



## INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR SAVING THE ARAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**Possible green recovery strategies in  
Central Asia and opportunities for  
cooperation**

4 October 2021

The 10th meeting of the EU-Central Asia Working Group on  
Environment and Climate



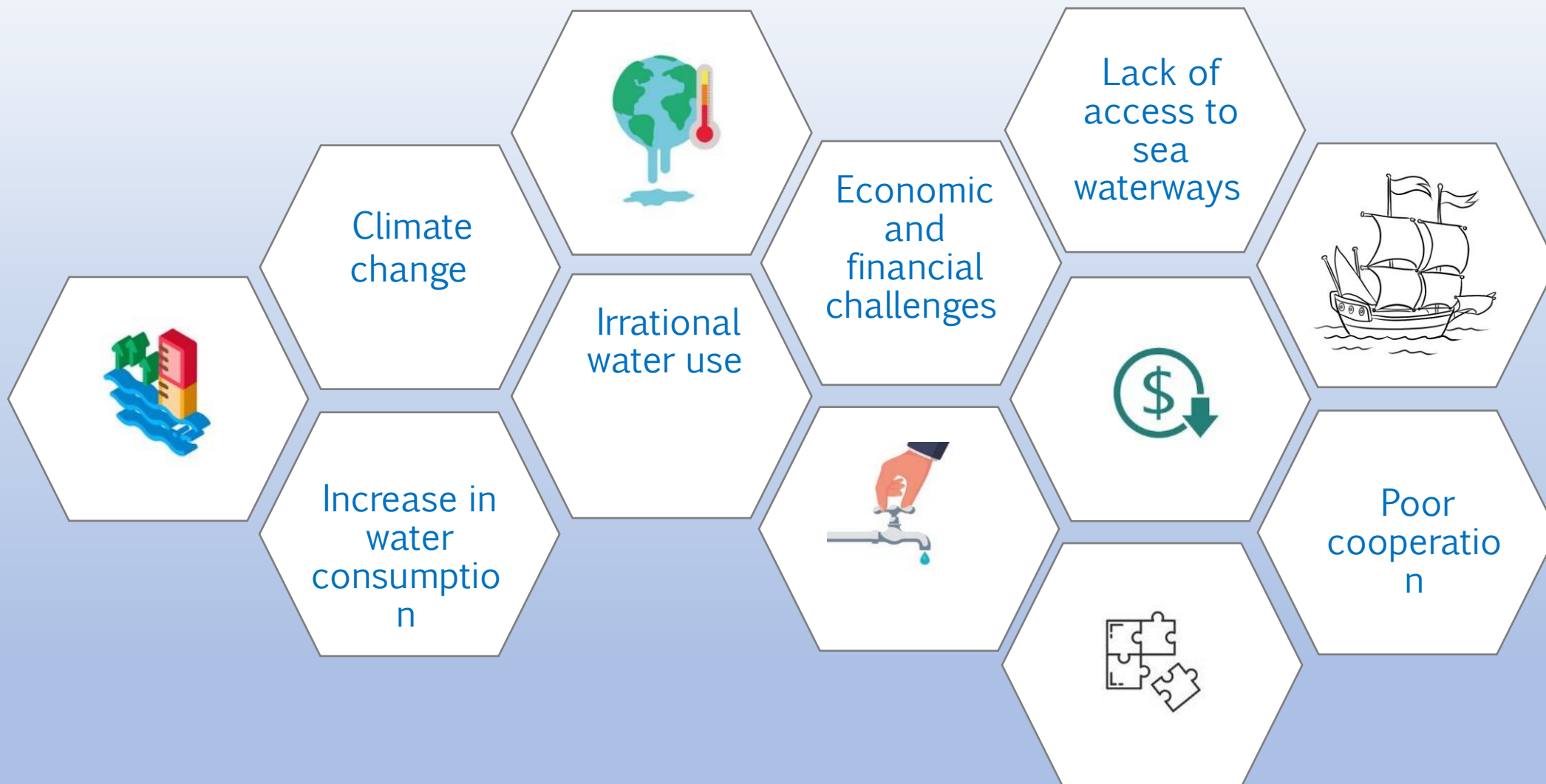
## THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON CENTRAL ASIAN ECONOMIES

