

## Editorial

Dear colleagues

We are happy to present edition 40 of the Water News. In the current edition we focus on our water related projects and programs in the Western Balkans, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia. This is a large and varied geographical area, which is also reflected in the diversity of interventions Switzerland is implementing and supporting – from strengthening capacities of Municipalities in Albania to Natural Resource Management Projects in Central Asia. In this region both the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) have a strong presence in the water sector through their global, regional and national programmes. The two actors jointly work together with other instruments of Swiss Foreign Policy such as the embassies. Switzerland is combining various instruments through a “whole-of-government” approach to increase the effectiveness, impact and visibility of its contribution. In this newsletter we therefore include projects and programmes which are supported or financed by both organizations (SDC and SECO).

Whereas many projects focus on infrastructure development and on strengthening capacities of institutions or of the sector as a whole, others (e.g., the [Skills Development Project \(SDP\) in Uzbekistan](#)) focuses on strengthening the Vocational Education and Training (VET) system for water and sanitation professionals. This flagship project established successful collaboration with several state partners and its systemic approach is going to serve as a blueprint for other sectors of the economy, highlighting the key role the water sector plays for development.

As always, the newsletter only provides a short flashight on each project and thus is not a comprehensive overview of the work being done. However, we hope that it will help you increase your interest and awareness of the different initiatives going on

and the links to the project factsheets and contact persons help you obtaining more information.

On an internal note, we would like to point out to the [e-discussion on Managing Disaster Risks and Water under Climate Change in Central Asia and the Caucasus](#) (27 August – 7 September 2018). The e-discussion was facilitated by the three involved SDC thematic networks, Climate Change & Environment Network (CC&E), Disaster Risk Reduction Network (DRR) and the Water Network (RésEAU) and focused on three thematic input papers. The purpose of these papers and of the e-discussion is to share knowledge and critical insights on the topic, disseminating innovative approaches and good practices, and stimulating debates among participants (more information is provided [here](#)).

Please remember that we no longer include news and events or recent publications in our newsletter – for up-to-date information please refer to the respective sites on Shareweb (e.g. [news & events](#), or [resources](#), where you also will find – among others - recordings of the recent [webinar on financial and economic analysis of development projects](#)). Nevertheless, in the context of this newsletter, we would like to highlight the news that Eawag’s [Sanitation Compendium now is available in Russian](#), as well as the strong involvement of Switzerland at the recent [High-level International Conference on the International Decade for Action in Dushanbe](#).

We wish you a happy reading and would like to thank everybody who contributed to this edition of the Water News.

[Hanna Capeder](#), RésEAU Focal Point

[Cliff Hammer](#), Regional Advisor for Infrastructure and Environment in the Western Balkans

[André Wehrli](#), Regional Water Advisor Central Asia

[Jean-Gabriel Duss](#), Water Advisor Eastern Europe and Central Asia

[Matthias Saladin](#), Editor RésEAU Newsletter

## Western Balkans and Eastern Europe

### Overview

In the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe, the Swiss engagement mainly focuses on improving access to safe and affordable water and sanitation services for the population. This overarching goal can be achieved through different mechanisms, for example by improving infrastructure, by strengthening capacities of public utilities, local governments or regulators, and in general by enhancing good governance principles in the water sector.

In a number of countries in this region, both SDC and SECO implement projects under a Whole-of-Government approach. The integrated embassies or cooperation offices are primarily responsible to ensure the complementarity of the projects and activities of the two agencies. The recent holistic DRR project in Macedonia is a showcase for such a complementary approach where funding for the different activities is provided by both agencies in accordance with their mandates as defined in the Dispatch on Switzerland's International Cooperation. The bilateral interventions are complemented and informed by SDC's Global Program Water, the

Humanitarian Aid Division and regional projects such as the Regional Capacity Development Network for Water and Sanitation Services (RCDN), which aims at strengthening capacities of Public Utilities and Local Governments in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia.

Switzerland's support to the countries in this region goes beyond the funding of infrastructure. In line with national needs, reform processes are encouraged, ensuring compliance of water laws, norms and standards with international best practices and legislative instruments of the European Union such as Water Framework Directive. To assure the successful scaling up, new financial mechanisms are put in place with international financial institutions, standards and training curricula are developed further, and technical support is provided to assure high quality at management level of key stakeholders. The following pages provide a glimpse on the diverse and rich body of work Switzerland is supporting.

### Albania

#### Water supply and sewerage project in Lezha city

The construction works in the water supply and sewerage project in Lezha city have been completed by the end of 2017. The Project was co-financed by the Swiss Government with a grant of 10 million Euro and the German government through KfW with a 3 million Euro loan. Whereas the European Union contributed with 250,000 Euro that went towards building the capacities of Lezha's water and sewerage utility, nearly 128 kilometres of water network pipes and connections were installed and three new water reservoirs constructed. With this investment completed, Lezha joins Korça and Pogradec among the Albanian cities that enjoy uninterrupted water supply 24 hours and 7 days a week. Access to drinking water supply has increased to 95% of Lezha citizens, up from 80% in 2014.



Swiss Ambassador Graf and German Deputy Ambassador Holstein with Albania's PM Rama inaugurating the new Lezha water supply system on January 13, 2018. © FDFA

The utility of Lezha is seen as a front-runner in the country as it showed a strong commitment to improve services and to strengthen its financial performance. For instance the coverage of direct operational cost increased from 47% at the project start to 135% in 2017. A recent report stated the

collection rate in Lezha reached 84% of households, which is a considerable increase from previous years and that citizens express a higher satisfaction with the water supply service.

For more information contact [Eduart Rumani](#), SECO

### Municipal Infrastructure Programme MIP III / IV

The Municipal Infrastructure Programme (MIP) III/IV, co-financed by SECO and KfW, has the objective to improve access to safe drinking water of the population of six medium-sized cities in Albania at socially acceptable and cost-covering tariffs and to provide adequate sanitation through sewage disposal, whilst performance of the utilities is improved. MIP III/IV is a follow-up programme of the Project in Lezha and follows a performance based approach: The achievement of performance targets accompanied by corporate development measures in a first phase paves the way for infrastructure investments in a second phase. Thereby, a mixed loan (KfW) and grant (SECO) financing is applied: Loan financing increases the commitment and engagement of the utility and municipality, while grants increase the affordability of water services for the poor and preserve the public debt capacity. Infrastructure investments are complemented with corporate development measures, capacity building and technical assistance. By July 2018, all six utilities have reached the second performance target so that the second phase of

the Programme - realization of infrastructure investments - can be initiated.

The beneficiaries of MIP III/IV are the municipalities of Berat, Kuçova, Lushnja, Librazhd, Gjirokastra, Kamza and Delvina and their respective utilities, the Programme Coordination Unit at the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, and the nearly 400,000 inhabitants of the municipalities.



