

INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR SAVING THE ARAL SEA
INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR WATER COORDINATION
OF CENTRAL ASIA



BULLETIN

ICWC

of Central Asia

February 2026

№ 2 (115)

Scientific-Information Center of Interstate Commission for Water Coordination
of Central Asia

Interstate Commission for Water Coordina- tion of Central Asia	BULLETIN № 2 (115)	February 2026
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Documents of the ICWC 92nd Meeting

Minutes of the 92nd Meeting of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination (ICWC) of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Republic of Uzbekistan

20 February 2026

Dushanbe

Chairman:

Daler Djuma Shofakir Minister of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan

ICWC members:

Nurjan M. Nurjigitov Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation, Republic of Kazakhstan

Durdi M. Gendjiyev Chairman of the State Committee for Water Management, Turkmenistan and Khakim of Lebap velayat

Shavkat R. Khamraev Minister of Water Management, Republic of Uzbekistan

ICWC Executive Bodies:

Umar A. Nazarov Head, ICWC Secretariat

Makhmud Ya. Makhramov Head, BWO Amu Darya

Odil A. Kholkhujaev Head, BWO Syr Darya

Dinara R. Ziganshina Director, Scientific-Information Center (SIC) of ICWC

Alisher M. Nazariy Deputy Director, SIC ICWC

Farkhodjon N. Djabborov Senior Officer, ICWC Secretariat

Kimyo A. Akhmadbekova Senior Officer, ICWC Secretariat

Invited:

Republic of Kazakhstan

Valikhan A. Turekhanov Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Kazakhstan to Tajikistan

Seyilbek S. Nurymbetov Chairman of the Committee for Water Regulation, Protection, and Use, Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation

Aset A. Beristenov Advisor to the Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation

Erbolat M. Pernekhan Head, Department for Water Cooperation on Central Asia

Mukhtar G. Suyunchaliev Counselor at the Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the Republic of Tajikistan

Nurlan J. Shuak Chief Expert, Department for Water Cooperation on Central Asia

Khasen S. Karlybaev Assistant to the Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation

Kyrgyz Republic

Ulan Ch. Abdykerimov Counselor at the Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic in the Republic of Tajikistan

Republic of Tajikistan

Daler A. Abdurazokzoda Head of Central Water and Energy Policy Administration, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources

Rustam A. Abdulloev	Head of Water-Energy Policy, Science and Technology Development Department, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan
Idris I. Izatzoda	Deputy Head of Water-Energy, Science and Technology Development Department, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan
Shafoat G. Nazifov	Head of Basin Department of Land Reclamation and Irrigation, Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
Bakhrom A. Gafurzoda	Head of Secretariat of the National Commission for Irrigation and Drainage, Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan

Turkmenistan

Yanov D. Pashyev	Head of Water Use Department, State Committee for Water Management
Saparmurat K. Charyev	Head, Digital Technology and Information Security Department, State Committee for Water Management
Serdar O. Durdyev	Director General, PA “Dashoguzsuwhojalyk” of the State Committee for Water Management
Guvanch N. Kurbanov	Director General, PA “Lebapsuwhojalyk” of the State Committee for Water Management

Uzbekistan

Jahongir B. Abdurazzakov	Head, Transboundary Water Resource Department, Ministry of Water Management
Botir T. Alimov	Head, Amu-Surkhan Basin Irrigation System Au-

thority, Ministry of Water Management

Otabek N. Khazratov

Head, Department for International Relations and
World Trade Organization, Ministry of Water
Management

Agenda

1. The use of water withdrawal limits/quotas and operation regimes of reservoirs in the Syr Darya and Amu Darya River basins during the non-growing season 2025-2026
2. Progress on the fulfillment of tasks arising from the summits of the Heads of IFAS Founder States.
3. On amendments and additions to the Regulations of the ICWC Secretariat
4. Agenda and venue of the regular 93rd ICWC meeting

Decision on the first item:

1. Take into consideration the reports by BWO Amu Darya and BWO Syr Darya on the use of water withdrawal limits and the operation regimes of reservoirs in the Syr Darya and Amu Darya River basins during the non-growing season 2025-2026.
2. BWO Syr Darya shall provide data on water withdrawals in the “Bakhri Tojik–Shardara” section.

Decision on the second item:

1. Acknowledge the work carried out ICWC members and executive bodies in implementing the proposals and initiatives put forward at the Summits of the Heads of IFAS Founder States in Turkmenbashi (2018) and Dushanbe (2023).
2. ICWC members and executive bodies shall provide updated information on implementation of these proposals and initiatives arising from the IFAS summits at the next ICWC meetings.
3. Assist ICWC members in organizing the International Water Forum –

“Tashkent Water Week – 2026” in Tashkent on March 25–26, 2026; the ICWC Board meeting in Astana on March 30, 2026; the Regional Environmental Summit in Astana on April 22–24 2026; the meeting of the Council of Heads of IFAS Founder States in Astana on April 22, 2026; and the Regional Forum as part of the High-Level International Conference on the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development” 2018–2028, in Dushanbe on May 25, 2026.

Decision on the third item:

1. Approve the revised Regulations of the Secretariat of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia as set forth in the Annex to this Protocol.
2. Declare the Regulations on the Permanent Body (Secretariat) of the ICWC approved by the Decision of the ICWC meeting held on October 10, 1993 (Nukus) to be no longer in force.
3. Instruct the ICWC Secretariat to ensure that internal documents and the organizational layout are brought into compliance with the approved Regulations.
4. The Secretariat shall take appropriate measures to strengthen its human and technical resources.

Decision on the fourth item:

1. Hold the regular 93rd ICWC meeting in the Republic of Uzbekistan during the second half of April 2026.
2. The date of the regular ICWC meeting shall be agreed in working order.
3. Propose the following agenda for the 93rd ICWC meeting:
 - 1) Results of the use of water withdrawal limits/quotas and operation regimes of reservoirs in the Syr Darya and Amu Darya River basins during the non-growing season 2025-2026.
 - 2) Approval of country water withdrawal limits and projected operation regime of reservoir cascades in the Syr Darya and Amu Darya River basins for the growing season 2026.

3) Progress on the fulfillment of tasks arising from the summits of the Heads of IFAS Founder States.

4) Additional matters.

5) Agenda and venue of the regular 94th ICWC meeting

Republic of Kazakhstan

N. M. Nurjigitov

Kyrgyz Republic

Republic of Tajikistan

D. Sh. Djum'a

Turkmenistan

D. M. Gendjiev

Republic of Uzbekistan

Sh. R. Khamraev

*Annex
to the Protocol of the 92nd
ICWC Meeting
dated 20 February 2026*

Regulations of the Secretariat of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia

1. General Provisions

1. The Secretariat of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (hereinafter referred to as the “Secretariat”), established by a decision of the ICWC on 10 October 1993, is the permanent executive and administrative body of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (ICWC).

2. The Secretariat is responsible for coordinating the activities of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia.

3. In its activities, the Secretariat shall be guided by the Agreement between the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan on the joint management, use, and protection of water resources from transboundary sources, the Regulations of ICWC, given Regulations, and the decisions of ICWC.

4. The Secretariat is a legal entity and has the status of an international organization.

5. Staff members of the Secretariat (excluding technical and support personnel) shall be considered international civil servants.

6. The Secretariat is located in Dushanbe, Republic of Tajikistan.

2. Main Areas of Activity and Functions

7. The core areas of the Secretariat’s activity shall include:

– Developing, in cooperation with member states and ICWC executive bodies, proposals and draft documents to advance water cooperation among member states, and submitting them, in accordance with established procedures, for consideration by the ICWC within its mandate;

- Supporting member states in designing and implementing programs and projects on the sustainable water use and protection;
- Formulating proposals on the mutually beneficial use and protection of transboundary water resources;
- Facilitating joint research and development in water management;
- Engaging with international organizations and associations, and participating in international events;
- Enhancing public awareness of the ICWC's activities through the media.

8. The Secretariat shall perform the following functions:

- Drafting the agendas for ICWC meetings;
- Monitoring and analyzing the implementation of ICWC decisions and informing its members thereof;
- Coordinating with other executive bodies of ICWC;
- Organizing the activities of ICWC;
- Preparing analytical, reference, and other materials required for the consideration of issues within the ICWC's competence;
- Circulating, in accordance with established procedures, the provisional agenda and draft documents for upcoming meetings to the ICWC member states, as well as proposals received from member states and executive bodies regarding additional agenda items;
- Ensuring timely transmission of documents adopted within the framework of the ICWC to its member states;
- Developing and maintaining information and analytical databases on cooperation under umbrella of ICWC;
- Managing documentation received by ICWC and maintaining current archives;
- Preparing and keeping the minutes of ICWC meetings;
- Keeping financial and administrative activities necessary for the performance of the Secretariat's functions.

3. Composition of the Secretariat

9. The Secretariat shall consist of the Director, two senior officers, two officers, and a chief accountant. Support staff may also be employed to ensure smooth operations of the Secretariat.

