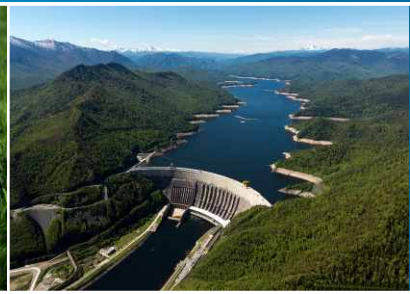




**WATER FOR LIFE**  
2005 - 2015



**HIGH LEVEL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
DECADE FOR ACTION "WATER FOR LIFE", 2005-2015**

## **SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT**

9-11 JUNE 2015  
DUSHANBE, TAJIKISTAN



## ORGANIZERS



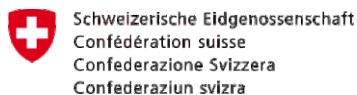
The Conference is organized by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in cooperation with the UN-Water and other UN institutions, international and regional organizations and partners.

In order to convene the High Level International Conference on the implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015, the Government established an Organizing Committee under the chairmanship of the Prime-minister of the Republic of Tajikistan, H.E. Mr. Qohir Rasulzoda.



An International Steering Committee consisting of the representatives of partner countries, international and regional institutions, river basin organizations, NGOs, representatives of the private sector and other stakeholders is established to develop a comprehensive program of the Conference with the participation of all categories of water users and decision-makers.

## SPONSORS



## PARTNERS





## ADDRESS

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### **Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The High-Level International Conference on the implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and the identification of further efforts to achieve sustainable development of water resources is conducted by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in cooperation with UN agencies and other development partners, in accordance with the United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/69/215 of 19 December 2014 on the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and further efforts to achieve sustainable development of water resources.

The main objective of the Conference is assessing the progress made in achieving the goals of the Decade and identifying further efforts to ensure the sustainable development of water resources. Indeed, the sustainable development of water resources, along with solving water related problems require further widespread, focused, collaborative efforts of the international community, mutual understanding between the countries and the development of partnership at all levels.

As the initiator of the International Year of Freshwater, 2003, the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015 and the International Year of Water Cooperation, 2013, the Republic of Tajikistan is much interested in further developing the UN water agenda and filling it with the most pressing issues in view of new threats and challenges related to water.

We believe that the Dushanbe Conference will make a worthy contribution to the development of this process and will be an important platform for mobilization of all stakeholders in achieving internationally agreed goals on water and preservation of this irreplaceable resource for future generations.

I am convinced that an active participation of the partners, stakeholders and experts will make comprehensive contribution into the success of this important international event.

I would be pleased to welcome all participants of the Conference on 9-11 June 2015 in Dushanbe.

**Sincerely,**

**Qohir Rasulzoda**

**Chairman of the National Organizing Committee  
Prime Minister of the Republic of Tajikistan**





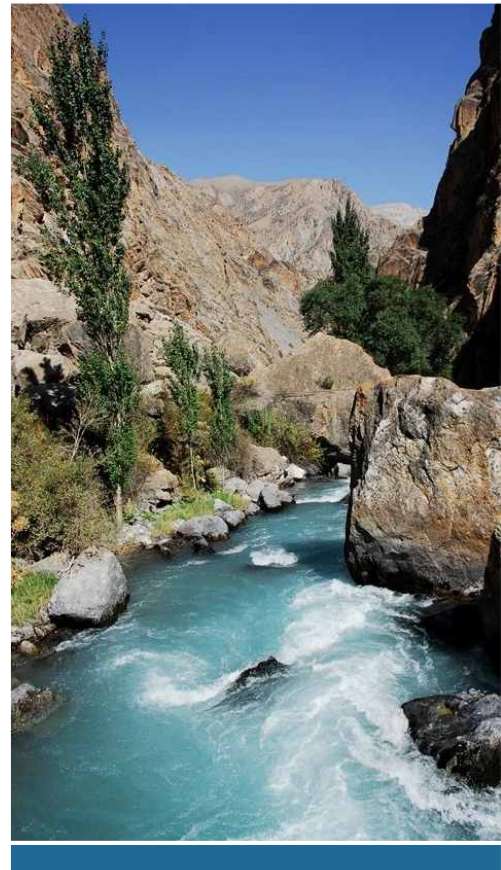
## BACKGROUND

On 23 December 2003, at its 58th session the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/58/217, initiated by the Republic of Tajikistan. According to the resolution, the period 2005–2015 was declared as International Decade for Action "Water for Life".

