

The IWRM Project received a funding from Czech-UNDP Trust Fund

The IWRM Project received a funding in the amount of USD 20 962 from Czech-UNDP Trust Fund to develop a Strategy on improving water use efficiency in the energy sector and energy efficiency in water pumping. Based on Tender Procedure of UNDP a Czech Consultancy Company AECOM CZ is engaged in the strategy development process. Since 1991 AECOM CZ Company dedicated to intensive projects on the environment and the efficient use of energy resources. The company has extensive working experience in the region of Central Asia.



Oleriny Milan, the company's main expert says:

During this mission I traveled with the project team to Samarkand and visited the Past-dargom pilot project and meet with the participating farmers. This is part of an

effort to better understand the problems they face with respect obtaining an assured water supply. While we were there I had an opportunity to view a cotton irrigation in progress and compare it methods used in California. Both countries use furrow irrigation and in both countries the field length is reduced to enable better uniformity of irrigation. In California water running off a field is collected in a pond and used to irrigate another field or another area of the same field. In Uzbekistan the farmer was collecting the water running off the field and diverting it immediately to another field. The major difference came between the duration of irrigation. It is significantly shorter in the US than I understood was the practice on this field in Uzbekistan. There was considerable evidence that the irrigation I witnessed was causing a saturated condition in the field that had potential for a significant detrimental effect on yield. A farmer I meet expressed an interest learning more about improving irrigation. He had done some experimentation on his own and is looking forward to participating in the pilot project.

The remainder of the mission was spent at the office reviewing the draft assessment report, participating in a stakeholder workshop, and discussing the next steps in the project. The assessment report will provide a good basis for developing strategies for improving water use efficiency in the Zarafshan River Basin and in Uzbekistan.

The Czech-UNDP Trust Fund supports development activities that involve sharing the experiences, best practices and lessons learned from the Czech transitional period – both to democracy and market economy as well as to European Union membership. The Fund is a joint initiative of the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNDP, and complements Czech bilateral development cooperation. The Czech-UNDP Trust Fund was established in 2000 and was the first example of such a successful cooperation in Central Europe.

(<http://europeandcis.undp.org/ourwork/partnerships/show/2215F0BC-F203-1EE9-B36F4C7AFDB61198>).

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