Central Asia. He was Dean of the International School of Economics at the Kazakh-British Technical University (Kazakhstan). During his academic and research career, Dr. Aldashev has worked as Professor of Economics at the Kazakh-British Technical University and at Satbayev University. His areas of academic expertise are development and labour economics, quantitative methods and econometrics. Prof Aldashev has published in quality international peer-reviewed journals in economics, as well as book chapters. Prof Aldashev has received his Ph.D. degree in Economics from the University of Regensburg (Germany) and his Master's degree in Economics from KIMEP University (Kazakhstan).

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## **SESSION 1.2: Agrarian Change, Water Issues and Environmental Dynamics: New Evidence from Central Asia**

**11 October 2022, 11:00 - 12:30 (Ak-Say)**

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**Moderator: Janyl Ismailova (UCA)**

**Aslam Qadamov (UCA)**

*Climate Change Related Agriculture and Irrigation Water Challenges in a Small, Snow Fed Mountain Basin in Pamir, Tajikistan: Case Study from Porshinev*

**Altyn Kapalova (UCA)**

*Woman and Water: Access, Governance, and Labour*

**Asel Murzakulova (UCA)**

*Agrarian Change in the Migration Affected Mountainous Regions of Kyrgyzstan*

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## **SESSION 1.3 by UNFPA: Demography and Population Dynamics in Kyrgyzstan**

**11 October 2022, 11:00 - 12:30 (Karkyra)**

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**Moderator: Baktybek Kainazarov (UNFPA)**

**Elnura Kalybaeva, Azamat Dikambaev (both Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia)**

*Youth Wellbeing and Development Index*

**Svetlana Bashtovenko (Older People Resource Center), Alexander Sidorenko (European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research)**

*Active Ageing Policy of the Kyrgyz Republic*

**Asel Iusupova (Older People Resource Center), Evgeniya Karpovich (Center for Democratic Research)**

*Situation Analysis of Older People in the Kyrgyz Republic*

**Galina Chirkina (Alliance for Reproductive Health)**

*Assessment of the Sexuality Education in the Kyrgyz Republic*

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## **SESSION 1.4: Biting or Bitten Dragon? Tracing Chinese Capital in Kyrgyzstan**

**11 October 2022, 11:00 - 12:30 (Bosogo)**

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**Moderator: Przemyslaw Ozierski** (PIL Research Company, CASCADD)

**Elnura Omurkulova-Ozierska** (PIL Research Company, CASCADD)

*Imported or Indigenous? The Multifaceted Character of Corrosive Capital in Chinese Investment Projects*

**Gulnara Ibraeva** (PIL Research Company)

*Chinese Investments and Governance Challenges in the Kyrgyz Republic*

**Przemyslaw Ozierski** (PIL Research Company, CASCADD)

*Perception and Misperception of Foreign Private Security Companies in Kyrgyzstan. The case of Chinese PSCs*

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## **PARALLEL SESSIONS**

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### **SESSION 1.5: Agri-food Developments**

**11 October 2022, 13:30 - 15:00 (Ak-Say)**

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**Moderator: Kanat Tilekeyev** (UCA)

**Damir Esenaliev** (IGZ/ISDC), Golib Sanaev (IAMO)

*Agricultural Commercialization and Welfare in Kyrgyzstan*

**Nurbek Madmarov** (AUCA), Junus Ganiev, Damira Baigonushova (all Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University)

*Price and Income Elasticities of Food Products in Kyrgyzstan*

**Gulnara Djunushalieva** (UCA), Ramona Teuber (JLU)

*What's New on Research Agenda? A Bibliometric Review of New Trends in the Relationship Between Innovation and Food*

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**SESSION 1.6 Climate Change in Central Asia: from the Foundation in Physical Sciences to Local Scale Effects And Adaptation: Part Two**  
**11 October 2022, 13:30 - 15:00 (Karkyra)**

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**Moderator:** Maksim Kulikov (UCA)

**Florian Betz**, Magdalena Lauermann, Pauline Reese, Bernd Cyffka (Catholic University Eichstätt-Ingolstadt); Timo Schaffhauser, Markus Disse (Technical University of Munich); Kedar Mehta, Jakob Behringer, Wilfried Zörner (TH Ingolstadt); Siegmund Missall (University of Sustainable Development Eberswalde); Akylbek Chymyrov (KSUCTA); Dogdurbek Chontoev (National Academy of Science of the Kyrgyz Republic); Nadira Degembaeva, Kuban Akmatov, Ermek Baibagyshev (Naryn State University):

