

AFB/PPRC.35/Inf.1 17 March 2025

Adaptation Fund Board Project and Programme Review Committee Thirty-fifth Meeting Bonn, Germany, 8-9 April 2025

# PROPOSAL FOR KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZSTAN, TAJIKISTAN, TURKMENISTAN, UZBEKISTAN



### ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

PROJECT/PROGRAMME CATEGORY:

Countries/Region:	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan	
Project Title:	Integrated Drought Management for Central Asia (IDCA)	
Thematic focal area:	Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems	
Implementing Entity:	World Meteorological Organization (WMO)	
Executing Entities:	Central Asia Regional Environmental Centre (CAREC), Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO), Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), National Meteorological and Hydrological Services	
AF Project ID:	AF00000420	
IE Project ID:	Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars): 13,915,000	
Reviewer and contact pe	rson: UnaMay Gordon Co-reviewer(s):	
IE Contact Person(s):	• • • •	

Technical Summary	The project "Integrated Drought Management for Central Asia (IDCA)" aims to implement the Central Asia Regional Drought Strategy, while aligning with other initiatives in the region. This will be done through the four components below:	
	• <u>Component 1</u> : Developing a harmonised approach (national and regional level) for drought monitoring, forecasting, early warning and integrated drought risk and impact assessment (USD 3,000,000).	
	<ul> <li><u>Component 2:</u> Implementing community-level, climate-resilient drought risk management and financing solutions for sustainable implementation and scaling (USD 3,000,000)</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li><u>Component 3</u>: Strengthening institutional capacity of regional, national and local institutions and policy/legislation for drought risk management (USD 3,000,000)</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li><u>Component 4</u>: Enhancing knowledge and awareness on climate-resilient drought management (USD 2,500,000)</li> </ul>	

	Requested financing overview:         Project/Programme Execution Cost: USD 1,150,00         Total Project/Programme Cost: USD 12,650,000         Implementing Fee: USD 0         Financing Requested: USD 13,915,000         The proposal includes a request for a project formulation grant of USD 36,000.         The initial technical review raises several issues, such as clarification on key activities e.g. nature-based solutions and capacity building, as is discussed in the number of Clarification Requests (CRs) and Corrective Action Request (CAR) raised in the review.
Date	28 February 2025

Review Criteria	Questions	Comments 28 February 2025
Country Eligibility	<ol> <li>Are all of the participating countries party to the Kyoto Protocol and/or the Paris Agreement?</li> <li>Are all of the participating countries developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>Yes.</li> <li>All countries are party to the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement.</li> <li>Yes.</li> <li>Increasing temperatures, shifting precipitation patterns, and glacier retreat in Central Asia are intensifying seasonal water variability, exacerbating desertification, and increasing uncertainty in river runoff timing, particularly during dry summer months. These climatic changes are likely to cause increased drought frequency, timing, and severity, adding to persisting water scarcity and fueling conflicts among down- and upstream water users in all five participating countries.</li> </ul>
Project Eligibility	3. Have the designated government authorities for the Adaptation Fund from each of the participating countries endorsed the project/programme?	<b>Yes.</b> The following Letters of Endorsement have been provided: <i>For Kazakhstan; signed by DA Mrs Saule Sabieva, 12<sup>th</sup> April</i> 2024 <i>Kyrgyz Republic; signed by DA Mr. Meder Mashiev, 4<sup>th</sup></i>

		November 2024 Uzbekistan; signed by H.E. Mr. Aziz Abdukhakimov, 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 Tajikistan; signed by Mr. Bahodur Sheralizoda, 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 Turkmenistan; signed by Mr Berdi Berdiyez. 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
4.	Has the pre-concept provided necessary information on the problem the proposed project/programme is aiming to solve, including both the regional and the country perspective?	<b>CR1:</b> The climate challenges are well-articulated but would benefit from additional details on their specific impact on pastoral communities. While the pre-concept highlights a regional challenge, it lacks clarity on how these challenges manifest in each of the proposed participating countries. Are these five countries disproportionately affected compared to others? Additionally, while the pre-concept references the joint Regional Drought Strategy for Central Asia, it does not provide details on relevant national policies, gaps, or barriers to implementation, which would strengthen the justification for intervention.
5.	Have the project/programme objectives, components and financing been clearly explained?	<ul> <li>CR2: Under Component 3, Output 3.1.1 please refine to provide a better understanding of how capacity will be increased. The current wording appears more general compared to the other outputs.</li> <li>CR3: Please clarify who will be supporting the communities with piloting nature-based solutions. Please clarify the stage at which these measures will be identified during.</li> </ul>
6.	Has the project/programme been justified in terms of how:	Yes. The pre-concept note integrates planning and policy

