

ENHANCE REGIONAL COOPERATION ON SHARED WATER RESOURCES

The Smart Waters project serves as a platform for linking countries within Central Asia and Central Asian countries with Afghanistan by creating a network of like-minded water management specialists and policy makers across multiple levels and countries in the region.

GENERAL INFORMATION

At present, the countries of Central Asia and the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan face a number of issues in the field of water resources regulation and management that need to be addressed, such as the personnel training and retraining system, improving the efficiency of irrigation and drainage systems, optimizing and improving water legislation, strengthening cooperation between stakeholders, as well as involving local communities in decision-making processes.

PROJECT GOAL

Strengthening of cooperation in water issues, introduction of modern approaches to integrated water resources management (IWRM) by building the capacity of specialists in water resources management, sharing experiences and networking of water professionals in Central Asia.

PROJECT DELIVERABLES

- Water managers in Central Asia and Afghanistan understand and apply sustainable IWRM on policy and applied levels.
- Networking, collaboration and trust among future water managers across Central Asia and Afghanistan have increased.
- Application of the Integrated Water Resources Management principles and its introduction on basin level.
- Basin planning principles in selected basins have improved.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

CAPACITY BUILDING AND ACADEMIC EXCHANGE

This component is aimed at enhancing water sector expert capacity in CA countries and Afghanistan and training the new generation of water professionals

NETWORKING AND COOPERATION

This component is aimed at expanding linkages and dialogue among water management organizations, water professionals and academic communities in CA countries and Afghanistan

■ IWRM PROMOTION AND SUPPORT

This component is aimed at promoting wider acceptance and use of key IWRM principles at all levels of water management in CA countries and Afghanistan

BASIN PLANNING

This component is aimed at mainstreaming long-term basin-level planning system in CA countries and Afghanistan, using the basin planning approach, specifically developed and adapted to local conditions, as well as providing technical assistance in accordance with the needs of the basins

