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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE (ICID)

Experiences of Uzbekistan with Integrated Agri-food Climate Adaptation Framework

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Agriculture is one of the key sectors of Uzbekistan's economy

The sale of agricultural products to foreign markets brings Uzbekistan up to 20-25% of its total export revenue. The share of agricultural sector (farming, forestry & fishing),) in the country's GDP reaches 19.2% by the end of 2024. **The National Agri-Food Strategy of Uzbekistan** is mainly aimed at ensuring its security through domestic production (Presidential Decree #5853 of 23rd October 2019). It includes 9 priorities



Average annual volume of water resources used by Uzbekistan (for period 2008-2024) is 50.947 km^3/year, of which 85% (about 42,5 km^3/year) is taken from transboundary rivers

Due to highly arid climate, about **97,7% of agricultural products in Uzbekistan are produced on the basis of irrigation.** On average, **88% of total water resources are used in agriculture.**

Water use by economic sectors



Agriculture — 88,0 %



Public utilities — 6,9 %



Industry and Energy — 3,1 %



Fishery — 2,0 %

Priority 1: Ensuring food security of the population

Strategic challenges: Major factors affecting food security include population growth, low incomes, increased demand for land, water and energy resources, and increased risk of climate-change related threats from droughts, flooding, hail etc. In recent years, as a result of a series of measures to bolster food security in the country, Uzbekistan has strengthened its position in the world, gradually improving its position in the Global Hunger index for 2018, where Uzbekistan was ranked 52nd out of 119 countries.

The main goal is the development and effective implementation of state policy aimed at ensuring food security for the entire population. The priority focuses on ensuring that all households have access to safe and nutritious food, at affordable and stable prices.

Priority 2: Creating a favorable agri-business environment and added value chains

An important factor in ensuring agricultural competitiveness is the development of more integrated and efficient value chains. The current high costs for collection, transportation, storing, processing, packaging and certification of products from the field to final consumers significantly reduces the competitiveness and profitability of Uzbek agri-food producers and processes.

The main objective of this strategic priority is to increase the export potential of the agri-food sector, increase the volume of value-added products, expand the introduction of certification systems, based on international standards, and the development of cooperation mechanisms to promote farmer groups.

Priority 3: Reducing role of the state and attracting private investment

The direct participation of the state in the supply of resources for farmers, as well as the production and marketing of products, limits the attraction of private investment in the sector. The effective use of funds from credit lines of international financial institutions is limited by the under-development of advisory services for agri-businesses, a lack of business management skills, human resources in the agro-industrial complex and the banking sector. There are no incentives to promote the use of good agricultural and environmental practices (GAEP), good manufacturing practices (GMP) and other standards. There are also no structures, systems or mechanisms for independent monitoring and evaluation of investment impact effectiveness.

Priority 4: Ensuring rational use of natural resources and environmental protection

The main objective of this strategic priority is to ensure the rational and efficient use of natural resources and environmental protection in the sustainable development of agriculture. The key strategic actions are planned to four directions:

- Water resources
- Agriculture Land resources
- Forestry resources
- Agri-environment and climate change adaptation and mitigation

Priority 5: Development of modern public administration systems

The main goal of this priority area is to revise the existing institutional structures through the creation of systems, services and coordination mechanisms that can meet the needs of the agrarian market.

Priority 6: Gradual diversification of state expenditures for sector support

The main objective of this area is to increase the utilization efficiency of agricultural investments through the gradual redistribution of public financial resources provided for basic public services and implementation of structural reforms in accordance with new priorities of agrarian policy.

Priority 7: Development of research, education, information and advisory services

Strategic objectives: Creation of a modern, integrated and flexible system in the areas of agriculture, food supply, education, training and information and advisory services is the main purpose of this strategic priority.

Priority 8: Development of rural areas

The key strategic actions that are planned to contribute to achievement of these goals include:

- Reforming the system of public administration in rural development;
- Detailed assessment of real needs for rural development;
- Improving the regulatory framework for government support and protection of rural communities and decentralization of decision-making;
- Development and pilot implementation of transparent mechanism of attraction of grant funds and investments for establishment and development of non-agricultural enterprises, mobilization of existing capacity of mahallas, development of public-private partnership between citizens, agricultural business, civil society institutions and state bodies;
- Development of the National Rural Development Program.

Priority 9: Development of transparent agri-food statistics services

The lack of reliable marketing information significantly limits the ability of farmers and other agri-business entities to take advantage of existing and changing market opportunities when developing business plans or the proper planning of activities.

Attracting investments in the system of collecting reliable statistical information, processing and disseminating data reflecting the state of the agri-food sector will have a positive impact on the development of the public and private sectors.

The main objective of this priority area is to improve the collection, comparison and dissemination of reliable statistical information.

Concept of Water Management Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2020-2030

THE PURPOSE OF THE CONCEPT



Developing conditions for water supply to environment, economic sectors, and people in order to satisfy their increasing demands



Ensuring effective management and rational use of water resources, and land reclamation



Achieving water and food security in the face of global climate change and growing water scarcity

PRIORITY DIRECTIONS



Development and implementation of the principles of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)



Introduction and promotion of water saving technologies



Modernization of water infrastructure



Modernization of pumping stations



Public-private partnership promotion



Widespread introduction of information and communication technologies (Digitalization)



Human, scientific, and creative potential development



Development of Intergovernmental ties on the utilization of transboundary water resources.

Thank You



«Viam supervadet vadens cunctim»

Walk together and you shall reach

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