

## **Independent Review of the Project:**

***”CAPACITY BUILDING FOR  
COOPERATION ON DAM SAFETY IN  
CENTRAL ASIA (PHASE 3)***

# Background on the project



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- Funded by the Government of the Russian Federation, for a total amount of **\$302,840**
- The project supported the expected accomplishment “**improve environmental governance and performance throughout the region for safeguarding the environment and health**” of the Environment subprogramme of UNECE, as reflected in the Programme plans for 2016-2017; 2018-2019 and 2020
- Implemented **from September 2017 to June 2021** in Centra Asian countries: **Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan**

# Project scope



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## Regional cooperation

- Support to the development of a [regional agreement on cooperation in the field of dam safety in the region](#)
- Promote the creation of a permanent platform for cooperation on dam safety.

## Legal framework and institutional strengthening at the national level

- Development and adoption of the Law on the safety of dams water facilities and support for the establishment of the [State Supervision Service in the field of dam safety in Tajikistan](#)
- Development of Recommendations for improving the legal and institutional framework for ensuring the safety of [water facilities in Kyrgyzstan](#)
- Assistance in the revision of the "[Law on the safety of hydraulic structures](#)" in the Republic of Uzbekistan

## Capacity building to improve the management of dams

- A series of training sessions and seminars to improve the qualifications of specialists in the field of dam management and maintenance

## Safe maintenance of individual dams

- Support to bilateral cooperation to ensure the safety of individual dams or dam systems on transboundary rivers.

# Background on evaluation



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- The evaluation was conducted in accordance with the [UNECE Evaluation Policy](#)
- [The evaluation methodology complied with the revised UNEG norms and standards and with the OIOS COVID-19 Response Evaluation Protocol](#)
- 5 OECD/DAC evaluation criteria were used in this evaluation:
  - Relevance
  - Coherence
  - Effectiveness
  - Efficiency
  - Sustainability

# Key findings



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- Project was **very relevant**, and “appreciated by its recipient countries since its activities and outcomes addressed the persisting concerns/needs related to dam safety in this region”;
- The project **did not** address the gender equality and most vulnerable groups’ issues linked to dam safety **sufficiently**;
- The implementation of the project’s activities in the required sequence was **generally coherent**;



- The project management was highly diligent in seeking out budgetary discipline and cost efficiencies;
- The COVID-19 pandemic was the main factor that resulted in the delays in the implementation of several activities;
- As witnessed through the interviews the project demonstrated a positive influence vis-à-vis the practices of the countries in the field of dam safety, as well as a promising perspective to sustain the project activities beyond its life span

- UNECE to continue supporting national and regional capacities on cooperation on dam safety, in close cooperation with relevant global and regional organizations, and donors.
- UNECE Secretariat to present the findings of this review to the Committee on Environmental Policy to continue promoting dam safety awareness across all government agencies and among general public.
- During the future similar project designs UNECE should include explicit provisions to address gender equality, vulnerable people and disabled in project activities, outcomes, as well as reporting.
- In the future projects UNECE should systematically assess, monitor and document the usefulness and expected impact of the capacity development workshops
- For the purposes of sustainability in development of legal, regulatory and technical frameworks on dam safety in Central Asia, UNECE should maintain frequent engagement with Governments and other partners

# Implementation of Recommendations



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## Transparency enhances accountability

- [Progress Reports will](#) enable to follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations.
- These documents, as well as the [Evaluation report](#) are or will be available in [Open UNECE](#)
- Implemented recommendations will also be reflected in future [Annual evaluation reports](#) to be presented to EXCOM.



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**Thank you**

<https://unece.org/evaluation-reports>