

Agenda
**CAWAMNET Workshop - Central Asian Water Conflict and
Migration Network**
27-28 April 2023, Tashkent, Uzbekistan



Venue: Grand Capital Hotel, Niyozbek Yo'li St., 24, Tashkent

Workshop aims

1. Identify policy needs and entry points for policy development at the national and regional levels enabling and supporting water cooperation and security, thereby preventing displacement
2. Identify research gaps in understanding the linkages between climate change, water scarcity, conflict, and migration in Central Asia, based on the needs of policymakers, and develop a research agenda for Central Asia on that topic
3. Explore ideas for collaborations beyond CAWAMNET
4. Outcomes shall be published as a scientific article and blogpost/policy brief

DAY 1: 27 April 2023

08:15 Registration and coffee

09:00 Start of the workshop: welcome and introduction to CAWAMNET, incl. workshop aim, introduction round for all participants, and a short overview on climate change, water scarcity, and migration in Central Asia (*Nodir Djanibekov (IAMO), Kathleen Hermans (IAMO), Irina Yugay (CAREC), Zafar Makhmudov (CAREC)*)

10:30 *Coffee break*

11:00 Overview talks:

- I. **Agricultural droughts and water pressure in irrigation systems of the Aral Sea Basin** (*Christopher Conrad (Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg)*)
- II. **CAREC projects to improve the resilience of the Aral Sea basin to climate change through a systemic approach and partnership** (*Irina Yugay (CAREC)*)

12:00 *Lunch*

13:00 **Session I: Policies toward adaptation to water scarcity**

Chairs: Nodir Djanibekov (IAMO) and Iskandar Abdullaev (CAREC Institute)

What national and regional agreements do the Central Asian governments introduce to adapt to water scarcity at regional and national levels? What evidence, data, and tools are required to develop sustainable water management strategies? What are the policy needs at national and regional scales to adapt to water scarcity?

I. Lessons for adaptation policies from 30 years of transboundary water allocation practices in the Amudarya (*Dinara Ziganshina, Scientific Information Centre of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination (SIC ICWC)*)

II. Pathways towards Water Security Economies in Central Asia (*Shavkat Rakhmatullaev (World Bank)*)

Group discussions: research and policy needs and entry points for future research and policy development at national and regional levels, incl. reporting back to all workshop participants and feedback (75 minutes)

15:15 *Coffee break*

15:45 **Session II: Water disputes and cooperation**

Chairs: Kathleen Hermans (IAMO) and Dinara Ziganshina (SIC ICWC)

How do water scarcity and current policies drive water disputes, conflicts and cooperation? Why do conflicts emerge in some situations and can be prevented in others? What can we learn from best practice cases, and what informal conflict resolution mechanisms do water users apply? What (national) policies exist for preventing water disputes and conflicts?

I. Water use in Central Asia: Cooperation with some Conflict (*Caroline Milow (GIZ)*)

II. How does climate change challenge the securitization discourse of Central Asia? (*Asel Murzakulova (University of Central Asia)*)

Group discussions: research and policy needs and entry points for future research and policy development at national and regional levels, incl. reporting back to all workshop participants and feedback (75 minutes)

19:00 *Welcome dinner at the Tashkent TV Tower*

DAY 2: 28 April 2023

09:00 Welcome (*Nodir Djanibekov (IAMO) and Kathleen Hermans (IAMO)*)

9:15 Overview talk: **Climate change, water scarcity and migration in Central Asia** (*Harald Sterly (University of Vienna)*)

9:45 *Coffee break*

10:00 **Session III: Water users' adaptation strategies to water scarcity**

Chairs: Nodir Djanibekov (IAMO) and Asel Murzakulova (University of Central Asia)

What adaptation strategies do private water users such as farmers and rural households apply to cope with irrigation water scarcity? What are effective community-based water management examples for adapting to irrigation water scarcity? What explains the differences in adaptation strategies at the local level?

I. Water users' cooperation as adaptation to water scarcity: Cases from irrigated areas of Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan (*Nodir Djanibekov (IAMO)*)

II. Challenges of on-farm irrigation in emerging cluster system in Uzbekistan (*Oytur Anarbekov (IWMI-CA)*)

Group discussions: research and policy needs and entry points for future research and policy development at national and regional levels, incl. reporting back to all workshop participants and feedback (75 minutes)

12:15 *Lunch*

13:15 **Session IV: Migration and displacement as a consequence of water scarcity?**

Chairs: Kathleen Hermans (IAMO) and Benjamin Schraven (German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS))

What is the role of water scarcity in migration and displacement? What are the implications of that for those most vulnerable? How can migration in response to water scarcity contribute to improving/securing rural livelihoods, and how can displacement and involuntary immobility be prevented?

I. Migration in the mountainous regions of Central Asia: survival strategy or adaptation to climate change: a history of research (*Saadat Olimova (SHARQ Research Center)*)

II. Understanding the Nexus of Migration, Gender, Climate Change and Agriculture in Tajikistan (*Tmnit Nur (International Organization for Migration (IOM))*)

Group discussions: research and policy needs and entry points for future research and policy development at national and regional levels, incl. reporting back to all workshop participants and feedback (75 minutes)

15:30 Coffee break

16:00 Outlook and next steps (*Nodir Djanibekov (IAMO) and Kathleen Hermans (IAMO)*)

17:00 End of workshop

18:00 Dinner