

Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

Report

For June 2015

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1. International Day of Climate

May 15 the world community celebrated the International Day of Climate.

The Embassy of Germany in Uzbekistan celebrated the International Day of Climate on June 17, 2015. Along with representatives of European Union, Ambassador of France to Uzbekistan, Ambassador of Great Britain to Uzbekistan and others, GWP CACENA Secretariat was invited.

It is gratifying to note that the environment protection and resistance to climate change are given so much importance by the world community, as well as the fact that the GWP activities contributes considerably to the promotion of these ideas among the population of our region.

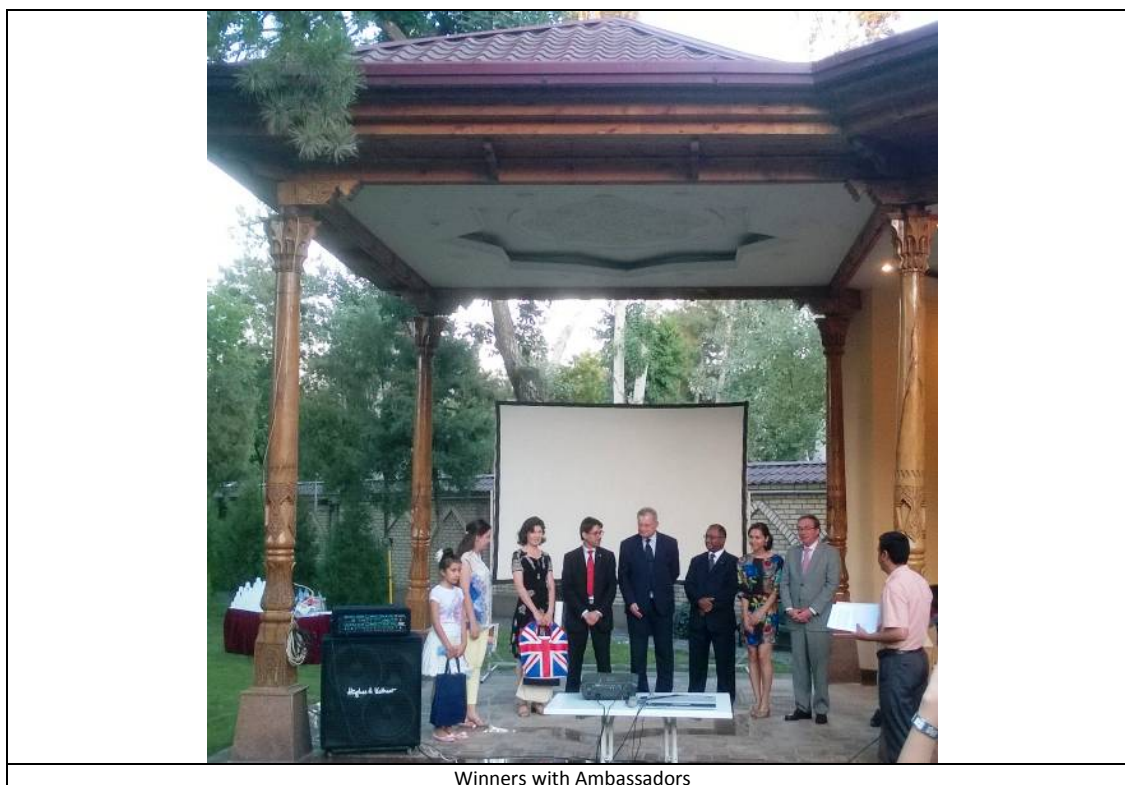


Speeches of ambassadors to Uzbekistan in front of participants



Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of Uzbekistan Mr. Shavkat Khamraev (second from the right)

Participants watched the film "About water" («Uber Wasser»), in which water problems in various regions of the World were shown, including the problem of the Priaralie region. During the event, prizes were awarded to the winners of the national competition on the best drawings devoted to water problems.



2. 17th Governing Council Meeting of the APWF

The 17th Governing Council Meeting of the APWF was held on 10 June 2015 in Singapore. Representatives from the APWF lead organizations (26 people) took part. The meeting was devoted to the 7th World Water Forum's outcomes and APWF activity towards the 3rd Asia-Pacific Water Summit that will take place in 2017.

