

Policy brief

Capacity development for regional cooperation in the Amu Darya river basin:

Recommendation for the establishment of a regional centre of excellence on water

Summary

This document presents one key recommendation that came out of a process of consultations in the context of the Amu Darya Basin Network, part of a one-year project on 'Afghan-Central Asian water cooperation on management of the Amu Darya river: connecting experts and policymakers in the low lands', carried out within the framework of the Development Policy Review Network (www.DPRN.nl). This recommendation does not represent a consensus view, but rather an embryonic idea that deserves wider debate and needs additional research.

The theme of the project in which this idea emerged is cross-border cooperation between Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan on management of the water of the Amu Darya. The project aimed at promoting information exchange between academia, private sector experts and Dutch and Belgian policymakers who work on Afghanistan and Central Asia, thereby enhancing awareness of a subject of critical importance to sustainable development. The project envisaged:

- connecting experts and officials in the development and hydrological sectors;
- collecting, summarising and communicating the current national policy priorities of key stakeholders;
- collecting, summarising and communicating academic suggestions for improved policies;
- organising policy review seminars;
- publishing an outcome report.

A policy review process on this topic was deemed very timely given the ongoing reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts of Afghanistan, and the commitment of the international community to foster development in Afghanistan. Increasingly, key donors to the water sector in Afghanistan are the governments of countries in the region, like Iran, China, and India, as well as remote stakeholders, including Belgium, the Netherlands and other European countries. In addition, multilateral organisations like the Asian Development

Bank, the European Commission, the Islamic Development Bank, the World Bank, and the UN (UNECE, UNDP, FAO, UNESCO, UN-Habitat, UNICEF) are also playing an important role.

A number of members of the Amu Darya Basin Network¹ proposed to fully explore the establishment of a Regional Centre of Excellence as a hub for gathering and distributing knowledge with the aim of improving regional cooperation on water in Central Asia and Afghanistan.

It was envisaged that the Regional Centre of Excellence on Water would become the go-to point for all regional and international policymakers, government officials, scientists, researchers and other interested individuals for:

- the collection of publicly available up-to-date interdisciplinary data;
- scientific and policy relevant research, and
- capacity development relating to the sustainable use and development of, and cooperation on, shared water resources in Central Asia and Afghanistan.

The centre would function as a hub for developing regionally shared approaches to crucial issues of water security.

Background

The almost total absence of bilateral or regional cooperation on water between Afghanistan and its neighbours is a serious threat to sustainable development and security in the region. The ever-increasing demand for water, its unpredictable availability, and the inefficient management of water resources combine to form a complex but solvable challenge to regional security and development. Currently, there are very few opportunities to address transboundary water issues collectively. There are hardly any forums for dialogue or bilateral or multilateral agreements, and possibilities for data-sharing or joint action are limited.

There are no regional mechanisms for cooperation on water in Southwest Asia that involve Afghanistan. With the exception of the 1973 bilateral treaty between Afghanistan and Iran on the Helmand River, no bilateral legal frameworks on shared water resources exist, let alone regional frameworks. Regional cooperation requires political will, which, to date, has not been forthcoming. Instead, mistrust and political considerations focusing on what is perceived as national interest (albeit very narrowly defined) have hampered the potential for forward-looking cooperation in the region. Reframing the narrowly defined perceptions of national water security, reversing stereotypes surrounding water, creating political will, and increasing people's participation in water issues is crucial.

¹ The Amu Darya Basin Network was established in 2010 by the EastWest Institute and the Irrigation and Water Engineering Group at Wageningen University. The Network consists of policymakers, scientists, practitioners, rural development and water sectors experts from Afghanistan, the Central Asian region and beyond [<http://www.amudaryabasin.net/>].

Afghanistan's reluctance to engage in regional dialogues on water can be attributed to a number of factors, including the country's limited hydro-meteorological capacity, the lack of adequately skilled human resources (with solid knowledge of international law and the ability to negotiate in international forums), and a knowledge gap of about thirty years of hydrological data due to war. Many in Afghanistan therefore fear that they might lose out in bilateral forums, never mind regional cooperation agreements on water. Good policies certainly require good facts and figures and a skilled handling of well-defined national interest. The lack of proper hydro-meteorological information for the past thirty years no doubt constitutes an obstacle to identifying interests and formulating policies at the national level, let alone policies with a regional perspective. Ultimately the collection and maintenance of such data has to be left to Afghans and therefore requires sufficient Afghan capacity. The development of such capacity and assistance with data collection (in particular its transboundary aspects) should be a priority for both the donor community and Afghanistan's neighbours.

