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UZBEKISTAN EMPHASIZING FDI DIVERSITY

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Wary of becoming overly dependent on Chinese and Russian investment, Uzbekistan is working with firms from Saudi Arabia and South Korea to develop infrastructure projects promoting efficient water management and the expansion of trade.

In early October, Uzbek officials inked a deal with the Saudi-based entity Miahona to take over the management of five wastewater treatment plants in the Ferghana and Jizzakh regions, along with an option to build up to four more plants in other areas.

The Miahona agreement is just the latest in a series of investments by Saudi companies in Uzbekistans green agenda. In May, the Trade & Investment Ministry announced three deals with Saudi firms worth almost \$10 billion, including the construction of a wind power plant in Karakalpakstan projected to generate 5 Gigawatts of power, the establishment of a data center in Tashkent based on green technologies and the modernization of heating infrastructure in various cities, including Nukus, Ferghana and Quvasoy.

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