Utility official reads the water meter in Albania 2014.  
© Office of the Prime Minister, Albania

For more information contact [Eduart Rumani](#), SECO

## Bosnia and Herzegovina

### New investments for better services in the water and economy sectors in 17 municipalities (SDC)

SDC invests CHF 12 million for the first phase of the Municipal Environmental and Economic Governance (MEG) project in the period 2016-2020. More than 70'000 people and 115 companies will directly benefit from joint investments with 17 partner municipalities. SDC will invest CHF 2.6 million in the water and business development infrastructure in 2018 only, following the achieved performance improvements in municipalities and water utilities. Examples: Gradiska will receive CHF 140'000 for the rehabilitation of its landmark water



Representatives of 17 municipalities signed letters of agreements on 08 May 2018 in Sarajevo

tower; Tesanj will receive CHF 140'000 and invest own CHF 300'000 in the water supply system for 320 rural households.

For more information please check out [this fact sheet](#) and [this website](#), or contact [Srećko Bajić](#), SDC

## Kosovo

### Rural Water and Sanitation Support Programme Phase VI

The programme aims to improve living conditions of the population by providing universal access to high quality water and sanitation services as well as improving the sustainability and governance of water and energy resources. By its planned completion in 2020, it shall achieve coverage of well over 90% of the population with drinking water supply. Only about 40% of the population were covered with water supply at the time the 1st phase of the programme started in 2005.

The overall cost of the 6th phase of RWSSP amounts to CHF 17.1 million. The Swiss Government contributes with a grant of CHF 7.1 million, while the Government of Kosovo - which has been contributing to this programme since 2011 - provides CHF 11.1 million.

This phase will mark the final stage of the Rural Water Programme and it is a joint Kosovar and Swiss achievement in water and sanitation area

where the sustainability of these investments can rely on a conducive political framework and on well performing government institutions with proper accountability mechanisms in place.



Signing of Programme Agreement between Switzerland and the Ministry of Finances (July 2018)

For more information contact [Ardiana Efendija-Zhur](#), SCO, Kosovo

### Rural Water and Sanitation Support Programme Phase V

Since 2005, the Swiss Rural Water and Sanitation Support Programme has provided access to safe drinking water and sanitation to more than 150,000 people living in rural area. The programme is building infrastructure, strengthening managing capacity, and developing the sector framework conditions. It is expected that by end of this phase around 320,000 people will benefit and the Regional Water Companies maintain effectively the water networks. The program is known by its pragmatic approach by addressing the needs at all levels of the water sector as well as enhancing the coordination among sector institutions. This programme phase V is implemented by the JV Dorsch International Consultants (DI) and the local NGO, Community Development Initiatives (CDI) and

supported by a Swiss Backstopper, Skat Ltd., responsible also for the output.



Construction of the Rural Waste Water Treatment Plant in Ternavc Village (spring 2013)

For more information contact [Ardiana Efendija-Zhur](#), SCO, Kosovo

## Gjakova Waste Water Treatment Plant

In order to improve the status of the environment and enhance the quality of life for the citizens of Gjakova and its surroundings, SECO and KfW support the implementation of this project is the largest investments since the establishment of Gjakova Water Supply Company. Beside the positive impacts for the city of Gjakova by protecting the environment, the water resources and the health of the citizens, the project is also crucial for the cross border initiatives of the country.

The Project will cover in its first phase (2014 – 2020) around 30,000 inhabitant equivalents and consists of building a new Wastewater Treatment Plant, a new collector, and rehabilitation of the network in the town. In addition, the local utility company will receive institutional support and capacity building measures. Switzerland contributes EUR 8 million, complemented by funds from

KfW (EUR 6 million) and another three million Euros from the Gjakova Municipality.



Ceremony for the Waste Water Treatment Plant in Gjakova (June 2018)

For more information contact [Ardiana Efendija-Zhur](#), SCO, Kosovo

## Support to Inter- Ministerial Water Council – Water Task Force

The long-standing Swiss support to the Kosovo water sector continues with a support to the Inter-Ministerial Water Council, the highest decision making institution of the water sector situated at the Kosovo Prime Minister's cabinet. The improvement of the water sector governance has been of particular importance. Switzerland supported the creation of the Water Task Force in the 1st phase (starting 2009) and assisted the formal establishment and consolidation of the Inter-Ministerial Water Council (IMWC) during the 2nd phase, which will last until the end of 2018.

The Inter-Ministerial Water Council is composed of six permanent members (five of which are voting members): the Prime Minister (Chairperson); the Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning; the Minister of Economic Development; the Minister of Finance; the Minister of Foreign Affairs (for transboundary issues); and the two nominated representative of the donor community (non-voting) (one being a representative of the Swiss representation in Kosovo, and the other a representative of an active water sector donors participating on rotational basis).

Under the chairmanship and guidance of the Prime Minister, the IMWC plays a crucial role in the devel-

opment of the water sector. Thanks to the support provided by Switzerland and the commitment of the Kosovo Government, today, the institutional set-up of Kosovo's water sector is appreciated by prominent international water organizations, with the IMWC having contributed significantly to strengthening the governance in the water sector. Switzerland encourages the IMWC to continue the good work done so far, to further nourish and advance the needed reforms in the water sector.



The Swiss Ambassador J.H. Lebet and the Prime Minister of Kosovo R. Haradinaj exchanging signed agreements (December 2017)

For more information contact [Ardiana Efendija-Zhur](#), SCO, Kosovo

## Moldova

### ApaSan: Moldovan institutions respond better to the needs of the rural population

In the last year of its final phase, the Water and Sanitation Project in Moldova (ApaSan), funded by SDC/ADC and implemented by Skat Consulting Ltd., successfully transferred know-how on rural water supply and sanitation to Moldovan institutions. They have strengthened their capacities and learned how to use new tools to strategically plan infrastructure, select optimal school sanitation options and provide services to support small local operators. Targeting a wide range of water and sanitation sector actors, a [new website in English, Romanian and English](#) documents and summarizes the project results and knowledge products.



Civil society advocacy campaigns created public pressure on Moldovan ministries which then acted to improve sanitation conditions at schools (photo credit: Tatiana Etco)

For further information: [Florian Klingel](#), ApaSan Project Director

## Macedonia

### Reducing the risk of natural disaster in the Polog region

To address the growing challenge of floods in the Polog Region and throughout the country, SDC and SECO support the implementation of a four years program implemented by UNDP that includes a comprehensive set of complimentary risk identification, prevention, reduction and preparedness measures at local and national level in line with the EU-Floods Directive and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. While SECO-funded interventions will focus primarily on state-of-the-art urban resilience building, SDC funding will help improve national-level legal, regulatory and financing environments, enhance flood preparedness, and introduce innovative technologies to early warning systems and nature-based solutions.

This programme lasts from 2017 to 2021 and has an overall budget of CHF 3.3 million, which are co-financed by SDC and SECO.



