



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

# Report

## For December 2018

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## 1. Seminar “IWRM role in adaptation to climate change”

Date: 9 November 2018

Place: Saatli district, Jafarkhan village, Azerbaijan

Organizer: CWP-Azerbaijan

Participants: water users, farmers and local administration (Total: 24 people)



## 2. Seminar “IWRM role in adaptation to climate change”

Date: 16 November 2018

Place: Kurdamir region, Azerbaijan

Organizer: CWP-Azerbaijan

Participants: water users, farmers and local administration (Total: 23 people)

The main objective of both seminars was to provide the necessary information on the basic principles of integrated water resources management and their protection. As a result, the participants got information on water bodies, the available water resources in Azerbaijan and on their integrated management.



### 3. Training on hydrological modeling

Date: 6-7 December 2018

Place: Baku, Azerbaijan

Organizer: GEF, the Kura-2 project

Participants: CWP-Azerbaijan, national and international experts

### 4. Concluding conference devoted to the national consultative dialogue on the IWRM role in sustainable development of Azerbaijan and adaptation to climate change

Date: 22 December 2018

Place: Baku, Azerbaijan

Organizer: CWP-Azerbaijan



Participants: the Architecture and Construction University, Baku State University, National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan, the design institutes, OJSC "Azersu" , the Ecological Meliorative Monitoring Center "Safsu", and others (Total: 32 people).

The conference discussed the following issues: CWP-Azerbaijan activity in 2018 and the work plan for 2019; water problems and sustainable development of Azerbaijan and ways to solve them; strengthening water related activity of non-governmental organizations; adaptation to climate change; accreditation of CWP-Azerbaijan, etc.

CWP-Azerbaijan Chair Mammed Asadov noted that funds were not allocated enough in 2018 for CWP-Azerbaijan. But despite this, CWP-Azerbaijan continued implementation of the work plan, being participated in various events, and conducted seminars in some regions of the republic for farmers and water users on applying the principles of integrated water resources management in the republic. GWP CACENA Regional Council member Teimur Osmanov informed on the results of GWP CACENA meeting held on November 26-27 in Tbilisi.

CWP-Azerbaijan Chair Mammed Asadov informed that trainers have been trained, and the IWRM awareness campaign was conducted.

He noted that the problem of CWP-Azerbaijan accreditation has not been resolved. But there is the Public Association "Center for Ecological and Meliorative Monitoring - Safsu", which was officially registered in 2003 as a legal entity. Taking this into account, the final meeting of CWP-Azerbaijan, which was held in December 2017, has decided to include the main principles of IWRM into the Statute of the Public Association "Center for Ecological Reclamation Monitoring - Safsu". The Ministry of Justice approved the updated statute. The conference decided to submit this updated statute together with the conference decision to the GWP CACENA Regional Council for consideration as a solution to the accreditation of CWP-Azerbaijan.



## 5. Development of “ReFill” mobile application

CWP Armenia cooperating with InMotion Armenia NGO in the frameworks of “Water, Climate and Development” (WACDEP) programme was creating a mobile Application (ReFill) which will show the location and distance of the nearest drinking fountain from the location of the user.

### **Problem Statement:**

Access to drinking water and toilets is an important condition for human physiological existence. Water resource availability is good in Armenia and we can see drinking fountains in every corner, however many people (especially tourists) don't use drinking fountains just because they simply don't know where they are located. And many people have to buy bottled water thereby increasing the amount of plastic garbage. There is also a similar problem with public toilets. There are public toilets (especially in Marzes) on the roads, but many people don't know where they are located. Many people defecate in the open. Open defecation pollutes the environment and causes health problems.

### **About the project:**

In order to support the above mentioned issues, Country Water Partnership Armenia Youth Network and InMotion Armenia NGO are planning to create mobile Application which will show the location and distance of the nearest drinking fountain from the location of the user. The App will also remind you throughout the day to drink water and will show on the map the locations of public toilets and cafés (as an alternative).

Creation of this App will support both healthcare and environmental issues (reduction of plastic bottles, reduction of open defecation).

### **The main features of the Application.**

- Shows the location of drinking fountains,
- Shows the location of public toilets,
- Shows the price and hours of public toilets,
- Opportunity for evaluation and rating,
- The user can add a database,
- Calculates the daily intake of water,
- Notifications which reminds to drink water,
- Includes the section "Water Legends" where the Armenian water traditions, stories, information, water monuments, history of drinking fountains will be presented.



Discussion on Mobile Application with InMotion Armenia NGO

## 6. “Citizen Scientists” Club: Idea Forum

On 14 December 2018, PURE Water project launched the Idea Forum for a group of Citizen Scientists representing Armavir, Ararat, Kotayq and Shirak marzes and Yerevan. For 3 days over 40 young Citizen Scientists worked on identifying and developing innovative ideas that would contribute to the improved monitoring and responsible use of the valuable and declining water resources of the Ararat valley.

Inessa Gabayan, the Head of Water Committee of RA Ministry of Energy Infrastructure and Natural Resources, water sector experts representing Veolia Jur, ICARE-Armenia / Agribusiness Teaching Center, Acopian Center for the Environment, Jinj water sector engineering & consultancy company and UNDP experts took part in the event as mentors and observers, contributing greatly with their valuable expertise.

The groups of Citizen Scientists presented their ideas that would contribute to efficient water use and management. The guests posed their questions to the groups, both encouraging and challenging their ideas. After all Certificate awarding ceremony took place.

The Idea Forum was organised in the framework of USAID funded PURE Water project.



