



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
Secretariat**

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### **Conference Services**

Please find attached the presentation by Mr. Saulius Smalys, Environmental Officer, OSCE Centre in Dushanbe and Mr. Neimatullo Safarov, Director of the Tajik Scientific Laboratory on Nature Protection, National Coordinator of the UN Convention on Biodiversity delivered at the Closing debate: the role of the OSCE, First Preparatory Conference to the 16th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum “Maritime and inland waterways cooperation in the OSCE area: Increasing Security and protecting the environment” held in Helsinki, 10 - 11 September 2007.

Environment and Security Initiative

## Amu Darya River Basin Problems

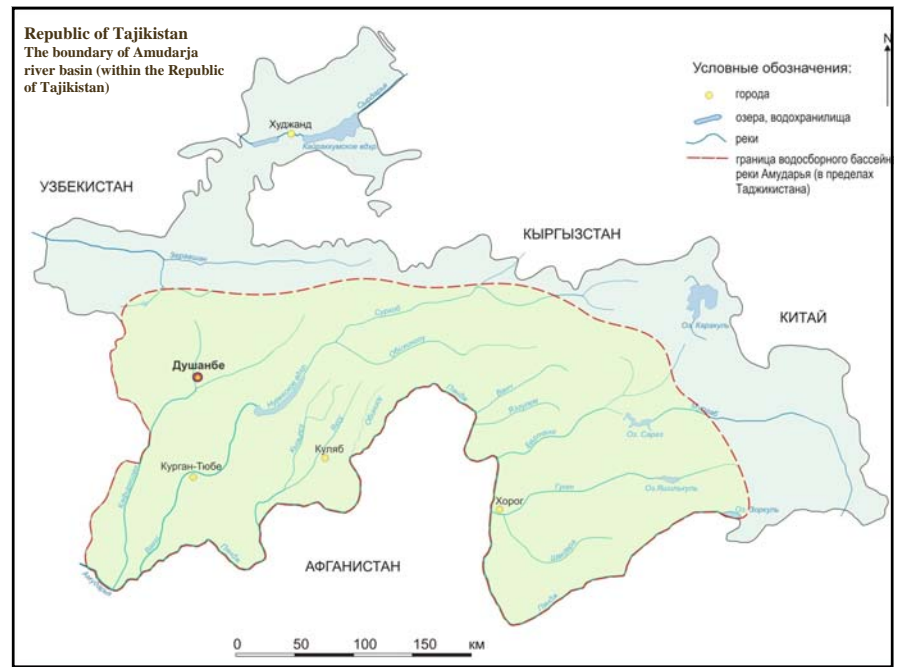
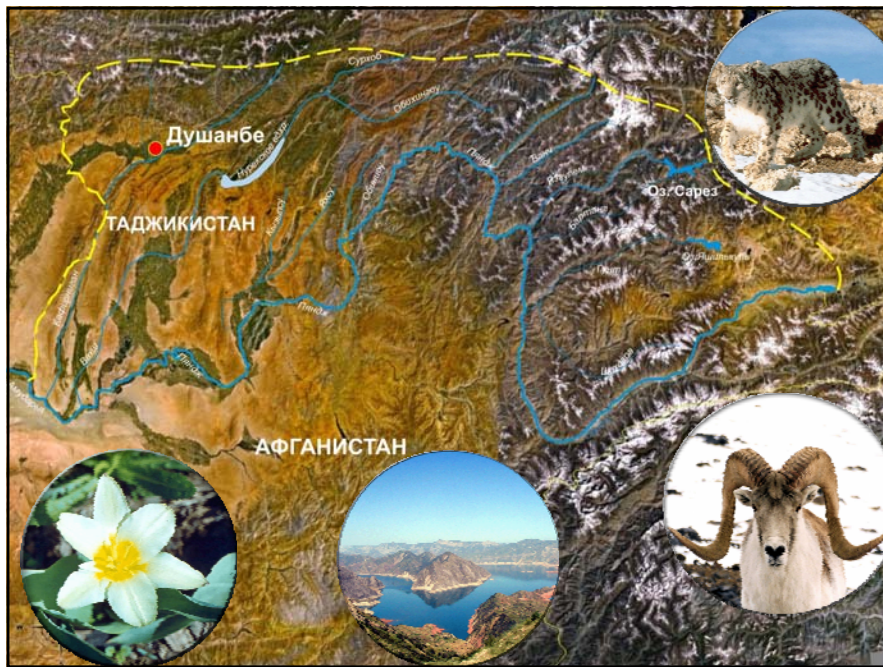
Saulius Smalys  
Neimatullo Safarov

