

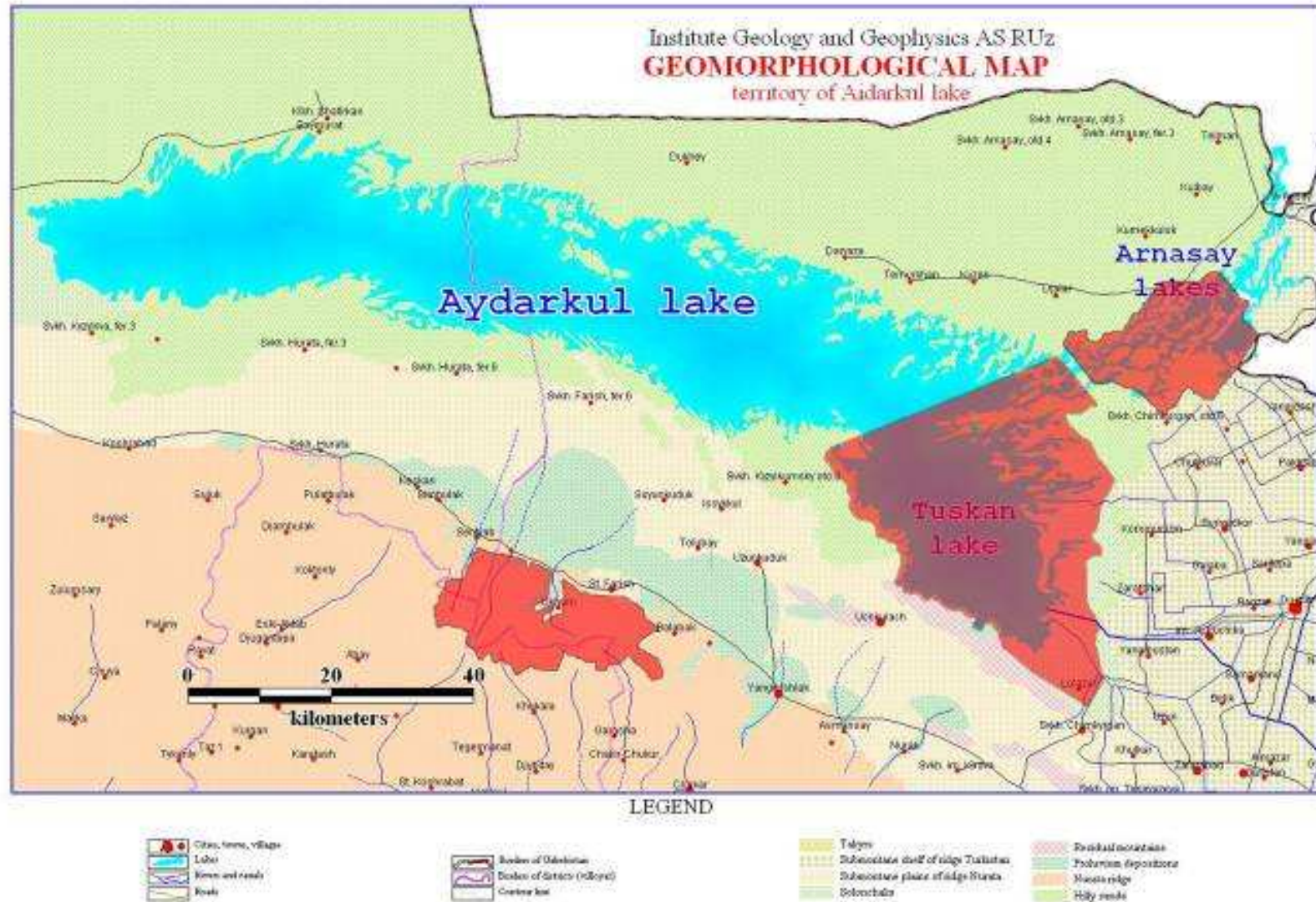
The Aidar-Arnasay system of the Syrdary river basin

