



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

Report

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1. Monitoring of Sustainable Development Goal: Indicator 6.5.1

CWP-Armenia under financial contribution of Global Water Partnership Secretariat organized a two-day workshop at "Alpina" hotel in Tsaghkadzor on October 27-28, 2017. The workshop was dedicated to the monitoring of SDG Indicator 6.5.1 "Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (0-100)". GWP is enhancing its work at the country level through its network of CWPs in order to provide direct in-country support to national institutions responsible for SDG implementation. An important step in this process is the analysis, as well as the availability of a proper and comprehensive database for SDG indicator 6.5.1.

Representatives of the Government of RA, Ministry of Nature Protection of RA, Ministry of Energy Infrastructures and Natural resources of the RA, JINJ Ltd and other experts took part in the workshop.

SDG 6.5.1 questionnaire was shared and discussed with the invited stakeholders during the workshop. The themes of the working group discussion were: "Enabling Environment", "Institutions and Participation", "Management Instrument" and "Financing".

The final score of the questionnaire was calculated together with the Facilitators and the CWP-representative in conclusion of the workshop.



2. World Water Monitoring Day 2017

The World Water Monitoring Day was held by CWP-Armenia and scientific and environmental NGOs with students of Mets Parni Secondary School after academician M. Melkonyan on October 3, 2017.

The Water Monitoring Day was established by "America's Clean Water Foundation" in 2003 with the intent to be a program that reached out to people all over the globe to raise awareness of water pollution issues and get people to test their local water bodies. The importance of the World Water Monitoring Day and water saving was presented during the event, and information leaflets were disseminated among the students.

Afterwards, the rules for working with monitoring device were presented to the students. The monitoring of water indicators (river water temperature, turbidity, oxygen content) in two different places of the river flowing through the community area was implemented with participation of the students who after summarized the monitoring results.

At the end of the event the monitoring tool-kits were given to the students and the teacher, so that in the future they can carry out the water monitoring.



3. The first meeting of Public Monitoring and Behaviour Change Working Groups

On October 25, 2017, in the framework of USAID-funded PURE-Water project, CWP-Armenia, in cooperation with the UFSD - Urban Foundation for Sustainable Development organized the first meeting of Public Monitoring and Behaviour Change Working Groups established within the Water Sector Public Advocacy Network (WPAN).

WPAN members gathered to discuss and develop action plans under the two goals of the Public Advocacy Strategy, particularly to establish the water sector public monitoring mechanisms and protection of water users' rights. The meeting was attended by Pure-Water project and ASPIRED project representatives as well as WPAN members. Representatives from OXFAM Armenia and OxYgen Armenia were also among the attendees, who shared with the team their experience in public monitoring, providing valuable recommendations for implementation of the given goals.



4. "Towards Fiji-Bonn" Armenia on the threshold of the 23th Conference of parties to the UNFCCC

The UN Climate Change Conference in Bonn is the next step for governments to implement the Paris Climate Change Agreement and accelerate the transformation to sustainable, resilient and climate-safe development.

The Paris Agreement was entered into force last November and the era of implementation has begun. This conference will further clarify the enabling frameworks that will make the agreement fully operational and the support needed for all nations to achieve their climate change goals. COP 23 is also an excellent example of cooperation and collaboration between nations that will truly meet the global climate change challenge.

On October 19, "Khazer" ecological-cultural NGO with the financial contribution of CWP-Armenia and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) convened a conference named "Towards Bonn/Fiji" Armenia on the threshold of the 23th Conference of parties to the UNFCCC.

The conference was considered to be the 5th approaching of the topic of climate change issues and has been organized by "Khazer" NGO since 2009. The conference was aimed to discuss the consequences of the fulfillment of the obligations under the Paris agreement by means of the civil sector as well as the levers that may affect the fulfillment of the commitments undertaken by the Republic of Armenia and Artsakh. The conference was attended by representatives of RA Ministries, Marzes, Embassies and Civil Society Organizations.



5. Seminar "IWRM Role in the Climate Change Adaptation"

Date: 18 October 2017.

Venue: Neftechalinsky district, Azerbaijan.

Organizer: CWP-Azerbaijan, Project "Providing support for development of the water user associations", LLC "Saf-Su".

