

Challenges and Opportunities for Strengthening Regional Cooperation to Improve the Safety of Hydraulic Structures in Central Asia

Challenges of the past two decades

Increasing the number of emergencies related to water and hydraulic structures:

- Silting and sedimentation due to floods caused by intense snowmelt and precipitation
- Washouts/breaks of dams and other infrastructure
- Resettlement and evacuation of the population due to flooding
- Droughts and water drop in GTS below critical levels

The need to improve national legislation and practitioner:

- The presence of laws on the safety of hydraulic structures in some countries and their absence in other countries
- Imperfection of regulatory norms and regulations for the safe operation of GTS
- The need to include the prevention and mitigation of emergencies at the hydraulic structures in the Action Plans for the Sendai Framework Program for DRR
- Insufficient attention to the safety of hydraulic structures in national programs and plans, lack of targeted funding

Experience and expertise of the UNECE on the safety of hydraulic structures in the framework of SPECA

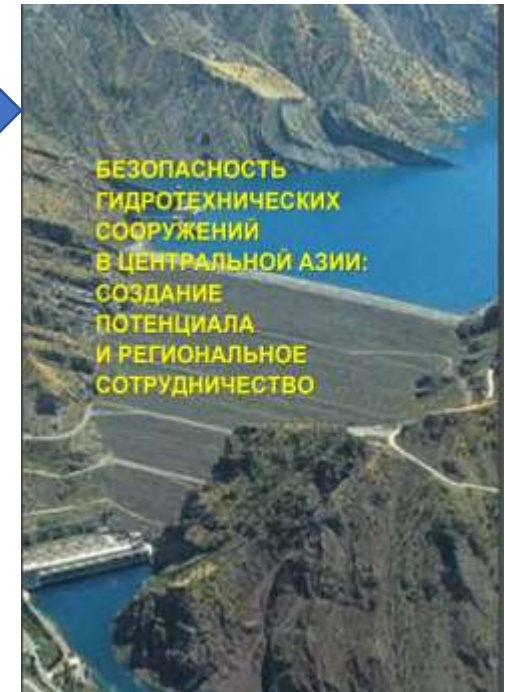
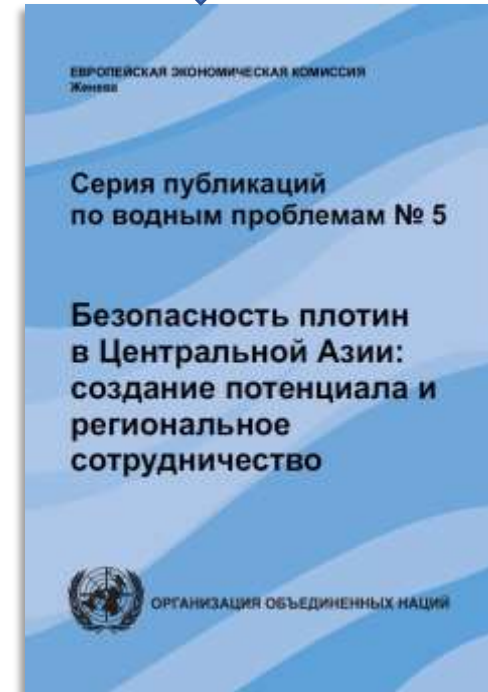
Assistance in the development of national legislation on the safety of hydraulic structures

Development of a draft regional agreement on the safety of hydraulic structures

Increasing the capacity to ensure the safety of hydraulic structures

Contribution to improving the safety of individual hydraulic structures

Promotion of HS safety issues within the framework of national water policy dialogues and the SPECA WG on Water, Energy and Environment



Activity support and partnership

Russian Federation
(project financing,
organization of
training courses ,
expert support)

OSCE , GIZ - on a
regular basis,
support certain
areas of activity,
including certain
objects

- The International Water Assessment Center (IWAC), as an auxiliary center for cooperation of the Water Convention, assists in the implementation of measures to ensure the safety of water structures in the countries of Central Asia.

Slovakia is a partner of the IWTC in the implementation of measures in the field of hydraulic structures safety. Cooperation between the IWEC and Slovakia made it possible to form a certain platform for the exchange of experience and the development of regional cooperation in the countries of Central Asia

The European Union regularly supports UNECE activities on environmental sustainability instruments in Central Asia in the post-TACIS period

Favorable opportunities for the settlement of regional cooperation to ensure the safety of hydraulic structures

Development of a regional agreement on cooperation in the field of hydraulic structures safety:

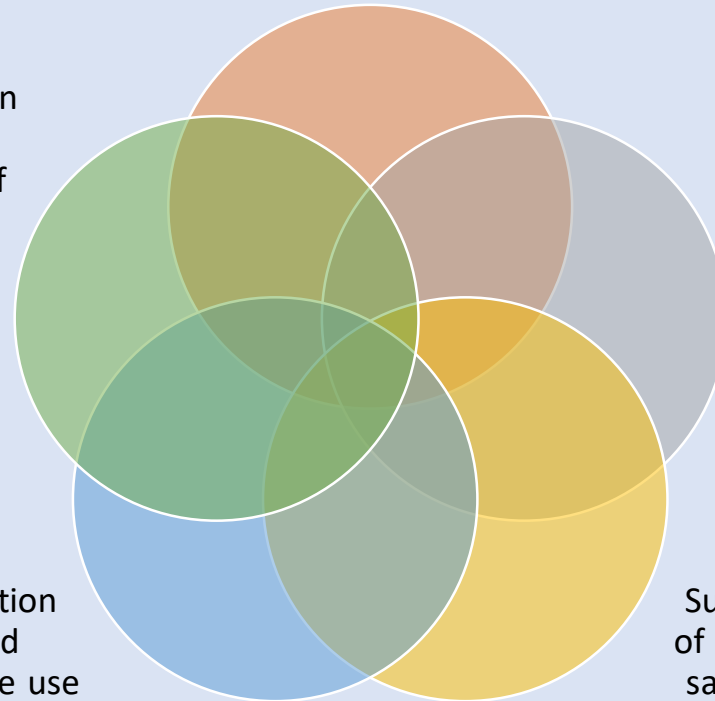
- The first version of the draft Agreement was prepared by the working group and reviewed in 2006.
- Due to differences of opinion on a number of issues, in 2011 the work was suspended.
- At the last regional meeting (Tashkent, May 2019), a decision was made to resume work on the Agreement. Three countries of the region confirmed this position.
- During the online meeting (June 2020), it was recommended to send the draft agreement to the countries for consideration

Possible development of bilateral cooperation

Support for the development of bilateral cooperation on the safety of hydraulic structures between Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan in the Chu and Talas river basins

Possible support for cooperation between Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan on interstate use of the Andijan/Kamparabad reservoir

Support for the development of bilateral cooperation on the safety of hydraulic structures between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan



Possible support cooperation between Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan on the interstate use of the Orto-Tokoi (Kasansay) reservoir.

Support for the development of bilateral cooperation on the safety of hydraulic structures between Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan



UNECE

Possible support for efforts and measures at the national level

Decisions and recommendations of national water policy dialogues and targeted requests for assistance in:

- Development of policies and integration of opportunities to enhance the safety of hydraulic structures in current and upcoming national, intersectoral and sectoral development programs, including basin management plans
- Involvement of best practices for recommended GTS facilities
- Building the capacity of national institutions and services

Sincerely,

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