BLUE PEACE CENTRALASIA

Towards a system of shared benefits of water resources in the Aral basin.











RESEARCH, DATA AND INFORMATION

WATER LITERACY, **EDUCATION**



Context

Water is key for food and energy security in Central Asia and the 75 million people living in the Aral Sea Basin formed by the two major transboundary rivers, the Amu Darya and the Syr Darya. Increasing demand for water coupled with population growth, and a decrease of water availability in the face of climate change poses great challenges to Central Asian countries.

Strengthening co-operation between upstream and downstream countries are central to meeting the needs for water, energy, food and environmental security in the region.

Focus

Blue Peace Central Asia began in 2017 following the interest of Central Asian countries, expressed at the 2014 Basel high-level conference on integrated water resources management involving Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Drawing on three decades of Switzerland's international cooperation in the region, the Blue Peace Central

Asia initiative aims to enable Central Asian populations to benefit from equitably shared and effectively managed common water resources thanks to climate resilient and sustainable regional water management as a basis for socioeconomic development and stability.

Blue Peace Central Asia facilitates platforms for policy dialogue on transboundary water cooperation, supported by scientific evidence. It engages with policymakers and water experts in addressing challenges related to ensuring reliable water quantity and quality for various purposes like drinking, energy, and irrigation.

The initiative combines policy dialogue with technical assistance and best practices to demonstrate the benefits of water cooperation enhance transparency and trust among countries.

Projects include utilizing remote sensing and digitalization for hydrometeorological services, addressing critical issues such as monitoring water flows amidst melting glaciers, and facilitating data exchange for forecasting water availability and hazard prevention.

Blue Peace Central Asia prioritizes empowering youth in the region to drive change and develop sustainable water management solutions. It collaborates with academic institutions to prepare the next generation of water professionals, fostering a river basin perspective, and supports regional networks connecting young individuals interested in shaping innovative solutions for sustainable water management in the face of climate change.







