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World Bank Priorities for GEF-8: Supporting Green, Resilient, and Inclusive Development in Central Asia and Azerbaijan

Paola Agostini
Lead Natural Resources
Management Specialist
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May 19, 2023





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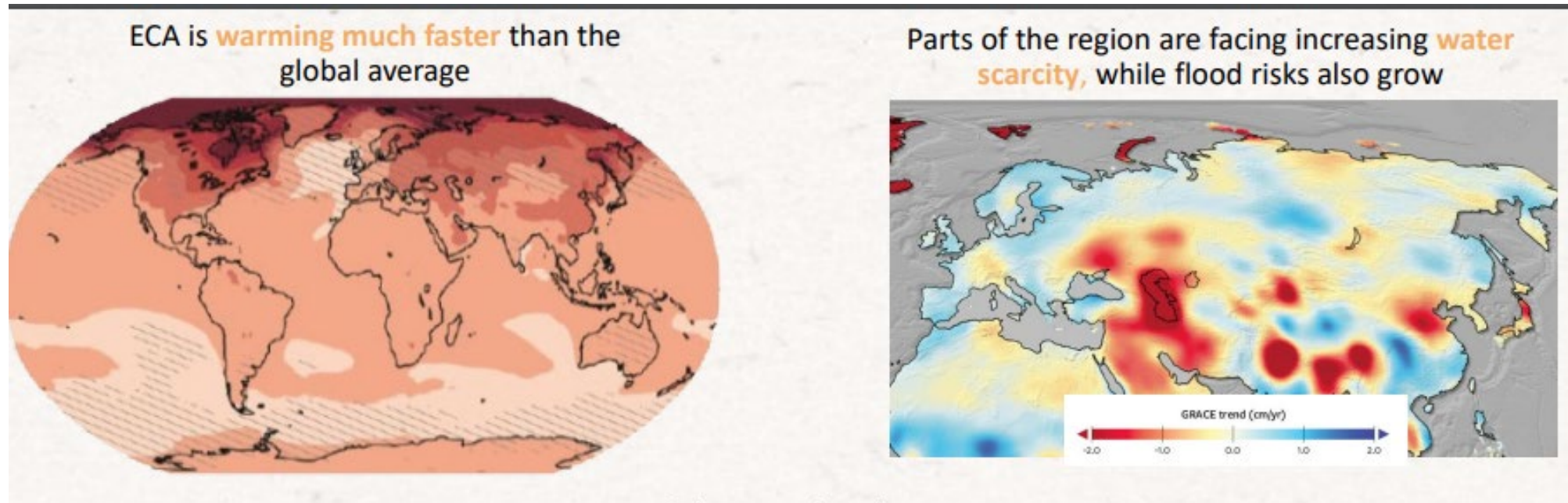
30 years of World Bank Engagement with the GEF

\$5.6 billion GEF grants, **828 projects** in 144 countries including in the Central Asia region and Azerbaijan:

- Pioneering a community landscape management approach in Tajikistan
- Scaling up protection and sustainable use of forest landscapes in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyz Republic
- Piloting an ecosystem-based approach for Protected Area management in Azerbaijan
- And piloting an innovative climate risk insurance facility in Kazakhstan

