



*Needs and problems for the safety of tailings, as well as  
the implementation of the Framework Agreement  
between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the EBRD on  
conducting operations on the Environmental  
Remediation Account for Central Asia in the Republic of  
Uzbekistan*

**Delegation of the Republic of Uzbekistan**



# Introduction

At the end of the 40s of the XX century, in the east of the republic began the first exploration work, uranium production began in 1952.

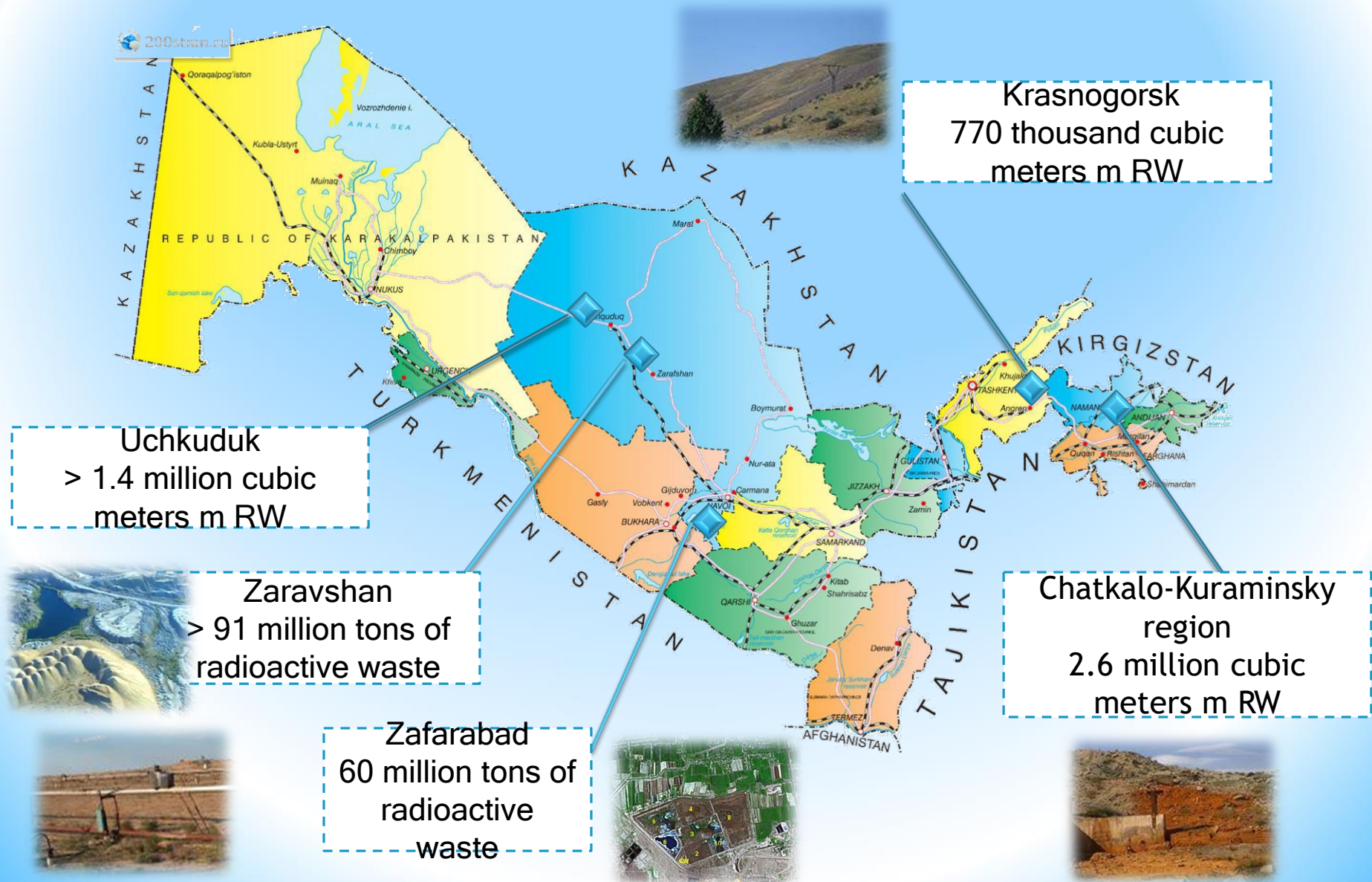
One of the first deposits of industrial uranium ores - Chauli, in the Tashkent region.

In subsequent years, a large number of large uranium deposits were discovered in the central part of Uzbekistan in the Kyzylkum desert, located between the Amu Darya and Syr Darya rivers.





# Former uranium production facilities





# Dumps for balance ore in Uchkuduk

In the process of uranium mining at the industrial site of the Uchkuduk deposit, 23 dumps of off-balance ores were formed with a total volume of 1,400 thousand m<sup>3</sup> or 2.25 million tons with an average uranium content of 0.015%.

