



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

Report

For July 2018

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1. CWP ARMENIA YOUTH NETWORK MEETING

“Country Water Partnership” Armenia Youth Network held the meeting on the 23rd of July, 2018.

AGENDA

1. Discussion of Seed Project Implementation on SDG 6.
2. Consensus on the next steps of CWP Armenia Youth Network and on Seed Project Implementation.

Young water professionals who have extensive work experience in IWRM, young representatives of relevant state authorities, CWP’s representatives and other stakeholders took part in the meeting.

The main topic was SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. The participants suggested many ideas on SDG 6 in Armenia and discussed the first stage of the works done by CWP youth on SDG 6 implementation in schools of Armenia.

2. THE POLITICAL DIALOGUE OF ARMENIAN STAKEHOLDERS ON 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

USAID and Coca-Cola HBC Armenia signed a Memorandum of Understanding to assist Armenia in protecting its precious water resources on July 18, 2018. The collaboration under the USAID-funded PURE Water project, implemented by the UFSO - Urban Foundation, Country Water Partnership-5000 Days towards Decent Life, includes public awareness events and campaigns in 2018 and 2019. The goal is to educate young Armenians and residents of the Ararat Valley on the serious water challenges facing the region, as well as on the importance of responsible and efficient management of water resources.



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3. The environmental issues were considered with the representatives of non-governmental organizations and civil initiatives



Minister of Nature Protection of RA Erik Grigoryan met with over 50 non-governmental organizations and civil initiatives operating in the sphere of environmental protection (including Country Water Partnership Armenia) on July 17-18. During the two-day meetings that lasted more than three hours, the attendees raised a number of sectorial issues and presented their proposals.

In the first part of the meeting, the Minister of Nature Protection submitted the policy principles conducted in environmental protection sector, the foremost directions of reforms and planned activities. Answering the questions, Minister Grigoryan illustrated the procedures related to Amulsar gold quartzite mine, the scope of powers of the Ministry, the steps to prevent single-use plastic in Armenia, and ongoing measures targeted at streamlining the issue of wild animals kept in semi-captivity and captivity.

There were also introduced the activities to reduce environmental risks and eliminate the environmental impacts of mine exploitation, the steps intended for increasing the efficiency of water resource management, the environmental monitoring system and the EIA process and the forest sector reforms to the representatives of non-governmental organizations and civil initiatives.

President of “Country Water Partnership” Armenia, Arevik Hovsepyan presented issues related to SDG 6 and climate change adaptation in Armenia.

4. Workshop “Job Training in Water Evaluation and Planning WEAP system”



Date: 18 July 2018
Place: Tbilisi
Organizer: USAID project "Governing for Growth in Georgia".

The pilot basin of the Tedzami river was chosen by the working group in April 2018.

At the beginning of the workshop the participants (Total: 20 people, incl. CWP-Georgia) were once again acquainted with the use of WEAP created by the Stockholm Environmental Institute (Presentation of WEAP baseline model). This model is used in more than 100 countries. It was used by the project to develop a scenario for the use of water resources in the basin.

Participants were informed about identification and collection baseline data as well as selection of WEAP baseline model methodology. The seminar was conducted by national and invited experts from USA. Recommendations and comments on the document were collected.

5. Meeting of the special working group of the Security Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Place: Astana

Date: 16 July 2018

Organizer: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Participants: Invited experts (including CWP-Kazakhstan Chair Prof. Kipshakbaev) and water specialists.

Purpose: Preparing to the Summit of the Heads of the Founding States of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea.

Prof. Nariman Kipshakbaev made a report "About use and protection of water in the Aral Sea basin" and suggested solutions for the optimal water regime, development of the legal framework for interstate institutions, and improvement of water management system in Central Asia.

6. Series of consulting meetings with heads of water management organizations and local executive bodies on measures to adapt to climate change and water security of the Yesil, Aral-Syrdarya, Shu-Talas and Tobyl-Torgai river basins

Date and Place: Astana (15 June), Taraz (27 June), Kostanai (24 June), Kyzylorda (28 June).

Organizer: CWP-Kazakhstan, Committee on Water Resources of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Participants: water specialists (Total: 24 people).

During the consultations the participants were acquainted with the "IWRM - Drought Management" project results implemented within WACDEP in the Syrdarya district of the Kyzylorda region.

