



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

# Report

## For April 2017

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## 1. Training "Capacity Building for Working with Tools for Monitoring the Efficiency of Resources Use"

On April 21, CWP-Armenia as expert of RECP (Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production) participated in the training "Capacity Building for Working with Tools for Monitoring the Efficiency of Resources Use" organized by UNIDIO and the Armenian office of REC Caucasus within the pilot project "Resources Efficiency and Clean Products" (RECP). This project is carried out within the regional project "Green Economy in the Eastern Cooperation Region" (EaP GREEN).

The international expert from Austria conducted training course on different tools for determining the loss of water, electricity, noise and other parameters. These gained skills CWP-Armenia members can use in the environmental audits of different enterprises.



Participants



At the Elbat enterprise

## 2. General meeting of the Civic Cooperation Network of the Strategic Programs of the Republic of Armenia

On April 22, CWP-Armenia participated in the general meeting of the Civic Cooperation Network of the Strategic Programs of the Republic of Armenia, which took place in the big hall of the Ministry of Economic Development and Investments. CWP-Armenia is a member of this network and a curator of the working group on ecology.

This membership gives the opportunity to raise awareness on water problems at the Government level and to find more rational ways to resolve them. The meeting presented a report on the work done, the difficulties and achievements of the Network. Elections of the Chairman and members of the Network Council were organized. The CWP-Armenia representative was elected a council member from the working group on ecology.

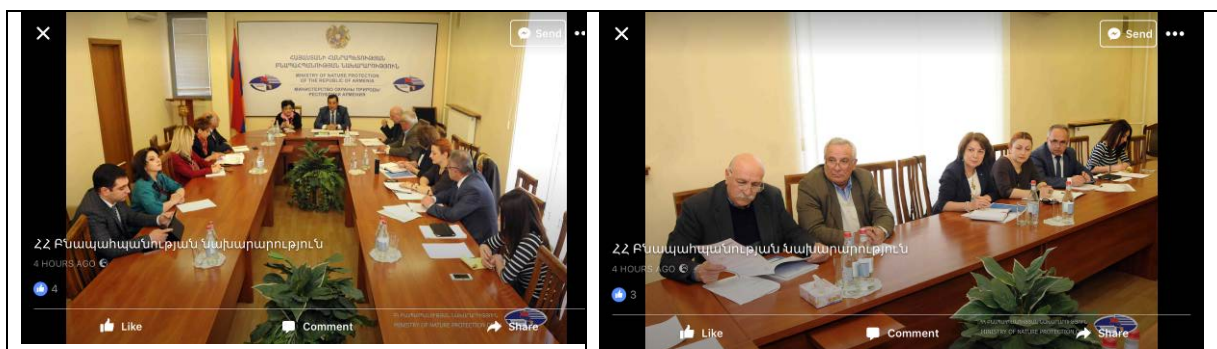


At the meeting

### 3. Preparatory works for SDGs implementation

To develop indicators and mechanisms for SDGs achievement, the Government of the Republic of Armenia established the working groups which are being coordinated by deputy ministers of concerned ministries. The working groups consist of interested ministries and departments, public organizations and business sector. The water goal was included in responsibility of the working group "Ecology", which is supervised by the Deputy Minister of Nature Protection H. Hakobyan. CWP-Armenia has joined this working group and works closely with organizations responsible for the Water Goal.

On April 27, CWP-Armenia participated in the first meeting of the working group "Ecology", where a working plan and a schedule of meetings were drawn up. All interested departments were instructed to report about inclusion of SDGs into the strategic documents and programs within 10 days. CWP-Armenia presented the report "The country's readiness for SDG6 implementation", based on the results of the research done last year.



The working group members

#### **4. Seminar "Implementation of INDC Financial Mechanisms in the Medium and Small Communities of Armenia"**

On April 21, CWP-Armenia participated in the seminar organized by the NGO Khazer within the strategic project "Implementation of INDC Financial Mechanisms in the Medium and Small Communities of Armenia". The project is funded by GEF. The meeting was held in the Aarhus Center in Yerevan.

Participants: representatives of UNDP, National Climate Center, interested ministries, NGOs, international organizations (total: 23 people).

Purpose: to present a strategic project and discuss a proposal (made within the project) on creating a consortium of stakeholders, as well as goals of consortium.