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KAZ, TUR and UZB



The Aidar-Arnasay system of the Syrdary river basin



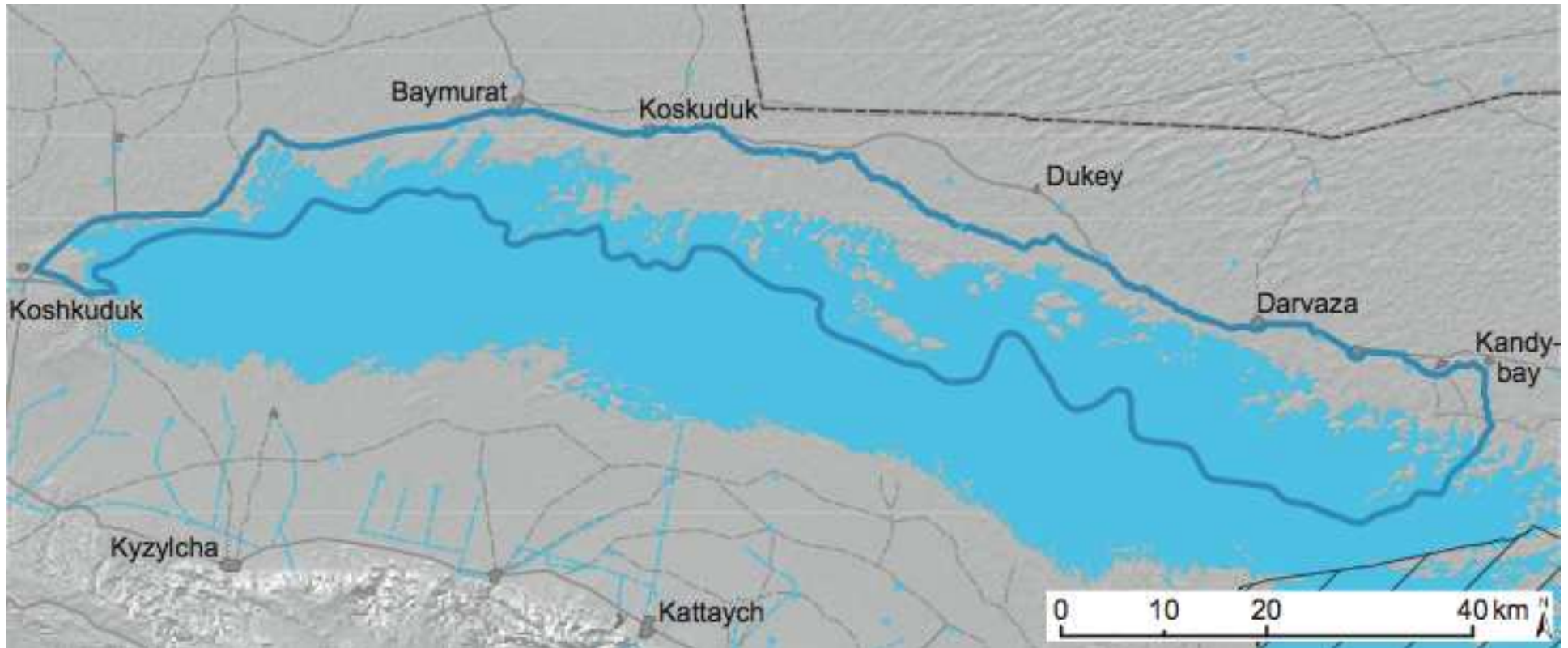
Description

- Man-made system which emerged in the late 60ties when Syr Darya was dammed up
- System includes 3 brackish water lakes (Aidar-Kul, Arnasay and Tuzkan)
- Located in the salines of south-eastern Kyzylkum
- 3,000 km² and one of the largest lakes in the region