Chairmanship: Mr. Ravi Narayanan, Chair of the APWF Governing Council, and 2 Vice-chairs of the APWF Governing Council - Ms. Changhua Wu and Mr. Simon Tay.

The Asia-Pacific regional session outcomes were reported by session coordinators:

Session «Water and Cities» - Ms. Ai Sigiura, UNESCO Office Jakarta.

Session «Water and Green Growth» - Mr. Taesun Shin, K-Water.

Session «Water and Food Security» - Mr. Thierry Facon, FAO Regional office.

Session «Integrated Water Resources Management» - Mr. Coichiro Omoto, NARBO.

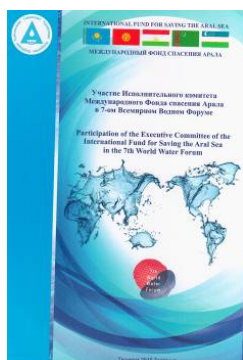
Session «Development of Cooperation in the Aral Sea Basin» - Mr. Vadim Sokolov, GWP CACENA Regional Coordinator.

Session «Trans-boundary River in Northeast Asia» - Ms. Heather Lee, KWF.

Session «Water related disaster» - Mr. Masahiko Murase, ICHARM.

Session «Sanitation of rural regions in Asia» - Mr. Pierre Flamand, Japan Sanitation Consortium.

The brochure with outcomes of the Special issue session "Development of Cooperation in the Aral Sea Basin to Mitigate Consequences of the Environmental Catastrophe" published by EC IFAS was disseminated among participants.



At the end of discussion of the 7th WWF outcomes, Ms. Yoshie Tonohara (Japan Water Forum) presented the Asia-Pacific regional final report.

Participants agreed to disseminate the 7th WWF outcomes and ask the Secretariat (JWF) to prepare a Policy briefs for further dissemination.

The APWF Governing Council considered a proposal on new publication "Asian Water Development Outlook 2016" (AWDO-2016)¹. Mr. Ravi Narayanan, Chair of the APWF Governing Council, informed participants about preparing this new publication under financial support of the Asian Development Bank and coordination by the Asia-Pacific Water Security Centre (the University of Beijing, China). Coordinators: Mrs. Wen Ma (maw@tsinghua.edu.cn) and Mr. Mark Pascoe (m.pascoe@watercentre.org).

Content of AWDO-2016 is planned to be considered in August this year in the ADB headquarters in Manila. The final version of AWDO-2016 will be presented in 2017 at the 3rd APWF Summit. The first version of this new publication was presented at the 7th WWF in April 2015 in Korea.

New initiative "Meta-guidelines for Water and Climate Change for Asia-Pacific" was presented by Mr. Nigel Walmsley, GWP representative. New initiative involves creation of network knowledge platform on the climate change adaptation tools.

At the end of meeting Mr. Kazuhisa Ito, Under-Secretary of the Japan Water Forum, reported about preparing to the 3rd Asia-Pacific Water Summit. This summit is supposed to be held in April-June 2017 and will serve as a platform for the 8th WWF in Brasil. Currently the JWF Secretariat is waiting for proposals from countries - a potential host of the 3rd Asia-Pacific Water Summit. The host-country has to be selected in September-October 2015 and the Agenda has to be developed up to the same date.



The working moments of the 17th Governing Council Meeting of the APWF

¹ The first review AWDO-2007 was presented at the 1st APWF Summit in December 2007 in Beppu, Japan. The second review AWDO-2013 was presented at the 2nd APWF Summit in May 2013 in Chang-Mai, Thailand. AWDO-2013 in Russian is placed on the ADB site: <http://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/pub/2013/asian-water-development-outlook-2013-ru.pdf>



Mr. Vadim Sokolov, GWP CACENA Regional Coordinator, is reporting about outcomes of the Special issue session "Development of Cooperation in the Aral Sea Basin to Mitigate Consequences of the Environmental Catastrophe" held at the 7th WWF



Mr. Nigel Walmsley, GWP/HR Wallingford representative, is reporting about new initiative "Meta-guidelines for Water and Climate Change for Asia-Pacific"

3. Roundtable: "The Concept of the National Strategic Programme Rio+20"

CWP-Armenia took part in the roundtable: "The Concept of National Strategic Programme Rio+20" organized by the Association "For Sustainable Human Development" within the GEF Small Grants Programme on 27 May 2015 in the Armenian Aarhus Centre in Yerevan.

