#### Disclaimer

This report was compiled by an ADRC visiting researcher (VR) from ADRC member countries.

The views expressed in the report do not necessarily reflect the views of the ADRC. The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on the maps in the report also do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the ADRC.



# **COUNTRY REPORT of UZBEKISTAN**



Tashpulatov M. Mansur

THE STATE COMMITTEE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN ON GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES (GOSCOMGEOLOGY)

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### Geography.

Uzbekistan - a country located in the central part of Central Asia.

Name of the State "Republic of Uzbekistan".

Uzbekistan has an area of 447,400 square kilometers. It is the 56th largest country in the world by area and the 42nd by population. Among the <u>CIS</u> countries, it is the 5th largest by area and the 3rd largest by population.

Bordering <u>Kazakhstan</u> and the <u>Aral Sea</u> to the north and northwest, <u>Turkmenistan</u> to the southwest, <u>Tajikistan</u> to the southeast, and <u>Kyrgyzstan</u> to the northeast, Uzbekistan is one of the largest <u>Central Asian</u> states and the only Central Asian state to border all the other four. Uzbekistan also shares a short border (less than 150 km) with <u>Afghanistan</u> to the south.





Uzbekistan is divided into 12 provinces (viloyatlar, singular <u>viloyat</u>, compound noun viloyati e.g., Toshkent viloyati, Samarqand viloyati, etc.), one <u>autonomous republic</u> (*respublika*, compound noun *respublikasi* e.g. Qaraqalpaqstan Avtonom *Respublikasi*, Karakalpakistan *Autonomous Republic*, etc.), and one <u>independent city</u> (<u>shahar</u>. compound noun shahri, e.g., Toshkent shahri).

#### Climate

Climate is mainly desert-Seasonal continental. temperature difference is significant. Average winter temperature is lower than 6 degrees Centigrade below zero, while average temperature in July is higher than 35 degrees Number above zero. of precipitations is rather small. It's therefore, that the agriculture mainly depends on irrigation.



# <image>

#### **Demographics.**

Uzbekistan is Central Asia's most populous country. 29,559,100 Its comprise nearly half the population region's total population. The population of Uzbekistan is very young: 34.1% of its people are younger than 14 (2008 estimate). According to official sources, Uzbeks comprise a majority (80%) of the total population. Other ethnic groups include Russians-5.5%, Tajiks-5%, Kazakhs-3%, Karakalpaks-2.5% and Tatars-1.5%.

#### Nature.

Nature of Uzbekistan consists of combination of sub-tropical features with moderate zones. Land, air, water and fire (sun) have been respected in Central Asia from the times of Zoroastrians calling people in ancient times to care for purity of rivers and abundance of soils.





#### Water Resources.

People that lived in the Asian region had always cherish the water. There is a saying in the Orient: «There is life in places with water». Since olden days settled population had chosen places for inhabitation near to rivers and canals. Two large rivers flow through the territory of Uzbekistan: Amudarya and Sirdarya that spring from the outside of the country. However, Amudarya in its lower part of flow (1,415 km) is within borders of Uzbekistan, and Sirdarya being the second river by water-bearing is within borders of our country in its middle part of the flow (2,212 km). There are few lake on the territory of our republic. The most number of lakes are situated in mountainous area at the height of 2,000-3,000 meters. Large lakes include the Sudochye Lake in Amudarya' delta and Arnasay Lakes. There are also a great number of artificial reservoirs in Uzbekistan among which the largest one are Kattakurgan, Chardara, Tuyabuguz and Charvak reservoirs. The largest lake - Aral Sea had significantly decreased its level in recent years and its shores left by tens of kilometers.



#### Mountain system

Mountains and foothills comprise about one fifth of the country's area. In the East, mid and high mountain reliefs prevail: the boundaries of Uzbekistan embrace the slopes or ends of mountain ranges of the Western Than-Shang (Ugam, Pskem, Chotqol, Kurama) and Pamir-Oloy (Zarafshon, Turkiston, Gissar, Kugitangtau, Baysuntau). To the South and West, they gradually descend and change to plains. Among the mountains span quite large trough: Qashqadaryo, Surhondaryo, Zarafshon, Samarqand. The biggest intermountain trough is Farghona hollow (valley) – 370 km, and the width reaches 190 km. It's framed by the mountain ridges from three sides, and is open only from the West. On the border with Afghanistan is located vast Amudaryo basin.



