

Information on the project “Improvement of National Irrigation Systems and Enhancement of Energy Efficiency” with the participation of the World Bank

1. Project initiator and project title – Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan; the project “Improvement of National Irrigation Systems and Enhancement of Energy Efficiency” with the participation of the World Bank.

2. Basis for project implementation – Annex 6 to Resolution No. 53 of the Cabinet of Ministers dated January 31, 2025; Minutes No. 81 of the meeting of the Government Commission on issues of attracting investments, industrial development, and regulation of trade; Presidential Resolution of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PD-242 dated August 1, 2025.

3. Project objective – Within the framework of the project, a total of 8 canals with a combined length of 259 km will be reconstructed, including: in the Republic of Karakalpakstan – “Kuuanish Jarma” canal (34.2 km), in Namangan region – “Northern Fergana” main canal (23.25 km), in Kashkadarya region – “Pakhtaobod” canal (54.1 km), in Surkhandarya region – “Zang” canal (87.7 km), in Bukhara region – “Shokhrud”, “North-Western Branch”, “Khayrabad”, and “Ramiton” canals (59.8 km). Through the reconstruction of these canals, stable water supply will be ensured for 232.35 thousand hectares of irrigated land, 21 thousand hectares of abandoned land will be returned to agricultural use, and the water-carrying capacity of the canals will be increased by 20–30 percent (on average from 65 to 90).

4. Project implementation period – 2025–2030.

5. Project implementation areas – Republic of Karakalpakstan, Namangan, Kashkadarya, Surkhandarya, and Bukhara regions.

6. Total project cost The total cost is USD 240.5 million, of which: World Bank – USD 200 million; Uzbekistan’s contribution – USD 40.5 million.

7. Expected project results: Within the project, stable water supply will be ensured for a total of 232.3 thousand hectares of irrigated land across 5 regions, including: Karakalpakstan – 23.4 thousand hectare, Namangan region – 16.5 thousand hectare, Kashkadarya region – 26.9 thousand hectare, Surkhandarya region – 72.5 thousand hectare, Bukhara region – 93.0 thousand hectare.

Additionally, 21 thousand hectares of land previously out of use will be restored for agricultural purposes, and the water-carrying capacity of canals will be increased by 20–30 percent (on average from 65 to 90). Annual resource savings in the regions will be: Karakalpakstan – 62.1 million m³ of water, 2.65 million kWh of electricity; Namangan region – 67.52 million m³ of water, 25.06 million kWh of electricity; Kashkadarya region – 22.07 million m³ of water; Surkhandarya region – 152.28 million m³ of water, 71.98 million kWh of electricity; Bukhara region – 235.79 million m³ of water, 65.86 million kWh of electricity. In total, the regions will save 539.8 million m³ of water and 165.55 million kWh of electricity annually.

Current status of the project The Feasibility Study (FS) of the project was approved by the Government Commission (Minutes No. 81 dated April 9, 2025). Within the framework of the project, on July 11, 2025, a Financial Agreement No. 7765-UZ was signed with the World Bank.

The Presidential Resolution of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PD-242 dated August 1, 2025, “On measures for the implementation of the project to improve national irrigation systems and enhance energy efficiency” has been adopted.

Currently, tender documents for the packages NIEEIP/ICB/1 – “Reconstruction of the Kuuanish Jarma Canal” and NIEEIP/CON/1 – “Engagement of an international consulting company” have been developed, and the coordination process with the World Bank has been completed.

For package NIEEIP/CON/1, the tender was announced on October 2, 2025, with the deadline for submission of proposals set for November 11, 2025. All proposals were received within the specified period. At present, evaluation of submitted proposals is underway, and a shortlist of the most suitable and qualified bidders is being formed for further stages of the project.

In addition, for package NIEEIP/ICB/1, the tender process for submission of bids was announced on November 6, 2025.