

Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

# Report

## March 2014

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## Section 1: CWP- Armenia

### 1.1. Celebrating the World Water Day

CWP-Armenia together with its partner the SPRING Group organized and implemented a series of measures devoted to World Water Day within the framework of "Let's care Armenia" initiative.

This year the Geological Museum of Institute of Geology and the National Academy of Sciences have joined to this initiative resulted in a wider range of activities.

The series of events were started with announcement of photo competition "Water Stories". The announcement was posted on the websites. More than 50 photos were presented to the competition. The jury chose 15 photos to present them to the conference participants and to nominate the winners.

### 1.2. Training Session

On March 7, at the Geological Museum a training session was organized for high school students. Also the students from YSU Faculty of Biology and Department of Biochemistry, as well school teachers, and museum staff attended that session.



Training session at the Geological Museum

The report "Water and Energy" was presented to the participants and their attention was attracted to the studies implemented within the framework of the World Bank's initiative "Thirsty energy".

The participants were very interested in the close connection between water and energy and simple actions were suggested for their saving in our everyday life.

### 1.3. Press Conference

On March 18, the "Marriott" Hotel hosted a Press Conference. The representatives of the Ministries of Energy and Natural Resources and Agriculture participated in discussion dedicated to WWD.

At a debate held ahead of the World Water Day, the initiators of the project "Let us Be Careful Armenia – World Water Day 2014" agreed that hydro-powers plants keep increasing in number despite the concerns over possible environmental hazards.

More information: <http://www.tert.am/en/news/2014/03/18/water-resources//?sw/?sw;>  
<http://www.newsbox.am/water-resources/>



Press Conference on March 18, 2014

#### 1.4. Scientific Conference "Water in our life"

On March 20, the Geological Museum hosted the Scientific Conference "Water in our life".

The conference was attended by representatives of Ministry of Science and Education, the Ministry of Culture, members of the "Eco club", other museums' staff, and students of the Yerevan State Engineering University.

At the Conference the following reports were presented: "Water worship in Ancient Armenia", "Water in Petroglyphs", "Vishapakahrs and Water». The water theme in A. Isahakyans works, as well as the popular game "Game of Rivers" by the great Armenian poet H. Tumanyan, which was taken from his manuscripts and published by the staff of Tumanyan's house museum, were also presented.



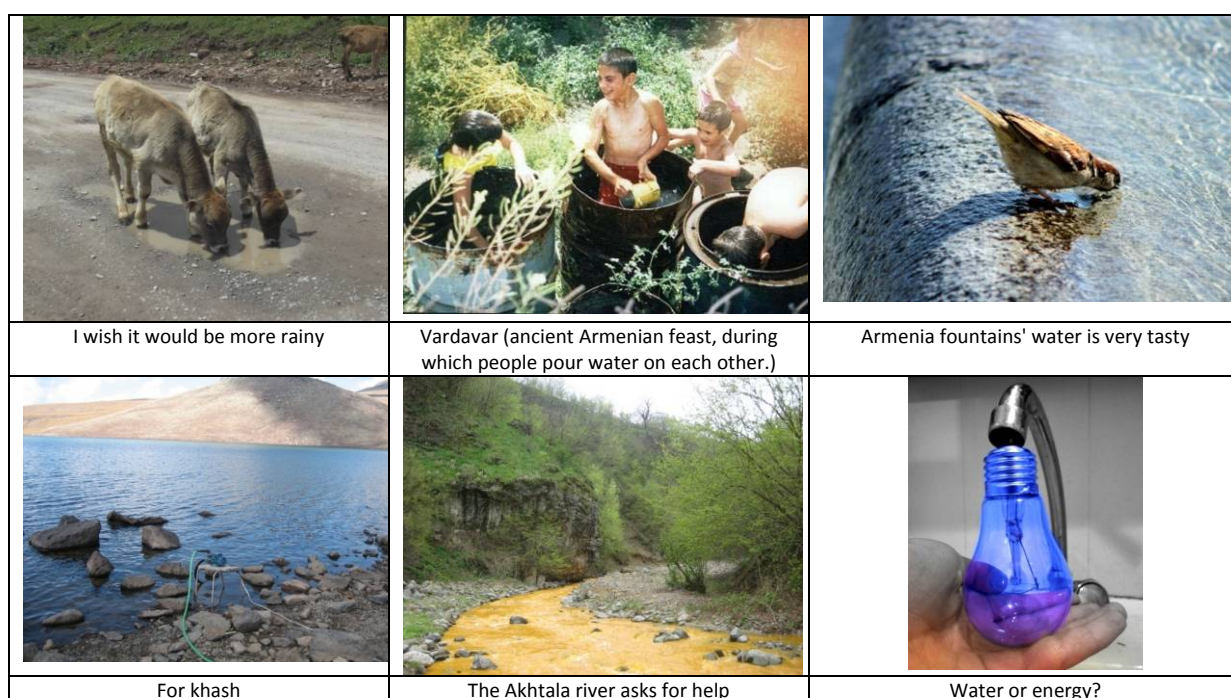
There was proposed to establish the Water Museum in Yerevan. The conference was concluded with performance of "Art vocal" chorus and schoolchildren's dance ensemble.



