



Master Course in Sustainable Development in cooperation between Uzbek Universities
and the Aral Sea Society (SASS)
Sustainable Development and Sustainability Science 2026

WATER USE AND MANAGEMENT - AGRICULTURE AND SANITATION

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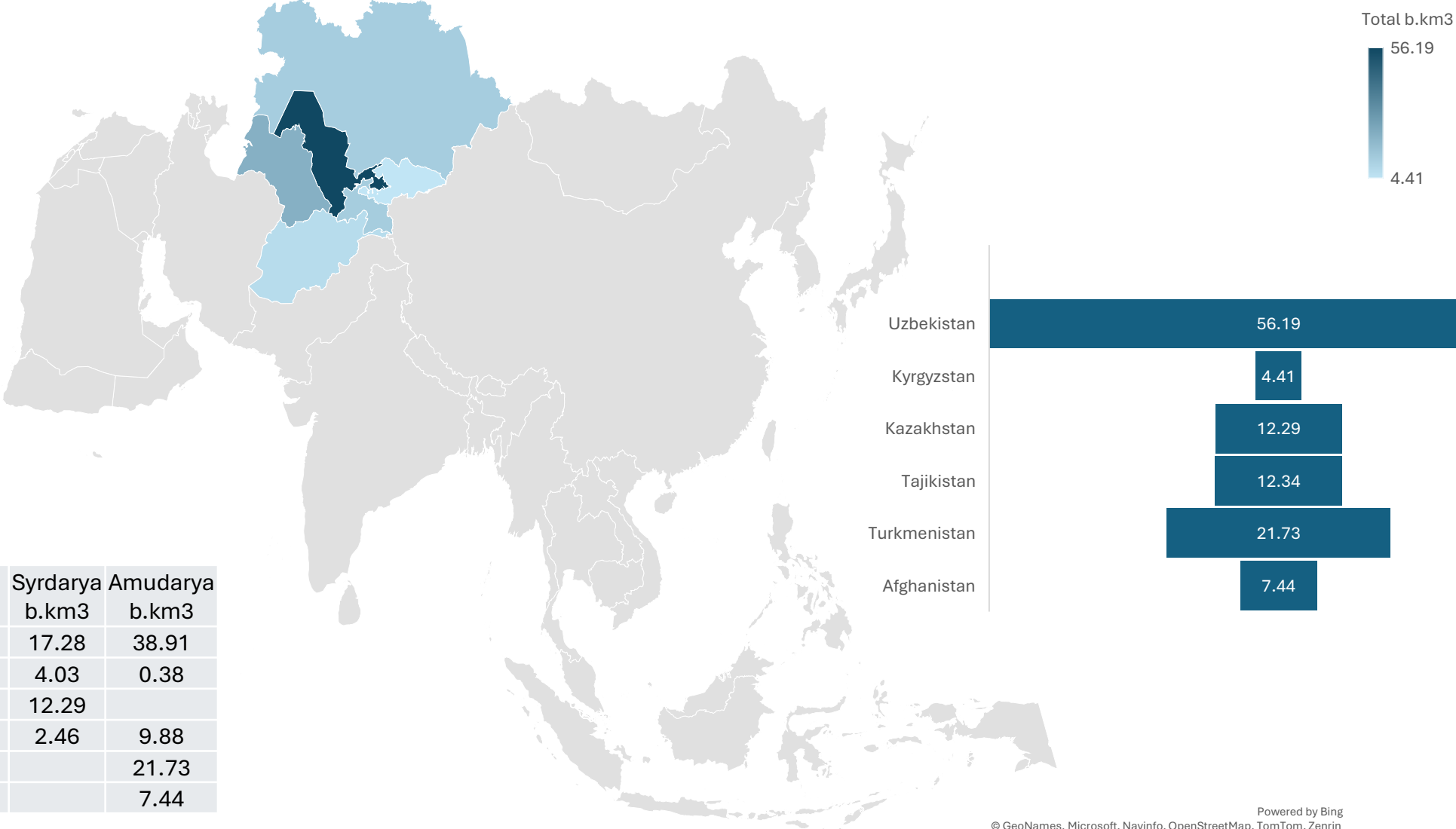
- **Introduction**
- Uzbekistan is an **arid country** with limited water resources
- Agriculture depends heavily on irrigation
- Water management is critical for:
 - Food security
 - Economic stability
 - Environmental sustainability

