

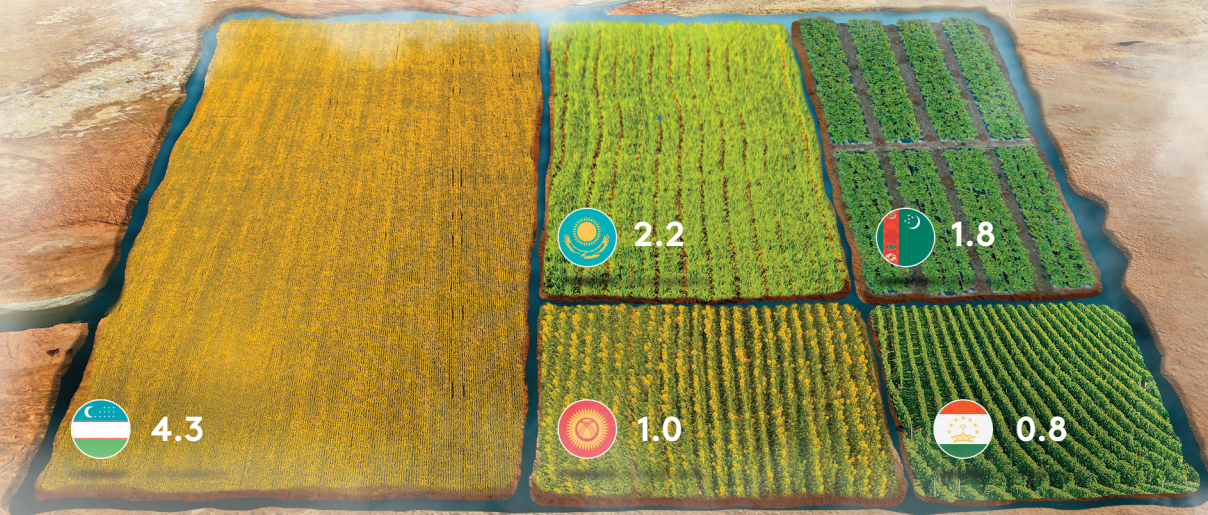
EFFICIENT IRRIGATION AND WATER CONSERVATION IN CENTRAL ASIA

FACTS AND FIGURES

ANALYTICAL REPORT '23

IRRIGATED CROP FARMING IS CRITICAL FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN CENTRAL ASIA

10.1 million ha of irrigated lands in CA, 2020



66%

gross agricultural output produced on irrigated land in CA

80%

water used in CA for irrigation needs

HOWEVER, CENTRAL ASIA IS APPROACHING PERMANENT WATER DEFICIT

>50 years

the average age of irrigation infrastructure in CA

50%

irrigated land in CA exposed to salinisation

40%

water lost through filtration. 2/3 is lost in the field

10 km³

Afghanistan's expected water withdrawal from the Amu Darya River

10 PRACTICAL STEPS TO PRESERVE IRRIGATED LAND POTENTIAL, WATER AND FOOD SECURITY

STRENGTHENING REGIONAL COOPERATION

- ESTABLISH the CA International Water and Energy Consortium
- POOL MDBs' financial resources to support project construction of water infrastructure
- CREATE a regional cluster to produce irrigation equipment
- OFFER Afghanistan partnership in CA water management

SCALING UP FINANCE

- USE public-private partnership mechanisms in project construction
- ORGANISE water accounting while engaging water user associations
- Gradually INTRODUCE effective tariffs for irrigation water

PROMOTING INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY

- REHABILITATE on-farm irrigation infrastructure
- INTRODUCE digital technology for reliable water accounting, sustainable water allocation, and land quality monitoring
- USE modern technology in irrigation, laser land levelling, and crop farming across the region