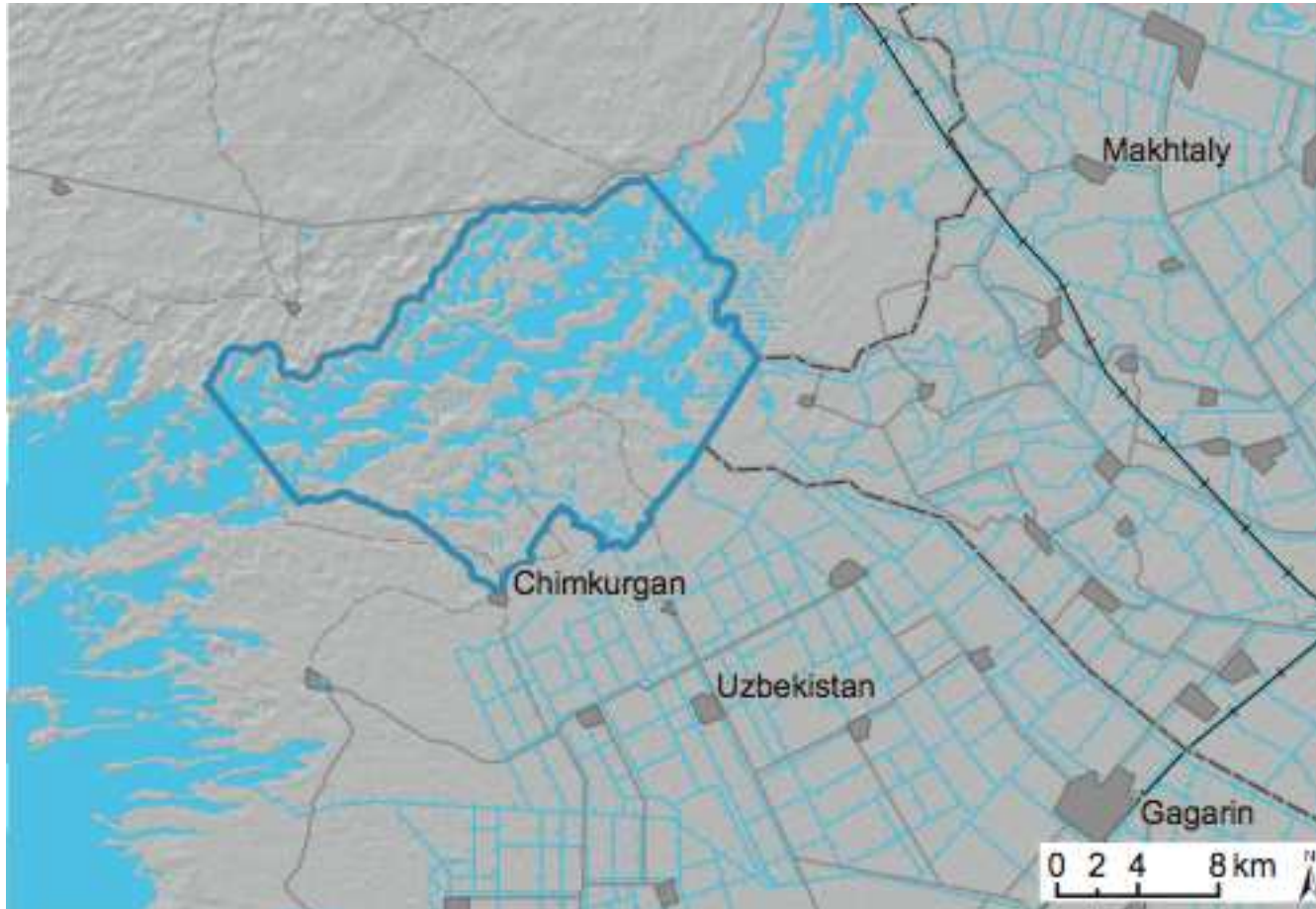
socio economics

- Low population living around lake
- A number of fish introduced and now a source for commercial fishing (up to 2,000 t of fish/year)
- Subsistence fishing
- Important for recreation (hunting, fishing and non-consumptive)
- Harvest of reeds and other plants