Participants: water specialists, local administration, farmers, representatives of WUAs and irrigation system management (Total: 27 people).

Purpose: inform participants about IWRM principles, and implemented works on rational use and protection of water resources, and climate change adaptation.

National expert on the World Bank project "Support for the Development of Water User Associations" E. Rufullaev informed participants about the relevance of this project. Within the framework of the project, repair and restoration works of on-farm irrigation and collector-drainage networks are being carried out. Water users are provided methodological assistance in drawing up water use plans to more efficient management of water resources and adaptation to climate change.

CWP-Azerbaijan partner M.Kurbanov presented ways to climate change adaptation as well as WACDEP outcomes.



6. Roundtable on National Adaptation Plans

Date: 19 October 2017.

Venue: Baku, Azerbaijan.

Organizer: CWP-Azerbaijan, OJSC “Melioration and Water Management”.

Participants: water specialists, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Ecology and Nature Resources of Azerbaijan, research institutes, CWP-Azerbaijan partners (Total: 29 people).

CWP-Azerbaijan Chair M.Asadov informed participants about situation with water resources in Azerbaijan and ways to rational use of water resources.



7. Meeting on environmental releases and restoration of river basins

Date: 26 October 2017.

Venue: Baku, Azerbaijan.

Organizer: UNDP-GEF Kura Project.

Participants: CWP-Azerbaijan, international and local experts.

CWP-Azerbaijan Chair M Asadov and GWP CACENA RC member T. Osmanov informed participants about implemented and ongoing projects as well the planned ones in the sphere of land reclamation and water

management. Also CWP-Azerbaijan participation in the IWRM plan development within the UNDP-GEF Kura Project was discussed.

8. 7th Round of Bilateral Consultations between Azerbaijan and Georgia on the Draft Co-operation Agreement on the Kura River Basin

Date: 5 October 2017

Place: Tbilisi

Organizers: CWP-Georgia, UNECE, OSCE, OECD

Participants: UNECE, OSCE, OECD,

Goal: Development of transboundary cooperation on water resources between Georgia and Azerbaijan

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Draft Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Government of Georgia on cooperation in the field of protection and sustainable use of water resources in the Kura River basin.

В настоящее Встрече приняли участие представители ЕЭК ООН, ОБСЕ, ОЕСР, governmental delegations of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Georgia, representatives of international projects on water resources (UNDP/GEF Project Kura II, EUWI+). Total: 35 people.

The meeting discussed the following issues :

1. The results of investigation "Historical water use, projected demand for water and water quality in the Kura River basin";
2. Recent developments and prospects in the field of water resources management in Azerbaijan and Georgia;
3. Status and prospect of the Draft Bilateral Agreement.

The meeting proposed amendments for the first and the second issue.

The basis for the drafting of the bilateral Agreement was the Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection of February 18, 1997 and the Protocol on Intentions in the Sphere of Environmental Protection between the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia of 21 February 2007.



The parties reaffirmed the special importance of the Kura River and the associated natural resources for the economy and people of both countries.

Participants expressed concern about condition of water resources and water ecosystems in the river basin and noted the need to continue joint actions for protection and rational use of transboundary water resources in the river basin.

Protection of the natural environment and sustainable use of water resources of the Kura river basin is considered by the parties as a priority and part of the development process, ensuring an equitable water needs of existing and future generations. The parties agreed to continue work for improving the document.

9. CWP-Mongolia's partners meeting

Date: 31 October 2017

Venue: Ulaanbaatar

CWP-Mongolia Chair Prof. Basandorj informed partners about CWP-Mongolia activities for 2017-2019 and GWP CACENA work plan for coming years.



All partners agreed:

1. Nominate Prof. Basandorj to lead CWP-Mongolia as GWP CACENA RC member and national coordinator;
2. CWP-Mongolia has to be more focused on progress of SDG6 and actively participate in regional activity within WACDEP and other programs related to improvement of water management and IWRM.
3. Organize Press conference and send recommendation to Mongolian Government for updating the water related laws and standards and reduce water pollution as well as to implement water safety plans in urban and rural areas of Mongolia.

10. Workshop on SDG 6.5.1 in Uzbekistan

Date: October 27, 2017.

Venue: Hotel "Uzbekistan", Tashkent.

The workshop was as a third stage of the process of consultations on SDG 6.5.1 that was begun in September 2017.

