

Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

Report

November 2014

### 1. 16th Governing Council Meeting of Asia-Pacific Water Forum

On 19 November 2014 in Seoul (Korea), GWP CACENA Regional Coordinator Vadim Sokolov took part in the 16th Governing Council meeting of Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF) and the 2nd meeting for preparing the 7th World Water Forum.

<http://www.gwp.org/en/CACENA/News/16th-Governing-Council-Meeting-of-Asia-Pacific-Water-Forum/>

### 2. Training workshop for veteran teachers

The training workshop for veteran teachers organized by CWP-Armenia was held on 25 November 2014 in the Geological Museum at the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia. The workshop was devoted to water quality in Armenia. Participants were informed about sources for drinking water supply in Armenia particularly in Yerevan as well about quality of surface water and groundwater.



Also participants were informed about sources of pollution of surface water and groundwater. Participants expressed a desire to attend more such workshops in the future. They proposed some ideas about careful use of water resources.

### 3. WACDEP CACENA in Armenia

The publicity video "Alternative technologies for wastewater treatment" within demonstration project in Armenia in 3 languages is being developed.

### 4. Regional Meeting "The Potential Benefits of Trans-Boundary Cooperation in Georgia and Azerbaijan - Kura River Basin"

This meeting was organized by CWP-Georgia and held on 10-11 November 2014 in the Conference Hall of the Ministry of Environment Protection of Georgia. The meeting was conducted within the OECD project "The Potential Benefits of Trans-Boundary Cooperation in Georgia and Azerbaijan - Kura River Basin" and was attended by national and international consultants of the OECD project as well as representatives of national agencies dealing with water resources management in Azerbaijan and Georgia (total: 30 people).

Azerbaijan and Georgia have shown commitment to implement the principles of the EU Water Framework Directive and are reforming water policy, and are going to develop the work plan on river basin management based on abovementioned principles. Azerbaijan and Georgia are subject to threats posed by climate

change process; therefore better management of water resources for two countries is an important condition to adapt to these processes. In addition, countries have common interests and objectives related to the Kura River Basin, including the prevention and control of floods and pollution because of untreated sewage. The accelerating economic development in the recent years puts additional pressure on the environment. And the improving of IWRM in two countries will promote "Green Growth" and decrease poverty and tensions related to transboundary status of Kura, and also strengthen peace in the region.

The preliminary results indicate that transboundary cooperation in the Kura basin remains problematic. The common knowledge base covering physical and socio-economic aspects of joint management of water resources including existing IWRM experience particularly a flood risk management is needed to be developed. A bilateral agreement between Azerbaijan and Georgia on the Kura is supposed to improve cooperation considerably. In spite of various technical assistance to regional countries in recent years outside support for assessment of economic benefits of improved cooperation in water resources management in the basin is still needed.



### 5. Seventh meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health

CWP-Georgia and CWP-Kyrgyzstan participated in the seventh meeting of the Working Group on Water and Health held on 26-27 November 2014 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The main objective of the seventh meeting was to review the implementation of the programme of work for the period 2014-2016, adopted at the third session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (Oslo, 25-27 November 2013), and to provide guidance on its further development, with particular consideration of the financial situation.

The following issues were considered:

- Progress of the Protocol implementation;
- Identifying target indexes;
- Water related diseases prevention;
- Small-scale water supply and sanitation;
- Equal access to water supply and sanitation
- etc.

The meeting considered progress of National Water Policy Dialogues within the EU Water Initiative. CWP-Georgia is a coordinator of this process in Georgia.

CWP-Georgia as a coordinator of this process in Georgia has informed participants (total: 70 people) about NPD progress in Georgia as well as situation with ratification of the Protocol and target indexes.



### **6. Balkhash-Alakolsky Basin Council meeting**

CWP-Kazakhstan partners and Mr. Kipshakbaev, CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman, took part in the Balkhash-Alakolsky Basin Council meeting held on 7 November 2014 in Almaty.

### **7. Meeting with Chairman of the Committee on Water Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan**

Mr. Kipshakbaev, CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman, has met with Chairman of the Committee on Water Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan, and with Mayor (akim) of Kyzylordinky region on 12 November 2014 to discuss the field work results within the demonstration project "Drought risk management: IWRM solutions on regulating water demands in irrigated agriculture" in the Kyzylordinsky region.

### **8. Stakeholders' seminar on adaptation to climate change**

CWP-Kazakhstan took part in the Stakeholders seminar on adaptation to climate change in the Chu-Talassky transboundary basin held on 25 November 2014 in Astana.

### **9. Training-workshop "State program on water resources management in Kazakhstan"**

CWP-Kazakhstan organized and conducted the Training-workshop "State program on water resources management in Kazakhstan" for graduate students, doctoral students and university teachers, where training is conducted on "Water resources and water use". 76 people received a certificate.