Dumps of off-balance ores of the Uchkuduk deposit on the outskirts of Navoi region



Central dump of off-balance ores of the Chauli deposit on the outskirts of Krasnogorsk





## Uranium Legacy Sites fencing



## Removal of contaminated soil and backfilling with clean soil

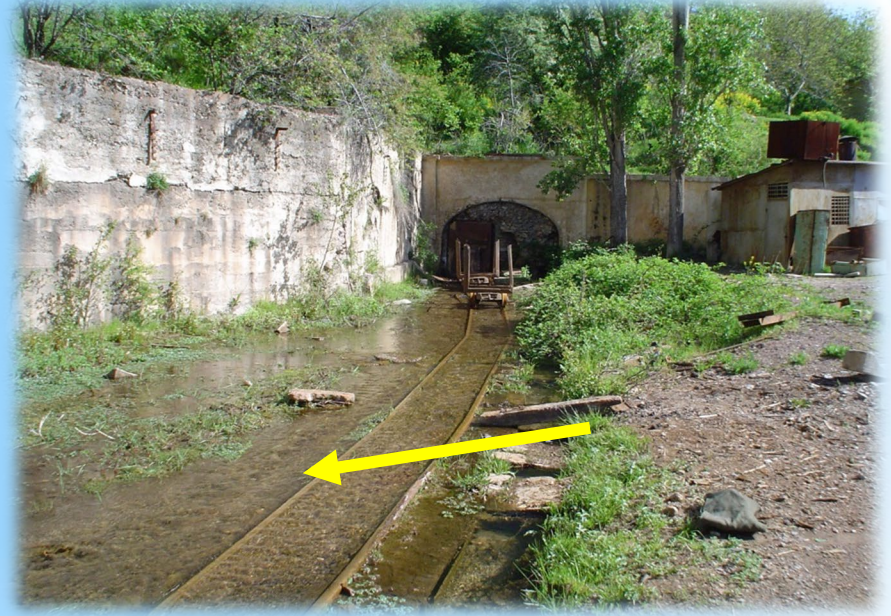
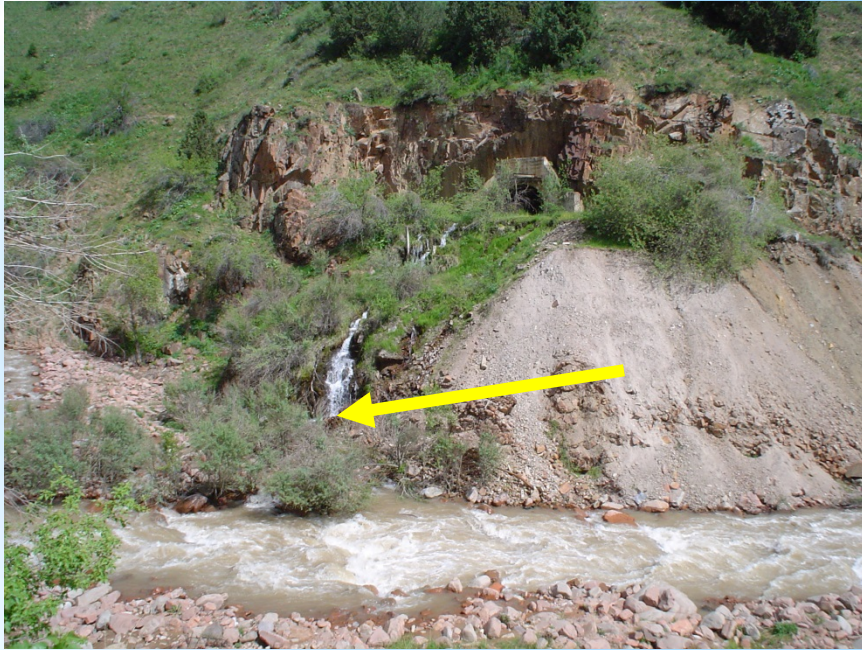