The full report on the process of consultations is presented in **Annex 1**.

Report
Consultations on monitoring for reporting on the Sustainable Development Goal 6, including target 6.5: "By 2030, implement integrated water resources management (IWRM) at all levels in Uzbekistan"

Background information on the consultation process

UN-Environment through the Global Water Partnership requested the IFAS GEF Agency to organize national monitoring consultations in Uzbekistan on implementation of integrated water resources management (IWRM), that is one of UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 6.5.1).

Monitoring of the SDG 6.5.1 target is under the responsibility of national players to the UN. The consultations should result in a completed self-assessment questionnaire submitted by the country to the UN-Environment every three years.

On September 29, 2017 IFAS Agency requested the **Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan Mr. Mirzayev Z.T.** to assist in the appointment of the person responsible for supervising IWRM review in Uzbekistan and to agree on seminar "National Consultations on Monitoring of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) Implementation in Uzbekistan" in October 2017 in Tashkent, involving relevant national organizations.

On October 7 the instructions from the head of the Information and Analytical Department of the Cabinet of Ministers for Agriculture and Water Resources Mr. A. Ravshanov were received: "The Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the State Committee on Ecology, the Eco-movement of Uzbekistan, and UzGIP - to consider and submit an agreed conclusion for the report."

Letters were received in support of the seminar and questionnaire preparation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (No. 29/40558 of 11.10.2017), the State Committee on Ecology (Goskomekologiya) (#03-01/5-4902 of 16.10.2017), the Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan (15.10.2017), and the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources (17.10.2017).

Methodology

The consultations were carried out using the methodology reflected in the "Step-by-step methodology for monitoring SDG indicator 6.5.1". At the first stage, the questionnaire was filled by several national experts, coordinated by the IFAS GEF Agency.

At the second stage, the questionnaire was sent to all interested parties (indicated below) for the feedback.

The following organizations took part in the consultations and questionnaire finalization:

A) Government bodies:

- Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan
- Ministry of Health of the Republic of Uzbekistan
- State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Geology and Mineral Resources

- State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Ecology and Environmental Protection
- State Inspectorate for the Supervision of the Geological Condition of Subsoil, Safe Work in Industry, Mining and Public Utilities Sector under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan
- State Inspectorate on Control Over Use of Drinking Water under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Gosvodinspektsiya)
- State Control and Supervision Inspection over Technical Status and Work Safety of Large and Strategically Important Water Constructions under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Gosvodkhoznadzor)
- Center of Hydrometeorological Service under the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Uzhydromet)

B) NGOs and public organizations

- Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan
- National Water Partnership of Uzbekistan
- NGO "Protection of the Zarafshan River Basin"
- NGO "For Clean Fergana"

C) International organizations

- Executive Committee of IFAS
- ICWC Scientific Information Center
- BWO "Syr Darya"
- IWMI
- GIZ
- UNDP

D) Research, design and training organizations

- Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers (TIIAME)
- Research Institute of Irrigation and Water Problems (RIIWP at TIIAME)
- Samarkand State Architectural and Civil-Engineering Institute (SamGASI)
- Nukus branch of RIIWP

E) Mass media

- Newspaper "Kishlok hayoti"
- Sreda.uz <https://nuz.uz/svobodnoe-mnenie/27432-uzbekistan-provedet-samoocenku-po-vodnoy-problematike.html>

The third stage is the national seminar discussion and the development of a unified opinion. The seminar was held in the Hotel *Uzbekistan* in Tashkent on October 27, 2017 (the program of the seminar and the list of participants attached).

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE RESULTS OF NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS AND SEMINAR DISCUSSIONS

The seminar discussion was organized on four sections of the questionnaire, each devoted to one key IWRM component:

1. **Enabling environment:** creation of favorable conditions for IWRM implementation, which include the most typical political and legislative tools, as well as IWRM strategic planning tools.

This section showed that Uzbekistan has an overall national development strategy. According to the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the Strategy for Further Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan" dated February 7, 2017, the Action Strategy was adopted on five priority development areas of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2017-2021. Five priority areas of the country's development include:

1. Improvement of state and public construction;
2. Ensuring the rule of law and further reform of the judicial system;
3. Economic development and liberalization;
4. Development of the social sphere;
5. Ensuring security, inter-ethnic harmony and religious tolerance, and implementation of balanced, mutually beneficial and constructive foreign policy.