Presentation of certificate (28 November 2014)

### 10. Discussion "Water and Role of Civil Society"

On 11 November 2014 CWP-Mongolia organized discussion "Water and role of Civil society" in the Meeting Hall of Fresh Water Center in Ulaanbaatar. The event was attended by 25 people.

The aim of this event was development of partnership with environmental NGOs and defines a role of civil society in water sector as well to inform about GWPO, GWP CACENA, CWP-Mongolia and to establish close cooperation for water related problems solving



### 11. National Conference "Challenges of water supply and sewage services"

CWP-Mongolia took part in the National Conference "Challenges water supply and sewage services" organized by the Ministry of Construction and Urban Development of Mongolia and held on 12 November 2014.

The aim of the conference was to develop partnership with local companies located in rural area and improve and build institutional capacity within public utilities. More than 80 partners of CWP-Mongolia participated. Participants shared ideas on developing partnership with CWP-Mongolia and gave their comments on trainings for improvement of technicians and engineers capacity.



### 12. Water discussion in the Parliament

CWP-Mongolia organized the discussion "Water is strategically important value". It was held on 21 November 2014 at the State House in Ulaanbaatar.

Representatives of NGOs (total: 18) dealing with hydrogeological issues discussed groundwater protection. Mr. Battsoigt, Member of Parliament of Mongolia, made a presentation about protection of groundwater resources and groundwater law.



### 13. Media competition on water in Mongolia

On 23 November 2014 CWP-Mongolia organized a meeting with mass media to announce a competition aiming to improve water related laws, regulations, standards, norms and rules. More than 30 people representing Mongolian TV and newspapers have gathered at the Media Center of the State House in Ulaanbaatar. CWP-Mongolia informed participants about important role of public & civil society involvement to water management. CWP-Mongolia called on lawyers and water specialists to improve water laws and regulations that will strengthen institutional potential of water sector in Mongolia. The competition started on 22 November 2014 and will be up to 22 March 2015. 5 During this period the best suggestions and

recommendations for improvement of water sector law and institutional capacity by good water governance will be collected.



### 14. 4th Environmental Symposium in Mongolia

4th Environmental Symposium organized by the Board of Environmental NGOs was held on 25 November 2014 in the Conference Hall of Blue-Sky Tower in Ulaanbaatar. More than 400 representatives of NGOs took part in this symposium. Prof. Basandorj made a presentation "Involvement of NGO & Civil society to water governance & management" aiming to establish more close cooperation and partnership with environmental NGOs. Prof. Basandorj was elected a Member of Standing Committee of the Board members of National Environmental NGOs, and a Chairman of the Water, Air and Soil Commission for 2 years.



### 15. Workshop "Water sector challenges and main problem facing water management"

The Workshop "Water sector challenges and main problem facing water management" organized by the Presidential office and the Ministry of Green Development & Environment was held on 26 November 2014 in Ulaanbaatar.

CWP-Mongolia took part in the discussion on Mongolian water sector development. There was 6

noted needs to improve water legal bases & update water related laws. CWP-Mongolia reported about its activity in 2014. The workshop was attended by 50 people.



### **16. Meeting with the Ministry of Education of Mongolia and the Korean Institute of Construction Technology**

CWP-Mongolia has met with representatives of Ministry of Education of Mongolia and of the Korean Institute of Construction Technology on 27 November 2014 to discuss concept of creating water friendly Green School.

The pilot project for reusing treated wastewater for school sanitation in Mongolian condition was considered too.



### **17. Water issues on Mongolian TV**

CWP-Mongolia participated in 3 television programs - "Water & City", "Water of Value" and "Water & Health" - broadcasted on the National TV of Mongolia. The aim was to inform public about GWP activity and water security at the national level. It is supposed that these television programs will promote development of integrated urban water management approach.





### 18. Workshop on preparing 3d National Communications on Climate Change of the Republic of Tajikistan

The aim of the workshop organized by UNDP on 26 November 2014 in Tajikistan was to analyze progress in finalizing the 3d National Communications on Climate Change of the Republic of Tajikistan. CWP-Tajikistan presented a report "Assessment of vulnerability and development of adaptation measures to climate change in the water resources and water supply aspect".



### 19. Training for agronomists, hydropower engineers, managers, economists being participated in the GIZ-projects

On 23 November 2014, CWP-Tajikistan jointly with PO "Institute for rural development" organized the training workshop for specialists (total: 24) participating in the GIZ-projects. This training was held in the Obirgam village. Issues on water resources rational use and protection were presented by CWP-Tajikistan.



## 20. Workshop on developing the National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change in Tajikistan

The Workshop on developing the National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change in Tajikistan organized by the Committee on environmental protection of Tajikistan and the Climate Investment Fund within the ADB project TA 8090 "Technical Assistance for Capacity Building for Climate Resilience" was held at the Ismailia Centre in Dushanbe, on November 19-20, 2014. The goal of the Workshop was assistance in elaboration of the "National strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change in Tajikistan".