Signing of Project Agreement between Switzerland, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and UNDP (November 2017)

For more information check out this [website](#) or contact [Stanislava Dodeva](#), Swiss Embassy Skopje

### Gostivar Water Supply

Switzerland has been supporting the Municipality of Gostivar for the past six years on its path towards a more reliable and safe water supply. In the first phase of the project a master plan was developed,

which included – among others – the rehabilitation of Vardar spring catchment and the construction of a new reservoir, benefiting some 45,000 citizens of the town of Gostivar and neighbouring villages.

For the second phase, Switzerland in cooperation with KfW extends its support to the Municipality of Gostivar. New investments in infrastructure and training of the Public Utility staff will lead to better and more reliable water supply services for the citizens of Gostivar and the surrounding villages.

The second phase of this programme will last from 2018 to 2021 with an overall budget of CHF 5.4 million for the second phase, which is funded by SECO.

### Delcevo Water Supply Project

The long-standing Swiss support to the Macedonian water sector continues with a new project that will provide the citizens of the Municipality of Delcevo with clean drinking water. Besides building infrastructure (including among others a water treatment plant with renewable energy schemes) the project will support the strengthening of the capacities of the public water utility and their transformation into a customer-oriented, self-financing and sustainable utility.

Works are planned to start in September 2018. The overall budget of this programme, which lasts from 2018-2020, is CHF 6.05 million and is funded by SECO.

### Kocani Waste Water Treatment Plant

Construction works for the new waste water treatment plant in Kocani are well underway. By spring 2019, the plant will treat the waste water of approximately 60,000 inhabitants and thereby significantly contribute to improving the water quality of the Bregalnica River. The Kocani WWTP is one of the cornerstones of the Swiss support for the Bregalnica River Basin. Thanks to the co-generation of biogas and a solar plant, approx. 65% of the needed power can be generated onsite. This will not only help reducing CO2 emissions (394 t/year, corresponds to 2.6 Mio car km/a), but also significantly reduce operational costs and accordingly tariffs to be paid by the citizens.

The project (2014-2019) is funded by SECO, with an overall budget of CHF 21 million.



Signing of Financing-Agreement between Public Utility of Gostivar and Ministry of Transport and Communication (July 2018)

For more information check out this [website](#) or contact [Stanislava Dodeva](#), Swiss Embassy Skopje



Signing of Project Agreement between Switzerland, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and Municipality of Delcevo (March 2018)

For more information check out this [website](#) or contact [Stanislava Dodeva](#), Swiss Embassy Skopje



Construction of the wastewater treatment plant Kocani (December 2017)

For more information contact [Stanislava Dodeva](#), Embassy Skopje

## Gevgelija Waste Water Treatment Plant

In November 2017, the new waste water treatment plant of Gevgelija at the border to Greece has been put into test operation. Calibration and final works will be concluded in September 2018. The treatment plant funded by Macedonia, Greece and Switzerland has a capacity of 32,000 population equivalents, treating wastewater from households but also from the food processing industry. Special

attention has been given to the overall strengthening and modernization of the public utility and training of the operating staff in order to ensure a sustainable operation.

The project (2010-2018) is funded by SECO, with a budget of CHF 6.8 million.

For more information contact [Stanislava Dodeva](#), Embassy Skopje



Testing of wastewater treatment plant Gevgelija (January 2018)

## Restoring the Health of the Strumica River Basin

The health of the Strumica River Basin ecosystem has been under threat in recent decades from pollution and rising demand for water from farming, industry and growing urban centres. Unsustainable farming practices, including excessive use of fertilizers and pesticides to grow vegetables and fruits and inefficient irrigation methods, have undermined water quality. The ecosystem is especially vulnerable to climate change causing higher temperatures and extreme weather events. These bring the risk of an extreme scarcity of water that could jeopardize the livelihoods of the region's farming families.

Through a new SDC-funded project (CHF 4 million, 2016-2021), selected measures are being introduced to improve resource management practices and increase resilience of communities to water-related risk, based on EU-WFD compatible River Basin Management and Flood Management plans.

The recently inaugurated pilot wastewater plant (SBR technology) in the rural Municipality of Novo

Selo showcases the use of decentralized waste water treatment complementary to the construction of larger plants for urban areas.



Opening of wastewater treatment plant in Novo Selo (Deputy Minister Jani Makraduli, Swiss Ambassador Sybille Suter, Mayor of Novo Selo and UNDP Director Lousa Vinton) (July 2018)

For more information contact [Stanislava Dodeva](#), Embassy Skopje



## Bregalnica River Basin Management

The project supported the preparation of the Bregalnica River Basin Management Plan, trained young national officers on integrated water resources planning and management and enabled implementation of 18 individual water infrastructure projects in all municipalities of the Bregalnica river basin. The project, which received a contribution of CHF 4.36 million by SECO, was completed in December 2017 with the inauguration of two small rural wastewater treatment plants.

This is one of the projects implemented in the Bregalnica region, as a focused area where several complementary projects related to protection of environment and sustainable management of natural resources, financed by SECO and SDC, are under implementation. With experience gained in these projects the young national officers currently support the Ministry in the preparation of the Vardar River Basin Management Plan and the preparation of a national groundwater cadastre.

Furthermore, the experiences from this project now inform the design of an Integrated Water Resources Management project in Kosovo.



Locals offering bread and sugar at the opening of the wastewater treatment plant in Karbinci (December 2017)

For more information check out this [website](#) or contact [Stanislava Dodeva](#), Swiss Embassy Skopje

## Serbia

### Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Project on its way

During May 2014, large areas of Southeast and Central Europe were affected by floods due to the heaviest rains of the 120 year period recorded in the region. Many municipalities along the major rivers suffered great damages caused by floodwaters.

Switzerland committed to support Serbia in the rehabilitation process as part of the international response to these events. A grant over CHF 3.2 million by SECO is intended for the 16 month Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Project (MDRRP) for municipalities of Paracin and Uzice that were affected by the floods.

The project, which inception phase was closed in February 2018, consists of two components: Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) investments and capacity development. For Uzice, the installation of an early warning system is foreseen to improve lead time for evacuation in the case of floods. The contract for the design of the system has been awarded according to public tendering procedure and the

services shall start operations in August 2018. For Paracin, reconstruction and uplift of the bridges in the city center is planned for enlarging the discharge capacity of the Crnica River. The Municipality of Paracin prepared and issued tender documents for design of traffic and pedestrian bridges rehabilitation and reconstruction that were published in June 2018. Award of the contract is expected by the end of August 2018.



Flooded municipality of Paracin

For more information contact [Priska Depnering](#), SCO Belgrade

## Ukraine

### Swiss-Ukrainian Decentralization Support Project DESPRO

DESPRO, an SDC-financed project implemented by [Skat Consulting Ltd.](#), now in its fourth phase, focuses on the support to the processes of merging (amalgamation) of municipalities, decentralized services provision, and the national decentralization reform. The project also facilitates innovative approaches towards integrating Knowledge Management processes into civil service and local self-governance.