Since the International Decade for Action "Water for Life" ends in 2015, a comprehensive assessment of the activities carried out during this period, identifying the successes and challenges in the implementation of the goals of the Decade, and design of further activities for the post - 2015 period, are of crucial importance.

To that end, on 19 December 2014 the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution A/RES/69/215 entitled International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources, calling upon the member states, UN system institutions, including UN-Water, and other organizations to comprehensively evaluate the progress achieved in the implementation of the Decade and continue taking steps for achieving internationally agreed water-related goals, including those indicated in the outcome document of the Rio+20 Conference entitled "The Future We Want".

The resolution also includes convening the High Level International Conference on the implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015.



## OBJECTIVES

The primary goal of the Conference is a comprehensive discussion of the issues of implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015, which will later play a crucial role in conducting a comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade by raising awareness of the wider international community about its results.

This conference also provides an opportunity to discuss the successes and challenges in the implementation of the International Decade. On this basis, recommendations will be elaborated for further actions to be taken after 2015, and by this contributing to the discussions on the Sustainable Development Goals related to water resources.





## NATIONAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

No	Name	Position
<b>Chairman</b>		
1	Qohir Rasulzoda	Prime Minister of the Republic of Tajikistan
<b>Vice Chairmans</b>		
2		Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Tajikistan
3	Aslov Sirojiddin	Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan
<b>Secretary</b>		
4	Pirizoda Jalil	Head of the Department of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
<b>Membes</b>		
5	Usmonzoda Usmonali	Minister of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan
6	Hikmatullozoda Negmatullo	Minister of Economic Development and Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan
7	Zokirov Mahmadoir	Minister of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan
8	Abdusalom Qurbonov	Minister of Finance of the Republic of Tajikistan
9	Said Nuriddin Said	Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan
10	Salimzoda Nusratullo	Minister of Health and Social Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan
11	Bobozoda Shavkat	Minister of Industry and New Technologies of the Republic of Tajikistan
12	Ganzalzoda Sherali	Minister of Transport of the Republic of Tajikistan
13	Orumbekzoda Shamsiddin	Minister of Culture of the Republic of Tajikistan
14	Shirinov Abdujabbor	Chairman of the National Bank of Tajikistan
15	Rakhimi Farhod	President of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan
16	Pirzoda Mahmadsaid	Chairman of the Committee on Television and Radio under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
17	Ibodzoda Khairullo	Chairman of the Committee on Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
18	Abdurahimov Khayridin	Chairman of the Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
19	Abdullozoda Ahtam	Chairman of the Committee on Youth, Sports and Tourism under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
20	Zuhurov Beg	Head of Communication Services under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
21	Shamsiddinov Sadridin	Director of the National Information Agency of Tajikistan «Khovar»
22	Kholmurod Rahmon	Director of the Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan
23	Tumanova Guljakhon	Head of the Department of Social Development of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
24	Murodov Dustmurod	Head of the Legal Department of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
25	Goibnazar Amirhoja	Head of Office Management and Control of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
26	Davlatov Sayfiddin	Head of the Department of Science and Culture of the Executive Office of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan
27	Khairulloev Nasrullo	First Deputy Chairman of Dushanbe City
28	Mahmadaminov Mahmadamin	Permanent Representative of the Republic of Tajikistan to the United Nations





## INTERNATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE

No	Name	Position
<b>Co-chairs</b>		
1	Rahimzoda Sulton	First Deputy Minister of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan
2	Jimenez-Cisneros Blanca	Director of the Division of Water Sciences, Secretary of the International Hydrological Programme (IHP), UNESCO
<b>Members</b>		
3	Bird Jeremy	Director General of the International Water Management Institute
4	Bonvoisin Nicholas	Secretary to the Water Convention, UNECE
5	Bouman-Dentener Alice	Vice-Chair of the GWP Steering Committee
6	Clausen Torkil Jonch	Chair of the Scientific Programme Committee of the World Water Week, Stockholm International Water Institute
7	Cujba Alexandru	Secretary-General of the South-South Steering Committee for Sustainable Development and Director-General of the International Organization for South-South Cooperation
8	Delli Priscoli Jerome	Member of the Board of Governors of the World Water Council
9	Donzier Jean-Francois	Permanent Technical Secretary of the International Network of Basin Organizations
10	Esheng Cai	Chairman of the South-South Steering Committee for Sustainable Development Asia-Pacific Committee and Chairman of the South-South Asia-Pacific Finance Center
11	Heincz Balázs	Water Coordinator, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary
12	Hiroki Kenzo	Councilor, Cabinet Secretariat of Japan, and Director, Water Resources Planning Division, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
13	Hudson Andrew	Lead Specialist on Water Resources, UNDP
14	Ibodzoda Khairullo	Chair, Committee on Environment Protection under the Government of Tajikistan
15	Iskrevva Diana	Treasurer of Women for Water Partnership
16	Kalandarov Idibek	Head of the Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan
17	Koh Deuk-koo	Secretary General of the Korea Water Forum
18	Maestu Josefina	Coordinator of the UN-Water Decade Program of Advocacy and Communication
19	Mantovani Pier Francesco	Lead Water and Sanitation Specialist, Water Global Practices, World Bank
20	Njie Ndey Isatou	Secretary, UN-Water
21	Salzberg Aaron	Lead for Water and Head of the Interagency Working Group on Water, US Department of State
22	Spreafico Manfred	Emeritus Professor of the University of Berne, Former President of the International Commission for the Hydrology of the Rhine Basin
23	Szollósi-Nagy Andras	WWC Governor, Former Rector of the UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education
24	Taal Bai-Mass M.	Executive Secretary of the African Ministers' Council on Water
25	Thanavon Pamaranon	Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations
26	Unver Olcay	Deputy Director, Land and Water Division, FAO
27	Wijesekera Sanjay	Chief, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Programme Division and Associate Director, UNICEF
28	Zafar Adeel	Director of the United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health
29	Zuev Alexander	UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Tajikistan





## WATER DECADE IMPLEMENTATION

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### Progress and Achievements, Lessons Learnt and Best Practices

The UN General Assembly decided to declare the years 2005 to 2015 as the International Decade for Action "Water for Life". This has been a time of great change for water supply and sanitation and overall in the water sector. We have learned from the past and improved many processes through greater coordination and inclusiveness. Yet, it is difficult to ignore the sense that our timeline is contracting. Man-made climate change, growing populations, increasing inequalities and the increasing, unprecedented demands of a global economy on fresh water resources have increased urgency, even as things have improved.

In order to hit the targets set by the Millennium Development Goals, we have seen good intentions played out in the real world, affecting the lives of millions of people. Some things have worked well, beyond our expectations. At times, we had to adapt where things did not work as well as we thought they would. This is one reason why we have been increasingly working with small, grassroots groups who can apply well-targeted solutions to fit specific communities being mindful of the need to scale up and reach the millions unserved. One of the biggest things we have learned is not to try to apply "cookie cutter" solutions to different places. Adaptability to different contexts has proved to be a key attribute at ground level.

### Regional Perspectives

While the International Decade for Action "Water for Life" is an initiative at the global level, its implementation required also regional, national and local efforts. Historically, awareness of several water-related issues scaled up from specific contexts to global processes. This led to the development of general principles and visions that guide and inspire action at all levels today. However, many of problems remain unsolved. There is need to translate general principles and visions into action at the regional, national and local level. The Water for Life Decade provided opportunities not only for local issues to be raised at the global level, but also for global processes to reach out to the implementation level. The organizers of the Conference are convinced of the importance of bringing in as much of this experience as possible in a balanced manner.

While these regions harbor a great variety of experience with regard to the Water for Life Decade, they also possess a large number of common features at the regional level. Moreover, there is some evidence that it may be easier to manage resources such as water and promote norm diffusion at this level. It may, therefore, be possible to act at the regional level even if global efforts face challenges. On this basis, successes at the regional level may even represent steps towards global initiatives. Regional action may cluster interests and positions, thus making it easier to make progress globally.

