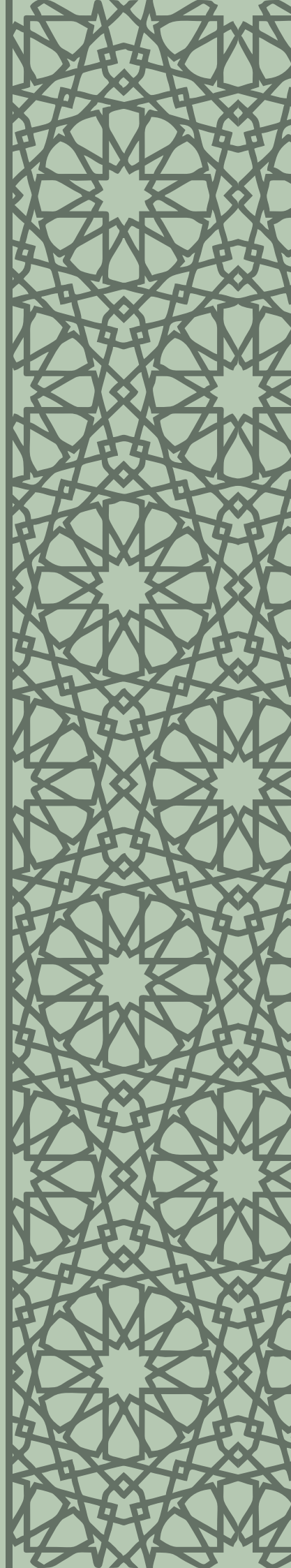


# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY





# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## States Parties

Republic of Uzbekistan  
Republic of Tajikistan  
Turkmenistan

## State, Province or Region

**Republic of Uzbekistan**  
Bukhara Region  
Navoi Region  
Samarkand Region

## Name of property

Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor

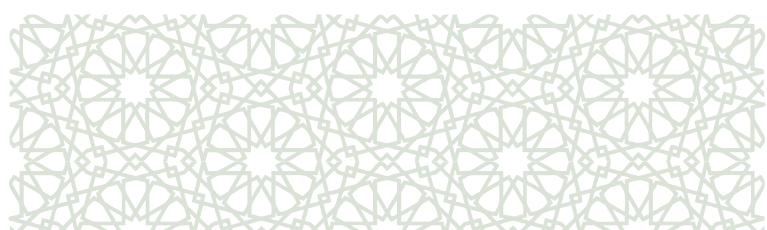
**Republic of Tajikistan**  
Sughd Region

**Turkmenistan**  
Lebap Region  
Mary Region

## Geographical Coordinates to the Nearest Second

Id	Name of the Component Part	Country, Region	Coordinates of the Central Point	Map
TJ-01	<b>Khisorak Settlement</b>	Republic of Tajikistan, Sughd Region	N 39° 26' 29,365" E 69° 41' 8,006"	TJ-01
TJ-02	<b>Castle on Mount Mugh</b>	Republic of Tajikistan, Sughd Region	N 39° 27' 16,203" E 68° 24' 47,446"	TJ-02
TJ-03	<b>Kum Settlement</b>	Republic of Tajikistan, Sughd Region	N 39° 25' 0,103" E 68° 23' 35,291"	TJ-03
TJ-04	<b>Gardani Khisor Settlement</b>	Republic of Tajikistan, Sughd Region	N 39° 25' 21,411" E 68° 20' 45,257"	TJ-04
TJ-05	<b>Tali Khamtuda Fortress</b>	Republic of Tajikistan, Sughd Region	N 39° 23' 34,131" E 67° 52' 0,301"	TJ-05
TJ-06	<b>Mausoleum of Khoja Mukhammad Bashoro</b>	Republic of Tajikistan, Sughd Region	N 39° 23' 15,385" E 67° 51' 8,033"	TJ-06
TJ-07	<b>Toksankoriz Irrigation System</b>	Republic of Tajikistan, Sughd Region	N 39° 27' 39,660" E 67° 43' 38,424"	TJ-07
TJ-08	<b>Sanjarshakh Settlement</b>	Republic of Tajikistan, Sughd Region	N 39° 29' 5,423" E 67° 43' 22,348"	TJ-08
TJ-09	<b>Town of Ancient Penjikent</b>	Republic of Tajikistan, Sughd Region	N 39° 29' 12,840" E 67° 37' 5,230"	TJ-09

<b>Id</b>	<b>Name of the Component Part</b>	<b>Country, Region</b>	<b>Coordinates of the Central Point</b>	<b>Map</b>
UZ-01	<b>Jartepa II Temple</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Navoi Region	N 39° 31' 57,048" E 67° 20' 27,766"	UZ-01
UZ-02	<b>Suleimantepa</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Navoi Region	N 39° 22' 50,205" E 67° 14' 31,113"	UZ-02
UZ-03	<b>Kafirkala Settlement</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Navoi Region	N 39° 34' 19,668" E 67° 1' 14,472"	UZ-03
UZ-04	<b>Dabusiya Settlement</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Navoi Region	N 40° 1' 29,575" E 65° 46' 0,750"	UZ-04
UZ-05	<b>Kasim Sheikh Architectural Complex</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Navoi Region	N 40° 7' 59,913" E 65° 22' 2,667"	UZ-05
UZ-06	<b>Mir Sayid Bakhrom Mausoleum</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Navoi Region	N 40° 8' 34,405" E 65° 21' 40,524"	UZ-06
UZ-07a	<b>Rabati Malik Caravanserai</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Navoi Region	N 40° 7' 23,080" E 65° 8' 53,370"	UZ-07
UZ-07b	<b>Rabati Malik Sardoba</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Navoi Region	N 40° 7' 16,557" E 65° 8' 49,029"	UZ-07
UZ-08	<b>Deggaron Mosque</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Bukhara Region	N 40° 9' 18,137" E 65° 0' 41,251"	UZ-08
UZ-09	<b>Chasma-i Ayub Khazira</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Bukhara Region	N 39° 58' 13,280" E 64° 38' 11,290"	UZ-09
UZ-10	<b>Vardanze Settlement</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Bukhara Region	N 40° 9' 30,360" E 64° 26' 1,483"	UZ-10
UZ-11	<b>Vobkent Minaret</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Bukhara Region	N 40° 1' 10,893" E 64° 31' 4,738"	UZ-11
UZ-12	<b>Bahouddin Naqshband Architectural Complex</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Bukhara Region	N 39° 48' 8,572" E 64° 32' 14,023"	UZ-12
UZ-13	<b>Chor Bakr Necropolis</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Bukhara Region	N 39° 46' 28,200" E 64° 20' 4,860"	UZ-13
UZ-14	<b>Varakhsha Settlement</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Bukhara Region	N 39° 51' 48,337" E 64° 4' 23,172"	UZ-14
UZ-15	<b>Paikend Settlement</b>	Republic of Uzbekistan, Bukhara Region	N 39° 35' 7,736" E 64° 0' 40,903"	UZ-15
TM-01	<b>Amul Settlement</b>	Turkmenistan, Lebap Region	N 39° 1' 6,904" E 63° 35' 28,363"	TM-01
TM-02a	<b>Mansaf Caravanserai</b>	Turkmenistan, Lebap Region	N 38° 16' 8,690" E 62° 47' 52,577"	TM-02
TM-02b	<b>Mansaf Caravanserai</b>	Turkmenistan, Lebap Region	N 38° 16' 8,011" E 62° 47' 48,948"	TM-02
TM-03	<b>Konegala Caravanserai</b>	Turkmenistan, Mary Region	N 38° 14' 58,053" E 62° 46' 12,802"	TM-03



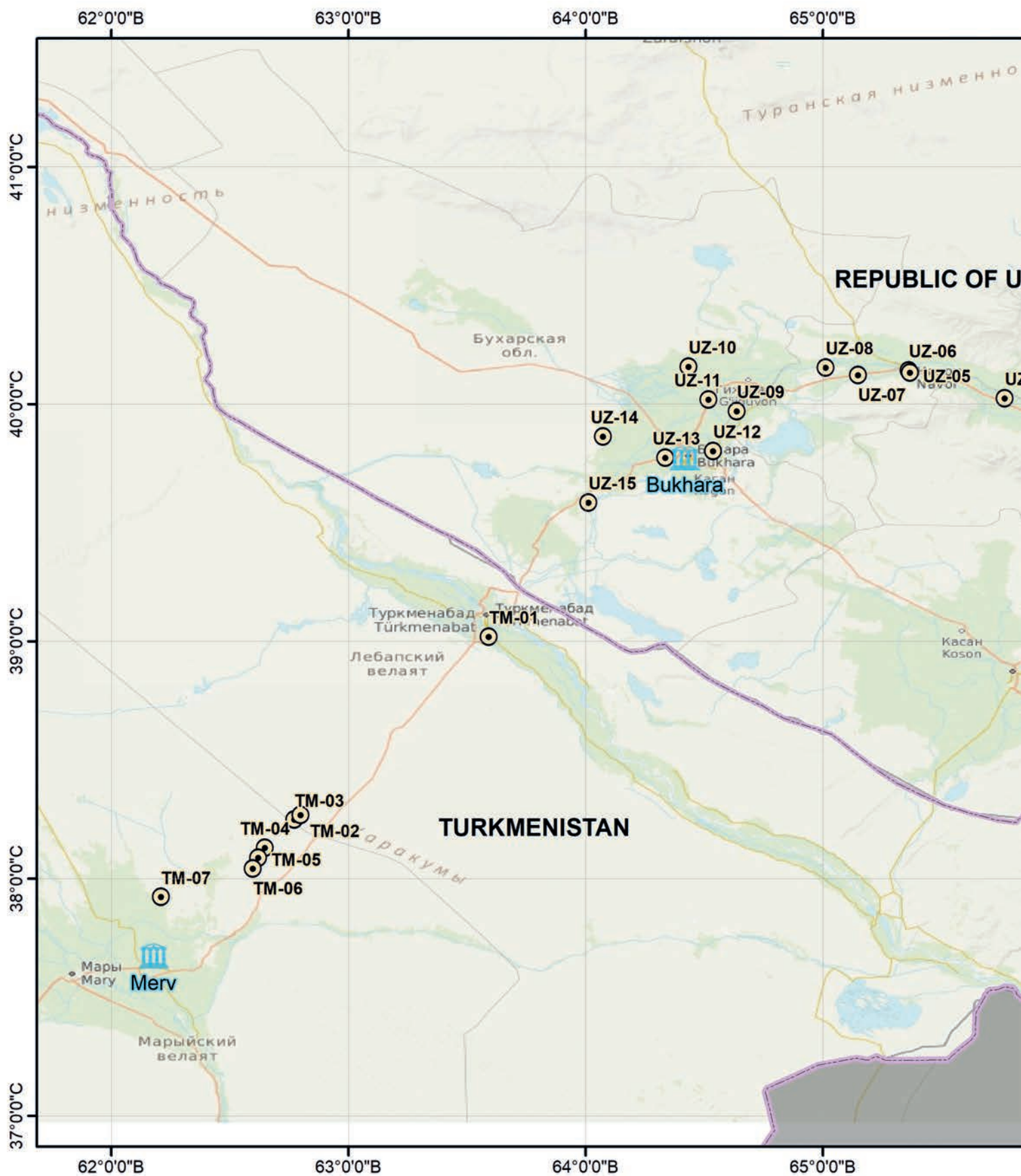


<b>Id</b>	<b>Name of the Component Part</b>	<b>Country, Region</b>	<b>Coordinates of the Central Point</b>	<b>Map</b>
TM-04	<b>Tahmalaj</b>	Turkmenistan, Mary Region	N 38° 7' 50,510" E 62° 38' 46,591"	TM-04
TM-05	<b>Akja Gala Caravanserai</b>	Turkmenistan, Mary Region	N 38° 5' 19,295" E 62° 37' 8,266"	TM-05
TM-06a	<b>Gyzylja Gala Caravanserai (Rabad al-Hadid)</b>	Turkmenistan, Mary Region	N 38° 2' 43,551" E 66° 35' 46,557"	TM-06
TM-06b	<b>Gyzylja Gala Caravanserai (Rabad al-Hadid)</b>	Turkmenistan, Mary Region	N 38° 2' 39,223" E 62° 35' 46,827"	TM-06
TM-07	<b>Kushmeihan (Dinli Kishman)</b>	Turkmenistan, Mary Region	N 37° 55' 17,241" E 62° 12' 29,122"	TM-07