Any organizations that accept the provisions fixed by INDC in Armenia, in particular, the idea of creating a civil investment fund, as an innovative financial mechanism aiming to implement the Convention on Climate Change, may be a member of consortium. CWP-Armenia expressed its desire to become a member of this consortium and, together with other organizations, signed a Memorandum of Cooperation.

#### **5. New projects of CWP-Armenia**

Since April 1, 2017, CWP-Armenia together with the URBAN Foundation and the YSU Law Faculty is implementing a new 3-year project "Effective Water Resources Management with Active Participation of Stakeholders". Within this project, in 12 communities of the Ararat artesian basin, campaigns on effective use and conservation of water resources should be carried out.

As a result of the WACDEP pilot project in Armenia, CWP-Armenia prepared a conceptual project "Prevention of agricultural land degradation through construction of sewage collector and a drainage type sewage treatment plant in the Margaovit village in the Lori region". The conceptual project was approved by the EU CSO project and now CWP-Armenia develops the final version of the project.

#### **6. 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Policy Dialogue in water sector of Georgia**

*Date:* 11 April 2017

*Venue:* Tbilisi

*Organizer:* CWP-Georgia

*Participants:* representatives of CWP-Georgia, UNECE, EUWI + for Eastern Partnership, ministries and agencies, business, NGOs, international organizations and projects (total: 35 people).

The objective of the meeting was to discuss status of ongoing NPD activities and draft national priorities for 2017-2020 EUWI+ project in Georgia. The meeting also served as a platform for strengthening of synergies with other international water projects implemented in Georgia.

National Policy Dialogues (NPD) on integrated water resources management (IWRM) and water supply and sanitation (WSS) are the main operational instrument of the European Union Water Initiative (EUWI) Component for Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA). The EUWI, including its EECCA Component, was launched at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002. It contributes to the implementation of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The United Nations Economic

Commission for Europe (UNECE) is the strategic partner for support to the policy dialogue processes on IWRM, whereas the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is the strategic partner for WSS and financial aspects of IWRM. All together, since 2006 the EUWI NPDs have been carried out in nine countries.

In Georgia, the UNECE and OECD have been supporting the EUWI since 2011 through a National Policy Dialogue (NPD) process. NPD is a multi-stakeholder platform for discussing water policy reforms with key decisions taken at annual or biannual Steering Committee meeting. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection is in charge of leading and coordinating the NPD process in Georgia. In 2015, UNECE and the Ministry signed the Memorandum of Understanding which lists priority areas of work under NPD process in Georgia for next years. One of the priorities is the strengthening of bilateral cooperation with Azerbaijan on transboundary Kura river.

The meeting discussed on-going international projects on water resources.



## 7. Round Table on Climate Change

*Date:* 25 April 2017

*Venue:* Tbilisi

*Organizer:* Georgian Red Cross Society

*Participants:* representatives of CWP-Georgia, public organizations working in the field of climate change (total: 18 people).

*Purpose:* to promote the awareness-raising on climate change issues.

Participants were informed about activities on demonstration projects (in schools and communities) implemented within the Climate Forum East project.

CWP-Georgia Chairman Georgy Dzamukashvili reminded the participants about the WACDEP project and disseminated a publication issued by CWP-Georgia "Global Water Partnership Contributes to Climate Change Adaptation Process - The Nairobi Statement - Guiding Principles for Adaptation to Climate Change". Participants agreed to continue cooperation in the field of climate change and to share information on this issue.



## 8. Launching the GEF project

On April 6-7, 2017 in the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan a meeting on the launching of the project "Integrated water resources management in the Kura river basin within implementation of national plans and the transboundary coordinated measures " funded by the Global Environment Facility was held.

International experts and CWP- Azerbaijan together with the Georgian delegation discussed existing problems on rational use of water resources of the Kura River and how to reduce transboundary degradation in the Kura river basin.

## 9. 6th meeting of the Coordinating Council on National Water Policy Dialogue of Azerbaijan

On April 26, 2017 in the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan, the 6th meeting of the Coordinating Council on National Water Policy Dialogue was held within the UNECE Water Initiative project on integrated water resources management. The event was attended by international experts and CWP- Azerbaijan representatives.

Member of the GWP CACENA Regional Council Mr. Osmanov Teimur made a report on water resources of the republic and their use.

