

Outcomes for the period
December 2014-June 2015

Gender assessment

- Focus group discussions in 3 pilot villages
- Socio-economic and agriculture-related data collected
- Need assessment for capacity building activities
- Identification of relevant scenarios for the modelling exercise

Capacity building activities for women

- Greenhouse management: how to set-up a greenhouse? What and when to plant?
General information on greenhouse management;
- Fruit and vegetable drying and processing (simple processing for longer storage);
- Water saving technologies;
- Dairy product processing and storage

Individual interviews with farmers

- Data collected on land and water use
- Socio-economic and gender related data
- Identification of relevant scenarios for the modelling exercise

Database updating

- Syr-Darya water flow at 3 additional gauging stations
- Water intake from districts of Kyzyl-Orda region (downstream TMC)
- Additional meteorological data
- Inflow from the Aris River
- Outflow from Chardara reservoir

Identified scenarios

- Crop shift from cotton to alfalfa and/or maize and/or orchard in Bugun and Saryi Ikan zones. Farmers from Karashik didn't express any wish to change their cultures;
- Development of water saving technologies, specifically drip irrigation;
- Drilling of additional wells to increase the availability of underground water;
- Improve surface water supply by building a pumping station supplying water from the Syr-Darya river. This pumping station would provide water to an area including Saryi Ikan and villages downstream;
- Building of additional irrigation reservoirs.

Project outcomes and visibility

Proposed publications

1. Policy brief

Objective: Inform policy makers on project results and recommendations. Get political support to continue efforts and activities in the same direction

Outline: CAREC → Review by project partners

Content: CAREC → Review by project partners

Publication: CAREC

2. Article in governmental based journals

Objective: Inform governmental specialists and policy makers on project results and recommendations

Outline: CAREC, South-Kazakhstan Hydrogeological and Melioration Expedition (SKHME)

Content: CAREC, SKHME → Review by project partners

Publication: SKHME

Peer reviewed journals

Content: Gender issues, combined modelling exercise, ES valuation.

Anna – possibility with a Kazakh student to publish in her University journal?

Vinay – CGIAR related journals?

Prof. Srini and Mulla – TAMU or UM journals?

Iskandar – irrigation or agriculture related journals?

Visibility

1. Articles in CAREC newsletter

Objective: Share project outcomes and methodologies with NGOs and international partners

Outline: CAREC (author tbi depending on the topic)

Content: CAREC (author tbi depending on the topic)

Publication: CAREC (Alexey)

2. Articles in other newspapers (local? National?)

Objective: Share project outcomes and recommendations with the general population

Outline: CAREC, SKHME → Review by project partners

Content: CAREC, SKHME → Review by project partners

3. Consultation with policy makers at the provincial level

Objective: Share and discuss project outcomes and recommendations. Collect additional data. Help shape the policy brief.

2015 plan of activities

- Stakeholder mapping (September)
- Interviews to identify the willingness to pay for water related ecosystem services (September)
- Consultation with provincial authorities in Shimkent (September)
- Two back to back 1-day demonstration days (September)
- SPSS analysis of interviews (starting in July)