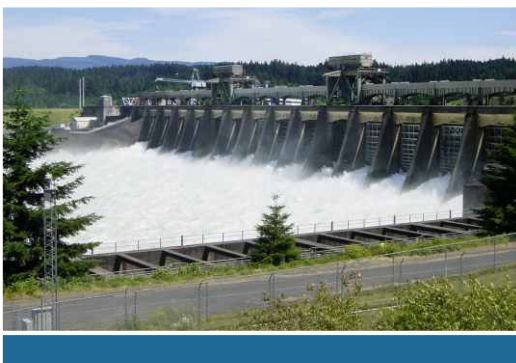




## WATER BEYOND 2015

### Water and Sanitation

During the Water for Life Decade, water and sanitation went from being a marginal and technical issue to the forefront of the international agenda. The situation has globally improved, but inequalities persist. While we hit the Millennium Development Goal for access to an improved water source in 2010, five years ahead of schedule, the sanitation goal of halving the proportion of the population without sustainable access to basic sanitation has lagged far behind and we will not hit it by 2015. Over a quarter of the world's population has gained access to improved sanitation since 1990, yet one billion people still resort to open defecation and 2.5 billion in developing countries still lack access to improved sanitation facilities. The vast majority of people practicing open defecation now live in middle-income, populous countries. In 2010, this led to Sanitation for All, the five-year sanitation drive for 2015, the Open Defecation Campaign and World Toilet Day, which has been an officially recognized UN event since 2013, and last but not least to the recognition of the Human Right to Water and Sanitation by the UN General Assembly in 2010. These are important steps, but there is a general feeling that a more long-term perspective and commitment is necessary.



### The Water-Energy-Food-Environment Nexus

The Decade helped to broaden the discussion from almost exclusively water experts to stakeholders also from other sectors, as well as the general public. The concept of integrated water resource management and, most recently, the emergence of the so-called water-energy-food-environment nexus facilitated reaching out to key players, particularly in the energy, agriculture and environment sectors. The challenge of climate change helped realize how connected all these problems are and how solutions in one sector are linked to solutions in another sector. This is why dialogue among relevant sectors and levels is fundamental. It is increasingly evident that intersectoral dialogue must be based on a salient, reliable and legitimate knowledge base. Joint monitoring and observation platforms play therefore a crucial role. A challenge for the post-2015 Development Agenda is clearly to go beyond sectoral practices and develop integrated approaches. How can this be done? Moreover, it is now well understood that tradeoffs are often necessary between development trajectories of two or more sectors and that institutions play a key role in this regard. How can institutions steer towards development pathways that fully take into consideration the water-energy-food-environment nexus?







## WATER BEYOND 2015

### Global Challenges from a Water Perspective

The world is facing a great number of global challenges, including climate change, resource access equity, disaster risk management, mountain development, basin management, food security, etc. Water is a critical factor in many if not all of these challenges. Looking at them from a water perspective is important because better water management can contribute to strengthen substantially our capacity to face these challenges and increase the resilience at the same time of our communities and the planet. In this regard, it is important to address questions such as how water management can contribute to better climate change adaptation, how ensuring access to improved water to all can promote more equal and fair societies, how integrated water resource management can result in better disaster risk management and so on. Last but not least, it will also look at less politically salient but not less practically important topics, such as how providing payments for ecosystem services of mountain communities can represent a cost-effective manner to improve water quality and how basin management can prevent conflict in many parts of the world and contribute to global peace and security. Moreover, it is important to look at the preparation of the UNFCCC COP21 in Paris from a water perspective.



### Financing and Governance

Despite the financial crisis that hit many Western countries since 2008, aid for water supply and sanitation continues to rise and is increasingly targeted to MDGs and basic services. Targeted aid to provide sanitation and water for fragile and conflict-affected states increased 50% between 2007 and 2010, from 560 million to 840 million USD. This is particularly important as, even in more developed countries, operations and maintenance for water supply and sanitation are still rarely covered by tariffs, with the shortfall usually being made up by government subsidies. In less developed countries, the availability of government subsidies is often limited, with greater reliance on development assistance. Still, there is much room for improvement in targeting the world's neediest people. There are important differences between urban and rural areas, between richer and poorer layers of society and between drinking water and sanitation. Only 17% of countries consistently apply financial measures to reduce disparities in access to sanitation for the poor compared to 23% for drinking water. This is also reflected in development aid, where sanitation is targeted for 43% of funding to the sector, with provision of safe water taking the remaining 57%. The world is facing a sanitation crisis that needs to be addressed. The answer is not only financial, but also political. Governance plays a key role in identifying these needs and responding through effective policies at appropriate levels in a transparent and accountable manner. Moreover, there is need of going beyond aid for single project and move towards investment in multipurpose infrastructure.