The country's water policy is a key component of areas 3-4-5 of the strategy. However, IWRM principles are not expressed clearly.

Recommendation of the seminar participants: It is necessary to accelerate the development of the National Water Management Strategy within the five priorities of Uzbekistan Strategy for 2017-2021. The Water Management Strategy should be based on the IWRM principles and be broken down into time levels - short-term measures - five years, med-term - until 2030, and long-term.

At present, the basic national legislative act regulating water relations is the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan (RU) "On Water and Water Use" (dated May 6, 1993 No. 837-XII), with amendments added in subsequent years (1997-2014). The most significant amendments to the 1993 Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan (RU) "On Water and Water Use" were introduced by the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan from December 25, 2009 (# ZRU-240).

Also, the basic principles of water management and use were regulated in accordance with the Decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

- "On the most important directions for deepening reforms in agriculture" dated 24.03.2003;
- "On the improvement of economic management bodies systems " dated 22.12.2003.

Measures under these decrees are approved by the Decrees of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan:

- Decree #320 "On Improvement of Organization of Water Resources Management" dated July 21, 2003;
- Decree #290 "On Improvement of Activities of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan" dated June 28, 2003.

Presidential Decree # PP-3172 "On Measures to Further Improve the Organization of MAWR Activities" dated August 4, 2017 initiated the process of MAWR restructuring for the effective IWRM application in accordance with local conditions.

In 2016, the National Working Group was established under the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources and measures were initiated to prepare the new Water Code on the basis of the 1993 Law "On Water and Water Use".

This National Working Group is supported by the EU Program "Sustainable Management of Water Resources in Rural Areas of Uzbekistan" (2016-2019, 20 million Euros). The EU program is implemented by the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) in cooperation with the International Water Management Institute (IWMI), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and culture (UNESCO), and other institutions. In consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of Uzbekistan measures have been taken to study the new Water Code draft, consider the necessary improvements to the Law on water and draw up relevant documents.

Unfortunately, the work on the new Water Code has been weak. On July 12, 2017, the President of Uzbekistan speaking on the Oliy Majlis (parliament), criticized parties and factions on promotion of new laws.

Recommendation of the seminar participants: The Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources to speed up the submission of the new Water Code through the Cabinet of Ministers to the Oliy Majlis. The EU Program is ready to support this process, including financially - if required.

Certain works are conducted in Uzbekistan to develop National IWRM Implementation Plan. As it was noted, the Presidential Resolution #PP-3172 dated August 4, 2017 "On Measures to Further Improve the Organization of MAWR Activities" initiated the process of MAWR restructuring. The process includes: strengthening vertical communication channels and interactions between the water management and agricultural wings of the MAWR at all levels; hydrographic distribution and supply of water on the basis of administrative water demand consolidation; improving water use efficiency and strengthening support for WUAs/farmers through the establishment of irrigation units at the district level, which accounts for the majority of agricultural production; an improved assessment of water demand and monitoring of water use to improve water productivity at the district level; and involvement of key stakeholders in improving water productivity.

Recommendations of the workshop participants: When developing a national water strategy, it is necessary to involve the work of the Vodproekt Institute for the preparation of basin schemes for the integrated use of water

resources in Uzbekistan; to involve the public and consider gender; and to use media for broad awareness.

In general, the participants agreed on an average score for this section of 38.3 - that is, conditions for IWRM in Uzbekistan are at a moderately low level. For comparison, our partners in Kazakhstan conducted a similar assessment in early October and this indicator for Kazakhstan is 31.43 (with the availability of the Water Code which formalizes IWRM principles and the availability of a national IWRM plan).

2. Institutions and participation: The full range and roles of political, social, economic and administrative institutions and other stakeholder groups that contribute to IWRM implementation.

All issues related to water are under constant attention of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. In Uzbekistan, the state water management bodies have a sufficiently high capacity within their competences.

