
Afghanistan Transboundary water Management

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Afghanistan Geography

Geographically, Afghanistan is at a cross point linking Middle East, South Asia and Central Asia. Due to its location as an upstream and riparian source for much of the region's waters, Afghanistan remains in the spotlight of attention from its neighbors. We know full well that water continues to remain a significant element in the politics of our region.



Goal of Convention on the Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses 1997

Expressing the convention that a framework convention will ensure the utilization, development, conservation, management and protection of international watercourses and the promotion of the optimal and sustainable utilization there of for present and future generations,

Affirming the importance of international cooperation and good-neighborliness in this field.

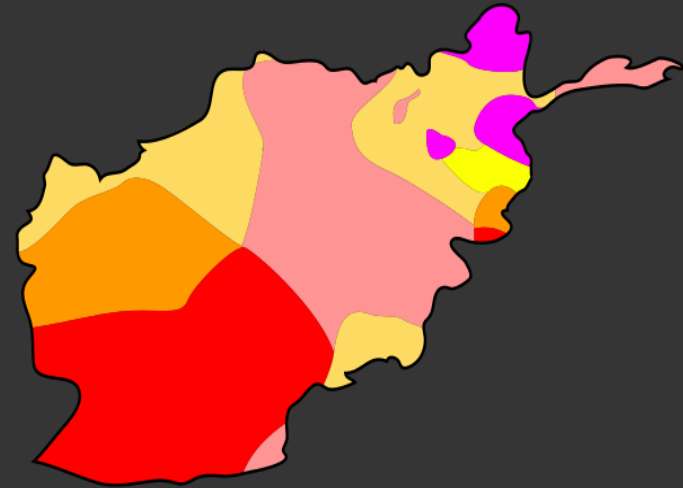
Afghanistan Water Law

According to Article 9 of the Constitution of Afghanistan and the 2009 Water Law, achieving conservation, equitable distribution, and the efficient and sustainable use of water resources, and to strengthen the national economy are main needs of Afghanistan Government.

Afghanistan's Policy for Trans boundary Waters

Afghanistan policy supports regional cooperation, peace, stability, access to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation health, and food security through food production, as described in the National Priority Program

Afghanistan map of Köppen climate classification

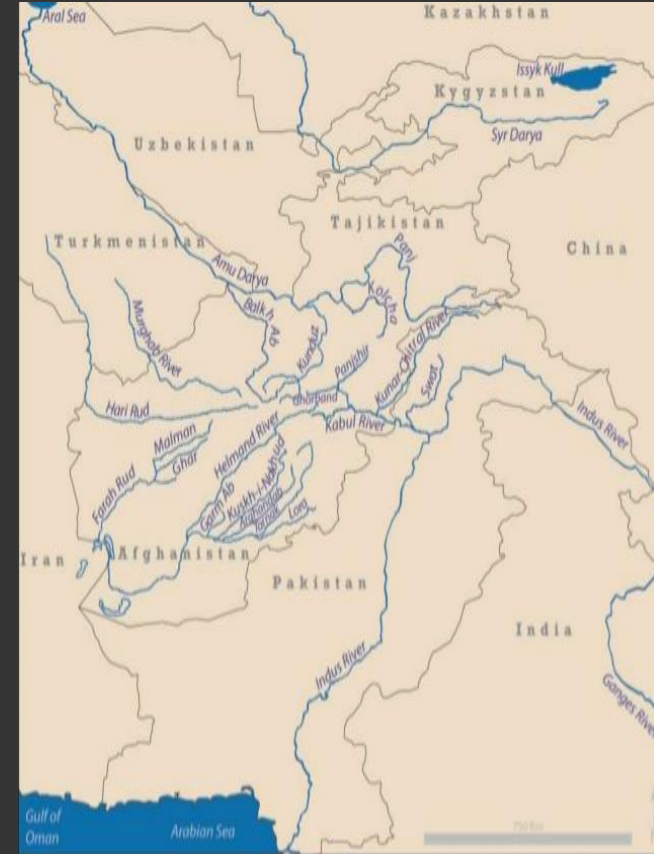


- Warm desert climate (BWh)
- Warm continental climate/
Mediterranean continental climate (Dsa)
- Cold semi-arid climate (BSk)
- Cold desert climate (BWk)
- Warm semi-arid climate (BSh)
- Warm mediterranean climate (Csa)

Transboundary Waters

Afghanistan shares border waters in four regions along its borders. If properly managed, these waters can effectively provide for economic and agricultural development and can thus serve as a crucial source of income for Afghanistan.

As a landlocked but geopolitically important country at the heart of Asia, Afghanistan has the headwater in the region. While its waters have contributed to remarkable development for others in the region, Afghanistan itself has not been able to make an effective use of its natural wealth.



Water and Development

Afghanistan has the lowest Human Development Index of all its neighbours and most of the countries around that World and therefore has the greatest need to sustainable development of its water resources in order to achieve social and economic development. Afghanistan is harnessing only a portion of its potential water resources.

Currently, Afghanistan has an estimated 80 cm/year of storage capacity per caption, by far the lowest compared to its neighbours, and only an estimated 40% of its potential irrigation land is being used.

Afghanistan currently produces only about 300MW from hydropower from a potential very much larger than that. Less than a third of the population has access to safe drinking water. The amount of water in the rivers is different regarding the seasons and climate change has had negative effects. Therefore, Afghanistan critically needs to build reservoirs to regulate the waters so that the water to be reserved in the seasons that there a lot of water and flood seasons and to be used in dry seasons.

Afghanistan has been unable to develop its water resources over the past three decades . During that time its neighbours have continued to develop water resources of the trans-boundary river saliently without informing Afghanistan and have used un-efficiently and unequally.

To meet the needs of its people, increase food production, supply water for drinking and irrigation uses, produce hydropower, use for industrial, mining and environmental protection purposes, and etc., it is necessary to use from the water resources in a responsible and sustainable way. In developing its water resources, Afghanistan will approach the an equitable and reasonable manner to achieve its national interest.