Water Resources in Uzbekistan

Major sources:

- **Amu Darya**
- **Syr Darya**
- Internal rivers and streams
- Groundwater reserves
- Total annual water flow: **116 billion m³**

CA water consumption

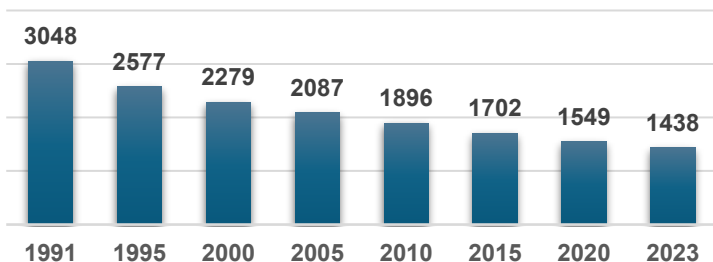


Countries	Syrdarya b.km3	Amudarya b.km3
Uzbekistan	17.28	38.91
Kyrgyzstan	4.03	0.38
Kazakhstan	12.29	
Tajikistan	2.46	9.88
Turkmenistan		21.73
Afghanistan		7.44

Water Resources and Challenges in Uzbekistan

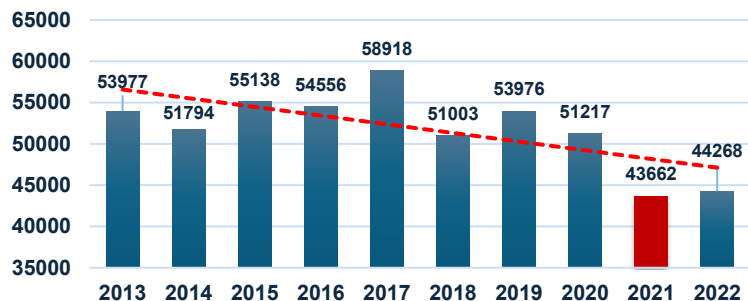
Over the past 30 years, per capita water availability has decreased from 3,048 m³ to 1,438 m³, or by 53%.

Water Availability per Capita (m³ per person)



Over the past 10 years, the level of water supply has averaged 91% of demand, while in 2021 and 2022 it was 77% and 78%, respectively.

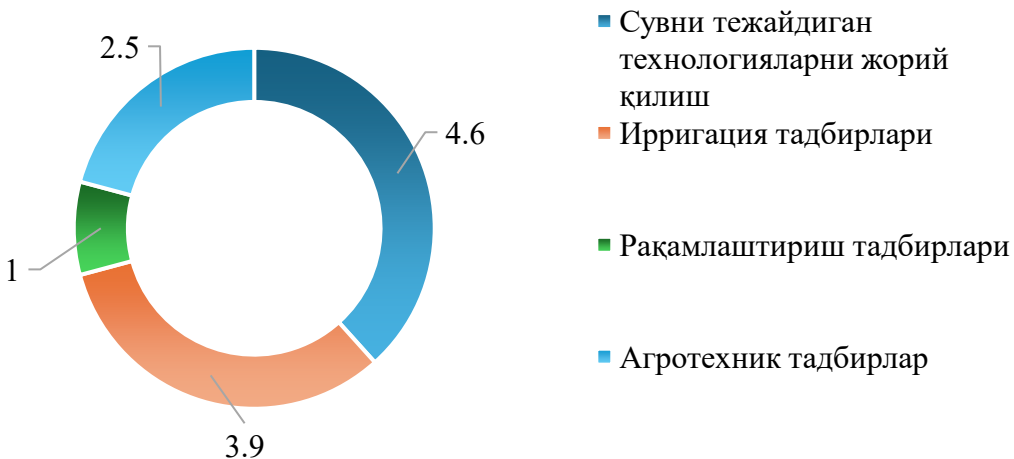
Average Annual Water Withdrawal in the Republic (million m³)



