



**International Forum –
Tashkent Water Week 2026
Technologies and Innovations in Water Resource
Management.
Central Asia and Global Water Cycle
March 25-26, 2026, Tashkent, Uzbekistan**

March 24, Tuesday

14:00 - 18:00	Pre-registration <i>JW Marriott Hotel</i>
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Day 1

March 25, Wednesday

09:00 - 10:00	Registration <i>JW Marriott Hotel</i>
10:00 - 11:00 Grand Ballroom	International Forum – Tashkent Water Week 2026 Opening Ceremony: Plenary Session: Water and Sustainable Development: Dialogue, Trust, and Common Solutions
Discussion points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International cooperation and water resource management in the context of climate change: New challenges and collective solutions; Joint interstate water management projects in Central Asia; Role of international organisations and financial institutions in improving water use efficiency; Role of water in ensuring food and social security; Water-saving technologies as the basis for effective interstate cooperation.
Moderator	Kamilla Sultanova , Moderator, Associate Partner, SavvY Advisory LTD
Speakers:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jamshid Khodjajev, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan 2. Sabine Machl, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan 3. Akiko Fujii, UNDP Resident Representative in Uzbekistan 4. Awaadh Al Otaibi, CEO, Miahona 5. Barbara Janusz-Pawletta, Regional Representative for Central Asia, International Water Management Institute (IWMI) 6. Dr. Ilker Ersegun Kayhan, Operations Team Leader (Social & Agricultural Infrastructure), Regional Hub of Almaty, Islamic Development Bank

11:10 - 12:10 Grand Ballroom	Strategic Session: Ministerial Dialogue: Transboundary Water Sharing and Interstate Coordination
Discussion points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harmonising the interests of upstream and downstream countries, managing flow seasonality, and ensuring water security; Balancing hydropower, irrigation, and industrial water consumption at scheduling water use regimes; Integrated digital tools for monitoring and sharing hydrological data; Common approaches to managing droughts, floods, and water resource variability; Institutional development and international cooperation in transboundary water management.

Moderator	Victor Kovalenko , Partner, Climate Change and Sustainability Services Leader in Central Asia, the Caucasus and Ukraine, EY
Speakers:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shavkat Khamraev, Minister of Water Resources of Uzbekistan 2. Kongratbay Sharipov, Minister of higher education, science and innovation of the Republic of Uzbekistan 3. Nurzhan Nurzhigitov, Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation of the Republic of Kazakhstan 4. Hakimzoda Kurbon, Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan 5. Maksim Korolkov, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation 6. Bakyt Dzhusupov, Ambassador, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (<i>video address</i>) 7. Maroš Nikolaj, President, Water Slovakia

12:10 - 12:50

Lunch

12:50 - 13:50 Grand ballroom	Strategic Session: Global Water Trends and Challenges
Discussion points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International and national adaptation strategies; • International standards and legislation in the field of water resources; • Trust-building mechanisms among countries; • Implementation of water-saving technologies and smart management systems; • Water infrastructure impact on social development and living standards; • Success stories in technology implementation across different continents.
Moderator	Philippe Floch , Senior Manager, Management Consulting Unit, ILF Consulting Engineers
Speakers:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mirshohid Aslanov, CEO and Co-founder, Center for Progressive Reforms 2. Murad Uzakov, Head of the Center for Regional Studies at the Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (ISRS) 3. Ilhan Bettemir, Founder & Manager, GEMAR Environmental Measurement and Analysis Laboratory / ENV Energy Environmental Management and Technologies Ltd. <i>'Success stories in technology implementation across different continents'</i> 4. Dr. Iskandar Abdullaev, Senior Researcher, IWMI's Central Asia Office 5. Philippe Floch, Senior Manager, Management Consulting Unit, ILF Consulting Engineers 6. Daniil Tarasov, Deputy Director for Development, Central Asia Region, NPO ACWE <i>'Wastewater as a Valuable Resource'</i>