## Textual Description of the Boundaries of the Nominated Property

The Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor covers a length of 866 km in Central Asia. It comprises 31 Component Parts, nine in the Republic of Tajikistan, 15 in the Republic of Uzbekistan and seven in Turkmenistan. The Corridor passes through the Sughd Region in Tajikistan; Samarkand, Navoi and Bukhara Regions in Uzbekistan, and Lebap and Mary Regions in Turkmenistan. It starts with Khisorak in Tajikistan and passes through the Castle on Mount Mugh, Kum settlement, Gardani Khisor settlement, Tali Khamtuda fortress, Mausoleum of Khoja Mukhammad Bashoro, Toksankoriz irrigation system and Town of Ancient Penjikent. Then, it reaches the Samarkand Region in Uzbekistan, including Jartepa II Temple, Suleimantepa, Kafirkala settlement and Dabusiya settlement. The Corridor continues in the Navoi Region with Kasim Sheikh Architectural Complex, Mir Sayid Bakhrom Mausoleum, Rabati Malik Caravanserai and

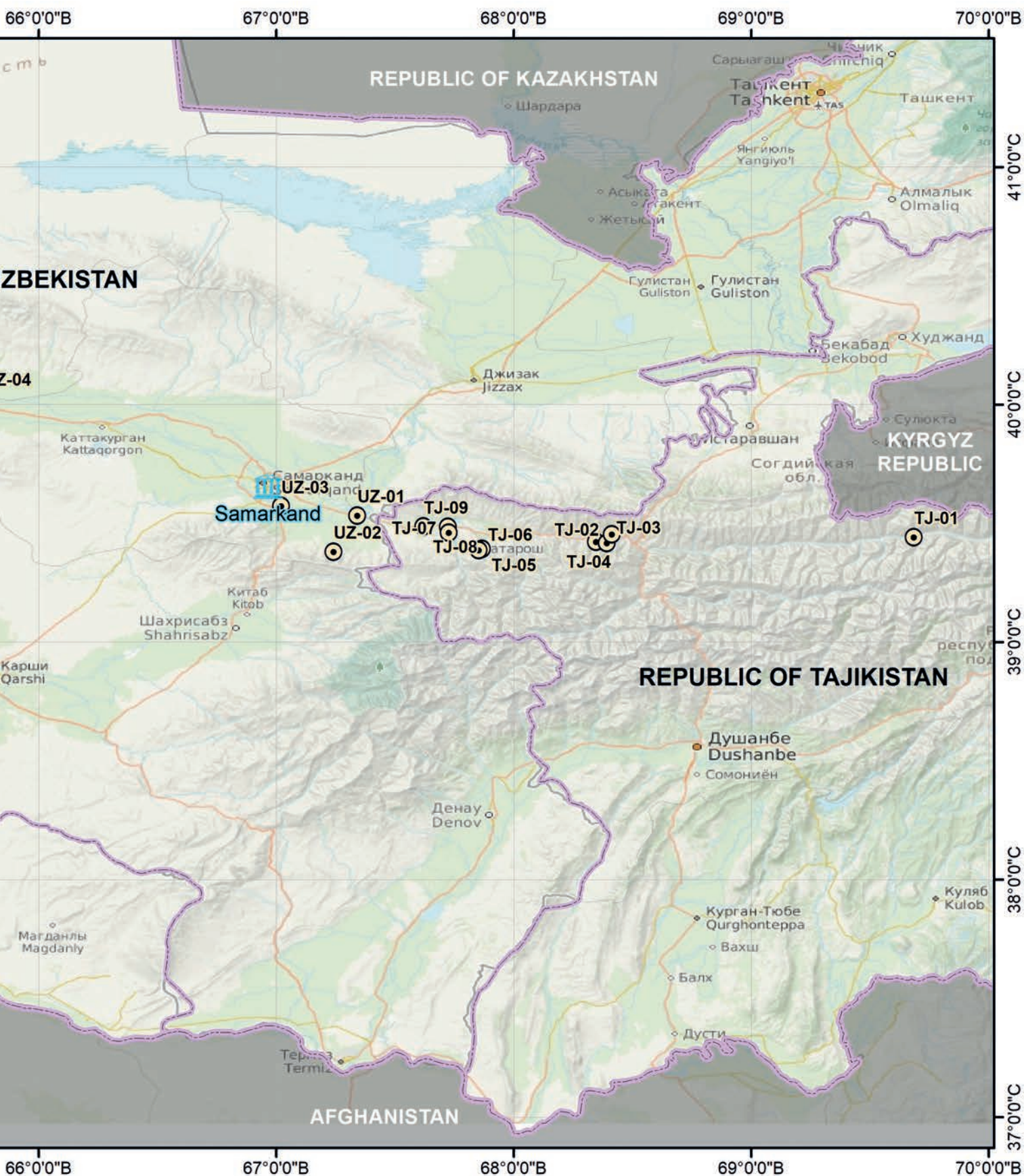
Sardoba (geographically two sites, but considered as one component part in this dossier as suggested by the ICOMOS Evaluation of the Nomination Dossier in 2013) and Deggaron Mosque, and, then in the Bukhara Region with Chashma-I Ayub Khazira, Vardanze Settlement, Vobkent Minaret, Bahouddin Naqshband Architectural Complex, Chor Bakr Necropolis, Varakhsha Settlement and Paikend Settlement. The Corridor further continues to the Lebap Region of Turkmenistan passing through Amul and Mansaf Caravanserai, and then reaches the Mary Region, where Konegala Caravanserai, Tahmalaj, Akja Gala Caravanserai, Gyzylja Gala Caravanserai (Rabad al-Hadid) and Kushmeihan (Dinli Kishman) are located. The Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor also passes through three listed World Heritage properties enhancing the Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated property. These are Samarkand-Crossroads of Culture and the Historic Centre of Bukhara in the Republic of Uzbekistan, and Ancient Merv State Historical and Cultural Park in Turkmenistan. The latter is considered as the end of the Corridor.



## NAME OF COMPONENT PARTS

TJ-01	Khisorak Settlement	TJ-09	Town of Ancient Penjikent	UZ-08	Deggaron Mosque
TJ-02	Castle on Mount Mugh	UZ-01	Jartepa II Temple	UZ-09	Chashma-i Ayub Khazira
TJ-03	Kum Settlement	UZ-02	Suleimantepa	UZ-10	Vardanze Settlement
TJ-04	Gardani Khisor Settlement	UZ-03	Kafirkala Settlement	UZ-11	Vobkent Minaret
TJ-05	Tali Khamtuda Fortress	UZ-04	Dabusiya Settlement	UZ-12	Bahouddin Naqshband Architectural C
TJ-06	Mausoleum of Khoja Muhammad Bashoro	UZ-05	Kasim Sheikh Architectural Complex	UZ-13	Chor Bakr Necropolis
TJ-07	Toksankoriz Irrigation System	UZ-06	Mir Sayid Bakhrom Mausoleum	UZ-14	Varakhsha Settlement
TJ-08	Sanjarshakh Settlement	UZ-07	Rabati Malik Caravanserai and Sardoba	UZ-15	Paikend Settlement





	TM-01	Amul Settlement
	TM-02	Mansaf Caravanserai
	TM-03	Konegala Caravanserai
	TM-04	Tahmalaj
complex	TM-05	Akja Gala Caravanserai
	TM-06	Gyzylja Gala Caravanserai (Rabad al-Hadid)
	TM-07	Kushmeihan (Dinli Kishman)

## LEGEND

- State borders
- World Heritage
- Nominated Component Parts

NAME OF MAP:  
Map showing Component Parts of "Silk Roads:  
Zaravshan-Karakum corridor"

PREPARED BY:  
Khabibullayev F. F. (IICAS)

BACKGROUND LAYER:  
©OpenStreetMap contributors, CC-BY-SA.

