

Coordination Across Stakeholders

This component will promote collaboration with the stakeholders aimed at consolidating and/or efficiently utilizing available resources, avoiding duplication of efforts and attaining better results. The ASPIRED Project team will engage into partnerships with various stakeholders during implementation of pilot projects, research and analysis.



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The Project partners are the USAID Global Development Lab, the US Geological Survey, Jefferson Science Fellowship Program, other related USAID projects in Armenia, private sector, research organizations and donors.

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*Advanced Science &
Partnerships for Integrated
Resource Development
Project
ASPIRED*

The purpose of the USAID-funded Advanced Science & Partnerships for Integrated Resource Development (ASPIRED) Project is to support sustainable water resource management and sustainable practices of water users in the Ararat Valley through the use of science, technology, innovation and partnership initiatives. The ultimate goal is to reduce the rate of groundwater extraction in the Ararat Valley to the sustainable levels.

To this end, the ASPIRED Project will be focused on several critical areas:

1. Water resource data
2. Technology
3. Water regulation and enforcement
4. Coordination across stakeholders



Water Resource Data

Under this component, the ASPIRED Project will conduct a comprehensive inventory of the hydrological system in the Ararat Valley to update existing information.

The ASPIRED Project will create a geo-coded, real time, publicly open data system for the Ararat Valley to include integrated water resource datasets which are currently at possession of multiple stakeholders. A tool for hydro-geological modeling and decisions support will be created to produce reports based on high-quality, real-time monitoring data.

In partnership with the Government of Armenia and other stakeholders, the ASPIRED Project will develop the plan for decentralized sustainable groundwater resource monitoring in the Ararat Valley.

Technology

Locally appropriate and cost effective water and energy efficiency technologies will be piloted at fish farms and other water use areas in the Ararat Valley. Pilot projects will be aimed at improving management of natural resources and reducing groundwater extraction levels at fish farms operating in the Ararat Valley.

A related goal is to make water users more energy efficient and promote application of clean energy technologies. The ASPIRED Project will also develop and pilot at least one technology for permanent closure of illegal and/or abandoned wells.

Important criteria for pilot projects will be their replicability potential for adoption by other fish farms, affordability, long-term maintenance and accessibility on the local market.

Water Regulation and Enforcement

The ASPIRED Project will carry out analysis of the water fee rates and come up with recommendations to the Government of Armenia. The Project will also work closely with the local state agencies responsible for oversight and enforcement to address their technical and knowledge gaps in groundwater resource use monitoring with the application of advanced technologies.