10. The candidate for the position of Director shall be nominated by the ICWC member state in whose territory the Secretariat is located and shall be approved at an ICWC meeting.

11. The Director of the Secretariat shall:

- Oversee the Secretariat's activities and bear responsible for the tasks assigned;
- Organize the preparation and conduct of ICWC meetings;
- Submit draft documents to ICWC for consideration;
- Inform ICWC member states of the progress made in implementing decisions adopted under umbrella of ICWC;
- Maintain and develop contacts with international organizations at the level of their working (executive) bodies within the scope of his/her authority;
- Facilitate coordination among the executive bodies of ICWC;
- Issue directives on matters within his/her competence;
- Bring information relevant to the activities and development of the ICWC to the attention of ICWC members and the heads of other ICWC executive bodies;
- Submit relevant proposals for consideration;
- Engage external experts and consultants, as necessary, to perform some tasks;
- Perform other functions assigned by ICWC.

12. The remaining staff members shall be appointed by the Director through a competitive selection process, in accordance with the established procedures of the host country.

13. The Director shall conclude employment agreements (contracts) with the staff members of the Secretariat.

14. The procedures for the conclusion, amendment, extension, and termination of employment agreements (contracts) shall be governed by the legislation of the host country.

4. Final Provisions

15. The activities of the Secretariat shall be financed from the budget of the ICWC member state in whose territory the Secretariat is located.

16. To implement its functions, the Secretariat may additionally attract funding from development partners, international organizations, and donors.

17. The Secretariat shall report on its activities to ICWC. All documentation related to the Secretariat's activities under umbrella ICWC shall be prepared in Russian.

18. These Regulations shall enter into force upon approval.

19. Any amendments to these Regulations, as well as the termination of the Secretariat's activities, shall become effective upon the adoption of a relevant decision by ICWC.

20. The liquidation or reorganization of the Secretariat shall be carried out in accordance with the legislation of the host country.

21. These Regulations were adopted by a decision of the ICWC at its meeting held on 20 February 2026 in Dushanbe, in five originals in Russian.

Results of the use of water withdrawal limits/quotas and the operation regimes of reservoirs in the Amu Darya and Syr Darya River basin during the non-growing season 2025-2026¹

(as of October 1, 2025- February 10, 2026)

Amu Darya

Actual water availability in the Amu Darya River basin at nominal Kerki g/s (upstream of water intake to Garagumdarya) was 66.8% of the norm during the non-growing season 2025-2026. This was calculated by non-regulated natural flow of the Vaksh River including flow regulation by the Nurek reservoir. During the last non-growing season, this indicator was 101.8 % of the norm as of this date.

Consequently, as of February 10, 2026, the Tuyamuyun reservoir had accumulated only 4349 mcm, compared to 4959 mcm on February 10, 2025. Taking into account good water availability and sufficient accumulated volume in the reservoir, irrigation during the non-growing season started on 15 December 2024. However, in non-growing season 2025-2026, water management situation in the lower reaches of the Amu Darya River was worse compared to the same period in 2024-2025, so leaching irrigation in the non-growing season started on 10 February 2026.

The use of approved water withdrawal limits/quotas by states for the reporting non-growing season is as follows:

Under the current water-management situation, 89.1% of the cumulative water withdrawal limit was used in the basin: with the cumulative limit of 9109.3 mcm, 8113.3 mcm was actually used.

- Republic of Tajikistan: actually used 2073.4 mcm or 100.0 % of the cumulative limit;
- Turkmenistan: actually used 3439.5 mcm or 96.0 % of the cumulative limit
- Republic of Uzbekistan: actually used 2600.4 mcm or 75.3 % of the cumulative limit;

¹ Information on the first item of the 92nd ICWC meeting's agenda

Water-user state	Cumulative, mcm as of 11.02.2026		
	Limit mcm	Actual mcm	%%
Republic of Tajikistan	2073.9	2073.4	100.0
Turkmenistan	3581.3	3439.5	96.0
Republic of Uzbekistan	3454.1	2600,4	75.3
Total	9109.3	8113.3	89.1

In the non-growing season 2025-2026, 85.6 % of the cumulative water limit/quota was used downstream of the nominal Kerki gauging station (upstream of Garagumdarya), including:

- Turkmenistan: actually used 3439.5 mcm or 96.0 % of the cumulative limit/quota.
- Republic of Uzbekistan: actually used 2426.2 mcm or 74.2 % of the cumulative limit/quota.

Water-user state	Cumulative, mcm by 11.02.2026.		
	Limit mcm	Actual mcm	%%
Downstream of nominal Kerki g/s	6852.6	5865.7	85.6
Turkmenistan	3581.3	3439.5	96.0
Republic of Uzbekistan	3271.3	2426.2	74.2

The actual use of the approved water limits was as follows by river reach:

Upper reaches – 2247.6 mcm or 99.6 % of the cumulative water limit, including

Tajikistan – 2073.4 mcm or 100.0 % of the cumulative limit,

Uzbekistan –174.2 mcm or 95.3 % of the cumulative limit.

Middle reaches – used 5108.4 mcm or 93.3 % of the cumulative water limit, including:

- Turkmenistan – 3083.7 mcm or 97.6 % of the cumulative limit
- Uzbekistan – 2024.8 mcm or 87.4 % of the cumulative limit

Lower reaches – 757.3 mcm or 55.1% of cumulative water limit, including

- Turkmenistan – 355.9 mcm or 84.6 % of cumulative water limit,
- Uzbekistan – 401.4 mcm or 42.1% of cumulative water limit.

Water-user state	Cumulative total, mcm by February 11, 2026		
	Limit mcm	Actual mcm	%%
Upper reaches	2256.6	2247.6	99.6
Republic of Tajikistan	2073.9	2073.4	100.0
Republic of Uzbekistan	182.8	174.2	95.3
Middle reaches	5477.5	5108.4	93.3
Turkmenistan	3160.5	3083.7	97.6
Republic of Uzbekistan	2317.0	2024.8	87.4
Lower reaches	1375.1	757.3	55.1
Turkmenistan	- 420.8	355.9	84.6
Republic of Uzbekistan	954.4	401.4	42.1

It was planned to deliver 1400 mcm to the river delta and the Aral Sea for 4 months in the non-growing season. The actual water supply was 935 mcm or 66.8 % of the plan.

Forecast operation regimes of the Nurek and Tuyamuyun reservoirs were drafted based on average water availability.

The inflow to the Nurek reservoir during the reporting period of the non-growing season was projected at 2955.1 mcm; the actual inflow was 2854.6 mcm, or 96.6%. The planned water releases from the reservoir were 5495.1 mcm; the actual water releases amounted to 5084.3 mcm, or 92.5% of the plan.

Water volume in the reservoir was planned to be 7565 mcm for the reporting period of the non-growing season 2025-2026; the actual volume amounted to 7910 mcm or 104.6 % of the plan.

The inflow to the Tuyamuyun reservoir during the reporting period of the non-growing season was projected at 3999.4 mcm; the actual inflow was 3024.7 mcm, or 76.0% of expected. The planned water releases from the reservoir were 2634.6 mcm; the actual water releases amounted to 2278.2 mcm, or 86.5 % of the plan.

Water volume in the reservoir was planned to be 4967 mcm for the reporting period of the non-growing season 2025-2026; the actual volume amounted to 4349 mcm or 87.6 % of the plan.

Item		Unit	Nurek reservoir	Tuyamuyun reservoir
Volume: beginning of the season		mcm	10505	3602
Inflow to the reservoir	Forecast	mcm	2955.1	3999.4
	Actual	mcm	2854.6	3024.7
		%%	96.6	76.0
Water release from the reservoir	Forecast	mcm	5495.1	2634.6
	Actual	mcm	5084.3	2278.2
		%%	92.5	86.5
Volume: end of the season	Forecast	mcm	7565	4967
	Actual	mcm	7910	4349
		%%	104.6	87.6

**Analysis of the use of water withdrawal limits/quotas in the Amu Darya
River basin, non-growing season 2025-2026, mcm**

Item	Water withdrawal limits for the non-growing season 2025-2026, mcm	Cumulative total, mcm as of February 11, 2026		
		Limit	Actual	%%
Upper Darya Division (upper reaches) including:	3384.7	2256.7	2247.6	99.6
Tajikistan	3014.7	2073.9	2073.4	100.0
Uzbekistan	370.0	182.8	174.2	95.3
Water withdrawal from the Amu Darya at nominal Kerki g/s, including:	12480	6852.6	5865.7	85.6
Turkmenistan	6500.0	3581.3	3439.5	96.0
Uzbekistan	5980.0	3271.3	2426.2	74.2
Middle Darya Division, including	8345	5477.5	5108.4	93.3
Turkmenistan	5100	3160.5	3083.7	97.6
Uzbekistan	3245	2317.0	2024.8	87.4
Lower reaches, including:	4135	1375.13	757.3	55.1
Turkmenistan	1400.0	420,8	355.9	84.6
Uzbekistan	2735.0	954.4	401.4	42.1
In addition, sanitary flow, total:	800	559.82	495.3	88.5
Including: Karakalpakstan	5001	349.2	304.8	87.3
Dashoguz province	150	119.241	119.7	100.4
Khorezm province	1501	91.321	70.9	77.6
Total in the basin, including:	15864.7	9109.3	8113.3	89.11
Tajikistan	3014.7	2073.9	2073.4	100.0
Turkmenistan	6500.0	3581.3	3439.5	96.0
Uzbekistan	6350.0	3454.1	2600.4	75.3