	<ul> <li>it supports concrete adaptation actions?</li> <li>it builds added value through the regional approach?</li> <li>it promotes new and innovative solutions to climate change adaptation?</li> <li>it is cost-effective?</li> <li>it is consistent with applicable strategies and plans?</li> <li>it incorporates learning and knowledge management?</li> <li>it will be developed through a consultative process with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Socia Policy of the Adaptation Fund?</li> <li>it will take into account sustainability?</li> </ul>	prioritizing regional resilience over single-country efforts, making it cost-effective. Stakeholder engagement will be embedded throughout the process with gender considerations and compliance with E&S policies. The pre- concept ensures sustainability through institutional arrangements and sustainable financing. Its novelty lies in
	7. Does the pre-concept briefly explain which organizations would be involved in the proposed regional project/programme at the regional and national/sub-national level, and how coordination would be arranged? Does it explain how national institutions, and when possible, national implementing entities (NIEs would be involved as partners in the project?	Yes. WMO will be the implementing entity for the regional project. It will be guided by a steering committee, with a project manager to oversee its implementation. Both regional and national counterparts will have executing roles in the project. WMO will also be partnering with other institutions such as FAO and UNCCD based on their expertise.
Resource Availability	8. Is the requested project / programme funding within the funding windows of the programme for regional projects/programmes?	Yes.

	9. Are the administrative costs (Implementing Entity Management Fee and Project/ Programme Execution Costs) at or below 10 per cent of the project/programme for implementing entity (IE) fees and at or below 10 per cent of the project/programme cost for the execution costs?	Yes.
Eligibility of IE	10. Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?	<b>Yes.</b> WMO is accredited and expiration date of accreditation is 30th March 2027.



## **PROPOSAL COVER PAGE**

- 1. Type of project: Single-Country  $\Box$  Regional  $\boxtimes$
- 2. Countries: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
- 3. Project/Programme Category: Regular
- 4. Project/Programme Stage: Pre-concept
- 5. Requested financing amount (in U.S. Dollars Equivalent): USD 13,915,000
- 6. Project Formulation Grant (PFG) Request: Yes ⊠ No □
- 7. Requested financing amount for PFG (in U.S. Dollars Equivalent): USD 36,000
- Letter/s of Endorsement (LOE) signed: LOEs should be signed by the Designated Authority (DA). The signatory DA must be on file with the Adaptation Fund. To find the DA currently on file check this page: <u>https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/designated-authorities</u>

Yes 🛛 No 🗆

9. Write the date of endorsement for each LOE for the project.

Turkmenistan	08 April 2024
Kazakhstan	12 April 2024
Kyrgyz Republic	04 November 2024
Uzbekistan	11 December 2024
Tajikistan	13 December 2024

- 10. Title of Project/Programme: Integrated Drought Management for Central Asia (IDCA)
- 11. Implementing Entity: World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- 12. Executing Entities:

Central Asia Regional Environmental Centre (CAREC), Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO), Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), National Meteorological and Hydrological Services:

• Kazakhstan: Republican State Enteprise (RSE) (Kazhydromet)

- Kyrgyzstan: Hydrometeorological Service under the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic (Kyrgyzhydromet)
- Tajikistan: Agency for Hydrometeorology
- Turkmenistan: Hydrometeorology Service of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan
- Uzbekistan: Centre of Hydrometeorological Service of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Uzhydromet)

13. Is this a new submission or a resubmission: New:  $\square$  Resubmission:  $\square$ 

14. If a resubmission, please select the last submission date: n/a



## **PRE-CONCEPT FOR A REGIONAL PROJECT**

#### PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Title of Project:	Integrated Drought Management for Central Asia (IDCA)
Countries:	Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
Thematic Focal Area <sup>1</sup> :	Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems
Type of Implementing Entity:	Multilateral Implementing Entity
Implementing Entity:	World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
Executing Entities:	<ul> <li>Central Asia Regional Environmental Centre (CAREC), Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO), Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), National Meteorological and Hydrological Services:</li> <li>Kazakhstan: Republican State Enteprise (RSE) (Kazhydromet)</li> <li>Kyrgyzstan: Hydrometeorological Service under the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic (Kyrgyzhydromet)</li> <li>Tajikistan: Agency for Hydrometeorology</li> <li>Turkmenistan: Hydrometeorology Service of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan</li> <li>Uzbekistan: Centre of Hydrometeorological Service of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Uzhydromet)</li> </ul>
Amount of Financing Requested:	Total project programme costs: 13,915,000 (in US Dollars Equivalent)
Amount of Requested financing for PFG:	36,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)
Letters of Endorsement (LOE) signed for all	countries: Yes $\boxtimes$ No $\square$

*NOTE:* LOEs should be signed by the Designated Authority (DA). The signatory DA must be on file with the Adaptation Fund. To find the DA currently on file check this page: <u>https://www.adaptation-fund.org/apply-funding/designated-authorities</u>

#### Stage of Submission:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Thematic areas are: Food security; Disaster risk reduction and early warning systems; Transboundary water management; Innovation in adaptation finance.