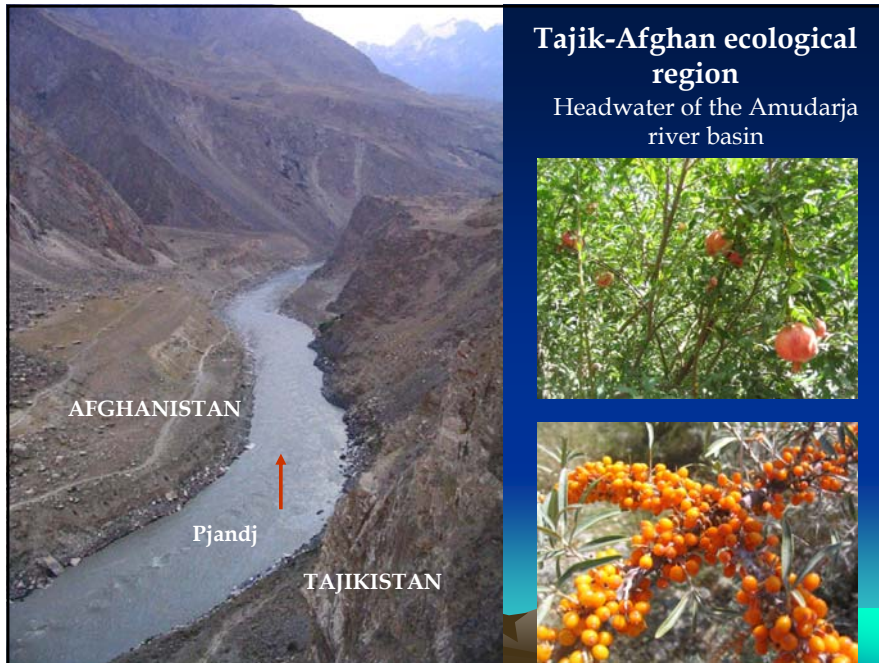
## Amu Darja river basin

Due to the administrative patterns almost total area of the North Afghanistan and South, South-East and South-West Tajikistan belongs to the Tajik-Afghan ecological depression or Tajik-Afghan ecological region, that also covers the South Uzbekistan and West Turkmenistan.

Depending on the aim and objectives some ecological and geographical sources call this territory - **THE**

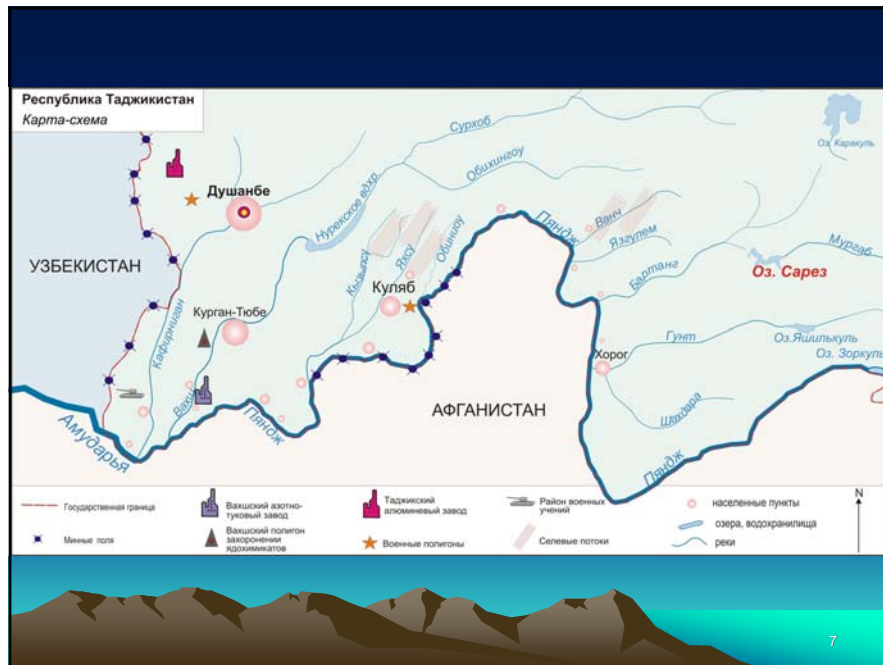






## Main problems

- Annual growth of population by 9-12%;
- Location of large settlements along the river basins;
- Biodiversity loss;
- Location of industrial enterprises in the water zones;
- Natural disasters in mountains;
- Irrigated territories and usage of pesticides on the territories of river valleys;
- Shortage of energy and deforestation;
- Degradation of pastures and bogharic lands;
- Landfills and minefields located along the state border.



For conduction of the further analysis, these ecological problems may be divided into 4 main problem areas that reflect the ecological priorities of Republic of Tajikistan :

- (i) Mid-specific pollution problems (water pollution, soil and air pollution);
- (ii) Possible negative impact of environment on the human health;
- (iii) Ecological degradation: use of the natural recourses, including water, soil, forest and biodiversity;
- (iv) Natural disasters, in particular floods, mudflows and landslide. .

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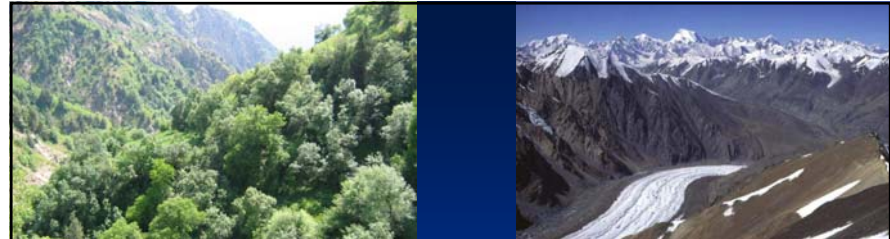
### Ecological priorities:

- ✓ Drinking water;
- ✓ Sewerages;
- ✓ Agricultural and industrial wastewaters;
- ✓ Solid wastes management;
- ✓ Air pollution;
- ✓ Land degradation and desertification;
- ✓ Biodiversity loss and deforestation;
- ✓ Environmental threats and natural disasters;
- ✓ Energy supply;
- ✓ Ecological education.

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## Recommendations

- Forestry and afforestation;
- Sustainable land use;
- Protection of joint biological resources, including protected areas, by establishment of joint transboundary management schemes;
- Protection of share water resources;
- Evaluation and elimination of pollution and waste risks;
- Disasters preparedness;
- Improving system of collecting, sharing and use of information through monitoring;
- Enhancing level of ecological education of the population and preparation of the specialists in the field of environment protection and ecological monitoring;
- Strengthening of the legislative base on ecological management and cooperation.



**Thank you for attention!**

