



Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia

CAWAMNET - Central Asian Water Conflict and Migration Network



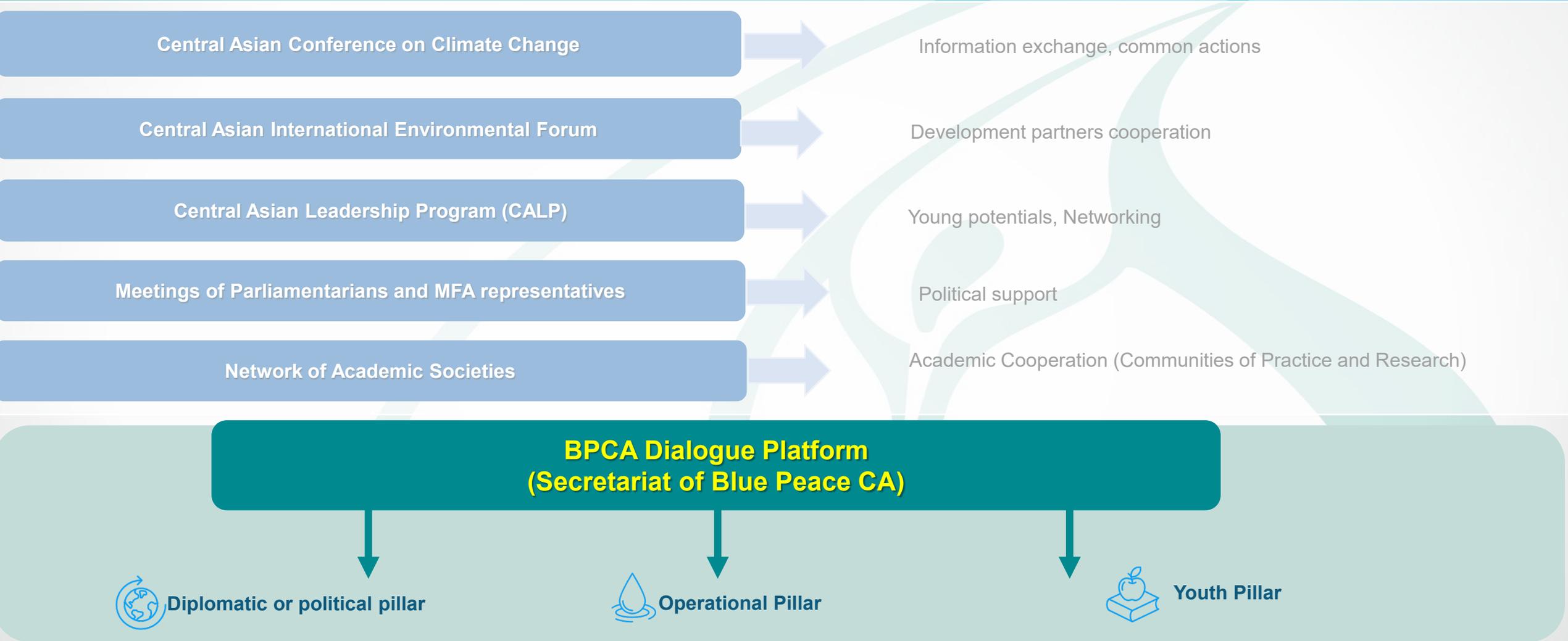
CAREC experience to support water conflict prevention through systemic approach and partnership

Irina Yugay, CAREC

April 27-28 2023
Tashkent, Uzbekistan

www.carececo.org
www.riverpb.net
www.bluepeace-centralasia.ch
<https://centralasiacclimateportal.org/>

CAREC Platforms for Cooperation



Supported by:  Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

BPCA – High Level Water Dialogue Platform:

Promoting water as a peace instrument Trust-Building and Conflict Prevention

Political Pillar

Supporting transboundary dialogue on water in the region.