## WATER BEYOND 2015

### Water Cooperation as Catalyst to Achieve Water Related Goals

During the Water for Life Decade, we learned about the important role of international conventions, basin commissions and other institutional platforms to promote water cooperation. With their step by step approach, they act as catalysts for information sharing, increasing levels of trust and bringing third parties in when necessary. Many good practices have been identified, including at the local and urban level, but many challenges remain, such as scarcity, pollution, ecosystems, climate change, flood and droughts and sanitation. Building on the outcomes of the Decade, of the High Level International Conference on Water Cooperation, held in Dushanbe in 2013, and of many other relevant milestones, it is important to discuss key topics for the post-2015 Development Agenda for water cooperation such as the role of ethics, the role of the private sector, the social dimension of infrastructure, the nexus, scarcity and institutionalization. Even if the two aspects are interrelated, it is important to look at water cooperation more as a condition to achieve water related goals than as a consequence of their attainment. Given the mobile nature of water resources, it is in fact difficult for a country to achieve water related development goals without cooperating with other countries.

### Strengthening an Integrated Approach towards Water Related SDGs

The Decade helped to broaden the discussion from almost exclusively water experts to stakeholders also from other sectors, as well as the general public. The concept of integrated water resource management (IWRM) and, most recently, the emergence of the so-called water-energy-food-environment nexus facilitated reaching out to key players, particularly in the energy, agriculture and environment sectors. The challenge of climate change helped to realize how connected all these problems are and how solutions in one sector are linked to solutions in another sector. This is why dialogue among relevant sectors and levels is fundamental. It is increasingly evident that intersectoral dialogue must be based on a salient, reliable and legitimate knowledge base. Joint monitoring and observation platforms play, therefore, a crucial role. A challenge for the post-2015 Development Agenda is clearly to go beyond sectoral practices and develop integrated approaches. How can this be done? Moreover, it is now well understood that tradeoffs are often necessary between development trajectories of two or more sectors and that institutions play a key role in this regard. How can institutions steer towards development pathways that fully take into consideration the water-energy-food-environment nexus?





## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

		8 June 2015	9 June 2015		10 June 2015			11 June 2015
Morning	08:30 - 09:00	Pre-Conference Events (PCEs)	Registration		High Level Round Table 1	High Level Round Table 2	High Level Round Table 3	Field Visits (to be organized by the Government of Tajikistan)
	09:00 - 09:30		Opening Ceremony					
	09:30 - 10:00		Coffee & Networking Break		Coffee & Networking Break			
	10:00 - 10:30		1st High level Plenary Session		High Level Round Table 4	High Level Round Table 5	High Level Round Table 6	
	10:30 - 11:00							
	11:00 - 11:30							
	11:30 - 12:00							
	12:00 - 12:30							
12:30 - 13:00								
	13:00 - 14:30	Lunch	Lunch		Lunch			
Afternoon	14:30 - 15:00	Pre-Conference Events (PCEs)	Water Decade Implementation - Regional Perspective	Water Decade Implementation - Progress and Achievements, Lessons Learnt, Best Practices	2nd High level Plenary Session			
	15:00 - 15:30							
	15:30 - 16:00		Coffee & Networking Break		Coffee & Networking Break			
	16:00 - 16:30		Side Events		Closing Plenary Session			
	16:30 - 17:00				Press Conference			
	17:00 - 17:30							
	17:30 - 18:00							
	18:00 - 18:30							
	18:30 - 19:00	Break	Break		Break			
	19:00	Cultural Program	Reception by the Government of Tajikistan		Reception by the Mayor of Dushanbe			
	Whole day	International Exhibition "Water for Life"						

### High Level Round Table

- HLRT 1: Water Beyond 2015: Water and Sanitation
- HLRT 2: Water Beyond 2015: Water-Energy-Food-Environment Nexus
- HLRT 3: Water Beyond 2015: Global Challenges from a Water Perspective
- HLRT 4: Water Beyond 2015: Financing and Governance
- HLRT 5: Water Beyond 2015: Water Cooperation as Catalyst to Achieve Water Related Goals
- HLRT 6: Water Beyond 2015: Strengthening an Integrated Approach Towards Water Related SDGs

