

Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

Report

September 2014

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Section 1: Armenia

1. Working Meeting in the Ararat province

The Working Meeting within the project “Promoting dialogue between command units and NGOs” under the “Post-Rio+20 process in Armenia” was held on 5 September 2014 in the Aarhus centre of Ararat. The project is being implemented by NGO “Association for sustainable human development” within IHP (GEF).

The working group met with stakeholders to discuss the water resources management problems. Some issues were considered:

- Low quality of drinking water in rural areas;
- Poor treatment of waste waters;
- Non-equal distribution of irrigation water between communities;
- Large water losses;
- Food security etc.



Discussion in the Aarhus centre

The working group and Mayor of Ararat and some participants had a field trip to see problems on-site.

The main problem in the province is unreasonable management of water resources therefore some villages (mainly in the downstream of Kahanovasky canal) remain without irrigation water in the season, but in other places the wetlands are being formed because of water abundance.

There is sewage pollution of agricultural lands. The sewer-pipe drain in Ararat crosses agricultural lands and the last three kilometers before the treatment plant are removed. The sewer-pipe drain in Ararat crosses agricultural lands and the last three kilometers before the treatment plant are removed. As a result wastewaters pollute and degrade farmlands.



The destroyed sewer-pipe drain

Formation of marshes

The report on identified problems was prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Nature Protection of Armenia.

2. Seminar “Project planning”

CWP-Armenia participated in the seminar “Project planning” organized by CES Consulting Engineers Salzgitter GmbH and JRTUCLLC. This seminar was held on 10 September 2014 in Yerevan, Armenia.

The feasibility study results within the project “Improving and development water supply and sanitation systems in rural communities of Armenia” financed by KfW were presented.

Participants representing various ministries and departments as well NGOs and consulting companies, have discussed proposals of consultants concerning rehabilitation and development of water supply and sanitation systems which is served by local administration or rural people.

CWP-Armenia proposed to include into the project the alternative methods of sewage treatment.



Participants

3. National Roundtable

On 26 September 2014, CWP-Armenia participated in the national roundtable “Findings and recommendations of the legislative review on the application of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment” organized by the Ministry of Nature Protection, UNECE and NGO “Eco-Globe” within the project “Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood”. This roundtable was held in Yerevan. The Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment and the project “Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood” were presented.



Participants

There were proposed changes in the legislation of the Republic of Armenia in order the SEA process in Armenia complies with international standards. All participants expressed the need for a new law on SEA and revision of the EIA and expertise, adopted in August 2014.

4. WACDEP CACENA in Armenia

The preparatory work for the treatment plant start-up is being completed. Aerated pond is cleared of sediment; all other facilities are ready for operation. Currently, cleaning of manholes on the manifold is being implemented.



Reconstructed sedimentation pond

Sludge beds



Section 2: Azerbaijan

5. Roundtable on IWRM principles

CWP- Azerbaijan together with LtD “Land Reclamation and Water Resources of Azerbaijan” organized a roundtable on September 8, 2014, in the conference hall of LtD in Baku. The round table was attended by the Central Office staff and the design and research institutes subordinated to it, as well as working groups on implementation of projects. The aim was to discuss the IWPM principles implementation in the developing projects on land reclamation. Participants (total: 24) noted importance and urgency of such an event.





6. Roundtable on rational use of water resources under climate change

The roundtable on rational use of water resources under climate change organized by Ltd"Land Reclamation and Water Resources of Azerbaijan" jointly with Djafarganskaya experimental station and Water Users Association and Irrigation Systems Administration, was held on 19 September 2014 in the Saatlinskaya province, Azerbaijan. The aim was to discuss IWRM principles implementation during the low water years as well as to inform participants (total: 18) about importance of careful use of water resources and preventing water pollution. Notebooks and booklets were given to participants. Then participants visited the pilot plot where the demonstration project within WACDEP CACENA is being implemented by CWP-Azerbaijan.