7. Regional Meeting on Strengthening Intersectoral Cooperation on Water Resources Management and Fostering the Role of Water for Sustainable Development and Implementation of the Agenda 2030

Date: 12-13 July 2018

Place: Almaty, Kazakhstan

Organizer: International Water Assessment Center (IWAC) under financial support of European Union, Asian Development Bank and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, in cooperation with the Secretariat of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

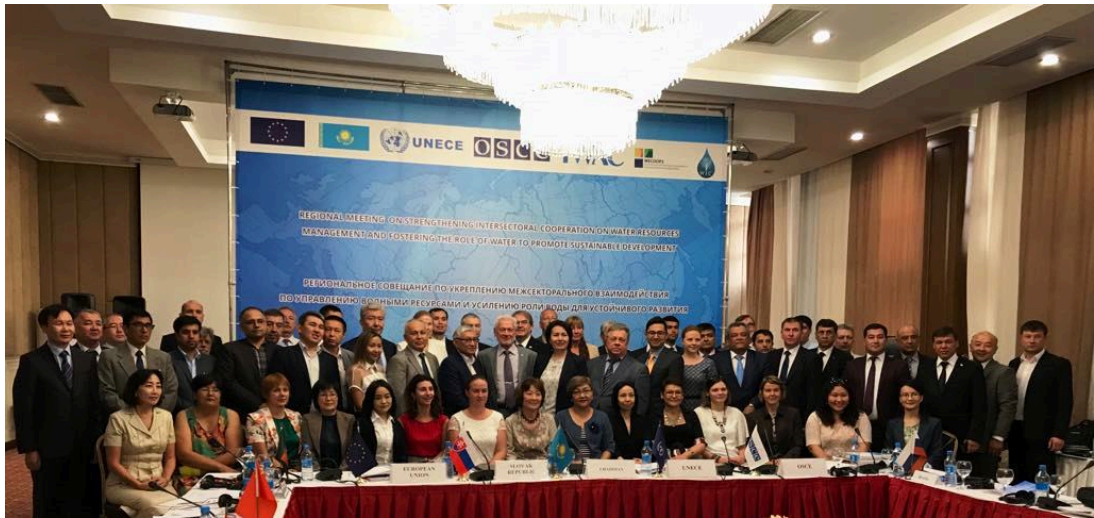
Participants: Participants from countries of Central Asia (including, CWP-Kyrgyzstan, CWP-Kazakhstan, CWP-Tajikistan), Afghanistan, Russia, China and Mongolia representing various stakeholders, including sectors: water, environment, energy and health (Total: 76 people, incl. 20 women).

The main objective of the meeting was to share experiences and lessons learned on intersectoral cooperation in water resources management at the regional level, as well as to strengthen the role of water in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and to develop possible regional proposals, including proposals that could be supported within the IWAC future program of work.

Participants have gained knowledge, information and skills in terms of:

- ✓ identification of gaps in intersectoral cooperation in water resources management;
- ✓ assessment and measuring progress in the integration of water policies with energy, food, health and environment
- ✓ developing regional proposals for strengthening intersectoral cooperation between countries and promoting the role of water in order to achieve SDGs.

More information: <https://iwac.kz/index.php/en/ctivities/meetings-seminars/93-regional-meeting-on-strengthening-intersectoral-cooperation-on-water-resources-management-and-fostering-the-role-of-water-to-promote-sustainable-development>



8. Informal Meeting on the Summary Document of Assessment of the Interconnection between Water, Food, Energy and Ecosystems in Transboundary Basins and the Syrdarya River Assessment

Date: 13 July 2018

Place: Almaty, Kazakhstan

Organizer: UNECE, Secretariat of the Convention on Transboundary Waters.

Participants: Participants from countries of Central Asia (including, CWP-Kyrgyzstan, CWP-Kazakhstan, CWP-Tajikistan), Afghanistan, Russia, China and Mongolia representing various stakeholders, including sectors: water, environment, energy.



Objectives:

- Conducting a brief review and raising awareness on main findings and recommendations on NEXUS assessment in the Syrdarya river basin;
- Lessons learnt on NEXUS assessment of Syrdarya river basin, providing recommendations for future applications of the methodology;
- Discussion of the the Summary Document that is currently under preparation, as well as its possible future use and dissemination;
- Discussion of the follow-up activity on NEXUS assessment in the Syrdarya river basin, including the presented solutions.