Policy recommendation – Establishing a Regional Centre of Excellence

One way to overcome the challenges identified above and to improve cooperation, as identified by a number of members of the Amu Darya Basin Network, is to develop and strengthen institutional capacity in the river basin at regional, national and local levels. Discussions in the network led to the idea of establishing a Regional Centre of Excellence as a hub for gathering and distributing knowledge with the aim of improving regional cooperation on water in Central Asia and Afghanistan.

It was envisaged that the Regional Centre of Excellence on Water would become the go-to point for all regional and international policymakers, government officials, scientists, researchers and other interested individuals for:

- the collection of publicly available up-to-date interdisciplinary data;
- scientific and policy relevant research, and
- capacity development relating to the sustainable use and development of, and cooperation on, shared water resources in Central Asia and Afghanistan.

The centre would function as a hub for the development of regionally shared approaches to crucial issues of water security.

Mission and goals

The mission of the proposed Regional Center of Excellence would be to contribute to the sustainable use, development and management of water resources in Afghanistan and Central Asia.

The main goals of the Centre could include:

- Provision of permanent research and analytical support and guidance for policy coordination;

- Provision of specialized and multidisciplinary education and training to mid-career water managers, government officials, farmers, scholars, policymakers, professionals in the water sector, as well as Masters and PhD students.
- Establishment and support of a network of alumni-professionals, experts and policymakers and promote dialogue within and among Afghanistan and Central Asian countries on issues relating to sustainable development in general and the transboundary water cooperation, in particular;
- Creation of opportunities for partnerships between Afghan, Central Asian and other international academic, research, and governmental institutions with the objective to achieve sustainable social, economic and environmental development in the region.

Possible key areas of focus for data collection, analysis and policy support

- Land and water management (technical, social, economic areas)
- Adaptation to climate change
- (Transboundary) Natural resources management
- Environmental conservation and mitigation of environmental disaster in Aral Sea Basin
- International water law
- Negotiation skills

Potential partnerships

The Regional Center of Excellence should aim to work in collaboration with academic institutions, research organizations, and national, regional as well as international organizations with relevant expertise. A draft list is annexed to this document (A).

Opportunities

The establishment of a Regional Center of Excellence on Water and creation of a network between alumni and students, experts and policymakers would create trust and a long term regional cooperation leading to sustainable development of the Amu Darya basin.

Challenges

It is important to take into account that consensus and support from all national governments would be necessary. Funding from both donor and riparian countries is crucial.

Annex A: Budget items to consider

- Personnel costs
 - Director
 - Research staff
 - Communications personnel
 - Administration and operation

- Occupancy and equipment costs
 - Building
 - Classrooms
 - Office equipment / presentation facilities

- Office costs
 - Stationary
 - Small equipment
 - Communicating costs
 - Operating costs

- Travel costs

- Conference costs

Annex B: Mapping exercise of existing expert resources

Non-exhaustive list of international, regional and national universities and institutes in Afghanistan and Central Asia

German-Kazakh University

<i>Full name:</i>	German-Kazakh University
<i>Type of institute:</i>	Public-private university
<i>Established in</i>	1999 (attestation: 2009)
<i>Based in</i>	Almaty, Kazakhstan
<i>Departments & Programmes (relevant to ADBN):</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty of Social Sciences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Specialisation 'International relations' (BA) ○ Regional Studies (Central Asia/Europe) (MA) • Faculty of Techniques and Ecology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Specialisations «Energy and Ecological Techniques» (BA) • The range of subjects is to be extended to include the environment (energy and water)
<i>Founded by</i>	'Kazakh-German cooperation in education' Fund
<i>Website</i>	http://www.dku.kz

EcoGIS Centre – Wageningen University and Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Melioration