#### **Natural resources**

The Republic of Uzbekistan possesses large production and mineral resource potential, unique agricultural resources, significant volumes of prepared raw materials (semi-finished products), derived as a result of processing, rich natural resources, developed infrastructure. Modern level of prospecting minerals is connected with development of richest deposits of precious, non-ferrous and rare metals, all types of organic fuel – oil, natural gas and gas condensate, brown and low temperature coking coal, oil shale, uranium, many types of resources for construction materials.

On the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan was found broad range of treasures of the soil, which includes more than 100 minerals, out of which 60 are already used in the economy.





According to confirmed reserves of such minerals as gold, uranium, copper, natural gas, tungsten, potassium salts, phosphorus, kaolin, Uzbekistan ranks leadership positions not only in CIS, but in the entire world. Thus, Uzbekistan is the 4th largest on gold reserves, and is the 7th largest on mining hereof, 10th-11th – on copper reserves; uranium – 7th-8th, on mining – 11th–12th.

Available reserves of mineral resources in majority not only supply mining complexes for the long perspective, but also allow to raise the capacities to set up new mining of a number of the most important minerals such as gold, uranium, copper, lead, silver, lithium, phosphorus, potassium salts, fluorspar, vollastonit, agrochemical ores and others.

#### The State symbols

The law about "The State Flag of the Republic of Uzbekistan" was adopted on November 18 in 1991 in the 8th session of the Supreme Council of Uzbekistan. The flag of our country is a symbol of the sovereignty of the Republic. The national flag of the Republic represents the country internationally when official delegations from Uzbekistan visit foreign countries, as well as at conferences, world exhibition, and sports competitions. The national flag of the Republic is a right-angled colored cloth of three horizontal stripes: blue, white and green





The law about "The State Emblem" was approved by the 10-th session of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan on July 2,1992. The new state emblem of the Republic of Uzbekistan was created to reflect the many centuries of experience of the Uzbek people. The state emblem of the Republic presents the image of the rising sun over a flourishing valley. Two rivers run through the valley, representing the Syrdarya and Amudarya.

#### Holidays

- January 1 New Year "Yangi Yil Bayrami"
- January 14 Vatan Himoyachilari kuni
- March 8 International Women's Day – "Xalqaro Xotin-Qizlar kuni"
- March 21 Navrooz "Navro'z Bayrami"
- May 9 Remembrance Day "Xotira va Qadirlash kuni"
- September 1 Independence Day "Mustaqillik kuni"
- October 1 Teacher's Day "O'qituvchi va Murabbiylar"
- December 8 "Constitution Day" Konstitutsiya kuni



# NATURAL HAZARDS

#### Natural Hazards Likely to Affect the (features, tendency).

Uzbekistan ranks high among countries that endured have significant loss of life and property due to earthquakes and other natural disasters. As one of the most seismic active regions in Central Asia. Uzbekistan is struck bv earthquakes in the eight to ten point range. In addition to its seismic vulnerability, Uzbekistan is affected hydro-meteorological hazards bv affecting the agricultural sector with seasonal floods and periods of drought. Other threats from landslides, locust invasions and avalanche have been reported to affect the lives and livelihood of Uzbekistan's population.



For instance, strong earthquakes that occurred during the XXth century in Andizhan (1902), Tashkent (1946 and 1966) and Gazli (1976 and 1984) resulted in huge economic losses and caused human casualties.

#### **Recent Major Disasters**

**Tashkent earthquake** happened at 5:23 am April 26, 1966 At the relatively small magnitude (M = 5.2 on the Richter scale), but because of the shallow (3 to 8 km) of occurrence of the hearth, it caused a 8-9 -point (on a 12-point scale MSK-64), shake the earth's surface and substantial damage of buildings in the city centre. At Tashkent, 10 were killed, 1,000 were injured, and about 100,000 were left homeless. 28,000 buildings were destroyed, including 200 hospitals and clinics, and 180 schools, in the Old Quarter of Tashkent, the principal damage area. Thousands of the ancient, one-story adobe dwellings were flattened. Additional damage was sustained from the hundreds of aftershocks which followed.





Andijan earthquake - the catastrophic earthquake that occurred two (16) December 1902 in the city of Andijan Ferghana region. The death toll of about 4000. The earthquake consisted of three roughly equal strength shocks. The first of which, a magnitude 8.9, occurred at 10:00 am. 1-1.5 minutes there was a second, the most powerful force on the push-magnitude 9-9.5. After 30 minutes, after the first two followed by a third push, magnitude 8. The earthquake had destroyed 11,000 buildings and 161 types of local building the "European style". Survived only three buildings of European architecture: urban Orthodox Church, Prison and City Bank. Material losses, net of government agencies accounted for 12 million rubles. The death toll was 4602 people, which is about 9 per cent of the residents of the city in 1902.

