

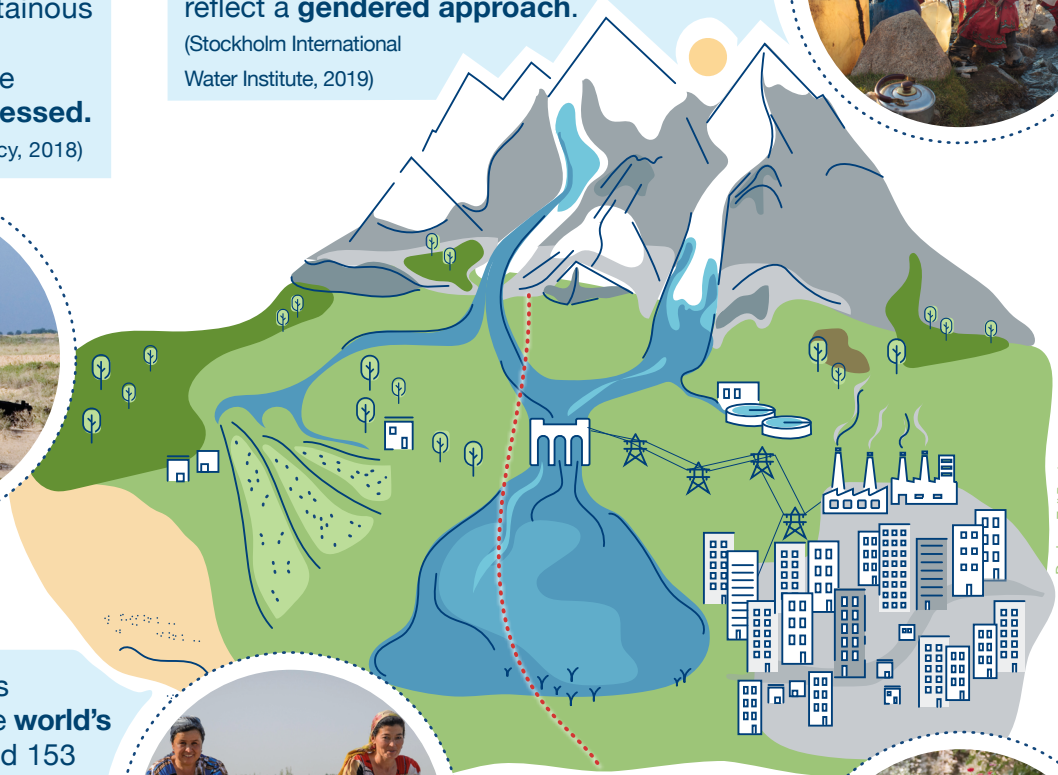
# WOMEN IN WATER MANAGEMENT IN CENTRAL ASIA

## Transboundary water resources

Almost 90% of the people living in Central Asia rely on water that comes from precipitation in mountainous regions. Four of the Central Asia states are considered **water-stressed**.  
(European Environment Agency, 2018)

Women are often **underrepresented** in transboundary water management, especially at higher levels of **decision-making**. Though the importance of including women in water management structures is beginning to receive increased recognition internationally, in practice laws and organizations seldom reflect a **gendered approach**.

(Stockholm International Water Institute, 2019)



Design: Zor Environment Network

Transboundary waters account for 60% of the **world's freshwater flows**, and 153 **countries share** at least one transboundary river, lake basin or aquifer system.  
(United Nations, 2021)



The two largest rivers of Central Asia – the **Amu Darya** and the **Syr Darya** – are transboundary. Their river basins provide 90% of the region's river water.

