

# WATER CONSUMPTION CHALLENGES OF UZBEKISTAN

*Jawokhir Karimov*

*Master Student at Kazakh-German University, Kazakhstan, Almaty city*

**Key Words:** *irrigation, water management, water resources, government, legislation, legal acts*

## **Abstract**

The implementation of IWRM approaches in Uzbekistan is facilitated by an adequate regulatory and legal framework, which provides for the introduction of a number of its principles. You all know that the importance of water for the further development of Uzbekistan is invaluable. Thanks to the understanding of the social significance of irrigation and the wise state policy in the water management sector, over the years of independence, Uzbekistan has managed not only to maintain its irrigation potential, but also successfully modernizes and improves irrigation systems. Given the fact that Uzbekistan has the largest population and irrigated area in the region, and only about 20% of the available water resources are generated domestically, Uzbekistan is primarily interested in reducing water consumption.

## **Introduction**

Water is the main factor ensuring the socio-economic and environmental stability of the countries of Central Asia. The peculiarity of the region is that 80% of all water resources are formed by glaciers and snow. All water resources of the Aral Sea basin are confined to the basins of the two transboundary rivers Syrdarya and Amudarya. The long-term average resources of surface river waters in the basins of both rivers are 114.4 km<sup>3</sup>. The estimated amount of available water resources and the share of each country for use were determined in the basin schemes of the Syrdarya and Amudarya rivers, developed in the 80s of the last century.

The proportion of water allocation and the estimated limits of water consumption established by these "Schemes", in accordance with the Nukus Declaration of 1995, signed by all Heads of State, are recognized by all Central Asian countries. The Interstate Coordinating Water Commission (ICWC) came to the same decision, having confirmed it at its meeting on January 19, 1996 in the city of Chardzhou. According to the "Scheme", the limit of Uzbekistan as a whole for the basins of the Amudarya and Syrdarya rivers is 63 km<sup>3</sup> / year, including river waters - 53.5 km<sup>3</sup> / year. The estimated value of the available water resources of Uzbekistan, from the established one, in fact, in modern conditions, it does not exceed an average of 51.0 km<sup>3</sup>, and in years of low water content it decreases to 44 km<sup>3</sup>. Increasing water scarcity requires new approaches to its management. As we all know, improved management and increased efficiency can be achieved by methods of integrated water resources management (IWRM), IWRM is a process that contributes to the coordinated development and management in a broad social sense, not only of water, but also of other related resources with the purpose of optimizing the results in the process of economic and social development of society with minimal damage to the natural environment. At present, the basic principles and approaches of IWRM are being gradually and successfully implemented in our republic.

The government of the country allocates huge funds from the state budget for the reconstruction and restoration of hydraulic structures, the complete replacement of worn-out mechanisms, installations and units, and anti-filtration measures on irrigation networks. Particular attention is paid to the widespread introduction of water-saving technologies, in particular drip irrigation systems. At present, this system has been introduced on an area of about 6.0 thousand hectares, and according to the state program, it is planned to build this system on another 25 thousand hectares in the next 4-5 years.

## **Water Regulations**

The regulation of water relations in Uzbekistan is carried out in accordance with the acts of the water legislation of the Republic of Uzbekistan (RU). Water relations in the Republic of Karakalpakstan (RKK) are also regulated by the legislation of the RKK. The main legislative act regulating water relations in Uzbekistan is the Law “On Water and Water Use”, adopted in 1993, with amendments and additions made in subsequent years. All other acts of national water legislation must be issued in accordance with the said Law. According to the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Regulatory Legal Acts” (2000) in a new edition, regulatory legal acts (NLA) are:

- 1) the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- 2) Laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- 3) Resolutions of the chambers of the Oliy Majlis (Parliament) of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- 4) Decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- 5) Resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- 6) Acts of ministries, state committees and departments;
- 7) Decisions of local authorities.

Part of the legislation are also international treaties and agreements adopted in the manner prescribed by law (ratification and other procedures). According to the Law “On Regulatory Legal Acts”, the bodies or officials that adopt regulatory legal acts are the chambers of the Oliy Majlis (OM) of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Cabinet of Ministers (CM) of the Republic of Uzbekistan, ministries, state committees and departments, local government bodies. According to the Law “On Regulatory Legal Acts”, the ratio of legal acts by their legal force and the procedure for their adoption.

Ministries, state committees and departments adopt NLA on the basis of and in pursuance of the Constitution and Laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan, decisions of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Ministries, state committees and departments may adopt NLA jointly (by two or more) or by one of them or by one in agreement with other interested ministries, state committees and departments.

Structural divisions and territorial bodies of ministries, state committees and departments are not entitled to adopt acts of legal acts, except in cases directly provided for by law. Structural divisions and territorial bodies of ministries and departments are not entitled to issue regulatory legal acts of a generally binding nature, except in cases where such a right is granted to them by law. Ministries and departments are not entitled to delegate the powers granted to them to adopt NLAs to bodies, including their structural divisions and territorial bodies;

According to the Law “On Regulatory Legal Acts”, the ratio of various regulatory legal acts in terms of their legal force is determined in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the competence and status of the body that adopted the regulatory legal act (NLA), as well as the types of acts:

- 1) NLA must comply with regulatory legal acts that have higher legal force in comparison with it;
- 2) In case of discrepancies between the legal acts, the legal acts with higher legal force are applied;
- 3) In case of discrepancies in legal acts having equal legal force, the provisions of the act adopted later shall apply;
- 4) A NLA adopted by a ministry, state committee or department has greater legal force in relation to the NLA of another ministry, state committee or department of the same level, if the body that adopted such an act is specially authorized to regulate a certain area of public relations.

## **Conclusion**

The implementation of the IWRM process is difficult without constructive interaction with government agencies for water resources management. Reliance only on theoretical studies and their own, in some cases - free interpretation, and foreign experience may not always bring success. As a rule, new knowledge and trends attract with their novelty, but very often they are also "protest". The same "protest character" is carried out by a number of public organizations in a particular area of public life. This concerns the phenomenon of "public participation", and especially - on post-Soviet space. It was on the wave of protest that the movement for destruction of the old, not yet clearly presenting the contours of the future. Therefore, only a step-by-step movement from top-down decision-making to a method bottom-up management can ensure a painless implementation process basic principles of WRM in Uzbekistan, as well as other countries of Central Asia.

## **List of references**

- 1) [Uzbekistan population counter](#)
- 2) [Organizational structure of water organizations](#)
- 3) [The population of Uzbekistan](#)
- 4) [Water intake - Water intake in agriculture](#)