## 10. 70th ICWC meeting

CWP-Kazakhstan chairman Prof. Nariman Kipshakbaev took part in the 70th meeting of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination on April 12, 2017, in Tashkent. The meeting organized by ICWC and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan was attended by ICWC members and national experts of Central Asian countries.

The following issues were considered:

- Results of non-vegetation period 2016-2017 in the Amudarya and Syrdarya river basins;
- Water withdrawal limits, and the reservoir cascade operation modes for the next growing season 2017 in the Amudarya and Syrdarya river basins;
- Preparation towards the 25th ICWC anniversary;
- Implementation of the plan on strengthening ICWC activity.

### **11. 3rd meeting of the working group on bilateral cooperation between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Uzbekistan**

CWP-Kazakhstan chairman Prof. Nariman Kipshakbaev participated in the 3rd meeting of the working group on bilateral cooperation between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of use and protection of transboundary watercourses of the Syrdarya river basin. CWP-Kazakhstan chairman Prof. Nariman Kipshakbaev participated in the 3rd meeting of the working group on bilateral cooperation between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of use and protection of transboundary watercourses of the Syrdarya river basin.

*Date:* April 13, 2017

*Venue:* Tashkent, Uzbekistan

*Organizers:* Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of Uzbekistan; Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan.

*Participants:* the working group members.

The draft agreement on use and protection of transboundary water courses was developed. CWP-Kazakhstan suggested establishing the Interstate Syrdarya Basin Council to involve stakeholders (environmentalists, hydrologists, NGOs, civil society) in water resources management.

### **12. International Scientific and Practical Conference "Problems and prospects for effective water management in the context of globalization»**

CWP-Kazakhstan chairman Prof. Nariman Kipshakbaev took part in the International Scientific and Practical Conference "Problems and prospects for effective water management in the context of globalization "

*Date:* April 11, 2017

*Venue:* Tashkent, Uzbekistan

*Organizers:* Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of Uzbekistan; Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Melioration.

*Participants:* representatives of Central Asian countries.

The conference discussed the following issues:

- Strategy for effective water management and prospects for innovative development of water sector and improvement of land reclamation conditions
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- Implementation of resource-saving technologies and modern management in transboundary and water-deficit zones: problems and solutions
- Prospective training of water management personnel
- Ensuring economic efficiency in water sector: trends and innovations
- Issues of sustainable use of land resources, modernization of geoinformation systems and technologies
- Problems of increasing an efficiency and safety of hydraulic structures and hydropower objects

### **13. 2 seminars related to transboundary water resources**

CWP-Kazakhstan participated in two seminars: "Ensuring a Fair Use and Management of Transboundary Watercourses in Central Asia through International Diplomacy, Law and Institutions: Theory and Practical Solutions" and "International Law: Basic Principles and Fundamental Norms".

*Date:* April 5-6, 2017

*Venue:* Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

*Organizers:* Regional Center of Preventive Diplomacy of Central Asia.

*Participants:* representatives of ministries and agencies of Central Asian countries.

#### 14. International seminar on safety of hydraulic structures for Central Asia

CWP-Kazakhstan took part in the international seminar on safety of hydraulic structures for Central Asia. The seminar was organized within the framework of the regional project "Dam Safety in Central Asia: Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation".

*Date:* April 25-28, 2017

*Venue:* St-Petersburg, Russia

*Organizers:* Federal Service for Ecological, Technological and Atomic Supervision of Russia.

*Participants:* representatives of Russia and Central Asian countries.

<http://kazaral.org/ru/mezhdunarodnyj-seminar-po-bezopasnosti-gidrotexnicheskix-sooruzhenij/>

#### 15. Presentation of the UN World Water Report 2017

CWP-Kazakhstan Executive Secretary took part in presentation of the UN World Water Report 2017 "Wastewater: an Untapped Resource" timed to coincide with the World Water Day.

*Date:* April 7, 2017

*Venue:* Almaty, Kazakhstan

*Organizers:* UNESCO Almaty Cluster Office, Public Foundation "Support to Sustainable Development" Center, CAR @ WAN

*Participants:* representatives of state, international, educational, research, non-governmental organizations and independent experts (Total: 77 people).

Prof. Menlibay Myrzakhmetov (CWP-Kazakhstan) made presentation "Current state of wastewater treatment and disposal in Kazakhstan".