Water supply to the river delta and the Aral Sea during the non-growing season 2025-2026, mcm

Item	October	November	December	January	February	March	Actual water supply from 01.10.25 to 31.01.26
From the Amu Darya at Samanbay g/s	93	100	157	126			476
Total water discharge from Dustlik and Suenli canal system	51	78	54	46			229
CDN	86	56	47	41			230
TOTAL:	230	234	258	213			935
Cumulative	230	464	722	935			

Actual and forecast operation regime of the Nurek and Tuyamuyun reservoirs (October 2025 - March 2026)

Nurek reservoir	Unit	Actual				Forecast		Total
		October	November	December	January	February	March	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	10505	10482	9927	9231	8216	6934	10505
Inflow to the reservoir	m3/s	322	239	239	208	181	302	
	mcm	863	620	641	557	438	808	3927
Water releases from the reservoir	m3/s	307	424	465	550	635	495	
	mcm	823	1099	1246	1473	1537	1325	7501
Volume: end of the season	mcm	10482	9927	9231	8216	6934	6226	6226
Accumulation (+), drawdown (-)	mcm	-23	-555	-696	-1015	-1282	-708	-4279

Tuyamuyun reservoir	Unit	Actual				Forecast		Total
		October	November	December	January	February	March	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	3602	3655	3776	3881	4217	4132	3602
Inflow to the reservoir	m3/s	396	188	183	269	352	419	
	mcm	1062	487	491	722	851	1121	4734
Water releases from the reservoir	m3/s	377	141	144	144	387	688	
	mcm	1009	366	386	386	936	1844	4926
Volume: end of the season	mcm	3655	3776	3881	4217	4132	3410	3410
Accumulation (+), drawdown (-)	mcm	53	120	105	336	-85	-722	-192

Syr Darya River Basin

I. Forecast of inflow

On September 26, 2025, UzHydromet provided forecast for the non-growing season 2025–2026.

The information on projected operation regime of the Toktogul reservoir was provided by the Coordination Dispatch Center (CDC) “Energy” on October 17, 2025.

The projected operation regime of the Charvak reservoir was received from “National Dispatch Center” under the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and agreed with the Uzbek Ministry of Water Management and JSC “UzbekHydroenergy”.

The projected operation regime of the Andijan reservoir was received from the Ministry of Water Management of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The projected operation regime of the Shardara reservoir was received from the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Based on the projected data, inflow to upper reservoirs was expected to be as follows:

- Toktogul reservoir – 98%;
- Andijan reservoir – 95%;
- Charvak reservoir – 75% of the norm.

Total inflow from tributaries was expected to be 71% of norm. Overall, water availability was expected at the level of 78% of the norm in the Syr Darya River basin.

The projected operation schedule of the Naryn-Syr Darya reservoir cascade for the non-growing season was taken into consideration at the 91st ICWC meeting and country water withdrawal limits/quotas for the Syr Darya River basin were approved.

The actual water-management situation from October 1, 2025 to February 10, 2026 is characterized as follows:

II. Total inflow (Table 1)

The total inflow (water availability) across the Syr Darya River basin in the non-growing season:

Norm – 11 782 mcm

UzHydromet's forecast – 9170 mcm or 78% of the norm.

Actual inflow – 10 255 mcm, which is 1085 mcm more or 112% of the forecast (87% of the norm)

III. Inflow to upper reservoirs (Table 1)

The norm of inflow to upper reservoirs of the Naryn-Syr Darya cascade is 3930 mcm.

The forecast inflow was 3566 mcm or 91% of the norm.

The actual inflow to upper reservoirs was 3591mcm, which is 25 mcm more or 101% of the forecast (91% of the norm).

Inflow to the Toktogul reservoir:

- Norm – 2225 mcm;
- Forecast – 2172 mcm;

Actual inflow was 2175 mcm, which is at the forecast level (98% of the norm).

Inflow to the Andijan reservoir:

- Norm – 679 mcm;
- Forecast – 624 mcm;

The actual inflow was 592 mcm, which is 32 mcm less or 95% of the forecast (87% of the norm).

Inflow to the Charvak reservoir:

- Norm – 1026 mcm;
- Forecast – 770 mcm;

The actual volume received was 824 mcm, which is 54 mcm more or 107% of the forecast (80% of the norm).

IV. Lateral inflow (Table 1)

The lateral inflow in the Syr Darya River basin, from the Toktogul reservoir to the Shardara reservoir is as follows:

Norm – 7.852 bcm

UzHydromet's forecast – 5604 mcm or 71% of the norm.

Actual inflow: 6664 mcm, which is 1060 mcm more or 119% of the forecast (*85% of the norm*).

Table 1

Item	Non-growing season, mcm															
	October 1, 2025 – February 10, 2026								October 1, 2024 – February 10, 2025							
	norm	fore- cast	fore- cast/n orm (%)	actual	Actual/ fore- cast (%)	Differ- ence actual minus fore- cast	actu- al/no rm (%)	Differ- ence actual minus norm	norm	fore- cast	forecast /norm (%)	ac- tual	actu- al/fore cast (%)	Differ- ence actual minus fore- cast	actu- al/no rm (%)	
Inflow to upper reservoirs																
Toktogul	2225	2172	98	2175	100	3	98	-50		2225	2271	102	2795	123	524	126
Andijan	679	624	92	592	95	-32	87	-87		679	569	84	601	106	32	89
Charvak	1026	770	75	824	107	54	80	-202		1026	962	94	1180	123	218	115
Total	3930	3566	91	3591	101	25	91	-339		3930	3802	97	4576	120	774	116
Lateral inflow																
Toktogul – Uchkurgan	282	276	98	243	88	-33	86	-38		282	259	92	261	101	2	93
Andijan – Uchtepe	1826	1247	68	1179	94	-68	65	-647		1826	1474	81	1631	111	157	89
Uchkurgan, Uchtepe – Bakhri Tojik	3133	2349	75	2996	128	647	96	-136		3133	3021	96	3085	102	64	98
Bakhri Tojik - Shardara	2012	1277	63	1730	135	453	86	-282		2012	1916	95	2307	120	391	115

Item	Non-growing season, mcm															
	October 1, 2025 – February 10, 2026								October 1, 2024 – February 10, 2025							
	norm	fore- cast	fore- cast/n orm (%)	actual	Actual/ fore- cast (%)	Differ- ence actual minus fore- cast	actu- al/no rm (%)	Differ- ence actual minus norm	norm	fore- cast	forecast /norm (%)	ac- tual	actu- al/fore cast (%)	Differ- ence actual minus fore- cast	actu- al/no rm (%)	
Gazalkent- Chinaz (excluding Ugam)	599	455	76	515	113	60	86	-84	599	566	94	541	96	-25	90	
Total	7852	5604	71	6664	119	1060	85	-1188	7852	7236	92	7825	108	589	100	
Grand total (total inflow)	11782	9170	78	10255	112	1085	87	-1527	11782	11038	94	12401	112	1363	105	

Table 2

Item	Non-growing season, mcm October 1, 2025 – February 10, 2026				Non-growing season, mcm October 1, 2024 – February 10, 2025			
	Forecast	Actual	Actual/ Forecast (%)	Difference (actual "-" forecast)	Forecast	Actual	Actual/Forecast (%)	Difference (actual "-" forecast)
Inflow to run-of-the-river reservoirs, noted at the 91st ICWC meeting								
Inflow to the Bakhri Tojik reservoir	7473	7719	103	246	8395	9493	113	1098
Inflow to the Shardara reservoir (<i>UzHydromet</i>)	6389	6607	103	218	7666	10510	137	2844
Inflow to the Shardara reservoir (<i>KazHydromet</i>)	6389	6154	96	-235	7666	9847	128	2181
Forecast inflow to the Shardara reservoir according to BWO Syr Darya calculation								
Inflow to the Shardara reservoir (<i>UzHydromet</i>)	6152	6607	107	455	7666	10510	137	2844
Inflow to the Shardara reservoir (<i>KazHydromet</i>)	6152	6154	100	2	7666	9847	128	2181
Water supply to the Aral Sea								
Water supply to the Aral Sea	791	254	32	-538	1026	1135	111	109

V. Inflow to run-of-the river reservoirs and water supply to the Aral Sea (Table 2)

According to the projected schedule, inflow to the Bakhri Tojik reservoir was to be 7473 mcm from October 1, 2025 to February 10, 2026.