# DISASTER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

#### Administrative system

The State system of prevention and emergency response consists of controls and capabilities of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, 12 regions, districts and municipalities, ministries and departments, enterprises, institutions and organizations.

The structure and functioning of the state system of prevention and emergency action by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

#### The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

- ensures the creation of state reserves of financial and material resources for disaster management, as well as the procedure for its use;

- responsible for financial and resource support capabilities for the prevention and liquidation of emergency situations, equip them special appliances and other material and technical means;

- classification of states of emergency situations and determines the degree of involvement of the executive power to eliminate them;

- monitors the activities of ministries, departments, local authorities in the protection of

population and territories from emergency situations;

Specially authorized state body for the protection of the **Ministry of Emergency Situations** for Emergency Situations of the Republic of Uzbekistan.



# a) National platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

#### Ministry of Emergency Situations (MoES)

The Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Uzbekistan was established by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan #УΠ-1378 dated March 4, 1996. There are regional (territorial) departments of emergency situations operating in all of the 14 regions of the republic with district emergency units established in individual districts.



There is the State System for prevention of and response to emergency situations (SSPR) established in the Republic of Uzbekistan the structure and operating procedures whereof were defined in the resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan #558 dated December 23, 1997.

The SSPR is composed of the management bodies, structures responsible for management of emergency epidemiological, epizootic and epiphytotic situations (special danger infections, epidemics, group diseases of unknown aetiology, poisoning with toxic agents, mass food poisoning, etc).

#### MAIN TASKS OF THE MINISTRY OF EMERGENCY SITUATIONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN ARE:

•development and implementation of state policy in the field of disaster prevention, the protection of life and health of the population, material and cultural values, as well as the recovery and reduce the damage in case of emergencies in peacetime and wartime;

•creation and maintenance governance of the State system of Prevention and emergency response;

•manual of civil protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

•organization development and implementation in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan measures to protect the population of the country, objects are a national treasure of the Republic, as well as the prevention and liquidation of emergency situations;

•guide to work on the liquidation a major emergency, development and preparedness of forces and resources required for this purpose;

•organization development and realization of target scientific and technical programs aimed at the prevention of emergency situations, the protection of the population of the country and to increase the stability of functioning of objects of national economy as they arise;

•organization of preparation of the population, officials and formations of the SSES to act in emergency situations;



#### b) National Organizations for Disaster Risk Reduction.

There are sector oriented concepts and target programmers on natural disaster risk reduction which are specified depending on the area of activity and nature of disasters. The SSES functional and territorial subsystems' action plans have been developed, approved and are systematically adjusted based on the Decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan and resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan which govern the functioning of the SSES and those of the following bodies:

PRI	ME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTA	
Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan	]	Minister of Emergency Situations
Ministry of Emergency Situations,	Ministry of Economy	National Holding Company "Uzbekneftegaz"
Ministry of Interior	State Committee of Nature conservation	National Television and Radio broadcasting Company "Uzbekistan"
Ministry of Higher and secondary Special education	State Committee of Geology and Mineral Resources	National Air Company "Uzbekistan Airways"
Ministry of Public Education	State Committee of Architecture and Construction	State Stock Railway Company "Uzbekistan railways"
Ministry of Health	Academy of Sciences	State Stock Company "Uzbekenergo"
Ministry of Defence	Centre of Hydro-meteorological Service under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan	State Insurance Companies "Uzagrosughurta" and "Kafolot"
Ministry of Agriculture and Water Management	State Stock Company "Uzavtoyul"	Uzbek Agency "Uzcommunkhizmat"
Ministry of Finance	State Stock Company "Uzkimyosanoat"	Uzbek Agency of Communication and Informatization
Jzbek Agency of Automobile and River Transportation	State Inspection "Sanoatkontekhnazorat"	National Council of the Red Crescent Society of the Republic of Uzbekistan

#### Disaster Management Strategy, Policy, and Plan.

For the implementation of the state policy in the field of vital interests of the individual, society and the state act legal framework regulating the activities the state authorities and enterprises and organizations, as well as civil self in the area of civil protection. The Laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On protection of population and territories from emergency situations of natural and man-made" and "Civil Protection", and a number of resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers.