This pre-concept has been submitted before

☑ This is the first submission ever of the pre-concept

In case of a resubmission, please indicate the last submission date: Click or tap to enter a date.

#### Please note that pre-concept should not exceed 5 pages (in addition to this first cover page)

#### Project Background and Context: Regional Background

Central Asia is a landlocked region encompassing five countries Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan (as to the inclusion of Afghanistan, see project objective). Its distance to the ocean determines its continental climate, characterized by large daily and seasonal temperature differences and erratic precipitation (rainfall and snowfall). The countries, with a combined population of approx, 80 million, are all characterized by a semi-arid to arid climate with contrasting landscapes and unique ecosystems. The Syr Darya and Amu Darya rivers are the primary sources of water in the region, fed by snow and glacier melt from the mountain ranges in the East and South of the region.<sup>2</sup> Various weather and climate hazards, amongst them droughts, have historically been recorded across Central Asia. Regional climate projections now indicate increasing evaporation with rising temperatures and the increasing occurrence of precipitation as rainfall instead of snowfall during the winter months, at higher elevations.<sup>3</sup> A reduction of the annual maximum amount of snow accumulated over the winter period is likely to increase seasonal variations in timing and quantity of water availability, especially during the summer months, because of the earlier onset of snowmelt. These exacerbate desertification processes.<sup>4</sup> Glaciers, another vital source of water and river runoff in the region, are also projected to retreat. As melt rates increase, the timing and amount of runoff is expected to change. The so-called "peak water" which is foreseen in the middle of this century, as glaciers continue to shrink, Following that, the amount of annual runoff will further diminish.<sup>5</sup> The most important impact of changing glacier runoff dynamics for Central Asia is the increased uncertainty in the timing and the duration of glacier meltwater contributions to river systems during dry summer months. For example, in Kyrgyzstan, the maximum glacier contribution occurs during July and August, reaching up to 54%. Over the course of a year, on average, there is a contribution of 19% from glacier runoff, while snowmelt contributions are about 58%.6

These climatic changes are likely to cause increased drought frequency, timing, and severity, adding to persisting water scarcity and fuelling conflicts among down- and upstream water users in the region. In addition, an augmentation in heavy precipitation and flood events is projected, e.g. from rain on snow events.<sup>7</sup> This escalation in likelihood and severity of drought and flood hazards is particularly concerning for communities that are already exposed and vulnerable, such as farming and pastoral communities (along rivers and creeks). Increasing drought risk and water scarcity further have a strong effect on the economies of the countries, especially in the agriculture, energy, water and industry sectors, which are the main income sources for these countries. These challenges are amplified by inadequate water and land management practices as well as a lack of transboundary cooperation.

An integrated, cross-border approach to drought risk management is essential to address climate change challenges and protect high-risk communities. Proactive drought policies and action plans must rely on timely weather, climate, and hydrological data from National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) as the main national authorities for water and climate information. Understanding risks, vulnerable groups, and sustainable mitigation strategies is vital for effective drought risk reduction. Strong collaboration and information sharing among all relevant agencies is crucial. A joint "Regional Drought Strategy" for Central Asia was published by UNCCD in 2021, providing a framework to tackle the challenges outlined above. Yet, no implementation plan has been agreed upon.

#### **Project Objectives:**

The project objective is – together with relevant partners – to implement the Central Asia Regional Drought Strategy, while aligning with other initiatives in the region. If regional and national drought policies are established and institutional arrangements and capacities for integrated water and drought management are strengthened, then vulnerability to drought across sectors in Central Asia will be reduced, and drought resilience, especially for the most vulnerable communities, will be enhanced. This is the outcome and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Muccione and Cassera, 2019

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> WMO, 2021 <sup>4</sup> IPCC 2021

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Muccione and Cassera, 2019

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/earth-science/articles/10.3389/feart.2023.1306476/full

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> WMO, 2021

overall objective this project aims to reach. Inclusive regional structures will also allow Afghanistan's participation in the project, despite its non-direct beneficiary status due to current political conditions. In doing this, the joint WMO and GWP Integrated Drought Management Programme (<u>IDMP</u>) advocates for an integrated approach to drought management, aligning with an integrated water resources management as well as international development goals and agreements. Applying the IDMP three pillars of integrated drought management (1. Monitoring and Early Warning, 2. Risk and Impact Assessment, 3. Risk Mitigation, Preparedness and Response). In addition, the project strengthens the monitoring of both glaciers and snow, while making this monitoring sustainable. With glaciers being the "Water Towers of Central Asia", they serve as critical reservoirs that release meltwater during dry periods, stabilizing water supplies. Reliable and sustained monitoring of glaciers and seasonal snow cover is therefore essential for understanding regional water availability, predicting drought conditions, and informing adaptive water management strategies. Strengthening glacier and snow monitoring will thus not only contribute to drought prediction but also support long-term climate resilience in the region.