Share of Water Use by Economic Sectors over the Last 10 Years (in percent)



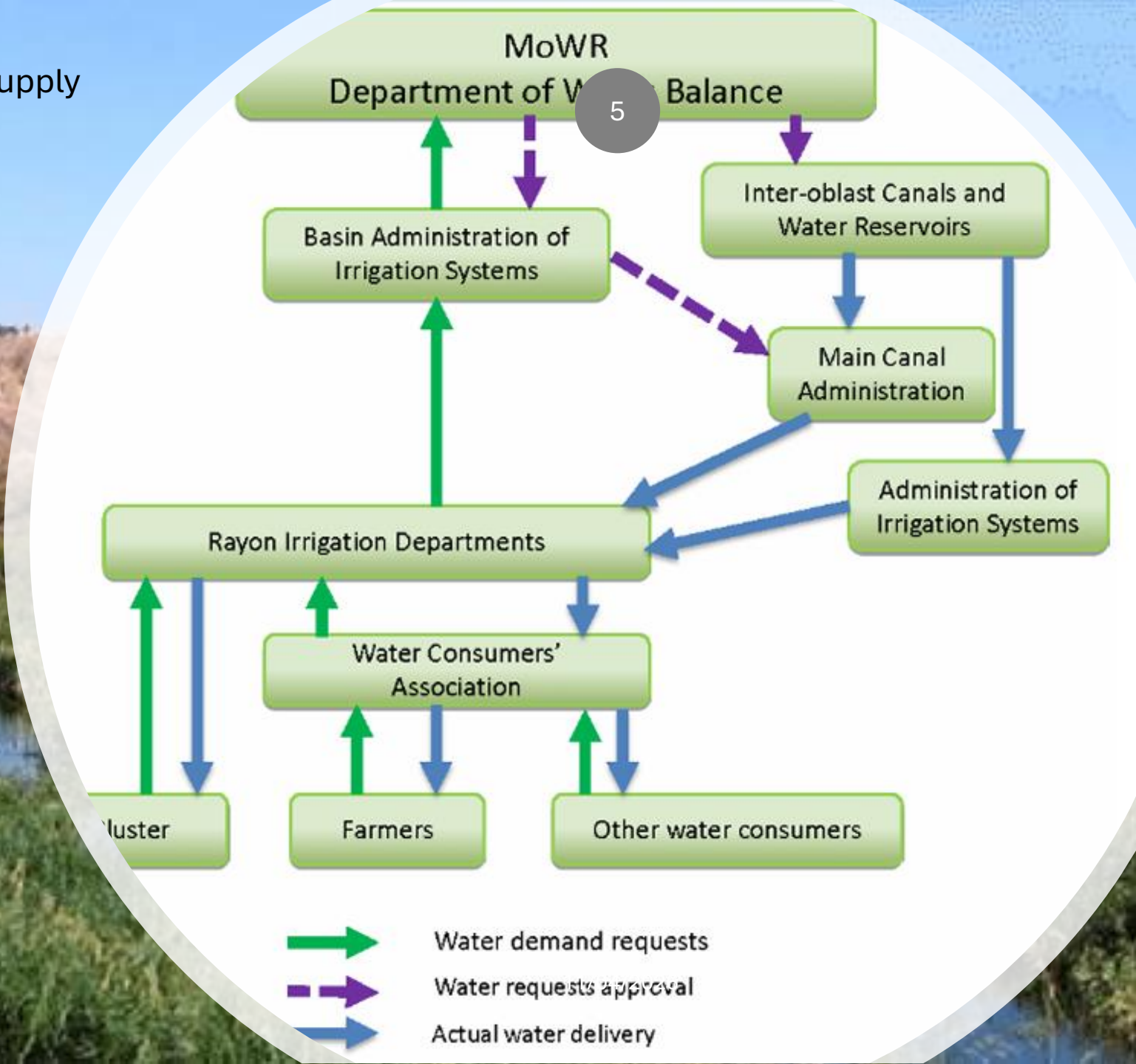
Sources for Covering Water Shortages in the Republic by 2030



