



Federal Foreign Office



Implemented by:



# A Source of Cooperation - Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia

## Challenges

Central Asia is a fascinating region of the world – a huge landmass situated between the world's largest inland water body, the Caspian Sea, and the mountain ranges of the Tien Shan, Pamirs and the Hindukush. The region is shaped by two big rivers – the Amudarya (2540 km) and the Syrdarya (3019 km), which form the Aral Sea Basin – home to over 60 million people. In 2008, the German Federal Foreign Office initiated the "Berlin Process" – an offer to the Central Asian partner countries (in support of the EU-Central Asia Strategy for a New Partnership) to support regional water management by introducing an integrated approach and to prevent conflict. The GIZ implemented programme works on regional, national and basin level.

Duration: 2009 – March 2020. Regional budget: 37 million Euro.

## Services and Modes of Delivery

### Supporting institutional development

The five Central Asian states are supported in analyzing the reform needs of the overall institutional and legal setting for transboundary water cooperation, with a focus on the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (EC IFAS and its sub-organisations).

### Strengthening transboundary river basin management

Capacity building for improved data collection and management including reporting to the national level in order to strengthen informed decision making. Development of basin-specific scenarios of climate change and its impacts to improve adaptation measures and disaster prevention. Integrating all stakeholders in basin planning by providing for public participation, establishment of Basin Councils as consultative bodies for water management authorities. Development of basin planning methodology for several Central Asian states. Establishment of a transboundary coordination and cooperation mechanism.

### Pilot projects in selected basins, including:

Rehabilitation of headworks for better control of water distribution and reduction of water losses. Rehabilitation of hydrological monitoring posts and equipment for reliable data on water flow and intake. Construction of mini hydropower stations and cleaning of drainage canals to improve melioration.

## Selected Results and Impacts



### 14 Mio Euro

were brought additionally to the regional water sector through implementation of 2 EU grants and 1 EU delegation agreement.



### 37 pilot projects

implemented in the Central Asian region to showcase IWRM and its benefits:



**2.74** million m<sup>3</sup> per year and assuring greater water security for over 10,000 ha and economic sustainability for around 30,000 people living in the Isfara River Basin.



**136** households (about 1000 people) got improved access to electricity in Tajikistan.



**16,000** people working in agriculture benefitting from reliable irrigation water supply after rehabilitation of Bad Bad Canal in Samarkand Province.



Triggering a unified approach to basin planning across the region by training more than **450** relevant people in the water sector.



**1st** River Basin Management Plan developed in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.