<i>Full name:</i>	EcoGIS Centre
<i>Type of institute:</i>	MSc and PhD degrees; professional training courses
<i>Based in</i>	Tashkent, Uzbekistan
<i>Departments & Programmes (relevant to ADBN):</i>	<p>WUR has an affiliation with EcoGIS Centre, Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Melioration (http://www.tiim.uz/en/organisation/international-affairs/)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Sciences (http://www.mes.wur.nl/) • Geo-information Science (http://www.mgi.wur.nl/) • Modular Skills Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Among others, computer literacy, information management, presentation skills, intercultural communication skills, negotiation skills, argumentation skills, scientific writing skills, project planning and management ○ (https://portal2.wur.nl/sites/MOS/FormServerTemplates/Modules-per-period.aspx) ○ (https://portal2.wur.nl/sites/MOS/documentlibrary/description-modules-2010.pdf)
<i>Financial support:</i>	EU Tempus
<i>Website:</i>	http://www.tiim.uz/en/organisation/international-affairs/

Westminster International University in Tashkent

<i>Full name:</i>	Westminster International University in Tashkent
<i>Type of institute:</i>	University (BSc and MSc degrees; training courses)
<i>Based in</i>	Tashkent, Uzbekistan
<i>Departments</i>	Apart from BSc and MSc Degrees, WIUT Tashkent provides the following courses:

<i>& Programmes (relevant to ADBN):</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Postgraduate Certificate in Special Study in Teaching and Learning, AHEA (http://www.wiut.uz/en/courses/postgraduate/teacher-training/) • Corporate Training and Consultancy (http://www.wiut.uz/en/research-expertise/training-consultancy/) <p>Some example courses include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Running meetings and negotiations ○ Trainer-training and facilitation skills ○ Effective communication skills ○ Database design and management ○ Systems analysis and data mining
<i>Founded by</i>	Westminster University (UK)
<i>Website:</i>	http://www.wiut.uz/en/

Regional

University of Central Asia

<i>Full name:</i>	University of Central Asia
<i>Type of institute:</i>	Internationally chartered institution of higher education. UCA is a private, independent, self-governing institution. Besides providing BSc and MSc degrees, UCA provides Professional and Personal Development programmes
<i>Established in</i>	2000
<i>Based in</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Central Asia (Khorog, GBAO, Tajikistan) • Aga Khan Humanities Program & SPCE Learning Centre (Dushanbe, Tajikistan) • UCA Tekeli (Tekeli, Kazakhstan) • UCA Naryn (Naryn, Kyrgyzstan) • Central Administration (Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan)
<i>Mission & Objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mission of UCA is to promote the socioeconomic development of Central Asia's mountain societies, while at the same time helping the diverse peoples of the region to preserve and draw upon their rich cultural traditions and heritages as assets for the future by the: • development of three world-class residential campuses and facilities in remote mountain communities of Central Asia; • preparation of new kinds of experts in key fields of development that respond to local, national and regional needs; • education of a new generation prepared for leadership roles; • renewal and revitalisation of skills of existing professionals in diverse fields; • provision of practical training to youth and adults.
<i>Departments & Programmes (relevant to ADBN):</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Graduate School of Development offers courses on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rural Development ○ Environment and Natural Resource Management • The Central Asian Faculty Development Programme (http://www.ucentralasia.org/cafdp.htm) • The School of Professional and Continuing Education (http://www.ucentralasia.org/spce.htm)
<i>Founded by</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government of Kazakhstan • Government of Kyrgyz Republic • Government of Tajikistan • His Highness the Aga Khan
<i>Website:</i>	http://www.ucentralasia.org/index.htm

Central Asian Institute of Applied Geosciences

<i>Full name:</i>	Central Asian Institute of Applied Geosciences CAIAG
<i>Type of institute:</i>	Scientific organisation; independent and non-profit.
<i>Established in</i>	2002
<i>Based in</i>	Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
<i>Purpose:</i>	Assistance in scientific research in the field of geosciences
<i>Departments:</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Geodynamics and Geohazards 2. Climate, Water and Geo-ecology 3. Land Use and Resource Preservation 4. Technical Infrastructure and Data Management 5. Education, Training and Scientific Cooperation
<i>Founded by</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government of Kyrgyz Republic • German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ), Potsdam, Germany (http://www.gfz-potsdam.de/portal/gfz/home)
<i>Website</i>	http://www.caiag.kg