7. "Water tales"

In September the book "Water tales" for preschool children (100 copies) was issued under financial support of CWP-Azerbaijan.

Section 3: Georgia

8. Stakeholder Validation Workshop

Stakeholder Validation Workshop "Water Resources Management Sustainability Index Tool (WRM SIT) Initiative Field Application Testing" initiated by REC Caucasus was held on 22 September 2014 in the Holiday Inn, Tbilisi, Georgia.

Participants (total: 50) have considered recommendations proposed by REC Caucasus (see Annex 1). Mr. George Dzamukashvili, CWP-Georgia Chairman, participated.

9. Working Meeting on Protection of Environment and Natural Resources

The Working Meeting of representatives (total: 50) of civil society and Parliament Committee on Protection of Environment and Natural Resources was held on 23 September 2014 in the Parliament of Georgia.

The following issues were being discussed among others:

1. New Water Code of Georgia;
2. Ratification of UNECE Water and Health Protocol;
3. Strategy on Hydropower Engineering in Georgia.

Ratification of UNECE Water and Health Protocol is planned in 2014. Ms. Nino Chkhobadze and Mr. George Dzamukashvili attended this meeting.



Section 4: Kazakhstan

10. CALPESD Training seminar

CWP-Tajikistan took part in the nine-day training seminar under the 5th Anniversary Central Asian Leadership Programme on Environment and Sustainable Development (CALPESD) held on 16-24 September 2014 in Almaty, Kazakhstan. The event has been co-organized by the OSCE Centre in Astana, the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) with support of the government of Norway for five consecutive years. It aims to enhance the extensive ecological knowledge of participants (28 people) and to teach them how to apply their skills when addressing complicated environmental, economic and social challenges. This year the CALPESD training programme is focused on a multi-disciplinary assessment of progress in sustainable development in Central Asia and is composed of interactive sessions with three thematic targets: people, the environment and sustainable development.





Section 5: Kyrgyzstan

11. WACDEP CACENA in Kyrgyzstan

The working meeting of project experts within WACDEP CACENA was held in Bishkek. The aim was to discuss and coordinate current problems, to consider achievements and failures as well as to define the final watering and harvesting terms.



12. Seminar “Human rights and the protection of rights of victims of gender-based crimes in the pre-trial stages”

The CWP-Kyrgyzstan Chair Kasiet Musabaeva took part in the seminar “Human rights and the protection of rights of victims of gender-based crimes in the pre-trial stages” organized by the Open society foundation and the Youth Human Rights Movement. There were discussed the following themes: women rights to natural resources and access of women to water resources.



Section 6: Mongolia

13. Interview with Mr. Davaa Basandorj

On 10 September 2014 Mr. Davaa Basandorj gave an interview about the need to involve the private sector in water management. The purpose of the interview is development of partnerships with the private sector in the field of water resources management.



14. CWP-Mongolia intends to improve sanitation

During September 2014 CWP-Mongolia jointly with Mongolian University was engaged in development of project proposal “Improvement of sanitation in peri-urban area of Ulaanbaatar city”. The aim is to introduce better sanitation technology for Ger area and to test ECOLOO and

shallow water treatment technology.



Section 7: Tajikistan

15. Public awareness raising

The review “Tajikistan: Water Security” prepared by CWP-Tajikistan was disseminated among 22 various stakeholders: politicians, decision-makers, scientists, water professionals and water users.

16. Meeting with young water inventors

CWP-Tajikistan is giving support to young inventors and researchers in developing innovative water saving technologies. On 6 September 2014 CWP-Tajikistan jointly with the Tajik Agrarian University named after Shotemur organized the field meeting (total: 9 participants) in the farm “Samar” (Gissarsky province) to test and assess new water outlet construction proposed by young water professionals.





17. IWRM training-seminar

CWP-Tajikistan jointly with TajikNIIGiM organized the training-seminar on IWRM (Part: Water saving theory and practice) on 28 August 2014 in Gafurov (Sogdiyskaya province) for specialists (total: 10 participants) working in irrigation sphere.



