







The WeBa+ program has helped Tajikistan advance its green transition by supporting the regional power trade, air quality heat management, and carbon sequestration in forested lands. These efforts have strengthened institutional capacity, informed larger World Bank investments, and laid the groundwork for more resilient, low-carbon economic development.

The Western Balkans Plus (WeBa+) Program under the World Bank's Climate Support Facility (CSF) is exclusively supported by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF) and has the objective to advance climate and green growth priorities in the Western Balkans and other countries in Europe and Central Asia. Since its inception in December 2020, the WeBa+ Program supported 41 grants representing a total commitment of US\$ 8.8M. By being linked to World Bank lending, Program funding supports critical phases of operational readiness including upstream analysis, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation. Austria's contribution to the WeBa+ Program has helped inform US\$ 791M in World Bank financing in the region.¹

This Country Brief summarizes ongoing activities under the WeBa+ Program aimed at supporting climate and green growth priorities in Tajikistan.

WeBa+ Program Support to Tajikistan at a Glance

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Number of grants (active and closed)

US\$350K

Funding (active and closed)

US\$350K

Funding (active)

The information in this brief is captured as of end 2024.

| Grant Title | Approval Date | Status | Amount | Linked World Bank Lending Operation |
|--|---------------|--------|--------------|---|
| Resilient Landscapes | Sep 2024 | Active | US\$ 150K | Tajikistan Resilient Landscapes Restoration Project (RESILAND CA+ Program) |
| Dushanbe Air Quality and GHG Emissions Reduction | Nov 2023 | Active | US\$ 150K | <u>Dushanbe Sustainable Urban</u> <u>Development Project (pipeline)</u> |
| Central Asia Electricity Market | Oct 2023 | Active | US\$ 50K² | Central Asia Regional Electricity Market Interconnectivity and Trade Project (pipeline) |

Resilient Landscapes (US\$ 150K, active)

Dushanbe Air Quality and GHG Emissions Reduction (US\$ 150K, active)

Central Asia Electricity Market (US\$ 50K, active)

GRANT SUMMARIES

The grant aims to enhance the effectiveness and credibility of Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) for carbon sequestration in forest lands with a view to improving transparency and increasing access to financing opportunities for degraded land restoration. It will deliver a standardized MRV framework (methodological and institutional) for forest lands aligned with international guidelines and supported by capacity building and advisory services.

This grant aims to enhance understanding of health risks attributed to air pollution and inform the design of investments and policy actions. It is supporting an air pollution emissions inventory consisting of maps and databases of major pollutants, including from waste. This will inform the strategic plan to improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Dushanbe. The grant is also supporting an air quality roadmap to inform solid waste investments and related policy actions, including enhancement of Tajikistan's Nationally Determined Contribution commitments related to solid waste management.

This grant is helping advance decarbonization and energy security in Central Asia by enhancing regional power trade across Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. It is supporting the design of the first electricity market platform for Central Asia and related technical and regulatory guidelines. This includes developing the market platform, drafting the technical and regulatory framework, training market participants, coordinating and monitoring market operation, and conducting performance evaluations. The linked operation is expected to result in 1,000 MW of enabled renewable energy capacity across the four countries supported.

The grant totals US\$ 200K and is split among Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.