Contributions of Changes in Land Use/Land Cover, Water Use, and Climate to the Hydrological Cycle Across the Central Asian States

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### **Domains for two NEESPI projects**

#### Role of land cover and land use change in hydrology of Eurasian pan-Arctic







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# **Climate Change**



### Climate variability in Central Asia (by country)



Changes in Tien Shan Glaciers (example of deglaciation)



(a) Akshiirak glacier area changes between 1943 and 2003. Petrova Glacier terminus positions since 1869 (A), Davidova Glacier terminus positions since 1932 (B) and in 1977 (aerial photographs) before its surface elevation and terminus advanced in 1978 (b).
(From Aizen et al, 2006) (Used aerial photographs and ASTER images for change-detection)

### Water Use, Land Cover and Land Use Change

#### Water resources and water use



WORLD WATER RESOURCES AND THEIR USE JOINT SHI/UNESCO Report

### Some Water and Land Use Issues in Central Asia



 Inefficient irrigation with soil sterilization problem

•Salinization and desertification of lands due to the Aral Sea shrinkage

•Pollution of surface and ground waters

*Virgin Lands* program, end of 50's, 230 000 km2 of loess steppe in Northern Kazakhstan was transformed to arables. Contributions of Changes in Land Use/Land Cover, Water Use, and Climate to the Hydrological Cycle Across the Central Asian States

# **Challenges for progress :**

A) Bring together physical and human dimensions worlds (data, models)

B) Ranking the major forcings on the water system.

- Climate change
- LCLUC
- Engineering (Water Use)

(C) Do this for historical, contemporary and future system states

#### GOAL: Data Consolidation (Creation of an integrated NEESPI Central-Asian data and analysis system, built on our current Arctic-RIMS framework)

ArcticRIMS DATA SYSTEM A Regionally Integrated Monitoring System

- Coordinated Geospatial Data Sets
- On-screen Roving and Interaction
- Data Mining Tool
- Multi-Dimensional Queries
- Archival, Real-Time Station Data and Gridded Fields
- Web-based with On-line Data Downloads
- <u>http://RIMS.unh.edu</u>

NEW: Operational satellites data; water use; land cover change.



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Basin Name	Pan Arctic	
Receiving Ocean	Pan Arctic	

Mouse over			
Longitude	238.5		
Latitude	62.2		
Sea Basin	Beaufort Sea		
Basin	Mackenzie		
Mean Elevation 🔽	375 m		
Minimum Elevation 🔽	166 m		
Maximum Elevation	713 m		

Data for Selected Grid Cell			
Longitude	0.0		
Latitude	90.0		
Sea Basin	Ocean or Lakes		
Basin	Ocean or Lakes		
Mean Elevation	NA m		
Minimum Elevation	NA m		
Maximum Elevation	NA m		

#### New River Discharge and Water Use Data for Central Asia (ready to be integrated in CA-RIMS)



Southern NEESPI, RIMS-Central Asian domain. The Central Asian States within the NEESPI region showing principal rivers and locally generated runoff from the UNH Water Balance Model. Points represent a subset of river discharge gauges from ArcticRIMS and R-ArcticNET v3.0 (Lammers et al., 2001, Shiklomanov et al., 2002) (red triangles) and the remaining points (white triangles) were assembled from lists of known stations found in SHI, St. Petersburg. Red lines show borders of the five Central Asian nations, and thin gray lines represent major drainage basins (from STN-06, the UNH 6 minute gridded river network). It clear from this map that most of the regional local runoff formation, and therefore river discharge, is generated in Kyrgystan and Tajikistan. Monthly hydrographs over long-time periods are shown for upstream (red line) and downstream gauges on Amu Darya and Syr Darya rivers.

#### Historical in situ data

698 New River Discharge Gauges (monthly discharge, monthly and max sediment discharge, max and min daily discharge97 River Gauges with annual water use data (withdrawal, diversions, inlets)

#### New remote sensing data for RIMS-CA



Start of Vegetation Cycle MODIS 8-days period

Data for CA derived from the MODIS reflectance products (500m spatial resolution, 8 days temporal resolution):

- Number of growing seasons
- Timing of growing seasons
- Wetlands/Irrigated Areas



#### Number of vegetation cycles

GOAL: Diagnostic Analysis: To execute a series of hydrological simulation experiments to directly test the proposed hypothesis. Two components:

<u>Combined Impacts:</u> To assess the net impact of the combined effects of natural and anthropogenic sources of change in the patterns of hydrological variability in Central Asia.

<u>Relative Contributions:</u> To identify and rank the sources of change on the hydrology of Central Asian States.



## **EXPERIMENTS STRATEGY**

Table: Central Asian Change Assessment Experiments					
Historical (Present Day)			Future		
GOAL 1	GOAL 2		GOAL 3		
Comprehensive Scenario (Baseline)	Single Change Scenarios	Paired (Coupled) Scenarios	Future Scenario		
<b>C1:</b> Combined Land use/cover, human water use and climate changes, Present conditions representing the past 50 years	<b>S1:</b> Land use/cover change only	<b>P1:</b> Land use/cover and human water use changes only	<b>F1:</b> Develop data sets and simulations based on expertise from the research community via special sessions organized specifically		
	<b>S2:</b> Human water use change only	<b>P2:</b> Land use/cover and climate changes only			
	<b>S3:</b> Climate change only	<b>P3:</b> Human water use and climate changes only	for this task at the NEESPI meetings throughout the life of the project.		

### What is a major contributor to changes in CA water cycle ?

- 1. Progressive change in climate & climate variability,
- 2. Land use/cover change
- 3. Water engineering.



Contributions of different Earth system components contributing to Yenisei river discharge variation (updated from Shiklomanov, 1996)

**GOAL:** Future Trends: To assess how vulnerable the NEESPI Central Asian human and economic system is to ongoing changes in the land use/land cover, water use and operation of major water engineering works, and climate change.

Climate Model Future Scenario Characteristics						
Profile	SRES A1 B	SRES A2	SRES B1			
Population growth	Low	High	Low			
GDP gr owth	Very high	Med iu m	High			
Ener gy us e	Very high	High	Low			
Land-use changes	Low	Med iu m / High	High			
Resource availability	Med iu m	Low	Low			
Pace of technological change	Rapid	Slow	Med iu m			

#### We incorporated in our experimental tools regional SED SIC model



Socio-economic development model SIC ICWC for land and water development scenarios

# THANK YOU