COORDINATE SYSTEM:  
WGS 1984

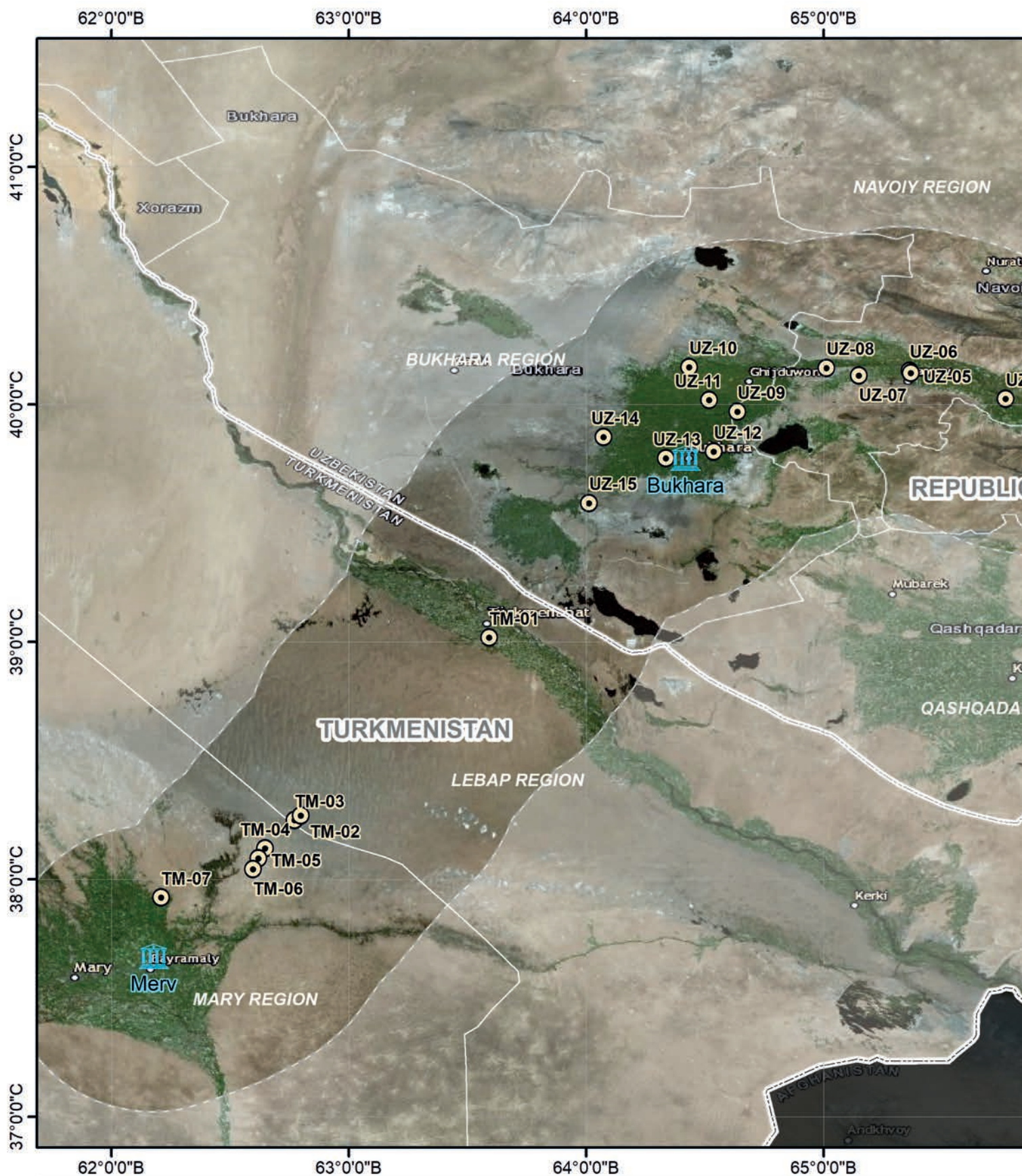
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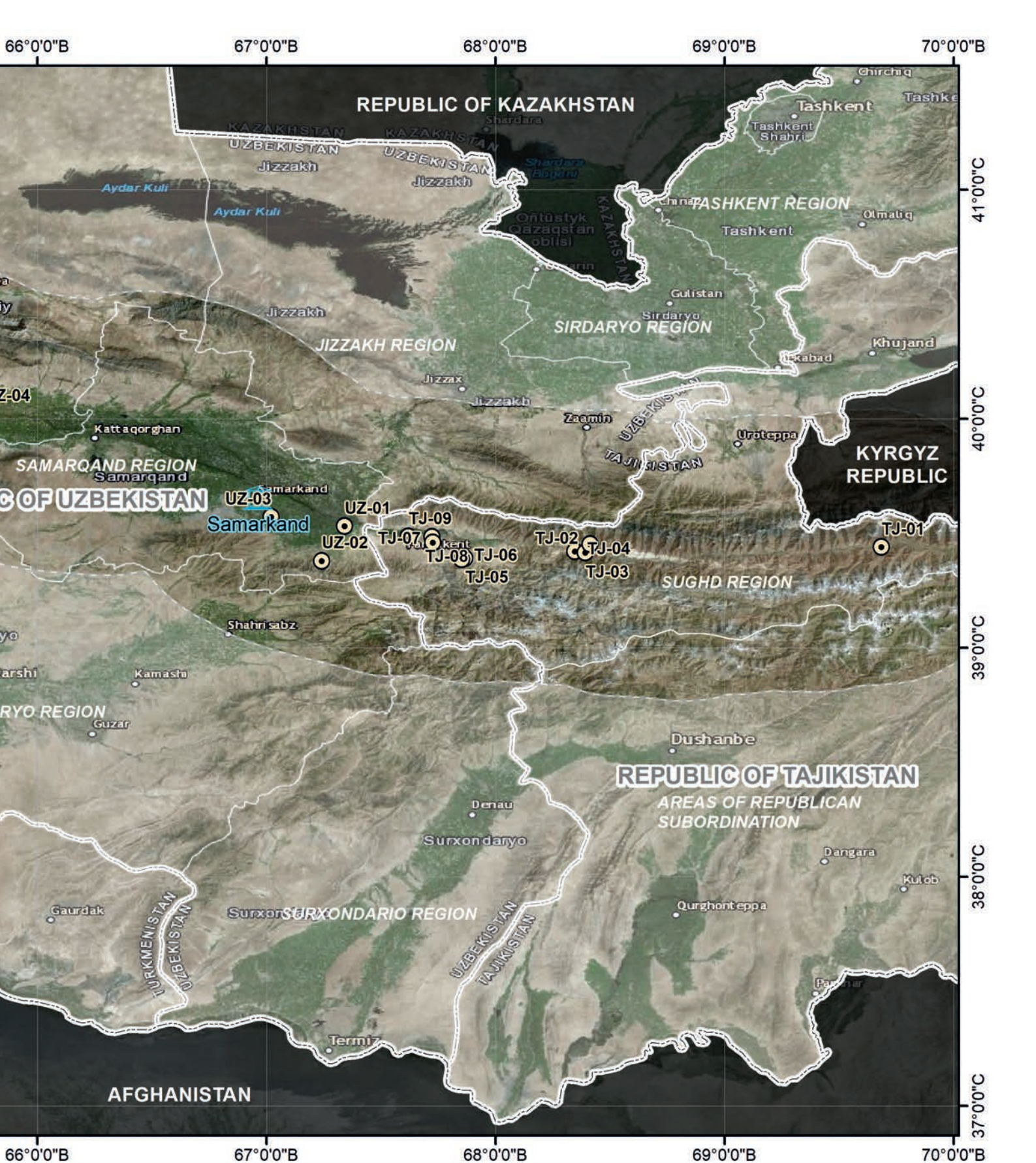




## NAME OF COMPONENT PARTS


TJ-01	Khisorak Settlement	TJ-09	Town of Ancient Penjikent	UZ-08	Deggaron Mosque
TJ-02	Castle on Mount Mugh	UZ-01	Jartepa II Temple	UZ-09	Chashma-i Ayub Khazira
TJ-03	Kum Settlement	UZ-02	Suleimantepa	UZ-10	Vardanze Settlement
TJ-04	Gardani Khisor Settlement	UZ-03	Kafirkala Settlement	UZ-11	Vobkent Minaret
TJ-05	Tali Khamtuda Fortress	UZ-04	Dabusiya Settlement	UZ-12	Bahouddin Naqshband Architectural C
TJ-06	Mausoleum of Khoja Mukhammad Bashoro	UZ-05	Kasim Sheikh Architectural Complex	UZ-13	Chor Bakr Necropolis
TJ-07	Toksankoriz Irrigation System	UZ-06	Mir Sayid Bakhrom Mausoleum	UZ-14	Varakhsha Settlement
TJ-08	Sanjarshakh Settlement	UZ-07	Rabati Malik Caravanseraï and Sardoba	UZ-15	Paikend Settlement





	TM-01	Amul Settlement
	TM-02	Mansaf Caravanserai
	TM-03	Konegala Caravanserai
	TM-04	Tahmalaj
complex	TM-05	Akja Gala Caravanserai
	TM-06	Gyzylja Gala Caravanserai (Rabad al-Hadid)
	TM-07	Kushmeihan (Dinli Kishman)

## LEGEND

-  State borders
-  World Heritage
-  Nominated Component Parts

NAME OF MAP:  
Map showing Component Parts of "Silk Roads:  
Zaravshan-Karakum corridor"

PREPARED BY:  
Khabibullayev F. F. (IICAS)

BACKGROUND LAYER:  
©2020, Bing, Microsoft

COORDINATE SYSTEM:  
WGS 1984

DATE:  
10-08-2020

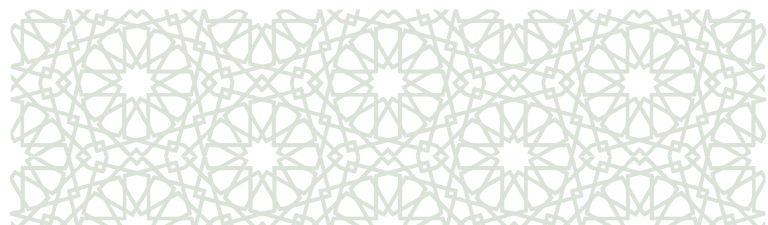
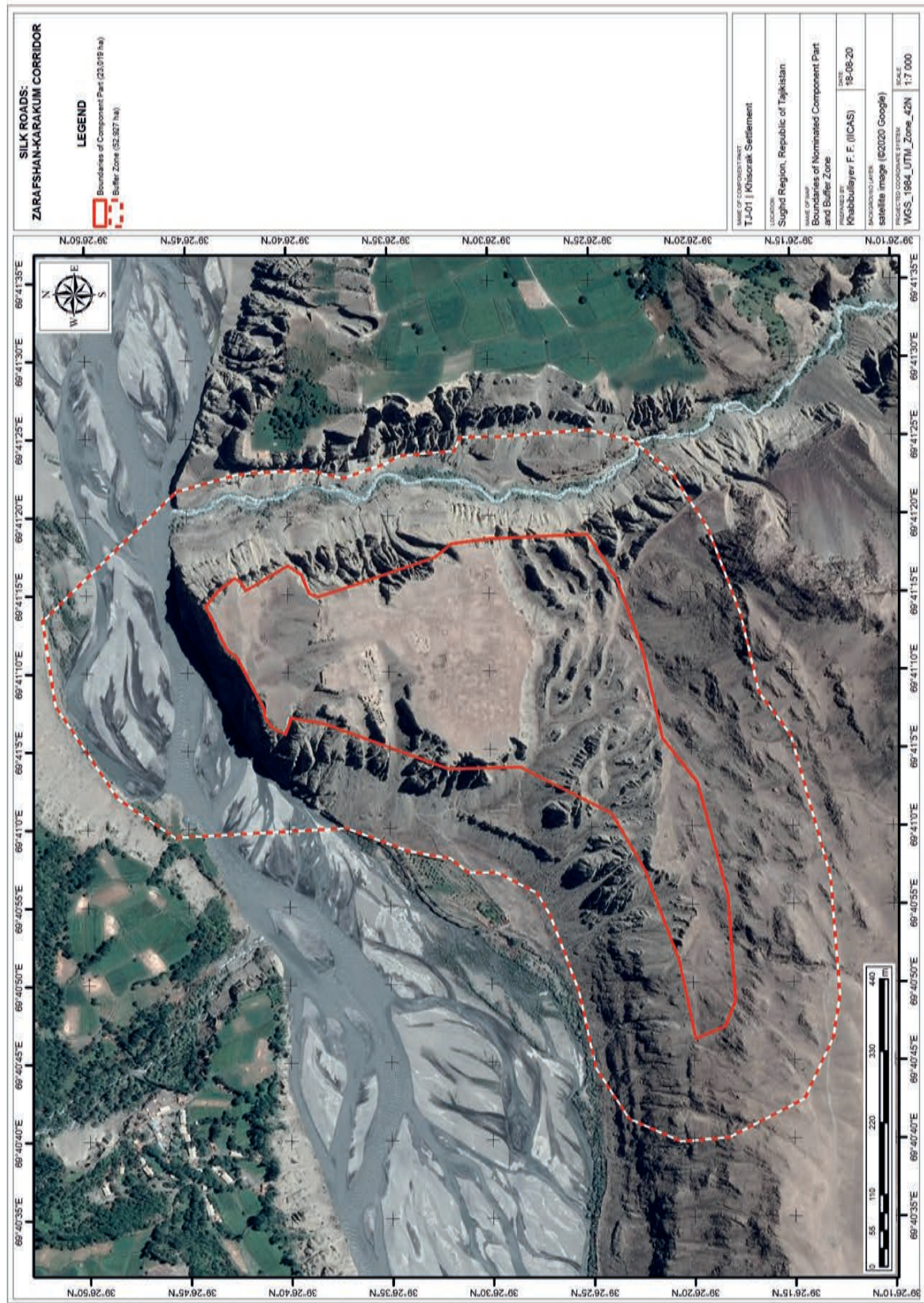
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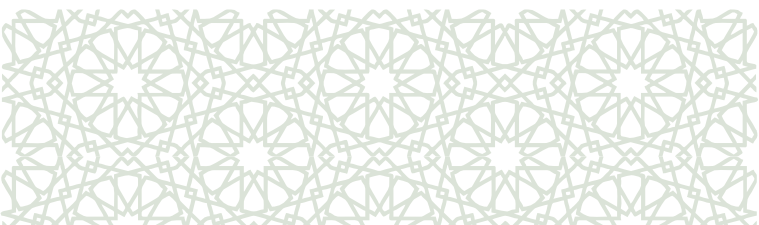
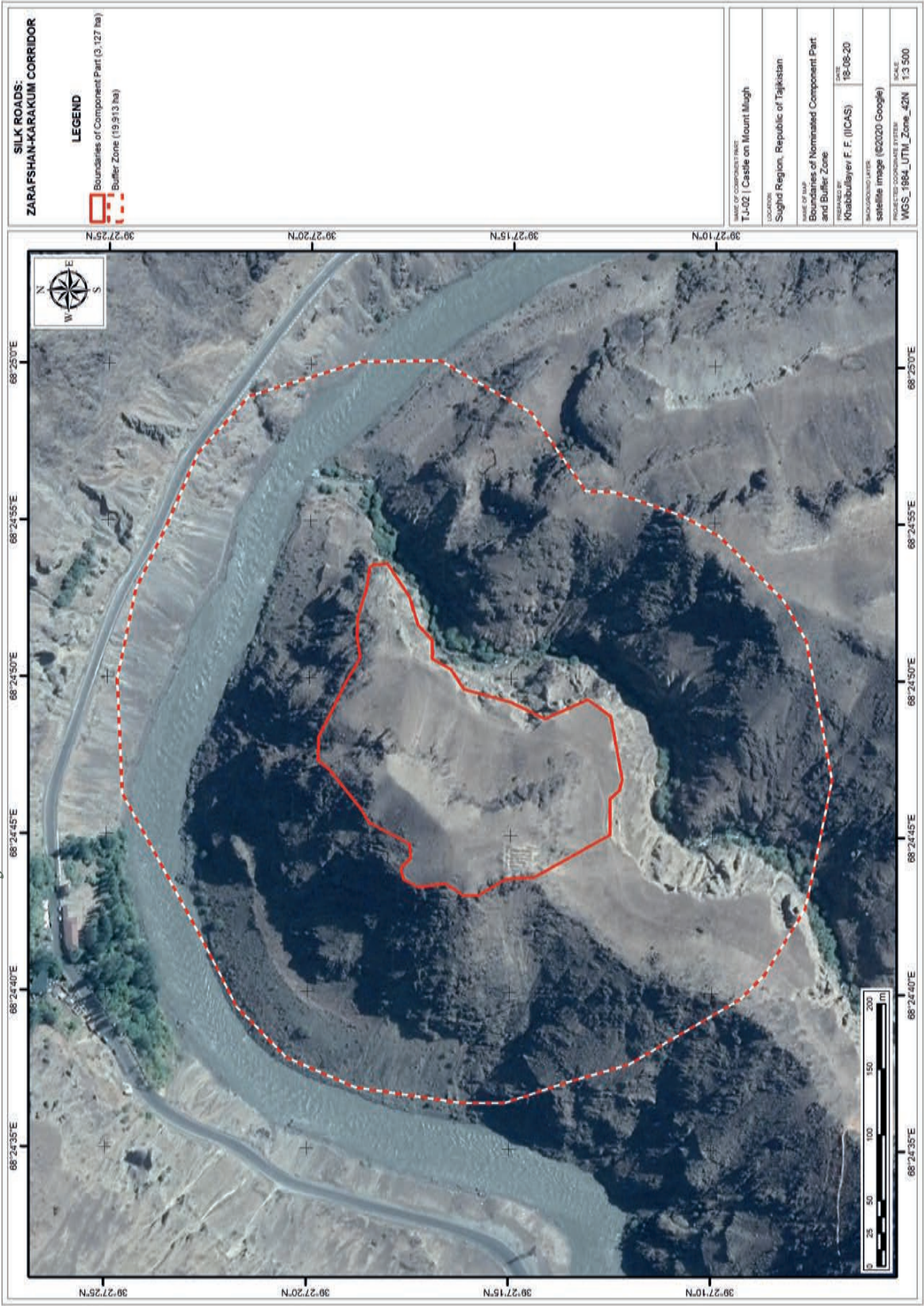