### Pre-conference Events

- PCE 1: Women Water Forum
- PCE 2: Children Water Forum
- PCE 3: Water Forum of Mountainous Countries
- PCE 4: Water Forum of LDC and SIDS





## DATE AND VENUE

The conference will be held from 9 to 11 June 2015 in the State Complex "Kohi Somon", 122 Rudaki ave., Dushanbe. It is the largest and most prestigious conference complex in Tajikistan. Combining modernity and tradition, Kohi Somon is an ideal place to discuss and advance water cooperation in a fruitful manner, walking around its beautiful gardens or getting inspired by its splendid decoration.





## PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS

The Organizing Committee invites all interested parties to act as partners, co-organizers and co-supporters for conducting pre-conference events (PCEs).

It is expected that PCEs will be held the day before the High Level International Conference on the Implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015, and will include the following topics:

- Women Water Forum;
- Children Water Forum;
- Water Forum of Mountainous Countries;
- Water Forum of Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States.



The objective of the PCEs is to create an additional platform for broader discussion of various issues related to water under specific themes of PCEs.

Each PCE should preferably be composed of two main parts: (i) progress and achievements, lessons learnt and best practices of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", (ii) post-2015 Development Agenda and further efforts to achieve the sustainable development of water resources.

The results of PCEs will then be compiled in the final report of the conference, made available on its website and circulated widely.

Co-organizers will develop the concept and program of their PCEs.





## SIDE EVENTS

The High level International Conference on the implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for life", 2005-2015, is open for the organization of Side Events during the conference at its main venue "Kokhi Somon".

Contents should be generally consistent with the main themes of the conference, but the choice of specific topics for Side Events is left to the organizers.

There is one time slot available for organization of Side Events from 5:00 to 6:30 in the afternoon on the first day the conference.

Meeting space, visa support, local transportation and evening reception will be provided by the Conference organizers. The organizers of Side Events will be responsible for everything else. Side Events may be organized by all interested parties, including international and regional organizations, international financial institutions, national authorities, civil society, academia, as well as the private sector, in coordination with the Conference Secretariat.

Parties that wish to organize a Side Events should send a completed application form that can be downloaded from the website to the Secretariat ([secretariat@waterforlifeconf2015.org](mailto:secretariat@waterforlifeconf2015.org)) and to the Side Events coordinator Mr. Zafar Mahmoudov ([events@waterforlifeconf2015.org](mailto:events@waterforlifeconf2015.org)) as soon as possible and, in any case, no later than 8 May 2015.





## EXHIBITION

The International Exhibition "Water for life" is organized in the days of the High Level International Conference on the implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015, in "Kokhi Somon" venue.

The objective of the exhibition is to promote awareness of the results of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life" by demonstrating the measures taken within the Decade, advanced knowledge, best practices and scientific achievements in the field of water resources. The exhibition is also aimed at assisting to the further strengthening and development of cooperation among stakeholders, as well as introduce innovative methods, practices, techniques and technologies of sustainable water resources management. Furthermore, the exhibition is aimed at establishing close business relations among various stakeholders.

The general theme of the exhibition is "Water for Life". It will focus on issues of cooperation in the water sector at the local, regional and international levels, rational use of water resources, prevention and management of water-related disasters, impact of climate change on water resources, development of hydropower as a renewable and environmentally-friendly source of energy, introduction of water-saving technologies, etc.

International and regional organizations, national authorities, local governments, NGOs, private companies academia are all invited to showcase their projects and achievements in the field of water.

Exhibitors shall fill in a registration form for participation at the exhibition and submit it to the Conference Secretariat ([secretariat@waterforlifeconf2015.org](mailto:secretariat@waterforlifeconf2015.org), [info@waterforlifeconf2015.org](mailto:info@waterforlifeconf2015.org)) before 1 May 2015. The Secretariat will notify the exhibitor of the acceptance of its request within five days after submission.





## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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### Visa support

In order to travel to Tajikistan, participants need to obtain visa at the Tajik diplomatic or consular missions in the point of departure or on the way to Tajikistan. For that, they have to present support letter or official invitation on behalf of Government of Tajikistan. Except the citizens of those countries which on the basis of bilateral and multilateral agreements allowed to enter and leave Tajikistan without visa.

Citizens of some countries listed on the website of the Tajik Ministry of Foreign Affairs (consular issues) can obtain visa in a simplified manner at the Dushanbe International Airport.

More detailed information is available on the website of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan <http://mfa.tj/en/visa-and-consular-issues/viza.html>

### Airlines

Regular international flights operate to the Dushanbe International Airport from the following large cities: Frankfurt, Moscow, Istanbul, Dubai, Tehran, Almaty, Urumqi, Bishkek, etc. Detailed information about flight schedules is available on the website of the Dushanbe International Airport: <http://airport.tj/>

Air transportation is carried out both by national and foreign airlines:

- Somon Air ([www.somonair.com](http://www.somonair.com))
- Tajik Air ([www.tajikair.tj](http://www.tajikair.tj))
- Air Astana ([www.airastana.com](http://www.airastana.com))
- Avia Traffic ([www.aero.kg](http://www.aero.kg))
- China Southern Airlines ([www.csair.com](http://www.csair.com))
- Flydubai ([www.flydubai.com](http://www.flydubai.com))
- Iran Aseman Airlines (<http://iaa.ir/>)
- Kam Air ([www.kamair.com](http://www.kamair.com))
- Rossiya ([www.rossiya-airlines.com](http://www.rossiya-airlines.com))
- S7 ([www.s7.ru](http://www.s7.ru))
- Turkish Airlines ([www.turkishairlines.com](http://www.turkishairlines.com))
- UTair ([www.utair.ru](http://www.utair.ru))

### Arrival

Conference participants will be met by the representatives of the Organizing Committee upon arrival at the Dushanbe international Airport and be accompanied to their hotel.

### Accommodation

Participants should themselves make reservation of rooms in the hotels they would like to stay in. All living expenses will be covered by the participants themselves, unless otherwise is noted.

For official delegations, additional information about their accommodation will be sent upon confirmation of their participation and determination of the composition of their delegation.







## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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### Local time

Dushanbe is located on the time zone GTM+5.

### Language

The official language of the Republic of Tajikistan is Tajik.

### Weather

Climate in Dushanbe is continental subtropical, with dry and hot summers. The average air temperature in June is 35-39 °C in the afternoon and 15-20 °C at night. Precipitation practically does not occur in the summer, except for the single year (1998), where there was intermittent rain storm.

### Currency exchange

Official currency in Tajikistan is the somoni (TJS). Information about rates is available on the website of the National Bank of Tajikistan. Currency exchange offices are available in banks and kiosks throughout the city and at the airport. ATMs are available in most banks, hotels and shopping centers.

### Phone

To make international calls from Dushanbe it is necessary to dial the international access code, then the code of the country you are calling to, city code and subscriber's number.

To make international calls to Dushanbe, it is necessary to dial the international access code, then the code of Tajikistan (992), the code of Dushanbe (37) or of the mobile network operator (for example: 918, 91, 93, etc.) and finally the subscriber's number. For example: (+992 37) 236-06-79.

### Transport

Public transport system in Dushanbe consists of buses, trolley-buses, minibuses and taxis. Taxi is widely used in Dushanbe and is not expensive. However, participants in the Conference will be provided with a vehicle service to and from the venue. These services are free of charge.

### Security

All participants, exhibitors and media representatives must register and receive badges to freely attend venues. It will be possible for participants to register on 8 June during the whole day in the places of accommodation of participants and on 9 June from 7 to 9 hours in the morning in the Conference venue "Kohi Somon". For participants who arrive on 9 June, registration will be available during the first half of the day in the places of their accommodation.

### Electricity

Standard voltage of the electric circuit in Tajikistan is 220 V with the frequency of 50 Hz. Electric sockets may not correspond to plugs of your electric appliance, therefore, it may be necessary to use an adapter.





## ABOUT TAJIKISTAN

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Tajikistan is a country in Central Asia which borders on the west and north with Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, on the south with Afghanistan, and on the east with China. Total area of the territory of the Republic is 142,600 km<sup>2</sup>.