Water Use by Sector

- Agriculture: **90%**
- Municipal: 4–5%
- Industry: 1–2%

Key elements of current water demand and supply management in Uzbekistan





Key Challenge (until 2016)
Low efficiency of water use,
especially in irrigation
Outdated technologies and high
water losses

Reform Background

After gaining independence in **1991**,
Uzbekistan initiated reforms in:

- Water sector
- Agricultural sector

Objectives of Reforms

- Increase **agricultural production**
- Improve **rural incomes**
- Ensure stability of the agricultural
economy

Institutional Reforms and Decentralization

Key Institutional Changes

- Establishment of **Information-Analytical Resource Center (IARC)**
- Creation of **3 new Basin Administrations of Irrigation Systems (BAIS)**
- Formation of **152 Rayon Irrigation Departments (RIDs)**



Role of RIDs

- Improve **water demand planning**
- Maintain **local irrigation systems**
- Monitor **water use**
- Support **water productivity improvements**

Objectives

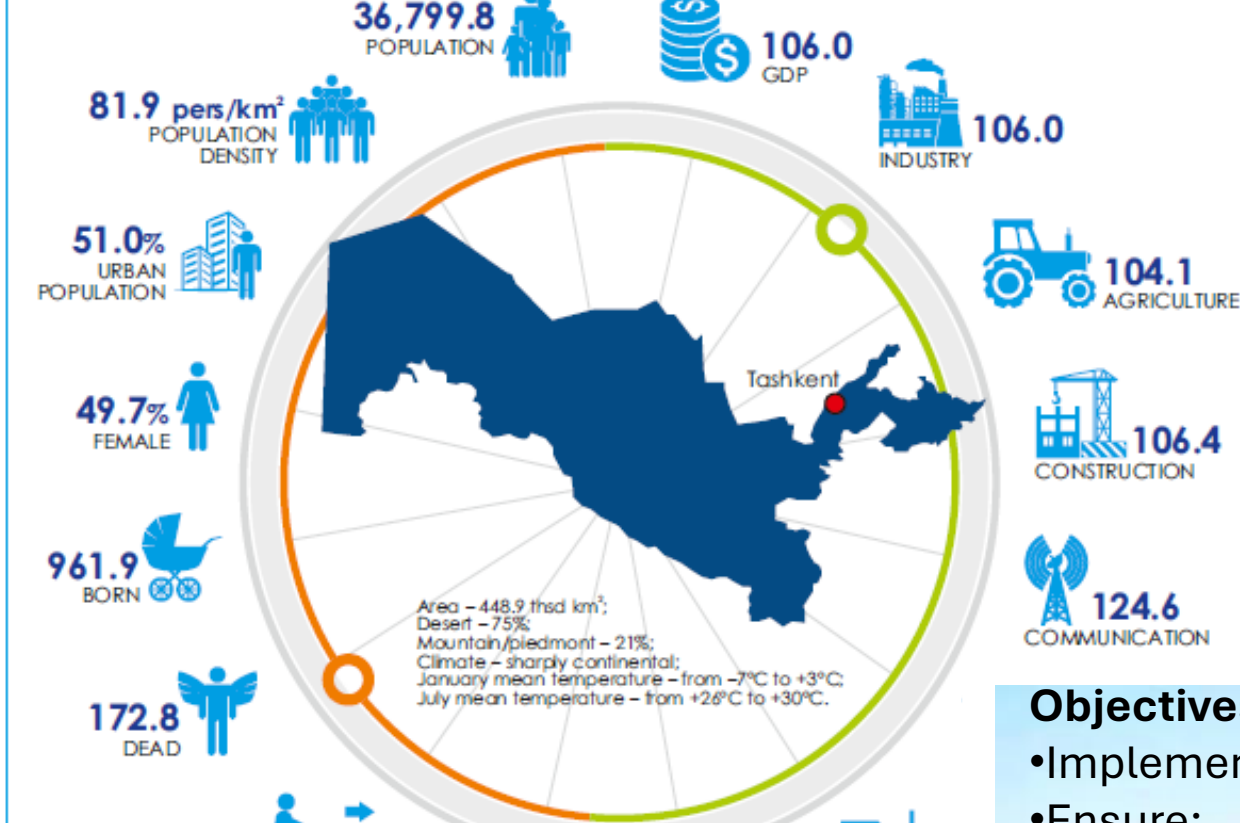
- Strengthen coordination between:
 - Water management
 - Agriculture
 - Local administration
- Improve direct interaction with **water users (farmers)**