The bodies of state power and administration	Competence in regulation of water relations
Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • adoption of legislation on water and water use, making amendments and modifications; • identification of the main directions of state policy on the use and protection of water resources and the adoption of strategic state water programs; • other issues relating to the conduct of the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan.
The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • implementation of a unified state policy in the field of integrated and sustainable use, management and protection of water resources; • coordination of the activities of ministries, state committees, departments and other entities in the area of integrated and sustainable use, management and protection of water resources, as well as prevention and elimination of harmful effects of water; • establishment of procedures for the formation and utilization of water funds, the order of approval of water use and water consumption standards, and water intake limits for the water body; • provision of state accounting and control of water use and conservation, maintenance of the state water cadastre and water monitoring; • development of measures to prevent and eliminate major accidents, disasters, environmental crises and harmful effects of water; • establishment of the payment procedures for water use and compensation for pollution and depletion of water bodies; • development of international relations; • implementation of other measures stipulated by the legislation.
Local public authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identification of the main areas of use and protection of water resources on their territories; • ensuring law and order in the management and protection of water

The bodies of state power and administration	Competence in regulation of water relations
	<p>resources;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accounting and evaluation of water bodies, monitoring of water use and protection, compliance with the established limits of water intake and water use accounting for water users; • implementation of activities for the conservation and improvement of water facilities, prevention and elimination of harmful water effects, as well as pollution, the restoration of facilities damaged by accidents, floods, landslides and natural disasters; • regulation of other issues required by law.

IWRM principles are applied in real practice but not enshrined in legislation.

The issues of water use and water consumption in the fields, including the establishment of water withdrawal limits, are governed by the Regulations "On Water Use and Water Consumption Procedure in the Republic of Uzbekistan" (enacted on April 1, 2013) approved by the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan (# 82 of March 19, 2013).

Recommendations of the seminar participants: It is necessary to strengthen the accountability of local authorities on water use efficiency. The water inspection "Suvnazorat" should be separated from the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources, giving it an independent status.

At the grass-roots level, Water Users Associations that have the status of non-governmental non-profit organizations (NGOs), farmers, dehkan farms, individuals, and other water users and water consumers are involved in WRM.

According to the 1993 Law, the Water Consumers Associations (WUA), other NGOs in accordance with their respective charters and individuals assist the state bodies in the implementation of measures for rational use and protection of water and water bodies. In carrying out these measures, state bodies may consider the proposals of WUAs, other NGOs, as well as individuals. In the current wording of Article 10 of the Law "On Water and Water Use", the duty of the state bodies ("to consider the proposals") was transformed into their right ("may consider"). This is an incentive for NGOs to be more active in promoting urgent issues, so that their proposals are perceived and accepted as binding.

According to the 1993 Law, private commercial entities cannot participate in water management. They are required to comply with the law as water consumers. This is due to the fact that the maintenance of water infrastructure is too expensive, therefore this function is monopolized by the state. In addition, water is the basis of social stability. The introduction of commercial mechanisms can disrupt social stability.

Recommendations of the seminar participants: It is necessary to look for ways to introduce economic tools to cover the costs of water services. For

example, the existing law on exemption from taxes of farmers introducing water-saving technologies.

Issues of gender equality are regulated by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan #UP-1084 "On Measures to Enhance the Role of Women in State and Public Construction of the Republic of Uzbekistan" dated 2 March 1995. However, in water sector women make no more than 10% of the total number of employees. This is due to working conditions - irregular working hours and low salary. In addition, water management is a highly intellectual work requiring engineering knowledge. For women and girls, this profession is not attractive, and that is why there are less women among those entering the relevant universities and secondary schools.

Recommendations of the seminar participants: To increase the prestige of water professionals and improve working conditions in water sector. The role of mahallas should be increased to support WUAs. WUAs need to strengthen their material and technical base. The role of the BISA Councils should be increased.

In general, the participants agreed on an average score for this section of 52.7 - that is, the capacity of water management organizations for IWRM implementation in Uzbekistan is at a moderately high level. For comparison, our partners in Kazakhstan conducted a similar assessment in early October and this indicator for Kazakhstan is 24.2.