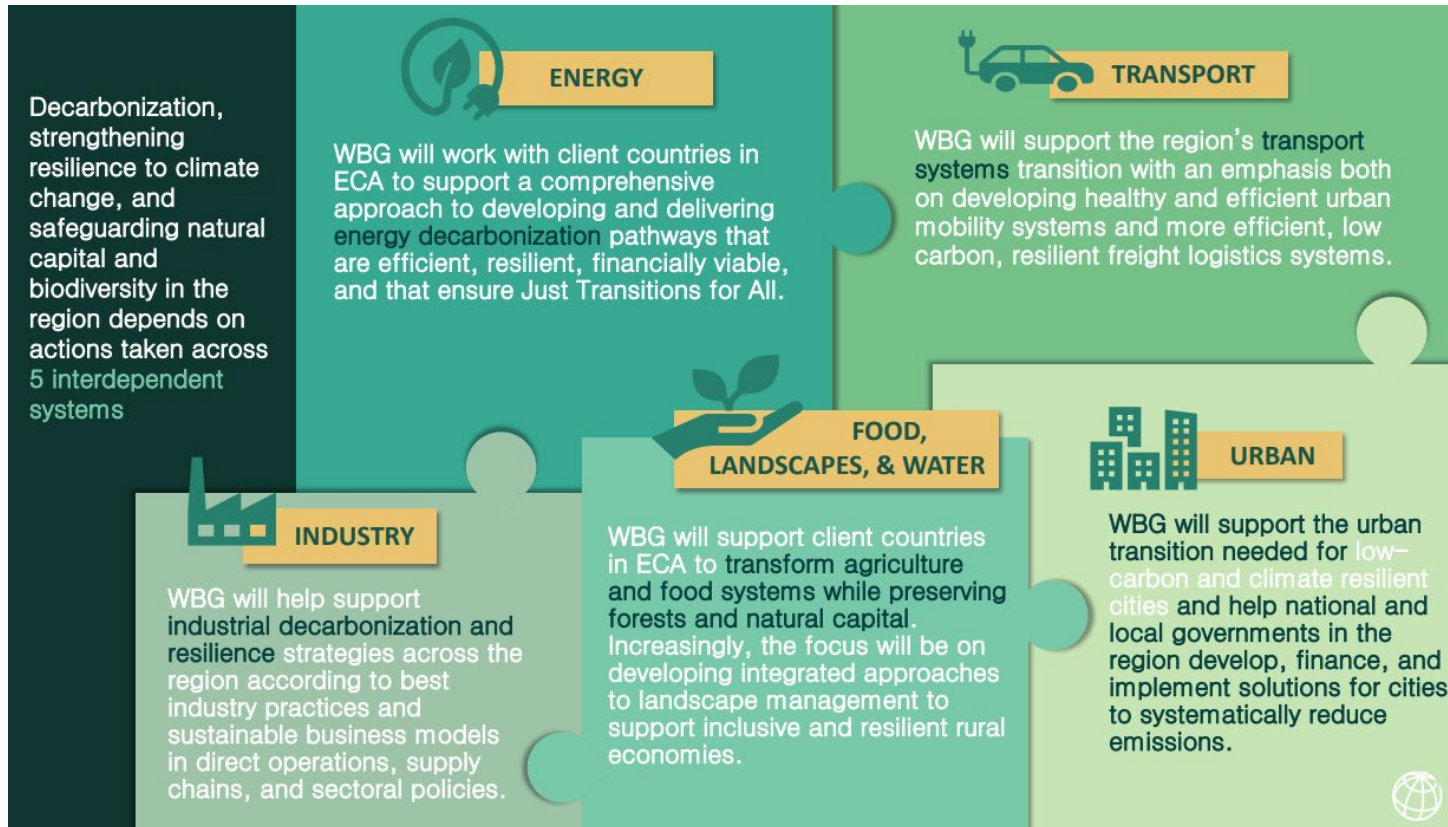


World Bank Support in Europe & Central Asia



- Europe and Central Asia is home to many of the world's most energy- and carbon-intensive economies, where most countries have made slow progress on decarbonization
- Failure to act will have large impacts on economic growth, health, and social inclusion

World Bank Support in Europe & Central Asia



WB Europe and Central Asia Roadmap 2021-2025

- Supporting transformative interventions in 5 key systems across ECA
- A whole-of-economy approach to ensure the climate transition supports countries' development objectives and puts people at the center
- Mobilizing and targeting financing to enhance climate action, unlock private finance, and ensure Just Transitions for All

WBG will...

- Support policy reforms that are critical to ensure the effectiveness of public investment and promote an enabling policy environment to catalyze private investment
- Scale-up adaptation finance, including through innovative public and private investments in nature-based solutions
- Invest in human capital to support climate adaptation in ECA