Water Sector Reforms in Uzbekistan – Step 2 (2018)

Institutional Separation and Policy Reform
Key Reform (2018)

- Separation of water and agricultural sectors
- Establishment of:
 - Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan (MoWR)
 - Ministry of Agriculture of Uzbekistan
- Based on Presidential Decree N^o UP-5418 (April 17, 2018)



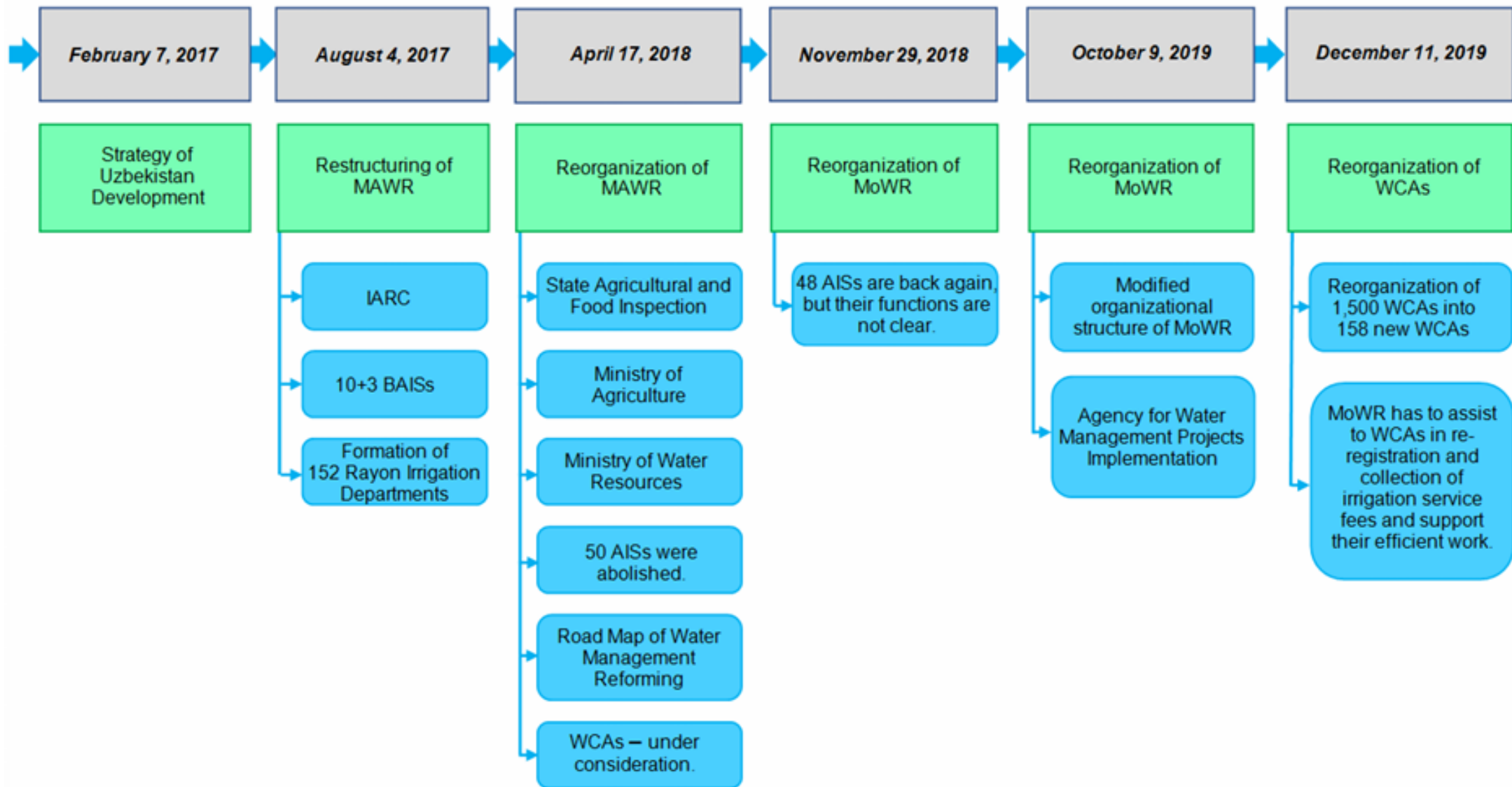
Structural Changes

- Development of a **Roadmap for water sector reform**
- Attempted abolition of **50 Administration of Irrigation Systems (AIS)**
- Later **reinstatement of AIS (November 2018)** due to:
