



Kazakhstan: Establishment of the Kazakhstan Knowledge Center on Integrated Water Resources Management

Project Name	Establishment of the Kazakhstan Knowledge Center on Integrated Water Resources Management	
Project Number	51364-001	
Country	Kazakhstan	
Project Status	Active	
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance	
Source of Funding / Amount	TA 9477-KAZ: Establishment of the Kazakhstan Knowledge Center on Integrated Water Resources Management	
	Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 225,000.00
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth	
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships Private sector development	
Sector / Subsector	Agriculture, natural resources and rural development - Agricultural policy, institutional and capacity development - Agriculture research and application - Rural flood protection - Water-based natural resources management	
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	No gender elements	
Description	<p>Since Kazakhstan declared independence from the former Soviet Union in 1991, the country's water sector has been incapable to attract adequate knowledge and financial resources. Today, water-related infrastructures are unable to effectively serve the needs of the population in terms of drinking water supply and sanitation in rural areas as well as in a number of urban areas; Kazakhstan's economic diversification plans are hampered by outdated irrigation systems; and the country is struggling with climate change adaptation needs in managing floods and other natural disasters. Water-related data and information, including on the downstream use of the water resources for urban water services, is fragmented across several institutions. Currently, responsibilities for managing water-related issues in Kazakhstan is divided across six ministries, with pronounced problems in terms of institutional coordination. The absence of a comprehensive database and unified, structured system for strengthening institutional linkages creates inefficiencies and problems for the country to position itself along the water technological frontier. Kazakhstan urgently needs to update its water-related knowledge and educational structure, enhance its integrated water management systems and strengthen institutional coordination in order to contribute to enhancing the quality of water-related services to the population, improving agriculture productivity, as well as promoting food security and mitigation efforts in response to climate change. Kazakhstan's new CPS commits extensive support from ADB to the establishment of applied knowledge centers, indicating IWRM as a key area for intervention. The Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan agreed to the creation of the Center as an outcome of discussions with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and a brainstorming session held at the Kazakhstan National Agrarian University (KazNAU) on 13-14 October 2017 among international organizations and national agencies forming the informal Water Partners Group of Kazakhstan (WPGK).</p>	
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	The TA will finance: (i) the preparation of a strategy, road map and work plan related to the creation of the Center, including its institutional structure, aim, objectives, activities, budget, financial plan, staffing, and business model; (ii) the delivery of a report analyzing knowledge gaps the Center is meant to fill, given the organization of IWRM functions across various institutions in Kazakhstan; and (iii) the identification and implementation in collaboration with international knowledge partners of two pilot projects promoting technological enhancement in IWRM areas, such as improving agriculture productivity, flood management, or the delivery of drinking water supply in urban and rural areas, which could serve as examples of the services the Centre will be able to provide once fully functional. The TA will contribute to establishing the Center in line with the recommendations provided by the WPGK and expanding water-related knowledge in the country. It will also help identifying further and longer-term TA support from ADB, in line with the new 2017-2021 country partnership strategy (CPS) on Kazakhstan.	
Impact	The TA is aligned with Water-related knowledge generation and dissemination in Kazakhstan, in support of the Government "Ak-Bulak" program, and the "Regions' Development Program-2020".	

Project Outcome	
Description of Outcome	Kazakhstan Knowledge Center on Integrated Water Resource Management established
Progress Toward Outcome	
Implementation Progress	
Description of Project Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Center's Strategy, Roadmap and Workplan prepared and endorsed 2. Water-related knowledge gaps in Kazakhstan delivered 3. Two pilot projects promoting Kazakhstan's technological enhancement in IWRM identified and implemented <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Report identifying water-related knowledge gaps in Kazakhstan delivered 3. Two pilot projects promoting Kazakhstan's technological enhancement in IWRM identified and implemented
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	
Geographical Location	Nation-wide
Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects	
Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	
During Project Design	
During Project Implementation	
Business Opportunities	
Consulting Services	12. ADB will engage three international consultants for a total of five person-months and national consultants for a total 16 person-months in accordance with ADB's Procurement Policy (2017, as amended from time to time) and associated project administration instructions and TA staff instructions. Individual Consultants are being recruited as the number of consultants is small and there is no major shared output required. ADB will administer the TA and organize workshops as needed. The TA proceeds will be disbursed in accordance with ADB's Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook (2010, as amended from time to time).
Responsible ADB Officer	Abuov, Kenzhekhan
Responsible ADB Department	Central and West Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Kazakhstan Resident Mission
Executing Agencies	<i>Ministry of Agriculture 36 Kenesary Street 010000 Astana Kazakhstan</i>
Timetable	
Concept Clearance	04 Oct 2019
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	11 Dec 2017
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	25 Dec 2017

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Milestones

Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
11 Dec 2017	-	11 Dec 2017	30 Sep 2018	30 Sep 2019	-

Financing Plan/TA Utilization						Cumulative Disbursements		
ADB	Cofinancing	Counterpart				Total	Date	Amount
		Gov	Beneficiaries	Project Sponsor	Others			
225,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	225,000.00	11 Dec 2017	59,735.78

Project Page <https://www.adb.org/projects/51364-001/main>

Request for Information <http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=51364-001>

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