The project will contribute to the Early Warnings for All initiative, aiming to provide early warning systems (EWSs) for everyone on the planet by 2027. Furthermore, with 2025 designated as the UN International Year of Glaciers Preservation, this project aligns closely with global efforts to enhance the understanding and protection of glacier-fed water systems. Moreover, the project builds on the outcomes of the World Bank's Central Asia Hydrometeorology Modernization Project (CAHMP) and complements other regional initiatives with similar objectives, further enhancing the sustainability of the solutions provided.

#### **Project Components and Financing:**

Note: All activities will target all countries. Pilot activities will be conducted in all countries.

Project Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Amount (US\$)
1. Developing a harmonised	1.1 Sustained mechanisms for drought risk	1.1.1 Baseline drought risk assessment	3,000,000
approach (national and regional level) for drought	assessments as well as drought impact monitoring established.	1.1.2 Climate change-responsive drought risk assessment and mapping methodology developed	
monitoring, forecasting, early warning and integrated drought	1.2 Capacity in	1.1.3 Development and maintenance of a database for drought impacts by sector established, recovering historical and current impacts of ongoing drought	
risk and impact assessment (IDM Pillar 1&2)	assessment forecasting and early warning	1.2.1 Integrated drought and drought impact monitoring and forecasting systems (meteorological and hydrological incl. glacier and snow melt) enhanced and/or established, incl. enhanced accessibility to real	
		time and delayed mode data, innovative crowdsourcing and high elevation seasonal snowpack surveys and assessments as well as high elevation meteorological	
		monitoring and impact-related drought indexes 1.2.2 Drought Early Warning System integrated in national drought policies	
2. Implementing community-level,	2.1 Increased community-level drought resilience	2.1.1 Community-level climate-resilient drought risk management plans developed	3,000,000
climate-resilient drought risk management and financing colutions		2.1.2 Drought risk financing strategies developed including forecast-based agricultural insurance schemes	
financing solutions for sustainable implementation and scaling		2.1.3 Nature-based solutions implemented in the most vulnerable communities to reduce the impacts of droughts	
(IDM Pillar 3)			

3.	3.1 Strengthened	3.1.1 National and transboundary levels drought risk	3,000,000
	institutional	management capacity increased	3,000,000
0 0	capacity for	3.1.2 Drought management capacity of NMHS and	
	drought	other relevant governmental organizations	
	management.	strengthened, including, monitoring, forecasting, data	
and local	general	management, risk and impact assessment, and risk	
	3.2 Regional	mitigation and response (through trainings, peer	
	drought	learning etc.)	
	management	3.2.1 Development of WMO Regional Climate Centre	
	body/center	operational including Regional Drought Management	
	established	Centre functions based on existing structures like the	
		Central Asia Regional Climate Information Platform	
	3.3 National	(CACIP) initiated as well as establishment of	
	policy,	capabilities to support a potential "Measurement Lead	
	contributing to	Centre for Glaciology" in conjunction with other related	
	regional strategy,	capabilities in the region	
	on drought	3.3.1 Recommendations on national policy on drought	
	management	risk management, as well as institutional reforms'	
	formulated and	formulated and proposed based socio-economic	
	proposed	benefits studies and discussions in working groups of	
		key-stakeholders.	
4.	4.1 Awareness	4.1.1 Communication and stakeholders' awareness	2,500,000
	and partner	enhanced; engagement plan developed and	2,000,000
0	engagement	implemented	
	increased.	4.1.2 Gender action plans, indicators and trainings	
climate-resilient		developed and implemented	
drought		4.1.3 Knowledge management approach and	
management		community of practice on climate-resilient drought	
		management established	
		4.1.4 Dissemination of user-centric sectoral drought	
		information enhanced through co-production of tailored	
		products (e.g. regular drought bulletins for agriculture	
		and water sectors, crop advisories, irrigation schemes).	
5. Project/Programme Execution cost (10%)			1,150,000
6. Total Project/Programme Cost			12,650,000
7. Project/Programme Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (10%)			1,265,000
Amount of Financing Requested			13,915,000

Project Duration: Five years (60 months)

#### PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

**Project components:** The project provides solutions to the region's climate adaptation challenges through enhancing and sustaining an integrated drought management system based on four components:

1. A baseline drought risk assessment will be conducted to provide a comprehensive understanding of drought vulnerabilities, exposure, and impacts across the region. The findings from this assessment will inform the development of a harmonized, gender-inclusive methodology for drought risk and impact assessment, monitoring, forecasting, and decision support for integrated drought management. Additionally, the results will serve as a foundation for the activities implemented under project components 2 and 3. Building on this, the project will enhance and/or establish monitoring networks that are essential for drought management and early warning capacities, including capabilities for data transmission in real time. This will include glacier and snow monitoring, with an emphasis on innovative crowd-sourced data collection for snow cover to improve observation and forecasting capabilities, and on regular high-elevation precipitation monitoring, snow and glacier surveys and data rescue. As part of this effort, the project will provide guidance and support for establishing a Measurement Centre for Glaciology in cooperation with existing capabilities in the region. For drought forecasting, the project will facilitate access to global and regional drought-relevant products from the WMO Integrated

Processing and Prediction System (WIPPS) Centres, including extended-range and sub-seasonal predictions, subject to availability and potential further processing needs.