Exchange with other basins (Senegal and Gambia)

- Support of the transboundary water quality exchange (UZ-KZ WG on water quality and Environmental Protection of the Syr Darya River Basin)
- Regional Working Group on Water Quality

Operational Pillar

Improving access to data through supporting monitoring and observation capacities of the countries (Hydromet services of the CA countries)

- iEasyHydro for Hydromet Services
- Smart & Precise Prognostic Hydrology for Innovative Risk Management and Resource Use Efficiency (SAPFFIRE)
- Implementation of adaptation measures high quality cryospheric data and long-term climate information services (CROMO-ADAPT)

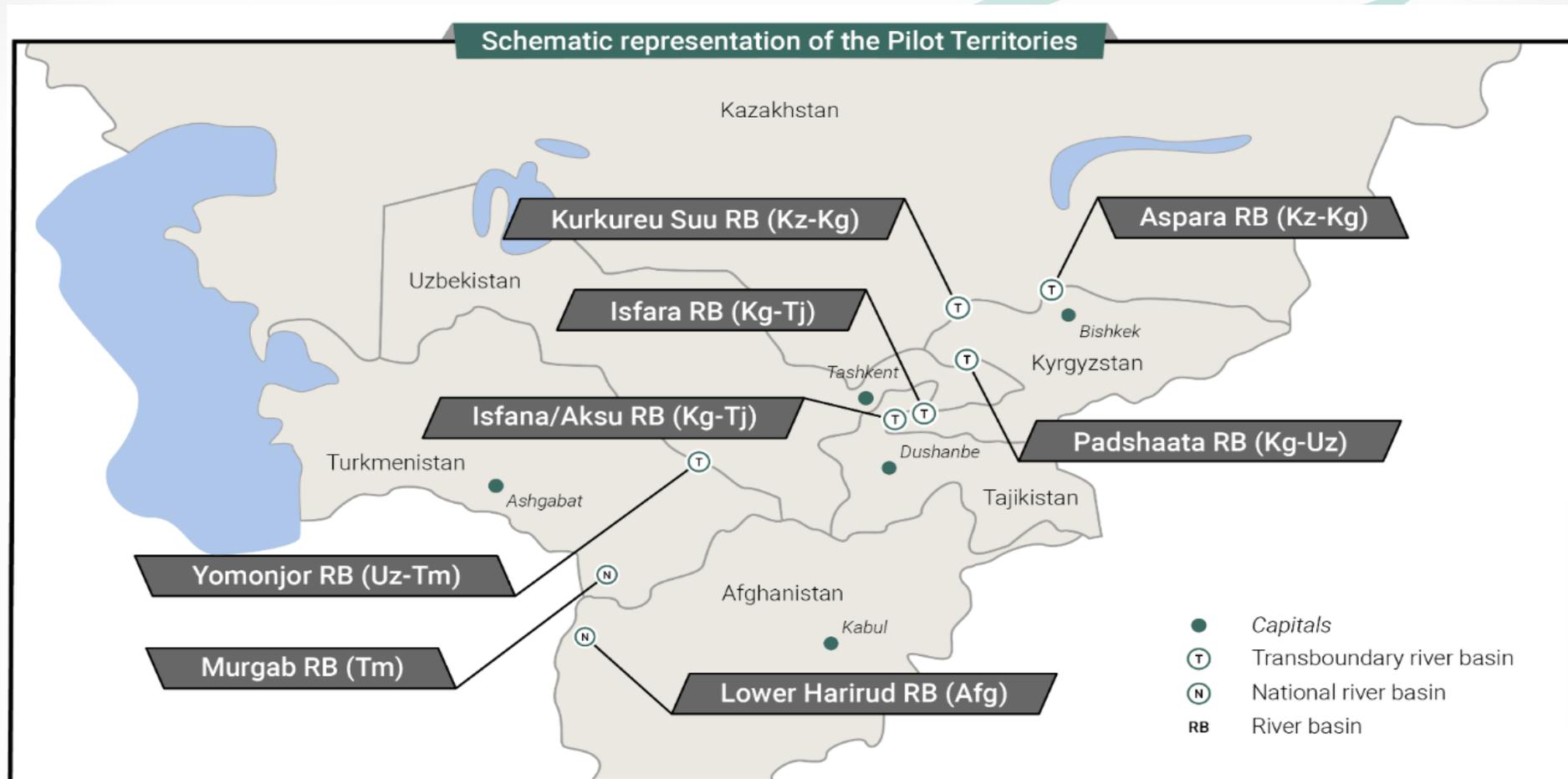
Youth

Empowering next generation of the water professionals and decision-makers
Academic Cooperation on Water