CWP-Tajikistan among other specialists of the key ministries and departments, independent experts from scientific and research centers and public organizations (total: 35 people), took part in elaboration of the "National strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change in Tajikistan". The priorities of climate risks and impacts based on vulnerability assessment are defined as follows:

- Energy and water resources;
- Agriculture and forests;
- Transport and infrastructure;
- Social development.

Mr. Pulatov Yarash (CWP-Tajikistan Chairman) made a presentation "Energy and Water Resources (fossil fuel use, hydropower, burning of biomass, surface water, ground water, snowmelt, and recharge)".



## 21. The seventh NPD Steering Committee meeting

CWP-Tajikistan took part in the seventh meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Policy Dialogue on Integrated Water Resources Management of Tajikistan held on 13 November 2014 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

There was discussed the state of water management reforms that the UNECE helped to design. Over 60 representatives of different stakeholders and donors involved in improving the water resources situation in Tajikistan attended the meeting. Steering Committee meeting was chaired by the Minister of Energy and Water Resources of Tajikistan, Mr. Usmonali Usmonzoda.



## 22. Republican Scientific and Practical Conference "Status and prospects of land reclamation development in Tajikistan"

The Republican Scientific and Practical Conference "Status and prospects of land reclamation development in Tajikistan" organized by the Institute of Soil Science of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan was held on 14 November 2014. CWP-Tajikistan took part in the consideration of soil reclamation of irrigated lands and development of recommendations. Representatives of Agency on land reclamation and irrigation under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, scientists and specialists of agriculture and water management as well farmers and WUAs attended the conference.



### 23. WACDEP CACENA in Tajikistan

In November 2014 CWP-Tajikistan mainly dealt with organizational issues related to harvesting cotton, dismantling irrigation system, preparing the field for winter crops, water-charging irrigation, etc. A special booklet on the results of 2014 was prepared and released . Deviation from the accepted work program and methodology is not observed.



### 24. Pilot trainings for Water Managers in Turkmenistan

CWP-Turkmenistan started up trainings on IWRM for water managers within ENECE grant (ECE/GC/2014/04/012). The first series of trainings were held on 12-14 November 2014 and the second one - on 26-28 November 2014 in the Conference Hall at the Grand-Turkmen Hotel in Ashgabat.

The aims of trainings are as follows:

- creating regular personnel for IWRM implementation for the inter-farms irrigation canals;
- creating water managers' potential for basin administrations and trainers for further expansion of IWRM implementation.

Trainings were attended by 20 water specialists related to operation of inter-farm irrigation systems from five regions of Turkmenistan.



## 25. The final conference of the project "Supporting local initiatives on water in Central Asia"

CWP-Turkmenistan took part in the final conference of the project "Supporting local initiatives on water in Central Asia" organized by REC CA under financial support of the Ministry of Nature Protection of Norway. The conference was held on 18-19 November 2014 at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Almaty.

The conference aiming to inform public and experts about project results was held on 18-19 November 2014 at the Holiday Inn Hotel in Almaty.

## 26. The Second Workshop "Practice of Formation of Sustainable Civil Society Organizations in Central Asian region"

CWP-Turkmenistan took part in the Second Workshop "Practice of Formation of Sustainable Civil Society Organizations in Central Asian region" organized by GIZ on 18-20 November 2014 in the Ak-Maral Resort. The aim was to share experience on increasing NGOs sustainability between public organizations, and to create new partnerships for regional potential mobilization to address problems of non-governmental and noncommercial sectors.

[http://preview.vb.kg/doc/294316\\_npo\\_centralnoy\\_azii\\_obmenialis\\_opytom.html](http://preview.vb.kg/doc/294316_npo_centralnoy_azii_obmenialis_opytom.html)



## 27. WB information workshop

CWP-Turkmenistan took part in the information workshop organized by the World Bank on 4-5 November 2014 in the Conference Hall of the World Bank in Ashgabat.

The aims of the workshop:

- informing expert community of 12 Turkmenistan about tools developed by WB

- for analysis of water resources management approaches in Central Asia;
- discussing opportunity/perspective of collaboration with managers of regional water programme for Central Asia (Ms. Daryl Fields and Ms. Martha Yarosevitch).

### **28. The Roundtable "Role of Mass media and Public in Water Saving Promotion"**

The Roundtable "Role of Mass media and Public in Water Saving Promotion" under initiative by SIC ICWC was held by the Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan jointly with the Embassy of Israel in the Republic of Uzbekistan on 13 November 2013 in the La Grande Plaza Hotel in Tashkent.

<http://www.gwp.org/en/CACENA/News/The-Roundtable-Role-of-Mass-media-and-Public-in-Water-Saving-Promotion/>

*Member Countries of GWP CACENA:*

Armenia  
Azerbaijan  
Georgia  
Kazakhstan  
Kyrgyzstan  
Mongolia  
Tajikistan  
Turkmenistan  
Uzbekistan