

## Enhancing environmental cooperation at local, national and regional levels through Small Basin Councils: case from Central Asia



## Environmental Challenges in Central Asia

- 60 million people (90 million in 2050)- **demographic pressure**
- Growing economy- total GDP \$600 billion+ \$4-5 billion annual growth - **economic pressure**
- Resource intensive- high footprint **development mode**
- Outdated infrastructure, institutes and policies- **path dependency**
- Serious consequences of climate change- **new challenges**

## **What is SBC?**

- Consultative-advisory water resources management organization
- Local communities involvement
- Representatives of administrative bodies; environment protection, emergency situation, health protection and other agencies
- Local and transboundary levels

## **Why SBC?**

- Bottom-up approach
- Considering real local needs and problems
- Comprehensive approach – all opinions are considering
- Planning skills
- Low cost principle

## CAREC examples of SBC in action

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



- 2 transboundary SBC (Isfara river KG-TJ, Aspara river KZ-KG)
- 3 national SBC in Kazakhstan (Ugam river, 2 SBC in Aral-Syrdarya basin)

## SBC Meetings

- Organized semi-annually;
- Separate and joint meetings;
- Development of IWRM Plans.



## **Discussion Topics**

- Regional supply of drinking water;
- Lack of irrigation water;
- WUA's operation;
- Issues related to technical condition of irrigation infrastructure;
- Advanced irrigation techniques;
- Reduce the water using through alternative income of local population.

## **Decisions and Outcomes**

- IWRM Plans developed;
- Pilot projects selected by SBC members are realized;
- Irrigation water losses reduced;
- Living conditions of local communities improved through reconstruction of water supply systems;
- Inter-state conflicts reduced through installation of water measuring equipment on inter-state hydropost;
- Receiving data (water flow and GIS maps) for the 1<sup>st</sup> time in 25 years

**Thank you  
for your attention!**

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