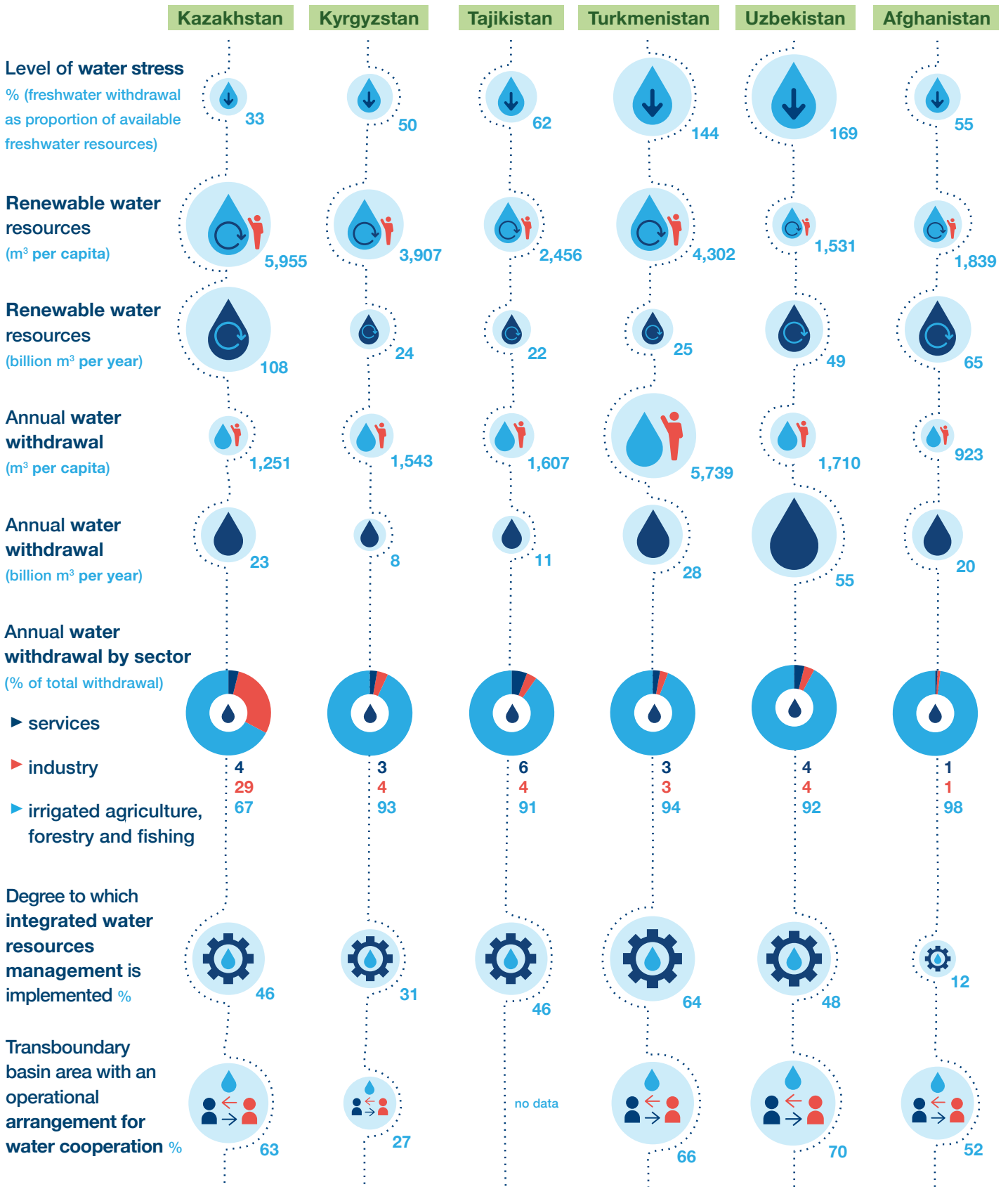
(European Environment Agency, 2018)



In 2021 the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) launched a **Mentoring and Career Development Programme** for women water professionals in partnership with the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) and the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI). Each month 20 women meet with experts and mentors to discuss challenges that women face in the water sector and to take part in capacity-building activities.



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Sources: WB 2017 & UN-Water 2019