3. Management tools: tools and activities that allow decision-makers and users to make rational and informed choices.

Issues related to the State Water Cadastre are reflected in details in the "Regulation on the development and maintenance of the State Water Cadastre of the Republic of Uzbekistan", approved by the relevant Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan #11 (dated January 7, 1998). According to the Regulations:

- 1) The State Water Cadastre (SWC) is developed and maintained in accordance with the law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On water and water use" for the organization of water management, regulation of water relations, evaluation of economic activities, and the environmental situation and it is part of the Unified System of National Cadastre of the Republic of Uzbekistan.
- 2) The SWC consists of the registration of water objects and water users, accounting for the quantity and quality of water, assessment and use of water resources.
- 3) The water cadastral information received in the prescribed manner is legally binding in the regulation of water and water relations, addressing social, economic, and environmental problems associated with the use of water.

The State Water Cadastre is maintained by:

- The Center for Hydrometeorological Service under the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Uzbekistan (Uzhydromet) – section on surface waters,

- The State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Geology and Mineral Resources – section on groundwater,
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan – section on water use.

The SWC data composition is determined by a separate normative and technical document "Composition of the Water Cadastre Data". The SWC data is presented to consumers in the form of paid publications on request (in the established order).

SWC data is systematized and published by the territory of the republic, provinces, the Republic of Karakalpakstan, river basins, basin irrigation systems, and on groundwater section – by hydrogeological regions as well.

Data on surface water resources, their quality and changes influenced by economic activity is summarized by water bodies and their sections, river basins of state and interstate status, basin irrigation systems, provinces, and country as a whole.

Data on groundwater resources, their quality and changes influenced by economic activity is summarized by deposits, river basins and their sections, aquifers and groundwater basins, provinces, and country as a whole.

Data on water use is summarized by the basins of national rivers, basin irrigation systems, water management facilities of high importance, provinces and the republic as a whole, as well as by types of water use and sectors of the economy.

Functions of the Main Interdepartmental SWC Centre are performed by the Research Hydrometeorological Institute (RHI) UZHIDROMET.

According to the Law "On water and water use":

- 1) Water use and water consumption are carried out on the basis of water use and consumption plans, taking into account the actual annual water availability.
- 2) Planning for water use and consumption on the collector and drainage system are based on the state of the reclaimed land and the quality of the collector and drainage water.
- 3) Water consumption plans are developed and approved by WCAs, which compile the water consumption plans and develop water use plans for farms and other water consumers.
- 4) WCA water use plans are summarized by irrigation departments of districts and provinces, and further submitted to Basin Irrigation System Administrations for consolidation

Consolidated water use plans for basin irrigation systems, as well as large and water management facilities of high importance are summarized by the Main Water Management Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In more detail, the planning of water uses and water consumption is regulated by the "Regulations on the Procedure for Water Use and Water Consumption in the Republic of Uzbekistan" (enacted on April 1, 2013) approved by the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan (# 82 dated March 19, 2013).

The issues of protection of water and water bodies are regulated by the Law "On Water and Water Use" and other, first of all - nature protection legislation (Laws "On Nature Protection" (1992), "On Protected Natural Territories" (2004), etc.).

Any works (construction, repair, restoration, dredging, etc.) in water protection zones, coastal strips, zones of sanitary protection of water bodies, and groundwater formation zones that affect the condition of water and water bodies are carried out in accordance with the legislation.

In more detail, issues on the protection of waters and water bodies are reflected in the Regulation "On water protection zones of reservoirs and other water bodies, rivers, main canals and reservoirs, as well as sources of drinking and domestic water supply, and for medical and cultural and recreational purposes in the Republic of Uzbekistan".

The Regulation was approved by the relevant Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan (April 7, 1992 #174) and it governs the establishment of protection zones and areas (districts) of sanitary protection of water bodies (including small river), as well as the mode of economic activities in these areas to prevent contamination, infestation, and depletion of water resources.

On April 21, 2017, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyev signed a decree "On improving the system of public administration in the sphere of ecology and environmental protection". According to the decree, the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan for Nature Protection has been transformed into the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Ecology and Environmental Protection. The committee will report to the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Its tasks include environmental protection, monitoring of compliance with legislation on protection and use of natural resources, and training. The decree states to urgently prepare new pollution control mechanisms that meet modern realities.

The issues of groundwater management are regulated by the following state bodies:

- State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Geology and Mineral Resources;
- State Inspectorate for Supervision of Geological Exploration of Subsoil, Safe Management of Work in Industry, Mining and Public Utilities Sector under the Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan.