COUNTRIES	YEARS					
	2017	2018	2019			2020
	GDP growth (%)	GDP growth (%)	GDP growth (%)	GDP per capita. (USD)	GDP (billion USD)	GDP growth (%)
Kazakhstan	4.1	4.1	4.5	9750 (55)	181,67 (43)	-2.6
Kyrgyzstan	4.7	3.5	4.5	1323 (137)	8.46 (129)	-8.6
Tajikistan	7.6	7.3	7.5	873 (156)	8.12 (133)	4.5
Turkmenistan	6.5	6.2	6.3	7724 (83)	45.23 (94)	5.9
Uzbekistan	4.5	5.1	5.5	1742 (127)	57.92 (62)	0.6

*COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the economies of Central Asia. While average regional GDP decreased by 5.7%, it dropped by 7.1% in Kazakhstan, 13.1% in Kyrgyzstan, 3% in Tajikistan and 4.9% in Uzbekistan. Only in Turkmenistan the GDP reduced by only 0.4%*

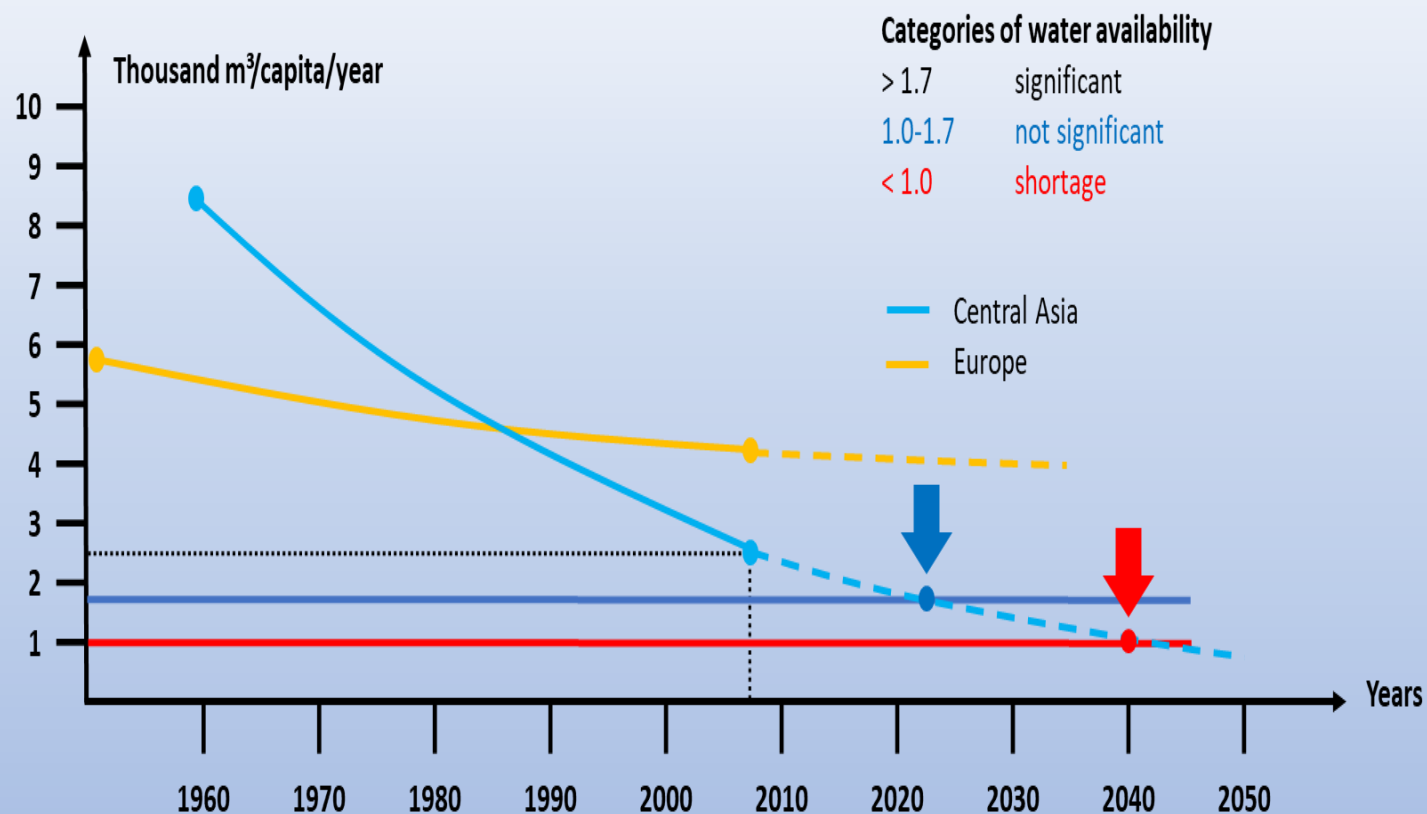


