



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

# Report

## For October 2016

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## Strategic Goal #1: Catalyze Change in Policy and Practice

### 1.1. Advocacy for IWRM as a Tool towards Water Security

#### *1.1.1. GWP CACENA supports National policy dialogues on the way towards Water Security*

#### **1. Seminar "IWRM role in the rational use of water resources"**

The seminar "IWRM role in the rational use of water resources" organized by CWP-Azerbaijan was held on 21 October 2016 in the Khachmassky region in the northern part of Azerbaijan.

The seminar was attended by water specialists, representatives of Irrigation Systems Department, researchers of the Research and Production Association of Water Engineering and Land Reclamation, water users, farmers and local administration (total: 28 people).

The main purpose was to disseminate results of the demo-project implemented within WACDEP CACENA and inform water- and land-users about main principles of IWRM and water resources protection.

Experts on WACDEP in 2013-2015 have informed participants about project results related to climate change adaptation.



#### **2. The regular meeting of the working group on preparing proposals to UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**

The regular meeting of the working group on preparing proposals to UNFCCC was held on 26 October 2016 in Baku. Mr. Teimur Osmanov (GWP CACENA Regional Council member) took part in the meeting and informed participants about fresh water resources and adaptation of water sector to climate change in the Republic of Azerbaijan.

#### **3. Eleventh meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management**

The eleventh meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Water Resources Management (WGIWRM) was held from Tuesday, 18 October 2016 until Wednesday, 19 October 2016 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The meeting celebrated the twentieth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention; and the opening of the Convention to accession by all United Nations members States, in effect since 1 March 2016. A special session was held dedicated to these two themes in order to discuss the main achievements in transboundary water cooperation under the Convention over the past 20 years and future challenges. In addition, the

meeting discussed the strategy for implementation of the Convention at the global level and will review the implementation of the work program for 2016–2018.

The meeting was attended by 100 participants.

During the meeting CWP-Georgia Chair Mr. George Dzamukashvili had a talk with Ms. Angela Klausen (GWPO). She praised the CWP-Georgia work on NEXUS and promised to finance participation of CWP-Georgia in the Global Workshop on the Water-Food-Energy Ecosystems Nexus (6-7 December 2016) and the Task Force on the Water-Food-Energy Ecosystems Nexus (8 December 2016).



#### 4. 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the European Union Water Initiative Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EUWI EECCA) Working Group

EUWI EECCA Working Group meeting was held on October 17, 2016 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Working Group was informed about development of legislation in the water resources sphere, particularly:

- Water Code of Turkmenistan;
- Water Law and bylaws in Georgia;
- Water strategy of Azerbaijan.

CWP-Georgia Chair Mr. George Dzamukashvili made presentation “Development of the Water Law and bylaws in Georgia”.

[http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/water/meetings/NPD\\_meetings/2016/EUWI\\_EECCA\\_Working\\_Group\\_meeting/Session\\_2\\_Georgia\\_RU.pdf](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/water/meetings/NPD_meetings/2016/EUWI_EECCA_Working_Group_meeting/Session_2_Georgia_RU.pdf)

The meeting has analyzed and evaluated NPDs implementation and noted their importance as a strong tool to achieve IWRM. Further activity of the working group was discussed.

About 40 representatives of agencies and organizations of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia took part in the meeting.

## 5. Roundtable "Improvement of institutional mechanism of legislative regulations and standards of cooperation in the sphere of transboundary water resources management of the Republic of Kazakhstan"

The roundtable "Improvement of institutional mechanism of legislative regulations and standards of cooperation in the sphere of transboundary water resources management of the Republic of Kazakhstan" organized by the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan and the Scientific-Educational Center "Green Academy" was held on 25 October 2016 in Astana.

CWP-Kazakhstan actively participated in discussion the presentations done by UNECE experts.

Representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan, CWP-Kazakhstan, foreign and national experts on water resources (Total: 18 people, including 6 women) have discussed and submitted some proposals to the project "Review of policy and recommendations for the Republic of Kazakhstan in the sphere of transboundary water resources management".

