

**STATUS OF PROJECTS IN EXECUTION – FY09
SOPE**

**EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA REGION
COUNTRY: UZBEKISTAN**

**Operations Policy and Country Services
OCTOBER 02, 2009**



Introduction

The Status of Projects in Execution (SOPE) Report for FY09 provides information on all IBRD/IDA projects that were active as of June 30, 2009. The World Bank has issued a SOPE Report every year as an internal communication to the Board of Executive Directors. In accordance with the Bank's revised disclosure policy, since FY02, the SOPE Report is available to the public.

The report is intended to bridge the gap in information available to the public between the Project Appraisal Document or Program Document, disclosed after the Bank approves a project, and the Implementation Completion Report, disclosed after the project closes.

In addition to the project progress description, the FY09 SOPE report¹ contains project level comparisons of disbursement estimates and actual disbursements, and a table showing the loan/credit/grant amount and disbursements to date.

¹ Notes:

- Amounts and Graphs for loans/credits/grants in currencies other than U.S. dollars may not match exactly due to exchange rate fluctuations over the life of the project.
- Disbursement graphs are not included for Development Policy Operations, which provide quick-disbursing financing to support policy and institutional reforms. For these operations, funds are disbursed in one or more stages (tranches), released when the borrower complies with agreed prior actions.
- Projects which are not yet effective may not have a planned disbursement schedule and thus will not include a graph.



Uzbekistan

Project Name(ID): DRAINAGE, IRRIG & WETLANDS IMPRVMT (P009127)
Country: Uzbekistan
Board Approval Date: 19-Jun-2003
Mid-Term Review Date: 05-Nov-2007
Closing Date: 30-Jun-2010
Sector: Irrigation and drainage (96%); General public administration sector (4%)

The project was restructured, or received Additional Financing during FY09: no

Project development objective(s):

The development objectives of the project are to: (a) increase the productivity of irrigated agriculture, employment and incomes in Karakalpakstan, one of the poorest regions in Central Asia; (b) to improve water quality of the Amu Darya river by safe disposal of the drainage effluent, and enhance quality of wetlands in the Amu Darya delta; and (c) develop the institutions for improving water management, operation and maintenance of the irrigation and drainage systems, and for promoting sustainable irrigated agriculture through participatory irrigation management.

Progress toward achieving development objective(s):

The results to date confirm that the project is on target and it is most likely to achieve the development objectives. Works on the main drain are completed, and drainage water is now flowing out of the project area for safe discharge. As a result, the groundwater table was drawn down in the project areas to an average of 2.3 meters below the surface, which is the main objective of the project. By reverting disposal of the drainage water from Amu Darya, the salinity in the river will decrease. The envisioned 21 water user associations have been formed in two project districts covering 60,000 ha as per hydraulic boundary. Fifteen demonstration plots, three more than envisioned, have been established with very good results. Plots are being used as farmers' field schools. The farmers are enthusiastic about the training and observing impacts of demonstration plots which produce enhancements in unit area yields with modern agronomical and water management practices, so far a total of 371 farmers, from a target of 560 farmers, were trained. In addition a substantial number of public sector staff were trained in water management and irrigation scheduling. Moreover, the environmental works including enhancement of a number of wetlands and lakes and rehabilitation of Badai Tugai forest reserve are completed and will produce the intended environmental benefits. Given the above progress, the project is likely to achieve its development objectives.