 <p>Women Water Week 2026 Knowledge from Theory to Practice TIAME National Research University Tashkent</p>	Concurrent Event: Women Water Week – Special Programme
	<i>The event will be held at the premises of TIAME NRU as part of the parallel programme of the main event</i>
Sessions	<p>Session 1: Water sector gender concept of the Republic of Uzbekistan</p> <p>Session 2: Water code of the Republic of Uzbekistan</p> <p>Session 3: “Capacity-development session”</p> <p>Session 4: Fish pool: “Leadership Skills” session (women leaders’ knowledge sharing)</p>
Moderators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alikulova Dilafruz, Ministry of Water Resources, Uzbekistan 2. Dinara Ziganshina, Director, SIC ICWC in Central Asia 3. Shohida Tulieva, Gender Consultant, IWMI 4. Barbara Janusz-Pawletta, Country Representative, IWMI

Speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women Water Week — a dedicated initiative for women professionals in the water sector — is being held in Uzbekistan in partnership with: • Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan • International Water Management Institute (IWMI) • Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)/Asian Development Bank (ADB) • Scientific Information Center of Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (SIC ICWC) / International Climate Initiative (IKI) • Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanisation Engineers (National Research University) (TIAME NRU) • United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office in Uzbekistan (UN RCO Uzbekistan) • United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) • Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) • International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA) • International Secretariat for Water (ISW)
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13:50 - 14:40 Grand Ballroom	Strategic Session: Sustainable Water Use and Development of Agricultural Systems
Discussion points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water-saving in Uzbekistan: State policy, priorities, and outcomes; • Water-saving and corporate social responsibility: Role of businesses in sustainable water management; • Efficient water management and water use as the basis for sustainable development; • Reducing water consumption and wastewater discharge: Modern approaches and technologies; • Engineering and technologies for sustainable water supply for agriculture; • Green standards in efficient land management; • Multipurpose land use and economic efficiency; • Combating land degradation and water source depletion; • Role of water resources in supporting food security.
Moderator	Dr. Laylo Yakhshiboeva , Department of Foreign Investment Attraction and International Cooperation, Agency for Vocational Education under the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Innovation of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Climate Innovator
Speakers:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Boriy Alikhanov, Committee Member, Legislative Chamber, Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan 2. Jahongir Iskhakov, Acting Head, Project Management Department, Uzbekcosmos Agency 3. Eva Kerstholt, Regional Director for Water Management and Water Treatment across Asia, Middle East, and Africa, Wilo Group 4. Roman Dovolnov, Climate Change and Sustainability Services (CCaSS) Leader in Uzbekistan, EY 5. Prof. Paolo Tarolli, Agricultural Water Management, Soil and Water Conservation, the University of Padova 6. Imran Asghar, Regional Head, Asia-Pacific (APAC), FibreTrace

14:40 - 15:30 Grand Ballroom	Strategic Session: Technological Innovations in Water Supply Management
Discussion points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modernisation of irrigation infrastructure as the basis for sustainable water delivery in agriculture; • Implementation of advanced water technologies and innovative solutions in agriculture;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital solutions and smart water management systems; • Modern and resource-saving irrigation technologies in sustainable water supply systems; • Water recycling: water treatment and purification technologies.
Moderator	Temur Akhmedov , Senior Consultant, Energy, Environment and Sustainability, LEED AP, Directorate "New Tashkent"
Speakers:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Asiljon Mukhiddinov, Head of Department, Uzsuvtaminot JSC 2. Alexander Krasilnikov, Commercial Director, LIT 3. Prof. Baochao WANG, Qingdao Agriculture University 4. Temur Akhmedov, Senior Consultant, Energy, Environment and Sustainability, LEED AP, Directorate "New Tashkent" 5. Rovshan Badalov, Sustainable Procurement Consultant, Act Global 6. Alim Sharipov, Independent Consultant, "Uzkimyosanoatloyiha" JSC <i>"Fertilizer production with a closed-loop water cycle"</i>