CWPs actively participated in the preparation of this document and in discussions.

9. Roundtable "Water and Water Security in the Kyrgyz Republic in the Context of Sustainable Development Goals"

Date: 2 July 2018

Place: Bishkek

Organizer: CWP-Kyrgyzstan, Aarhus Center

Participants: CWP-Kyrgyzstan, Association of Women of Kyrgyzstan, Aarhus Center, Faculty of Water Reclamation, Ecology and Land Management of KNAU, civil society.

Purpose: to discuss with stakeholders the state of water security in Kyrgyzstan, the practically applicable indicators of water security and to consider the main problems of water conservation in the future.

Representatives of CWP-Kyrgyzstan made the following presentations:

- "Water Security of the Kyrgyz Republic";
- "Indicators of Water Security of the Kyrgyz Republic";
- "Gender factor in water resources management".



10. Improvement of sanitation within WACDEP activity

Date: 24 July 2018

Place: Ulaanbaatar city, Baganuur district (150km far from capital city)

Organizer: CWP-Mongolia, Ministry of Justice of Mongolia, the Swiss project "Public involvement-II"

CWP-Mongolia has been helped to improve sanitation and reducing soil pollution and adaptation to Climate Change in the Ger region for 15 families living in yurtas; CWP-Mongolia certified all 15 families, which had improved simple sanitation.





11. Meeting with GWPO colleagues and regional partners

Date: 5 July 2018

Place: Ulaanbaatar city, Shangri-La hotel, Conference room.

GWPO participants: Mr.Frederik Pischke and Dr.Yumika Yasuda

Regional partner: Dr.Fany Wedahuditama Regional Coordinator
GWP Southeast Asia

Meeting was supported by Ms.Ouyn.

12. Roundtable "Improved management of water and energy resources in the irrigation zone of the Syrdarya river basin (within the USAID PEER Project Cycle 4)

Date: 6 July 2018

Place: Khudjant, Tajikistan

Organizer: IWMI, the Office of Land Reclamation & Irrigation of Sughd Region

Participants: Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, Sughd Oblast Executive Authority, universities, research institutes, pump station workers, WUAs, IWMI, USAID, FAO, EU, UNDP, CLIMADAPT, Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation, non-governmental organizations, CWP-Tajikistan (Total: 45 participants, including 12 women).

Purpose: Raising awareness on condition of the Sogd irrigation system, applying GIS technologies, water-energy-saving technologies, irrigation water management methods at the WUA level, improving water counting at field level and WUA in the irrigation zone, Water-Energy-Food-Ecology NEXUS in the machine irrigation zone.

CWP-Tajikistan Chairman Prof. Pulatov Ya.E. made a presentation "Interconnection of water, energy, food and ecology in the machine irrigation zone in Tajikistan".



13. Roundtable "Problems of irrigated agriculture in the context of climate change and adaptation measures"

The roundtable was dedicated to the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028".

Date: 24 July 2018

Place: Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Organizers: CWP-Tajikistan, the Agricultural Institute of the Tajik Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

Participants: scientists and specialists of the Institute of Agriculture of the Tajik Academy of Agricultural Sciences, the Institute of Soil Science, the Tajik Agricultural University, the Institute of Water Problems, Hydropower and Ecology of the Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan, representatives of farms and other stakeholders (Total: 36 people, including 16 women).

Purpose:

Exchange of views and dialogue on the status and prospects for development of irrigated agriculture in the context of climate change; sharing information on rational use of water resources; prospects for using water-saving irrigation technologies and methods for intensifying irrigated agriculture as measures for adaptation to climate change; exploring experience and research results of implementation of the National Adaptation Plan and the global goals of sustainable development, arising from the program objectives of the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028".

Participants were informed on new innovative directions on rational use of water resources in irrigated agriculture as measures to adapt to climate change as well use of knowledge and information in the process of implementing the National Adaptation Plan and SDGs. They were informed on WACDEP results too.



14. Conference "Water and Science for a Sustainable Future"

This conference was held towards the International High-Level Conference on the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018-2028.