*Rivers beyond water resources: An interdisciplinary view on the impact of climate change and hydropower exploitation on the riparian ecosystems of the Naryn River in Kyrgyzstan*

**Maksim Kulikov** (UCA): *Vegetation Trend Analysis in Batken Oblast of Kyrgyzstan*

**Erkin Isaev**, Roy C. Sidle (UCA); Boobek Ajikeev, Urmatbek Shamyrganov (Ministry of Emergency Situation); Kenjebek-uulu Kalnur, Karimov Maisalbek (The Agency on Hydrometeorology): *Impact of Climate Change and COVID to Air Pollution in Bishkek*

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**SESSION 1.7: Kyrgyzstan Gender-based Violence Service Gap Analysis**

**11 October 2022, 13:30 - 15:00 (Bosogo)**

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**Moderator:** Gulnara Ibraeva (PIL Research Company)

**Gulnara Ibraeva** (PIL Research Company), Mehriyul Ablezova (PIL Research Company, AUCA): *The Gaps in Institutional Preventive Mechanisms*

**Eugeniya Krapivina, Indira Sautova** (PIL Research Company): *The Analysis of Criminal Legislation and Judicial Practice Towards Gender-based Violence*

**Asankojo Isaev** (AUCA): *Frame-analysis of GBV in Kyrgyzstan's Media (Russian and Kyrgyz Language Media Sources)*

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## PARALLEL SESSIONS

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### SESSION 1.8: Engaging Schools and Communities in Development: Cases of Nutrition and School Management Interventions

**11 October 2022, 16:00 - 17:30 (Ak-Say)**

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Moderator: **Anel Kulakhmetova** (UCA)

**Temirlan Jailobaev** (Empirica Research and Consultancy Institute), **Rakhat Ismanbaeva**, **Dilbara Kirbasheva**, **Marc-Antoine Adam** (all Aga-Khan Foundation), **Kanykey Jailobaeva** (Institute for Global Health and Development), **Gulsaadat Baialieva** (Empirica Research and Consultancy Institute)

*Engaging Communities for Better Schools: Case of Kyrgyzstan*

**Aida Abdylbaeva** (USAID): *Nutrition Status of Children and Women and Nutrition Interventions*

**Philipp Schröder** (ISDC): *Nutrition, Gender and Decision-Making: Insights from "Advancing Nutrition" Project by USAID in Kyrgyzstan*

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### SESSION 1.9: Informality in the Textile and Apparel Cluster in Kyrgyzstan: in the Search of the Formalization Routes

**11 October 2022, 16:00 - 17:30 (Karkyra)**

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Moderator: **Kanat Tilekeyev** (UCA)

**Baimat Niiazaliev** (UCA): *Informality in Kyrgyzstan and in the Textile and Apparel Cluster*

**Gulnara Djunushalieva** (UCA): *Business Models in the Garment Industry*

**Bakytbek Tokubek** (UCA): *Why Do Seamstresses Work Informally?*

**Kanat Tilekeyev** (UCA): *Policy Discussion and Recommendations on Improving Formalization in the Textile and Apparel Sector in Kyrgyzstan*



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**SESSION 1.10: Civic and Community Engagement for Development**  
**11 October 2022, 16:00 - 17:30 (Bosogo)**

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**Moderator: Kemel Toktomushev (UCA)**

**Altynai Maimekova** (World Food Program): *Social Contract for Poverty Reduction and Job Creation: Findings from the WFP Pilot Project*

**Marzhan Aikimbaeva** (UCA): *Do Women Have a Voice? Evidence of Gender Segmentation in Civic Engagement in the Kyrgyz Republic*

**Nuraiym Syrgak kzy, Sofiyan Ushirova** (Evidence Central Asia): *COVID-19 Impact on Volunteering in Kyrgyzstan*

**DAY 3, 12 OCTOBER 2022**

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**PLENARY SESSION 2. Keynote Speech**

**12 October 2022, 09:00 - 10:15 (Ballroom KARKYRA)**

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**Dr Katrina Kosec**

Senior Research Fellow, International Food Policy  
Research Institute (USA)  
Adjunct Professor, Johns Hopkins University (USA)



***The Effect of Income Shocks on Rural Livelihoods***

Economic disruptions, such as those caused by COVID-19 and the Ukraine-Russia War, have contributed to rising food, fertilizer, and input prices that significantly affect households' purchasing power. In this keynote address, Dr. Katrina Kosec will consider how different types of shocks affect households' livelihood strategies. She will first consider how price shocks in Kyrgyzstan have historically impacted labor supply decisions, migration, and health outcomes – with attention to how these impacts vary according to gender. Next, she draws on evidence from Pakistan on how floods and other weather shocks impact individuals' aspirations as well as migration outcomes. Together, these two case studies provide lessons relevant to the current economic reality in which increasingly frequent shocks are becoming the norm.