15:30 - 15:50

Coffee break

15:50 - 16:40 Grand Ballroom	Panel Session: Cross-Sector Cooperation in Water Management
Discussion points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water resource use optimisation systems; • Integrated water resources management; • Water and energy mix: Regional aspects; • Unification of energy sector in combination with other renewable energy sources.
Moderator	Rashi Bablani , Associate Director, Cranmore Partners
Speakers:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Zokir Ishpulatov, First Deputy Minister, Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan 2. Charity Watson, Climate, Peace and Security Advisor for the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) 3. Javohir Juraev, Advisor at the Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan, specialising in public-private partnerships (PPP) in the energy sector <i>'Hydropower PPP Projects in Uzbekistan'</i> 4. Musilim Zhienbayev, Chief Expert, Department of International Cooperation, Executive Committee, International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea 5. Gayrat Rakhimov, Head of the Department for Coordination of Development and Operation of Drinking Water and Wastewater Systems, Ministry of Construction and Housing and Communal Economy of the Republic of Uzbekistan

16:40 - 17:20 Grand ballroom	Panel Session: Intellectual Potential and Workforce Training in Water Management
Discussion points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern competencies for water sector; • Implementation of research developments to water management practices; • Adaptation programs on new technologies and standards; • Knowledge and best practice exchange among countries; • Joint laboratories, pilot projects, remote sensing and aerospace research methods.
Moderator	Dr. Abror Gafurov , Helmholtz Centre for Geosciences (GFZ)
Speakers:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Bakhodir Mirzaev, Rector, Doctor of Engineering, TIAME 2. Sardor Khikmatov, Chief Specialist of the Human Resources Development and Management Department, Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Abror Gadayev, Vice-Rector for Scientific Affairs and Innovations, Samarkand State University of Architecture and Civil Engineering named after Mirzo Ulugbek (SamDAQU) 4. Dr. Albina Prniyazova, PhD in International Relations, Institute of Diplomacy, Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan 5. Abduvokhid Urazkeldiev, Director, Research Institute of Irrigation and Water Problems under the Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan
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17:20 – 18:00	Signing Ceremony of Agreements and Memoranda within the Framework of the Forum
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18:00	End of Day 1
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Day 2

March 26, Thursday

09:00 - 10:00	Registration <i>TIIAME National Research University</i>
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	Concurrent Event: Women Water Week – Special Programme
	<i>The event will be held at the premises of TIIAME NRU as part of the parallel programme of the main event.</i>
Sessions	<p>Session 1: Water sector gender concept of the Republic of Uzbekistan</p> <p>Session 2: Water code of the Republic of Uzbekistan</p> <p>Session 3: “Capacity-development session”</p> <p>Session 4: Fish pool: “Leadership Skills” session (women leaders’ knowledge sharing)</p>
Moderators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Alikulova Dilafruz, Ministry of Water Resources, Uzbekistan 2. Dinara Ziganshina, Director, SIC ICWC in Central Asia 3. Shohida Tulieva, Gender Consultant, IWMI 4. Barbara Janusz-Pawletta, Country Representative, IWMI
Speakers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women Water Week — a dedicated initiative for women professionals in the water sector — is being held in Uzbekistan in partnership with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan • International Water Management Institute (IWMI) • Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)/Asian Development Bank (ADB) • Scientific Information Center of Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (SIC ICWC) / International Climate Initiative (IKI) • Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanisation Engineers (National Research University) (TIIAME NRU) • United Nations Resident Coordinator’s Office in Uzbekistan (UN RCO Uzbekistan) • United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) • Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) • International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA)

