

UNDP-GEF Project
Achieving ecosystem stability on degraded land
in Karakalpakstan and Kyzylkum desert



Under Umbrella of CACILM

GOAL: Achieve ecosystem stability on degraded lands of Karakalpakstan and Kyzylkum desert, thus arresting advance of desertification, increasing carbon sequestration, expanding biodiversity habitats and ensuring socioeconomic benefits for the population on sustainable basis.

OBJECTIVE: To test, evaluate and implement innovative solutions addressing the land degradation problem at experimental scale in designated sites near the Aral Sea and in Kyzylkum desert

OUTPUT 1 – Identify desert plant species with ecological and economic benefits and test methods of sustainable land resource management

OUTPUT 2 – Stabilize moving sands and rehabilitate degraded lands jointly with the local communities

OUTPUT 3 – Strengthen institutional and legal framework for integrated land resource planning and management



Project implementation term was: April 2008 – March 2013

1

Output 1.



24 plant species were identified for sand stabilization and desert pastures enrichment activities;

12 fruit bearing tree species were identified for gardening in the household plots;

Nurseries were created to grow trees and forage plants under desert ecosystem conditions;

Study materials and manuals on the use of various plant species under desert conditions were prepared;

Population was trained in the use of modern methods of land cropping, ensuring agricultural products supply.



2

Output 2.



Tested 5 methods of stabilization of mobile sands and 2 methods of creation of forest plantations in the desert areas;

Established and equipped 2 veterinary service stations and created pasture users commission under the Rural Community Assembly;

Two submersible pump facilities allowed more than 15000 hectares of pasture land to be used;

Population awareness raised on land cropping methods;

Livestock production management plans facilitate sustainable use of pastures in each of the project areas;

Irrigation water supply of the villages restored (8 pump units);

Institutional changes in the use of water resources (creation of water users groups);

Implementation of four business plans created alternative source of income for the population.



3

Output 3.



459 decision makers were involved in capacity development actions of project

> 320 people improved their knowledge on sustainable use of land resources at the local level;

> 60 experts improved their skills in planning of integrated use of land resources;

> 65 managing officers of government institutions familiarized with methods of addressing ecological problems;

> 14 experts of the Main Forestry Department trained in the use of GIS technologies;

Draft amendments prepared to supplement legislative documents regulating pastures use;

Capacity strengthening activities aimed at land resource management (LRM) approved at the district level and ILRM Work Group created;

Regional Extension service Center for zoo veterinary and livestock keep in desert pasture conditions established.



Output 4.



Economic evaluation of the project activities on sand stabilization and sustainable livestock production under desert pastures conditions.

Cooperation with other programs and projects aimed to combat desertification and land degradation (ICBA, GIZ, WOCAT);

Regular meetings with project areas communities in order to perform joint planning of activities;

Analysis of the economic activity of Kyzyl Ravat shirkat farm;

Popular science film on the project activity;

Training workshops on the project topics at various decision making levels;

Information materials for the project areas and the experts (Farmers Field Schools, pasture based livestock production, capacity building).



5

RISKS and ISSUES



- ✓ Force-Majeure (climate change, weather conditions, water availability etc.)
- ✓ Predominance of traditionalism in the problem solving approaches
- ✓ Predominance of directive-based approach in implementation of decisions (top-down execution)
- ✓ Complicated and prolonged process of implementation of the project achievements (change in the legislation, acceptance of the project results by the beneficiaries, etc.)
- ✓ Financial risk (planning, inflation, etc.)
- ✓ Organizational issue (local infrastructure, local experts' capacity, etc.)



6

The Project of UNDP-GEF and Government of the Republic Uzbekistan

Under Umbrella of CACILM

Reducing pressures on natural resources from competing land use in non-irrigated arid mountain, semi-desert and desert landscapes of Uzbekistan

Duration: 2014-2018

Environment and Energy Unit UNDP in Uzbekistan

The project goal and objective

The project goal is
to reduce competing land use pressures on natural resources of arid non-irrigated landscapes in Uzbekistan

Objective

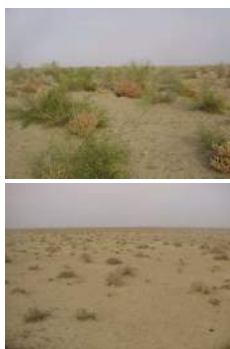
To promote integrated management of rangeland and forests at the landscape level (focus on non-irrigated, arid mountain, semi-desert, and desert landscapes) to reduce pressures on natural resources from competing land uses and improve the socio-economic stability of communities



Barriers to achieving the solution

Barrier 1. Practical know-how barriers with limited practical capacity. Currently, land use is seen in a very stratified, narrow way.

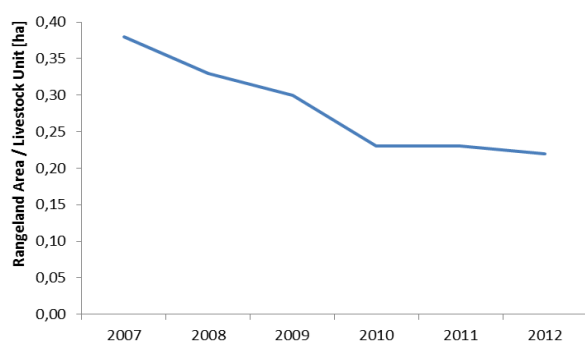
Barrier 2. Inappropriate structure (institutional, legislative and policy) and absence of mechanisms and experience to undertake cross-sector, integrated natural resource use planning. There is a need to adjust development objectives for arid desert, semi-desert and mountain land use.