**Moderator: Tilman Brück**

Group Leader, Leibniz Institute of Vegetable and Ornamental Crops, Germany  
Professor, Humboldt-University of Berlin, Germany  
Director, ISDC - International Security and Development Center, Germany

**Bio:** Dr Kosec conducts research on the linkages between governance, fragility, gender, and poverty. One strand of work investigates the impacts of government policies and public sector incentives on poverty, women's empowerment, and individuals' attitudes and aspirations. A second considers the drivers of women's voice and influence beyond the household, considering the roles of policies, interventions led by NGO and civil society actors, climate change, and economic shocks. She has designed and carried out surveys and field experiments in Pakistan, India, Nepal, Tanzania, Mali, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Papua New Guinea. Her work has been published in journals including the *American Political Science Review*, the *Journal of Public Economics*, the *Journal of Development Economics*, *Nature Climate Change*, the *Journal of Health Economics*, *World Politics*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, and *World Development*. Dr Kosec received Ph.D. degree in Political Economics and M.A. degree in Economics from Stanford University (USA).

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## PARALLEL SESSIONS

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### SESSION 2.2 World Bank Session: Poverty and Gender in the Kyrgyz Republic: Trends and Policies

**12 October 2022, 10:45 - 12:30 (Ak-Say)**

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**Moderator:** Saida Ismailakhunova (World Bank)

**Saida Ismailakhunova** (World Bank): *Poverty and Vulnerability in the Kyrgyz Republic: Trends, Drivers and Challenges*

**Aibek Ashirov** (World Bank): *Gender Assessment for the Kyrgyz Republic*

**Aliya Ismailakhunova** (Academy of Sciences), Saida Ismailakhunova (World Bank): *Fiscal Incidence Analysis: Distributional Impact of Fiscal Policy*

**Gulnur Kerimkulova** (NBKR): *Pension Reform in the Kyrgyz Republic and Why It's Important for Poverty*

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### SESSION 2.3: Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resources: Session Two

**12 October 2022, 10:45 - 12:30 (Karkyra)**

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**Moderator:** Maksim Kulikov (UCA)

**Erkin Isaev**, Maksim Kulikov, Evgenii Shibkov, Roy C. Sidle (UCA)  
*Comparison of Sentinel-2 and UAV multispectral data for use in monitoring of wild fruit forest in mountainous Kyrgyzstan: an application from Jalal-Abad region*

**Maksim Kulikov**, Erkin Isaev, Evgenii Shibkov (UCA)  
*Identification of Individual Tree Species Using UAV Multispectral Data and Convolutional Neural Networks for High-resolution Mapping and Habitat Modelling in Walnut-fruit Forests of Jalal-Abad region*

**Azamat Azarov**, Maksim Kulikov, Roy C. Sidle (UCA); Zbynek Polesny, Vladimir Verner (Czech University of Life Sciences Prague); Dietrich Darr (Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences): *Analysis of Livelihood Strategies of Silvopastoral Households in Walnut-fruit Forests of Kyrgyzstan*

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## **SESSION 2.4: Places of Memory**

**12 October 2022, 10:45 - 12:30 (Bosogo)**

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**Moderator:** Gulzat Alagoz (Research Platform ESIMDE)

**Baktygul Midinova** (Osh Art Museum)

*Memory of the "Historical" Homeland*

**Gulzada Abdaliev**a (Kyrgyz State University after Arabaeva)

*Ürkün Memory Places*

**Talgat Djumashev** (SILK)

*Significance of the Toktogul Hydroelectric Power Station*

**Gulzat Alagoz** (Research Platform ESIMDE)

*The Policy of "Raskulachivanie" and Expulsion: a Case of Special Settlers from Kyrgyzstan to Ukraine during 1929-1933*

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## **PARALLEL SESSIONS**

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## **SESSION 2.5: Poverty and Household Consumption**

**12 October 2022, 13:30 - 15:00 (Ak-Say)**

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**Moderator:** Damir Esenaliev (IGZ, ISDC)

**Aigerim Kydyralieva** (National Bank KR)

*Chronic and Transitory Poverty in the Kyrgyz Republic*

**Kadyrbek Sultakeev** (Justus-Liebig Universität Gießen), Susan Steiner (Leibniz Universität Hannover)

*Herding and Status Seeking Behavior: Evidence from Conspicuous Consumption at Social Events in Kyrgyzstan*