How the World Bank uses GEF resources

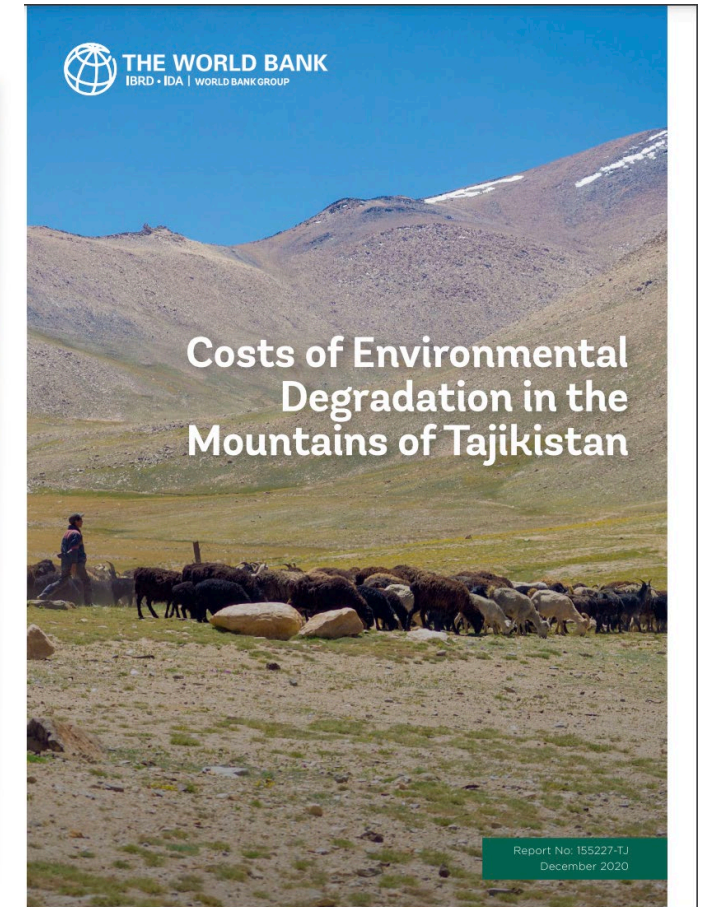
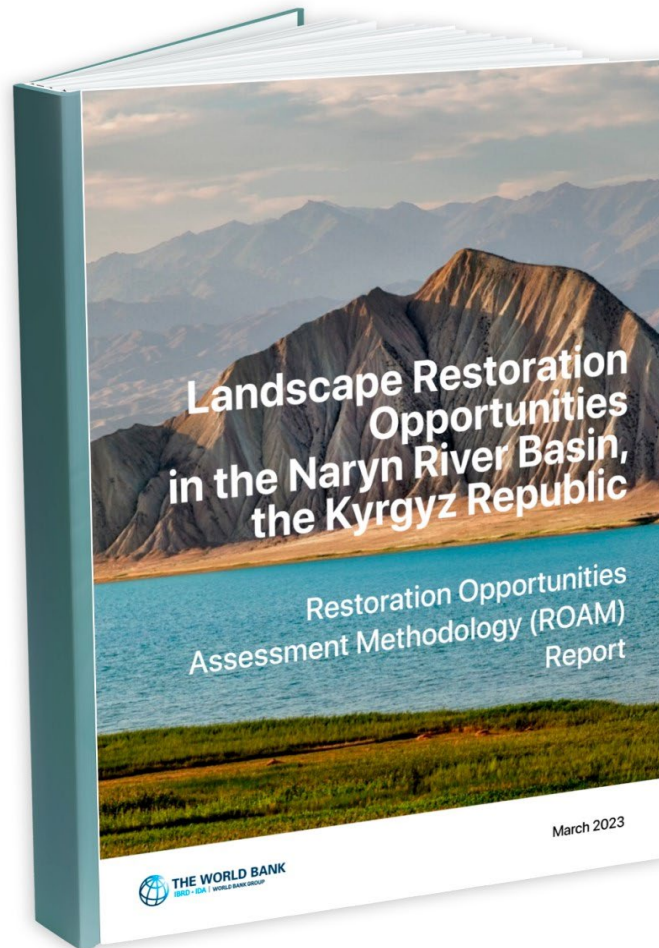
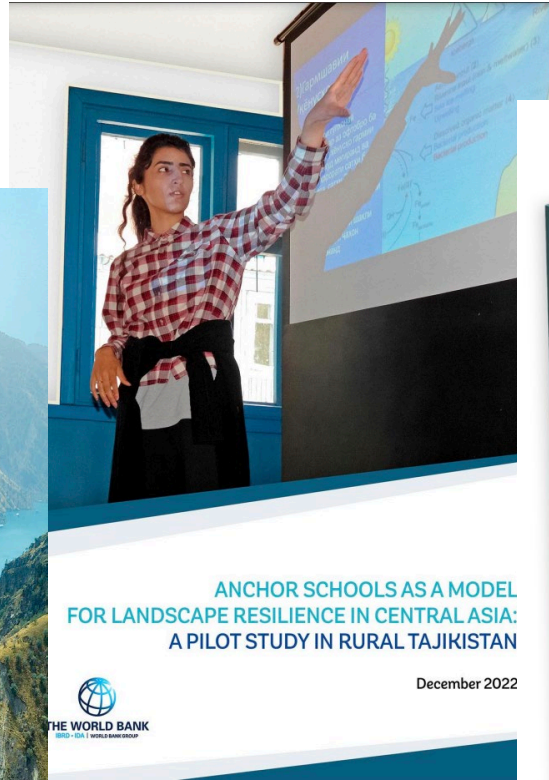
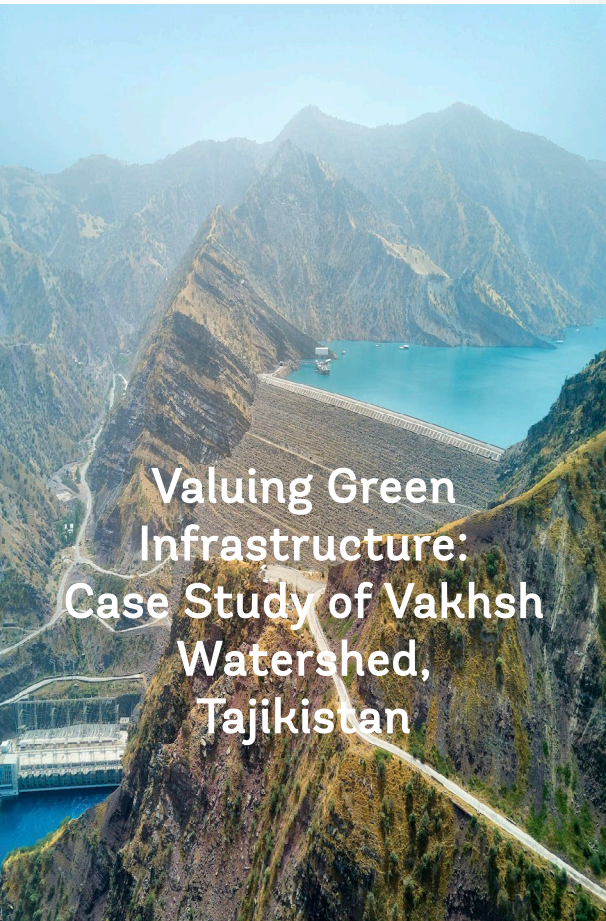
- **Alignment with WB & GEF objectives** at the regional and country levels
- **Innovative:** New technologies, catalytic, scalable, transformative
- **Leveraging potential:** Using GEF strategically to build foundation for future Bank investment
- **Blending of WB and GEF financing** to amplify impact, enhance efficiency