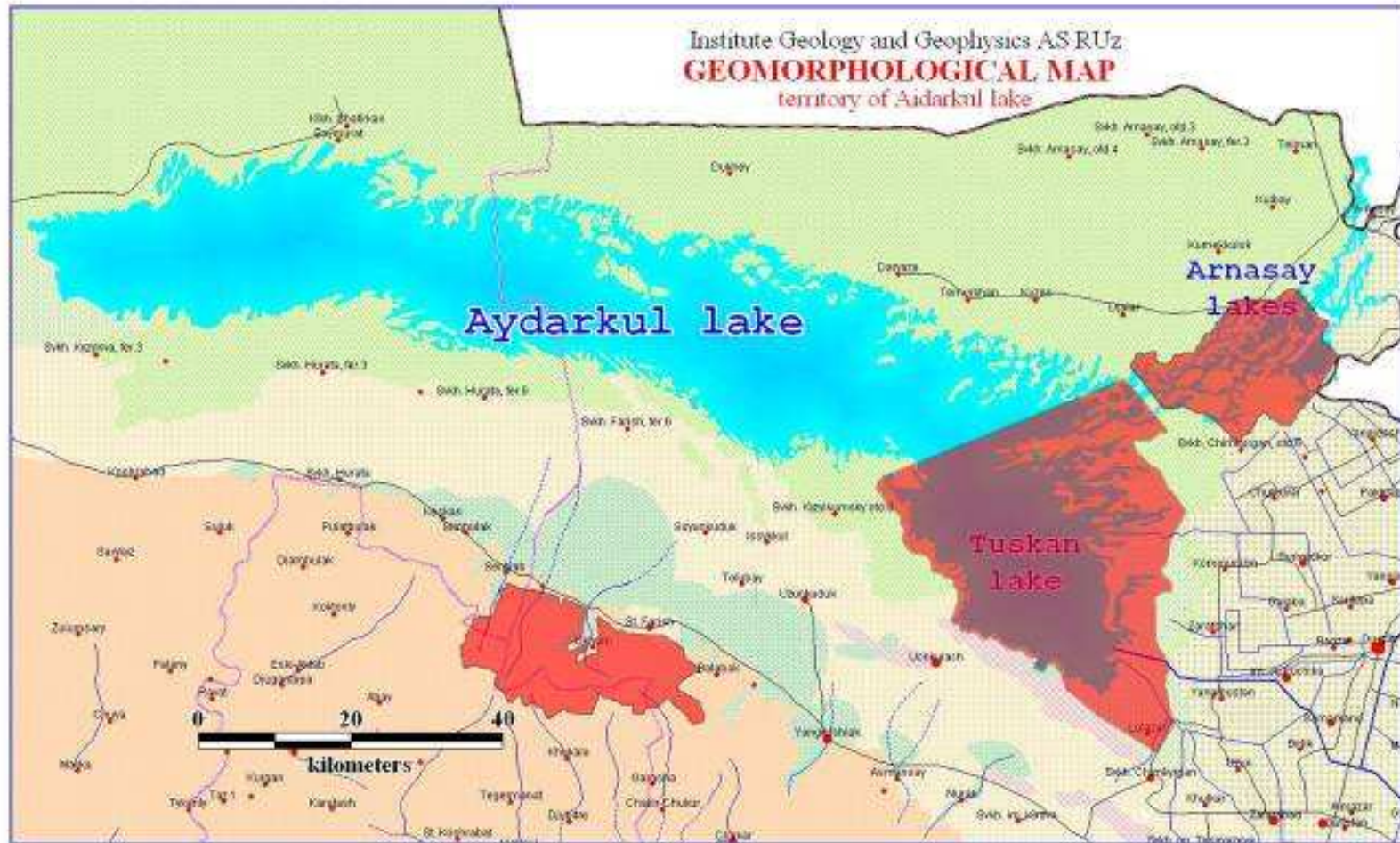
Biodiversity values – IBA Northern Shore of Aidarkul Lake



Biodiversity values – IBA Arnasay Lake System



IBAs Arnasay Lake System and Northern Shores of Aydarkul Lake



LEGEND

Cities, towns, villages
 Lake
 River and roads
 Roads

Basin of Dzhirgatal
 Basin of Sirtak (Kobul)
 Contour line

Talysh
 Subcoastal shelf of ridge Tullistak
 Subcoastal plain of ridge Tullistak
 Dolomitic

Erosional mountains
 Proluvium deposits
 Mesoridge
 Hill lands

biodiversity facts

- A designated Ramsar site but not protected under national legislation
- Is situated on the Central Asian migratory flyway and serves as a congregation site for migratory and wintering waterbirds (high numbers >190,000 wintering birds (2000))
- Fulfills 4 IBA criteria
- Important for IUCN Red List Central Asian Tortoise *Testudo horsfieldii* (VU) and Goitered Gazelle *Gazella sub-gutturosa* (VU)
- Arnasay Lake system (1 IBA criteria) important for GTS Ferruginous Duck and others

pressure factors

- After construction of the Arnasay reservoir the general flow of water into the lake decreased
- Built of additional dam upper of Churdarya will reduce flow into the system
- Bottom gill nets present a serious threat to waterbirds, especially diving species
- Degradation of the desert around livestock farms as the result of intensive cattle grazing and firewood collection.
- The invasive Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis* is also expanding into the desert areas.
- Uncontrolled hunting, fishing and water use

transboundary management

- Only framework agreements which require annual and complicated negotiations between the four states of the river basin
- Uzbekistan resistant to sign a multilateral agreement between the four range states and only agrees to bilateral agreements
- Transparent regional plans and strategies which regulate water needs/use and distribution covering the river basin don't exist
- Dissagreements on designation of Aidarkul lake as Ramsar Site by the Uzbekistan government