# TJ-01 KHISORAK SETTLEMENT



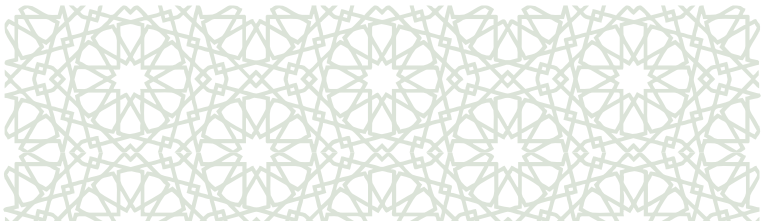


TJ-02 CASTLE ON MOUNT MUGH





TJ-03 KUM SETTLEMENT



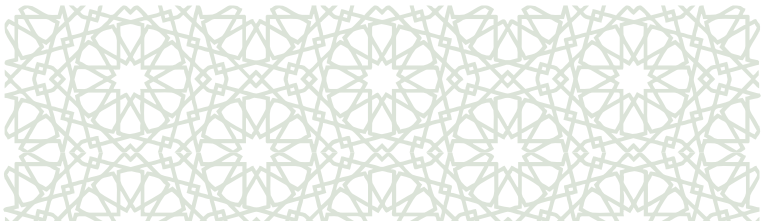


TJ-04 GARDANI KHISOR SETTLEMENT





TJ-05 TALI KHAMTUDA FORTRESS



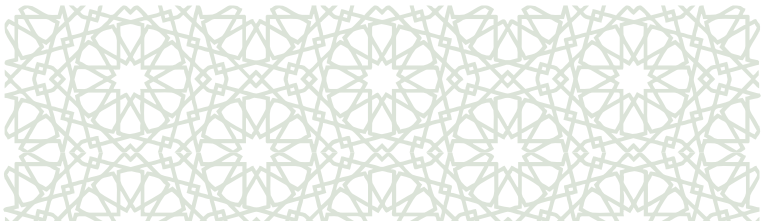


# TJ-06 MAUSOLEUM OF KHOJA MUKHAMMAD BASHORO





TJ-07 TOKSANKORIZ IRRIGATION SYSTEM



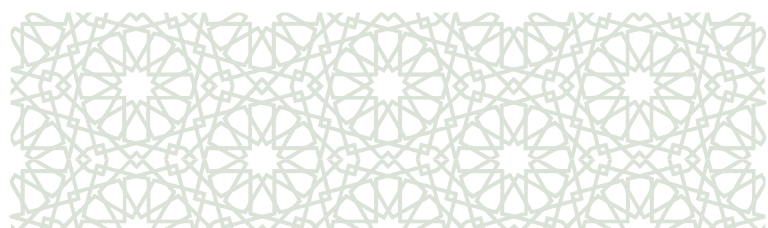


TJ-08 SANJARSHAKH SETTLEMENT





# TJ-09 TOWN OF ANCIENT PENJIKENT

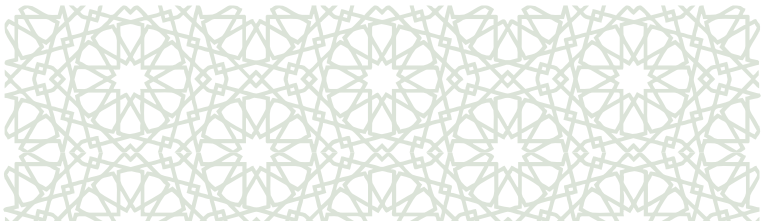








UZ-02 SULEIMANTEPA



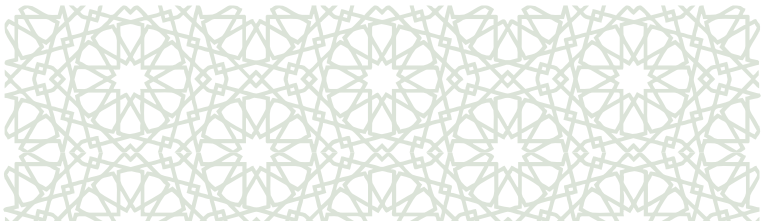


UZ-03 KAFIRKALA SETTLEMENT



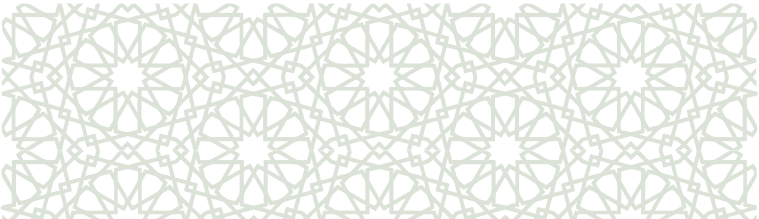
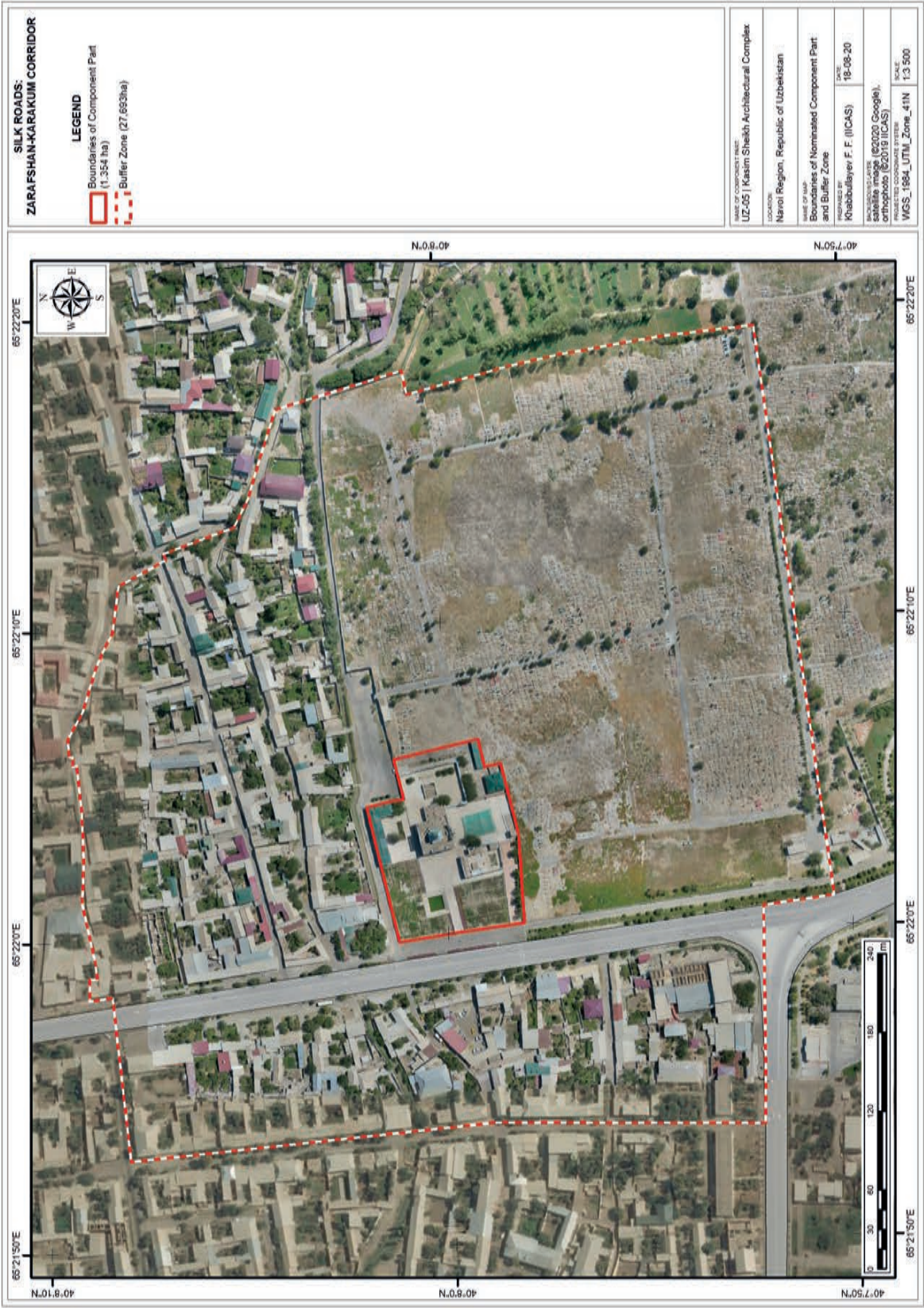


