

## The Role and Importance of Land Reclamation Cooperation's in Turkestan

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**ABSTRACT:** The article, on the basis of archival materials, highlights the activities of ameliorative cooperation to expand the cultivated areas through the restoration and development of irrigation, repair and construction of irrigation facilities.

**KEYWORDS:** irrigation, artificial irrigation, land reclamation, cooperation, sown area, national economy.

In the conditions of Turkestan, artificial irrigation of lands is the basis of agricultural development. As a result of the allocation of land to landless peasants in Turkestan in the early years of Soviet rule, there was a need to build systematic irrigation facilities on these lands. Unfortunately, the construction of irrigation facilities on a single farm, the lack of experience in its efficient use, the existence of a separate system of independent use of water from time immemorial has led to water wastage and lack of access to water from farms below. This is probably the reason why in 1918-1923 there were delays in irrigation and land irrigation, as a result of which the annual maintenance of irrigation networks was not carried out. Many hydraulic structures have fallen into disrepair, the melodic conditions of arable lands have deteriorated, and irrigated lands have shrunk. Hindikush dam, water distribution facility in Mugrab: Rovot-Khoja dam, Ak-Karadarya water distribution facilities on Zarafshan river, Dargam, Narpay canals in Samarkand, Bozsuv, Zakh, Karasuv, Bektemir canals in Chirchik, Sukh, Sharikhan, Isfara, Andijan in Fergana, Andijan. large waterways were in need of repair. For example, in Fergana, the main agricultural area of the country, if in 1915 the total irrigated area was 800,000 desiatins, by 1922 it had dropped to 292,000 desiatins, or 36.3% compared to 1915 [1; p. 122].

The 1st Congress of Turkestan Cotton Growers, which opened on February 19, 1921, also set the task of immediately cleaning all irrigation systems and mobilizing all forces to regulate water distribution facilities. On September 5, 1922, the law "On the use of water" was adopted. The problems of regulating irrigation systems in the country, digging new canals were considered at the Council of Irrigators on March 6, 1923 in Tashkent. The council agreed to establish a "special fund" for research and design, training of qualified specialists, development of irrigation systems.

In the first phase of the reconstruction of waterworks, the main focus was on the construction of low-cost, simple, straightforward structures (based on manual labor), followed by the construction of permanent, complex engineering structures. In 1921, the "nature obligation" for the restoration of the irrigation system was 2 million. At the expense of man-days in 1923 the peasant farms produced 3.5 million. days of labor commitment and 3.5 mln. In 1924, 2.5 million days of work and 3.8 million soums of work. soums.

Land reclamation companies, which have been established since the 1920s, have played an important role in expanding irrigation facilities, improving the reclamation of irrigated lands and improving water resources in Turkestan. In 1919, only 7 companies were formed, and in 1921, 383 companies. By 1924, their number had grown to 1,230, their membership to 63,661, and their arable land to 100,601 desiatins. By April 1923, the reclamation condition of 3,014 acres of land had been improved by the companies, 3,549 acres of land had been plowed, 1,577 acres of land had been developed, and a total of 9,717 acres of land had been cultivated and worth 581,900 soums in gold [2; 26-b]. It should be noted that all this money came from the working population, as the state did not allocate money from its budget for land reclamation companies. Land reclamation cooperatives began to operate in the country in April 1923. On May 2, 1923, the Statute of the Turkestan HKS "On reclamation companies in the Republic of Turkestan" was adopted "[3; p. 128].

According to the charter, the companies have the right to properly use irrigation systems and all hydraulic structures in the area where they work, to maintain them properly, to build new ones, to develop neglected and protected lands, to select mirabs, to use water from this irrigation system. water conservation and proper distribution were among the tasks of land reclamation cooperatives. In addition, for the construction and repair of large irrigation facilities, the Amelioration Fund (melfond) provided companies with a soft loan of 6-8% for a period of up to 5 years, the loan was provided in the amount of 75% of the work performed [4; P. 44] Ameliorative cooperatives were first incorporated into the State Irrigation Fund, which was established in April 1924 by the Vodkhoz (water management), and were financed

by the Agricultural Bank. On September 1, 1924, at the expense of cooperatives, as a loan for 3 to 5 years, 6% per annum, 121340 soums of interest-free loans were allocated [5; 257-b.]

In order to establish cooperation, water users had to unite more than 50 farms on irrigated lands and more than 10 farms on newly developed protected areas. Land reclamation, which unites individual land reclamation companies in a particular irrigation system, was the next stage in the establishment of a cooperative. If in 1924 there were 29 companies, in 1925 their number reached 97 and had about one hundred thousand members [6; 22-b.]

Land reclamation cooperatives were first established in mid-1923, farmers along the Dalvarzin Canal formed the Dalvarzin Association and merged into 7 cooperatives, with 2,632 water users and 2,519 acres of land planted with 1,961 horses and 2,303 working animals. In a short period of time, the association set a task to develop 20,000 acres of land in the Dalvarzin desert through the repair of irrigation systems and engineering equipment. In 1924, the association developed 1,500 acres of land [7; 182-b.]