## The mudflow channels, water protection structures, absorbing wells were built, shore protection works made



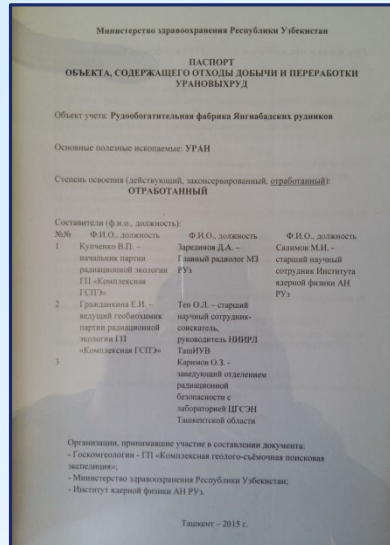


# Objects in Chatkalo-Kuraminsky region

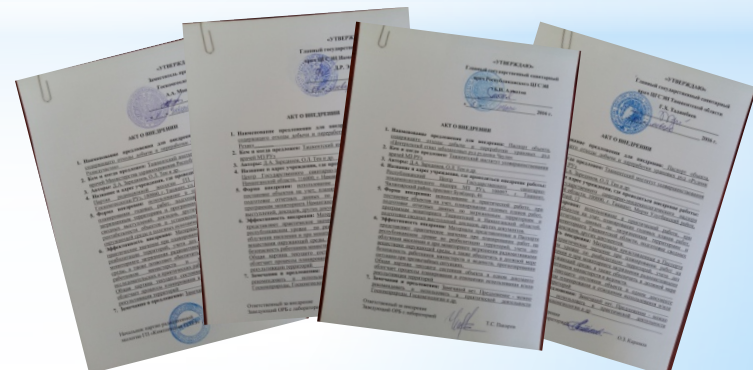
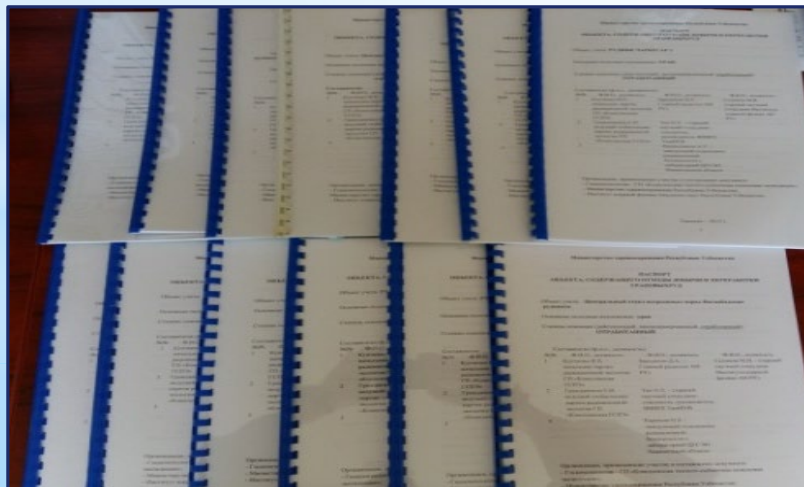




# Passports of Uranium Legacy Sites



- Chauli Mine
- The central dump off-balance ore of Chauli Mine
- Charkesar-1 Mine
- Charkesar-2 Mine
- Alatanga Mine
- "Razveduchastok" Mine
- Kattasay Mine
- Jekindek Mine
- Ore enrichment plant of Yangiabad mines
- Central dump of off-balance uranium ores of Yangiabad mines
- Central dump of overburden rocks of Yangiabad mines
- Separate dump at the ore yard Rezak Mine





# **European Commission Project**

**“Conducting a comprehensive assessment of the environmental impact and the possibility of restoring the damaged ecosystem in the areas of the former uranium ores Charkesar and Yangiabad”**

Период проекта: 2013-2015

Budget: 1.380 million euros;

Duration: 24 months

Upon completion of the project, a final feasibility study is presented with all the necessary technical and economic information on remediation measures and plans, including a preliminary schedule, in an appropriate format and with content. Full detailed technical specifications have been prepared (including materials to be used; quality of materials with norms and standards; work methods and drawings for them, construction work estimates with an estimated breakdown of the estimated budget) for remediation work in Charkesar and Yangiabad.



## **Framework agreement between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the EBRD “On conducting operations on the Environmental Rehabilitation Account for Central Asia in the Republic of Uzbekistan”**

On March 16, 2017 in Tashkent, during the visit of the President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) S. Chakrabarti to the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Framework Agreement was signed between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the EBRD on conducting operations on the Environmental Rehabilitation Account for Central Asia in the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter - Framework Agreement), which was approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated June 21, 2017 No. PP-3078 “On approval of the international treaty”. The document is aimed at providing the EBRD with funds of gratuitous assistance for financing (co-financing) of projects implemented for the rehabilitation of former uranium mining facilities in the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as measures to increase the republic’s potential in eliminating the consequences of uranium ore mining.

In accordance with this resolution, the State Industrial Safety Committee is determined by the competent authority responsible for the implementation of this framework agreement.