- Strengthening the water specialties curricula and introducing innovative approaches and international practices to education
- Communities of Practice and Research on WASH, Water Diplomacy and Hydromodelling

Project	YY of implementation	Main results
“Promoting Transboundary Cooperation in Small Watersheds in Central Asia”	2012-2016	IWRM promotion at basin level in CA countries and Afghanistan. Long-term and sustainable institutional frameworks for cooperation. Establishment of national SBCs (Aspara River) Aspara River IWRM basin plan
Smart Waters (Water, Education and Cooperation)	2015 – 2020	Practical application of basin planning Creation of a system of "best practices" on water cooperation and their piloting and replication in the region. Strengthening networking, cooperation, and trust. Establishing a tradition of celebrating the Rivers Day

Basin planning on small transboundary rivers in Central Asia



13 Small Basin Councils established in CA countries and Afghanistan

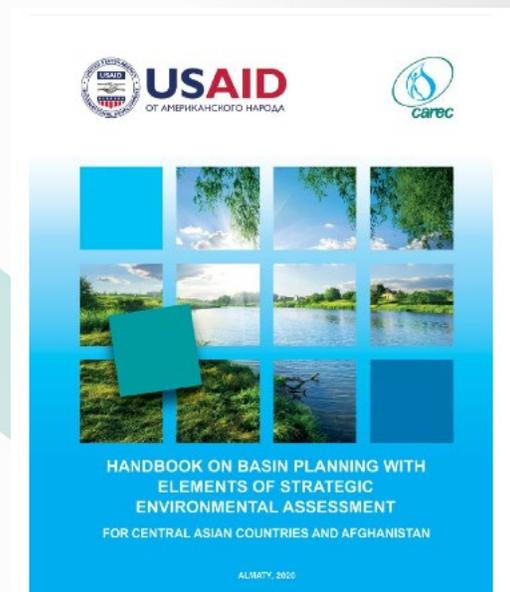
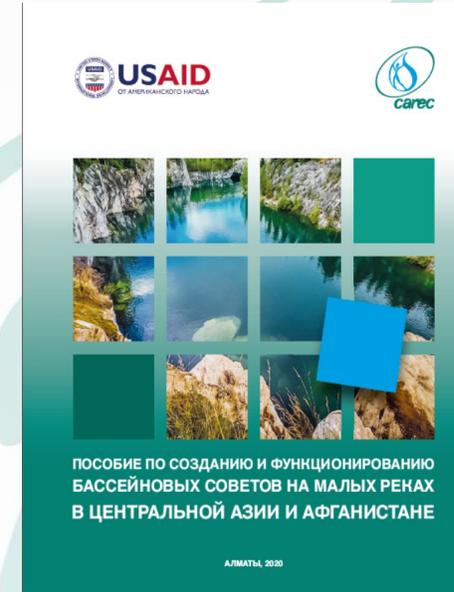
Basin planning on small transboundary rivers in Central Asia



1. Situation analysis and assessment
2. Development of strategic vision
3. Problem prioritization. Forming goal and objectives.
4. Plan drafting and its coordination with all stakeholders
5. Plan implementation
6. M&E. Adjustments to the Plan.

Stakeholders
engagement

Establish small basin councils
(multistakeholder
water committees)



[Learn more at http://www.riverbp.net/library/publications/](http://www.riverbp.net/library/publications/)

- Manual on the Creation and Operation of the SBC
- Manual on Basin Planning for all countries of the region
 - *Can be applied in different countries and at different levels*
 - *Based on a study of global experience and 8 years of practical experience on small transboundary rivers.*
 - *Contains both theoretical material and practical tools.*

Lessons learnt

- **SBCs**– support climate-responsive WRM on the basin level (joint water resources management, strengthen cooperation and informed decision-making)
- **SBCs** – a multi-stakeholder platform for permanent dialogue and informal communication on basin planning
- **Reduction of local water conflicts through trust-building between communities**
- The effectiveness of institutional structures on water management often depends on the **level of their functioning** (local level– easier to communicate, more specific issues and specific solutions)
- There is **no** single **scenario** for establishing cooperation at the local level – there is a unified approach and different specifics



PRISE is a five-year, multi-country research project that generate new knowledge about how economic development in semi-arid regions can be made more equitable and resilient to climate change.