Ms. Kuralay Yakhiyaeva (CWP-Kazakhstan Senior Secretary) proposed to use IWRM principles as a tool of water security achievement.



## 6. Launching the lecture course on Integrated Water Resources Management

CWP-Kyrgyzstan took part in presentation of the lecture course on Integrated Water Resources Management organized by UNESO cluster office in Almaty and the Public Foundation "Center for promotion of sustainable development" that was held on October 4, 2016, in Bishkek.

Representatives of research, education and international organizations, local administrations, NGOs of the Kyrgyz Republic (Total: 28 participants including 20 women) discussed the institutional and legal base of IWRM, experience of implementing economical and financial tools in Kyrgyzstan, as well international cooperation on water issues. Participants was acquainted with the IWRM course adapted to the Kyrgyzstan universities.

This IWRM course is supposed to be a trigger for increasing potential of innovative strategies on sustainable management of water resources as well for strengthening promotion of IWRM in Kyrgyzstan.



## 1.2. Guidance on Institutional and Technical issues of Water Security

### 1.2.1. GWP CACENA contribution to regional projects and initiatives

#### **7. National Conference "Towards Marrakech - Armenia on the eve of COP22"**

The National Conference "Towards Marrakech - Armenia on the eve of COP22" organized by CWP-Armenia in cooperation with its partner - NGO "Khazer" - was held on October 13, 2016, in Yerevan. The conference was supported also by OSCE, UNDP, the Embassy of France to Armenia, the Armenian office of Red Cross.

Representatives of OSCE, UNDP, the Embassy of France to Armenia, the Armenian office of Red Cross, ministries, local administrations, rural communities, universities, Aarhus centers, NGOs, business sector, various stakeholders and experts attended the conference (Total: 120 people).

The purpose of the conference was to discuss the provisions of the Paris Agreement and the position of Armenia to implement them, as well as possible forms of public participation (Armenia lost the right to vote in the frames of the Paris Agreement, because did not ratify it in time). On 5 October 2016 the number of the countries having ratified the Paris Agreement reached 72, and their aggregate emissions exceeded 55% of the total world emissions thus making 56.75%.

The Paris Agreement will enter into force on 4 November 2016 for those countries, which have ratified the agreement.

The conference presentations were as follows:

- Actions of Armenia and the civil society role in the Paris Agreement implementation;
- Problems of climate change adaptation in the development plans of regions and communities;
- Technologies for climate change adaptation;
- Efficient management of water resources as a measure to climate change adaptation (Eduard Mesrobian, JINJ);
- Wastewater treatment - a measure to climate change adaptation;
- Climate change adaptation in the programs of GWP/GWP CACENA/CWP-Armenia (Arevic Hovsepian).

The conference discussed various issues, and the ability of communities to co-finance the adaptation projects through the establishment of civilian funds at the community level, using the environmental payment as well.

The conference decided to organize a round table with stakeholders following COP22.



More information:

[armlur.am/596643/](http://armlur.am/596643/); [www.panorama.am/am/shortNews/2016/10/14/.../974308](http://www.panorama.am/am/shortNews/2016/10/14/.../974308);  
[armenia.shafaqna.com/AM/AM/315355](http://armenia.shafaqna.com/AM/AM/315355); <https://www.ecolur.org/hy/news/climate...can.../8593/>;  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZcBKHH4aTxs>

## 8. Meeting for Stakeholders

On 31 October 2016 in Tbilisi, the Ministry of Labour, Health and Welfare Protection of Georgia organized the meeting for stakeholders to discuss development of legal regulation on registration of hazardous chemical substances.

This problem solution is a commitment of Georgia within the Association Agreement with EC. The matter is that currently registration of hazardous chemical substances isn't being conducted in the country. There is no information about suppliers, storing places, amount, responsible persons etc.

CWP-Georgia is interested in this issue solution because of river pollution related to spontaneous disposal tips at the riversides.

CWP-Georgia Chair Mr. George Dzumukashvili reminded participants (Total: 60 people) that CWP-Georgia coordinated development of Water Law and 8 bylaws. He appealed to lobby for the Protocol on Water and Health (UNECE Water Convention).



