

**Grant Amount:** \$143,694

**Grant Period:** September 2022–November 2023

**Country:** Tajikistan

### GOAL

To empower women and youth in rural areas of central and southwestern Tajikistan in effective management of water resources in the Kofarnigan River Basin (Amu Darya River, Tajikistan).

### OBJECTIVES

- To assess the local context in the Kofarnigan River Basin of Amu Darya, Tajikistan, to identify impediments and obstacles preventing women and youth from having a more active role in water resource management.
- To update capacity building with women, youth and marginalized communities using the assessment results to improve skills and knowledge among these groups in regard to water resource management.
- To establish and accelerate Women's Forum of Kofarnigan River Basin (WFKRB) to activate the role and voice of women and youth in the region on water resource management.
- To promote knowledge and experience sharing between two women's fora—in the Amu Darya and Syr Darya River basins and to raise awareness among the local community, local stakeholders, educational institutions via informational sessions, and media deliverables.



### RESULTS

- Conducted 36 focus discussion groups with participation of 400 people to identify key impact points for strengthening the role of women in decision-making on water resource management.
- Based on the findings, identified priority areas of support for women and youth identified, developed 5 educational modules, and conducted 8 trainings; in total, 180 people participated in the training, and knowledge and skills improved by 72 percent.
- Established the Women Forum of Kofarnigan River Basin (WFKRB) to activate the role and voice of women and youth in the region on water resources management; four Basin Women Forums of Kofarnigan River organized and presented the concept of WFKRB, recommendations of WFKRB to activate role of women and youth, and best practices during the New York (NY) Water Conference in 2023.
- Organized exchange visits between two Women Forums of Kofarnigan and Syrdarya River to share experience, knowledge, and information.
- Conducted awareness raising activities among the local community, local stakeholders, educational institutions via visits, informational sessions, river day celebrations, and information dissemination.

For more information, visit <https://www.aws-tj.org/>.

USAID Central Asia's Regional Water and Vulnerable Environment Activity is focused on strengthening regional capacity to manage shared water resources and mitigating environmental risks in the Syr Darya and Amu Darya River basins. The Activity takes a multilevel approach to tackling complex regional water challenges by strengthening collaboration through stakeholder dialogues, developing a shared vision for integrated and sustainable river basin management using evidence and modeling, and fostering collaborative action across sectors and governance levels.

USAID Central Asia's Regional Water and Vulnerable Environment Activity supported 16 projects (grants under contract) in all countries of Central Asia.