The Presidential Decree No. PP-2910 "On the Program for Integrated Development and Modernization of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Systems for 2017 – 2021" dated April 20, 2017 was approved. In order to increase the use of fresh groundwater resources, prevent their pollution and depletion, and bring the coverage of country population with centralized water supply in accordance with the plan.

The Law 1993 "On Water and Water Use", to ensure public accounting and planning of water use and protection, provides for:

- 1) Establishment of water economy balances - by river basins and economy regions in order to determine the water availability and level of water use;
- 2) Development of general and basin (territorial) schemes of complex water use and protection – to determine the main water economy and other activities to be carried out in order to meet future water demands of the population and economies, as well as to protect water and prevent its harmful effects;
- 3) Development and maintenance of the State Water Cadastre;
- 4) Monitoring of water, including underground water, which is a system for monitoring the state of water for timely detection of changes, their assessment, and prevention and elimination of negative processes.

The State Water Cadastre data is not available to the public in the public domains. It is presented to consumers in the form of paid publications on request.

The State Committee on Statistics issues an annual newsletter on the main indicators of environmental protection and rational use of natural resources for limited use by elected state bodies. The major part of the environmental information collected by the State Committee on Statistics is not available to the general public. Nevertheless, the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Ecology and Environmental Protection actively disseminates environmental information in order to increase public awareness. The Committee created a special web portal and established publishing house "Chinar", which publishes the monthly "Ecological Bulletin" in Uzbek and Russian with an appendix for children. The publishing house "Chinar" also publishes a number of special publications on nature protection.

Recommendations of the seminar participants: It is necessary to draw country leadership's attention to the need for measures aimed at Uzbekistan's accession to the UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention). Much to be done in the country to implement the Convention provisions, especially with regard to public participation and access to justice. Some attempts by the State Committee for Ecology and some other state organizations to involve public in decision-making processes are neither systematic, nor do they create a transparent and understandable framework for such participation.

In general, the workshop participants agreed on an average score for this section of 55.6 - that is, the tools used by water management organizations for managing and protecting water resources in Uzbekistan are at a moderately high level. For comparison, our partners in Kazakhstan conducted a similar assessment in early October and this indicator for Kazakhstan is 40.0.

4. Financing: budgeting and funding for the development and management of water resources available from various sources.

The Presidential Resolution #PP-3172 "On measures to further improve the organization of the MAWR activities" dated August 4, 2017 decided: to create a Fund for the development of material and technical base and introduction of innovative technologies and incentives for employees of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic (hereinafter - the Fund). It is determined that the main sources of the Fund are:

- Deductions of organizations that are part of the ministry, on the basis of concluded contracts;
- Voluntary contributions of farms and other agricultural organizations for services rendered to them on promotion and implementation of science, technology and scientifically based resource-saving technologies in the field of agriculture and water resources, on a contractual basis;
- Special allowances allocated to the seed production entities;
- Donations of individuals and legal entities;

- International grants, technical assistance, as well as other sources not prohibited by law.

The sources of funding for the activities of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, and the provincial and district departments of agriculture and water management are budget allocations and Fund's resources.

60% of the total budget allocated by the state is directed to the infrastructure. Of these funds, up to 70% is spent to cover the electricity costs – more than 60% of water is supplied to water consumers by pump irrigation (pumping stations).

15% of the total budget allocated by the state is directed to cover running expenses of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources; 25% - incentive and development fund.

Financing of BISAs and other structural units is carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources. The main problems at the subnational level include: low salaries, a shortage of transport, permanent shortage of fuels and lubricants, low qualification of the staff at grass-roots water management organizations, and lack of funding for the training.

Since there is no payment for water (irrigation) in Uzbekistan, there is no income for water management related to water supply. Certain organizations have income from providing construction, renting equipment and other services to water consumers and other customers. The income part is mainly used for social support of the staff. Virtually all water management organizations have subsidiary farms.

At the grass-roots level, there are revenue-generating budget items - through membership fees in:

- Water Consumer Associations; and
- Main Canal Water Consumers Unions.

Also, fines collected by *Suvnazorat* for violations of water use by water consumers can be considered as an income.

At the transboundary level, the Republic of Uzbekistan makes a financial contribution to the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea: including financing ICWC structures (SIC ICWC, BWO "Amudarya", and BWO "Syrdarya").