For data management and sharing, the project will support the adoption of the WMO Hydrological Observing System (WHOS) as well as the WMO Information System 2.0 (WIS 2.0), enabling seamless exchange of hydrometeorological data to enhance regional monitoring and prediction capabilities. Additionally, the project will adopt the WMO Global Hydrological Status and Outlook System (HydroSOS) approach, integrating these monitoring, forecasting, and data-sharing components to provide comprehensive drought information. All these efforts will be accompanied by capacity building efforts as outlined in component 3. Through these activities, this first project component will strengthen evidence-based decision-making in drought management at both national and transboundary levels, ensuring improved preparedness, response, and resilience to drought events.

- 2. Community-level drought management plans will identify challenges and guide project activity development. Based on these plans, drought preparedness and response interventions will be piloted in vulnerable smallholder and pastoralist communities, using nature-based solutions with gender and social inclusivity to maximize environmental and social benefits. Financing strategies will support replication, scaling, and sustainability.
- 3. A review of national and regional drought management institutions, policies, and strategies will be conducted using the IDMP Benefit of Action/Cost of Inaction Framework to guide all activities and ensure alignment with existing initiatives. To enhance long-term institutional capacity and sustainability, the project will support the establishment of a WMO Regional Drought Management Centre, leveraging existing structures such as the Central Asia Regional Climate Information Platform (CACIP). Additionally, national capabilities in utilizing satellite data, numerical weather prediction (NWP), and other relevant application products will be enhanced through tailored capacity development activities. These efforts will ensure that monitoring, forecasting, and data-sharing improvements under Component 1 are effectively sustained and integrated into institutional frameworks, strengthening evidence-based decision-making for drought management at national and transboundary levels.
- 4. These capacity-building activities will also directly support the efforts under Component 1 by strengthening national and regional capabilities in drought risk assessment, monitoring, and forecasting. Specifically, the project will provide guidance and complementary support for the envisioned efforts to establish a Measurement Centre for Glaciology, helping to enhance the monitoring of glaciers and snow cover—key components in drought prediction and water resource management. Awareness, collaboration, knowledge management, and gender mainstreaming will be strengthened through action plans and communities of practice to sustain project results. This will contribute to an awareness campaign on disaster risk management (DRM) and climate change, as well as support the dissemination of sector-specific drought information using a user-centric approach and tools.

**Cost Effectiveness:** A cost-effective, holistic approach integrating technical, social, economic, and environmental factors will prioritize regional resilience over a single-country focus. Strategic, pilot investments and local expertise will enhance sustainable drought resilience for communities and ecosystems. The project will create synergies with other initiatives to maximize financial efficiency.

**Learning & Knowledge Management:** Project activities will be underpinned by capacity development initiatives and awareness raising campaigns throughout all project components. Awareness raising, collaboration and knowledge management are further specifically the core of project component 4, in which dedicated communities of practice will be established.

**Consultative process & strengthening of regional collaboration:** During project development, meetings with key country stakeholders were held to ensure inclusion and consultation. The "Joint Workshop on Regional Cooperation in Central Asia" in March 2024 confirmed the project's focus on a persisting crucial gap. A stakeholder analysis will be conducted, and relevant parties will be involved in all stages of development and implementation, ensuring a country- and region-driven approach with an emphasis on strengthening regional collaboration.

**Innovation & Coherence with regional priorities:** Many projects address drought management gaps, a key climate challenge in the region. This project provides a cohesive approach, building on the 2021 Regional Drought Strategy, connects to local and national activities, and aligns with other regional initiatives

to tackle drought and water scarcity. It will additionally explore innovative solutions like crowd-sourced glacier and snow data and nature-based approaches where feasible.

**Socio-economic Benefits, incl. Gender Considerations:** The project will deliver socio-economic benefits by reducing damages and losses, enhancing sectoral security, and safeguarding ecosystems like forests and wetlands, supporting livelihoods and income. It will follow Adaptation Fund's and WMO's Environmental, Social, and Gender Policies, as well as a user-centric approach, to engage vulnerable communities and address gender aspects. A Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Gender Action Plan will guide these efforts. Nature-based solutions will promote ecosystem services, linking management with livelihoods. Financing strategies will leverage existing frameworks to support replication, scaling, and sustainability.