**Valeriia Stashevskaya**, Gulnara Nurieva (AUCA)

*Determinants of Households' Poverty in Livestock Sector: Case of Kyrgyzstan (2010-2016)*

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**SESSION 2.6: Macroeconomic Developments in Kyrgyzstan**  
**12 October 2022, 13:30 - 15:00 (Bosogo)**

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**Moderator: Gulnur Kerimkulova (NBKR)**

**Ernek Ashyrov** (Ministry of Economy)

*Issues of Promoting the Principles of Green Economy in the Kyrgyz Republic*

**Cholpon Sharshembaeva** (NBKR)

*The Role of the Bank Lending Channel in the Transmission of Monetary Policy in the Kyrgyz Republic*

**Salima Bekbolotova** (UCA-DAAD Scholar), Nodir Djanibekov (IAMO)

*Estimating the Impact of Regional Economic Integration on Trade of Small Economies: the Bayesian Synthetic Control Method Applied on Armenia and Kyrgyzstan*

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**SESSION 2.7 Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resources:  
Session Two**

**12 October 2022, 13:30 - 15:00 (Karkyra)**

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**Moderator: Maksim Kulikov (UCA)**

**Koustubh Sharma** (Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program),  
Kubanychbek Jumabai Uulu (Snow Leopard Foundation in Kyrgyzstan)

*Connecting the Dots for Snow Leopard Conservation in Kyrgyzstan*

**Mariia Cherniavskaia**, Ormon Sultangaziev (Fauna & Flora International)

*Building Capacity to Protect Besh Aral Meadows, Marmots and Megafauna in Kyrgyzstan*

**Zairbek Kubanychbekov**, Maksim Koshkin (ILBIRS Foundation)

*Survey of Wild Animals Using Photo Traps in Kyrgyzstan*



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## PARALLEL SESSIONS

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### SESSION 2.8: Informal Employment and Income Effects of Migration 12 October 2022, 16:00 - 17:30 (Ak-Say)

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**Moderator: Kadyrbek Sultakeev** (AUCA)

**Razia Abdieva** (Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University)  
*Social Security and Informal Employment in Kyrgyzstan*

**Alberica Camerani** (Dublin City University)  
*Interaction Between Gender and Informality in Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in Kyrgyzstan: How Informal Rules Enable and Constrain Female Entrepreneurship*

**Jodar Joldoshov** (CEU)  
*Migration, Remittances and Income Inequality in Kyrgyzstan: Evidence from the Life in Kyrgyzstan Survey*

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### SESSION 2.9: Impacts of Development Interventions and Shocks 12 October 2022, 16:00 - 17:30 (Karkyra)

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**Moderator: Baimat Niiazaliev** (UCA)

**Kanat Tilekeyev** (UCA), **Dilbara Kirbasheva** (AKDN)  
*Impact Evaluation Study of Rehabilitation of Irrigation Canals in Southern Kyrgyzstan*

**Dilbara Kirbasheva** (AKDN)  
*Livestock Breed Improvement to Increase Farmers' Incomes and Prevent Pasture Degradation: Shifting from Livestock Quantity to Quality*

**Matthew Raulerson** (University of London)  
*Climate Vulnerability Assessment of Transhumant Pastoralists of Temir-Kanat*

**Damira Omuralieva**, **Asan uuly K** (Kyrgyz National Agrarian University)  
*Economic Assessment of Ecosystem Services of the Naryn State Natural Reserve*

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## **SESSION 2.10 Planning and Investment in Infrastructure in Central Asia: Assessment of Sustainability**

**12 October 2022, 16:00 - 17:30 (Bosogo)**

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**Moderator: Madina Junussova (UCA)**

**Christopher Gerry (UCA), Peline Atamer (OECD)**

*Welcome speech from the SIPA IPPA and OECD teams*

**Peline Atamer (OECD)**

*Sustainable Infrastructure for Low Carbon Development in Central Asia and the Caucasus*

**Aislu Taisarinova (Kazakh-German University)**

*The Impact of Infrastructure Projects on the Sustainability of the Transport and Logistics Business in Central Asia*

**Roman Vakulchuk (Norsk Utenrikspolitisk Institutt, NUPI)**

*A Void in Central Asia Research: Climate Change*

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## **PARALLEL ONLINE SESSIONS**

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### **ONLINE SESSION 2.11: Agriculture and Infrastructure**