 - Missing operational link between BAIS, RIDs, and WCAs

Objectives of Reform

- Implement a **unified national water policy**
- Ensure:
 - Rational use of water resources
 - Water protection and safety
 - Prevention of water-related risks
 - Promotion of water-use culture





The whole process of water reforms in Uzbekistan during 2017-2019

Water Sector Reforms in Uzbekistan – Step 3 (2020–2030)

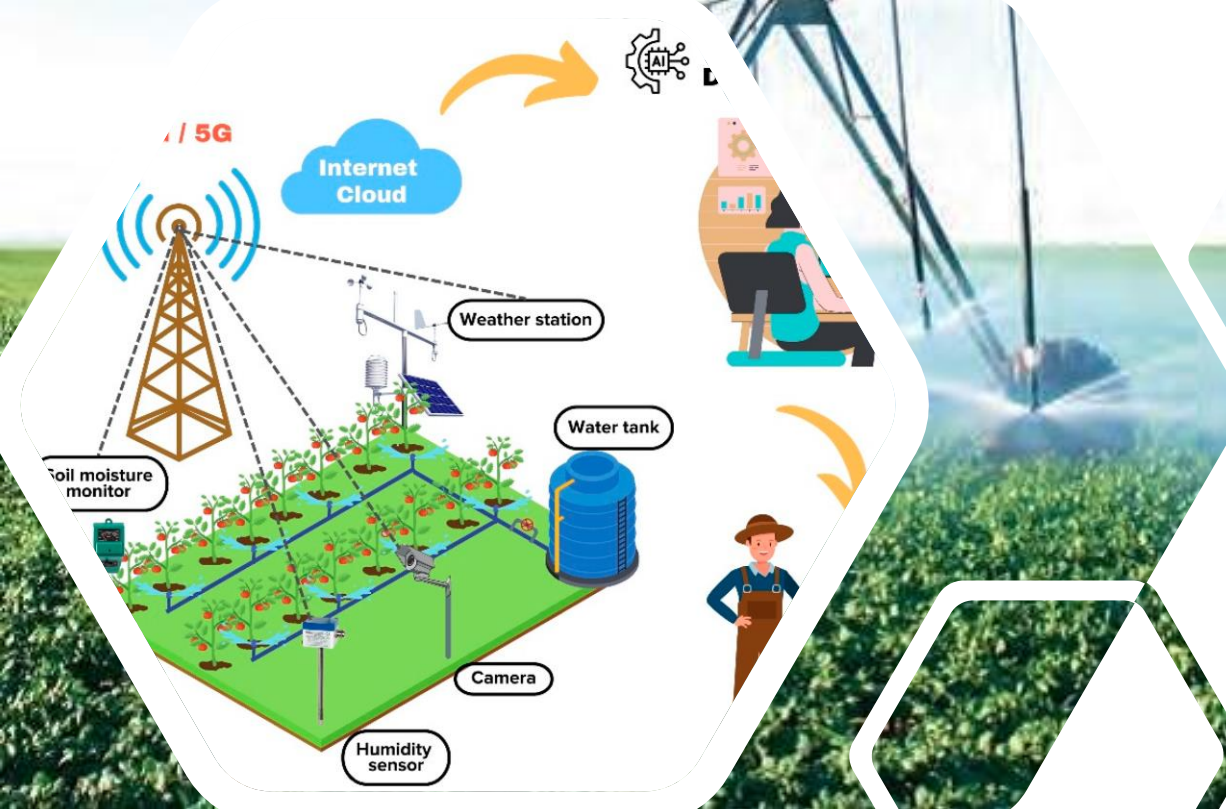
Strategic Development and Modernization

Key Policy Document

Presidential Decree № UP-6024 (July 10, 2020)

