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Can better governance alone solve water management related problems? Iskandar Abdullaev- Regional Advisor, GIZ



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Good Governance

- elected and accountable to the citizens
- responsive, participatory, transparent, equitable, accountable, consensus oriented, effective and efficient and directed toward strategic vision
- Governing water wisely through good governance - involvement of the public and the stakeholders in the management of water resources





Research questions

- How water governance can succeed in nondemocratic regimes
- Can citizens pay for the better water governance in poor economies
- Can only water governance improvements handle water problems



Can good governance take place in non democratic societies

- Core ideas of water governance and IWRM build upon on democratic nature of the societies
- Pre-condition for the successful water governance interventions- states must be a democratic:
 - e.g., in Central Asia, South Asian countries Afghanistan
- In non-democratic, state-centric and autocratic regimes good water governance is not possible



Technical and technological aspects of water management

- Technical component of the water management interventions are equally important as governance package of reforms
- Promotion of the water sector reforms has been only governance, IWRM oriented
- The same time, research progress on in water sector has been great
- Technical interventions into the water sector have been unacceptably slow

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Is water governance reforms "free of charge"?

- Better water governance- costly adventure
- Water sector reforms less financial, budgetary burden to the state treasuries and more costs for the water users
- De-centralized, user-participation modes of water management, irrigation management transfer -financial obligations for the water users
- In states where governments are not democratic such support should come from the water users, who in most of the cases are poor.