Section 8: Turkmenistan

18. WACDEP CACENA in Turkmenistan

Implementation of administrative and technical measures (mounting of irrigation system, land treatment, tillage, land grading, preplant watering, cotton sowing), collecting and processing of analytical materials.

Section 9: Uzbekistan

19. Water roundtable

On September 23, 2014 in the conference hall of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the deputies of the Ecological Movement of the Legislative Chamber of Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan held a round table. CWP-Uzbekistan, the Ministry of agriculture and water resources of Uzbekistan, the National association of electronic media, news agencies, journalists and others (total: 50 participants) took part in discussion. CWP-Uzbekistan called attention to discuss the following issues:

- Implementing IWRM principles at all levels of water hierarchy, taking into account environmental situation in the Republic of Uzbekistan;
- Involving broadly journalists, TV and radio to extensive media coverage of water-saving technologies implementation and environmental problems decision;
- Forthcoming 13th Republican journalism competition “Water is Life”.

Participants expressed their opinion on all the issues and suggested ways to water resources use effectively.

Section 10: International

20. CWP-Mongolia visiting of Korea

On 23-25 September 2014 CWP-Mongolia visited ECOLOO Co.Ltd in Busan, Korea. The aim was to understand better the Ecoloo technology for decision makers and to find possibilities for application of ECOLOO technology in Mongolia. ECOLOO Group is specializing in sustainable sanitation solutions and other green innovations.



21. World Water Week-2014

CWP-Mongolia (5 partners) took part in the World Water Week held on 1-5 September 2014 in Stockholm, Sweden (see Annex 2).



22. 2nd Meeting of the Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystem Nexus

The 2nd Meeting of the Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystem Nexus under the UNECE Water Convention was held on 8-9 September 2014 in Geneva, Switzerland. The aim was to bring together representatives (total: 80) to discuss the assessment of the nexus in selected transboundary basins, as provided for in the Convention's programme of work 2013-2015, and to: provide an overview of the status of preparations so far; review the approach to assessing the nexus; discuss the finding and the experience from the basin assessments so far; review the preparations for the forthcoming basin assessments; discuss the format and elements of the basin assessments; agree on next steps; and propose possible follow-up activities for the Convention's programme of work 2016-2018.

GWP CACENA was represented by Dr. Vadim Sokolov (DWP CACENA Regional Coordinator) and Mr. George Dzamukashvili (CWP-Georgia Chairman), Mr. Yarash Pulatov (CWP-Tajikistan Chairman)



Section 11: Forthcoming events

23. Forthcoming event in Armenia

The Regional Workshop “Alternative methods for treatment of urban waste waters” is planned to be held on 16-17 October 2014 (Organizer: CWP-Armenia).

24. Forthcoming events in Turkmenistan

National Seminar on the Protocol on Water and Health (Convention of the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes) is planned to be held on 7-8 October 2014 in Ashgabat.

National Seminar on the 1992 Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents is planned to be held on 9-10 October 2014 in Ashgabat.

Water Resources Management Sustainability Index Tool (WRM SIT)

Initiative Field Application Testing

USAID – GLOWS

Management Memo - Georgia

Introduction

Water Resources Management Sustainability Index Tool (WRM SIT) Initiative Field Application Testing is a project financed by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by the Global Water for Sustainability (GLOWS) consortium under the leadership of Florida International University (FIU). WRM SIT was developed in 2013-2014 as part of a Sustainability Initiative conducted under the Florida International University (FIU) Global Water for Sustainability (GLOWS) program. The Tool is modeled after and draws on the experience of the companion Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Sustainability Index Tool (WASH SIT) that was developed by Aguaconsult, Ltd. through a partnership between USAID and Rotary International.

