

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

#### RésEAU Webinars - 2018

Webinar 1:

The costs of inaction: how to make the case for reform

#### The Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia



# Cost of Inaction Study in Central Asia: context and perspectives

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#### **Environment and Water in Central Asia**

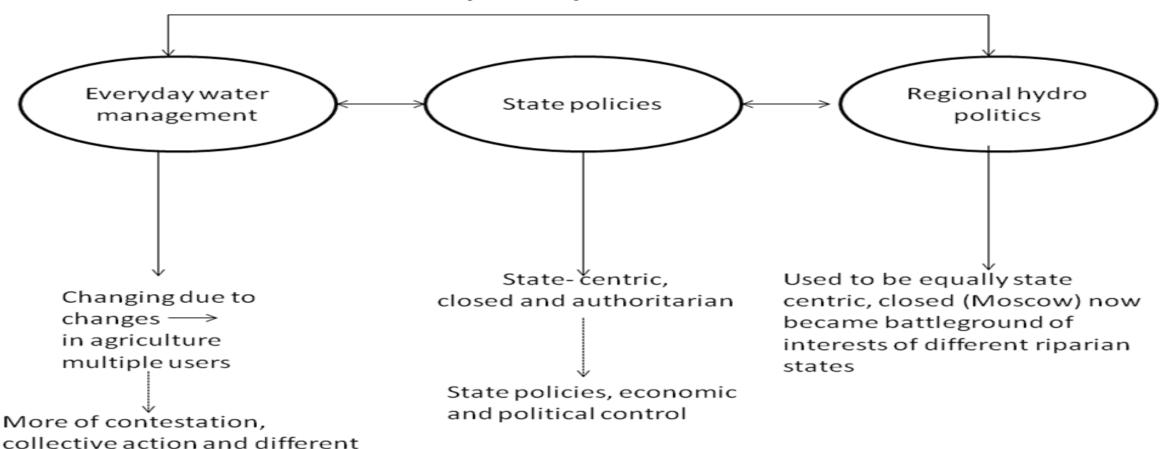
- Environmental consequences of water resources (mis)-management
- Transboundary/Contested Nature of WRM of major rivers
- 60 million people (90 million in 2050)- demographic pressure
- Growing economy- total GDP around \$400 billion+ \$2-3 billion annual growth - economic pressure
- Resource intensive- high footprint development mode
- Outdated infrastructure, institutes and policies- path dependency

#### **Environment and Water in Central Asia**

- Serious consequences of climate change- new challenge:
  - Reduction of Water Flow Potentially 20-30% in 2050
  - Increase in Water Demand by 40% due to climate and demography by 2030
- Increasing inter-sectoral and inter-state competition for the water:
  - Irrigation vs. energy (winter vs. summer)
  - environmental needs vs. economic growth
  - Reduction of per capita water availability, withdrawals and use

### **Regional Water Cooperation: transformations**

#### From fully state dominated water management to multiple dynamic systems



water control strategies

### **Regional Water Cooperation: status**

- Regional Water cooperation pre-requisite for sustainable development:
  - Economic cost of none-cooperation 4.5 billion USD (Adelphi and CAREC.2017)
  - Without comprehensive, holistic and systematic water cooperation region may face serious and fierce water competition
  - De- centralized and basin-wide agreements and solutions are longlasting approach

## Development, dissemination and feedbacks on Cost of Inaction Report

**National consultations** Literature review **Expert group meetings National level Regional level International level** Official letters to national Publishing of the report on Direct dissemination among regional partners (regional **CAREC** website partners on issuing the report Presentations on national events organizations) Presentation on international Direct dissemination among Presentations on regional events events (WWF, WWW) national partners

Series of dialogues with partners on feedbacks:

- 1. SIC ICWC (approach, definitions, calculations issues)
- 2. Academia representatives at Civil Society Forum held in Dushanbe in the framework of preparatory activities for the 8th World Water Forum (14-15 Feb 18, Dushanbe, Tajikistan) provided feedback on context.

# Regional Water Cooperation: History and Trends

Search for **pragmatic and effective solutions**, difficult dialogues- <u>water a security issue</u>

**Seeking new arrangements** and agreements, increase of **contestation** of water cooperation principles – <u>water economic and political issue</u>

**Since 2015** 

starting from 2000's until recently

**Prolongation** of soviet period water allocation principles, **setting up regional institutions**-water a technical issue

#### Regional Water Cooperation: Opportunities and Challenges

- How to share benefits of water vs. volumes
- Institutional solutions to the "everyday water problems"
- Water as part of the economic and social transformation: "out of water box" approach
- Role of infrastructure: state and rehabilitation, new and old, allocation and monitoring
- Planning and strategy setting: long-short term planning, operational aspects, water strategies and visions
- New uses of water and "new water" (re-use, salt-drought tolerant, productivity)
- Climate change impact on water management and governance

# THANK YOU WWW.CARECECO.ORG