#### 16. Trainers' meeting in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

On April 10, 2017, CWP-Kyrgyzstan, being a local partner of GEF project, conducted a meeting of trainers for preparation of training modules as part of GEF project implementation within the bilateral agreement.

*Participants:* 5 trainers of CWP-Kyrgyzstan.

*Purpose:* preparation of training materials for the staff of the Chu-Talas Commission (to be held in June 2017).





## 17. Round Table “Preservation of the Issyk-Kul lake - the base of the population welfare of the region”

**Organizer:** State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic; «Fin Water WEI», Aarhus Center of Bishkek; Project «KGZ-Water/Issyk-Kul»

**Venue:** Kyrgyzstan

**Date:** April 26, 2017.

**Participants:** Deputy Director General of the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry (SAEPF) under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic; representatives of OSCE, the Aarhus Center of Bishkek, **CWP-Kyrgyzstan** and civil society of Issyk-Kul region (Total: 35 people incl. 16 women).

**Purpose:** Discussion on public participation in solution of environmental issues. Visiting the coastal zones of the Issyk-Kul lake and preparation to the International Day of Water Purification 2017; About public organizations' activity related to preservation of the Issyk-Kul lake.



## 18. 23rd meeting of the Commission on use of Chu / Talas rivers water facilities

Representatives of CWP-Kyrgyzstan participated as independent experts at the 23rd meeting of the Commission of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic on use of water facilities on the Chu and Talas rivers.

The meeting was organized by the GEF-UNDP-UNECE project "Promoting transboundary cooperation and integrated water resources management in the Chu and Talas river basins".

**Date:** 26 April 2017

**Venue:** Taraz, Kyrgyzstan

**Purpose:** Approval of water limits for the growing season 2017 and consideration of other issues of water cooperation between Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan.



## 19. Media Pilaf

CWP-Kyrgyzstan took part in the Media Pilaf held on April 7, 2017 in Osh city, Kyrgyzstan.

This event was devoted to environmental issues within the environmental journalism competition aiming to get into personal contacts and communication with journalists and media representatives in the southern regions of the country. Participants were informed about conditions of the contest on environmental journalism. CWP-Kyrgyzstan's member made a presentation on quality and quantity of water resources, possible ways of covering water problems in mass media. The main indicators of water security were also covered.



## 20. CWP-Kyrgyzstan participation in the programme on the radio

CWP-Kyrgyzstan member was invited to the "First Radio" to participate in a live broadcast in the "Theme of the Day" program, which was devoted to water resources of Kyrgyzstan. The broadcast took place on April 14, 2017 in Bishkek.

The great interest to the programme was aroused on the part of radio listeners throughout the country, which was confirmed by a lot of phone calls from various regions (Osh, Talas, Batken, Chui, Naryn) and Bishkek. Issues on water market and transformation of water into a commodity attracted special interest of radio listeners.

## 21. Field trip to the Jalal-Abad region of Kyrgyzstan

On April 17-21, 2017 CWP-Kyrgyzstan took part in the field trip to the Jalal-Abad region aiming to familiarize employees of local state administrations and local authorities with opportunities to prevent possible water disasters, ways to climate change adaptation as well as indicators of water security.





## 22. Presidential meeting in Ulaanbaatar

The Presidential meeting within awareness raising campaign for water management planning and its application towards water security was held in the Blue Sky Hotel in Ulaanbaatar on 12th of April.

CWP-Mongolia Chairman Prof. Basandorj made presentation, focusing to keep national water security and reducing the air, soil and water pollution. In such a way SDG6 will be achieved and water resource can be managed well. Water should be a strategic goal of national policy. Also he suggested more public involvement in policy development and establishment of economic and legal mechanism for reducing environmental pollutions.