<p>9:30 - 10:10 <i>TIIAME National Research University</i></p> 	<p>From Knowledge to Action: Enhancing Science and Policy Dialogue for Improved Water Security in Central Asia</p>
<p>Discussion points</p>	<p>The Tashkent Water Security Forum is a dedicated platform bringing together scientists, policymakers, practitioners, and regional stakeholders to share research findings, exchange perspectives, and support informed decision-making on water governance and climate adaptation. The 2026 Forum theme, “<i>From Knowledge to Action: Enhancing Science and Policy Dialogue for Improved Water Security in Central Asia</i>,” underscores the urgent need to translate scientific evidence into practical policies and joint actions.</p>
<p>9:30 - 10:00 <i>TIIAME National Research University</i></p>	<p>Opening Session and welcome speeches Ms. Kamilla Sultanova, SavvY Advisory, Finland</p>
<p>Moderator</p>	<p>Dr. Abror Gafurov, Helmholtz Centre for Geosciences (GFZ)</p>
<p>Speakers:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Prof. Bakhodir Mirzaev, Rector, TIIAME National Research University Mr. Rustam Karshiev, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan Dr. Oliver Bens, Team Scientific Executive Board, GFZ, Potsdam, Germany and Co-Director, Central Asian Institute of Applied Geosciences (CAIAG) Dr. Robert Micovec, GIZ, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
<p>10:00 - 11:15</p>	<p>Session I. Keynote Session</p>
<p>Moderator</p>	<p>Prof. Abdulkhakim Salokhiddinov, TIIAME National Research University</p>
<p>Speakers:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Keynote Speech - Water Policy. Dr. Dinara Ziganshina, Scientific Information Centre of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination (SIC-ICWC) Keynote Speech - Water Science. Prof. Jenniver Sehring, IHE Delft, Institute for Water Education under the auspices of UNESCO <p>Q/A session</p>
<p>11:15 - 11:45</p>	<p><i>Coffee break and Networking</i></p>
<p>11:45 - 13:00</p>	<p>Session II. Water Science Session</p>
<p>Moderator</p>	<p>Ms. Kamilla Sultanova, SavvY Advisory, Finland</p>
<p>Speakers:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Bota Aytimova, National Hydrometeorological Centre of Kazakhstan (RSE Kazhydromet), Astana, Kazakhstan Dr. Abror Gafurov, GFZ Helmholtz-Centre for Geosciences, Potsdam, Germany Dr. Bolot Moldobekov, Co-Director, Central Asian Institute of Applied Geosciences (CAIAG), Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan Mr. Sirojiddin Eshmatov, Climate Risk Management in Central Asia, GIZ, Tashkent, Uzbekistan Q&A Session
<p>13:00 - 14:00</p>	<p><i>Lunch break and networking</i></p>

14:00 - 15:15	Session II. Water Policy Session
Moderator	Dr. Shukhrat Shokirov , TIAME National Research University
Speakers:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Barbara Januzs-Pawletta, Director, Regional Office, International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Tashkent, Uzbekistan 2. Prof. Mohd Faizee, Professor of Practice in Water Diplomacy and Security at IHE Delft, Netherlands & Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), Sweden 3. Mr. Oytur Anarbekov, Caritas Switzerland, Country Consortium Representative 4. Prof. Yarash Pulatov, Institute of Water Problems, Hydropower and Ecology under the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan, Dushanbe, Tajikistan 5. Q/A session

15:15 - 15:45	<i>Coffee break and networking</i>
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15:45 - 16:45	Panel Session:
Moderator	Dr. Abror Gafurov , Helmholtz Centre for Geosciences (GFZ)
Speakers:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Jenniver Sehring, IHE-Delft, Netherlands 2. Mr. Zokir Ishpulatov, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Water Resources, Uzbekistan 3. Dr. Oliver Bens, Team Scientific Executive Board, GFZ, Potsdam, Germany and Co-Director, Central Asian Institute of Applied Geosciences (CAIAG) 4. Dr. Dinara Ziganshina, Scientific Information Center of the Interstate Coordination Water Commission (SIC-ICWC) 5. Dr. Robert Micovec, GIZ, Tashkent
16.45 - 17:00	Wrap-up and Closing Session

17:00 - 19:00	Excursion Visit to the Center of Islamic Civilization in Uzbekistan for Forum Guests
Gathering Point	<i>TIAME National Research University</i>

19:00	End of Day 2
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Day 3
March 27, Friday

10:00 - 13:00	Visit to the 21st International Exhibition on Agriculture - AgroWorld Uzbekistan 2026
Venue	Uzexpocentre NEC

13:00	Forum Closure
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Organisers

Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan



Iteca Exhibitions



TIIAME National Research University



Center for Progressive Reforms



Official Support

Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan



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