The world practice shows that timely prevention of hazards of natural and man-made hazards, the priority realization of measures to prevent and reduce their negative impacts are much more economical and more effective than emergency response.

In order to realize these tasks, the Ministry of Emergency Situations together with the interested ministries and departments of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regional and Tashkent city State program is designed to forecast and prevention of emergency situations (hereinafter - the State program).

The purpose of this state program is to provide a guaranteed level of protection of the population and territories from emergency situations, risk reduction and mitigation of accidents and natural disasters in the country, taking into account achievements of the national science and technology, as well as international experience in this field.

#### The State Program included the fallowing:

#### A. Natural disaster risk reduction

- 1. Risk reduction program for the effects of earthquake
- 2. Program on prevention of floods, mudflows, avalanches and landslides
- 3. Program on prevention of epidemics, epizootic outbreak, epiphytoties

#### **B.** Technological disaster risk reduction

- 4. Program on prevention of chemical emergency
- 5. Program on prevention of accidents at explosive and fire hazardous sites
- 6. Program on prevention of accidents at the sites and power network

7. Program on prevention of transport accidents and disaster (motor transport, railway, aircraft, the Metro)

8. Program on prevention of disaster at hydraulic engineering structures



#### **C. Early warning of population**

9. Program on creation of territorial and local systems and early warning

#### **D.** Improvement of emergency rescue services

10. Program on equipping the Center on training and advanced training of rescue workers of MoES with rescue gear, equipment, outfit and on construction of training centers

#### E. Training of the population on disaster preparedness

11. Program on training of population

#### MAP OF SEISMIC RISK ZONING OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN



#### **RISK REDUCTION PROGRAM ON THE EFFECTS OF EARTHQUAKES**

## Earthquakes

Under implementation:

- evaluation of seismic hazard and mapping of seismic risk zoning
- geodetic survey at geodynamic field traverse
- certification of buildings and facilities by the seismic vulnerability category
- development of activities on earthquake related damage reduction
- development of effective methods for earthquake – proof constructions

Required:

• expansion and re-equipment of the station network and creation of information – analytical monitoring center

• technological advancement of GIS and geodetic measurements

#### MAP OF MUDFLOW THREAT ZONES



## Mudflows and floods

Under implementation :

• make observations of flow and regimen of rivers and water storage basins

• afforestation emilioration at mudflow dangerous areas

• survey of flood and mudflow areas

• engineering construction work on protection of the population from floods, overflow water and mudflow

work at hydraulic engineering structures

observations at high-mountain lakes and glaciers

Required:

• develop network on mudflow and flood hazards forecast

introduce satellite observations

• introduce GIS on mudflows and floods



# Landslides

Under implementation:

- control at technical points
- survey and monitoring investigations
- observation of hazardous geological processes (HGP)
- observation of underground water level
- scientific research work
- notification and warning on hazards

Required:

• Improvement of informationanalytical system (GIS, spaceborne remote sensing)

• Insurance system updating

• Maps of territory exposure to HGP with recommendation on risk reduction



# Medical-biological hazards

Under implementation:

- monitoring of contagion among population
- · control of natural focal virus infections
- activities on flu control
- control of acute intestinal diseases and cholera
- vernal fever control
- combating HIV/AIDS

Required:

- improvement of antiepizzotic activities
- improvement of control of infection diseases of plants and agricultural crops
- introduction of an integrated computer data base on monitoring of epidemics, epizootic outbreak and epythytoty

# Early warning systems

Currently implemented:

• Territorial systems for communication and warning are in operation

• Local warning systems at some water storage basins and industrial objects are in operation

• Reconstruction of the national warning system is carried out

Required:

• Replace obsolete analog warning system with a digital one

• Follow up with creation of local warning system for makhallas

• Set up an integrated computer-assisted system for collection and processing of information on hazards and warning for makhallas



#### PROGRAM ON IMPROVEMENT OF EMERGENCY RESCUE SERVICE

# Training of emergency rescue service staff

Currently implemented:

• mobile emergency rescue teams capable to respond to different emergencies are raised

• there is a training center for training and advanced training of rescue workers Required :

• instructional technologies for training of rescue workers by specialties

• modern instruction techniques for rescue workers

• modern emergency rescue gear, equipment and outfit



## Training of the population

- Training of the teachers at 15 institutes for training and education of teachers
- Training of children with life safety fundamentals at 6565 kindergartens, 9748 schools, 28 charity homes
- Training of students with life safety principles at 1000 colleges and lyceums, 64 higher educational establishments
- Training of the executives and employees of the ministries, departments and organizations
- Training of economically inactive population