UZ-04 DABUSIYA SETTLEMENT



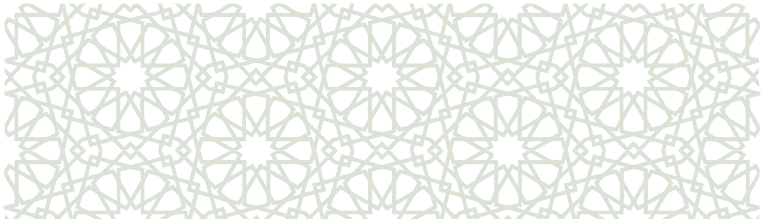


UZ-05 KASIM SHEIKH ARCHITECTURAL COMPLEX



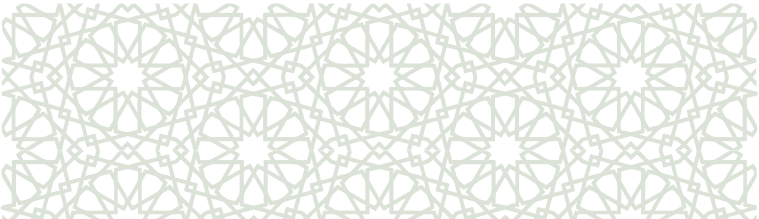


UZ-06 MIR SAYID BAKHROM MAUSOLEUM



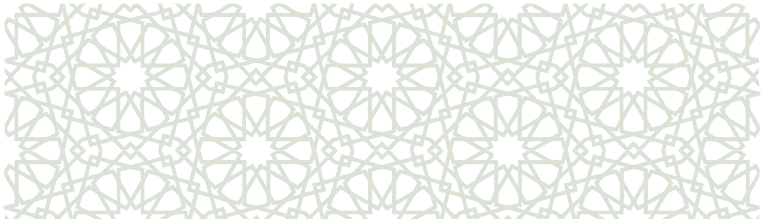


UZ-07 RABATI MALIK CARAVANSERAI AND SARDOBA



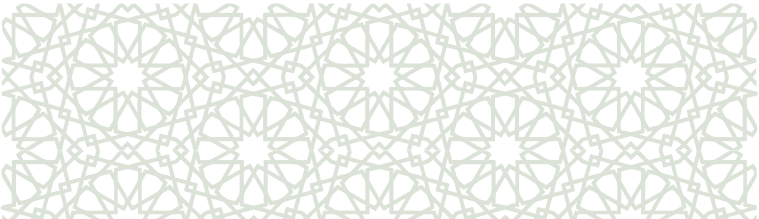


UZ-08 DEGGARON MOSQUE



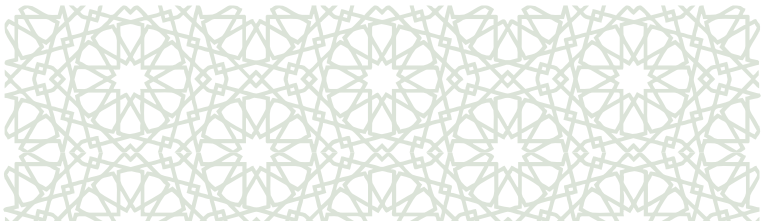
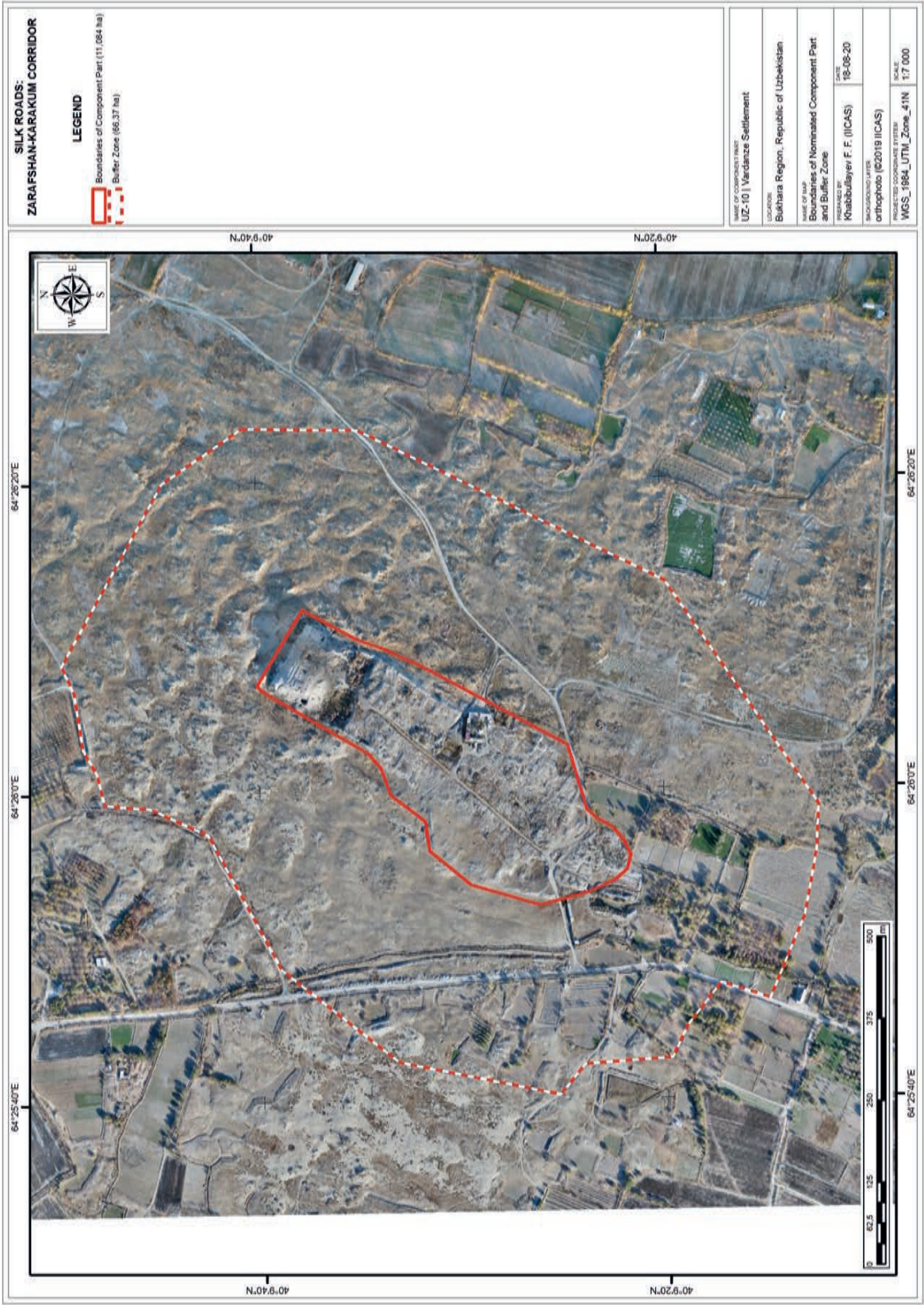


