#### NAZARBAYEV UNIVERSITY

Session HS5.2.6 - Water Security Frameworks, Assessment Tools and Indicators to inform Water Governance

### Towards Water Security in Central Asia: Evaluation of Experts' Views through Delphi Approach

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### Introduction

- Water challenges and water-related risks are increasing in scale which is part of the reasoning for searching water security.
- Water security is a multidimensional concept:
  - Grey & Sadoff (2007) interpret as the availability of adequate quantity and quality of water for livelihoods, health, ecosystems, and production.
- Water security in Central Asia transboundary river complexity:
  - Soviet Time: large-scale engineering projects for surface water management for irrigation and hydropower generation; regional WEF nexus.
  - After the break of the USSR: restructuring national priorities still based on technical (engineering) solutions
  - Nowadays: economic development through better water allocation in each CA country



# Introduction

What are water security trends in Central Asian region and in each country individually?

#### **Literature Review**

- three-layer Boolean search (CA, Countries, Keywords)
- Stratified sampling: peer-reviewed English language articles from 1991 to 2020;
- Databases: Scopus, Web of Science, NU Library
- Sample ~ 150 articles

- Qualitative Analysis (Nvivo Software)
- Data mining (Python programming)

Are water security trends in literature aligned with the policy discourse in Central Asia?

#### Delphi approach

- with 2-3 rounds
- Purposive sampling of experts/ practitioners
- Sample ~ 100-200 experts in Central Asia (ministries, NGOs, research, and academic institutes)
- Survey (Qualtrics Software)

# **Theoretical framework**

ADB: Asian Water Development Outlook: Strengthening Water Security in Asia and the Pacific (2013, 2016)

According to (AWDO 2016):

- National Water Security Index: hazardous, engaged, capable, effective, and model
- CA countries categorized to engaged group, except Kazakhstan (capable)
- Governance and management perspectives
- Achieving water security depends on country-specific factors





# 1<sup>st</sup> Round of Questionnaire

The questionnaire is in English and Russian languages

Overall 15 questions about:

- assessment of relevance of Water Security Dimensions in Central Asia;
- indication of factors of each Dimensions;
- evaluation of trend on Water Security literature for Central Asia;
- assessment of significance of each Water Security Dimensions and Water Insecurity perception
- ranking of Water Security Dimensions and Association with each Central Asian countries
- evaluation of mechanisms and institutions in Central Asia to deal with issues of water security in the region

and demographic questions.

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Thank you!



### References

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