Details of Agricultural, Forestry and Reserve Land Use, in hectares

Arable (irrigated 82%, rain-fed 18%)	4 045 600
Perennial crops (orchards, vineyards, mulberry, nurseries etc.)	343 000
Household plot land	616 200
Hayfields	104 900
Rangeland	19 667 900
Forested land (including windbreaks, poplar tree plantations)	3 199 300
Shrubs	31 100
Land requiring melioration/improvement	70 700
Abandoned land (fallow land)	78 400
Others	14 215 000
Total	42 372 100

Grazing pressure by livestock in natural rangeland



Components of the project

Component 1: Field level investment to transform the baseline approach.

Promising best practices on sustainable rangeland and forestry management and INRM planning up-scaled in target districts of Uzbekistan.



Component 2: Policy, legal and institutional mechanisms.

An enabling cross-sector environment and in-country capacity (at system, institutional and individual levels) for applying integrated landscape management in arid mountain, semi-desert and desert areas of Uzbekistan.



Component 1. Practical Part

Outcome 1.1: Improvement in the vegetative cover of approximately 6,000 ha of rangeland and 1,000 ha of forestry fund territory due to enhanced land use management using sustainable INRM best practices, accompanied with approximately 50,000 people with secure and sustainable livelihoods.

Outcome 1.2: Enhanced mechanisms for cross-sector integrated planning of sustainable natural resources management at district level to improve vegetation and forest cover, decrease moving sands and erosion, and reduce dust storms and other such events.

Component 2. legal and institutional part

Outcome 2.1: Enhanced policy, legal, and institutional framework for implementing integrated and sustainable management of rangeland and forests.

Outcome 2.2: Adequate technical and managerial capacity for INRM at all levels of land use institutions for the development of policies, legislation and field operations.

Outcome 2.3: Improved access of policy makers to tested INRM best practices and methodologies for improved land management.

Main national partners

The national partner national partner

State Committee for Land Resources, Geodesy, Cartography and State Cadastre (GKZ).

Other key partners:

Ministry of Agriculture and Water resources;
Ministry of Higher, Secondary Specialized and Professional Education;
National Company "Uzbekkarakul" (MAWR);
National Centre for Agricultural Production (MAWR);
State Committee on Nature Protection;
State Hydro-Meteorological Organization;
Farmers Council of Uzbekistan;
Governments of Bukhara and Djizak regions;
Administrations of Karakul and Zomin districts.



National scientific and educational institutions



Samarkand State University,
Samarkand Agricultural Institute,
Tashkent State Agrarian University,
Tashkent Institute of Melioration and Irrigation,
Research Institute of Karakul Sheep Breeding and Desert Ecology etc.



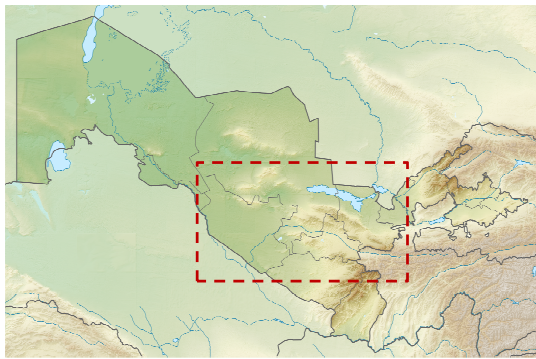
International partners

OCSE;
World Bank;
MASHAW (Israel);
JICA (Japan);
ICARDA;
ICBA
CACILM;
US Embassy in Uzbekistan;
Within the inception period collaboration with TIKa, KOICA and IDB planned.

Project Demonstration sites

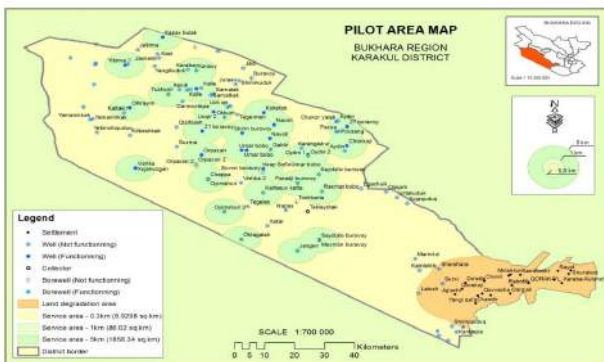
The two pilot districts where demonstrations are to take place are the **Zaamin district** located in Djizak province, and **Karakul district** in Bukhara province.

These districts were selected from all relevant districts in Uzbekistan via a systematic process that utilized a clear set of criteria.



Thank you!

Wells, Pasture Use and Degradation



Budget sources

Total resources required	12,193,600\$
Total allocated resources (grants)	10,753,600\$
- UNDP	700,000\$
- GEF	2,313,600\$
- Government	6,700,000\$
- Forestry Enterprises	220,000\$
- ICBA	500,000\$
- Sheep Breeding Farms	320,000
In-kind Contributions	1,440,000\$

Budget annually distribution

	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5 (USD)	Total (USD)
Total Outcome 1	317,694	503,488	430,767	382,767	296,899	1,931,615
Total Outcome 2	39,587	71,507	90,892	66,592	109,965	378,543
Total Management costs	87,600	64,138	66,104	62,846	62,754	343,442
Total Project (GEF and UNDP)	444,881	639,133	587,763	512,205	469,618	2,653,600