### STATE COMMITTEE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN ON GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURC



State committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on geology and mineral resources carries out geologic analysis of entrails with the purpose of strengthening and development of the mineral base of the mining and process industry, provides coordination of different branches of industry connected to the geologic analysis of entrails of the territory of Uzbekistan, carries out the state control over the geologic analysis of ownership, creates and provides functioning of a databank on the geologic structure of entrails and mineral resources of the republic, conducting the State balance on mineral reserves, etc. with the purpose of definition of conditions of their economic and rational use.



# MAIN TASKS OF GOSCOMGEOLOGY

- Implementation of a unified state policy in the field of geological study, use and protection of subsoil and reproduction of mineral resources, the implementation of public administration in the field of mining relations;
- Organization of geological exploration of mineral resources, forecasting and identifying fields for geological and economic evaluation of mineral resources (except hydrocarbons), justification of the possibility of subsoil use for purposes not related to the extraction of mineral resources;
- Management, within their competence, the state subsoil fund and the state fund of geological materials of stone, as well as specially protected geological objects;
- Coordination of activities related to geological exploration in Uzbekistan (with the exception of work on hydrocarbons).

## STATE COMMITTEE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN ON GEOLOGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES



After independence, the Republic of Uzbekistan has significantly increased its position at the world market of mineral resources in many directions.

# Department of Hydrogeology, engineering geology and geoecological works

- Regularly carries out the analysis of a condition of resources, the control and realization of offers on full and rational use of the reconnoitered stocks of underground waters;
- Carries out the control under the prevention of catastrophic consequences of dangerous geological processes and radiating conditions on objects of works;
- Participates in work by definition of optimum directions of hydrogeological, engineering-geological and geoecological works, buildings of water in taking constructions on use of the reconnoitered stocks of underground waters, working out of protective actions from landslips and collapses in mountain areas of Uzbekistan;

# **RESEARCH LANDSLIDES IN UZBEKISTAN**





# In Uzbekistan

- > 21,3% (90,0 thousand км<sup>2</sup>) of the total area is mountainous;
- 10-11% (2,6-3,0 mln. people.) population live in the mountainous area;
- 40% mountainous area susceptible to landslides, avalanches, mud flows and debris processes;
- > 17% mountainous area at risk of landslides;
- > 2,0 thousand landslides;
- > **8,3 thousand** landslide displacements recorded in 50 years:
- 65% of the landslides caused by snowmelt, precipitation and groundwater
- 2. **15-20%** of the historical and contemporary earthquakes
- 3. 20-25% of man-made factors



In Uzbekistan monitoring over the landslides is lead since 1958. At the present, in the system of the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on geology and mineral resources there exist special structure - State Service on Monitoring over the dangerous geological processes, consisting of 7 regional monitoring stations.

# The history of landslides monitoring service in Uzbekistan

- 1958 Landslide station;
- 1961 Bostanlyk landslide party;
- 1991-Specialized engineering and geological expedition.
- 1994- State Service on Monitoring over the dangerous geological processes of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

#### STRUCTURE OF STATE MONITORING SERVICE FOR HAZARDOUS GEOLOGICAL PROCESSES



#### MAP OF LANDSLIDE-PRONE AREAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN



#### The tasks of the State Service Monitoring :

- 1. Identification of areas of dangerous geological processes and the evaluation of their activation;
- 2. Organization of monitoring;
- 3. State control of hazardous geological processes;
- 4. Preparation and issuance of recommendations;

# Structure of monitoring

Structure monitoring geohazards - more attention is paid to the forecast, and risk assessment and management, and the prevention process. On this basis, the monitoring of hazardous geological processes consists of 4 blocks:

- observation
- evaluation
- control
- warning





# Public service monitoring annually conducts surveillance for objects 700-750

- 450 mountain villages
- 115 health facilities
- 147 plots of mountain roads
- 40 mining and hydraulic structures
- 85 plots of channels, culverts, etc.





# **Problems in warning of landslides**

- At the beginning of the monitored time of their formation;
- The massive, simultaneous display of landslides in loess (30-40 cases per day);
- High-speed (up to 3.5 m / day) and the length of displacement (1.6-4.5 km)
- Variability of direction, height of release to the opposite side and the area of distribution.
- Failure of modern devices for monitoring landslides