The Photo exhibition "Water Stories" was organized in the Geological Museum and the participants chose the best photos that should receive awards in 6 nominations.

More information: <http://www.aravot.am/2014/03/21/442990/>;

<http://armenpress.am/arm/news/754740/jri-hamashkharhayin-orvan-ays-tari-miacel-e-naev-erkrabanakan.html>; <http://www.pressident.am/news/16/3161-hayastane-anmasn-ci-mnour-jri-hamashkharhayin-orvanic.html>



### 1.5. Conference "Water Resources Problems in the Republic of Armenia"

On March 21, the Conference "Water Resources Problems in the Republic of Armenia" was held, which was the last of events within the framework of "Let's care Armenia - World Water Day 2014" initiative. The conference was attended by the representatives of the Water Resources Management Agency of the Ministry



of Nature Protection, the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Health, water supply organizations, private sector, NGOs, universities, the media, students. Speakers highlighted water problems and the works carried out for their solution.

The main problem consistent with WHO's motto this year is related to the construction of a great number of small hydropower plants, resulting in violation of ecosystems of all the rivers, on which they are constructed. It turned out that we have problems with legislative and regulatory management in this area and a legislative initiative is being prepared to regulate it.

Water companies presented their achievements in energy and water saving.

Besides, wastewater treatment problems and considering wastewater as a valuable and sustainable resource were also considered.



During the Conference the award winners received both money prize and the stone art thing in the form of water drop. They received also certificates.

The Yerevan Djur Water Company and the Armenian Water & Sewerage Company funded the events.

More information: <http://www.panarmenian.net/arm/photoset/all/5916>;  
<http://www.aravot.am/2014/03/20/442807/>



The Photo Competition Prize

### 1.6. "With Rio + 20"

CWP-Armenia has been selected as a partner of the process "With Rio + 20" is being implemented in the Republic of Armenia. On March 25, CWP-Armenia as a professional organization supporting the process of sustainable management of water resources, participated in a round table to present the project.



### 1.7. Climate Forum East – Regional Conference

As a member of the "Climate Forum East" project, CWP-Armenia participated in the regional conference "Responding to Climate Change in Eastern Partnership Countries" held in Tbilisi on March 26-27, and presented the demonstration project being implemented in the Parakar community within the framework of the Water, Climate and Development Programme for Central Asia and Caucasus.

### 1.8. WACDEP CACENA in Armenia

On March 6-8, Mr. Djailoobaev, WACDEP CACENA Programme Manager, arrived in Armenia on a working visit. The meeting with the mayor of the village Parakar where the demonstration project is being implemented, was organized. During the meeting they discussed issues related to the terms of the demonstration project implementation, the possibility of additional financing from the local budget, the importance of the project for the village and its residents and other issues.



