



## REGIONAL COOPERATION IN CENTRAL ASIA

# FINUZ Project – Promoting Modernisation of Meteorological and Hydrological Services in Central Asia



Irma Ylikangas

### Background

The project promotes adaptation to Climate Change by reducing risks for the loss of life and property caused by severe weather and extreme climate events in the Central Asian societies. The project will focus on institutional capacity development of the Central Asian National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (CA NMHSs).

Economies of the Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) rely heavily on weather sensitive sectors i.e. agriculture, energy, construction, transportation and communication. It is critical for the sustainable development of the region that productivity be >

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:** Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (MFA)  
**TYPE OF PROJECT:** Institutional Cooperation Instrument, part of Wider Europe Initiative (WEI)  
**TOTAL:** 530,000 EUR  
**DURATION:** 2011–2013  
**PARTNER:** Centre of Meteorological and Hydrological Services at Cabinet of Ministries of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Uzhydromet)  
**PROJECT MANAGER:** Irma Ylikangas



Ljubov Nevvonen, FMI

**Official Project Kick-off reception on 24th February 2012, in Tashkent, Uzbekistan organized by Finnish Ambassador to Uzbekistan, Ms. Tuula Yrjölä (from the right) Director General Victor Evgenyevich Chub of Uzhydromet and Project Manager Irma Ylikangas of the Finnish Meteorological Institute.**

> increased and losses caused by weather, climate and water phenomena minimised.

The Central Asian region is highly vulnerable to natural disasters. Substantial parts of the region are mountainous and most natural hazards related to weather, e.g. landslides, debris flows, avalanches, floods, droughts and extreme temperatures, are frequent in all countries. Harsh weather conditions with snow and ice present great challenges for transportation. The region is exposed to earthquakes and to a range of man-made disasters, such as industrial accidents.

### Results

The project convened a high level workshop on regional needs for the improved capacity of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in May 2012 at Finnish Meteorological Institute. The Workshop participants rep-



Visiting Regional Training Center in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

resented the management of the countries' national meteorological and hydrological institutes. The training needs of CA NMHS 's were determined and they will be used as an input to the trainings series arranged in 2013.

The participants from five CA NHMS (Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) will be invited to the training. in Tashkent, Uzbekistan

The following topics are part of the training series of the project:

- State-of-the-art weather observation and production tools for CA NMHSs weather forecasters
- Planning, procurement, operation and maintenance of real-time observation and production networks for technical and ICT experts of CA NMHSs

The specific results for the improved capacity of regional training provision by the Uzhydromet RTC include

- Situation assessment, improvement plan and specifications for investments in the regional training centre
- Regional training centre equipped and staff trained to operate meteorological measurement equipment
- Strategy, training plan and detailed programmes for pilot training workshops

The project works closely with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to ensure coherence with global standards and promote international cooperation in the fields of weather, climate and water.

### FOR FURTHER INFROMATION

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Regional High Level Workshop at FMI in Helsinki, Finland in May 2012.