

# National policy framework for water governance and integrated water resources management

## Improving water supply and the efficiency of water resources management in Uzbekistan

### Challenges

Uzbekistan lies within the centre of Central Asia, the only country that has borders with all Central Asian neighbors, including Afghanistan. With nearly 34 million inhabitants, Uzbekistan has the biggest population in the region. Irrigated agriculture plays an important role in the economy and culture of the country; however only 16% of the surface water is generated in Uzbekistan. EU-GIZ Joint Water Governance Programme in partnership with the Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan improves efficiency of water resources management in 3 levels: on national, basin and farm levels.

Duration: January 2016 – March 2020. Budget: 12 million Euro.

### Water Governance: Legislation

Analyzing and identifying main needs for improvement of Law on Water. Updating the general assessment and overview of all water related laws due the re-structuring of the water sector in 2018. Formulating the proposals for introducing amendments and additions to the Law on Water. Sharing best EU practice on regulatory impact assessment, sanctions and other topics concerning water law.

### Capacity building

Development of an IWRM curriculum for master course at the Public Administration Academy under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. ToT on water management by two professors of the University for Applied Sciences in Koblenz/Germany. Elaboration of a curriculum on basin planning for the Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers, ToT courses and equipment of two laboratories with modern teaching equipment to simulate water flows and electrical wiring for pumping stations. Technical equipment and training for maintaining water infrastructure for units for the Ministry of Water Resources.

### Experience exchange

Study tours for different target groups were organized: water practitioners visited Germany, Austria, Italy and Spain to study dam safety issues and rational use of water in agricultural irrigation. Law makers and legal specialists visited France, Spain and the Netherlands to study water legislation. Organized specialized meeting of the National Water Cadastre in Vienna where experts drafted ToT for database prototypes based on EU best practice.

### Data management: Water Cadastre

Procurement of necessary hardware and software for the Uzbek State Water Cadastre. Provision of training on GIS map preparation as a basis for operating the new system. Installation and programming of the prototype database for the water cadaster involving European experts.

### Basin planning & pilot sites

Implementing IWRM and elaborating basin management plans in two pilot basins strengthens the work of basin irrigation system administrations. Water efficiency improvement is showcased on six pilot sites where different types of orchards are equipped with modern irrigation technology for capacity building of local water managers and farmers. Technical assistance with heavy machinery (12 trucks, 6 truck with crane manipulators, 6 excavators, 6 concrete mixers, 6 pumps and 6 generators) for Basin Irrigation System Administrations (BISAs). Support efficient maintenance of irrigation and drainage canals.

### Selected Results and Impacts



Created a National Working group representing **19** state agencies.



Created **6** pilot sites on the basis of six BISAs: Created **6** orchards with modern water & energy saving technologies in total **60ha** and planted over **7 000** fruit trees.



**1st** information system in Central Asia: water & water infrastructure cadastres established in Uzbekistan.

### Procurement:



Water Cadastre: **4** servers, **47** ArcGIS computers, **4** plotters and **4** printer/scanner combinations were purchased and installed.



For BISAs: **12** trucks, **6** trucks with crane manipulators, **6** excavators, **6** concrete mixers, **792** mini-gauging stations purchased and handed over.



Overall **210** events (from them **40** seminar-trainings & **12** study tours to EU countries) were conducted with over **3500** participants (**20%** women).