

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

GWP CACENA and CEE Inter-Regional Workshop on Water Supply and Sanitation Kiev, Ukraine 25-27 May 2009

Introduction

Within the GWP network there are eight countries of Central Asia and Caucasus that have established the GWP CACENA region and 12 countries of Central and Eastern that have established the GWP CEE region¹. After decades of Soviet Union influence, ten countries are today EU members, while the remaining ten countries are influenced by EU water policies.

Water supply and sanitation is at the interface of humans, water resources and sustainable development. In order to bring about balance between human needs and ecosystem functions political leadership is needed, capacity must be built and money has to be invested.

As an answer to regional needs GWP CEE in 2007 launched its book *Sustainable Sanitation in Central and Eastern Europe – addressing the needs of small and medium-size settlements*. In spring 2009 GWP CACENA will launch a study on the state of Water Supply and Sanitation in each of its eight member countries.

This Workshop aims at:

1. Helping partners of the two GWP regions to position themselves in the context of water supply and sanitation for IWRM plan preparations and policy implementations, like the EU WFD.
2. Mainstreaming GWP activities with other actors who are directly involved with water supply and sanitation

The Workshop Goals:

- To discuss and agree on inter-regional cooperation to strengthen "intellectual capacity" to address WSS issues
- To create mechanisms to respond to critical challenges in WSS issues for CACENA countries based upon experience from CEE countries
- To assess existing tools and develop new tools regarding IWRM and WSS
- To share and provide technical support at all levels of the GWP network.

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¹ **CACENA countries:** Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan

CEE countries: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine



Preliminary program



May 24 (Sunday) – Arrival of participants to Kiev

Day 1 - May 25 (Monday):

Morning session: Presentations and discussion on outcomes from observations on WSS progress in CACENA countries with launching of the Regional WSS Report, prepared by GWP CACENA,

Afternoon session: Open discussion specific issues (gaps) of the WSS in CACENA countries in the context of the “Hashimoto Action Plan”:

- WSS as an element of IWRM (GWP IWRM ToolBox tools)
- Financing of WSS
- Monitoring and reporting on WSS
- Towards MDGs on Sanitation – what are gaps in institutional, technical and others aspects

Expected Output: Recommendations for decision makers

Dinner

Day 2 – May 26 (Tuesday):

Morning session: Cooperation aspects on WSS:

- Central Asia and Caucasus Water Operators Partnership was established in 2007 with ADB support, but is still not operational. - What we can do together?
- Best practices and lessons learnt in WSS – knowledge transfer CEE to CACENA
- Capacity development on WSS – suggestions for joint activities

Afternoon session:

- 1) Role of GWP helping CEE and CACENA countries to progressing WSS programmes (open brain storming)
- 2) Future plans - next joint activities – what we can do together to make the EU strategy and programmes on WSS for EECCA countries more effective? What we can do together towards 2nd Asia-Pacific Water Summit (scheduled for June 2010 in Singapore)?
- 3) Cooperation opportunities with donors and international agencies

Expected Output: Agreement on the way forward

Day 3 – May 27 (Wednesday): Sightseeing around Kiev or tour outside (to be suggested by hosts, Site visits to local WSS projects)

May 28 – departure of participants

Participants: GWP CACENA Regional Council members, experts from CAWUN – Central Asian Water Utilities Network; GWP CEE Council, experts on WSS from CEE countries, GWPO (Stockholm), Selected International Actors.