During the meeting the issues on 11 spheres for sustainable development for 2015-2025 defined by Armenia were discussed.

Armenia as a responsible partner of UN family has acceded to final document "Future we want" of UN Summit "Rio+20" in 2012 and committed oneself to implement the sustainable development policy. In this connection the National Strategy Program is being developed. Sub-committees related to 11 issues are set up. CWP-Armenia is included to the sub-committee 3 "Sustainable management of water resources" and has contributed to the National Strategy Program.

4. Workshop "New Strategy on Water Supply and Waste Disposal"

CWP-Armenia participated in the workshop "New Strategy on Water Supply and Waste Disposal" organized by the State Committee on Water Management of Armenia on 2 June 2015.

The second stage of water management reform is started in Armenia in 2015. The strategy in water supply and waste disposal spheres was developed within cooperation between the State Committee on Water Management under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Armenia and the Asian Development Bank. The workshop discussed the following issues:

- ✓ Background of Strategy development;
- ✓ Strategy versions and their impact on tariffs;
- ✓ Institutional arrangement options;
- ✓ Tariffs for transition period.



Workshop participants

5. CWP-Armenia to Support of a Dedicated Water Goal

CWP-Armenia conducted several meetings with national partners and various stakeholders aiming to inform about SDG and to discuss needs to include "Water Goal" into the United Nations Post-2015 Development Agenda. All the participants agreed importance of water goal for future development not only for Armenia but the CACENA region as a whole.

CWP-Armenia prepared and sent 3 letters in support for a dedicated water goal throughout the Post-2015 Development negotiations taking place at the United Nations this year to the Government of Armenia notably:

- to the Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia;



- to the Minister of Foreign Affairs;



- to the Minister of Nature Protection.



6. 8th annual DigiTec Business Forum “Smart Solution For Smart Business”

CWP-Armenia participated in the 8th annual DigiTec Business Forum "Smart Solution For Smart Business" organized by the Union of Information Technology Enterprises (UITE) under support of the Prime Minister of Armenia on 19-20 June 2015 in Yerevan. More than 70 armenian business companies took part in this event. At the Session "Technologies for Green Economy" CWP-Armenia's partner made presentation "Alternative technologies for waste water treatment" where the Parakar treatment plant was given as a positive case.



Exhibition



Participants at the Session "Technologies for Green Economy"

More information:

<http://www.irates.am/hy/1435005202>

<http://armef.com/hy/news/keter-ev-ayl-dzknikner/digitec-biznes-forum-2015/>

<http://www.lragir.am/>

7. Workshop "Alternative technologies for waste water treatment"

CWP-Armenia jointly with NGO "Sustainable Water Environment" and LLC "JINJ" and the Vandzor Aarhus Centre organized the Workshop "Alternative technologies for waste water treatment". The workshop was held on 30 June 2015 in the Vandzor Assembly Hall and attended by 35 participants from local administration of 6 towns and villages, industrial organizations, the mining companies, NGOs, mass media, ecological and sanitary-and-epidemiologic institutions.

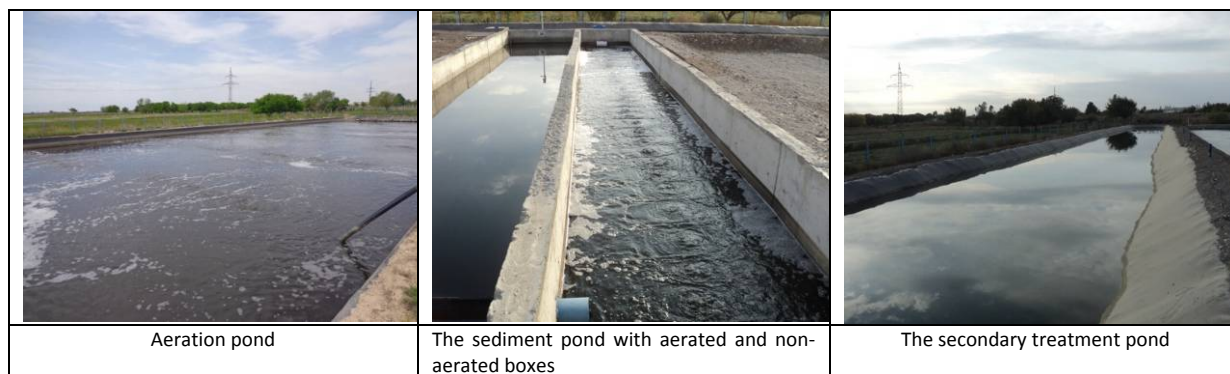
The workshop themes include:

- ✓ Current situation in waste water disposal and treatment in Armenia and new strategy for situation improving;
- ✓ Treatment of municipal and industrial waste water in the Lori Province;
- ✓ New approaches for municipal waste water treatment (various treatment plants and SWOT analysis);
- ✓ Waste water impact on ecosystems and human health.

8. WACDEP CACENA in Armenia

All the contractual works are completed and the treatment plant is put into operation in the Parakar village. The analysis of treated wastewater showed that BOD5 is decreased by 95.2%, water suspension - by 87%, COD - by 91%. The treated wastewater is used for irrigation.

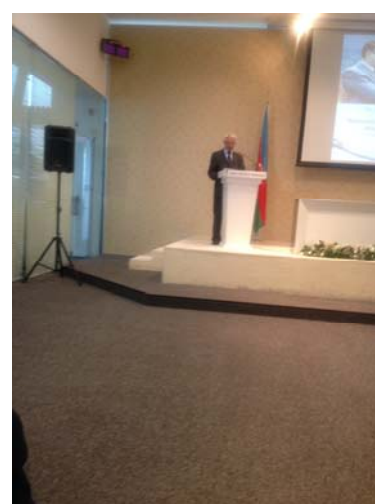
The demonstration project is finalized successfully and the project aim is attained.



9. Celebrating the Day of the Kura-Araz rivers and the Day of Water Specialists and Irrigators in Azerbaijan

In Azerbaijan, like in the previous years, the Kura-Araks rivers Day simultaneously with the Day of Water Specialists and Irrigators was celebrated on 5 June 2014 in Baku and all over the Republic. These events were broadly reported in mass-media.

CWP-Azerbaijan organized the Scientific-Practical Conference for water specialists of JSC "Land Reclamation and Water Management of Azerbaijan" and JSC "AZERSU". Mr. Teimur Osmanov, GWP CACENA RC member, reported about IWRM and rational use of water resources of Azerbaijan.



10. The EU Eastern Partnership Meeting in Georgia

On 1 June 2015, more than 120 NGOs were gathered in the conference hall of the Radisson BLU Hotel in Tbilisi to discuss the action plan for the European Union Association Agreement between Georgia and EU, including environmental protection issues.

Participants were informed that, according to this plan, in autumn 2015 the Georgian Parliament will consider the new water law of Georgia, which was developed as part of the NPD on water under CWP-Georgia coordination .

The meeting elected the Board of the Civil Society Forum consisting of 16 people. Mrs. Nino Chkhobadze (GWP CACENA Chair) was elected as a member of the Council on Environment and Energy. The meeting was organized within the EU Eastern Partnership.



11. Water Policy discussion on TV in Georgia

Experts discussed water policy of Georgia on TV channel "PALETTE" on 2 June 2015 in Tbilisi. The program was dedicated to the Day of the Kura-Araks river basin protection.

George Dzumakashvili gave details about the history of this day celebration and support provided by GWP CACENA to strengthen this initiative.

12. CWP-Georgia meeting with local administration of Ozurgeti

The meeting discussed the problems existing in the region and the country as a whole in the field of waste and water resources management.

The participants were informed about the United Nations Development Programme for post-2015 and the Water Goal Campaign planned by CWP-Georgia. This meeting was organized by Ms. N. Chkhobadze, GWP CACENA Chair.

The number of participants - 22. This meeting is one of a series of meetings with local authorities in the regions of Georgia.