WB GEF Portfolio in Central Asia & Azerbaijan

| PROJECT TYPE | COUNTRY | PROJECT TITLE | GEF PHASE | FOCAL AREA | PRACTICE | GEF Funding (in \$M) |
|--------------------|-----------------|--|-----------|------------------|----------|----------------------|
| EA | Kyrgyz Republic | Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan and National Report to the COP | GEF - 1 | Biodiversity | ENB | 0.11 |
| FSP | Kazakhstan | Drylands Management Project | GEF - 3 | Multi Focal Area | ENB | 5.27 |
| FSP | Azerbaijan | Rural Environment Project | GEF - 3 | Biodiversity | ENB | 5 |
| FSP | Tajikistan | Community Agriculture and Watershed Management | GEF - 3 | Multi Focal Area | AG | 4.5 |
| MSP | Tajikistan | Dashtidzhum Biodiversity Conservation | GEF - 3 | Biodiversity | ENB | 0.75 |
| FSP | Kazakhstan | Forest Protection and Reforestation | GEF - 3 | Land Degradation | ENB | 5 |
| MSP | Kyrgyz Republic | Disaster Hazard Mitigation Project | GEF - 3 | Land Degradation | URL | 1 |
| FSP | Tajikistan | Environmental Land Management and Rural Livelihoods | GEF - 5 | Land Degradation | ENB | 5.4 |
| FSP | Uzbekistan | Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change Mitigation Project | GEF - 5 | Multi Focal Area | AG | 12.7 |
| FSP | Kazakhstan | Southeast Europe and Central Asia Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (SCCF) | GEF - 6 | Climate Change | FCI | 5 |
| FSP | Kyrgyz Republic | Sustainable Forest and Land Management | GEF - 6 | Multi Focal Area | ENB | 4.11 |
| FSP | Kazakhstan | Sustainable Forest Management Impact Program on Dryland Sustainable Landscapes | GEF - 7 | Multi Focal Area | ENB | 4.34 |
| Grand Total | | | | | | 53.18 |