In general, the participants agreed on an average score for this section of 34.0 - that is, the level of financial aspects of water management in Uzbekistan is at a moderately low level. For comparison, our partners in Kazakhstan conducted a similar assessment in early October and this indicator for Kazakhstan is 28.0.

Total score on indicator 6.5.1 for Uzbekistan

Section	Average score
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Section 1. Enabling environment	38,3
Section 2. Institutions and participation	52,7
Section 3. Management tools	55,6
Section 4. Financing	34,0
Average score on SDG 6.5.1 indicator	45,15



Attachments



National stakeholder seminar UN Strategic Development Goal 6.5.1 “IWRM Implementation” in the Republic of Uzbekistan Agenda

October 27, 2017. Hotel “Uzbekistan”, Tashkent

9:00-9:30	Registration of the participants
9:30-9:40	Greetings from participants, opening remarks, seminar goals and objectives of the seminar.
Session 1. IWRM framework.	
9:40-10:00	General information on SDG 6.5.1. Review of the questionnaire "Country reporting on the implementation of commitments to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, including target 6.5: "By 2030 to implement integrated water resources management (IWRM) at all levels, including through cross-border cooperation, as appropriate"
10:00-11:00	Discussion: "The state of policies, legislation and plans for IWRM at the national and other levels".
11:00-11:20	Coffee-break
Session 2. Institutes, participants	
11:20-13:00	Discussion: "The state of institutions for IWRM implementation. Key participants".
13:00-14:00	Lunch
Session 3. IWRM tools	
14:00-15:30	Discussion: "The state of arrangements for IWRM introduction at the national and other levels".
15:30-15:50	Coffee-break
Session 4. IWRM funding	
15:50-16:50	Discussion: "The state of financing for IWRM development and implementation at the national and other levels".
16:50-17:00	Wrap-up and conclusion of the seminar. Next steps for IWRM and monitoring of SGD 6.5.1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

National consultations on monitoring of the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) implementation in Uzbekistan

Date: October 27, 2017

#	Name	Organization	Signature
1	Kuchkarov Sh.Z.	MAWR RU	+
2	Kuvondikov N.F.	MFA RU	
3		Ministry of Finance	
4		Ministry of Economy	
5		Goskomekologiya	
6	Ismukhamedov T.A.	UzGIP	+
7	Pirniyazov Paluaniyaz	GIZ	+
8	Islamov Ulugbek Gavhar Khudaybergenova	UNDP	+
9	Petrov A.A.	NIIIVP	+
10	Salokhiddinov A.T.	TIIME	+
11	Fayzieva Sevara	Ecomovement of Uzbekistan	+
12	Ziyadullaev S.	"Kishlok Khayoti" newspaper	+
13	Gadoev A.N.	SamGASI	+
14	Tashev R.	Gosvodkhozadzor	+
15	Ortikov T.	NGO "Protection of Zarafshan River Basin	+
16	Anarbekov O.	IWMI	+
17	Abduraimov M.F.	GWP	+
18	Sokolov V.I.	GEF IFAS Agency	+
19	Khudayberdiev G.T.	NP WRM Uz	+
20	Khaydarova V.A.	GWP Regional Secretariat	+
21	Tolipov Sh. G.	BWO Syrdarya	+
22	Risbekov Avazbek	SIC ICWC	+
23	Abzalov A.B.	GEF IFAS Agency	+
24	Domulajonov I.	NGO "For Clean Ferghana"	+
25	Shulepina N.V.	Sreda.uz	+
26	Kurbanbaev Erejep	NF NIIIVP	+
27	Aleksandr Zotov	"Na dosuge" Newspaper	+
28	Dinara Chirkova	"Narodnoe slovo" Newspaper	+
29	Sanginov	Ecomovement	+
30			

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семинара «Национальные консультации по мониторингу прогресса в осуществлении интегрированного управления водными ресурсами (ИУВР) в Узбекистане»

дата проведения: 27 октября 2017 г.

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11.	Файзиева Севара	Экодвижение Узбекистана	
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13.	Гадоев А.Н.	СамГАСИ	
14.	Ташев Р.	«Госводхознадзор»	
15.	Ортиқов Т.	ННО «Защита бассейна р.Зарафшан»	
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29.	<i>Розигалиев Э.С.</i>	<i>Исрафилжон</i>	
30.			

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