## 9. Regular meeting of the Nur-Sarysuisky Basin Council

CWP-Kazakhstan in cooperation with the Nura-Sarysuisky water management basin inspectorate and "AST PRO" conducted the regular meeting of the Nura-Sarysuisky Basin Council on 26 October 2016 in Karaganda. Mass media was invited to participate. Total: 30 participants, including 8 women.

Ms. Kuralay Yakhiyaeva (CWP-Kazakhstan Senior Secretary) proposed to include implementing SDG6 and dissemination of WACDEP CACENA results in Kazakhstan into the Work Plan 2017.



## 10. 10th meeting of the Tobyl-Torgaisky Basin Council

CWP-Kazakhstan in cooperation with the Tobyl-Torgaisky water management basin inspectorate and "AST PRO" conducted the 10th meeting of the Tobyl-Torgaisky Basin Council on 28 October 2016 in Kostanay. Mass media was invited to participate. Total: 40 participants, including 18 women.

Ms. Kuralay Yakhiyaeva (CWP-Kazakhstan Senior Secretary) proposed to include implementing SDG6 and dissemination of WACDEP CACENA results in Kazakhstan into the Work Plan 2017.



## 11. WACDEP CACENA in Tajikistan

CWP-Tajikistan organized the roundtable on 20 October 2016 in the Lyaur village, Rudaki region.

The purpose was to discuss the demo-project results with representatives of farms, WUAs, regional administration, research organizations, civil society.

Participants (Total: 25 people) discussed the following presentations:

- "Water saving irrigation technologies - a basis for climate change adaptation in the Tajikistan's conditions" (Prof. Yarash Pulatov);
- "Demonstration of crop irrigation technology: condition and development prospects" (Dr. Karaev A.B.);
- "Prospects of land reclamation and irrigation under climate change in Central Tajikistan" (Dr. Nosirov N.K.);
- "Role of Global Water Partnership in IWRM principles implementation" (Prof. Yarash Pulatov).

Participants approved the final document.





## 12. 85th Anniversary of the Tajik Agrarian University named after Shotemur Sh.

On 22 October 2016 CWP-Tajikistan partners took part in the Republican Scientific-Practical Conference devoted to 85th Anniversary of the Tajik Agrarian University named after Shotemur Sh. held in Dushanbe.

The conference was organized by the Tajik Agrarian University named after Shotemur Sh., the Ministry of Agriculture of Tajikistan, the Ministry of Education and Science of Tajikistan. Representatives of Parliament, Government, ministries, committees, research institutes, industry, various economy sectors etc. took part in this event (Total: 455 people).





## Strategic Goal #2: Generate and Communicate Knowledge.

### 2.1. Knowledge Base on Water Security

#### *2.1.1. GWP CACENA Partners promote knowledge accumulation and dissemination addressing development challenges and water security*

### **13. Regional meeting on the project "Integrated management of natural resources in the drought-prone and saline agricultural production landscapes of Central Asia and Turkey"**

Mr. Shukhrat Mukhamedjanov (WACDEP CACENA project manager) and Ms. Kuralay Yakhiyeva (CWP-Kazakhstan Senior Secretary) took part in the Regional meeting on the project "Integrated management of natural resources in the drought-prone and saline agricultural production landscapes of Central Asia and Turkey" within the FAO project on integrated natural resources management in drought-prone and salt-affected areas under financial support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

The FAO project includes 2 components:

- 1) Assisting for national governments to integrate principles on sustainability to external impact into their strategy and the action plan and at the same time to facilitate using methods of climatically optimized agriculture.
- 2) Facilitate strengthening cooperation and partnership between countries in the region especially political and investment decisions for the drought-prone and saline agricultural production landscapes.



The meeting organized by FAO was held on 6-7 October 2016 in Almaty and was attended by representatives of Central Asian countries and Turkey as well as foreign and national experts.