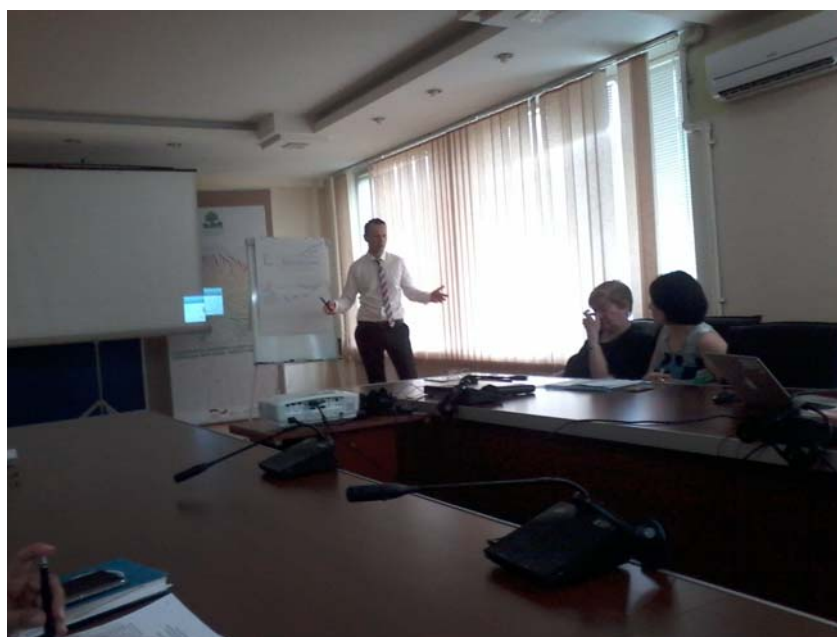
13. Cleanup action in Georgia

On 5 June 2015, CWP-Georgia took part in the cleanup action organized by the Green Movement of Georgia. This action was devoted to the World Environment Day 2015 celebrated on 5 June every year. Young volunteers and local people (up to 35 people) have collected and removed waste.



14. Discussing new by-law acts in Georgia

CWP-Georgia organized the meeting with UNECE representatives and foreign expert to discuss new 6 by-law acts prepared within NPD on Water under coordination of CWP-Georgia. This meeting was held on 10 June 2015 in the conference hall of the Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia in Tbilisi. The meeting was attended by water specialists of the Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources and experts involved in the preparation of regulations (Total: 9 people).



15. Flood in Tbilisi

CWP-Georgia participated in numerous television and radio broadcasts in connection with the flood in Tbilisi on June 13-20, 2015. A lot of young people (including the CWP-Georgia partners) took part in the cleaning of territory.

16. ENPARD Program discussion

Up to 30 NGOs gathered at the meeting with the EU attache on agricultural issues to Georgia Mr. Juan Echanove, to discuss the ENPARD program for help to farmers and improving the lives of people in Georgia.

The meeting organized within the EU Eastern Partnership Initiative was held on 30 June 2015 in the House of Europe, Tbilisi. Mr. George Dzamukashvili, GWP-Georgia Coordinator, actively participated in the discussion of agricultural irrigation.



17. CWP-Georgia meeting with local administration of Kutaisi

The meeting was held on 30 June 2015 in the conference hall of the mayor's office in Kutaisi. The meeting discussed the problems existing in the region and the country as a whole in the field of waste and water resources management as well as natural disasters.

The participants were informed about the United Nations Development Programme for post-2015 and the Water Goal Campaign planned by CWP-Georgia. This meeting was organized by Ms. N. Chkhobadze, GWP CACENA Chair.

The number of participants - 48. This meeting is one of a series of meetings with local authorities in the regions of Georgia.



18. HIGH LEVEL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR ACTION "WATER FOR LIFE", 2005-2015

The Conference was organized by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in cooperation with the UN-Water and other UN institutions, international and regional organizations and partners. The main objective of the Conference is assessing the progress made in achieving the goals of the Decade and identifying further efforts to ensure the sustainable development of water resources.

<http://waterforlifeconf2015.org/eng/>

The Conference was held on 9-11 June 2015 in the State Complex "Kohi Somon", in Dushanbe. About 1900 participants from 100 countries and 80 organizations took part. There were organized 2 High level Plenary sessions, 2 high level panels and 6 high level roundtable (Water and Sanitation; Water-Energy-Food-Environment Nexus; Global Challenges from a Water Perspective; Financing and Governance; Water Cooperation as Catalyst to Achieve Water Related Goals; Strengthening an Integrated Approach Towards Water Related SDGs) and 9 side events as well as the pre-conference events (Women Water Forum; Children Water Forum; Water Forum of Mountainous Countries; Water Forum of LDC and SIDS).