## OTHER FACTORS IMPACTING THE ECONOMY IN THE REGION





## OTHER FACTORS IMPACTING THE ECONOMY IN THE REGION



### Losses due to poor cooperation

- 1.75 billion USD (3.6% of reg-GDP)

The Human Development Report for Central Asia (UNDP 2006)

- 4.5 billion USD

Rethinking Water in Central Asia: The Cost of Inaction and the Benefits of Water Cooperation" (CAREC and Adelphi, 2017)



## IMPACT OF DROUGHT 2021

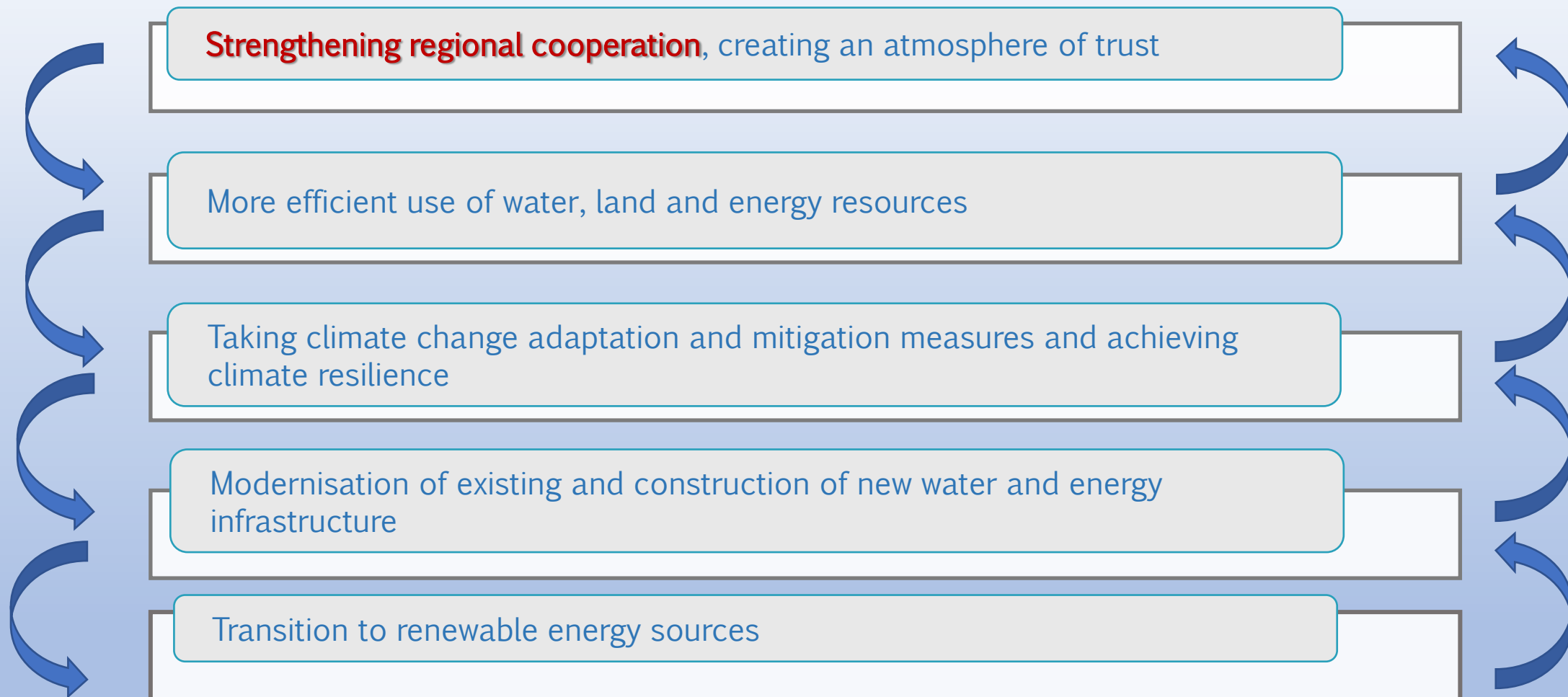
*A severe drought in Central Asia is causing mass livestock die-offs and shortages of water for irrigation. In two provinces of Kazakhstan, more than 2,000 domesticated animals have died due to lack of water and forage. In Kyrgyzstan, farmers have staged multiple protests in the northern region of Chui because of a lack of water to irrigate their crops. Similarly, water shortages in Uzbekistan have resulted in lost harvests and rising prices for seasonal vegetables. The drought in Uzbekistan's Samarkand region has disrupted the supply of drinking water: lack of precipitation and the low water level of the Zarafshan River caused a drop in the groundwater level. The Uzbek authorities have enforced water rationing in Samarkand city, limiting public consumption to prevent a greater supply crisis. In Turkmenistan, a regional weather website reported that this year's drought in the southern and southeastern districts of the Ahal region is already the worst extreme weather event in 13 years.*

