

Funded by the UN Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea region in Uzbekistan
O'zbekiston Orolbo'yi mintaqasi uchun BMning Inson xavfsizligi bo'yicha ko'pshiriklik trust fondi
tomonidan moliyalashtirilgan

Contributors:



UNDP, UNICEF AND FAO JOINT PROGRAMME "EMPOWERING YOUTH TOWARDS A BRIGHTER FUTURE THROUGH GREEN AND INNOVATIVE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARAL SEA REGION"



DURATION:

December, 2022 – April, 2024



FOCUS AREA:

Sustainable Development



BUDGET:

USD 1,740,000



TARGET DISTRICTS:

Chimbay, Kegeyli and Karauzyak districts of
Karakalpakstan, Uzbekistan



FUNDING SUPPORT:

the UN Multi-Partner Human Security Trust
Fund for the Aral Sea region in Uzbekistan
(MPHSTF)



IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS:

- Ministry of Economy and Finance of the
Republic of Uzbekistan
- Council of Ministers of the Republic of
Karakalpakstan
- Khokimiyats of the Chimbay, Kegeyli and
Karauzyak districts

SDG: The Programme is a prime example of localizing the Sustainable Development Goals on the ground.



SUMMARY:

The 3rd call for proposals under the UN Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea region in Uzbekistan (MPHSTF) has the thematic focus on "Youth Employment and Innovation, Health and Green Growth" in the Aral Sea region.

The Joint Programme aims at increasing the efficiency and innovations in agriculture, promoting smart and digitalized communities, with favorable infrastructures and facilitating active labour market initiatives. The implementing agencies will enhance community development, empowerment of youth and women, support the infrastructure development and creation of employment generation in rural areas, focusing on most at risk communities, facing multiple vulnerabilities. The Programme will benefit 241,155 people from 3 northern districts of Karakalpakstan. The specific focus is giving to

youth (14-30 age group), women and vulnerable groups of people.

The Programme's goal and objectives are fully aligned with the policies and strategies of the Government of Uzbekistan on addressing the Aral Sea crises, including the Presidential Decree on Aral Sea region adopted on July 29, 2021, which includes an action plan of activities by key ministries and agencies in line with the implementation of the special UN Resolution to transform the Aral Sea region into a Zone of Ecological Innovations and Technologies; Cabinet of Minister's degree on Integrated Roadmap for the sustainable development of the Aral Sea region adopted on 25 January 2022, the Government's comprehensive Development Programme for Karakalpakstan for 2020-2023 as well as the Green Transition Strategy.

EXPECTED RESULTS:



1. Donor ineffectiveness in the Aral Sea region addressed through development of database of assistance, duplication of efforts avoided.

1.1 Development of holistic project proposals by the members of Working group on Sustainable Investments of the Advisory Committee is facilitated ;

1.2 Monitoring of implementation of the Integrated Roadmap for donor co-ordination in the Aral Sea region is enhanced;

1.3 Data Repository established to facilitate Evidence-based decision making by donors and policymakers.



2. The employment and income generation opportunities for local youth, women and rural communities are increased.

2.1 Conditions for young entrepreneurs to engage in innovative service delivery are created;

2.2 Skills of young women and men to become as next generation of smart digital entrepreneurs are improved;

2.3 Employment and innovation through building capacity of young people with the focus on women and vulnerable youth, to be fluent in digital, social, employability, innovation and entrepreneurship skills.



3. The evidence-based climate change adaptation measures and agricultural resilience with focus on smart agro practices and green approaches are enhanced.

3.1 Data repository on the evidence-based monitoring of the dried Aral Sea bed established;

3.2 Diversification of livelihood strategies introduced including the enabling activities in the agriculture resilience;

3.3 Climate adaption practices are promoted through innovative, smart and green approaches to build the resilience of the rural households, farmers and green communities.

ACHIEVEMENTS AS OF NOVEMBER 2023:

- The meeting of the working group "Sustainable Investments" as well as the technical group "Data and Assessments" of the Advisory Committee has been conducted;
- The concept and ToR for the online information system for the monitoring of implementation of the Integrated Roadmap in the Aral Sea region is developed and its implementation is initiated.
- Repository with 3668 datasets from the Aral Sea region established on the Open Data Portal of the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- 2,226 people (1,180 of them women) received access to clean drinking water in Kegeyli and Chimbay districts;
- Needs assessment on creation and development of ICT training centers in pilot districts completed;
- Income level of 15 households being increased through engaging to innovative vertical hydroponic and sustainable development systems;
- Research of an additional 1.5 million hectares to dried bed of Aral Sea completed, which ensured almost full coverage of the drained bed (2.8 out of 3 million hectares);
- Technical support initiated to the International Research Center for the creation of a smart aquaponic system;
- 304 farmers and dekhkans were trained on green finance and 3 green projects of farmers were supported;
- Among 16 presented startup projects, 10 projects supported and co-financed in 3 pilot districts;
- 6 Business projects for creating IT-training centers for the youth and women were presented and 3 IT-training centers established in three pilot districts;
- Terms of Reference for the development of All-in-One platform in 3 pilot districts developed;
- 3 IT-Parks supported through provision of IT equipment and furniture;
- 60 youth and women in 3 districts increased capacity and skills on «Social media marketing and e-commerce»;
- 10 young people from target districts participated in "ICT WEEK Uzbekistan-2023" and exchanged experiences with successful entrepreneurs in the IT field;
- Seminars initiated for 150 rural youth and women in 3 target districts to raise awareness about new technologies and digital products;
- 16 IT teachers from IT Centers have enhanced capacity and tools to deliver block coding and robotics classes for girls
- 150 girls in target districts are studying block coding and robotics;
- Jointly with UNICEF it was published the programme and guidebooks on social skills, financial literacy, employability and entrepreneurship skills.
- 74 young people were equipped with social innovation and social entrepreneurship skills and 10 youth-led projects were supported with seed funding.
- In autumn 2023 the bootcamp was organized in partnership with the Korean MOFA and engagement of 6 young people from Korea for development of the innovative solutions for tackling Aral Sea crisis.
- 130 rural women in 3 districts were trained in crafts and other alternative livelihood skills and 45 of them were provided with necessary equipment
- 150 farmers gained new skills and knowledge in sustainable agriculture;
- 125 young people were trained in e-commerce and entrepreneurship skills;
- 175 farmers have been provided with new varieties of salt-tolerant seeds that are more resistant to water shortages.

CONTACTS IN TASHKENT:

UNDP in Uzbekistan

Address:

4 Taras Shevchenko Street,
Tashkent 100029
Uzbekistan

email: registry.uz@undp.org

Tel: +998 78 120 34 50

Fax: +998 78 120 34 85

CONTACTS IN NUKUS:

UNDP Project Office in Karakalpakstan

Address:

56, Ernazar Alakoz Street,
Nukus, 230105
Karakalpakstan

e-mail: alisher.utemisov@undp.org

Tel: (+998 55)104-14-35

(+998 61) 224-16-35