UZ-09 CHASHMA-I AYUB KHAZIRA





UZ-10 VARDANZE SETTLEMENT



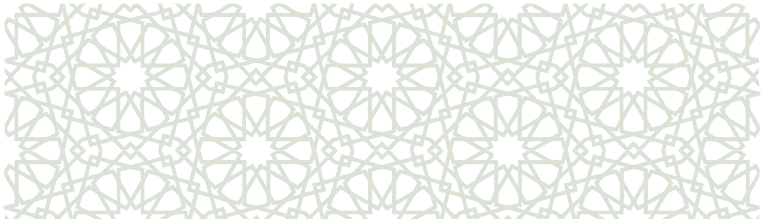


# UZ-11 VOBKENT MINARET





UZ-12 BAHOUDDIN NAQSHBAND ARCHITECTURAL COMPLEX





UZ-13 CHOR BAKR NECROPOLIS



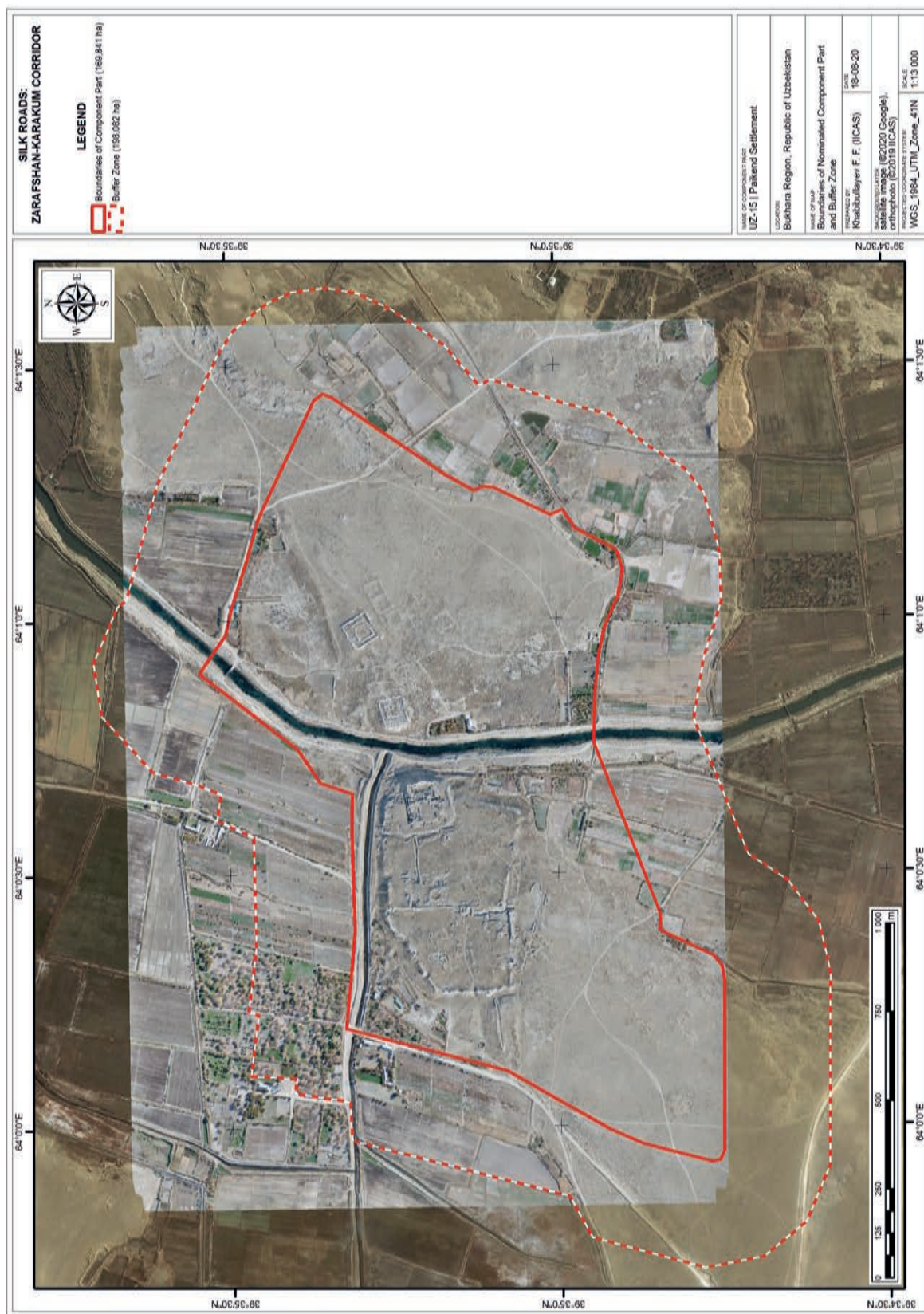


## UZ-14 VARAKHSHA SETTLEMENT



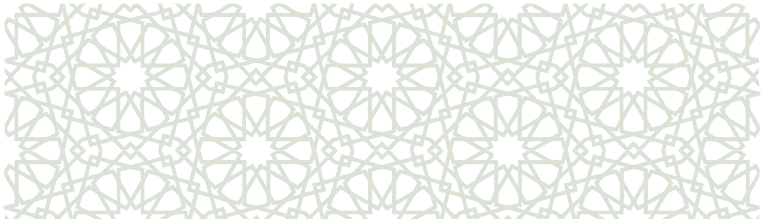


# UZ-15 PAIKEND SETTLEMENT



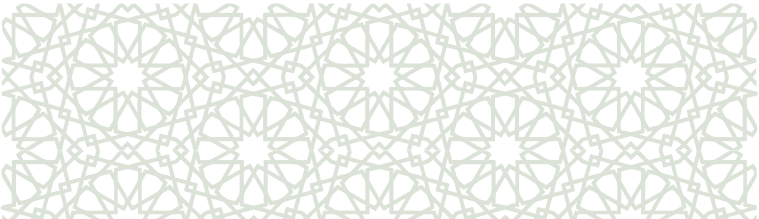
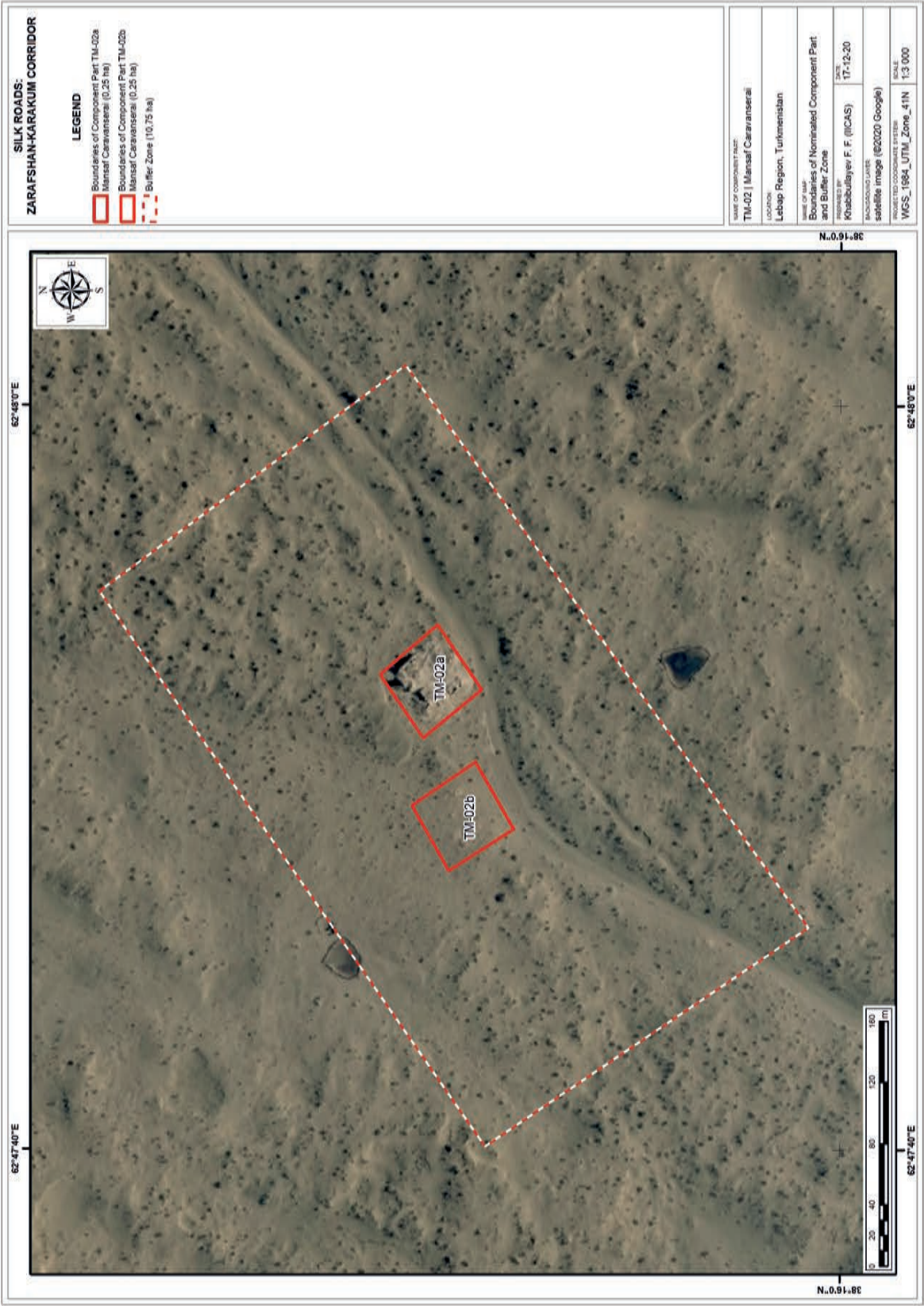


TM-01 AMUL SETTLEMENT



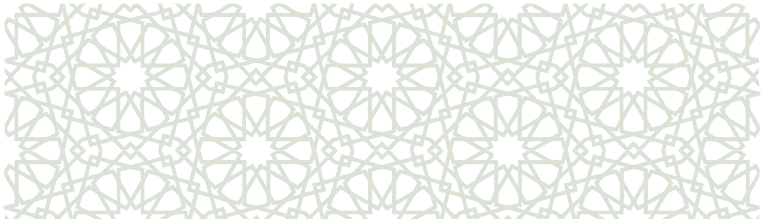
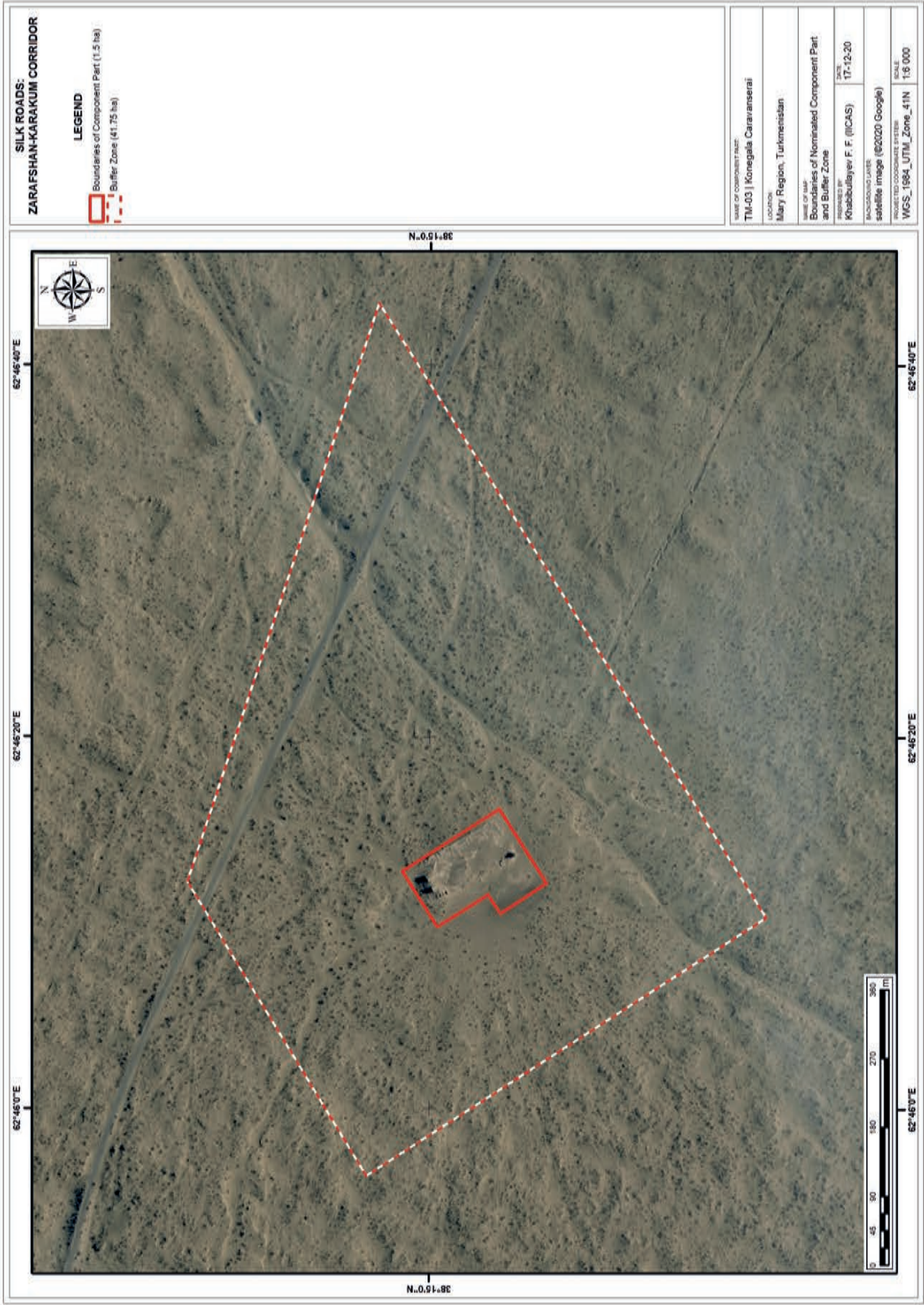