Approval of the **Water Sector Development Concept (2020–2030)**

Developed by the **Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan** with international partners



Key Targets by 2030

Increase irrigation efficiency: **0.63 → 0.73**

Reduce poorly irrigated land: **560 → 190 thousand ha**

Decrease saline land: **–226 thousand ha**

Reduce energy use (pumping): **–25%**

Expand water-saving technologies:

- **2 million ha total**, including **600,000 ha drip irrigation**

Introduce:

- **Smart Water monitoring systems**
- Automation at **100 key facilities**

Implement **50 public-private partnership (PPP) projects**

Purpose of the Concept

Establish a **long-term vision for water sector development**

Promote:

- Efficient water use
- Investment attraction
- Innovation and scientific development
- Digitalization and modern technologies

Early Results (2020)

Despite **20% water reduction**, supply reached **32.5 billion m³**

11/04/2026

280 million m³ water saved

Improved irrigation on **300,000+ hectares**

Improved Surface Furrow Irrigation Technologies

Key Technologies

- Irrigation using **short furrows**
- **Pulsed irrigation (surge irrigation)** technology
- Furrow irrigation with **plastic film lining**
- Furrow irrigation with **straw mulching**
- **Alternate furrow irrigation** method
- Irrigation using **flexible pipes**
- **Step-by-step (tiered)** irrigation method
- Irrigation with **reverse flow in furrows**
- Use of **portable irrigation trays/channels**
- Application of **hydrogels** for water saving
- **Laser land leveling** technology
- **Sub-irrigation** method



Compost mulch



Straw mulch



Bark mulch



Newspaper mulch



Plastic mulch film



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



CONSERVATION AND RATIONAL USE OF WATER RESOURCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, ENSURING AVAILABILITY AND DEVELOPING SANITATION FOR ALL

1 2 3 4 5

Goal 6

7

8

9

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15

16

17

REPORT AN ENVIRONMENTAL VIOLATION!

File a report or get information
epa.gov/report-violation

Report oil spills or chemical releases to the National Response Center hotline
1-800-424-8802

PROPORTION OF POPULATION USING SAFELY MANAGED DRINKING WATER SERVICES

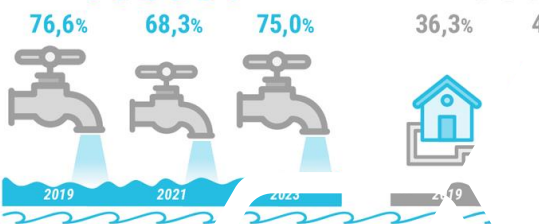


WASHING FACILITIES SOAP AND WATER



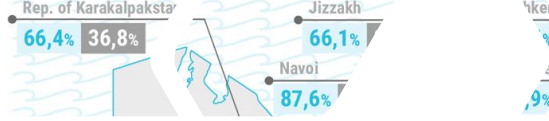
PROVISION OF APARTMENTS (HOUSES):
(at the end of the year, to the total number of apartment.)

DRINKING WATER



SUPPLY OF APARTMENTS (HOUSES)

(at the end of 2023, to the total number of apartments)



Regulatory Framework

Regulation on:

- **Submission, review, and incentivization** of citizen-reported water violations

Applies to violations related to:

- Water use
- Water consumption rules

Reporting Mechanism

Citizens can record violations using:

- Mobile devices
- Video/photo equipment

Submitted materials:

- Photos
- Video recordings

Legal Basis

Based on Article 74 of the **Administrative Responsibility Code of Uzbekistan**

Covers:

- Misuse of water resources
- Unauthorized hydraulic activities
- Actions affecting water bodies