**Sustainability:** Sustainability will be reinforced by establishing governance mechanisms with sustainable financing, institutionalizing the Central Asian Regional Drought Management Strategy. The new WMO Regional Drought Management Centre will coordinate ongoing and sustained strategy implementation. Institutional capacity at regional, national and local level will be enhanced and sustained though a capacity development program on decision-making for drought management.

#### PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The initiative will be led by WMO as implementing entity, in close collaboration with executing entities. The WMO-GWPO Technical Support Unit, supported by a network of "Support Base Partners," will design technical solutions with executing partners. A dedicated project manager, ideally based in the region, will oversee implementation, ensuring stakeholder inclusion, proper monitoring, and risk management. Collaboration with national and regional entities will occur through workshops, agreements, and institutional arrangements. FAO will adapt the agriculture stress index system (ASIS) for the region, which will be included/used for drought monitoring. Regional activities are executed through GWP-CACENA and CAREC. At the national level, NMHSs, CAREC, and GWP-CACENA will be executing partners, liaising with local institutions. UNDCCD will manage policy-level connections. A steering committee with key stakeholders, including UNCCD representatives, will guide the project.

## PART V: ENDORSEENT BY GOVERNMENT AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

#### A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government<sup>8</sup>

Turkmenistan	08 April 2024
Kazakhstan	12 April 2024
Kyrgyz Republic	04 November 2024
Uzbekistan	11 December 2024
Tajikistan	13 December 2024

#### B. Implementing Entity certification

I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, <u>commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the</u> <u>Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund</u> and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.

Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.

Moyenda Chaponda

Moyenda Chaponda Implementing Entity Coordinator, WMO Development Partnerships Office Date: 10.02.2025

Tel. and email: mchaponda@wmo.int

Project Contact Person: Stephanie Gallasch Tel. And Email: sgallasch@wmo.int

КАЗАКСТАН РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫ ЭКОЛОГИЯ ЖӘНЕ ТАБИГИ РЕСУРСТАР МИНИСТРЛИТ



MINISTRY OF ECOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

010000, Acrana K., Menirale E.: apartama, R. Munosopularen yilin, 14-apeserii mea.: +5 T172 3408 (4

12 04 2024 10 14-2-12/6041

010000, Antona city, Mangelik El overnov, # «The Hense of Minimum», antones (4 w2. +7 2172-24 08 44

TO: The Adaptation Fund Board c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org Fax: 202 522 3240/5

CC: Stephanic Gallasch World Meteorological Organization 7bis Avenue de la Paix CH-1211 Geneva 2 Switzerland SGallasch@wmo.int

Subject: Endorsement for the development of a regional project proposal on Integrated Drought Management for Central Asia

In my capacity as the Designated Authority of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the Adaptation. Fund, I am expressing our interest in the development and implementation of a regional project proposal with the aim to increase drought resilience in Central Asia.

We confirm that the project proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the project proposal with appreciation of the support from the Adaptation Fund, that will - if approved - be implemented by the World Meteorological Organization.

Please be informed that Ms. Gulzhan Tulebayeva, Director of Administrative Department of the Kazhydromet RSE is assigned for further contacts on the issues of the development of project proposal on integrated drought management and delivering of input of experts from the Republic of Kazakhstan. Her contact details are as followings: office +7 7172 798401, mobile +7 777 222 5500; tulebayeva\_g@meteo.kz, and copy to interkaz@meteo.kz.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Saule Sabieva Director Climate Policy Depa

Climate Policy Department Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan

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#### КЫРГЫЗ РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫН ЖАРАТЫЛЫШ РЕСУРСТАРЫ, ЭКОЛОГИЯ ЖАНА ТЕХНИКАЛЫК КӨЗӨМӨЛ МИНИСТРЛИГИ



#### МИНИСТЕРСТВО ПРИРОДНЫХ РЕСУРСОВ, ЭКОЛОГИИ И ТЕХНИЧЕСКОГО НАДЗОРА КЫРГЫЗСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ

720040, Кыргыз Республикасы Бишкек ш., Эркиндик булькары, 2 Эллочта: info@nur.gov.kg тел.: 4996 (312) 30-06-67

720040, Кыргызская Республика т. Бишкек, бульвар Эркиплик, 2 Эллочта: info@mm.gov.kg тел.: +996 (312) 30-06-67

2024 No 01-10/9072

Ha No.

Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

TO: The Adaptation Fund Board c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org Fax: 202 522 3240/5

CC: Stephanie Gallasch World Meteorological Organization 7bis Avenue de la Paix CH-1211 Geneva 2 Switzerland SGallasch@wmo.int

## Subject: Endorsement for the development of a regional project proposal on Integrated Drought Management for Central Asia

In my capacity as the Designated Authority of the Kyrgyz Republic to the Adaptation Fund I am expressing our interest in the development and Implementation of a regional project proposal with the aim to increase drought resilience in Central Asia.