Analytical Work



Analytical Work

World Bank+ Uzbekistan Forest Agency


Public Disclosure Authorized

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Public Disclosure Authorized

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Europe & Central Asia




Uzbekistan Country Forest Note


The State of Forests and
Forest Landscapes in Uzbekistan

June 2022


Europe and Central Asia Region
Environment, Natural Resources and Blue Economy
Global Practice



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Europe & Central Asia



The Value of Landscape Restoration in Uzbekistan to Reduce Sand and Dust Storms from the Aral Seabed



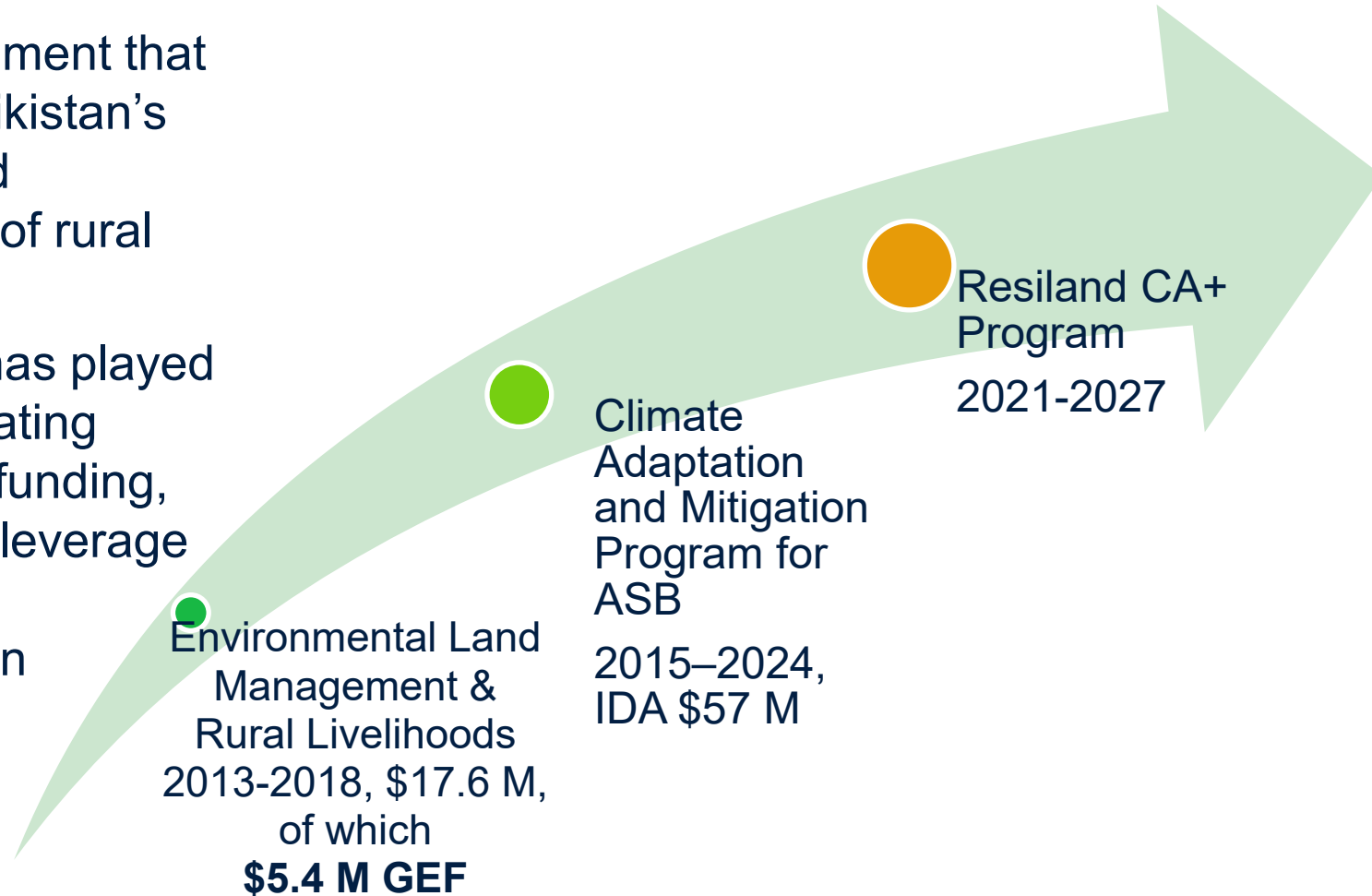
Promoting Forest ICT in Uzbekistan

Project Briefing
Dec. 18 – 23, 2022



Scaling Up Integrated Landscape Management in Tajikistan

- Over 10-year engagement that has strengthened Tajikistan's climate resilience and increased well-being of rural population
- An initial GEF grant has played a critical role in facilitating larger programs and funding, helping communities leverage big results through piloting and innovation



WB GEF IP Example: Kazakhstan Drylands Management Project

Project: Resilient Landscapes Restoration Project

- Impact Program: GEF-7 Sustainable Forest Management Impact Program on Dryland Sustainable Landscapes
- Funding: \$4.34 million GEF
- Executing Agencies: Forestry and Wildlife Committee (FWC) under Ministry of Ecology, Geology, and Natural Resources (MEGNR)
- Project development objective: To pilot agroforestry practices using a community-centered approach and to build government capacity for landscape management and restoration

Summary:

Piloting community-centered approach to dryland agroforestry and landscape:

- piloting of community-centered afforestation around Kyzylorda city using successful planting technologies of Saxaul and other drought-resistant trees;
- piloting of the farmer-centered approach in establishment of 3 agroforestry demonstration plots in Kyzylorda oblast (5 ha each) of fast-growing fruit tree plantations for combining forestry with fruit production and/or horticulture; and 6 plots in degraded pasturelands in Zhambyl oblast (20 ha each but affecting 1,300 ha of surrounding pastures) for combining forestry with livestock production

Capacity building of the FWC for integrated landscape management

- raising their afforestation capacity and support the evolving institutional needs of the forestry sector to become a sustainable and productive sector by financing critical capacity building activities, including technical studies, consultations, surveys, etc.



A REGIONAL INVESTMENT PROGRAM

RESILAND UMBRELLA PROGRAM (IDA Total: \$ 242 M, PROGREEN Total: \$ 13 M, K WTF \$5 M TF Total: \$ 5.2 M)

RESILAND GEF
KAZAKHSTAN

- GEF 7 - \$ 4 M & \$ 2 M PROGREEN TF
- GEF8 ?

RESILAND CA+ TAJIKISTAN

- IDA – \$ 45 M (\$ M National IDA + \$ 15 M Regional IDA)

RESILAND
CA+ UZBEKISTAN

- IDA - \$ 142 M IDA (\$ 47 M National IDA + \$ 95 M Regional IDA) and \$ 8 M PROGREEN TF + 3 M KWTF

RESILAND
CA+ KYRGYZSTAN

- IDA – \$ 45 M (\$ 15 M National IDA + \$ 30 M Regional IDA) + 5 M PROGREEN + 2 M KWTF

RESILAND
CA+ TURKMENISTAN

- ROAM analysis and GEF?

THE GLUE: THE
KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM

- \$ 2.5 M PROGREEN TF, \$ 250 K WAVES TF, \$ 80 K PROFOR TF, \$ 880 K CAWEP TF, PACT TF \$ 1



Opportunities for future and co-financing with World Bank IDA?

- Air Pollution in Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan
- Circular Economy in Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan
- Resilient Landscapes /Biodiversity in Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan
- Blue Economy in the Caspian Sea



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Thank you! Paola Agostini

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pagostini@worldbank.org