The actual inflow to the reservoir amounted to 7719 mcm, which is 246 mcm more or 103% of the projected schedule.

According to the projected schedule, the inflow to the Shardara reservoir was expected to be 6389 mcm (by BWO Syr Darya calculation - 6152 mcm).

In fact, 6607 mcm flowed into the reservoir according to UzHydromet's data (Chinaz g/s-Syr Darya + Bozsu g/s + Keles g/s).

According to RSE "KazHydromet" (Kokbulak + Keles gauging stations), 6154 mcm flowed into the reservoir.

According to the projected schedule, the inflow to the Aral Sea and the Aral Sea region was expected to be 791 mcm, actual inflow to the Karateren g/s was 254 mcm.

VI. Water releases from reservoirs (Table 3)

According to the projected operation schedule for the Naryn-Syr Darya reservoir cascade, 739 mcm of water were scheduled for discharge during the non- growing season.

Actual releases totaled 15 536 mcm, which is by 203 mcm less or 99% of the forecast.

Water releases from reservoirs were as follows:

Toktogul reservoir: 5240 mcm - plan, 5746 mcm - actual water releases;

Andijan reservoir: 404 mcm- plan, 354 mcm – actual water releases;

Charvak reservoir: 1467 mcm - plan, 1325 mcm – actual water releases;

Bakhri Tojik reservoir: 5687 mcm - plan, 5916 mcm – actual water releases;

Shardara reservoir: 2941 mcm - plan, 2195 mcm – actual water releases.

Table 3

Reservoir	Water releases, mcm October 1, 2025 – February 10, 2026				Water releases, mcm October 1, 2024 – February 10, 2025			
	Operation schedule NSR	Actual	Difference (actual "_" forecast)	Actual/ Forecast %	Operation schedule NSRC	Actual	Difference (actual "_" forecast)	Actual/ forecast %
Upper reservoirs								
Toktogul	5240	5746	506	110	5831	6385	554	109
Andijan	404	354	-50	88	515	355	-160	69
Charvak (discharge from Gazalkent HPP)	1467	1325	-142	90	1979	2028	49	102
TOTAL:	7111	7425	314	104	8325	8768	443	105
Run-of-the-river reservoirs								
Bakhri Tojik	5687	5916	229	104	6988	8472	1484	121
Shardara	2941	2195	-746	75	4726	4880	154	103
TOTAL:	8628	8111	-517	94	11714	13352	1638	114
GRAND TOTAL:	15739	15536	-203	99	20039	22120	2081	110

VII. Water storage in reservoirs (Table 4)

The actual water storage in reservoirs of the Naryn-Syr Darya reservoir cascade was 15 521 mcm at the beginning of the non-growing season (by October 1, 2025)

As of February 11, 2026, the water storage was to be 17 236 mcm according to the forecast.

In fact, on that date the actual water storage was 16 774 mcm, which is 462 mcm less than the forecast.

Water storage was 13 538 mcm in the upper reservoirs at the beginning of the non-growing season (as of October 1, 2025)

According to the forecast, the water storage in the upper reservoirs by February 11, 2026 was expected to be 9985 mcm. In fact, 9506 mcm of water were accumulated, which is 479 mcm less than the forecast.

The water accumulation by reservoir was as follows:

Toktogul reservoir – forecast: 8307 mcm, actual: 7742 mcm, which is 565 mcm less than the forecast;

Andijan reservoir – forecast 1012 mcm, actual 1026 mcm which is 14 mcm more than the forecast;

Charvak reservoir – forecast 666 mcm, actual 738 mcm which is 72 mcm more than the forecast;

Water storage in the run-of-the -river reservoirs by the end of the non-growing season (as of October 1, 2025) was 1983 mcm.

Water volume in the run-of-the-river reservoirs was forecasted to be 7251 mcm (as of February 11, 2026), while actual storage was 7268 mcm, which is 17 mcm more than the forecast.

Water volume by reservoir:

Bakhri Tojik reservoir – forecast: 3408 mcm, actual: 2859 mcm, which is 549 mcm less than the forecast schedule;

Shardara reservoir – forecast: 3843 mcm, actual: 4409 mcm, which is 566 mcm more than the forecast.

Table 4

Reservoir	Water volume in reservoirs, mcm					
	Actual October 1, 2025	Forecast February 11, 2026	Actual February 11, 2026	Difference (actual "-" forecast)	Actual February 11, 2025	Difference (actual 2026 "-" actual 2025)
Upper reservoirs						
Toktogul	11374	8307	7742	-565	9398	-1656
Andijan	792	1012	1026	14	1216	-190
Charvak	1372	666	738	72	933	-195
Total:	13538	9985	9506	-479	11547	-2041
Run-of-the-river reservoirs						
Bakhri Tojik	1554	3408	2859	-549	3271	-412
Shardara	429	3843	4409	566	4467	-58
Total:	1983	7251	7268	17	7738	-470
Grand Total:	15521	17236	16774	-462	19285	-2511

VIII. Water supply to countries (Table 5).

According to the approved limits and submitted requests from water users and based on water availability, water was delivered to user countries in the following amounts from October 1, 2025 to February 10, 2026:

Water supply for the last period of non-growing season:

Republic of Kazakhstan: limit - 262 mcm, actual – 138 mcm;

Kyrgyz Republic: limit - 31 mcm, actual – 28 mcm;

Republic of Tajikistan: limit- 173 mcm, actual – 35 mcm;

Republic of Uzbekistan: limit- 2167 mcm, actual – 1954 mcm.

The actual total water withdrawal by water user state amounted to 2155 mcm, given the water withdrawal limit of 2633 mcm.

Table 5

Water-user state	Water withdrawal, mcm October 1, 2025 – February 10, 2026		
	Limit	Actual	%
Republic of Kazakhstan (Dustlik canal)	262	138	53
Kyrgyz Republic	31	28	89
Republic of Tajikistan	173	35	20
Republic of Uzbekistan	2167	1954	90
Total	2633	2155	82

Table 6

**Projected operation schedule of the Naryn – Syr Darya reservoir cascade
non-growing season 2025-2026 (ICWC -91)**

		October	November	December	January	February	March	Total, mcm
Toktogul reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir	m3/s	237	202	168	159	160	172	2882
	mcm	635	524	450	426	387	461	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	11374	11532	11045	9867	8662	7668	
end of the season	mcm	11532	11045	9867	8662	7668	7481	
Water releases from the reservoir	m3/s	178	390	608	609	571	242	6775
	mcm	477	1011	1628	1630	1381	648	
Bakhri Tojik reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir	m3/s	343	598	851	779	744	369	9621
(Akdjar g/s)	mcm	918	1550	2280	2086	1799	988	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	1554	2093	2875	3283	3404	3424	
end of the season	mcm	2093	2875	3283	3404	3424	3407	
Water releases from the reservoir	m3/s	131	300	710	750	750	380	7871
	mcm	351	778	1902	2009	1814	1018	
Shardara reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir	m3/s	142	450	750	800	800	700	9508
(Chinaz-Syr g/s+Bozsu g/s+Keles g/s)	mcm	380	1166	2009	2143	1935	1875	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	429	823	1292	2460	3507	4448	
end of the season	mcm	823	1292	2460	3507	4448	5225	
Water releases from the reservoir	m3/s	27	250	300	400	400	400	

		October	November	December	January	February	March	Total, mcm
	mcm	72	648	804	1071	968	1071	4634
Water supply to the Aral Sea	m3/s	15	60	90	100	100	100	1214
	mcm	40	156	241	268	242	268	
Charvak reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir	m3/s	82	73	62	55	55	81	1072
	mcm	219	189	166	149	133	216	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	1372	1277	1176	971	727	580	
	mcm	1277	1176	971	727	580	515	
Water releases from reservoir (Discharge from Gazalkent HPP)	m3/s	114	112	139	146	116	105	1920
	mcm	306	289	371	392	280	281	
Andijan reservoir								
Inflow to the reservoir	m3/s	55	67	53	45	47	70	884
	mcm	146	172	143	121	113	188	
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	792	782	848	919	988	1054	
	mcm	782	848	919	988	1054	1101	
Water releases from the reservoir	m3/s	58	41	27	20	20	53	576
	mcm	156	107	72	52	47	141	

Note:

Inflow to the Shardara reservoir, as proposed by the Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation of the Republic of Kazakhstan, is expected to be 9508 mcm.

Inflow to the Shardara reservoir, according to calculations by BWO Syr Darya made on the basis of the received projected operation regimes of the upper reservoirs and forecast data on lateral inflow from UzHydromet, is expected at 8314 mcm.