With the support of DESPRO, 152 projects have been implemented in the areas of water supply, sanitation and solid waste management. DESPRO financed the construction of 1,111 km of water supply and sewerage networks. Within 10 years, 173,000 citizens in six regions received access to improved public services.

During a planning event in June 2018 the Project Steering Committee approved plans for the rest of the phase (up to 2020), which include the continuation of informational and educational activities and support to the amalgamated municipalities to improve the planning and provision of public services. During the event, the ground breaking role of DESPRO was widely recognized. Vyacheslav Nehoda,

Deputy Minister of Regional Development, Construction, Housing and Communal Services of Ukraine, said that ""You were among the first who broke the wall of distrust against decentralization and helped overcome the scepticism of local officials, politicians and residents of the communities... It is great to know that this work will continue."



Meeting of the Project Steering Board (June 2018)

For further information please visit [this website](#) or [this website](#), or contact [is Iлона Postemska](#), SDC

### Humanitarian Convoys from Switzerland in Ukraine

Since 2015, Switzerland, as a part of eight direct humanitarian measures, supplied more than 7000 tons of chemicals to Vodadonbasa for treating drinking water. This contributed to making sure that nearly 4 million people in the Donetsk region, on both sides of the "line of contact", had access to clean drinking water for three years. These activities also helped to reduce the risk of the conflict parties using water access issues to exert military or political pressure. To reduce costs and risks as well as to improve the resilience of the water utility Switzerland started to substitute the use of purchased and transported chlorine through decentralised electrolyze devices, producing hypochlorite locally. Already 300,000 persons do not depend any more on imported chlorine.



Loading of lorries of a new humanitarian aid convoy, bringing medical supplies and water treatment chemicals from Switzerland to Ukraine.

More information is available on this [website](#) and this [news item](#). For further information contact [Dietrich Dreyer](#), SHA Eurasia

## Regional projects and programmes

### Regional Capacity Development Network for Water and Sanitation Services (RCDN)

Complimentary to its Corporate Development support to selected utilities in the region in the frame of infrastructure projects, SECO supports since June 2017 a regional initiative in order to foster and enhance capacity building in the sector. RCDN supports the national Associations of Public Utilities and Local Governments in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia to improve the delivery and quality of capacity development products and to create a conducive environment for building and improving capacities of the sector work force at the level of public utilities and municipalities. RCDN is implemented by the International Association of Water Supply Companies in the Danube River Catchment Area (IAWD), the Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe (NALAS), Aquasan Network of BiH and the GIZ Open Regional Fund - Modernisation of Municipal Services (ORF-MMS). The Swiss contribution of CHF 5.3 million is funded by SECO.



Creative workshop for better promotion of training courses on water and sanitation (July 2018)

For more information please check out this [Facebook page](#) or contact [Cliff Hammer](#), Regional Advisor for Infrastructure and Environment in the Western Balkans

## Central Asia

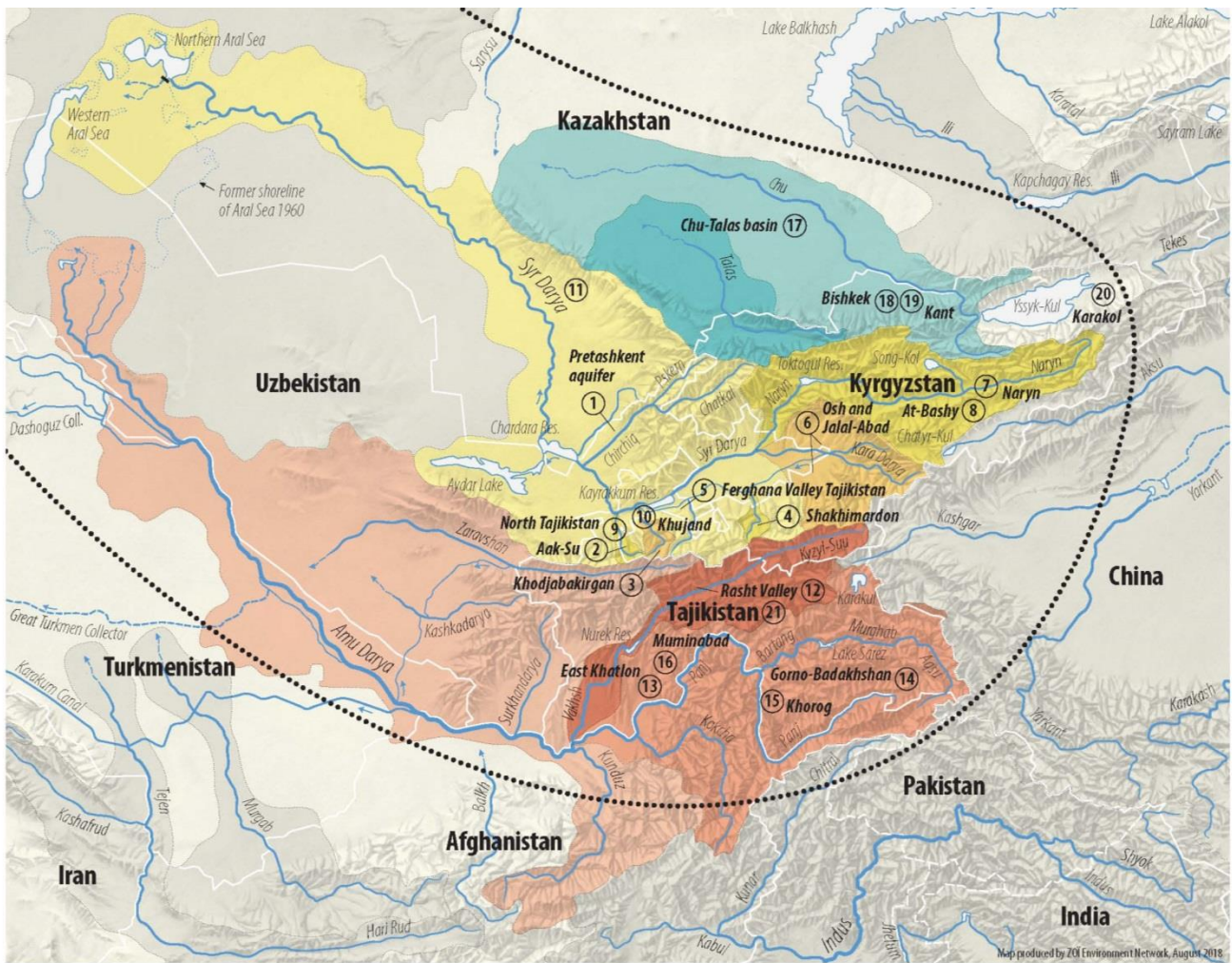
### Overview

The Swiss Cooperation strategy in Central Asia aims at creating and fostering responsive and inclusive institutions as well as peace and social cohesion. This conducive environment will improve people's well-being and is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) including the goal on clean water and sanitation (SDG 6).