TM-02 MANSAF CARAVANSERAI



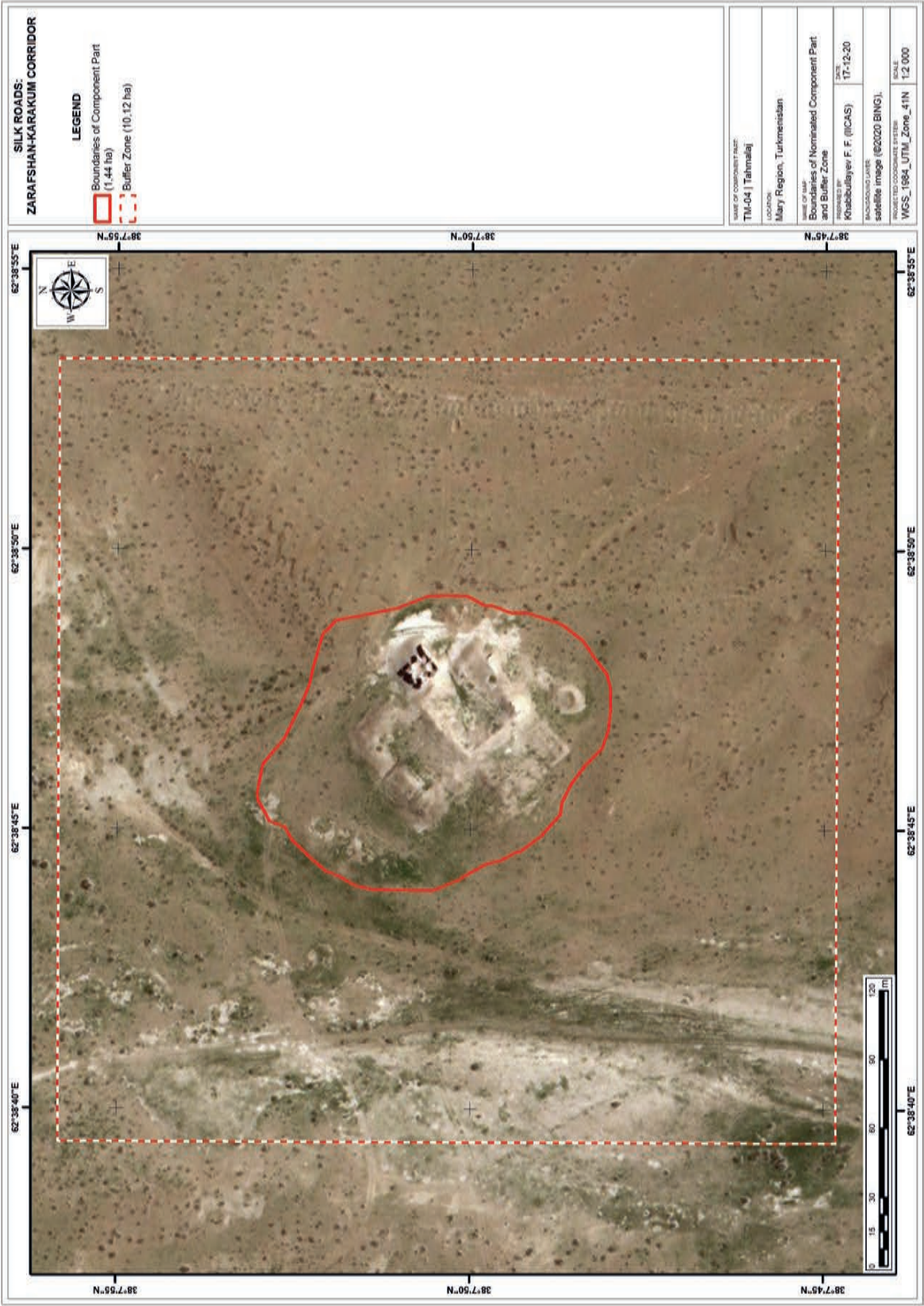


TM-03 KONEGALA CARAVANSERAI



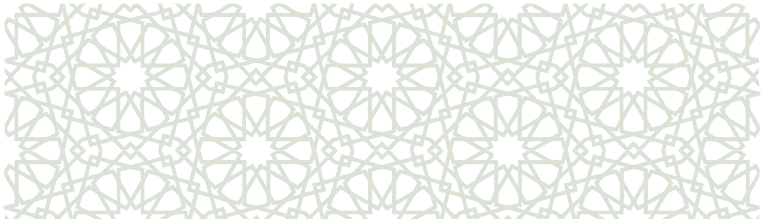
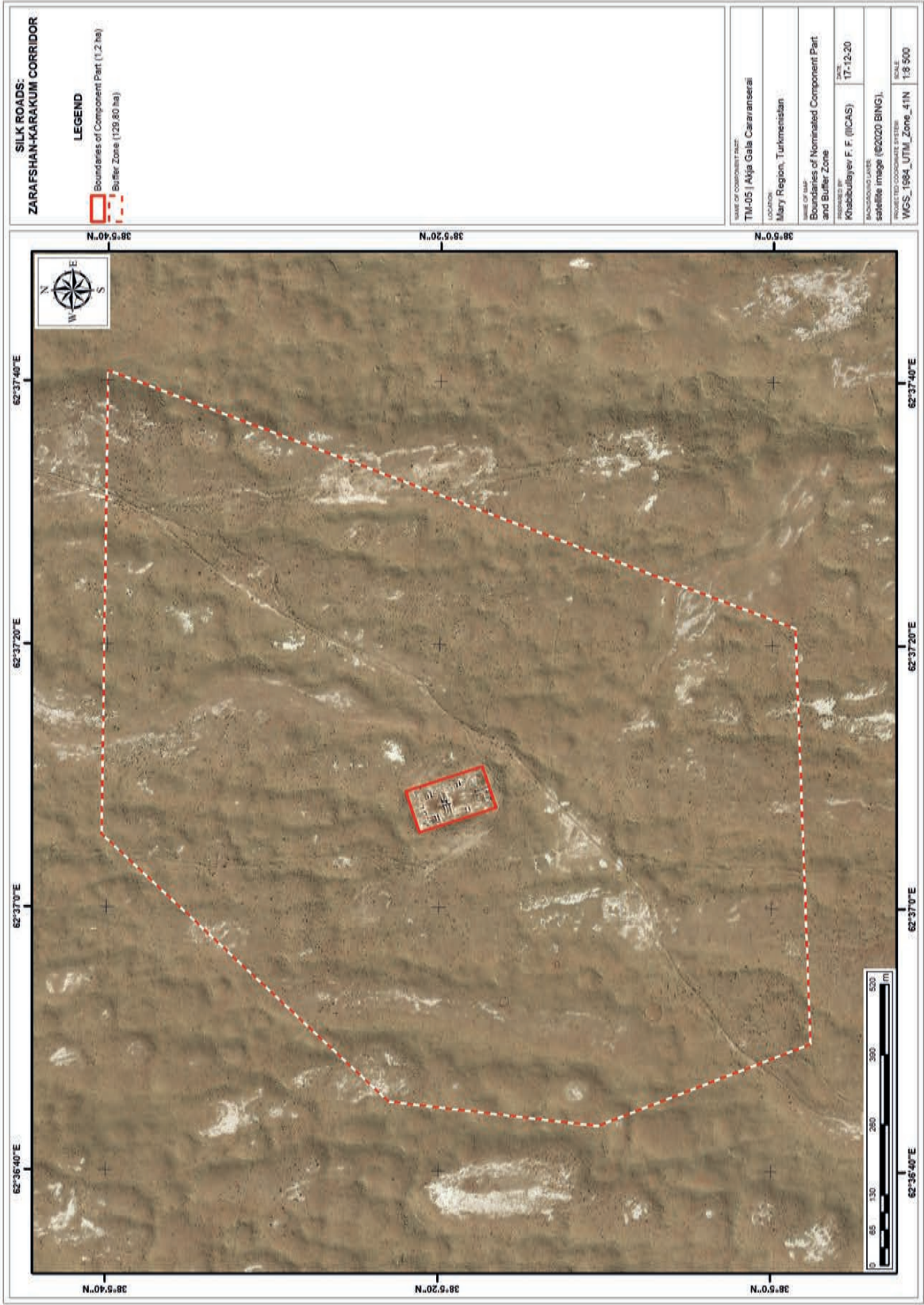


TM-04 TAHMALAJ



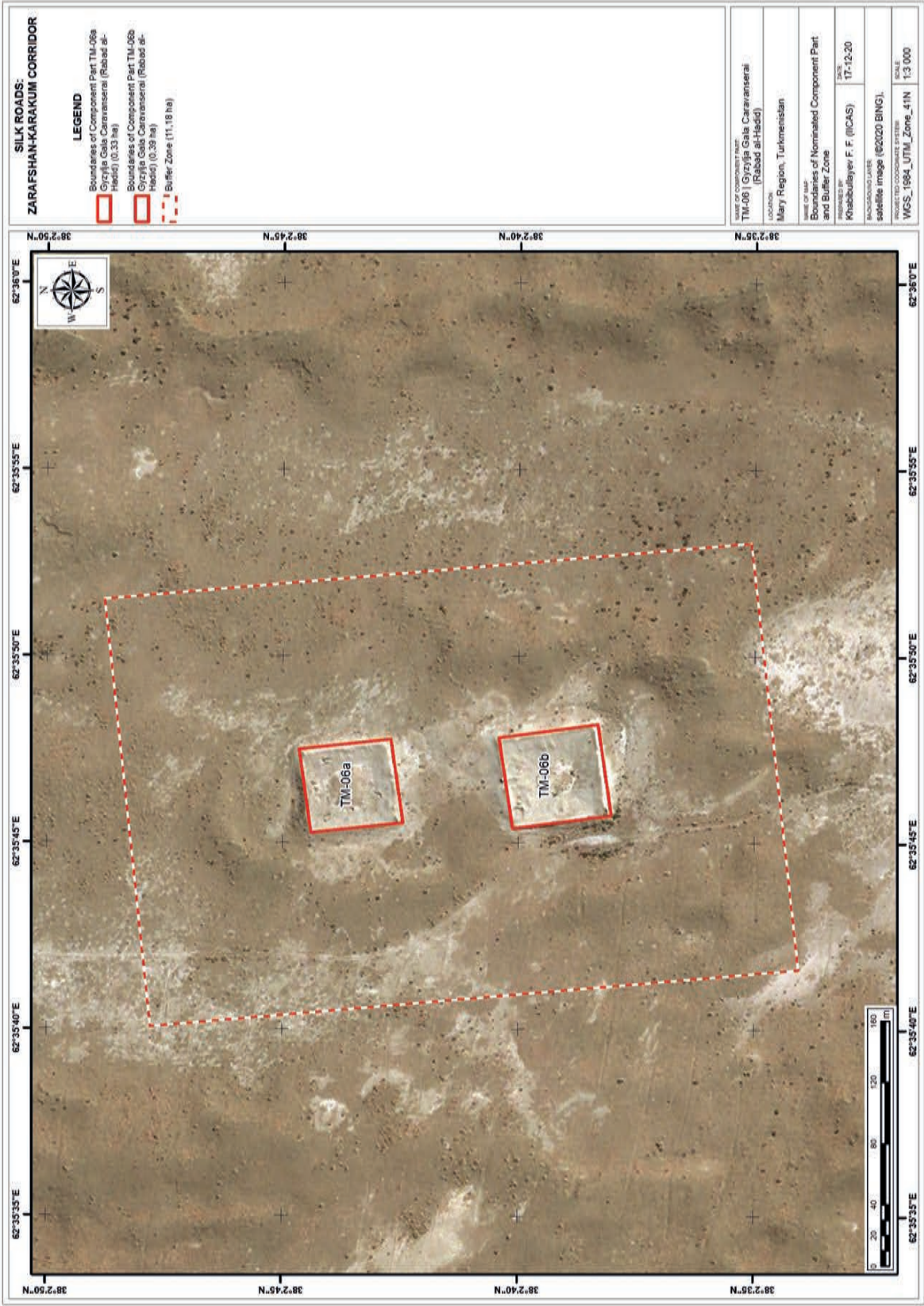


TM-05 AKJA GALA CARAVANSERAI





TM-06 GYZYLJA GALA CARAVANSERAI (RABAD AL-HADID)





TM-07 KUSHMEIHAN (DINLI KISHMAN)





## Criteria under which Property is Nominated

The property Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor is nominated on the World Heritage list according to criteria ii, iii, iv, v and vi.

## Draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

### a) Brief synthesis

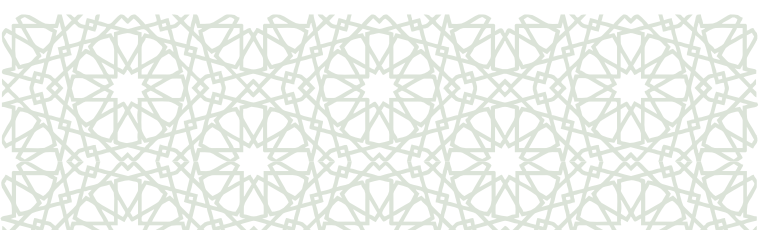
The Silk Roads extended over 6500 km and connected East, South, and Western Asia with the Mediterranean and European world. It served as a historical network of interlinking trade routes, intercultural dialogue, exchange of traditions, sciences, art, religions, languages and human values.

The Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor is located along the Zarafshan river, its wider hydrological basin and the Karakum desert. It corresponds, in the Silk Roads ICOMOS Thematic Study, as the 4th and 5th corridors out of 54. It is linked to the Tien-Shan Corridor in the North, the Fergana Valley Corridor in the East, the Amudarya Corridor in the South and via the Southern Aral Sea to the Caspian Corridor in the West. It also connects via Merv to the Khorasan Corridor, also called the Great Khorasan Road in the early Islamic period.

The Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor starts in the east in *Khisorak* in Sogd province in the Republic of Tajikistan and ends in the west in *Kushmeihan* in Mary province in Turkmenistan. The length of the Corridor is about 866 km and it lies in the three Central Asian countries Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan. It crosses seven geographical zones: the highland zone, piedmont zone, plains zone, artificial irrigation zone, oases zone, wormwood-steppe zone and desert zone.

The Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor consists of 31 component parts. In Tajikistan *Khisorak settlement, Castle on Mount Mugh, Kum settlement, Gardani Khisor settlement, Tali-Khamtuda fortress, Mausoleum of Khoja Mukhammad Bashoro, Toksankoriz Irrigation System, Sanjarshah settlement, and Town of Ancient Penjikent*. In Uzbekistan *Jartepa II Temple, Suleimantepa, Kafirkala settlement, Dabusiya settlement, Kasim Sheikh Architectural Complex, Mir Sayid Bakhrom Mausoleum, Rabati Malik Caravanserai and Sardoba, Deggaron Mosque, Chasma-i-Ayub Khazira, Vardanze settlement, Vobkent Minaret, Bahouddin Naqshband Architectural Complex, Chor Bakr Necropolis, Varakhsha settlement, and Paikend settlement*. In Turkmenistan *Amul settlement, Mansaf Caravanserai, Konegala Caravanserai, Tahmalaj, Akja Gala Caravanserai, Gyzylja Gala Caravanserai (Rabad al-Hadid) and Kushmeihan (Dinli Kishman)*.