We confirm that the project proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the project proposal with appreciation of the support from the Adaptation Fund, that will – if approved – be implemented by the World Meteorological Organization.

Please be informed that Mr. Almazbek Sokeev, Deputy Minister, NFP UNCCD, Ministry of Water Resources, Agriculture, Processing Industry is assigned for further contacts on the issues of the development of project proposal on integrated drought management and delivering of input of experts from the Kyrgyz Republic. His/Her contact details are as followings: office + 996 312 54 90 87; e-mail: <u>sokeev nfp@mail.ru</u>, and copy to Rysbek Apasov, UNCCD IWG: <u>invest305@mail.ru</u>

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Meder Mashiev Minister

Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Technical Supervision Kyrgyz Republic

Adaptation Fund Designated Authority



19-01-1396 from # 13 # 12 2024

from a 2024

To: The Adaptation Fund Board c\o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat Email:<u>Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org</u> Fax: 202 522 3240/5

CC: Stephanie Gallasch World Meteorological Organization 7bis Avenue de la Paix CY-1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland SGallasch@wmo.int

Subject: Endorsement for the development of a regional project proposal on Integrated Drought Management in Central Asia.

Dear Colleagues,

To

By this letter, the Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (CEP), and I in my capacity as the designated authority for the Adaptation Fund-Tajikistan are expressing our interest in the development of a regional project proposal with the aim to increase drought resilience in Central Asia.

In addition, the employees of the Agency for Hydrometeorology express their readiness to contribute to the development of the project proposal on drought resilience and to contribute to the implementation of the resulting project to its full capacity at a later stage.

We confirm that the project proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in Tajikistan. Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the project proposal with appreciation of the support from the Adaptation Fund, which will - if approved - be implemented by the World Meteorological Organization.

Please be informed that Mr. Abdullo Habibullo Qurbonzoda as Permanent Representative of Tajikistan with the WMO Agency for Hydrometeorology is assigned for further contacts on the issues of the development of project proposal on drought resilience and delivering of input by Tajikistan expert. His contact details are as followings: (+992) 907-70-14-31; e-mail: <u>qurbonzoda1967@gmail.com</u>.



Yours sincerely,

Bahodor Sheralizoda

balance for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and Adaptation Fund Focal Point

#### TÜRKMENISTANYŇ DAŞKY GURŞAWY GORAMAK MINISTRLIGI

🗄 744036, Aşgabut şüheri, Arçabil şayoly, 92-uji jayy

(ii) Elektron poçta: minecal/Usnely (m

Telefon: (+993 12) 44-80-04; Faks: (+993 12) 44-80-05.



#### MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION OF TURKMENISTAN

WI Archabil avenue, Ashgabat city, 744036
 Telephone (+993-12) 44-89-04; Fax: (+993-12) -14-80-05
 E-mail: mineco@sandy.tm

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No 08-1284

TO: The Adaptation Fund Board c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org Fax: 202 522 3240/5

CC: Stephanie Gallasch World Meteorological Organization 7bis Avenue de la Paix CH-1211 Geneva 2 Switzerland SGallasch@wmo.int

## Subject: Endorsement for the development of a regional project proposal on Integrated Drought Management for Central Asia

In my capacity as the Designated Authority of Turkmenistan to the Adaptation Fund, I am expressing our interest in the development and implementation of a regional project proposal with the aim to increase drought resilience in Central Asia.

I confirm that the project proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in Turkmenistan.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the project proposal with appreciation of the support from the Adaptation Fund, that will – if approved – be implemented by the World Meteorological Organization.

Please be informed that Mr.Serdar Eyeberenov, Head of Hydrometeorology Department of the Ministry is assigned for further contacts on the issues of the development of project proposal on drought resilience and delivering of input by Turkmenistan experts. His contact details are as followings: + 99365 696898 (mob), +99312 448065; e-mail: serdar.05@mail.ru

Yours sincerely,

H.E. Mr. Babanyyazov, Ch.G. Minister of Environmental Protection Adaptation Fund Focal Point

O'ZBEKISTON RESPUBLIKASI EKOLOGIYA, ATROF-MUHITNI MUHOFAZA QILISH VA IQLIM O'ZGARISHI VAZIRLIGI



MINISTRY OF ECOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

41/1 12 2024

Nº 01-01/2-1806

Tashkent

The Adaptation Fund Board 1818 H Street NW Washington DC 20433 USA

Subject: Endorsement for the development of a regional project proposal on Integrated Drought Management for Central Asia

On behalf of the Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Ministry) and in my capacity as the Designated Authority of Uzbekistan to the Adaptation Fund, I hereby express interest in the development of a regional project proposal with the aim to increase drought resilience in Central Asia.

I hereby confirm that the project proposal is in accordance with the Government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce the adverse impacts of climate change in Uzbekistan.