Table 7

Comparative table of the forecast operation regime of the Naryn-Syr Darya reservoir cascade with actual data, October 1, 2025 – February 10, 2026

		October		November		December		January		February 1 st ten days		Total, mcm		Differ- ence Actual minus fore- cast
		fore- cast	actu- al	fore- cast	actu- al	fore- cast	actu- al	fore- cast	ac- tual	fore- cast	ac- tual	fore- cast	ac- tual	
Toktogul reservoir														
Inflow to the reservoir	m3/s	237	243	202	194	168	174	159	152	160	173	2172	2175	3
	mcm	635	651	524	503	450	466	426	406	138	150			
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	11374	11374	11532	11224	11045	10577	9867	9475	8662	8117	8307	7742	
	mcm	11532	11224	11045	10577	9867	9475	8662	8117	7742				
Water releases from the reservoir	m3/c	178	288	390	436	608	597	609	642	571	612	5240	5746	506
	m3/s	477	771	1011	1129	1628	1598	1630	1719	493	529			
Bakhri Tojik reservoir														
Inflow to the reservoir (Akdjar g/s)	m3/s	343	347	598	537	851	935	779	817	739	817	7473	7719	246
	mcm	918	928	1550	1391	2280	2505	2086	2188	639	706			
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	1554	1554	2093	2066	2875	2598	3283	2422	3404	2747	3408	2859	
	mcm	2093	2066	2875	2598	3283	2422	3404	2747	2859				

		October		November		December		January		February 1 st ten days		Total, mcm		Differ- ence Actual minus fore- cast
		fore- cast	actu- al	fore- cast	actu- al	fore- cast	actu- al	fore- cast	ac- tual	fore- cast	ac- tual	fore- cast	ac- tual	
Water releases from the reservoir	m3/s	131	123	300	327	710	871	750	647	750	780			
	mcm	351	328	778	847	1902	2334	2009	1734	648	674	5687	5916	229
Shardara reservoir														
Inflow to the reservoir (Chinaz g/s-Syr Dar- ya+Bozsu g/s+Keles g/s)	m3/s	142	149	450	232	750	1028	800	796	800	836			
	mcm	380	399	1166	601	2009	2754	2143	2131	691	722	6389	6607	218
Inflow to the reservoir (Kokbulak g/s+Keles g/s)	m3/s	142	142	450	222	750	921	800	749	800	838			
	mcm	380	380	1166	576	2009	2468	2143	2007	691	724	6389	6154	-235
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	429	429	823	834	1292	1322	2460	3108	3507	4012			
	mcm	823	834	1292	1322	2460	3108	3507	4012	3843	4409			
Water releases from the reservoir	m3/s	27	27	250	44	300	260	400	394	400	300			
	mcm	72	72	648	114	804	696	1071	1054	346	259	2941	2195	-746
Water supply to the Aral Sea	m3/s	15	13	60	11	90	9	100	43	100	59			
	mcm	40	34	156	30	241	24	268	115	86	51	791	254	-538
Charvak reservoir														

		October		November		December		January		February 1 st ten days		Total, mcm		Differ- ence Actual minus fore- cast
		fore- cast	actu- al	fore- cast	actu- al	fore- cast	actu- al	fore- cast	ac- tual	fore- cast	ac- tual	fore- cast	ac- tual	
Inflow to the reservoir	m3/s	82	81	73	71	62	70	55	67	54	66	770	824	54
	mcm	219	217	189	184	166	187	149	179	47	57			
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	1372	1372	1277	1256	1176	1117	971	942	727	790	770	824	54
	mcm	1277	1256	1176	1117	971	942	727	790	666	738			
Water release from the reservoir (Discharge from the Gazalkent HPP)	m3/s	114	118	112	110	139	126	146	108	125	114	1467	1325	-142
	mcm	306	315	289	286	371	336	392	290	108	99			
Andijan reservoir														
Inflow to the reservoir	m3/s	55	45	67	42	53	67	45	54	48	46	624	592	-32
	mcm	146	119	172	109	143	180	121	144	41	39			
Volume: beginning of the season	mcm	792	792	782	748	848	718	919	875	988	995	624	592	-32
	mcm	782	748	848	718	919	875	988	995	1012	1026			
Water releases from the reservoir	m3/s	58	60	41	53	27	8	20	9	20	9	404	354	-50
	mcm	156	162	107	138	72	22	52	24	17	8			

Note:

According to UzHydromet data, the actual inflow to the Shardara reservoir was 6607 mcm.

According to KazHydromet data, the actual inflow to the Shardara reservoir was 6154 mcm.

On the Fulfillment of the Tasks Put Forward at the Summits of the Heads of IFAS Founder-States²

(November 13, 2025 – February 16, 2026)

General Information

At the Summits of the Council of the Heads of IFAS Founder States held in Turkmenbashi on August 24, 2018 and in Dushanbe on September 15, 2023, the Heads of State put forward a series of proposals and initiatives addressing key water, environmental, energy, and socio-economic challenges. The progress made on their implementation is regularly reviewed and discussed during meetings of ICWC³.

The protocol of the 91st ICWC meeting reads as follows:

“1. To acknowledge the effective work of water management agencies of Central Asian countries and the executive bodies of ICWC in fulfilling the proposals and initiatives put forward at the meetings of the Heads of IFAS Founder States in Turkmenbashi (2018) and Dushanbe (2023).

2. ICWC Members and executive bodies shall inform on progress made on these proposals and initiatives at subsequent ICWC meetings.”

Brief information on the work of the countries and executive bodies in fulfilling the tasks set out by the summit decisions is provided for the period from November 13, 2025 to February 16, 2026 below.

1. Institutional and Legal Improvement of IFAS, Strengthening Its Capacity and International Standing

The Executive Committee of IFAS (EC IFAS) in Kazakhstan continues coordinating efforts aimed at the institutional and legal improvement of IFAS. Consultations are ongoing to reach consensus on possible changes to the institutional structure of IFAS, its name, and the permanent location of its executive body. The 15th meeting of the Working Group (WG) is scheduled to take place on 25-26 February 2026.

² Information on the second item of the 92nd ICWC meeting's agenda

³ Since the 77th meeting of ICWC (November 5-6, 2019)

Information on progress in this area was presented at a regular meeting of the IFAS Board (October 10, Astana). The meeting adopted the following resolution:

“1. To take note of the information provided by EC IFAS on the activities of the Working Group on the institutional and legal improvement of IFAS.

2. EC IFAS, together with ICWC, ICSD, and the agencies of the IFAS Founder States, shall take measures to accelerate the process.”

2. Projects and Programs under ASBP–4 (2020-2030)

Under the chairmanship of Kazakhstan, IFAS continues working on implementation and systematic monitoring of ASBP–4. Information on the implementation of projects aligned with the priority areas of ASBP–4 is regularly provided by countries and implementing agencies at the request of EC IFAS.

According to information presented by EC IFAS at the Board meeting (October 10, Astana), a total of 42 projects, with a combined value of USD114.2 million and EUR77.1 million, were implemented in the Aral Sea basin in 2025. Following the meeting, it was decided that: “The Executive Committee of IFAS, ICWC, and ICSD, in cooperation with the relevant ministries and agencies of the IFAS Founder States, shall continue their joint efforts to ensure the implementation of ASBP–4.”

SIC ICWC, jointly with **EC IFAS** and with the financial support from the French Development Agency (AFD), continues implementing ASBP–4 Project 1.11. “Correction of hydromodule zoning of the Syr Darya River basin using remote sensing data and satellite mapping technologies to refine water consumption and irrigation regimes for agricultural crops cultivated in the region.” As of February 2026, the following work has been completed:

1. Comprehensive ground-based and satellite-supported research, as well as field studies, in the Andijan, Namangan, and Fergana provinces to assess conditions in the Syr Darya River basin;
2. Collection and analysis of data on climate, soils, hydrology, irrigated agriculture, and cartographic materials;
3. Development of a database on water, irrigated areas, their soil and reclamation status, cropping patterns, and groundwater levels;
4. Application of global climate models (GCMs, RCP2–RCP8 scenarios), hydromodule zoning using the SEBAL (Surface Energy Balance Algorithm for Land) model, refinement of irrigation norms and regimes, and calculation of crop phenology using the TIMESAT model;

5. Delineation of hydromodule zones and development of digital maps of irrigated areas in pilot sites of the Fergana Valley.

3. Water Conservation and Climate Change Adaptation Measures

Kazakhstan–Uzbekistan. During the 13th meeting of the Joint Working Group established to develop proposals for strengthening bilateral cooperation in all areas of water relations between the two countries, discussions focused on the cleaning and rehabilitation of the “Dostyk” canal and the repair of its headworks. An agreement was also reached to exchange experience in the implementation and application of water-saving technologies (WSTs) to support agricultural adaptation to global climate change and increasing resource scarcity (January 19, 2026, Turkistan).