Mr. Djailoobaev also visited the construction site and got acquainted with situation and cleared up the issues that he is interested in.





From left to right: Mayor of the Parakar village, WACDEP CACENA Programme Manager, Detailed Engineering Contractor



At the construction site

On March 10, the tender board opened the bidding documents submitted by four construction companies. Company "EMOSHIN" that offered the lowest price for construction was chosen.



On March 12, an agreement was signed with the construction company "EMOSHIN."

On March 15, the construction of the second phase of the treatment plant in the village Parakar was started.

On March 17, a contract with "CI-TV" on a film about implementation of the demonstration project and an advertising clip, was signed.

## Section 2: CWP-Azerbaijan

### 2.1. World Water Day in Azerbaijan

Towards celebration of the World Water Day, the CWP-Azerbaijan jointly with the geographical faculty of the Baku State University, the International Hydrological Programme (IHP-UNESCO) and the Environmental Protection of International River Basins project (EPIRB) organized a seminar on 18 March 2014 in Baku, at the Baku State University. Teachers and students participated in this seminar. The representatives of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan, Public Corporation "Land Reclamation and Water Management", Public Corporation "AZERSU", and the national coordinator of the project "Protection of International Water Basins and Environment" funded by European Union were invited. Mr. Asadov M., CWP-Azerbaijan chairman, and Mr. Osmanov T., GWP CACENA Regional Council member, made the presentations on rational use of water resources and implementation of IWRM principles in Azerbaijan.



Participants were given the booklets "22 March - World Water Day", folders, pens and notebooks. The seminar aim was to raise awareness of students and all the participants (In total 38 people) about importance of protection and use of water resources as well as IWRM concept and principles.



### Section 3: CWP- Tajikistan

#### 3.1. Country Consultations on Water Speak to post-2015 Agenda in Tajikistan

The Intersectoral roundtable "Country Consultations on Water Speak to post-2015 Agenda" was held on 7 March 2014 in Dushanbe at the Institute of Water Problems, Energy and Environment of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan. The roundtable was organized by CWP-Tajikistan jointly with the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan under support of GWP CACENA.

The aim of intersectoral roundtable was to collect opinions of various economy sectors on the program of water resources and sustainable development for post-2015 period. More than 42 people (decision-makers, representatives of public and private sectors) participated in this event.





### 3.2. Disseminating the presentation “A Potential Global Goal for Water”

CWP-Tajikistan translated the presentation “A Potential Global Goal for Water” and then disseminated it through its network to 28 organizations. The aim was to raise public awareness and knowledge.

### 3.3. Central Asian competition on IWRM

On 27 March 2014, CWP-Tajikistan participated in the Central Asian competition on IWRM organized by the Kazakhstan-Germany University under support of the partner-universities of Central Asia and DAAD. This competition at the national level was held at the Tajik Technical University named Osimi M. in Dushanbe. The aim was to raise IWRM knowledge among students in Tajikistan. About 45 students took part in the IWRM competition.



## Section 4: CWP- Turkmenistan

### 4.1. The Roundtable for public organizations in Turkmenistan

CWP-Turkmenistan prepared and conducted the roundtable for NGOs. The roundtable for NGOs was held on 12 March 2014 in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. The aim was to discuss more wide ways for involving the public community to implementing national strategies and programs related to rational use of natural resources. Another issue was the NGOs sustainability in Turkmenistan. The roundtable was attended by 13 representatives of NGOs.