At the regional level, Switzerland strives towards bringing countries together in a spirit of solidarity to tackle water, energy and food-related challenges. One focus is thereby on improving infrastructure that has been suffering from prolonged underinvestment as well as on overcoming deficiencies in terms of management and regulatory environment. Additionally, SDC and SECO work to-

wards strengthening the consistent application of Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) principles in the region and by doing so, contribute to reducing the potential for conflicts around the water/energy nexus.

Furthermore, Switzerland is working with Government stakeholders to improve the provision of reliable and efficient public services, including safe drinking water, sanitation and solid waste management, in the respective country contexts. As the region is prone to multiple natural hazards that are exacerbated by climate change, DRR and climate change adaptation are an important dimension of the portfolio in the water sector.



**SDC and SECO water portfolio in Central Asia**



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC  
State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO

**Transboundary watersheds and selected sub-basins**

- Amu Darya
- Syr Darya
- Chu-Talas

**Projects**

■ SDC    ▲ SECO

- ① Pretashkent Aquifer
  - Groundwater resources governance in transboundary aquifers (UNESCO-IHP)
- ② Aak-Su
  - National Water Resources Management Project in Tajikistan (NWRM – Tajikistan)
- ③ Khodjabakirgan
  - National Water Resources Management Project in Tajikistan
- ④ Shakhimardonsai
  - Regional Rural Water Supply Project Uzbekistan (RRWSP)
- ⑤ Ferghana Valley Tajikistan
  - Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Tajikistan Fergana Valley (RWSS)
- ⑥ Osh and Jalal-Abad
  - ▲ Osh and Jalal-Abad Water Rehabilitation project
  - ▲ Pipeline: Jalal-Abad Water Rehabilitation Project
- ⑦ Naryn
  - ▲ Naryn water and wastewater project
- ⑧ At-Bashy
  - ▲ At-Bashy Hydro Power Plant Rehabilitation Project
- ⑨ North Tajikistan
  - ▲ North Tajik Water Rehabilitation Project
  - ▲ North Tajik Water Rehabilitation Project II
- ⑩ Khujand
  - ▲ Khujand wastewater rehabilitation project III
- ⑪ Syr Darya
  - ▲ Syr Darya water supply project
- ⑫ Rasht Valley
  - Integrated Health & Habitat Rasht Valley
- ⑬ East Khatlon
  - Tajikistan Water Supply and Sanitation (TajWSS)
- ⑭ Gorno-Badakhshan
  - Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation Management in Tajikistan Project (SWSMT)
- ⑮ Khorog
  - ▲ Pipeline: Khorog Urban Resilience (Scoping spring 18)
- ⑯ Muminabad
  - HA Natural disaster DRR and IWSM Muminabad
- ⑰ Chu-Talas basin
  - Water Accountability in Transboundary Chu and Talas River Basins
  - National Water Resources
  - Management Project in Kyrgyzstan (NWRM – Kyrgyzstan)
- ⑱ Bishkek
  - ▲ Bishkek water and waste water rehabilitation project
- ⑲ Kant
  - ▲ Kant Water and Wastewater Project
- ⑳ Karakol
  - ▲ Karakol Water supply Project
- ㉑ Tajikistan
  - ▲ Tajik (national level) Water Phase II
  - Focus Remote geohazards capacity building
  - Improved DRR Policy making

- Central Asia
- ▲ Blue Peace Central Asia
- ▲ Central Asia Energy and Water Dev. CAEWDP

SDC and SECO water portfolio in Central Asia. For a higher resolution version of this map please use this [link](#).

## Tajikistan

### Swiss Water Portfolio in Tajikistan



A water tap in a village in the Tajik Wakhan valley. In the background the Panj River, forming the border to Afghanistan and a major tributary to the Amur Darya river, one of the main Central Asian rivers (Picture courtesy of Skat).

With its numerous lakes and major glaciers, the largely semi-arid Tajikistan has abundant fresh water resources: about 60% of Central Asian water streams are originating from its mountains. However, due to the rough terrain, population growth and collapse of centrally subsidized drinking water supply and irrigation systems, the delivery of the water to the users remains a challenge. Tajikistan's difficulties in delivering basic services are hampering its economic development, harming livelihoods and health of its people. Inequalities in access to irrigation water causes local conflicts between users, whilst fuelling tensions around water allocation and use in the region. In addition, due to impact of climate change and melting of glaciers the number of water-related disasters is increasing.

In December 2015 the Government of Tajikistan endorsed the Water Sector Reform Programme 2016-2025. The reform aims to shift water management from an administrative and sectoral approach to IWRM and river basin principles, whilst

developing new (and replace existing Soviet era) regulatory, legislative and operational frameworks.

Switzerland supports the country in its efforts for reform with a diverse project portfolio intervening at national, provincial and local levels, covering all the provinces of the country. All projects include cross-level interventions with policy dialogue components and community level infrastructure development, building capacity of authorities and empowering communities on water resource management and sanitation, integrating disaster risk reduction, conflict-sensitive project management (CSPM) and gender elements.

Tajikistan is one of the five Central Asian States where SDC facilitates transboundary and regional water resources cooperation under the Blue Peace approach by means of the establishment of a High Level Dialogue Platform, the promotion of sustainable water practices as well as capacity building of a new generation of water professionals and champions.

**Rural Water Supply and Sanitation:** Several projects funded by SDC East Cooperation department aim at improving the health and living conditions of the population by providing drinking water and fostering better hygiene practices. Sustainability of the interventions is a priority for all the projects. The projects implemented by Oxfam, UNDP, International Secretariat for Water (ISW) and the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) tackle sustainability by assisting the water authorities in creation of enabling environment and by empowering water users associations as legal entities in charge of managing the systems put in place.

**Urban infrastructure:** SECO and EBRD started the co-operation on urban water and projects in Tajikistan in 2004 with the Khujand Water Supply and sanitation Project I. The project design at that time entailed for the first time the combination of the three components of capital investments, corporate development and stakeholder participation. This cooperation and the "Khujand model" proved successful so that it is being replicated in other regions of the country including projects related to solid waste, wastewater treatment and energy.

**River Basin / Watershed Management:** The "National Water Resources Management Project", implemented by the Consortium HELVETAS-GIZ-ACTED, supports the implementation of the water sector reform in the Tajik part of Syr Darya river basin. It aims at strengthening water resource and irrigation management at national, basin, scheme, and on-farm level.. The Integrated Watershed Management (IWSM) project, implemented by Caritas Switzerland in Khatlon support the rural communities to sustainably manage land and water resources in order to reduce impact of disaster risks, the Water Productivity Project (WAPRO, see separate contribution) are further initiatives funded by the Humanitarian Aid and Global Cooperation departments respectively.

