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Green careers guide

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My name is Marat Kozhikov. I am a director of ART Ecology LLP, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan.

As a child, I always cared for the environment, thus I chose Ecology as a major during my Bachelor's degree. I started my career in a local company in 2008, where I was busy with addressing minor issues of different plants and organizations. However, later I realized that I want to receive more in-depth knowledge and skills in environmental protection and management in order to make a real impact. This inspired me to apply for a master's degree from Lancaster University via Bolashak program available for young people in Kazakhstan. Through my education in Lancaster, I have gained excellent insights into the world of environmental management practices, expertise and understanding in minimization of the anthropogenic influence consequences, as a bonus I also strengthened my analytical and quantitative skills. During the last six months of my MA programme, I worked as a graduate consultant within both research and work placements, the only real-time challenges that allow students to analyse in-depth the specific environmental needs and business structure of the firms. These placements have enabled me to gain practical experience in the field of environmental protection and have enhanced my communication and teamwork skills.

I graduated from Lancaster University in September 2010 with a Master's degree in Environmental Management and Consultancy. This educational background packed with modern concepts of both project and risk management provided me with exceptional experiences that benefited me to build strong relationships with clients and others. This fact boosted my career

when I was back in Kazakhstan. I established my own company and we pioneered greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions verification projects within newly established Kazakh GHG trading system. Governments across the globe understood that the best way to address the climate change is to drastically reduce GHG emissions. Kazakhstan launched its GHG emissions trading scheme in 2013, this was a unique experience as Kazakhstan was the first country amongst the Commonwealth of Independent States that started to control the level of greenhouse gas emissions via establishing trading system.

Since then I strive to contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gases, conduction of qualitative verification, consulting of local companies and government in a calculation, minimization and management of greenhouse gas emissions. We offer independent verification of GHG/carbon emissions for both voluntary and mandatory reporting schemes. A GHG verification is a third-party audit of a facility's or corporation's GHG emissions. A program or regulatory body relies on these audits when accepting a reporter's emissions. After completing hundreds of GHG verifications over the last 7 years, I believe that the company I launched makes a great contribution in the system of environmental regulation of home country and in the fight against global warming.

