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ADVANCED SCIENCE AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR
INTEGRATED RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

NEW IRRIGATION SYSTEM FOR SAYAT-NOVA COMMUNITY



New pumping station built at the fish-farm.

The Project benefits 252 people from 98 households and returns to cultivation 60 hectares of land which have been left idle for the last 15 years. The annual groundwater savings due to the project are estimated to 1.9 cubic meters of water.



Outlet water from the fishery is pumped into the neighboring fields.

In September 2018, the USAID-funded Advanced Science and Partnerships for Integrated Resource Development (ASPIRED) Project completed the irrigation improvement project in Sayat-Nova community in Ararat region. The project was a collaborative effort with the USAID's Partnerships for Rural Prosperity Project, implemented by the SME Development National Center, the Fund for Armenian Relief and Sayat-Nova community.

60 hectares of community farmlands will be irrigated using the outlet water of Masis-Dzuk fishery which was previously damped into the drainage network. The project will provide a more affordable irrigation service and contribute to a more efficient use of the groundwater resources by the fish-farm. The annual savings of groundwater resources is estimated to nearly 1.9 mln. cubic meters of water.

The Project built a new pumping station at the fish-farm and a new irrigation network with more durable polyethylene pipes. Water quality tests proved the secondary use of the outlet water from this fishery is suitable for irrigation. The ASPIRED Project conducted the training on sustainable farming practices and safe use of fertilizers for the beneficiaries of the project.

At present, 252 people from 98 households will benefit from an opportunity to cultivate their farmlands that had been left idle for the last 15 years. The new irrigation system has a potential for expansion to cover up to 190 hectares of community land, thus benefitting the entire community.

Following the example of Hayanist, Sayat-Nova is the second community where the ASPIRED project jointly with its partners has implemented an irrigation project, highlighting the secondary use of fish-farm water as an alternative and environmentally sustainable solution to the irrigation issue in the region. This approach can be effectively replicated by other communities in the region to address the valley's increasing demand for irrigation water.