



GLOBAL INITIATIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN



Water Year 2003



WATER FOR LIFE
2005-2015



WATER
ACTION DECADE
2018-2028



2025
International
Year of Glaciers'
Preservation



**WORLD
FOOTBALL
DAY**
25 MAY

**INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF TOURISM AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP OF TAJIKISTAN**

**RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
AND GREEN ECONOMY**

**GLOBAL INITIATIVES OF THE
REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN**

DUSHANBE-2025

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PREFACE

At the beginning of the 21st century, the international community faced new global challenges, among which climate change, ecosystem degradation, rapid glacier retreat, freshwater scarcity, and the aggravation of the humanitarian consequences of environmental crises occupy a special place. These threats recognize no national borders and call for coordinated action by all countries. This is why the initiatives of states that make a tangible contribution to shaping the international environmental and climate agenda acquire particular importance. In this process, the Republic of Tajikistan holds a special place, having become a recognized leader in water and climate diplomacy.

One of the key factors that has defined Tajikistan's international standing is the leadership of the Founder of Peace and National Unity – the Leader of the Nation, President of the Republic of Tajikistan, His Excellency Emomali Rahmon. His strategic vision and political will have elevated environmental issues to the level of central questions on the global agenda. Sustained by over two decades of persistent Tajik diplomacy, a series of resolutions initiated by Tajikistan have been adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, making a substantial contribution to the evolution of international mechanisms for the sustainable management of water and natural resources.

The first step was the adoption, at the initiative of Tajikistan, of United Nations General Assembly Resolution 55/196 of 20 December 2000, which proclaimed 2003 as the International Year of Freshwater. This initiative was driven by the recognition that access to safe drinking water is a cornerstone of human development, as well as of global food and energy security.

The proclamation of the International Year of Freshwater marked a turning point: for the first time in history, water resource issues were placed at the center of the global environmental agenda. A logical continuation was the initiation and endorsement of the International Decade for Action “Water for Life” (2005-2015), enshrined in United Nations Resolution 58/217 of 23 December 2003. This step underscored the need to move from declarations to concrete measures aimed at expanding global access to freshwater and sanitation, as well as at developing sustainable models of water resource management. During the decade, under the auspices of the United Nations, hundreds of projects were implemented in various regions of the world, aimed at improving water supply, raising awareness, and fostering international cooperation.

A new global initiative of Tajikistan was embodied in United Nations General Assembly Resolution 71/222 of 21 December 2016, which proclaimed the years 2018–2028 as the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”. This initiative was aimed at comprehensively uniting the efforts of states to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), first and foremost SDG 6: “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all”.

Within the framework of the Decade, high-level international conferences were held in Dushanbe, bringing together heads of state, representatives of international organizations, scholars, and experts. These forums served as a platform for developing coordinated solutions on integrated water resources management and transboundary cooperation.

The Republic of Tajikistan, with its unique mountain ecosystems and as the country most vulnerable to glacier melt, put forward yet another global environmental initiative. At the proposal of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, His Excellency Emomali Rahmon, in 2022 the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution proclaiming 2025 as the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation, as well as establishing the annual International Day of Glaciers (21 March). This initiative reflects the particular importance of mountain ecosystems for Central Asia, where glaciers provide up to 60% of river flow and serve as the primary source of freshwater.

The establishment of the International Day of Glaciers marked a new stage in the evolution of global climate diplomacy. It made it possible to unite the efforts of states, scientific institutions, and international organizations to monitor the state of the cryosphere, mobilize financial resources, and develop adaptation strategies. An important outcome was the establishment of the International Glacier Protection Fund in Dushanbe, which is set to serve as an instrument for long-term support of scientific research and practical measures to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

All global initiatives are inextricably linked with the name of the Founder of Peace and National Unity – the Leader of the Nation, President of the Republic of Tajikistan, His Excellency Emomali Rahmon. His leadership, diplomatic persistence, and strategic vision have not only given international resonance to the environmental challenges of Central Asia but have also shaped a new model of participation for small states in addressing global issues.

The Head of State has convincingly demonstrated to the international community that water and climate issues are not merely regional, but universal challenges that directly affect the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. His initiatives have garnered the support of an overwhelming majority of UN Member States, underscoring their high relevance and global significance.

In this way, the global initiatives of the Republic of Tajikistan have emerged as key milestones in the evolution of international cooperation on sustainable development, environmental protection, and climate diplomacy. Beyond shaping institutional mechanisms, they have added new substance to the global environmental agenda, underscoring its humanitarian and civilizational aspects.

The materials presented in this journal demonstrate the significance and multifaceted nature of Tajikistan's initiatives, while also reflecting the country's experience, which may serve as an example for the international community in the search for fair and long-term solutions to global environmental challenges.