

***Trade, water management, food
security and the circular economy in the
SPECA region***

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1. Food security

Food availability: Food must be available in sufficient quantity and on a continuous basis.

Access to food:

people should be able to get enough food on a regular basis.

Food Use: The food consumed must have a positive nutritional value.

2. Sustainable agriculture

Ensuring stable nutrition, jobs and incomes without negative consequences for the future

3. Sustainable trade

SPECA sustainable trade principles:

Responsible, sustainable trade practices that support sustainable development.

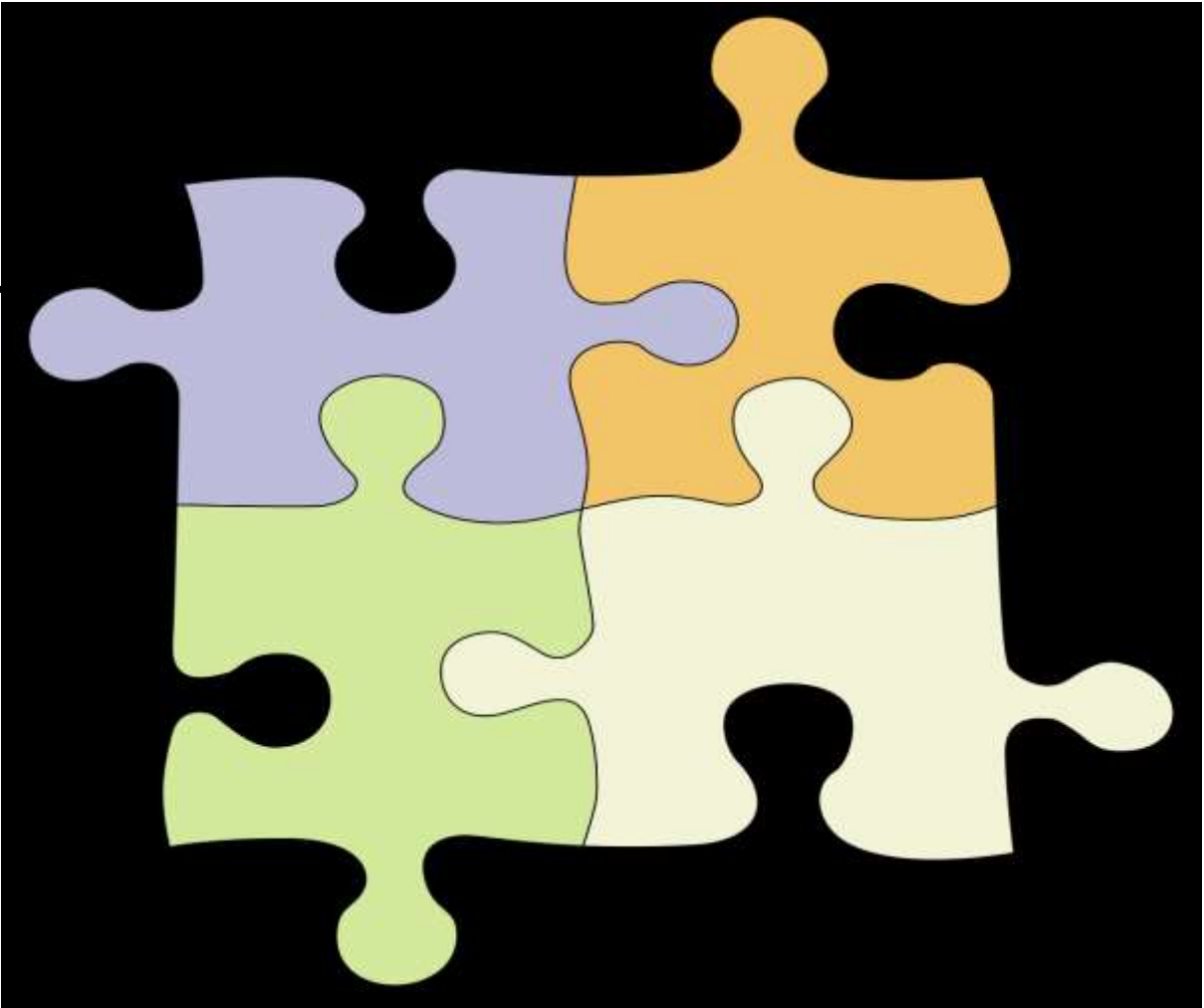
4. Sustainable water management

More efficient use of water for irrigation and energy production is a must.

Too much water is being used for irrigation

Climate change will make things worse

Policy Components



sustainable
control
water
resources

sustainable
trade

Food security

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sustainable
agriculture

Sounds interesting - but what are you talking about? Example?

- ▶ **Countries produce irrigated (often low quality) wheat using large amounts of water inefficiently**
- ▶ **The alternative would be**
 - ▶ **imported non-irrigated wheat,**
 - ▶ **grow high value crops for export to ensure better economic returns**
 - ▶ **improve irrigation efficiency, use less water**
- ▶ **Agriculture, trade, water and food policies play an important role in such development**

economic value of water

Economic value of water

<i>Country</i>	<i>Average \$/ m³ Cotton</i>	<i>Average \$/ m³ vegetables</i>
Kazakhstan	0.21	3.21
Kyrgyzstan	0.11	3.00
Tajikistan	0.15	4.54
Turkmenistan	0.06	7.03
Uzbekistan	0.59	6.72

Improved terms of trade

- ▶ Improve food security by importing essential products
- ▶ To make the export of agricultural valuable (including perishable) products more stable
- ▶ Invest in more efficient irrigation methods
- ▶ Promote confidence-building, including through the creation of shared supply chains

Examples of Recommended Actions - 1

1. Focus on sustainable trade
2. Promote professional understanding of the relationship between trade, the circular economy and sustainable development.
3. Promote market relations in agriculture, including for organic products.

Examples of Recommended Actions - 2

4. A food security policy analysis
5. Develop a national policy to improve the efficiency of water and energy use
6. Negotiate cooperation agreements across the river basin/sub-region as a whole for more efficient, sustainable use of water resources

Relevant UNECE contribution - 1

- **Principles of sustainable trade** (including country profiles and a new project on the application of sustainable trade)
- SPECA Trade Facilitation Strategy Agricultural Standards
- Good practices to reduce food losses Transparency and traceability of sustainable value chains
- UN/CEFACT Standards for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business

Relevant UNECE policy input - 2

- **National Water Policy**
- **Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystem**
- **Transboundary water cooperation**

Building confidence between countries is a necessary condition

Strengthening mutual trust between countries is a long-term task. Goodwill and good faith cooperation must be deepened step by step. Cooperation on trade policy could be an important component.