Kazakhstan. By the end of 2025, the annual adoption rate of water-saving technologies (WSTs) reached 150,000 hectares, bringing the total area covered by such technologies to 543,500 hectares. By 2030, this figure is planned to increase to 1.3 million hectares. The implementation of WSTs has resulted in water savings of 874 million m³, exceeding the target of 728 million m³. To reduce water losses during conveyance from 50% to 25%, a total of 678 km of canals were fully reconstructed in accordance with the plan. Mechanical cleaning was also carried out on 1,840 km of canals (planned: 2,000 km), including 987 km in Kyzylorda and Turkistan provinces. In addition, mechanical cleaning was conducted on the Furmanovsky canal and the Koksaray counter-regulator, covering a total length of 3,160 km.

Between September and December 2025, more than 62 km of earthen canals were modernized in Turkistan province, benefiting 15,875 hectares of irrigated land in the Zhetysai, Maktaaral, Otyrar, and Sozak districts.

The national budget of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2026–2028 allocates more than 214 billion tenge (including 61 billion tenge in 2026) for subsidizing the implementation of water-saving technologies, as well as 13.5 billion tenge for subsidizing irrigation water costs.

Kazakhstan also acceded to the UN Protocol on Water and Health on January 19, 2026. The Protocol is scheduled to enter into force for the country on April 5, 2026.

Tajikistan. As part of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP30), held on November 18 in Belém, Brazil, an event on the accelerating loss of the global cryosphere was organized at the initiative of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Ambition for Melting Ice (AMI) High-Level Group. The national program “Green Tajikistan” was also presented at COP30. The program aims to plant 2

billion trees by 2040 to combat soil erosion, restore degraded land, and enhance carbon sequestration.

On December 10, the first meeting of the National Water Council was held in Dushanbe. The Council was established as an interagency coordination platform to develop coherent state policy and joint solutions for the rational and sustainable use of water resources in the context of climate change, socio-economic challenges, industrial development, energy demands, and agricultural needs.

The State Program for the Development of New Irrigated Land and the Restoration of Land Withdrawn from Agricultural Use for 2026–2030 (Government Resolution No. 512 of September 30, 2025) is being implemented through the construction, rehabilitation, and reconstruction of hydraulic infrastructure.

The following governmental resolutions have also been approved:

1. Action Plan for the Pasture Development Program in the Republic of Tajikistan for 2023–2027, covering the period 2026–2027 (Resolution No. 637 of November 22, 2025);
2. State Program for the Development of Specially Protected Natural Areas in the Republic of Tajikistan for 2026–2030 (Resolution No. 653 of November 26, 2025);
3. Implementation of the Action Plan for 2025–2027 under the National Climate Change Adaptation Program up to 2030 (Government Resolution No. 404 of July 24, 2025), which is currently ongoing.

The Hydrometeorological Agency of the Environmental Protection Committee under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan conducted field research on the Dekhdal Glacier in the Surkhab River⁴ basin from December 1 to 5, 2025.

As part of the process of updating NDC 3.0, consultations on the Action Plan and the Roadmap among representatives from relevant ministries and agencies, water and climate experts, development partners, and civil society organizations were held⁵ (Dushanbe, 19).

Turkmenistan. A Regional Center for Climate Technologies for Central Asian countries is planned to be established in Ashgabat. In this context, an

⁴ as part of implementation of the “State Program for the Study and Protection of Tajikistan’s Glaciers for 2010–2030,” and in accordance with Decree No. 407 of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, dated August 31, 2023 “On Implementation of the UN Resolution on the International Year of Glaciers’ Preservation”

⁵ Organized at the initiative of the Hydrometeorological Agency at the Environmental Protection Committee under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, in cooperation with UNDP

agreement was signed between the Government of Turkmenistan and FAO on the establishment of the FAO office and the provision of technical assistance (January 21, Ashgabat).

SIC ICSD, in cooperation with FAO, organized a training seminar on “Reporting Requirements under the Paris Agreement, Technical Support and Key Gaps and Actions for Strengthening Institutional and Technical Capacity”⁶ as part of the development of Turkmenistan’s national climate reporting system (December 22–23).

During the international conference on “Health and Nutrition in a Changing Climate” (January 22, Ashgabat), four projects were signed with FAO. These include two national projects incorporating Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs):

- Catalyzing Nature-Based Transformations in Turkmenistan’s Agricultural Sector to Enhance Resilience to Climate Change”;
- Strengthening Turkmenistan’s Capacity to Comply with the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) under the Paris Agreement.”

In addition, two regional projects were signed:

- Strengthening Integrated Water Resources Management in the Amu Darya, Zarafshan, and Panj River Basins” with the State Committee for Water Resources of Turkmenistan;
- “A Coordinated Approach to Land Restoration in Vulnerable Ecosystems of Central Asia” with the Ministry of Agriculture of Turkmenistan.

Projects aimed at supporting Turkmenistan in its efforts to address climate change are ongoing, including: “Developing National Capacity of Turkmenistan through Improving the Regulatory Environment towards Energy-Efficient and Sustainable Buildings (TEESB)” (GEF/UNDP, 2025–2030) and “The EU for Green Development in Turkmenistan: Policy Dialogue and Climate Action for 2024–2028.” The third meeting of the project’s coordination committee was held on January 22 in Ashgabat.

As part of the process of updating NDC 3.0, meetings were held with representatives of government agencies, international organizations, and the academic community (September 13), as well as with the general public (December 22), to discuss principles, methodology, and stages of NDC 3.0 development.

⁶ under the project “Strengthening Turkmenistan’s capacity to comply with the enhanced transparency framework under the Paris Agreement”/CBIT (FAO, SIC ICSD, July–December 2025)

Uzbekistan. The Government of Uzbekistan adopted Decree No. PP-47 of February 5, 2026 “On Additional Measures to Improve Water Use,” which places a strong strategic emphasis on sustainability and water conservation as key foundations for national development.

In the address of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Oliy Majlis and the people of Uzbekistan on December 26, 2025, adaptation to climate change was identified as a strategic priority for the development of New Uzbekistan, alongside ensuring ecological balance, advancing green energy, and promoting rational use of water resources.

Uzbekistan presented its updated NDC 3.0 at COP30 in Brazil, reaffirming its commitment to ambitious and measurable climate action. The country set a target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions per unit of GDP by 50% by 2035 compared to 2010 levels. This target significantly exceeds previous commitments and is aligned with the objectives of the Paris Agreement to limit global warming to 1.5°C.

On November 25, on the sidelines of the 20th Conference of the Parties to the CITES Convention (CoP-20) in Samarkand, the regional program “Central Asia Water–Land Nexus” (CAWLN) was launched. The program is implemented by FAO and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in cooperation with national environmental authorities of Central Asian countries. It aims to reduce the water depletion and land degradation, strengthen regional water security, and promote sustainable management of natural resources.

SIC ICWC (1) in cooperation with BWO Amu Darya and BWO Syr Darya, conducts ten-day hydrological monitoring of water balance across Amu Darya and Syr Darya River basins⁷; (2) with the support of UNEP and the European Union, the Project “Facilitating Region-Specific Approaches to Addressing Climate and Environment-related Risks for Socio-Economic Stability” in Central Asia” continues to be implemented. The project aims to strengthen the capacity of local communities in the Fergana Valley (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan) and to enhance regional cooperation through the establishment of a network of practitioners; (3) under a contract with GIZ⁸, a study is being finalized on the assessment of climate resilience of water infrastructure in the Syr Darya River basin to support the Basin Dialogue. Preliminary results were presented at the third meeting of Basin Dialogues in the Amu Darya and Syr Darya

⁷ Analytical reports are published in sections “Water Management Situation in the Amu Darya Basin,” “Water Management Situation in the Syr Darya Basin,” and in the weekly newsletter “Water Sector, Irrigation, and Ecology in EECCA Countries,” which is disseminated to 77 recipients

⁸ under the project “Studies on priority issues in the field of water, energy and environment in the Amu Darya and Syr Darya basins” as part of the regional program “Climate-sensitive water resources management in Central Asia”

river basins (December 2, Tashkent) and the 28th session of the SPECA Working Group on Water, Energy and Environment (January 20, Ashgabat).

4. Measures to address the consequences of the Aral Sea disaster in an integrated manner

Kazakhstan. The project “*Preservation of the Kokaral dam and Restoration of the Syr Darya River delta*” is being implemented. The project aims to improve environmental conditions in the Aral Sea region by developing aquaculture and fisheries, preserving the North Aral Sea as a geographical feature, maintaining the water level of the North Aral Sea at 42 m BS, ensuring sustainable water supply, preserving the Kokaral dam, and restoring the Syr Darya River delta. The project is scheduled for completion in 2026. Funding is provided from the national budget under approved state budget programs and expenditures.

Turkmenistan. As part of the project “*Conservation and Sustainable Management of Land Resources and Ecosystems of High Natural Value in the Aral Sea Basin for Multiple Benefits*” (UNDP/GEF, 2021–2027), a workshop on the effective management of water and land resources in irrigated agriculture and the sustainable management of rangelands in pilot regions was held on 12 November, followed by a roundtable discussion on 23 December.