Tajikistan is a typical mountainous country with absolute heights from 300 to 7,495 m. 93% of its territory is occupied by mountains. The majority of the population and economic activities of Tajikistan are concentrated on 7% of its territory, in the valleys.

By 1 January 2014, the population of Tajikistan was 8.16 million people, 26.4% of which live in cities and 73.6% in rural areas. The average annual population growth is about 2.5% per year.

Tajikistan could be considered as a model of the planet, as there are almost all climatic zones on its small territory with a temperature range from +50 °C to -60 °C. The climate of the country is arid with an abundance of heat and significant intra-annual fluctuations of its parameters.

Tajikistan ranks the first in Central Asia in terms of water resources. More than 80% of the runoff of the Amudarya and 1% of the Syr Darya River is formed in Tajikistan. In general, it provides 64 km<sup>3</sup> per year or 55.4% of the water resources of the Aral Sea basin. The total volume of glaciers of the country is more than 845 km<sup>3</sup>, underground waters reach 18.7 km<sup>3</sup> per year, and lake waters reach 46.3 km<sup>3</sup>.

With very little oil and gas reserves, difficulties for industrial development of coal fields, Tajikistan possesses vast inexhaustible reserves of hydropower resources. By estimations of experts, these reserves are approximately 527 billion kWh of electricity per year. This potential is 3 times more than the existing electricity consumption of the whole of Central Asia and with the efficient use of this potential, the region can be provided with cheap and environmentally clean electricity.

## ABOUT DUSHANBE

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Dushanbe is the capital of Tajikistan and the largest scientific-cultural, political, economic, industrial and administrative center of the country. The population of the city by 1 January 2015 was of 788,7 thousand inhabitants.

Dushanbe is a beautiful and very green city, almost entirely man-made in a foothill zone. While you are stepping into the city, you will be immediately imbued with the atmosphere of warmth, hospitality and friendliness, and truly oriental flavor. Dushanbe is located at an altitude of about 800 m ASL in the densely populated Gissar valley. Through the city, the Dushanbe River flows from the North to the South and the Kafirnigan River from the East to the

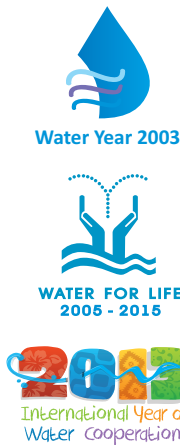
West of the city. In the North from the city there is the Varzob canyon with a number of recreation centers.

Dushanbe is an ancient and young city at the same time. According to the archeologists it has a millennial history. However, the first written mention of the village of Dushanbe was found at the end of the 1676. The village Dushanbe arose at a crossroads. On Mondays, there was a large Bazaar, which caused the village to be named "Dushanbe", which means "Monday" in Tajik. On 14 July 1922, the city was declared the capital of the Tajik Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, which in 1929 was transformed into the Tajik Soviet Socialist





## GLOBAL WATER INITIATIVES OF TAJIKISTAN



The General Assembly of the United Nations adopted the following important resolutions initiated by the Republic of Tajikistan:

- Proclamation of 2003 the International Year of Fresh water (UN General Assembly Resolution of December 20, 2000, 55/196, 55th session);
- Declaration of 2005-2015 the International Decade for Action "Water for Life" (UN General Assembly Resolution of December 23, 2003, 58/217, 58th session);
- Declaration of 2013 the International Year of Water Cooperation (UN General Assembly Resolution of December 20, 2010, 65/154, 65th session).

As an initiator of the water resolutions of the UN General Assembly the Republic of Tajikistan actively promotes water related issues in the global agenda. In this context, the Government of Tajikistan in cooperation with the UN and other international organizations, hosted the following important international water events:

- International Forum on Freshwater on 29 August - 1 September 2003, Dushanbe;
- International Conference on Regional Cooperation in Trans-Boundary River Basins on 30 May – 1 June 2005, Dushanbe;
- International Conference on Water Related Disasters Reduction on 27 - 29 June 2008, Dushanbe;
- High-Level International Conference on midterm comprehensive review of the implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", 2005-2015, on 8 - 10 June 2010, Dushanbe;
- High Level International Conference on Water Cooperation on 20 - 21 August 2013, Dushanbe.





## CONTACTS

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