GWP CACENA participants:

Ms. Nino Chkhobadze, Chair;
Ms. Guldjamal Nurmukhamedova, CWP-Turkmenistan coordinator;
Ms. Kasiet Musabaeva, CWP-Kyrgyzstan coordinator;
Mr. Yarash Pulatov, CWP-Tajikistan coordinator;
Mr. Abdybai Djailoobarv, Project Manager;
Mr. Yusup Kamalov, WACDEP CACENA Newsletter editor.



Guldjamal Nurmukhamedova and Nino Chkhobadze



Alice Bouman-Dentener and Yarash Pulatov





Alice Bouman-Dentener and Nino Chkgobadze



Abdybai Djailoobaev

Abdybai Djailoobaev

Yusup Kamalov

19. Developing new project "Water Resources Management in Central Asia"

CWP-Kyrgyzstan became a member of the Inter-departmental Technical Working Group on developing a new project "Water Resources Management in Central Asia (CA - WaRM)". This project was initiated by the Department on Water Management of the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation of the Kyrgyz Republic and the World Bank for strengthening management of information system on water resources and knowledge platform for water management in Central Asia.

CWP-Kyrgyzstan Coordinator Ms. Kasiet Musabaeva participated in the first meeting of the Technical Working Group held on 22 June 2015 in the office of the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation Mr. Kerimaliev Zh.K.



20. Seminar on the ADB project "Economics of Climate Change in Central and West Asia"

CWP-Kyrgyzstan members were invited to participate in the workshop on the new ADB project "Economics of Climate Change in Central and West Asia" held on June 25, 2015 in the Park Hotel in Bishkek. The Deputy Minister of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Director of the Asian Development Bank also attended this seminar.

21. GWP Gender Strategy discussion in Kyrgyzstan

On 26 June 2015, CWP-Kyrgyzstan members discussed gender issues and ways to implement the GWP Gender Strategy in Kyrgyzstan. The meeting was held in the Korund Hotel in Bishkek and attended by 17 people (incl. 9 women) from the Department on Water Resources, and IFAS, universities and NGOs.



22. International Conference "Green Energy"

On 5 June 2015 CWP-Mongolia participated in the International Conference "Green Energy" organized by the Ministry of Nature and Green Development of Mongolia and was devoted to the World Environment Day. Representatives of 26 foreign organizations and 150 mongolian ones took part. The conference was held in the Blue Sky Tower Hotel in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

Outcomes:

1. Participants agreed to increase using of solar radiation and wind power up to 10% at the national level;
2. Legislation base of renewable energy use is needed to be improved;
3. To use modern technology and to increase funding by private sector for renewable energy development.



23. 70th Anniversary of the "Vodokanal" organization

More than 300 participants from 80 Mongolian organizations including CWP-Mongolia celebrated 70th Anniversary of the "Vodokanal" organization on 10 June 2015. The conference devoted to this event was held in the Government House in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.



24. Meeting with the World Bank representatives

On 15 June 2015 Prof. Davaa Basangorj (CWP-Mongolia) took part in the discussion of the World Bank report on improving sanitation in the Ulaanbaatar suburban zone. Also participants discussed possibility to conduct a workshop in September 2015 and a training on modelling of sustainable water supply for Ulaanbaatar.



25. International Conference “Improve access to water, hygiene and sanitation in the Ger areas in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, through the dissemination of innovative and proven solutions”

On 22-23 June 2015 Prof. Davaa Basangorj (CWP-Mongolia) took part in the International Conference "Improve access to water, hygiene and sanitation in the Ger areas in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, through the dissemination of innovative and proven solutions" held in Ulaanbaatar. He made presentation "Water and Human Development".



26. IWRM lecture for students

In order to disseminate IWRM best practices, as well as the assessment of the state and prospects of water resources development, CWP-Tajikistan coordinator Prof. Yarash Pulatov delivered a lecture on IWRM at the Tajik National University. The meeting was attended by students, postgraduate students and teachers (total: 62 people).