## 7. 2nd Meeting on Transboundary Cooperation between Georgia and Azerbaijan

Date: 12 December 2018

Place: Tbilisi, Georgia

Organizer: CWP- Georgia



Participants: specialists on land reclamation and water management from Georgia and Azerbaijan (Total: 7 people)

The meeting goal was to develop recommendations for the draft bilateral agreement on cooperation in the Kura river basin between Georgia and Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan and Georgia have good neighbor relations between people, living in these countries. The countries have moral obligations that are as important as political ones. Countries cooperate in almost all areas: social, economic, cultural, environmental, etc.

The purpose of this Agreement is to create legal and institutional framework for cooperation to achieve rational and ecological use and protection of water resources and ecosystems of the Kura River Basin in the interests of the population and sustainable development of the Parties. Since 2010, bilateral meetings were held.

CWP-Georgia and CWP-Azerbaijan discussed issues of payment for irrigation services in countries, local irrigation plans, development of cooperation in irrigation sphere. The parties discussed also the possibility of involving Turkey as a party to the Agreement. Recommendations were decided to be presented at the next meeting.



## 8. The meeting of the Board of Directors of REC Caucasus

Date: 14 December 2018

Place: Tbilisi, Georgia

Organizer: REC Caucasus



Participants: representatives of the governments of Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia; Civil Sector, European Union. (Total: 14 people)

The reports of the activities carried out, the draft strategic plan and financing issues were presented.

Interest was aroused by water projects implemented by REC (the Alazani-Iori river basin plan and the Khram-Debed river basin plan).

It was noted that these projects are particularly important for Georgia. Under the new water law, 6 river basins have been identified (one in Abkhazia). And the two basin plans prepared ahead of time (before the adoption of the law) is a progressive step.

CWP-Georgia Chairman George Dzamukashvili took part in the meeting as a member of the Board of Directors of REC Caucasus.

### 9. Seminar "Water projects might be submitted to the Green Climate Fund"

Date: 5 December 2018

Place: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Organizer: CWP-Mongolia, Ministry of Environment and NDA national focal point

Participants: 25 people from 6 institutions

Purpose: to discuss possibility of financing water projects by Green Climate Fund; drafting water projects according to GCF's requirements; cooperating in the projects on climate change.

Participants considered results of the Workshop "Transformational climate resilience water project concepts in Mongolia", where participated government officials, private sector representatives and NGOs. They discussed a guidance on project preparation. Seminar established a project drafting committee, comprising of the representatives of public and private sectors.



Presentation by Dr. Batjargal National focal point NDA

### 10. Workshop "Monitoring of SDG6 implementation"

Date: 19 December 2018

Place: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Organizer: CWP-Mongolia

Participants: Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Ministry of Construction and Urban Development, Ministry of Health, City Government of Ulaanbaatar, NGOs, State Professional Inspection Agency, Public Health Institute, scientists, UNESCO (Total: 25 people)

Purpose: to discuss, evaluate, reach into agreement, and define ways to implement SDG6: "Clean Water and Sanitation" in Mongolia.



*The propositions of some participants:*

1. D. Basandorj, CWP-Mongolia: "There is no integrated regulation responsible for implementation of SDG6 in Mongolia. We need to renew the Working group on water and sanitation. Which organization will be responsible for preparing the midterm report? We need to clarify the action and work outlines".
2. Batnasan, UNESCO : "Who is responsible for the improvement of water service for the herders living outside the capital? We need to renew the Working group on water and sanitation and appoint a representative to represent Mongolia regarding SDG6 on international level".
3. Sh. Urantsetseg, Ministry of Health: "The Working group on water and sanitation was formed with 29 members. But there are no members of the National Statistics Office and National Development Agency in this Working group. The Working group allows other professionals to participate in the meeting additionally. Thus, we can form sub-Working group. The Ministry of Construction and Urban Development can be responsible for SDG 6.3; National Statistics Office - for SDG 6.1 and 6.2, Ministry of Environment and Tourism - for SDG 6.4 and 6.5; and CWP-Mongolia - for SDG 6.6. Each of organizations can be responsible for implementation of their designated goals".
4. S. Bayasgalan, State Professional Inspection Agency: "We need to expand the Working group and include a representative of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry. It is fully possible to receive information on water quality from the State Professional Inspection Agency".
5. R. Batchimeg, Ministry of Construction and Urban Development: "I support the expansion of the sub-Working group".

## **11. "Best Children and Pure Water" Campaign**

Date: 1 September – 1 December 2018

Place: Western Mongolia, Khovd town

Participants: 640 children and school teachers

Purpose: raise awareness that a clean drinking water is important for good health and what is water safety plan for small communities.

At the end of campaign the celebrating workshop was held where 5 children were awarded with small financial support (130 EURO) by CWP-Mongolia.



The campaign was focused to increase knowledge of school children on water safety plan for small community and drinking water quality and why we need protect water sources from pollution and importance of water saving and role of IWRM.



## 12. Roundtable "Prospects for development of water management in Uzbekistan"



Date: December 14, 2018

Place: Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Organizer: CWP-Uzbekistan, IFAS Agency

Participants: key partners of CWP-Uzbekistan, representatives of science, different branches of the national economy, international and non-governmental organizations (Total: 33 people).

The key report was made by a representative of the Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The following problems of water sector were discussed: education and capacity building; ways to increase water and land productivity; efficiency of irrigation systems; improvement of Uzbekistan's water legislation; sustainable development goals related to water; new impetus to solving the problems of the Aral Sea Basin and others.

After discussion, the participants decided:

- ✓ actively participate in the implementation of "The concept of water management development in conjunction with the road map of the Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan";
- ✓ raise public awareness about the measures taken by the Ministry of Water Resources to address existing problems in the water sector;
- ✓ involve population to actively participate for solving topical issues of water management, adaptation to climate change, water conservation and rational use of natural resources.



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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.