# **Framework agreement between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the EBRD**

## **“On conducting operations on the Environmental Rehabilitation Account for Central Asia in the Republic of Uzbekistan”**

- \* From May 21 to June 1, 2018, the delegation of Uzbekistan presented the National Report of the Republic of Uzbekistan at the next IAEA meeting to discuss national reports of the participating countries.
- \* We have sent a request to the IAEA for a peer review of the relevant regulatory infrastructure in the Republic of Uzbekistan by the IAEA's comprehensive regulatory review service (IRRS mission) and a peer review of the effectiveness of environmental rehabilitation programs through a comprehensive review by the IAEA (ARTEMIS mission), scheduled for 2020 year.
- \* The Academy of Sciences has developed a draft government decision on organizing the activities of the Project Management Group (PMU), which provides for the approval of the regulations on the PMU, its composition and sources of funding, and is preparing to be submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers.





# Participation in the work of the IAEA “Coordination Group for Uranium Legacy Sites”

In the period from June 18 to June 22, 2018 in Tashkent, the annual meeting of the Coordination Group for the former uranium facilities CGULS was held.

The event was attended by employees of the IAEA, the European Commission, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the OSCE, UNDP, the International Science and Technology Center, specialists from Germany, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Norway, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine, France, as well as employees Ministry of Emergency Situations, Ministry of Health, Goskomekologiya, Goskomgeologiya, State Committee for Industrial Safety and the Institute of Nuclear Physics of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan. (total 40 people).

Also, a tour to the former uranium mines in Yangiabad was organized during the event.





# **Meeting of the “Coordination Group for Uranium Legacy Sites(CGULS)”**

**\* The meeting was very useful for all participants. Information was received regarding the current state of former uranium production facilities in Central Asian countries, as well as experience in implementing projects on the implementation of remediation at former uranium production facilities in developed European countries, such as Germany and France.**

**\* The EBRD staff provided updated information on the activities of the Environmental Recovery Account (ERA), including the status of the fund in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The focus is on stakeholder engagement in the implementation of remediation projects.**

**\* The course of cooperation of the Republic of Uzbekistan with the EBRD and the Environmental Recovery Account, as well as the implementation of work on safe sustainable restoration of uranium heritage sites in Uzbekistan, were discussed.**



# **Framework agreement between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the EBRD “On conducting operations on the Environmental Rehabilitation Account for Central Asia in the Republic of Uzbekistan”.**

- \* To implement the Framework Agreement between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development on operations on the Environmental Rehabilitation Account for Central Asia in the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter - the Framework Agreement), the IAEA Working Group of the Coordination Group on Former Uranium Objects (CGULS) has prepared a Strategic Master Recovery Plan environment at uranium heritage sites in Central Asia.**
- \* This plan will provide confidence between the affected republics and potential donors that the risks and problems associated with uranium heritage sites in Central Asia will be timely, coordinated, cost-effective and sustainable.**
- \* The strategic master plan includes two main elements: a strategy that must be approved and implemented during the reclamation of uranium heritage sites in Central Asia, and a master plan for its implementation.**



# **Strategic Master Plan for Environmental Recovery at Uranium Heritage Sites in Central Asia**

- \* On September 18, 2017, during the IAEA General Conference, the signing ceremony of the Strategic Master Plan for Environmental Restoration at Uranium Heritage Sites in Central Asia (hereinafter referred to as the Master Plan) took place. From the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Master Plan was signed by the acting Chairman of the State Committee for Industrial Safety.
- \* In September 2019, the Uzbek delegation participated in high-level events within the framework of the UN General Assembly (New York), which discussed the progress made, the problematic issues of financing remediation activities at former uranium production facilities in Central Asian countries, as well as the adoption of a new resolution UNGA on this issue.
- \* This year, at the annual meeting of the Coordination Group for the former uranium facilities CGULS in Bishkek, the update of the Master Plan was discussed, regarding the implementation of remediation activities. It was decided to send a questionnaire to all the members to update the Master Plan.



# Future plans

1. Development of the draft Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On the management of radioactive waste”.
2. Development of a national strategy for the environmental rehabilitation of former uranium production facilities, which includes the distribution of national functions and responsibilities, the establishment, assessment and prioritization of former uranium production facilities, the identification of specific solutions to urgent security problems, and the identification of environmental remediation measures that are required to ensure safety and sustainability in the long run, setting deadlines for eco-implementation ogicheskoy rehabilitation and financing of the necessary funds.
3. A peer review of the relevant regulatory infrastructure by the IAEA’s Integrated Regulatory Expertise Service (IRRS Mission)
4. Conducting a peer review of the effectiveness of environmental rehabilitation programs through a comprehensive review by the IAEA (Mission ARTEMIS).
5. Implementation of projects for the restoration of former uranium production facilities located in the Tashkent and Namangan regions with the financial support of the EBRD Environmental Remediation Fund.
6. Continued cooperation with the Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority on the development of regulatory documents in the field of safe management of radioactive waste.





**Спасибо за внимание**

**Thank you for attention**