On May 18, 1924, the Akkurgan reclamation cooperative was established in Tashkent district. On September 21, 1924, the Gortepa (Goravon) reclamation cooperative was established to clean and expand the Mingbulak canal. 57.6 thousand soums were required for cleaning and repair works, of which 44 thousand soums were provided on credit

On May 27, 1924, the Khanarik reclamation cooperative was established in the Fergana region to improve the water supply and reclamation of 3,000 hectares of land in the Kuva, Urgenji, Shurkurgan, Shamsikul and Olmas canals. On the eve of the national-territorial delimitation, large reclamation cooperatives such as Niyazbashi, Jonariq, Mahram, Ramazan, Konibodom were established, which were supported by the reclamation fund in the amount of 527.5 thousand soums [8; 125-134-p.]. During this period, Isfara, Sokh, Isfara Shohimardon, Andijansay, Ulugnor, Ak-Qoradarya, Dargom, Taligulom, Yumalak-tepa, Bosh-bulak were built.

Segoza and Kosh canals were cleared by 6 associations established in the territory of Shahrihan district to develop 15,000 hectares of land and improve its reclamation condition.

6,000 hectares of land have been developed in Karakalpakstan volost. The ever-expanding scale of reclamation and irrigation works has sharply increased the demand for specialists, especially for research in this area. In 1923, an evening hydro-technical school was opened in Tashkent. In 1924, a full-time hydro-technical school and a school for desyatniks were established. In 1922, a special faculty of engineering and reclamation was opened at the Central Asian State University, and in 1924, 8 students graduated from this specialty. From the 1923-1924 academic year, more students began to be admitted. In April 1924, the faculty had 136 first-year students, 79 second-year students, 39 third-year students and 19 fourth-year students - a total of 273 students [9; 262-p.]. There were 200 students in the Tashkent evening hydraulic technical school and 63 students in the desyatnik school, the study period was 3.5 years. In the 1920s, research in the field of irrigation also expanded significantly. Hydrometric stations began to work. Irrigation norms (chama) and rural irrigation procedures were studied in these scientific centers. In 1925, the Hydrotechnical Research Institute was established. In 1923, I.N. Khristalev, I., one of the specialists, came to the United States to study the experience of the organization of irrigation and land reclamation works. Dyujev and agronomist NI Kurbatov were sent for advanced training [10; 57-p.]

In order to develop agriculture and allocate loans, in December 1922 it was decided to open the Central Asian State Agricultural Bank. On January 11, 1924, the Labor and Defense Council established the Central Asian Commercial Bank.

On October 10, 1923, a water tax was introduced in Turkestan for the use of water and irrigation facilities.

According to the statute, the reclamation farms were funded mainly by an annual membership fee and a tax of an average of 25 tiyins per tenth of land, but these funds were not enough. Therefore, the funds allocated from the budget formed the financial basis of cooperatives. As of October 1, 1925, the total funds of reclamation cooperatives in Uzbekistan amounted to 385,817 soums, of which bank loans amounted to 361,931 soums (94%), water resources - 15,774 soums (4%), and personal funds - 8,652 soums (2%) [10; 60-b.]. From the above data, it can be seen that reclamation cooperatives could not develop at their own expense.

Taking into account the poor state of irrigation in Turkestan, the dependence of the restoration of agriculture on the repair of irrigation canals, in 1921-1924 from the budget of the Union was allocated 12 million soums (in gold) [10; 29-p.]

These large sums of money allowed not only for the usual current repairs, but also for the complete overhaul of important irrigation facilities, construction of a number of engineering facilities, such as 25 water distribution facilities in Shahrihansay, the new canal from the Naryn River, Mirzachul, Chirchik-Angren basin (in the Ankhor canal in the Bozsuv-Zakh direction). In 1923, 332 special water pumps were installed in the lower reaches of the Amudarya and about 300 water facilities were repaired, 1 million soums were allocated for the improvement of irrigation systems in Khorezm [10; 63-p.]

By the end of 1923, the amount of work done by reclamation cooperatives amounted to 3,249.35 soums, and in 1923-1925, the water supply of 218,687 hectares of land was improved and 66,956 hectares of land were developed [11; 30-b.]. The establishment of reclamation cooperatives and the implementation of government-funded work through them, as well as the selfless work of irrigators and hardworking farmers, have made great strides in the rehabilitation and construction of irrigation systems and saved 20-30% of water. The development of this sector has led to the expansion of irrigated lands. The area of irrigated lands in Turkestan reached 1,180,000 desiatins in 1921-1922, 1,652,285 desiatins in 1922-1923, and 1,693,055 desiatins in 1923-1924, and in 1924 increased by 513,055 desiatins or 35% compared to 1922 [12; 42-p.].

The expansion of irrigated lands, as well as the increase in the area under cotton, was a prelude to the measures taken by the center to provide the textile industry with raw cotton. Because in Turkestan the main part of irrigated lands (80-85%) was planted with cotton. Beginning in 1924, the Soviet government began preparations for land and water reform in Uzbek villages in Central Asia. To this end, the center has begun to take measures to strengthen the material and technical base of Turkestan agriculture.

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