ICWC Training Centre

<i>Full name:</i>	ICWC Training Centre
<i>Type of institute:</i>	Training Centre
<i>Established in</i>	2000
<i>Based in</i>	Tashkent, Uzbekistan
<i>Purpose:</i>	To promote good governance and environmental sustainability in the Aral Sea Basin through the development of a water resources training network and long-term international cooperation at policy, management and operations levels.
<i>Objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the capacity of Interstate Commission for Water Coordination (ICWC) to deliver water management training programs. • Promote water management concepts through study tours, seminars, and workshops. • Encourage policy and institutional reforms that support improvements to the current water management practices and environmental sustainability. • Arrange the floor for exchange of opinions between participants from the five Central Asian States. • Receive the 'return flow' from their actions.
<i>Departments & Programmes</i>	Professional Training Courses ' Management of water-environment oriented investment project'
<i>Financial support:</i>	Canadian International Development Agency
<i>Website</i>	http://tc.icwc-aral.uz/

OSCE Academy in Bishkek

<i>Full name:</i>	OSCE Academy in Bishkek
<i>Type of institute:</i>	Academy – Regional centre for post-graduate education, capacity building, research and regional dialogue
<i>Established in</i>	2008–2011
<i>Based in</i>	Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

<i>Purpose:</i>	To promote and enhance the principles and values of the OSCE in the Central Asia, and to help build a professional elite to contribute to the long-term development of Central Asia.
<i>Mission</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide expert training and education in human rights, media development, conflict prevention, management, resolution and post-conflict rehabilitation, • To conduct demand-driven and practice-oriented research on relevant Central Asian topics aiming at local, national and regional security-building, • To support the exchange of information and scientific cooperation among Central Asian academic institutions and their international partner organisations, • To establish a regional network of professionals and researchers.
<i>Departments & Programmes</i>	MA in Political Science Professional Training Courses - on of the many course on offer is on 'Building Capacity' Research
<i>Founded by</i>	OSCE (http://www.osce.org/)
<i>Financial support:</i>	Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Norway, the Netherlands Sweden, Slovenia, Switzerland, Turkey
<i>Website</i>	http://www.osce-academy.net/en/

National

Afghanistan

Kabul University

<i>Full name:</i>	Kabul University
<i>Established in</i>	1932
<i>Based in</i>	Kabul, Afghanistan
<i>Mission:</i>	<p>To train disciplined males and females capable of tailoring global knowledge to Afghanistan's economic, cultural and historical context, contributing to the creation of new knowledge and committed to the Islamic democratic values embodied in Afghanistan's constitution.</p> <p>Kabul University's aim is to accomplish the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop generations of qualified Afghans, aware of their nation's Islamic and cultural heritage. • To preserve the Identity of Afghan society and safeguard its moral and social values. • To establish, promote and maintain excellence in undergraduate and graduate programs. • To establish, develop and execute teaching, research and scholarship. • To play an effective role in the development of scientific, social and economic aspects of Afghan society as part of global citizenship. • To establish and maintain close links with national and international universities and institutions in academic and research fields.
<i>Departments & Programmes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty of Law and Political Science • Faculty of Science • Faculty of Engineering • Faculty of Pharmacy • Faculty of Agriculture

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty of Veterinary Science • Faculty of Journalism • Faculty of Arts
<i>Website</i>	http://www.ku.edu.af/

