

With funding from the:



Regional Conference on Future-Oriented Research and Innovations: How Research Drives Sustainable Development and Transformation in Central Asia

Day 1, 17 November 2026

Alem.AI – Plenary Hall

9:30	Registration and Coffee Break
10:00	Welcome Moderated by: Dr. Peter Liebelt, MLU/ CASIB
	- Ministry of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Development of the Republic of Kazakhstan & Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Kazakhstan - Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space - Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Astana - Astana Hub - Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg
10:30	Session 1: Building a Sustainable Future, presentations Moderated by: Dr. Peter Liebelt, MLU/ CASIB
	- Innovating Agroforestry Value Chains, Project SUFACHAIN, funded by BMFTR, coordinated by Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, Prof. Dr. Dietrich Darr, Hochschule Weihenstephan-Triesdorf (HSWT) - Building a Joint Innovation Platform for Fruit Genetic Resource Conservation and Climate-Resilient Crop Breeding in Central Asia, project KLINU, funded by BMFTR, Dr. Thomas Wöhner, Julius Kühn-Institut (JKI) - “Digitalization of Plant-Based Value Chains” (DiP project), funded by BMFTR, Prof. Dr. Christopher Conrad, MLU - Integrating Research Innovation and Capacity Building for a Soil Science Excellence Cluster in Central Asia and Mongolia, Project ExSOIL, funded by BMFTR, Dr. Olga Shibistova, Leibniz University Hannover, - Blue-Green Water Infrastructure for Climate-Resilient Water Management, University of Applied Science Koblenz, funded by DFG, Dr. Aliya Assubayeva, Nazarbayev University

	- Advancing Research and Innovation for Sustainable Mobility in Uzbekistan, RISMUZ project, funded by BMFTR, Dr. Elbek Khodjanliyazov, Urgench State University
11:30	Q&A
	All Speaker
12:00	Lunch
13:00	Excursion Alem Ai by Astana Hub
14:00	Session 2: Innovation-Driven Transformation Moderated by: Assiya Sagymbay/ Raushan Amanzholova, MLU/ CASIB
	- Transformation Processes in Healthcare Systems: The Role of Digitalization and Participatory Research, Centre of Excellence for Participatory Research and Transformation in Healthcare, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Dr. Franziska Fink, KPTG, MLU - UzFarm Barometer project, a scientific research initiative investigating farmers' decision-making and the adoption of innovative agricultural practices in Uzbekistan, funded by BMFTR, Dr. Nilufar Rashitova, Westminster International University in Tashkent - Driving Economic Transformation: How German Chamber of Commerce in Central Asia Fosters a Green and Circular Economy Through its Eco-Platform, AHK-Central Asia - Transforming Central Asian Cities: Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Resilience , project NETSTAN, coordinated by RWTH Aachen University, funded by BMFTR, Prof. Dr. Mehdi Bagheri, Dr. Parya Broomandi, Nazarbayev University - Green Hydrogen: Catalyst for Energy Transformation, GIZ-H2Diplo office Astana (tbc) - Supporting Energy Transition for Security and Climate: Insights from the EU for a Green Turkmenistan project, Dr. Caroline Milow, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
15:00	Q&A
15:30	Coffee-Break
16:00	Session 3: Partners for Progress: Challenges and Opportunities in International Research Alliances (Panel discussion) Moderated by: Dr. Aliya Sembayeva, Astana Hub
17:00	Closing Remarks

Workshop: Transforming Scientific Knowledge into Economic Value - Participatory Approaches for Regional Development

Day 2, 18 November 2026

Alem.AI – Workshop space

09:30	Practical experiences on knowledge transfer from science to business, moderated by Centre of Excellence for Participatory Research and Transformation in Healthcare, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, KPTG
10:30	Flip chart – Session with Coffee Break
	SWOT Analysis based on previous group presentations
11:30	Presentation and Discussion and Development of Recommendations
12:30	Closing Remarks

DFG Networking Session: Science Café and Information Seminar with the German Research Foundation

Day 2, 18 November 2026

Alem.AI – Workshop space

14:00	Science Café
	- Welcome coffee with opportunity for individual consultations between researchers and funders
14:30-16:00	Information Seminar
	- Presentation of the DFG's activities and funding opportunities in the region - Lightning talks of research projects - Q&A with best practice exchange