## Recent highlights

### **New phase of IHHI in the Rasht Valley showcases fully integrated approach on watershed level**

The second phase of the Integrated Health and Habitat Improvement (IHHI), implemented by AKDN, started at the beginning of 2018. The pro-

ject focusses on the area of the watershed and fully integrates disaster preparedness, development of basic services for healthcare, water and sanitation, livelihood development and promotes sustained behaviour change of the rural population and the district administrations. The design of the second phase was informed by a SDC multi-network peer review.

### **Breakthrough for full cost recovery in rural water supply**

A major breakthrough was achieved in the RWSS Project in the Ferghana Valley, with the Anti-monopoly Agency of both national and provincial levels approving the water tariffs in all rural water systems that were implemented with support of the project. The village water systems located in Konibodom, Isfara, Mastchoh and Spitamen districts all apply tariffs that not only cover the full costs of operation and maintenance, but also capital costs. In Tajikistan, tariffs are usually kept low for political reasons and full cost recovery is rarely achieved even in urban areas; thus the tariffs met strong initial opposition from Anti-monopoly Agency at provincial and national level. However, ISW's persistent follow-up, lobbying and communication of the successful experience in the projects eventually resulted in the recent approval of the tariffs. This precedent may now facilitate the replication of cost recovery in rural water system in other regions in Tajikistan.

### **Climate change, DRR and Water**

SDC's upcoming [Regional Multi-network Seminar in Khorog](#), Tajikistan in September 2018 will explore the impacts of climate change on disaster risks and water management in the mountainous regions of Central Asia and Southern Caucasus.

In Tajikistan, SDC is already addressing the challenges of climate change, natural disasters and water management in a comprehensive way. The seminar will showcase SDC's experiences in the country and jointly with colleagues from the region expand on them and discuss the future pathways towards sustainable solutions.

For more information contact [Alishe Shabdolov](#) and [Ruslan Sadykov](#)

## Uzbekistan

### A community-led approach adopted by the Government of Uzbekistan

The International Secretariat for Water (ISW), a Canada-based NGO, is putting the finishing touch to a project financed by the SDC office in Tashkent, aiming at supporting villages in rural areas in Uzbekistan to have access to safe drinking water through a full cost recovery model of decentralised community-managed water supply. In parallel, a comprehensive hand washing promotion strategy was implemented through national campaigns for school children, combined with training of health care workers, to reduce water-borne diseases.

After over a decade of ISW activities and advocacy, supplying over 160,000 people between the Fergana and Syr Darya regions, the recently created Ministry of Communal Services finally adopted the model for scaling up throughout the country where and when feasible. Jointly, interested international financing institutions such as the World Bank are envisioning allocating funds for national replication. The ISW team will support the existing drinking water organisations and prepare the identification of new village schemes to be financed through World Bank credits.

Additionally, having reached out to over 10,000 (!) schools and 500 doctors and nurses, the methods proposed for the hygiene awareness raising are now incorporated in the curricula of training and retraining of doctors and nurses, having been adopted by the Ministry of Health.



Meeting officialising the adoption of the project model by the Uzbek authorities and extending it to the whole country

For further information please check out [this website](#) and this factsheet, or contact [Jean-Gabriel Duss](#), SDC, or [Olivier Norman](#), IWS

## Regional projects and programmes

### Increased Water Productivity in Rice and Cotton (WAPRO)

WAPRO is a multi-stakeholder initiative, with projects in Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, India and Pakistan, implementing the innovative PUSH-PULL-POLICY approach to increase water productivity in rice and cotton. Smallholders adopt more efficient production methods through technical assistance (push), private sector companies purchase their crops that are produced with more sustainable methods (pull) and water stewardship addresses the gap that inappropriate water governance is creating (policy).

Since 2015 more than 45,000 farmers are trained in technologies that lead to higher incomes through reduced water consumption by more than 30% compared to conventional technologies. The project runs from 2015 – 2021, financed by SDC with CHF 7 million and the private sector and others with approximately CHF 17 million.



Womens' training in water saving technologies in cotton production (Picture courtesy of Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation)

More information is available on this [project factsheet](#) and on this [website](#). For further information contact [Christina Blank](#), SDC

## Water accountability in transboundary rivers between Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan

The Kazakh-Kyrgyz a Commission on the Joint Use of Water Infrastructure in the transboundary basins of the Chu and Talas rivers is considered a best practice in the region. However it still lacks modern data management means to ensure water accountability and water balance estimates. The Swiss funded project “Water Accountability in transboundary Chu and Talas basins 2017-2020”, with a Swiss budget contribution of CHF 2.3 million, strives to establish a modern multi-layered Irrigation Water Measurement / Information System (WIS) for proper water accounting, based on refurbished data management infrastructure. As of now, the project has installed 22 SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition Systems) and 163 hypoposts that generate real time data.



Map of the area of the project implementation and where automated systems have been installed.

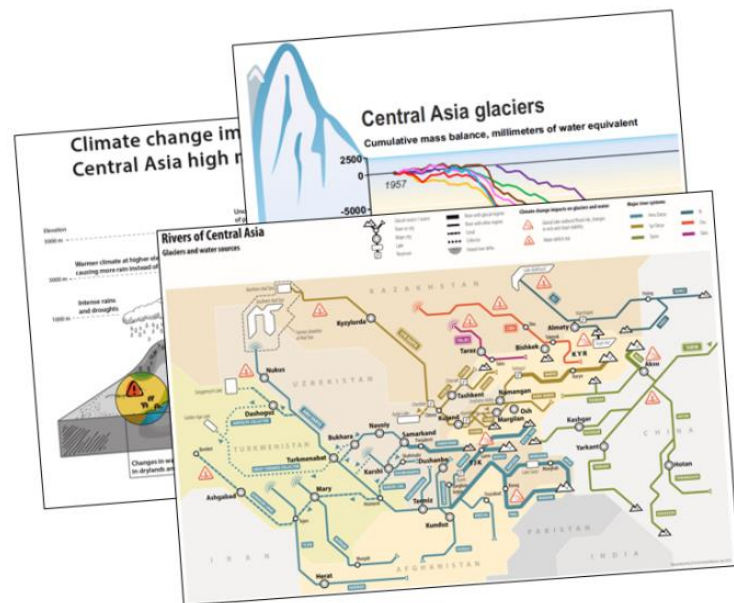
For more information please contact [Bakyt Makhmutov](#), SDC

## Cryospheric Climate Services for improved Adaptation in Central Asia (CICADA)

One region where climate change has major impacts is Central Asia. With the Tien Shan and Pamir, running through Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, the region contains two of the largest mountain systems of the world, which serve as water towers for the entire region. They store enormous amounts of water in the form of glacier ice and ice embedded in permafrost. These resources will play an important role for future water availability under the ongoing climate warming, influencing future water resource management.