#### 14. Seminar "Transboundary water resources management policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan"

The seminar "Transboundary water resources management policy of the Republic of Kazakhstan" organized by the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan and the Scientific-Educational Center "Green Academy" under financial support of EC within the Joint EU/UNDP/UNECE project "Supporting Kazakhstan's Transition to a Green Economy Model" was held on 24 October 2016 in Astana.

Participants: CWP-Kazakhstan, the Ministry of agriculture of Kazakhstan, the Committee on Water Resources, the basin water management inspectorates, foreign and national experts (Total: 21 participants including 9 women).

Purpose: suggestions on improvement of legislative regulations and standards and institutional mechanism of cooperation in the sphere of transboundary water resources management of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

CWP-Kazakhstan proposed to use IWRM principles as a tool of water security achievement.



## 15. CWP-Kazakhstan's publications

1. N.Kipshakbaev "Development of water management and land reclamation in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 1966-1985" (Jornal "Prirodoustroistvo", №4, 2016; Moscow, Russia).
2. N.Kipshakbaev "Improving and strengthening institutes for joint management of water resources in the Aral Sea Basin" (Proceedings "Water Resources of Central Asia and their use"; October, 2016; Institute of Geography, Almaty, Kazakhstan).

## 16. Roundtable "Nature Resources Management for Sustainable Development"

The roundtable "Nature Resources Management for Sustainable Development" organized by CWP-Kyrgyzstan in cooperation with the Association of Forest and Land Users of Kyrgyzstan and the Aarhus Center in Bishkek was held on October 21, 2016, in the Orto-Say village, Kyrgyzstan.

The roundtable purpose was to disseminate knowledge on water security in the context of sustainable development.

Representatives from various ministries, civil society, NGOs, as well the invited person from Mongolia - Ms. Baigal Orchin Ba Khogjliyn, Director of the Association on Environment Protection and Development "Ghasyl", participated (Total: 29 people).

Expected outcome: Increasing knowledge on water security and sustainable development.



## 17. WRG2030 Steering Committee meeting

CWP-Mongolia took part in the WRG2030 Steering Committee meeting held on 13 October 2016.

CWP-Mongolia suggested 2 main activities for the Work Plan 2017:

1. Water governance improving and support of the National Water Committee, as well as capacity building of river basin organizations;
2. Increasing water reuse amount and to develop mechanism for water saving and reuse.



## 2.2. Capacity building on Water Security issues

### *2.2.2. Strengthened of National and regional policy making bodies to influence water policy development (with specific focus to selected priority themes)*

#### **18. Project "Development of Local Climate Change Adaptation Plans of Action"**

CWP-Armenia won a grant for implementing the project "Development of Local Climate Change Adaptation Plans of Action" within the framework of "Climate Forum East II" Program under financial support of EU, the Austrian Red Cross, the Austrian Development Cooperation.

In this regard CWP-Armenia signed a contract on implementation of six pilot projects in three communities: Mets Parni, Margahovit and Basen (2 projects for each community).

In Mets Parni community:

1. Restoring 23 hectares of degraded agricultural land.
2. Construction of Solar Photovoltaic panels for energy conservation.

In Margahovit community:

1. Construction of Solar Photovoltaic panels for energy conservation in kindergarten.
2. Use of energy saving lamps for lighting streets.

In Basen community:

1. Construction of chlorination plant for disinfection of water.
2. Reconstructing 200 meters water pipe-line in the torrent coomb.



The water pipe-line in the torrent coomb



Degraded land in the Metz Parni.

## 19. The working meeting "Summing up the analysis of the state standards of education within the water professions in Kazakhstan"

The working meeting "Summing up the analysis of the state standards of education within the water professions in Kazakhstan" organized by OSCE office in Kazakhstan, ISAID, UNESCO cluster office in Almaty, REC CA, IFAS, 3 universities, was held on 6 October 2016 in Almaty.

CWP-Kazakhstan partners took part in the working meeting that was consisted of 2 parts:

- 1) Analysis of implementing international standards of educational programs and regulations of training water specialists for water sector in Kazakhstan;
- 2) Improving of the state educational standards and model curricula for professions within the required competences, aimed at development and modernization of water sector of Kazakhstan.

