

Mr. Mansurjon Tashpulatov from Uzbekistan

My name is Mansurjon Tashpulatov, and I work in the Department of Hydrogeology and Engineering Geology, Geo-ecological Works of the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Geology and Mineral Resources. This department performs the following functions:

- Supports the activities of corporate hydrogeological, engineering geological, and geo-ecological work, to ensure quality and improve efficiency through the use of advanced production techniques, methods, and technologies
- Monitors the implementation of activities in mountainous areas that have a high risk of severe landslides and avalanches (especially in the spring-autumn seasons)
- Performs management activities to prevent the catastrophic effects of dangerous geological processes
- Provides instructions for hydrogeological, engineering geological, and geo-ecological work, builds water storage tanks that use underground water, and develops protective measures against landslides and avalanches in mountainous areas



The study of geology in Central Asia began when the first geological maps and mineral reports for the region around Turkestan were created in the 1900s. In 1920, Central Asia University (now the National University of Uzbekistan) began offering training for geologists. In 1926, the Central Asia Department of the Committee of Geology (which was renamed the Central Asia Regional Geological Survey (SARGRU) in 1930) was organized. The Central Asia Geology Trust was established in 1937, followed by the establishment of the Uzbek Geological Agency of the Committee on Geology and Subsoil Protection in the USSR in 1938.

From 1941 to 1945, the Uzbek Geological Agency purposefully carried out prospecting and exploration for fuel and energy resources. From 1946 to 1957, geological researchers conducted surveys to explore for petroleum, gas, rare and precious metals, chemicals and industrial minerals, and construction materials. In 1957, experts from various ministries and departments were gathered to form the new General Geology and Subsoil Protection Office within the Cabinet Council. On 17 January 2007, a presidential order calling for "radical improvements [to exploration activities] through the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Geology and Mineral Resources" provided a powerful stimulus to development efforts, which have continued to the present day.

During my internship at ADRC, I would like to learn about Japanese monitoring systems and the issuance of early warnings to the public about potential landslides and mudslides. The

geologic fold zone of Central Asia extends across about 56 million hectares. Many residential areas are located in river basins, and the population in these areas, which is now about 15-17 million people, is increasing. Also there are more than 3,000 glacial mountain lakes. Landslide monitoring in Uzbekistan began in 1958. At present, the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Geology and Mineral Resources manages these efforts and has established monitoring stations in seven regions. About 750 to 800 landslides are measured every year, and observations are conducted at 78 areas with a high landslide risk. These landslides all cause major landmass displacement.

As Japan is a leader in the field of disaster risk management, I would like to learn more about best practices in this country, especially about the activities of Japanese monitoring services in place for hazardous geological processes. I am confident that the knowledge I will gain will be useful in reducing the damage caused by mudslides, landslides, and earthquakes in Uzbekistan. It will also contribute to monitoring activities and the issuance of warnings in hazard-prone regions and will help improve the safety of people living in mountainous regions. Finally, I would like to thank all those who helped organize our trip to Japan, and made our visit so fruitful.