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Tashkent has become the world capital of sustainability

On April 24-25, 2025, the Festival of Life Sciences and the Meeting of Young Leaders of Sustainable Development were held in Tashkent. The event was attended by over a thousand people, including 90 young enthusiasts of issues related to sustainable development from 57 countries.

"- For two days, Tashkent became the world capital of sustainable development" said Ambassador Sabine Machl, the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan, during the vibrant debate with young people from all over the world. They discussed hot issues of the contemporary world and young people's expectations regarding their future and the necessary conditions for life and long-term development.

The event was organized by the International Agricultural University (IAU) together with International Institute of Meta Professionals and numerous partners. The event was opened by Alisher Shukurov, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Uzbekistan. Dr. Munira Aminova, IAU Rector, speaking about the goals of the event, recalled the statement: "- We don't inherit the Earth from our ancestors. We borrow it from our children". Representatives of international organizations: UN FAO and UNDP spoke about ongoing activities and their ambitious projects. The representative of the European Union, Mark Van Uytvank, emphasized the importance of good practices and support from European countries.

The aim of the science festival is to strengthen the role of universities in the development of the whole society. The event included seminars, debates, exhibitions and award ceremonies. The Science Festival program included four main discussions on Green Economy, challenges for higher education, the role of women in Uzbekistan and in the world, and scenarios for the future.

There was also room for integration and joint fun for young people, and a special attraction was the performance of the popular DJ Macarella. Over 100 certificates were also presented confirming scholarships for studies at the International Agriculture University (IAU) educating in English together with the Royal Agricultural University of Great Britain.

The Life Sciences Festival took place at IAU for the third time. The initiator of this event, Dr. Slawomir Wroblewski from Poland, emphasizes the innovative nature of this form of contact between universities and the social environment: "- Science festivals are popular events in many countries around the world, the aim of which is to engage and connect universities with the general public, including schools, media and companies. They are becoming increasingly popular around the world, some last several weeks and are visited by up to 200 thousand people!".

More information about the IAU: https://iau.uz