Participants: specialists and managers of water sector of Kazakhstan, representatives of international and regional research centers, universities, institutions and media (total of 25 people, including 8 women).

Purpose: Analysis and development of recommendations for improving the existing educational standards, curricula of universities for specialists in water industry and to ensure a constructive dialogue with public authorities, economic entities, as well as foreign universities.

CWP-Kazakhstan Chair Prof. Nariman Kipshakbaev proposed to include IWRM, interstate and domestic policy of water resources management into curricula.

## 20. Training "Integrated Water Resources Management"

CWP-Kyrgyzstan took part in the training "Integrated Water Resources Management" organized by REC CA on October 13, 2016, in Bishkek.

Purpose: disseminating knowledge on IWRM and the basin planning.

Participants: representatives of the Water Management Department of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation of the Kyrgyz Republic, civil society (Total: 35 people including 18 women).

Ms. Aiperi Dhzailoobaeva, member of CWP-Kyrgyzstan Youth branch, made presentation "Financial and economic tools for sustainable basin planning in Kyrgyzstan".



## 21. Discussion on treated wastewater reuse and development of national standard on reusing treated wastewater

Discussion on treated wastewater reuse and development of national standard on reusing treated wastewater organized by CWP-Mongolia led by Prof. Basandorj was held on 5 October 2016 in the meeting room of Mongolian University of Science and Technology in Ulaanbaatar.

Participants (Total: 10 people) decided the followings:

- Save water and reuse of treated wastewater for car wash, green area and other purposes;
- Exchange of ideas and share knowledge on reusing and recycling water;

- Learn more about international experiences on reusing water and a legal basis;
- Establish the working group on development of national standard led by CWP-Mongolia;
- Developed draft standard will be delivered to the Ministry of Urban Development and Construction within year 2016.



Treated wastewater and bottled water

Presentation by Prof. Basandorj



Discussion "Treated wastewater reuse can be one of solutions to climate change adaptation"

## 22. Mongolian Water Partners meeting

CWP-Mongolia Partners (Total: 45 people) met with the Minister of Environment and Tourism (MET) of Mongolia on 14 of October 2016 at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism in Ulaanbaatar.

The Minister congratulated participants with joining of Mongolia to the Paris Declaration on 10 September 2016. Minister's opening speech was devoted to water related activity for 2016-2020 in the action plan of new Government. Participants discussed ways of collaboration between CWP-Mongolia and MET and NGO. It could be the government policy support to development of small grant projects on protecting water sources and reducing pollution of rivers and water bodies. Participants expressed willingness to be a co-organizer of national water symposium in November 2016 and discussed the NEXUS approaches on water, food and energy.





Meeting with Ms.Ouynkhorol, Minister of Environment and Tourism

### 23. Korea International Water Week and the Asia Water Council meeting

On 18-22 October 2016, CWP-Mongolia took part in the Korea International Water Week and the Asia Water Council meeting on behalf of GWP CACENA.



Prof. Basandorj represented GWP CACENA at the 3rd Board of Asia Water Council meeting, which conducted a new AWC President election and approved the host city for the 1st Asia International Water Week. The plan for the AIWW 2017 and steering committee structure of it was also approved.

There was signed Letter of Exchange to fix long-standing collaboration among the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, UNESCO Jakarta Regional Science Bureau for Asia and the Pacific), Global

Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus, Korea Rural Community Corporation and Korea Water Resources Corporation aimed at developing practical NEXUS solutions for Asia region that in line with the SDGs and Climate change. It means that GWP CACENA as an active member of AWC Special Committee on Water-Energy-Food Nexus will contribute to the following actions:

- Literature survey on the national water program, related regulation and institutional arrangement of Mongolia - as a pilot country;
- Interview and discussions with stakeholders including government officials, development agencies and local entities;
- Sector analysis on water, energy and food domain;
- Develop concept paper covering evaluation results and recommendations.

The final outcomes will be:

- Tangible and clear policy document and action plans to drag up the efficiency in each sector of Mongolia
- List of water related problems in the country while achieving global SDGs and all other goals.
- A good example and duplicated in other countries by the Secretariat of AWC.