The objective of the Tool is to assess the likely sustainability of water resources management programs using a range of qualitative indicators that are converted into quantitative scores. It is not focused on monitoring performance of specific program interventions *per se*, and rather seeks to understand the totality of sustainability influences on a program, with a focus on the external context. It also does not measure the actual physical sustainability of water resources themselves, instead examining the extent to which crucial management criteria are being met to support physical WRM sustainability. It is intended for application as a general monitoring or process assessment tool during and/or after program implementation rather than for impact evaluation.

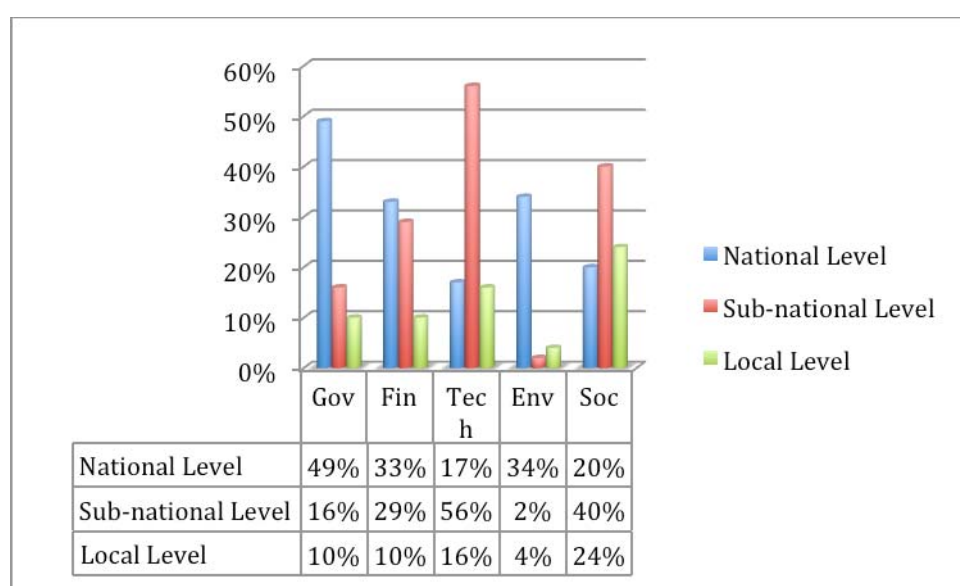
This management memo is based on the results of WRM SIT applied in Georgia. The field activity took a place in August-September 2014. The results are based on data collected through group and key-informant interviews, policy, strategy, watershed management plan and other regulatory documentations review. The interviews took place on a national and local levels, Tbilisi and Alazani watershed. More than 80 people have been interviewed for this exercise. On a national level, 5 Ministries, 6 Donors, 20 NGOs, 2 universities were selected for the interviews. On a local level, Alazani river basin has been selected for implementation of this Tool. Selection was based

on geographic location, easy access from Tbilisi, and USAID and other donors previous work in the water resource management sector in this area. In the field local communities, local authorities, NGOs, in total 30 people have been interviewed in 3 districts: (Dedoplistskaro, Telavi, Akhmeta) in Kakheti region.

In order to identify areas of weakness and good practice to inform future programming, the five sustainability factors: governance, financial, technical, environmental and social-economic have been analyzed. The results have been aggregated and assessed.

The Figure 1 below shows distribution of the aggregated and averaged scores for the five sustainability factors, as mentioned above, across the national, sub-national and local levels.

Figure 1. Sustainability factor scores (Governance, Financial, Technical, Environmental and Social-economic) for National, Sub-national and Local levels.



As it is clear from the figure 1, out of the 5 sustainability factors (Governance, Finance, Technical, Socio-Economic, Environment) on the National level fall within the moderate scale between 30% and 60% (respectively 49%, 33% and 34%). While Technical and Social-economic factors fall within the low level scores- below 30%. The opposite situation occurs on the Sub-national level – as compared to the other scores the technical and Social-economic factor scores are quite high 56% and 40% respectively.