Kazakhstan

S. Seifullin Kazakh Agro Technical University

<i>Full name:</i>	S. Seifullin Kazakh Agro Technical University
<i>Type of institute:</i>	<p>University providing BSc, MSc, and PhD degrees</p> <p>Professional Skills Improvement Institute provides training in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional skill improvement of AIC staff of the Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Kazakhstan, and other Ministries and Departments; • Personnel’s retraining – second higher education on economic majors (Economy, Account and audit, Finance); • Magistracy on Management major, agrarian management specialisation; • Professional skills Improvement of university teaching staff at different courses.
<i>Established in</i>	1957
<i>Based in</i>	Astana, Kazakhstan
<i>Purpose:</i>	<p>The mission of the KazATU is to provide quality educational services in international standards providing students and faculty mobility and competitiveness of graduates in the labour market.</p> <p>In accordance with the mission, the strategic goal of KazATU is to achieve the effective functioning of the quality of advanced training and scientific-pedagogical staff, by providing them with wider choices of the level, content, form and timing of training undertaken on the basis of innovative technologies.</p> <p>To achieve this goal the following tasks are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to become a research Agricultural University of Kazakhstan, giving high-quality knowledge to consumers of educational services, allowing them to take their rightful place in the labour market; • to increase the attractiveness of the university to the community by forming an opinion about the prestige and elitism of education received within its walls; • to ensure demand for graduates through the joint development of educational programmes with employers; • to integrate educational services into manufacturing processes, and orient research to the needs of the economy; • the sustainable development of the university’s educational and social infrastructure; • to ensure that the cultural and educational work is continually kept up to date, with the aim of establishing a fully developed personality.
<i>Departments & Programmes*</i>	<p>Faculty of Agronomy</p> <p>Faculty of Land-Use Planning</p>
<i>Website</i>	http://agun.alarko.kz/

Other National Universities

Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan Institute of Management (<http://www.kimep.kz/>)

Nazarbayev University in Astana (<http://eng.nu.edu.kz/>)

L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University (<http://www.enu.kz/>)

Eurasian Humanitarian Institute (<http://eagi.kz/index.php>)

Kazakh–Russian University, Kostanai (<http://kikru.boom.ru/spytrus.htm>)

Kyrgyzstan

Kyrgyz Agrarian Academy

Kyrgyz National University

Tajikistan

Tajik Agrarian University (<http://www.tajagroun.tj/>)

Tajik State University of Law, Business and Politics (<http://www.tsulbp.tj/>)

List of Universities and Institutes in Tajikistan
(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_universities_in_Tajikistan)

Uzbekistan

Tashkent State Agrarian University (<http://www.agrar.uz/view.php?lang=en>)

Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Melioration (<http://www.tiim.uz/>)

– EcoGIS Centre (<http://www.tiim.uz/en/organisation/international-affairs/>)

– Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Melioration, Faculty of Hydromelioration of the Bukhara State University (envisaged to open)

Mirzo Ulugbek National University of Uzbekistan (<http://www.nuu.uz/>)

University of World Economy and Diplomacy (<http://www.uwed.uz/>)

Tashkent State Institute of Law (<http://pr-tdyui.zn.uz/>)

List of Universities and Institutes in Uzbekistan

(<http://www.edu.uz/modules/pasport/viewcat.php?cid=1&min=0&show=10>)

List of universities in Afghanistan and Central Asia

(not relevant to ADBN)

American University of Afghanistan

<i>Full name:</i>	American University of Afghanistan (AUAF)
<i>Type of institute:</i>	AUAF is Afghanistan's only not-for-profit, private, independent university. AUAF is non-political, non-sectarian, and committed to providing world-class higher education that will produce Afghanistan's future business, civic, and government leaders.
<i>Established in</i>	2002
<i>Based in</i>	Kabul, Afghanistan
<i>Mission:</i>	To provide world-class higher education for the development of Afghanistan and the region.
<i>Departments & Programmes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – BA in Business, Information Technology and Computer Science, Social Science – Foundation Support Program (improving language skills in English)
<i>Website</i>	http://www.auaf.edu.af

Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University

<i>Full name:</i>	Afghanistan Centre at Kabul University
<i>Type of institute:</i>	Information Centre (collections are available in the library and online)
<i>Established in</i>	Established in Peshawar Pakistan in 1989 , the Centre was shifted to Kabul University in 2006 where it occupies temporary space in the Central Library at Kabul University.
<i>Based in</i>	Kabul, Afghanistan
<i>Mission:</i>	To enhance nation building by providing reliable information to policy planners, strategy makers, program implementers and future leaders of Afghanistan, including the faculty and students at Kabul University. There is also an outreach component, which sends mobile libraries into the provinces to communities, high schools and provincial councils. The purpose of this programme is to provide information to the Afghan population to enable them to learn to read and live happier lives.
<i>Founded by</i>	Louis and Nancy Hatch Dupree Foundation in the USA
<i>Website</i>	http://www.acku.edu.af/
<i>Other relevant websites:</i>	http://www.nzdl.org/gsdmod/cgi-bin/library?a=p&p=about&c=acku&l=en&nl=1%3E http://www.afghandigitallibraries.org/