Research for climate-resilient futures

Overarching research question:

How can the remittances from migrants be more effectively channelled and re-invested in ways that will make a real impact on people's resilience in semi-arid lands in (Senegal) and Tajikistan?

The expected result of the research project is to provide the evidence base for existing and planned initiatives and projects on climate change in Tajikistan.

The main activities of the project:

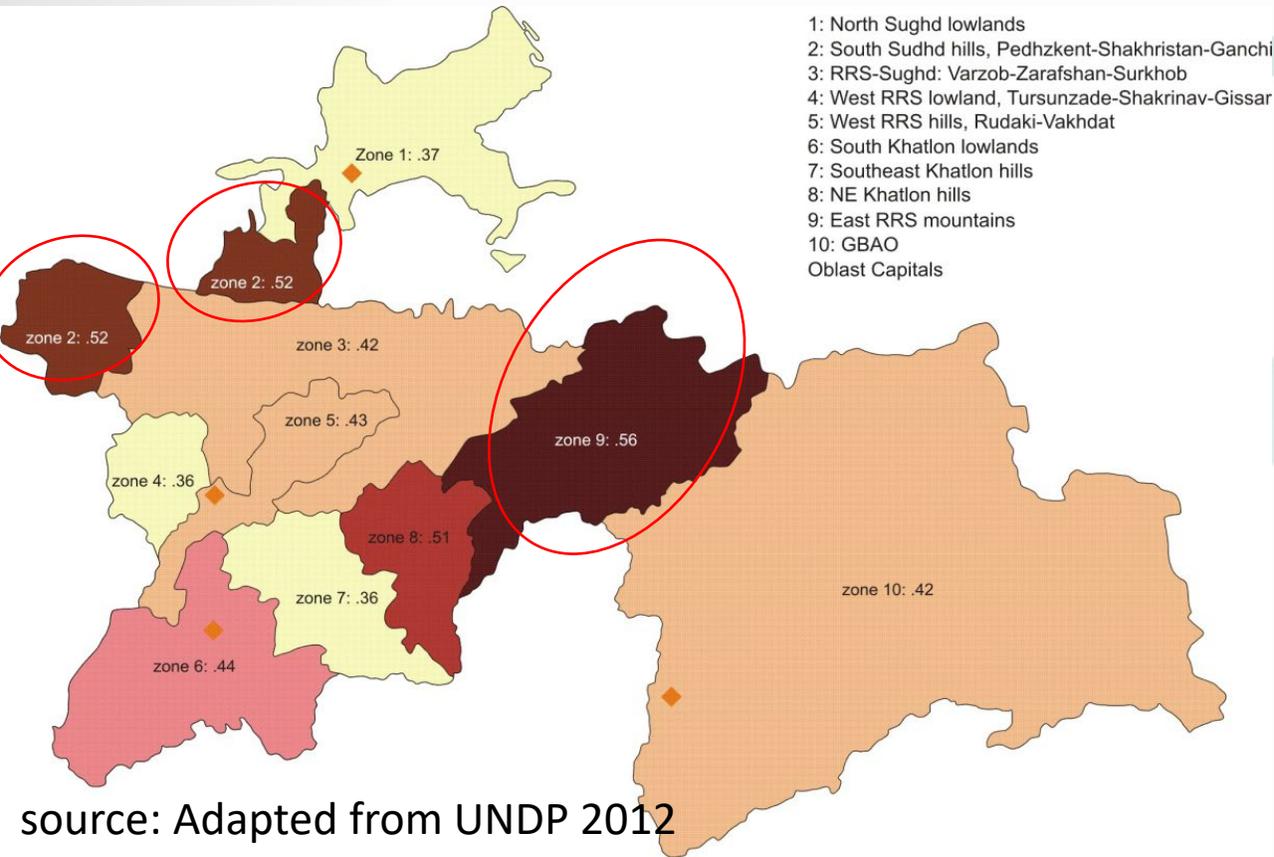
Step 1. Desk review: analysis of data and review of policies on climate change related issues, migration and socio-economic development of countries.