In summary the main findings are as follows;

1. Georgia lacks clear, coherent, implementable and enforceable legislation on the Integrated Water Resources management, which explains lower score for the Governance on the National level;
2. Between the national and lower levels, there is a lack of clarity about institutional roles and mandates on Integrated Water Resources Management. Also limited coordination of

efforts, particularly on the national and Local level, as well as low enforcement on the local level is reflected in lower scores for Governance and Finances for the national and local levels;

3. Considerable number of different scale infrastructure projects (funded by international Donors like GEF, EU, USAID, ADB, BW, EBRD) account for the high score for technical factor on the Sub-national level. There have been several pilot projects for the drip irrigation, as well as major infrastructural –water supply network rehabilitation project have been carried out and planned.

4. Low governance factor score for the Sub-national and Local levels is cause by the lack of water resources on lower levels and inability of the government to improve the situation with the water supply;

5. The equal access to the water supply and accurate fee collection is guaranteed on local levels, accounting for the high score of the social-economic factor on lower levels;

6. Fundamental accounting and financial management are limited even where tariffs are collected by local service providers, accounting for low scores of the finance factor, particularly on the Local level;

7. Limited attention or resources are committed to environmental protection around water sources or institutional sanitation facilities.

Key findings and recommended action points

The Tool is focused on assessment at the program level, in contrast with broader context level monitoring schemes. ‘Programs’ are defined in the broadest sense to include all deliberate human investment and actions taken to achieve an objective, by an identified institution or group (including stakeholder management committees, government agencies, private productive sectors, donors and NGOs, etc.). Programs are characterized by intentionality, time limits, and well-defined targets of interest. They exist at all spatial scales, but where site based activities exist, have a specified geography with identifiable boundaries. While the program *level* is targeted, this Tool does not monitor program *activities* themselves. Rather, it focuses on all-encompassing sustainability criteria in particular places where programs as well as many other non-program activities take place.

Outputs and brief summary of the WWW in Stockholm, Sweden, 31.08.2014-05.09.2014

By Prof.Basandorj, MWP

This is my great pleasure to GWP office in Stockholm and with stronger support Dr.FrancoisBrikke& Natalia Alekceeva we get more successful discussions and outputs as follows:

1. Meeting with GSFund, Mr. David Trouba- start discussion to organize sanitation conference in Mongolia, find possibility joining GSF, they will focus in rural sanitation and they can help soft issues, setting of business module. Basandorj need provide related information about current condition and Government policy improving sanitation in Mongolia
2. CLTS activity, meeting with Kamal Car, he expressed willing to find way for sanitation development in Mongolia, looking for productive ways to cooperate.
3. Meeting with Ania Grobicki with Mongolian Water Partnership & Vice Minister of Environment and Green Development, other delegations in WWW, Discussion GWP management, for support Urban approach, we need develop concept note for support 2015, demo project in UB,
4. UNESCO follow up discussion technical group will be established, may be Mongolia involved, Sarantuyaa from UNESCO offering suggest water quality challenges in Mongolia
5. Organize Study tour for sanitation and grey water management from Mongolia, looking for advanced option for GWP, Natalia
6. WB discussion, Francois sent email to WB office, Mongolia would like to test and pilot IUWM modules in Ulaanbaatar,
7. WRG meeting and late September WRG will organize meeting in Ulaanbaatar, discuss next steps for development.
8. Meeting with SDC, they will arrange meeting with SDC person in Ulaanbaatar
9. Bill gates funding will be multicounty program proposal can be send by April 2015
10. SUSANA meeting and looking for productive cooperation with SUSANA
11. Technical documents EAWAG, Francois will send UNICEF sanitation document, O&M from WHO
12. Meeting and discussion with vice Minister of MEGD
13. SDG monitoring tool, send presentation write to presentation Francois
14. Francois will send more material about Integrated Urban water approach and sanitation development.

Member Countries of GWP CACENA:

Armenia
Azerbaijan
Georgia
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Tajikistan
Turkmenistan
Uzbekistan
Mongolia