**12 October 2022, 19:00 - 20:30 (Zoom)**

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**Moderator: Tilman Brück (Humboldt University, IZG, ISDC)**

**Abdusame Tadjiev (IAMO), Nodir Djanibekov (IAMO):** *Does Adoption of Zero Tillage Save or Intensify Production Costs? Evidence From Kyrgyzstan*

**Michael Bödecker (HU):** *Weather Shock Experience and Risks Preferences of Livestock Keepers: Evidence from Kyrgyzstan*

**Michelle Brock, Elcin Akcura, Leon Bost (EBRD):** *Household Response to Improvements in Water Infrastructure: Evidence from Peri-urban Kyrgyz Republic*

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**ONLINE SESSION 2.12: Employment, Migration, Education**  
**12 October 2022, 19:00 - 20:30 (Zoom)**

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**Moderator: Kathryn Anderson** (Vanderbilt University)

**Eugenia Pesci** (University of Helsinki, Finland): *Employment Support Policies in the Kyrgyz Republic: Challenges and Opportunities*

**Tanika Chakraborty** (IZA, GLO, IIM Calcutta), **Manish Pandey** (University of Winnipeg): *Temporary International Migration, Shocks and Informal Finance: Analysis using panel data*

**Wolfgang Stojetz** (ISDC), **Oscar Diaz Botia** (ISDC), **Damir Esenaliev** (IGZ, ISDC), **Tilman Bruck** (HU, IGZ, ISDC): *(Un-)Learning during a Pandemic: Evidence from Kyrgyzstan*

## JOURNAL ARTICLES BASED ON THE *LIFE IN KYRGYZSTAN* STUDY

(Sorted by year and alphabetically)

Freudenreich, H., Aladysheva, A., & Brück, T. (2022). Weather shocks across seasons and child health: Evidence from a panel study in the Kyrgyz Republic. *World Development*, 155, 105801.

Guirkinger, C., Aldashev, G., Aldashev, A., & Fodor, M. (2022). Economic Persistence Despite Adverse Policies: Evidence from Kyrgyzstan. *The Economic Journal*, 132(641): 258–272.

Hennicke, M., & Brück, T. (2022). Ethnic inequality and forced displacement. *PLOS ONE*, 17(4), e0266448.

Kosec, K., Akramov, K., Mirkasimov, B., Song, J., & Zhao, H. (2022). Aspirations and women's empowerment: Evidence from Kyrgyzstan. *Economics of Transition and Institutional Change*, 30(1), 101–134.

Arabsheibani, G. R., Kudebayeva, A., & Mussurov, A. (2021). A note on bride kidnapping and labour supply behaviour of Kyrgyz women. *Economic Systems*, 45(4), 100885.

Azhgaliyeva, D., Mishra, R., Karymshakov, K., Kerimray, A., & Kapsalyamova, Z. (2021). What determines coal consumption for residential heating in Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic? *Australasian Journal of Environmental Management*, 1–23.

Bazarkulova, D., & Compton, J. (2021). Marriage traditions and investment in education: The case of bride kidnapping. *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 49(1), 147–163.

Estes, K.W. (2021) Whose Ties Still Bind? Ethnic Domination, Informal Social Networks, and Public Goods Provision in Kyrgyzstan, *Problems of Post-Communism*, online access.

Gassmann, F., Martorano, B., & Waidler, J. (2021). How Social Assistance Affects Subjective Wellbeing: Lessons from Kyrgyzstan. *The Journal of Development Studies*, 58(4): 827-847.

Kapsalyamova, Z., Mishra, R., Kerimray, A., Karymshakov, K., & Azhgaliyeva, D. (2021). Why energy access is not enough for choosing clean cooking fuels? Evidence from the multinomial logit model. *Journal of Environmental Management*, 290, 112539.

Kuhn, L., & Bobojonov, I. (2021). The role of risk rationing in rural credit demand and uptake: Lessons from Kyrgyzstan. *Agricultural Finance Review*, online access.

Sulaimanova, B. (2021). Returns to education: Empirical evidence from Kyrgyzstan. *JOURNAL OF APPLIED MICROECONOMETRICS*, 1(2), 73–84.

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Esenaliev, D., & Ferguson, N. T. N. (2019). The Impact of Job Quality on Wellbeing: Evidence from Kyrgyzstan. *Social Indicators Research*, 144(1), 337–378.

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- Paulone, S., & Ivlevs, A. (2019). Emigration and alcohol consumption among migrant household members staying behind: Evidence from Kyrgyzstan. *Social Science & Medicine*, 221, 40–48.
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## NOTES

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