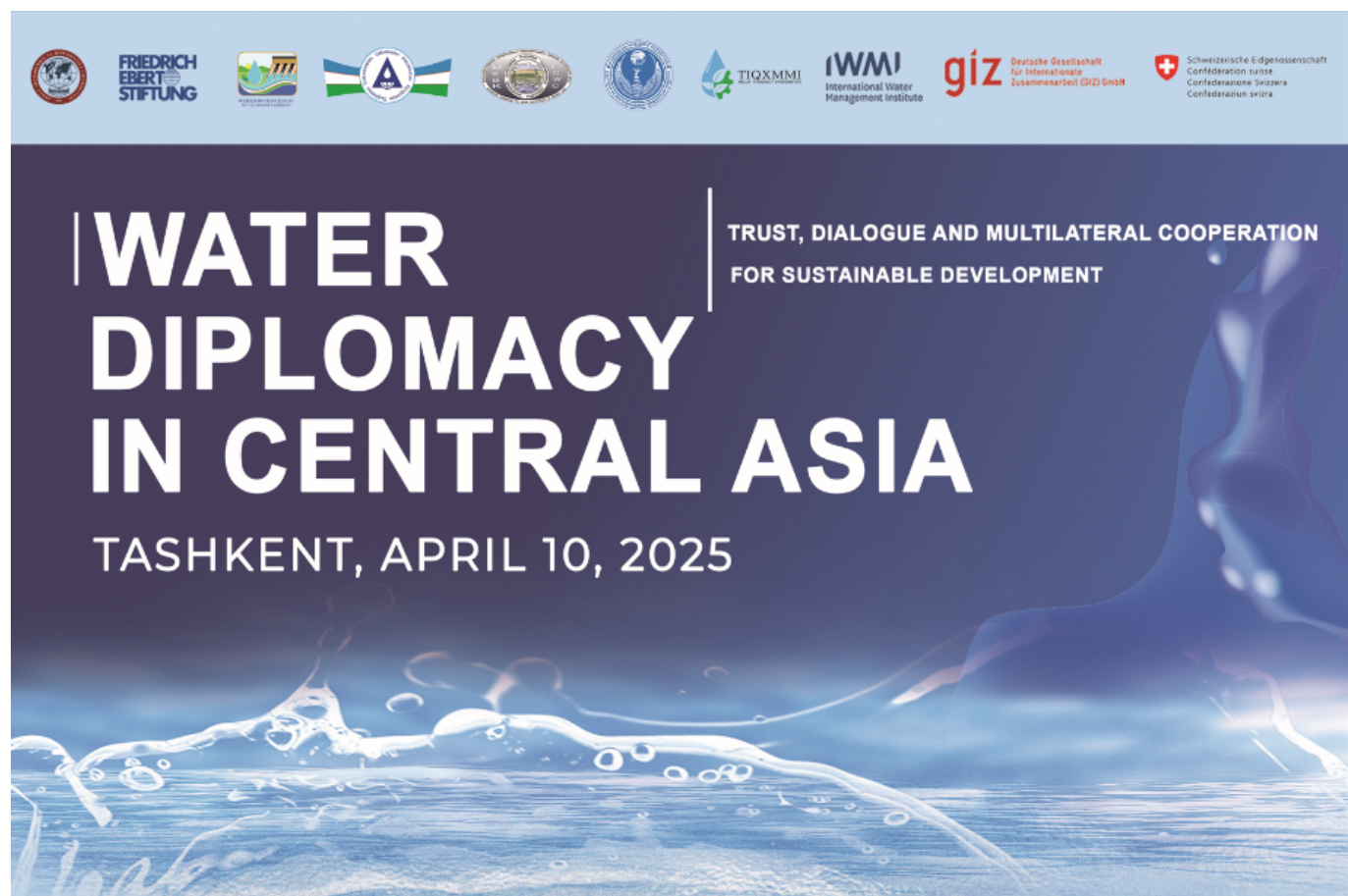


Tashkent to host international scientific and practical conference on water diplomacy



On April 10 this year, Tashkent will host an International Scientific and Practical Conference on the topic: "Water Diplomacy in Central Asia: Trust, Dialogue and Multilateral Cooperation for Sustainable Development."

The event is organized by the Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan together with the Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan and "TIAME" National Research University with the support of Friedrich Ebert Foundation, International Water Management Institute, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, and the German Agency for International Cooperation.

The unique platform will unite over 100 participants from more than 10 countries and for the first time will gather on one site prominent experts from all states of the Aral Sea basin, including specialists from strategic institutions and water management agencies of Central Asia, Afghanistan, as well as Asia, Europe, the CIS, etc.

The conference will also be attended by representatives of diplomatic missions in Uzbekistan and delegations from about 15 international and regional organizations, including the United Nations Regional Center for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA), the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC), the Scientific Information Center of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination (SIC ICWC), the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS), etc.

In recent years, water diplomacy has become the most important tool for promoting an effective model of water cooperation development in Central Asia. In this regard, interesting discussions and productive exchange of views are expected with elaboration of a number of proposals and recommendations for

expanding this area of cooperation.

The Conference will be a significant contribution of Central Asian countries to the development of conceptual frameworks for water diplomacy, strengthening *their positions as active participants in shaping the international water cooperation agenda*.

The forum will be held at the TIAME National Research University as part of the celebration of the 90th anniversary of the unique educational institution, with about 300 domestic and foreign scientists from more than 20 countries participating.