11/04/2026



Reporting Water Violations: Procedure (Chapter 2)

Recording and Submission

- Citizens record violations using:
 - Mobile devices
 - Video/photo equipment
- Materials must be submitted within **48 hours** via:
 - Official platform: **v-nadzor.gov.uz**
- The sender is **responsible for the accuracy of submitted data**

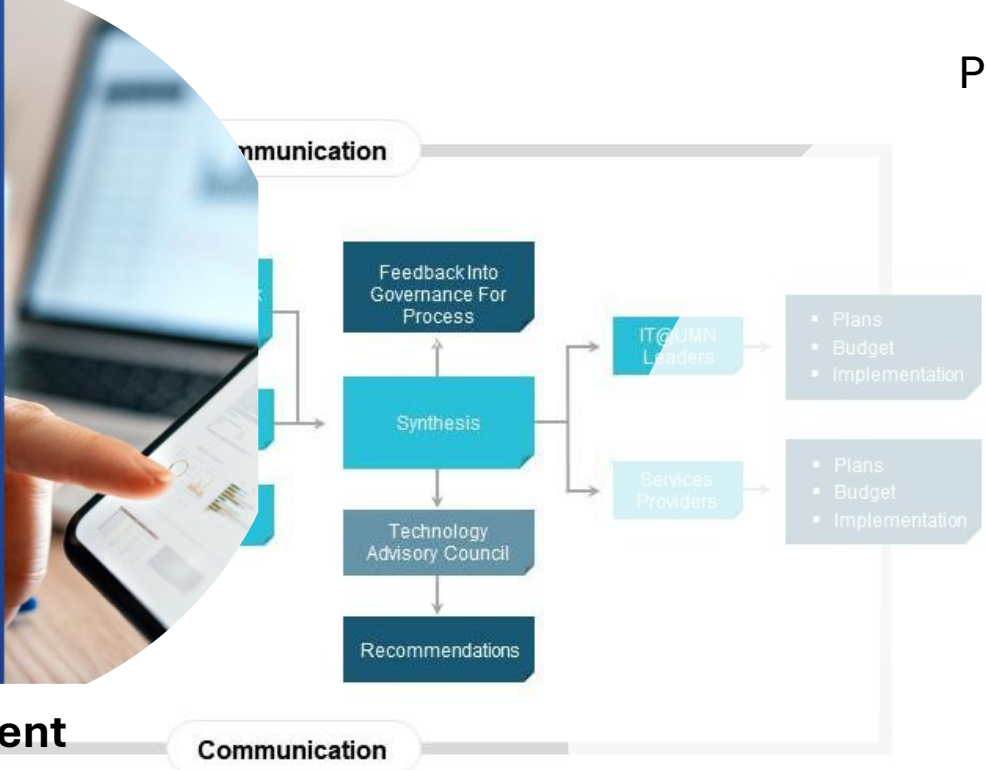


Required Content of Evidence

Submitted photo/video must clearly show:

- The **violation itself**
- Information about the **violator** (if available)
- Location, date, and time** of the incident

BENEFITS OF A APP AND NOTIFICATION FOR LOCAL REALITIES



Step 3 – Enforcement

- Actor:** Water Inspection Authority
- Issue administrative protocol or penalty via **E-administrative system**
 - Send fine notification:
 - SMS
 - Postal mail
 - Direct delivery
 - If necessary → transfer case to **court or authorized body**
- Deadline:**
- 5 days (penalty decision & notification)
 - 3 days (if transferred to court)

Step 1 – Submission

- Actor:** Citizens
- Submit photos/videos of violations of water use rules
- Deadline:** Within **48 hours** after detection

Step 2 – Review

- Actor:** Water Inspection Authority
- Receive submitted materials
 - Investigate the violation
 - Identify the offender
- Deadline:** Within **10 days**

Step 4 – Incentives & Feedback

- Actors:** Water Inspection Authority & Ministry of Water Resources
- Provide **financial rewards** to reporting citizens
 - Inform citizens about results of their submission
- Deadline:** Within **15 days after fine collection**

Thank you for your attention!