Uzbekistan. The National Committee on Ecology and Climate Change has been established under the Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection, and Climate Change. The State Inspectorate for Environmental Control operates under the Committee (Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. UP–217 dated 18 November 2025). The organizational setup of the Committee and the regulations governing both the Committee and the State Inspectorate have been approved (Presidential Resolution No. PP–UP–217 dated 19 November 2025).

SIC ICWC: (1) continues assessing inflow from the Amu Darya River and collecting drains, as well as monitoring the water surface, wetlands, and dried-up areas of the Aral Sea and related water bodies using satellite imagery; (2) under an agreement with GIZ⁹, completed studies on the status of key water-dependent ecosystems in the Amu Darya River basin. The results, including a set of joint measures aimed at improving the environmental situation and the documentary film “*From the Pamir Heights to the Amu Darya Lowlands*” were

⁹ as part of the Project “Studies on priority issues in the field of water, energy and environment in the Amu Darya and Syr Darya basins” as part of the regional program “Climate-sensitive water resources management in Central Asia” (September 30, Astana)

presented at the Third Meeting of the Amu Darya and Syr Darya River Basin Dialogue (2 December, Tashkent).

5. Automation of gauging stations and promotion of advanced ICT

Kazakhstan–Uzbekistan. During the Second Meeting of the Supreme Intergovernmental Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, the *Intergovernmental Agreement on the Joint Management and Rational Use of Transboundary Water Bodies*¹⁰ was signed on 15 November 2025 in Tashkent. An agreement was also reached on the implementation of a joint automated system for monitoring water discharge and abstraction in transboundary river sections with real-time data exchange. In this context, a project to automate 10 gauging stations on the Syr Darya River was agreed upon. GIZ has finalized relevant terms of reference.

Kazakhstan–Kyrgyzstan. A Cooperation Program on Operational and Production Activities has been signed¹¹ between the State Joint-Stock Company “KazHydromet” and the Hydrometeorological Service under the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic for the period 2026–2028. The program provides for the exchange of operational hydrological information on rivers and reservoirs, forecasts of basins’ runoff and precipitation accumulation, exchange of experience, and joint scientific and technological activities.

In Kazakhstan, work continues on the development of the National Water Information System (NWIS) to create a unified digital platform for water through the integration of 11 governmental information systems. Core system functions have already been implemented, and work is ongoing on analytics and forecasting modules. The system is scheduled for commissioning in the second half of 2026. A phased transition to electronic water supply contracts for agricultural producers has also begun.

The National Hydrogeological Service (NHS) has completed the installation and implementation of the *Water Base* information system. The system enables groundwater monitoring, inventory of water resources, cartographic visualization, analytical data processing, real-time data retrieval from remote sources, and information exchange with relevant organizations. Funding for the

¹⁰ The agreement builds upon the existing international obligations of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, including the Agreement of February 18, 1992 on cooperation in the joint management, use, and protection of water resources from transboundary sources, as well as the provisions of the UN Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourse (UN Watercourses Convention)

¹¹ During a meeting held as part of the implementation of the protocol of the 13th session of the Kazakhstan–Kyrgyzstan Intergovernmental Council, which took place on November 12–13, 2025 in Astana

project to equip¹² the Situation Analysis Center with modern hardware and software is expected to begin in March 2026.

Tajikistan. The State Unitary Enterprise (SUE) “Center for Digitalization, Innovation and Professional Development in Agriculture”^{13, 14} has been established. The Center will serve as a platform for providing systematic training to agricultural specialists in modern technologies and enhancing the effectiveness of digitalization efforts (18 December, Dushanbe).

Turkmenistan. The 2026–2028 State Program for Digital Economy Development and its Action Plan have been approved by Presidential Decree.

Uzbekistan. In accordance with Decree No. UP–183 of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated 13 October 2025 “On measures to further accelerate the process of digitalization and sustainable development of the water sector,” the Ministry of Water Management of the Republic of Karakalpakstan has announced a “Digitalization Focus Month”. A program of measures has been approved to improve digital systems and water metering facilities installed.

In addition, Government Decree No. PP–47 of 5 February 2026 introduces enhanced digital monitoring measures, including the deployment of GPS trackers and QR codes on equipment, as well as the integration of data into the “*Suvnazorat*” system.

SIC ICWC (1) as part of the World Bank¹⁵ and SEI project “*Water–Energy Nexus Systems Modelling*”, made an assessment of capabilities and adapted the WEAP and LEAP models to the conditions of the Amu Darya and Syr Darya River basins, explored the possibilities for integrating the LEAP and WEAP to assess water–energy scenarios and support cross-sectoral decision-making; (2) jointly with experts from Kazakhstan, conducts¹⁶ an assessment of the technical condition of gauging stations in the Syr Darya River basin and the need for their automation. Similar work has also commenced in Tajikistan within the Syr Darya River basin.

¹² with the support of GIZ

¹³ Tajikistan has approved the Agricultural Digitalization Program for 2025–2029 (May 29, 2025), developed with the support of FAO and aimed at leveraging digital technologies to transform the agri-food sector

¹⁴ as part of the Project to Enhance Agricultural Sustainability, supported by the World Bank

¹⁵ Stockholm Environment Institute

¹⁶ funded by the “Regional mechanisms for low-carbon, climate resilient transformation of the energy–water–land Nexus in Central Asia”/IKI project

6. Developing an integrated and mutually beneficial mechanism of cooperation on water and energy in Central Asia

Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan. The countries agreed on key parameters of water and energy cooperation and mutual support during a meeting of the heads of water and energy agencies held on 21–22 November in Almaty. In particular, they reviewed the results of the growing season 2025 and discussed plans for water storage in the Toktogul reservoir for the non-growing season 2025–2026.

Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan discussed the issues related to water and energy cooperation during the 2nd meeting of the Kazakhstan–Uzbekistan Joint Working Group on coordinating efforts to develop a mutually beneficial and sustainable mechanism for water and energy cooperation in Central Asia (19 January, Turkistan).

Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. Ways to strengthen energy cooperation were discussed during a meeting between the Minister of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Turkmenistan to Tajikistan (26 November, Dushanbe).

Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan. The countries agreed to further strengthen coordination in the water and energy sector during a meeting of the energy ministers held on 13 February in Tashkent.

7. Regional Cooperation and Water Diplomacy

From November 2025 to February 2026, a series of events were held in Central Asian countries aimed at coordinating joint efforts in water and energy management and advancing water diplomacy:

- **November 15, 2025, Tashkent** – 2nd meeting of the Supreme Intergovernmental Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- **November 21–22, 2025, Almaty** – Trilateral meeting on water and energy cooperation between the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- **December 2–3, 2025, Tashkent** – 3rd meeting of the Basin Dialogues in the Amu Darya and Syr Darya river basins, and the “Partnership Dialogue” within the regional program *Water Management in Central Asia in the Context of Climate Change*;

- **December 4, 2025, Tashkent** – 5th meeting of the Regional Working Group on the mutually beneficial water–energy mechanism;
- **December 10–11, 2025, Astana** – 8th meeting of the Regional Working Group on Water Quality and the Uzbekistan–Kazakhstan Joint Working Group (Commission) on the Syr Darya River basin;
- **January 19, 2026, Turkestan** – 13th meeting of the Joint Working Group on strengthening bilateral cooperation in all areas of water relations between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, and the 2nd meeting of the Kazakhstan–Uzbekistan Joint Working Group on developing a mutually beneficial and sustainable water and energy cooperation mechanism in Central Asia;
- **January 20, 2026, Ashgabat** – 28th session of the SPECA Working Group on Water, Energy, and Environment;
- **January 30, 2026, Khiva** – 5th meeting of the Joint Commission of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan on Water Management;
- **February 16, 2026, Tashkent** – Working meeting of the Ministers of energy and water resources of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Tajikistan.

Country Initiatives and Plans

November 16, Tashkent – A Consultative Meeting of the Heads of State of Central Asia was held, during which participating countries announced the following initiatives:

- **Kazakhstan** – harmonization of national water strategies, including scaling up best practices in water conservation, and the proposal to adopt a Central Asian Framework Convention on Water Use;
- **Tajikistan** – identification of environmental issues as a key area of regional cooperation;
- **Turkmenistan** – strengthening regional water cooperation based on equality, mutual respect, mutual understanding, and solidarity; intensifying joint efforts on environmental issues, including the preservation of the Aral Sea and combating desertification; establishing UN offices in Central Asia dedicated to the environmental agenda; promoting coordinated environmental diplomacy within the UN framework; and drawing greater international attention to regional challenges;
- **Uzbekistan** – proposal to declare 2026–2036 as the “Decade of Practical

Action for the Rational Use of Water in Central Asia”; transformation of the “Fergana Peace Forum” into a regular international platform; adoption of the Concept of “Green Development of Central Asia”; engagement of Afghanistan in regional dialogue on the joint use of water resources in the Amu Darya basin; establishment of a Regional Center of Excellence in Water Management at the National Research University “TIAME”; and hosting a Global Forum on Water Conservation

December 12, Ashgabat – At the international forum marking the 30th anniversary of Turkmenistan’s permanent neutrality, International Neutrality Day, and the declaration of 2025 as the “International Year of Peace and Trust,” Kazakhstan proposed the establishment of an international water organization under the auspices of the United Nations, as well as the development of a regional framework convention aimed at harmonizing water use regulations among countries of the region.