To improve the complex cooperation on climate data and decision-making between stakeholders in Central Asia, sound and high-quality information on the climate and hydrological system are needed in order to provide climate scenarios and services for water runoff and natural hazards (e.g. Glacial Lake Outburst Floods, debris flows and landslides). This is a prerequisite to allow early planning and adaptation measures within the water resource management (WRM) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) sectors. The CICADA project aims bridging this gap with the development of high-quality cryosphere data, to increase (education) capacity, cooperation and awareness, and to use high quality cryosphere data for improving WRM and DRR in pilot regions.

Under the goal of increasing outreach and political buy-in, the CICADA project contributed to the Action Panel on Climate Change and DRR during the Dushanbe Conference in June. The [co-produced movie](#) on Integrated Risk Management as well as the infographics explaining the Cryosphere-Climate Change-Water nexus were particularly well received by the audience.



Sound and high-quality information on the climate and hydrological system are collected

For further information contact [Manfred Kaufmann](#), SDC, Global Programme Climate Change & Environment



## Blue Peace Central Asia initiative (BPCA)

2017 has seen the launch of the first phase of the Blue Peace Central Asia initiative at the Astana Conference in June during the Expo 17. In response to the explicit demand of the five Central Asian States, and building on over 25 years of activities in the water sector in the region, the BPCA initiative aims to move towards sustainable and equitable transboundary water management mechanisms, whereby the people in the region benefit from improved water security, peace and sustainable development. To do so, three different lines of action are being developed: 1) Enhancing regional water policy dialogue; 2) Supporting smart practices in transboundary water management; 3) Promoting involvement of the youth.



Ten representatives of Central Asia on their visit to the Senegal River Basin Organisation

Under this framework, with the overall goal of providing a dialogue platform for the five Central Asian countries and exposing them to a first international experience in transboundary water management, a delegation of 10 representatives of Central Asia visited the Senegal River Basin Organisation (Organisation de Mise en Valeur du fleuve Sénégal, OMVS) in May 2018. The focus was on how the water is jointly managed between the 4 countries which share the same Senegal river basin

(Guinea, Mali, Mauritania and Senegal); and how they developed and apply their principle of shared costs and benefits, respecting the values of solidarity, transparency and equity. The particularity of the OMVS is its approach of water allocation according to the needs (irrigation, energy production, drinking water supply, navigation), as opposed to a country-based approach predominant in Central Asia.

In parallel, the BPCA is supporting the development of a network of youth for water in Central Asia, with the objectives of enhancing the capacities of the youth in the region, strengthening their voice at local, national and regional level, and increasing exchanges between the youth from the region and at global level. Jointly with international partners, different teams of young people from Central Asia have participated at high-level events (such as the 8<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in Brasilia in March 2108, the Dushanbe Water Decade Conference in June 2018), and at regional study tours (such as the scientific youth expedition "From Glaciers to the Aral Sea" in August 2018).



Impressions of young people from Central Asia participating at events around the globe.

For more information, please contact [André Wehrli](#), Regional Advisor Central Asia

## Spotlight on Youth

### Central Asia Energy and Water Development Program (CAEWDP)

The Central Asia Energy and Water Development Program (CAEWDP) is set up as a regional trust fund managed by the World Bank. It aims to strengthen the enabling environment to promote energy and water security at regional level and in the Program's beneficiary countries, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. CAEWDP was established in 2009 as a catalytic program supporting policy change, institutional effectiveness, investments and increased coordination among beneficiaries through targeted Bank and recipient executed grants. The third financing phase of the program CAEWDP 3.0 started in January 2018, with funding from the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs of Switzerland (SECO) and is expected to end in 2022.

Fostering cooperation and knowledge exchange among young water professionals and providing them greater voice through the Central Asia Youth Forum for Water forms part of the CAEWDP core activities. In this context, CAEWDP supported the youth side event to the High-Level Conference "Water for Sustainable Development 2018-2028" held in June 2018 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, which brought together winners of national student

contests. The side-event also connected the existing Central Asia youth water networks with similar initiatives in the MENA region. CAEWDP is instrumental in establishing cross-regional networks, linking the community of young water professionals of Central Asia with other regions. CAEWDP seeks complementarity with other development partner funded programs and fosters synergies with the Youth Pillar activities of the SDC Blue Peace Central Asia Initiative.



During the Youth Event in Dushanbe, June 2018

For more information contact [Philipp Arnold](#), SECO

### Building Peace in Central Asia by empowering young water leaders from the region

Led by the International Secretariat for Water and funded by the SDC, activities on empowering Central Asian water youth triggered the creation of a Water Generation movement by uniting young people to join their forces to implement a [Youth Vision](#). Rooted in the World Youth Parliament for Water and inspired by the Blue Peace movement, the team generated several action waves targeting transboundary cooperation, educational exchange, application of modern know-how, and popularizing WASH. Participation of youth at basin councils became the stepping-stone in this movement. With the support of ISW and SDC, young people from Central Asia had the opportunity to make their voice heard at a number of high-level platforms.



Kick-off gathering for the [ISW event during the Astana EXPO](#) of 2017, 16-20 June

For more information contact [Laurie Fournex](#), SIE-ISW

## Narrowing the gap between youth's concerns and policymakers' priorities in CEE

The "Youth Voices → Policy Choices" project aims at empowering the new generation of water leaders, building trust and motivating them to become agents of change at different levels, starting at their own communities. The first dialogue between young water leaders from Central and Eastern Europe and key decision makers on water and climate was organized as part of the Summer School "Towards 2030 Agenda" held on 1-7 July 2018 in Warsaw. Youth's messages from the dialogue will resonate at COP24 in December 2018. The project was developed under the Youth for Water and Climate platform, an initiative supported by the SDC, and was made possible thanks to the collaboration between the Global Water Partnership CEE, the International Secretariat for Water, Solidarity Water Europe and Youth Water Community CEE, with the financial support of the European Commission.



Summer school in Warsaw, July 2018

Further information can be obtained through [this website](#) or from this [news article](#), and the photo gallery is available [here](#). For more information contact [Gergana Majercakova](#), GWP

## Skills Development Project (SDP)

The fourth Phase of the Skills Development Project (SDP) in Uzbekistan contributes to the improvement and further development of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) system by introducing and strengthening the systemic approach to cooperation among stakeholders in the water sector. Sited within the cycle "Demand-Training-Job Placement", the systemic approach is going to serve as a blueprint for other sectors of the economy and be replicated accordingly, with a strong involvement of Uzbek authorities. The fourth phase of this project, financially supported by SDC with an amount of CHF 3.17 million, is coming to an end in 2018.

The project targets both students and water supply specialists and enables them to acquire knowledge and skills which meet the current demands of the labour market. Furthermore the project strives to increase the number of girls and women in these professions and improve their access to training.

The SDP is considered a flagship project which achieved great results and established successful collaboration with all state partners. Professional colleges were supported to develop new curricula

and standards, and regional competence centres were established in five pilot locations. During the recent visit of the Swiss Economic Delegation to Central Asia Minister Schneider-Amman visited the Skill Development Project site in Samarkand and expressed his appreciation for the excellent results achieved.