<http://www.waterpolitics.com/2021/07/12/central-asian-drought-highlights-water-vulnerability/>





## POSSIBLE GREEN RECOVERY STRATEGIES







## ВОЗМОЖНОСТИ СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВА

*Human resources*

*Natural resources (land, water, gas, oil, etc.)*

*Favourable climatic conditions*

*Available infrastructure (transport, energy, communications, agriculture, etc.)*

*Common history, religion, similarities in culture, traditions, customs, etc.*

**Political will and proper cooperation!!!**





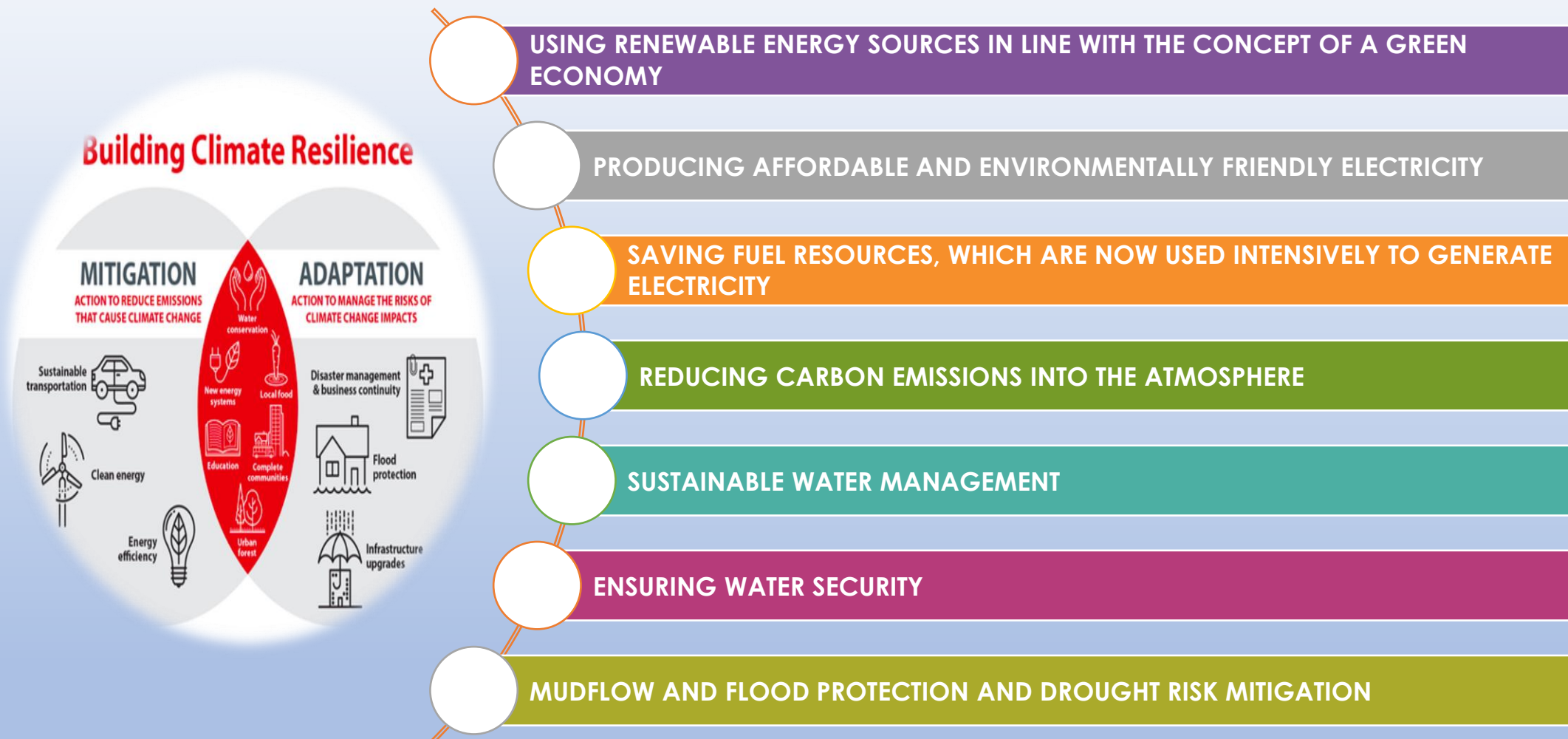
## HYDROPOWER – AS A KEY DRIVER OF GREEN GROWTH

COUNTRIES	Hydroelectric power, MW	Hydropower production (2019), billion kWh	Economically viable hydropower potential billion kWh	Utilisation of hydropower potential, %	Share of hydropower potential in Central Asia, %
Kazakhstan	2587	9.98	27	36.9	5.36
Kyrgyzstan	3030	13.82	142.50	9.70	28.3
Tajikistan	5200	19.15	317	6.04	62.96
Turkmenistan	1.2	0.03	2	1.5	0.40
Uzbekistan	1435	6.50	15	43.33	2.98
TOTAL	12253.2	49.48	503.50	9.83	100





## THE BENEFITS OF COOPERATION IN HYDROPOWER





## THE DYNAMICS OF HYDROPOWER COOPERATION

- Tajikistan and Uzbekistan have decided to jointly build two hydropower plants with a total capacity of 320MW on the Zeravshan River,
- Tajikistan has resumed electricity exports to Uzbekistan after a break of almost 10 years,
- Uzbekistan also expressed its readiness to participate in hydropower projects in the Kyrgyz Republic.

***"The parties noted the importance of existing hydropower facilities and those under construction to help resolve water and energy issues in Central Asia, taking into account the interests of all countries in the region".***

*Joint Statement of the Consultative Meeting  
of the Heads of State of Central Asia,  
6 August 2021, Turkmenbashi, Turkmenistan*



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!**