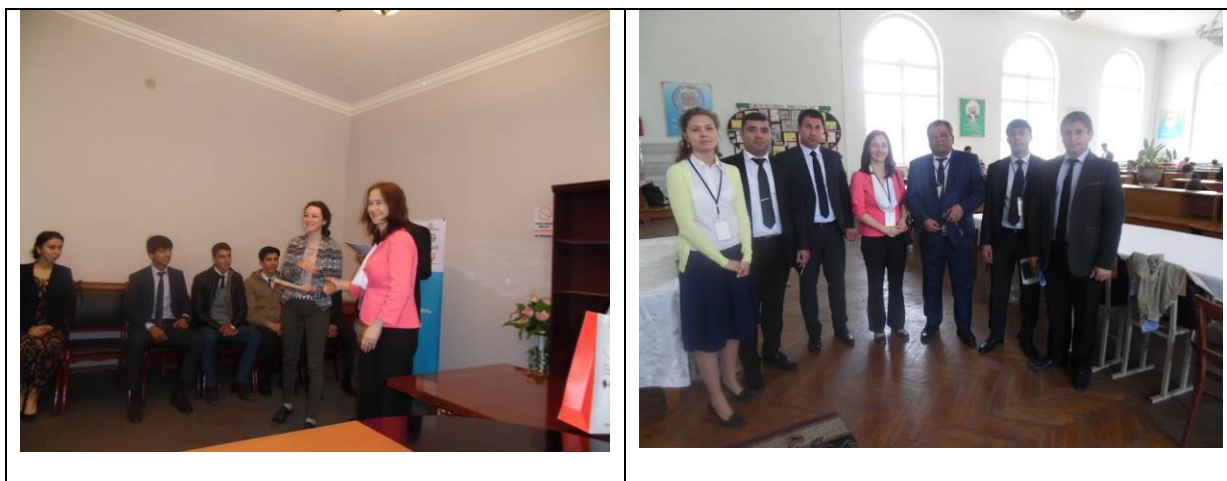
### 23. National Olympiad "Integrated Water Resources Management"

The National Olympiad "Integrated Water Resources Management" organized by the Kazakh-German University, CWP-Tajikistan, the Tajik Agrarian University named after Sh. Shotemur, the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of Tajikistan, the World Bank and DAAD was held on April 11, 2017 at the Tajik Agrarian University in Dushanbe.

More than 100 students from university of Tajikistan (Tajik National University, Tajik Technological University, Tajik Agrarian University, Russian-Tajik Slavic University, Khojent National University and others) took part in the Olympiad.

Purpose: creation of conditions for young specialists of Central Asia to communicate with colleagues from other countries in order to apply the IWRM knowledge for defending national interests of their countries on the basis of International water law and in-depth knowledge of water management practices at the local, national and inter-state levels. This event was organized within the "World Water Day".





#### **24. Training seminar "Crop Irrigation Regime and Water Accounting in the Hydro-Reclamation Systems"**

The training seminar "Crop Irrigation Regime and Water Accounting in the Hydro-Reclamation Systems" organized by the Tajik Research Institute of Hydraulic Engineering and Land Reclamation and CWP-Tajikistan was held on April 25-27, 2017 in the Hissar Research Center located in the Rudaki region.

Participants: 25 representatives of the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tatarstan, the Agency on Land Reclamation and Irrigation, the Environmental Protection Committee, the staff of TajikNIIGiM and others.

Purpose: Improvement of professional skill of specialists in water sector.



## 25. Seminar "Sustainable management of water resources as a measure to mitigate the climate change effects and the Aral ecological catastrophe"

On April 4, 2017 in the Karakalpak State University named after Berdakh (KSU), CWP-Uzbekistan under the leadership of the Samarkand State Architectural and Construction Institute, as well as with the support of the Technical Faculty and the Department of "Construction of Engineering Communications" held a seminar "Sustainable management of water resources as a measure to mitigate the climate change effects and the Aral ecological catastrophe".

The purpose of the meeting: to inform young specialists, masters of water management from educational institutions about the water resources use in the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as in the Aral Sea zone.

The following presentations were made at the seminar:

- "Sustainable management of water resources as a measure to mitigate the climate change effects and the Aral Ecological catastrophe", Gadaev A.N., national coordinator of UZWATER project;
- "Aral problem and solutions", Kubanbaev E., director of the Nukus branch of the Institute of Water Problems;
- "Water supply of settlements in the Republic of Karakalpakstan", Jumamuratov D.

Participants were informed about GWP activities in Uzbekistan too.

Scientists from various institutes as well as young specialists took part in the discussion.

Participants (total: 29 people) noted that in the era of globalization, one of the main factors is the awareness raising of local specialists and youth on IWRM, water security etc., as well improvement of their literacy, forming a culture of rational use of natural resources, promoting best practices in the field of nature management.





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The Global Water Partnership's vision is for a water secure world. Our mission is to advance governance and management of water resources for sustainable and equitable development.