International University of Kyrgyzstan

<i>Full name:</i>	International University of Kyrgyzstan
<i>Type of institute:</i>	University (BSc, MSc degrees; distance learning)
<i>Established in</i>	1993
<i>Based in</i>	Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
<i>Mission & Objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To disseminate existing and create new knowledge through teaching and research; • Training of professionals – leaders in the development of socioeconomic, scientific-technological and cultural fields; • Promoting social and economic progress in Kyrgyzstan by ensuring access to

	<p>education for diverse parts of the population regardless of race, nationality, social affiliation;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote a common cultural development of Kyrgyzstan; • To educate independent-thinking of persons to be actively participate in the dialogue of cultures.
<i>Departments & Programmes:</i>	Apart from other programs, the relevant to ADBN program is: UNESCO Faculty 'Sustainable mountain development'
<i>Founded by</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government of Kyrgyz Republic • Ministry of Education and Science of Kyrgyz Republic • Ministry of Foreign Affairs • National Academy of Science of Kyrgyz Republic • San Francisco State University (USA)
<i>Partners:</i>	http://www.iuk.kg/Partners
<i>Website:</i>	http://www.iuk.kg/

American University of Central Asia

<i>Full name:</i>	American University of Central Asia	
<i>Type of institute:</i>	University (BSc, MSc degrees; distance learning)	
<i>Established in</i>	1997	
<i>Based in</i>	Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan	
<i>Mission & Objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enhance the distinctiveness as a learning community grounded in the liberal arts that prepares a new generation of leaders for the democratic transformation of Central Asia and the world beyond; • To improve the quality of our faculty, our students and our research oriented curriculum; • To provide the information resources necessary for learning, to broaden the multicultural perspective needed for the transformation of the region, and to enhance our commitment to the common good; • To deepen and celebrate our distinctive form of academic engagement within and beyond the University. 	
<i>Departments & Programmes:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Studies • Anthropology • Business Administration • Economics • European Studies • International and Business Law 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International and Comparative Politics • Journalism and Mass Communications • Psychology • Sociology • Software Engineering
<i>Founded by</i>	Government of Kyrgyz Republic	
<i>Partners:</i>	American University of Afghanistan (Afghanistan), University of Tübingen (Germany); Central European University (Hungary); KIMEP (Kazakhstan); Kyung Hee University (South Korea); USA Universities: Bard College, University of Kansas, University of Montana, University of Nebraska, University of Washington, University of Minnesota, and Indiana University.	
<i>Website:</i>	http://auca.kg/en/	

Other (virtual) initiatives

Regional Research Network 'Water in Central Asia' (CAWa)

<i>Full name:</i>	Regional Research Network 'Water in Central Asia' (CAWa)
<i>Type of institute:</i>	Project – part of the German water initiative for Central Asia (" Berlin process ") launched by the German Federal Foreign Minister in April 2008.
<i>Established in</i>	2008–2011
<i>Based in</i>	Project is coordinated by GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences, Potsdam, Germany (http://www.gfz-potsdam.de/?locale=en)
<i>Purpose:</i>	To contribute to a sound scientific and a reliable regional data basis for the development of sustainable water management strategies in Central Asia.
<i>Departments:</i>	WP1 – Hydrometeorological Monitoring Network and Geodatabase (GFZ) WP2 – Regional Water Resources and Climate Modeling (GFZ) <i>WP3 – Regional Water Resources Management (ZEU)</i> <i>WP4 – Education and Training (GFZ)</i> WP5 – Remote Sensing Products and Data Integration (DLR) WP6 – Design of Information Systems (DLR)
<i>Financial support:</i>	German Federal Foreign Office
<i>Partners</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • German Federal Foreign Office, Germany • GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences, Germany • Central Asian Institute for Applied Geosciences (CAIAG), Kyrgyzstan • German Aerospace Centre (DLR), Germany • Centre for international Development and Environmental Research (ZEU), University of Giessen, Germany • University of Würzburg, Germany • Scientific Information Centre of the Interstate Coordination Water Commission (SIC ICWC), Uzbekistan • Kyrgyz National Hydromet Service, Kyrgyzstan • Tajik National Hydromet Service, Tajikistan • Kazakh National Hydromet Service, Kazakhstan • German IHP/HWRP National Committee, Germany • Ludwig Maximilians University Munich, Germany • Commission for Glaciology of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences, Germany • College of Science, University of Idaho, Moscow, U.S.A.
<i>Website</i>	http://www.cawa-project.net/

Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC)

<i>Full name:</i>	Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Institute Programme
<i>Type of institute:</i>	Programme (Virtual Institute)
<i>Established in</i>	2006
<i>Mission & Objectives</i>	<p>To foster and to enhance the quality of regional cooperation in the priority areas of <u>transport</u>, <u>energy</u>, <u>trade facilitation</u>, and <u>trade policy</u>, which will lead to higher capacities for regional cooperation and accelerated economic growth in Central Asia. The major outputs of the CAREC Institute comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a capacity building training programme, to strengthen the knowledge and skills of government officials and other stakeholders in priority areas related to regional

	cooperation [Professional development]; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an applied research programme, to generate new knowledge, innovation, and solutions that will facilitate more meaningful and effective regional cooperation for the region's long-term development [Research]; and • an outreach programme, to extend the impact of the Institute's training and research more broadly and to foster a broader understanding of the benefits of regional cooperation and the costs of non-cooperation [Dialogue]. 	
<i>Departments & Programmes:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Professional Development • Leadership Development Initiative • Training and knowledge-sharing programmes 	Additional Initiatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Sector Development • Disaster Risk Management • Land Management • Communicable Disease Control
<i>Financial support:</i>	Asian Development Bank Regional Technical Assistance (RETA) Regional Economic Cooperation Institute, 2009-2012	
<i>Partners:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multilateral Institutions • ADB • EBRD • IMF • Islamic Development Bank • UNDP • World Bank 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Organisations • Shanghai Cooperation Organisation • Eurasian Economic Community • Eurasian Development Bank
<i>Website:</i>	http://www.carecinstitute.org/	

Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia

<i>Full name:</i>	The Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC)
<i>Type of institute:</i>	Independent, non-commercial and non-partisan organisation of international character.
<i>Established in</i>	CAREC was established in accordance with the decision of the 4th Pan-European Conference held in 1998 in Aarhus (Denmark). CAREC commenced its operations in 2001, after ratification by the Republic of Kazakhstan.
<i>Based in</i>	The CAREC headquarters are located in Almaty, Kazakhstan with country offices operate in all five member Central Asian countries.
<i>Mission & Objectives</i>	<p><u>Mission</u> To promote multisector cooperation in addressing environmental problems in Central Asia at the local, national and regional levels.</p> <p><u>Objectives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To establish an intersectoral dialogue in Central Asia involving the donor community; • To create opportunities to attract to Central Asia advanced knowledge, and the best international practices and technologies in the field of environmental management and sustainable development; • To enhance the role of the civil society in the field of environmental protection and sustainable development in Central Asia.
<i>Departments & Programmes:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Management and Policy • Civil Society Initiatives Support • Education for Sustainable Development • Water Initiatives Support • Climate Change and Sustainable Energy

	Information and Capacity Building		
<i>Founded by</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five Central Asian countries • UNDP • The European Commission 		
<i>Financially supported by and/or partners:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The European Commission • Kazakhstan • Tajikistan • Uzbekistan • Kyrgyzstan • Finland • Norway • Sweden • Germany • Netherlands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CIDA • UNECE • USEPA • REC CEE • ADB • FAO • NATO • European Environment Agency • Exxon Mobil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNEP • UNDP • British Council • OSCE • OECD • Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape • WWF • UNESCO • GWP CACENA
<i>Website:</i>	http://carecnet.org/en/		

Process organisers:



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