Tajikistan – on November 12, the Center for Water Diplomacy¹⁷ was inaugurated in Dushanbe at the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan. The Center serves as a platform for capacity building, scientific cooperation, and dialogue on transboundary and climate-related issues of water management.

8. Capacity Building and Scientific Cooperation

Kazakhstan. More than 1,500 staff members of water management organizations have completed professional development training, including 125 trained at Chinese enterprises. An agreement has been reached to continue the joint training program with China. In addition, more than 2 million schoolchildren across the country participated in activities aimed at promoting a culture of water conservation. Further initiatives under consideration include: (1) establishment of five training centers for sustainable irrigation at branches of the SE “Kazvodkhoz” in Turkistan, Kyzylorda, Zhambyl, Almaty, and Zhetisu provinces; (2) organization of a joint college with the People’s Republic of China for water training.

Tajikistan. The Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan has launched a new sectoral journal titled “*Energy and Water Resources*”, published in Tajik, Russian, and English. The Hydrometeorological Agency of the Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government

¹⁷ The center was established with the support of the regional program “Climate -Sensitive Water Resources Management in Central Asia,” implemented by GIZ

of the Republic of Tajikistan conducted training sessions for young professionals on “Glaciology” (December 23), as well as a capacity-building program in cooperation with FAO and GEF on strengthening technical expertise in the context of the Paris Agreement (January 13–16).

Turkmenistan. Ashgabat, along with 72 cities from 46 countries, has been admitted to the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (December 4, 2025). As part of the project “*EU for Green Development in Turkmenistan: 2024–2028*,” a capacity-building seminar for university faculty was conducted by professors from German universities in Ashgabat (January 12–16) with the support of GIZ¹⁸.

Uzbekistan. The “*Suvchillar maktabi*” (*School of Water Workers*)¹⁹ continue operating in all provinces of Uzbekistan. An introductory event was organized for the Kazakh delegation, providing an opportunity to study the experience of a leading Uzbek company in water-saving technologies (February 11–13, 2026, Tashkent).

According to Government Decree No. PP-47 of February 5, 2026 on scaling up practical water conservation measures, particular emphasis is placed on personnel training, including the application of best practices from Xinjiang (PRC) and TIAME. These measures are to develop a new generation of professionals and ensure long-term sustainability of reforms in the water sector.

Cooperation in the water sector with Turkey is established. At the end of 2025, 36 specialists from the Ministry of Water Management of Uzbekistan and affiliated organizations completed a training internship in Turkey. In 2025, a modern 200-seat IT center and a digital library were launched at TIAME, alongside a Master’s program on “Water Diplomacy”.

SIC ICWC (1) jointly with the Ministry of Water Management of Uzbekistan and partners, assisted²⁰ in organizing an international conference on water cooperation and the improvement of water legislation in the Republic of Uzbekistan (November 17, Tashkent); (2) continues implementing the CroWD Project (IHE Delft) focused on training and research in the field of water diplomacy. SIC experts are conducting research on climate narratives and strengthening water security in transboundary river basins.

¹⁸ two Memorandums of Understanding were signed between the State Energy Institute of Turkmenistan and Clausthal University of Technology, as well as the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg in Germany (September 1–5, 2025)

¹⁹ established in May 2023 at the initiative of the President of Uzbekistan with the aim of improving water use practices and adopting water-saving technologies

²⁰ as part of the Project “Regional mechanisms for the low-carbon, climate-resilient transformation of the energy-water-land Nexus in Central Asia”

Water Cooperation among Central Asian Countries

XIII Meeting of the Joint Working Group on developing proposals to deepen bilateral cooperation in all areas of water relations between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Uzbekistan²¹

The 13th meeting of the Joint Working Group on developing proposals to deepen bilateral cooperation in all areas of water relations between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Uzbekistan was held in the city of Turkistan (Kazakhstan). The event was organized alongside the 2nd meeting of the Kazakhstan–Uzbekistan Joint Working Group on coordinating efforts to establish a mutually beneficial and sustainable mechanism for water and energy cooperation in Central Asia.

The meetings were attended by N. Nurzhigitov, Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation of Kazakhstan; Sh. Khamraev, Minister of Water Management of Uzbekistan; and N. Kosherov, Governor of the Turkistan province.



During the discussions, the parties addressed key issues of bilateral cooperation in the field of water management and hydropower. Particular attention

²¹ source: <https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/water/press/news/details/1143325?lang=ru>

was paid to ongoing work on dredging and rehabilitation of the transboundary “Dostyk” canal. Past year, the Kazakh party carried out mechanized dredging of canal sections, embankments, collectors, and headworks.

In addition, routine repair of gates at the headworks and check structures was completed. In 2026, mechanized dredging of the Dostyk canal, as well as continued repair of the headworks will proceed.

The parties also agreed to exchange experience in the adoption and application of water-saving technologies. Furthermore, plans were announced to launch a joint project for the installation of ten automated gauging stations along the Syr Darya River - five in each country.

This project, developed with the support of the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), aims to enhance transparency and accuracy in allocation of transboundary water. To date, GIZ has finalized technical specifications for the project.



Fifth Meeting of the Turkmen–Uzbek Commission on Water Management Issues²²

On January 30, 2026, the Fifth Meeting of the Joint Turkmen–Uzbek Interstate Commission on Water Management Issues was held in Khiva, Uzbekistan.

The Turkmen delegation was headed by T. Atakhallyev, Deputy Prime Minister for Agriculture, while the Uzbek party was represented by Sh. Ganiev, Advisor to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Agricultural Development.

The meeting was attended by officials and experts from relevant ministries, agencies, and government bodies of both countries responsible for water management, irrigation, land reclamation, and environmental protection.



Participants unanimously emphasized that sustainable and mutually beneficial cooperation in water management is of strategic importance for ensuring food security, advancing agricultural development, and maintaining socio-economic stability across Central Asia.

During constructive discussions, the parties exchanged views on key areas of cooperation, including:

- adoption of modern technologies for the rational and efficient use of water resources;

²² source: <https://www.newscentralasia.net/2026/01/31/v-khivе-proshlo-pyatoe-zasedanie-turkmeno-uzbekskoj-komissii-po-vodokhozyajstvennym-voprosam/>

- improvement of water monitoring and accounting systems;
- development of human resources in the water sector;
- adaptation to climate change and mitigation of related risks to ensure reliable water supply.

Particular attention was paid to minimizing the adverse impacts of climate change.

Following the meeting, the parties reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining regular bilateral consultations, convening commission meetings, and organizing joint events. They also emphasized the importance of further strengthening the legal and institutional framework for cooperation.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Protocol of the Fifth Meeting of the Joint Turkmen–Uzbek Interstate Commission was signed. The document reflects the agreements reached and outlines priority areas for further cooperation.

Meeting between Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan on Water and Energy Cooperation²³

On February 13, a meeting of energy ministers and representatives of relevant agencies was held in Tashkent to discuss issues related to the stable operation of the regional power grid.

The meeting was attended by Zh. Mirzamahmudov, Minister of Energy of the Republic of Uzbekistan; Sh. Khamraev, Minister of Water Management of the Republic of Uzbekistan; T. Ibraev, Minister of Energy of the Kyrgyz Republic; and E. Akkenzhenov, Minister of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

The discussions were also joined by D. Juma, Minister of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan, along with executives and senior specialists from leading energy companies of the participating countries.

²³ source: <https://dknews.kz/ru/ekonomika/385441-strany-ca-usilivayut-vodno-energeticheskuyu>



The main focus of the meeting was on strengthening cooperation on water and energy management. The parties discussed:

- current state of energy cooperation;
- prospects for the development of the regional power grid;
- mechanisms for balanced and coordinated water use.

Particular attention was paid to coordinating operation of power generation facilities and ensuring compliance with agreed water use.

The parties emphasized the importance of close cooperation, especially during the periods of peak demand.

Special emphasis was placed on the following priorities:

- maintaining a stable water regime in transboundary rivers;
- ensuring regional energy security;
- providing timely mutual support during the peak consumption periods.

Such coordination contributes to reducing the risk of power shortages and helps prevent potential crises in the region.



Following the talks, the parties reaffirmed their commitment to constructive dialogue and continued cooperation.

The trilateral protocol signed at the conclusion of the meeting formalized the agreements reached, including joint approaches to resource management and measures aimed at strengthening the reliability and stability of the regional power system.

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