In addition, there are five World Heritage properties related to the Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor and its component parts. They are not included as component parts of this World Heritage nomination, as they are already listed World Heritage, but their attributes are highlighted throughout the nomination dossier. These are in Uzbekistan, the *Samarkand-Crossroad of Cultures* and the *Historic Centre of Bukhara*, and in Turkmenistan the *Ancient Merv State Historical and Cultural Park*. Samarkand has been the major city in this region from the 6th century BCE and Merv and Bukhara from the 3rd century BCE onwards.





All three of them possess archaeological remains from pre-Islamic period as well as outstanding architectural monuments of the Muslim time. Likewise, in Uzbekistan, the World Heritage property *Historic Centre of Shakhrisabz*, medieval Kesh, is also profoundly related, but it is located far south of the Corridor. Also, in Tajikistan, the *Proto-urban site of Sarazm*, World Heritage property, provides the number of analogies to the properties included in this nomination. Although it is located along the Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor has not been included as it belongs to an older historical period.

From the 2nd century BCE to the end of the 16th century, the acknowledged functioning period of the Silk Road, the Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor had *three vital periods of prosperity*. The first period was during the blossom of pre-Islamic Sogdian culture, from the 5th century to the 8th century. This period was under the Hephthalite, Turk, Chinese and Arab rule, when the role of Central Asian merchants increased significantly. Especially the Sogdians merchants were the main intermediaries in international silk trade and used to be called the “Phoenicians of the Silk Road” by the 20th century scholars. Sogdians also developed a unique sophisticated culture in their motherland in and near the Zarafshan valley. The second period was between the 10th century and the 12th century, the period of the Samanids and later pre-Mongol dynasties. In this period cities and urban culture in Maverannahr, Transoxiana, actively developed and traded with the Muslim ecumene and outside. The last period was from the 13th century to the 17th century, in the time of Mongols, Chaghataids, Timurids and Sheibanids, when science, culture, urban planning and economics significantly developed.

The component parts of the Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor serial transnational World Heritage nomination are principal examples of several outstanding characteristics of the history, economy, culture and art of Central Asia in this

historic period. These component parts include an outstanding selection of long-lived cities; early Sogdian monuments; Sogdian cities, fortifications and palaces, and artworks; Sogdian sites in hostile mountain environment; sites during the Muslim conquest and Islamization; Islamic cities; Pre-Mongol and Post-Mongol architectural monuments; sacred sites; Muslim Sufi necropolises; water-management systems; infrastructure and facilities along the roads; and sites sustaining economic interactions between East and West.

#### **b) Criteria under which inscription is proposed (and justification for inscription under these criteria)**

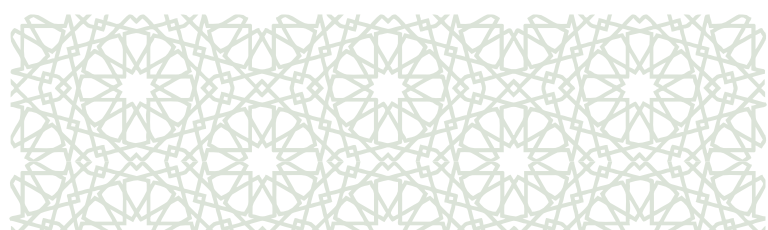
The property Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor is nominated on the World Heritage list according to the World Heritage criteria ii, iii, iv, v and vi.

##### **Criterion (ii)**

*The Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor is an exceptional integral system of interchange of goods, human values and influences among the people of East and West of the Silk Roads between the 2nd BCE century and the 16th century. It reflects outstanding developments on architectural and technological, monumental arts, town-planning and landscape design. It is evidenced by longevity of cities including Sogdian cities and artworks, Islamic cities, Pre-Mongol and Post-Mongol architectural monuments, water management and economic interactions.*

##### **Criterion (iii)**

*The Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor is an exceptional testimony of cultural traditions, with comprehensive exchange between the 2nd BCE and 16th centuries during the three historic periods: Sogdian, Samanid-Karakhanid, and Temurid-Shaybanid, when the route was flourishing. It witnessed through the development of cities in this timespan, the early Sogdian monuments, effects of Islamization, and existence of local versions of Zoroastrianism, Christianity, and Islam during its history.*





**Criterion (iv)**

*The Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor is an outstanding example of urban planning, architectural art and technological processes between the 2nd BCE and 16th centuries in Central Asia. It is reflected by pre-Islamic sites and individual buildings, masterpieces of Islamic pre-Mongol and post-Mongol architecture, and infrastructure and facilities along the Corridor.*

**Criterion (v)**

*The Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor reflects the unique example of human interaction with the natural environment of the highland, piedmont, dry-steppe, oases and fertile valleys, and arid-desert zones. This is illustrated by Sogdian sites in a hostile mountain environment, water-management constructions, and infrastructure and services along the Corridor facilitating appropriate conditions for the functioning of the trade route.*

**Criterion (vi)**

*The Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor played a relevant role in the spread of various faiths and religious beliefs along the peoples inhabiting these territories. Literary plots of Sogdian monumental arts, sites related to different religions, in particular the development of Sufi Islamic mysticism, as well as handicrafts, arts and scholarship in Islamic cities are outstanding examples. The Corridor presents an interaction, of cultural dialogue and tolerance of society, which is still inherent in modern Central Asia. The remnants of ancient beliefs and practices, clearly indicating the continuity of the living cultural traditions of the region, and associations can be seen in the customs and traditions of modern people in music culture, folk festivals, religious and ritual practices.*

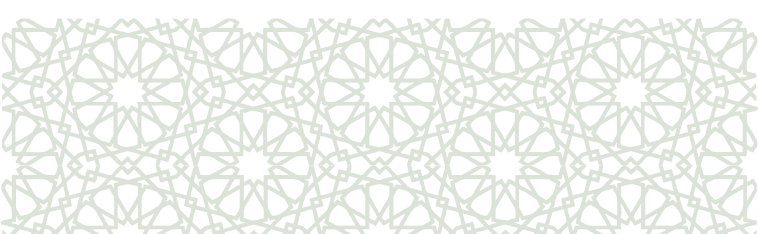
**c) Statement of Integrity**

The integrity of the “Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor” is related to the presence of all the attributes and dynamic functions reflected in different geographical zones and well retained significant cultural heritage, such as mausoleums,

sardobas, caravanserais, minarets, mosques, religious complexes, as well as settlements and archaeological sites, remains of ancient cities. Only a selection of the 31 most outstanding component parts has been added to this World Heritage nomination. These sites retained their component structures, the location and architectural forms remained unchanged and preserved and main attributes to the “Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor” were retained. Architectural planning, decoration elements, remaining of walls, functional features reflect the values representing the integrity of the component parts. The remnants of ruins are sufficient to fully understand the functional features and processes reflecting the values of the component parts. Boundaries and buffer zones of the component parts are clearly defined and under the state protection in the three countries. Although development pressure affects some component parts in terms of urbanization, tourism development and new technologies, it is controlled by relevant governmental organizations in charge of preservation, use and promotion of cultural heritage in Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. Moreover, state laws on the protection of cultural heritage are well established and integrated in development processes in local, regional and national levels, ensuring the intactness of the component parts and the overall corridor as a whole.

**d) Statement of Authenticity**

The authenticity of the “Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor” fully reflects its individual attributes in relationship to the Outstanding Universal Value and the contribution of these sites into the cultural traditions, beliefs, ideas, infrastructure and socio-economic success of the Silk Roads. All nominated component parts are well-documented and connected with the period of prosperity of the Silk Roads from the 2nd century B.C. to the late 16th century A.D. mainly during its three flourishing periods, had three vital periods of prosperity, 1) the pre-Islamic Sogdian





culture (5th - 8th centuries), 2) the Samanids and later pre-Mongol dynasties (10th - 12th centuries), and the 3) Mongols, Chaghataids, Timurids and Sheibanids (13th - 17th century).

Along with the main metropolises of the region already inscribed on the World Heritage List, not included as component parts in this nomination dossier, are the Ancient Merv State Historical and Cultural Park, the Historic Centre of Bukhara, Samarkand-Crossroad of Cultures, nearby Historic Centre of Shakhriyabz —medieval Kesh, as well as the Proto-urban site of Sarazm —belonging to an older historical period, the 31 nominated component parts fully demonstrate the history of the region. They reflect the remarkable qualities of cultural heritage sites located outside of large cities, often in inaccessible places and demonstrate the best possible state of conservation, integrity and authenticity.

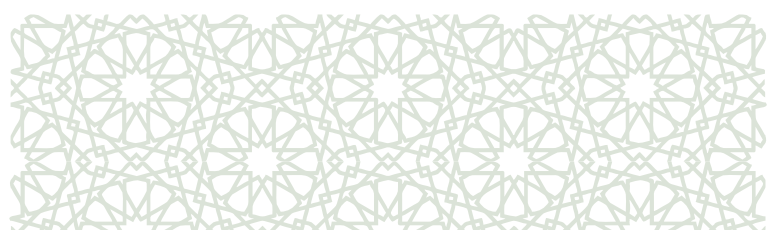
The architectural component parts have exceptional attributes reflecting space-planning solutions, and individual ornamental and artistic elements. The archaeological sites preserve their original layout and integral parts. The sites preserve partially the original brick materials and construction techniques. Earthen constructions materials, mud bricks and pakhsa, maintained the traditional techniques and are still used today. The function and use of the Corridor remain in the same manner for transportation, trade, passage between regions, religious use and pilgrimage. However, the route has been transformed into the modern traffic road and retained the use for transportation. The Corridor covers a diversity of environmental zones following the stream of the Zarafshan River including the highland zone, piedmont zone, plains zone, artificial irrigation zone, oases zone, wormwood-steppe zone and desert zone. With the time development the corridor has been dynamically changed in terms of city growth, land-use and infrastructure at the same time it retained its original values.

## e) Requirements for Protection and Management

The Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor is a serial transnational property with different levels of protection. The Corridor is under the main structure of the Silk Roads overall management system headed by an overarching intergovernmental Silk Roads Coordinating Committee. The Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor has a Corridor Coordinating Committee and a Working Group. IICAS serves as secretariat for this specific Corridor. IICAS facilitates the sharing of information among the countries during the nomination and management processes.

Each one of the component parts located in the territory of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Republic of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan is under state protection and part of the transnational management mechanism. Each country has a main body, the Ministry of Culture in the Republic of Tajikistan, the Department of Cultural Heritage, focal point under the Ministry of Culture in the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Ministry of Culture in Turkmenistan responsible for the protection, conservation, management, monitoring and reporting of the component parts. They are all supported by their regional and local branches as well as research institutions and local communities.

At the transnational level, the management system of the Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor is based on the Agreement between the States Parties in 2020. It has been signed by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Ministry of Culture of Turkmenistan for common promotion, management and protection of the component parts of the Serial Transnational World Heritage Nomination “Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor”. The Agreement established a Coordinating Committee and a Working Group for the overall protection and management of the nominated World Heritage property. The Working





Group conducts meetings to discuss issues regarding the protection and management of the component parts of the nominated corridor on request of the Coordinating Committee. The Working Group is also responsible for the monitoring of the state of conservation of the component parts of the Silk Roads: Zarafshan-Karakum Corridor and informing the Coordinating Committee on adopted decisions. The Coordinating Committee conducts meetings with relevant stakeholders to resolve arising issues on the protection and management of the Corridor at a translational level. The Coordinating Committee, together with the local authorities, provides the necessary tools and training to the managers and inspectors and encourages research and joint activities for the protection and promotion of the Silk Roads Corridor.



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