

ASTANA WATER ACTION (AWA)

Actions by the United States of America

Country: United States of America

Description of the Action and, if possible, target date:

Through the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (EC-IFAS) and within the Aral Sea Basin Plan – III, and in coordination with the World Bank, USAID is supporting a comprehensive analysis of the economic ramifications of optimized water-energy resource utilization in the Syr Darya and Amu Darya River Basins. The model will be consistent with practical constraints as well as applicable (or proposed) norms and conventions of transboundary waterway exploitation.

Expected Outcome:

This assistance will provide a comprehensive inventory of the economic interests affected, directly and indirectly, by the region's water-resource management practices in different sectors. The resulting analysis will demonstrate the economic benefits that the wider region stands to gain if there is a political will to resolve the lingering impasses over water and energy cooperation. The objective is to add substance to the inter-state dialogue among the Central Asian countries and their neighbors, including Afghanistan, on the crafting of a benefits-sharing, welfare-maximizing agreement on water/energy resource exploitation in the region.

Partners: USAID, World Bank, EC-IFAS

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Country: United States of America

Description of the Action and, if possible, target date:

USAID is supporting, through the Executive Committee of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (EC-IFAS) and within the Aral Sea Basin Plan – III, an analysis of the impact on regional hydrology of Global Climate Change. It seeks to provide an analysis of the risks to the region's hydrology as a consequence of global climate change and the increasing speed of glaciers' melt.

Expected Outcome:

This analysis will consider the likely range of climate-change impacts on the rates of snowpack and glacier melt, annual precipitation, aquifer depletion and/or replenishment and on similar important determinants of the region's water-resource availability. The objective is to contribute to, in conjunction with the economic analysis as detailed above, the elaboration of a more robust and adaptable regional agreement on water/energy resource exploitation in the region.

Partners: USAID, EC-IFAS

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