In addition, we express the readiness of the Ministry experts to contribute to the development of the project proposal on integrated drought management and the implementation of the resulting project at a later stage.

With this, I am pleased to endorse the project proposal with appreciation of the support from the Adaptation Fund, which, if approved – will be implemented by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

Please be informed that Mr. Sherzod Khabibullayev, Director of Uzhydromet assigned to further contact (P: + 99897 4551939, E: <u>uzhydro@gmail.com</u>) on the project proposal development and to provide any needed input from the expert side. We look forward to your positive consideration and further support.

Sincerely yours,

Aziz Abdukhakimov Minister Adaptation Fund Designated Authority





#### **Revised PFG Submission Form<sup>1</sup>**

#### **Project Formulation Grant (PFG)**

Submission Date: 10 February 2024

Adaptation Fund Project ID: n/a Country/ies: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan Title of Project/Programme: Integrated Drought Management for Central Asia (IDCA) Type of IE (NIE/RIE/MIE): MIE Implementing Entity: World Meteorological Organization

#### **Executing Entity/ies**:

Central Asia Regional Environmental Centre (CAREC), Global Water Partnership Organisation (GWPO), Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), National Meteorological and Hydrological Services:

- Kazakhstan: Republican State Enteprise (RSE) (Kazhydromet)
- Kyrgyzstan: Hydrometeorological Service under the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic (Kyrgyzhydromet)
- Tajikistan: Agency for Hydrometeorology
- Turkmenistan: Hydrometeorology Service of the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan
- Uzbekistan: Centre of Hydrometeorological Service of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Uzhydromet)

#### A. Project Preparation Timeframe

Start date of PFG	01/04/2025
Completion date of PFG	30/08/2025

#### **B.** Proposed Project Preparation Activities (\$)

#	List of Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Output of the PFG Activities	US\$ Amount	Budget note <sup>2</sup>
1	Hold preparatory virtual meetings with project focal points from all countries	- Joint agreement on date and location of regional stakeholder consultation workshop	0	No budget required – WMO in-kind contribution

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As presented in AFB/PPRC.33/40 Annex 1.

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  The proposal should include a detailed budget with budget notes indicating the break- down of costs at the activity level. It should also include a budget on the Implementing Entity management fee use.

	Total Project Formulation Grant			000
4	Implementing Entity Management Fee	- Project concept in line with latest standards and state of the art methodologies	3,600	10% of Total
Tot		During the statistic	2 (00	100/ .67. ( 1
3	Identify and hire consultant(s) to support the development of the project proposal	<ul> <li>stakeholders of the project strengthened</li> <li>Project proposal, environmental, social risk management plan, monitoring and evaluation plan developed</li> <li>Project concept well-coordinated with country stakeholders and in line with AF rules and regulations</li> </ul>	15,000	Daily rate of USD 500,00 Duration: 30 days
2	Organize and hold regional stakeholder consultation workshop to define overall project activities, discuss next steps	<ul> <li>Specific activities to be included in the project, aimed at achieving desired outputs, identified and agreed</li> <li>Activities, milestones, and indicators per output defined</li> <li>Roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder in the project defined</li> <li>Project resources allocation defined</li> <li>Ownership of national and regional</li> </ul>	17,400	Travel and DSA for approximately 30 participants, meeting venue, local transportation, stationary (Cost breakdown depending on location & time)

## Please describe below each of the PFG activities and provide justifications for their need and for the amount of funding required:

- 1. Preparation of the regional Stakeholder Consultation Workshop
- 2. A regional stakeholder consultation workshop will be organized in one of the target countries, with participants from governments, civil society, academia and private sector. In the preparation of the pre-concept, key stakeholders had been engaged already however since the project will be discussed and defined in detail, more relevant stakeholders will be included at this stage to ensure the project targets persisting and prioritized gaps and needs, to ensure country commitment, transparency and sustainability of activities.

- 3. External consultant(s) will be hired to support the drafting of the project concept and to coordinate with all national and regional stakeholders as well as the executing entities. This will ensure that all needs and expectations are well coordinated with country stakeholders and in line with Adaptation Fund rules and regulations. The proposed budget allows to hire a consultant for 50 days at a daily rate of USD 500. The consultant will be hired through a Special Service Agreement between the consultant and the executing entity.
- 4. Implementing Entity Management Fee: Different experts of the implementing and executing entities will be engaged in the process of preparing the project concept, providing expert input on different fields like Early Warning Systems (EWS), Monitoring etc. This amount is to compensate for the capacity of these experts within the executing entity.

#### **C. Implementing Entity**

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This request has been prepared in accordance with the Adaptation Fund Board's procedures and meets the Adaptation Fund's criteria for project identification and formulation

Implementing Entity Coordinator, IE Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Mr. Moyenda Chaponda	Moyenda Chaponda	10- 02.25	Ms. Stephanie Gallasch	+41227308209	SGallasch@wmo.int