27. WACDEP CACENA in Tajikistan

In order to promote the achievements of WACDEP CACENA demonstration project the field trip to the pilot site was organized on 16 June 2015 to consult on drip irrigation technology. The drip irrigation of gardens is being implemented on the area of 4.5 hectares.



28. The Roundtable on EURECA II

On June 1, 2015 Ashgabat hosted a roundtable with participation of representatives of civil society organizations working in the field of sustainable use of natural resources. During the meeting, civil society organizations were invited to express their views on the activities of the first phase, as well as suggestions on possible cooperation in the near future between the EU and Central Asia. This meeting took place during the identification mission of the program expert and for the preparation of the EU Second Regional Programme on Environment for Central Asia (EURECA II).

It was decided that NGO "Ynanch-Vepa" will collect opinions of civil society representatives and prepare a consolidated response to the questionnaire developed by the program expert. It is expected the first concept of the program on the basis of consultations, will be presented in July this year at a meeting in Tashkent.



Session "UN Women", 8 June 2015

29. Session “UN Women”

On June 8, 2015 Ms. Guldjamal Nurmukhamedova, CWP-Turkmenistan coordinator, participated in the events preceding the International Water Forum in Dushanbe, including participation in the Session "UN Women", as well as at events organized within the Children's Water Forum, as well as the Water Forum of Mountainous Countries (visit to the exhibition of publications, communication with experts, participation in the meetings).

30. The UN Secretary General met with public organizations of Turkmenistan

On June 13, 2015 CWP-Turkmenistan among other public organizations participated in the meeting with the UN Secretary General within his official visit to Turkmenistan. UN representatives presented CWP-Turkmenistan to the UN Secretary General as "an organization building partnerships with government agencies and departments and promoting their potential through the implementation of vocational training programs, exchange of experience and familiarization with best international practices".

This meeting was preceded by CWP-Turkmenistan's extensive preparatory work on discussing ways to improve the interaction between grassroots organizations and UN programs, as well as the prospects of building mechanisms of partnership with government agencies.



Meeting with the UN Secretary General

31. UN agencies met with NGOs of Turkmenistan

On June 25, 2015 CWP-Turkmenistan among other public organizations participated in the meeting with the UNDP Country Representative in Turkmenistan (Ms. Jacinto Barrinz), as well as representatives of other UN agencies (UNFPA, IOM, UNHCR, UN Women, UNODC) to discuss the events of greatest interest for mutual cooperation. Public organizations requested UN agencies' assistance in organizing a round table to discuss the agenda of cooperation in the post-2015 sustainable development. It was agreed that such a table would be held in late August and early September of this year after its careful preparation.

The CWP-Uzbekistan partners meeting initiated by GWP CACENA and SIC ICWC was held on 23 June 2015 in Tashkent.



The meeting was attended by representatives of bodies of state administration and the Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan, as well as scholars of key institutions who deal with water resources management, and representatives of the regions of Uzbekistan.

The meeting discussed the following issues:

- The outcomes of the 7th World Water Forum and GWP CACENA future tasks;
- Participation of NGOs in improving the legislation in the field of environmental protection.

The GWP CACENA Regional Coordinator Vadim Sokolov informed the participants about the outcomes of 7th WWF and future plans of international organizations on global water issues.



He also noted that it is necessary to establish the relationship between the national development priorities and water issues, and to promote building capacity on urgent problems of the region and progress of water supply. Specific actions will be aimed at IWRM implementing at the river basins level, including inter-regional issues for achieving the water security.

Prof. Sanginov, Deputy Chairman of the Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan, called for a campaign to raise public awareness about the role of water as a key element of sustainable development of Uzbekistan. He also noted the need for the active participation of NGOs in the mass media on water issues.

The Vice-Rector of the Samarkand Architecture and Construction Institute Mr. Gadoev proposed to study the reasons for the existing regional water conflicts and to spread widely water diplomacy in the society.

Mr. Normuhammad Sheraliev, Director of GEF Agency, was elected as the CWP-Uzbekistan coordinator for 2015-2017 in an open voting.

Mr. Mansur Abduraimov, Chairman of the NGO "Protection of the Zarafshan basin", was elected as the GWP CACENA Regional Council member for 2015-2017 in an open voting.

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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.