Date: 19 June 2018

Place: Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Organizers: Government of Tajikistan, CAREC, Kazakh-German University, RT Academy, IWMI and UNESCO.

Participants: representatives of international and national organizations, civil society, science, business and other stakeholders, as well CWP-Tajikistan (Total: 150 people).

Purpose: to strengthen partnership in the academic community with the goal of making research more transparent, cooperative and accessible, that is opening up new opportunities for science in the field of water resources management. Providing open access to data, the integrity of research, knowledge sharing for sustainable development of science and society.

The exhibition "Water Technologies and Education" was organized. This is the first exhibition where global and regional organizations have met to exchange experience and knowledge for mutually beneficial cooperation. Participants decided that to solve problems there is a need to intensify cooperation and establish links between scientists, decision makers and specialists, and to strengthen the potential of research in the field of water resources in general.

As a result the Declaration was adopted. Chairman of the Jury of the IWRM Olympiad, CWP-Tajikistan Chairman Prof. Pulatov Ya.E. handed the winners of the Olympiad the appropriate diplomas.



15. CWP-Uzbekistan's key partners meeting

Date: 18 July 2018

Place: Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Organizer: CWP-Uzbekistan

Participants: SIC ICWC, GEF Agency IFAS, Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan, IWMI, NGOs.

Purpose: to develop a concept for providing consultations for national and local authorities related to documents on water policy; to organize activities aimed at raising awareness on IWRM and water security; to focus efforts on identifying water-related problems and their roots, as solutions.

The participants defined the work plan at the country level in order to make the IWRM concept more practical, and to issue a collection of publications.

16. 2nd AIWW Kick-off meeting

The newly appointed Regional Coordinator of the GWP CACENA Abdybai Dzhailoobaev and his Advisor Vadim Sokolov took active participation in the Kick-off meeting for the 2nd Asian International Water Week which proposed to be held in October 3-7, 2020 in Jakarta, Indonesia. The event was organized by the Asian Water Council in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Works and Housing of Indonesia at the Marina Bay Center, Singapore on 10th July 2018.



In the photo: Abdybai and Vadim with partners from Korea and Indonesia.

The 2nd Asian Water Week will be an opportunity to continue the success of the 1st Asian Water Week, which took place in 2017 in Korea and continue to address the most sophisticated water problems in Asia and around the world. The second part of the kick-off was a special session addressing to Smart Water Management, organized by AWC. This session provided insight into

approaches to the use of smart water technologies for improving water management. It is the practice of high technologies and their widespread introduction into water management in Asia that will become the main subject of the planned Asian Water Week in Indonesia in 2020.



17. 22nd meeting of the Governing Council of APWF

Abdybai Dzhalilbaev and Vadim Siokolov attended the 22nd meeting of the Governing Council of APWF which was held on June 12, 2018 at the Singapore PUB office in Singapore. The objectives of the meeting were to discuss and obtain consensus on the Action Plan of the APWF Network for the subsequent three-year period 2018-2020. During this period, it was proposed to build on the results and the Yangon Declaration of the 3rd Asia-Pacific Water Summit, which was held in December 2017 in Myanmar. Also included in the work plan are the proposed directions of the Asia-Pacific regional process following from the 8th World Water Forum, which was held in March 2018 in Brazil.

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Ravi Narayanan and Ms. Changhua Wu in their capacity as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Governing Council of APWF. The meeting was attended by 26 representatives from 23 member organizations, and 3 representatives joined the discussion via remote Internet connection. GWP CACENA is an active member of the Governing Council of APWF for many years.

As a result, a consensus has been reached on the APWF Action Plan for the period 2018-2020, which focuses on three key themes adopted in the Yangon Declaration: The Pathway Forward, adopted at the third APWF Summit:

- 1) Sound water cycle management
- 2) Governance and inclusive development
- 3) Financing the implementation of water-related Sustainable Development Goals

Also, the intention was to hold the 4th Asian-Pacific Water Summit in 2020. Until September 24, the APWF Secretariat expects that the countries from the region will apply to be a host for this important forum.

The goal of this Summit should be the alignment of the position of the Asia-Pacific region towards the 9th World Water Forum, which will be held in March 2021 in Senegal. This position will be based on the results of the three-year work plan (2018-2020) for the implementation of the Yangon Declaration, 2017.



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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.