## **Strategic Goal #3: Strengthen Partnerships.**

### **3.1. Operational GWP CACENA Network**

#### ***3.1.1. Regional Council and Partners meetings***

#### **24. GWP CACENA Regional Secretariat**

GWP CACENA Regional Secretariat during October finalized Reporting 2016 and Planning 2017 package (including 2016 outcome reporting, Work plan and budget 2017), which was submitted to the GWPO. The regional work program includes three components – 1. Core activities of the GWP CACENA network; 2. Water, Climate and Development program; 3. SDG & Water Preparedness Facility.

The GWP global Steering Committee called for a preliminary mapping of the GWP country level situations. This small project implemented during October feeds into the overall preparation of the 2017-2019 Work program at regional & country level. GWP CACENA Secretariat conducted SWOT analysis of two CWPs – Armenia and Uzbekistan, in relation to the objective of being an effective Multistakeholder Platform supporting the implementation of water connected development objectives. As a result Summary of major needs for strengthening of CWPs across the CACENA region was submitted to the GWPO.

#### **25. CWP-Armenia partners' meeting**

CWP-Armenia partners' meeting was held on October 7, 2016 in the Ani Plaza Hotel in Yerevan.

CWP-Armenia partners, representatives of governmental organizations, private sector and HGOs took part also (Total: 20 people).

Agenda:

- GWPO news and new works for 2017-2019;
- GWP CACENA Regional Secretariat news and projects implemented in this year;
- Reregistration of CWP-Armenia members and registration of new partners;
- Election of Armenian new member to GWP CACENA Regional Council;
- Organizational issues, discussion.

Ms. Arevic Hovsepyan, CWP-Armenia Chair and GWP CACENA RC member, informed participants about GWPO news and works related to Climate Change and SDGs, drought management, as well Gender and Youth. She also presented projects to be implemented in CACENA countries particularly WACDEP CACENA in 2017-2019.

She noted 4 directions of the improved work program of GWP CACENA for 2017-2019 that was presented at the Regional Council meeting in September, in Mongolia:

- strengthening GWP CACENA activity at the national level in the context of SDGs and national priorities of economic development;
- increasing sustainability of financing by GWP;
- development of corporate knowledge management;
- increasing GWPO/RWP/CWP institutional effectiveness.

Ms. Arevic Hovsepyan informed participants about CWP-Armenia's policy within GWP CACENA and future partnership development.



The Head of Water Resources Management Agency at the Ministry of Environment Protection Vagan Davtyan presented projects that are being performed by the ministry, and the agency's problems too. He raised various issues related to calculation of water balance of Armenia. He noted that more than 20 years have not been updated the water balance of surface waters and more than 50 years - data on groundwaters. This creates serious obstacles to the process of issuing the permissions for water use.

The Head of Water Resources Management Agency noted that assessment of water balance is very important for development of climate change adaptation plans. He proposed to search financial support to implement such a work.

LLC "JINJ" Director informed about institutional problems of water resources management. He think that water resources protection and water resources management are different and have to be performed by different agencies.

Participants discussed various issues particularly development and implementation of projects at the community level, involvement of local partners as well as strengthen activity of partners on implementation of CWP-Armenia various projects. Also there was proposed to develop a statute of CWP-Armenia for more efficient activity.

Participants of the meeting unanimously elected Ms. Lusine Vardanyan to the GWP CACENA Regional Council member to Armenia and wished her successful work.

All former members of the CWP-Armenia network updated their registration and new organizations have expressed a desire to be a member of the network.

NGO "Women for Development" has been registered online and received approval from GWPO.

CWP-Armenia submitted all the needed documents for accreditation to GWPO.

\* Express estimation of the country and SWOT-analysis of water resources management and governance in the country in connection with the current development objectives, as well as SWOT-analysis of CWP-Armenia activities has been done.

\*\* Preliminary study "Degree of IWRM implementation in Armenia" within the framework of the SDGs project has been done.

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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.