Step 2. Household surveys

Step 3. Comparative analysis: track changes and commonalities between two SAL countries Senegal and Tajikistan in terms of migration patterns, flows of remittances, distribution, gender specificity, etc.

Step 4. Scenario projection: (a) what will be the situation with a *business as usual* scenario (no policies are in place, the situation continues as it is), and (b) what will be the situation if *improvements in policies* (social safety nets, banking systems, etc.) are undertaken.

Synoptic presentation of Tajikistan: Climate and Development



Agriculture:

employs 63% of its workforce and accounted for up to 22% of the country's GDP (Agency on Statistics, 2015).

Over 2/3 of the population living in rural areas

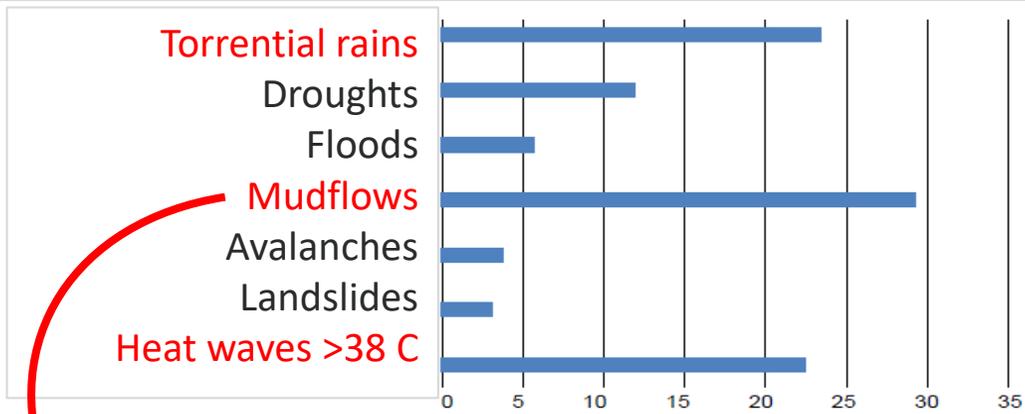
largest sectoral consumer of water, accounting for over 90% of water use

source: Adapted from UNDP 2012

Tajikistan is a disaster-prone country: about 500 natural disasters annually (5% of the country GDP)

Synoptic presentation of Tajikistan: Socio-economic development

Climate variability indicators (% of respondents)



- *Destruction of infrastructure*
- *Deterioration of agricultural crops, reduced crop yields*
- *Land degradation*
- *Water scarcity*
- *Water-born diseases*

Migration is critical. More than 700,000 of Tajik migrants are out of the country (Statistic Agency 2015)



Families with migrant workers living in disaster-prone areas spend a significant portion of remittances for disaster response.

Remittances as a measure to adapt to climate change and ensure resilient to climate impacts.

1. The results of the research showed remittances can support the development of climate resilience through investments that address natural disasters and environmental activities.

BUT: the impact of such investments is quite limited (insignificant or fragmented).

2. The current investment should be reorientated on risk prevention measures, not on disaster response measures.

3. To be more resilient, migrant labor families' sources of income must be diversified by reinvesting remittances in entrepreneurial activities or agricultural development.

4. Migrant workers are willing to invest more in the agricultural sector, especially in innovative irrigation systems and advanced methods of plowing crops. Moreover, appropriate investments in the sector can improve the independence of labour migrants from economic shocks in host countries and can catalyze climate-resilient development at the community level.

5. A greater impact at the community level requires: (a) collective action; and (b) an integrated approach with a combined set of <<hard>> (infrastructure, etc.) and <<soft>> (awareness raising, training, knowledge transfer, etc.) activities.

Thank you for attention!