Vocational training for water specialists at the Training Centre of the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services

For more information check out this [fact sheet](#) or contact [Richard Chenevard](#), SDC

## Overview of water-related projects

### A. Western Balkans and Eastern Europe

Country	Project name	Donor	Contact
Albania	Municipal Infrastructure Programme (MIP) III & IV	SECO	<a href="#">Eduart Rumani</a>
Albania	Water Supply and Sewerage Project in Lezha City	SECO	<a href="#">Eduart Rumani</a>
Albania	Decentralization and Local Development Program in Albania	SDC	<a href="#">Eduart Rumani</a>
BiH	Water Programme Zenica-Tuzla (WPZT)	SECO	<a href="#">Srecko Bajic</a>
BiH	Wastewater Zenica (WWZE)	SECO	<a href="#">Srecko Bajic</a>
BiH	Municipal Environmental and Economic Development Project	SDC	<a href="#">Srecko Bajic</a>
BiH	Integrated Local Development Project (ILDLP)	SDC	<a href="#">Srecko Bajic</a>
Kosovo	Rural Water and Sanitation Support Programme	SDC	<a href="#">Ardian Efendija-Zhuri</a>
Kosovo	Support to Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM)	SDC	<a href="#">Ardian Efendija-Zhuri</a>
Kosovo	Kosovo Water Task Force II (Inter-Ministerial Water Council)	SECO	<a href="#">Ardian Efendija-Zhuri</a>
Kosovo	Gjakova Waste Water Treatment Plant	SECO	<a href="#">Ardian Efendija-Zhuri</a>
Kosovo	Peja Waste Water Treatment Plant	SECO	<a href="#">Ardian Efendija-Zhuri</a>
Kosovo	Decentralization and Municipal Support (DEMOS)	SDC	<a href="#">Ardian Efendija-Zhuri</a>
Macedonia	Waste water Treatment Plant Gevgelija	SECO	<a href="#">Stanislava Dodeva</a>
Macedonia	Improvement of the Gostivar Water Supply System	SECO	<a href="#">Stanislava Dodeva</a>
Macedonia	Wastewater Treatment Plant Kocani	SECO	<a href="#">Stanislava Dodeva</a>
Macedonia	Delcevo Water Supply Project	SECO	<a href="#">Stanislava Dodeva</a>
Macedonia	Restoration of the Strumica River Basin	SDC	<a href="#">Stanislava Dodeva</a>
Macedonia	Nature Conservation Programme in Macedonia	SDC	<a href="#">Stanislava Dodeva</a>
Macedonia	Improving Resilience to Floods in Macedonia, Polog Region	SDC/ SECO	<a href="#">Stanislava Dodeva</a>
Moldova	Contribution to the improvement of water and sanitation services through integrated regional planning	SDC	<a href="#">Victor Gaina</a>
Moldova	Strengthening the institutional framework in the water and sanitation sector in Moldova	SDC	<a href="#">Victor Gaina</a>
Moldova	Water and Sanitation Project in Moldova (ApaSan)	SDC	<a href="#">Jonathan Hecke</a>
Serbia	Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Project (MDRRP)	SECO	<a href="#">Priska Depnering</a>
Ukraine	Decentralisation Support Project DESPRO	SDC	<a href="#">Ilona Postemska</a>
Ukraine	Humanitarian Convoys from Switzerland to Ukraine	SDC	<a href="#">Marc-André Bünzli</a>
Regional	Regional Capacity Development Network (RCDN) for Water and Sanitation Services	SECO	<a href="#">Cliff Hammer</a>
Regional	Youth Voices → Policy Choices	SDC	<a href="#">Gergana Majercakova</a>

## B. Central Asia

Country	Project name	Donor	Contact
Kyrgyzstan	National Water Resources Management Project in Kyrgyzstan	SDC	<a href="#">Bakyt Makhmutov</a>
Kyrgyzstan	Water Accountability in Chu-Talas	SDC	<a href="#">Bakyt Makhmutov</a>
Kyrgyzstan	Bishkek Water & Wastewater Rehabilitation Project	SECO	<a href="#">Tunzhurbek Kudabaev</a>
Kyrgyzstan	Kant Water and Wastewater Project	SECO	<a href="#">Tunzhurbek Kudabaev</a>
Kyrgyzstan	Osh and Jalal-Abad Water Rehabilitation Project	SECO	<a href="#">Tunzhurbek Kudabaev</a>
Kyrgyzstan	Naryn Water and Wastewater Project	SECO	<a href="#">Tunzhurbek Kudabaev</a>
Kyrgyzstan	At-Bashy Hydro Power Plant Rehabilitation Project	SECO	<a href="#">Tunzhurbek Kudabaev</a>
Tajikistan	National Water Resources Management in Tajikistan (NWRM)	SDC	<a href="#">Ruslan Sadykov</a>
Tajikistan	Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Fergana Valley Project	SDC	<a href="#">Alisher Shabdolov</a>
Tajikistan	Integrated Health and Habitat Improvement (IHHI) Rasht Valley	SDC	<a href="#">Svetlana Jumaeva</a>
Tajikistan	Water Supply and Sanitation Project	SDC	<a href="#">Alisher Shabdolov</a>
Tajikistan	North Tajik Water Rehabilitation Project	SECO	<a href="#">Ruslan Sadykov</a>
Tajikistan	Tajik Water	SECO	<a href="#">Ruslan Sadykov</a>
Tajikistan	Khujand Wastewater Rehabilitation Project	SECO	<a href="#">Ruslan Sadykov</a>
Tajikistan	Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation Management	SDC	<a href="#">Alisher Shabdolov</a>
Tajikistan	Natural Water Resource Management	SDC	<a href="#">Ruslan Sadykov</a>
Tajikistan	Integrated Watershed Management	SDC	<a href="#">Svetlana Jumaeva</a>
Uzbekistan	Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project in the Ferghana Valley	SDC	<a href="#">Dildora Abidjanova</a>
Uzbekistan	National Water Resources Management Project in Uzbekistan	SDC	<a href="#">Sohib Akramov</a>
Uzbekistan	Syrdarya Water Supply Project	SECO	<a href="#">Dildora Abidjanova</a>
Uzbekistan	Skills Development Project	SECO	<a href="#">Richard Chenevard</a>
Regional	Water Efficiency in Rice and Cotton (WAPRO)	SDC	<a href="#">Christina Blank</a>
Regional	Central Asia Energy and Water Development Program	SECO	<a href="#">Philipp Arnold</a>
Regional	Water accountability in transboundary rivers	SDC	<a href="#">Bakyt Makhmutov</a>
Regional	Cryospheric Climate Services for improved Adaptation in Central Asia (CICADA)	SDC	<a href="#">Manfred Kaufmann</a>
Regional	Blue Peace Central Asia	SDC	<a href="#">André Wehrli</a>
Regional	Building Peace in Central Asia	SDC	<a href="#">Laurie Fourneax</a>