12 Марта 2014. Круглый стол для общественных организаций

*Возможности более широкого привлечения общественности к реализации национальных стратегий и программ, по рациональному использованию природных ресурсов, а также обсуждение вопросов устойчивости НПО в Туркменистане*

## Section 5: CWP-Uzbekistan

### 5.1. Country Consultations on Water Speak to post-2015 Agenda in Uzbekistan

The Round Table “Consultations on Improving Water Resources Management aiming to Water Security in Uzbekistan for 2014-2020” was held on 12 March 2014 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

<http://www.gwp.org/CACENA/News/The-Round-Table-Consultations-on-Improving-Water-Resources-Management-aiming-to-Water-Security-in-Uzbekistan-for-2014-2020/>

## Section 6: CWP-Mongolia

### 6.1. Mongol TV discussion on water pricing

Mongolian Water Partnership (MWP) took part in the discussion on increasing water service tariff for domestic water at the Mongol TV on 12 March 2014. Moreover 6 different organizations participated too.

### 6.2. Water& development conference for students

Traditional conference on water studies was held on 21 March 2014 at the Meeting Hall of the Mongolian University of Science and Technology (MUST) for students from various universities. The conference aiming to improve water knowledge for young generations was organized by the Ministry of Environment and Green development (MEGD), MWP and MUST. Total number of participants: 60. Five winners and three persons were selected to participate in the Turkish water conference.

### 6.3. Water and energy exhibition and meeting

Three members of MWP took part in this event held on 19-22 March 2014 at the USUG training center for water professionals. There were more than 400 visitors. The water saving and advanced water treatment technologies were presented at the exhibition. Visitors could share experience and information as well as find partners.

### 6.4. Water and media meeting

On 19 March 2014 about 50 representatives of the Mongolian Economy Magazine, MWP and of 20 partners of MPW took part in the Water and Media Meeting held at the Press Center for TV and journalists. They discussed problems on water demand and supply management in the Ulaanbaatar.



### 6.5. Water and energy meeting

MWP took part in the Water and Energy meeting organized by the Ministry of Energy (MOE). The meeting was held on 21 March 2014 at the Power plant n4 and was dedicated to water saving issue in the energy sector as well to share experience. The representatives (70 participants) of MOE, MEGD and MWP participated to develop partnership on water saving and reuse.

### 6.6. TV interview

On 22 March 2014, MWP gave interview on water problems in Mongolia to national TV and TV-C1 to raise public understanding of water problems.

### 6.7. “Water and energy” meeting

Prof. Basandorj, Executive Director of MWP, took part in the Water and Energy meeting organized by the National Chamber of Industry and Trade (NCIT) held on 24 March 2014. He has made presentation on water saving and producing hot water and heating water by implosion boiler.

### 6.8. Parliament meeting for water organizations

On 26 March 2014 the Parliament of Mongolia organized the meeting devoted to water and sustainable development for water organizations. The main presentations were prepared by the National Water Committee, Commission for price regulation and MWP. Total: 80 participants. There were discussed issues related to water reuse for energy and mining sector, and "right price" of water, and improving legal status of water.

## Section 7: CWP-Georgia

### 7.1. WACDEP CACENA in Georgia

On 4 March 2014, Georgian group on implementation of demonstration project within WACDEP CACENA visited the Borjom area to select demonstration plots and to come to agreement of its selection with local people and administration. Some places in the Sekira village were studied. The sites subject to sliding were chosen.



On 6-7 March 2014, in the Sekira village, CWP-Georgia conducted the planned seminar on implementation of demonstration project within WACDEP CACENA. Local administration and activists from the Sekira village attended this seminar (Total: 40 people).





On 9 March 2014, Mr. Djailoobaev A., WACDEP CACENA Program Manager, together with Georgian Group on implementation of demonstration project visited the Sekira village to get to know the chosen demonstration plots.



## 7.2. Discussing the draft law on high mountains

On 19 March 2014, CWP-Georgia and its partner-organizations participated in the meeting organized by authors of the draft law on high mountains to discuss the proposed law. It was noted that this law is required to include integrated water resources management item proposed by CWP-Georgia. Also participants (Total: 24) were informed about events on celebrating the World Water Day on 22 March 2014 and were invited to participate.



### 7.3. Campaign "Blue Spring"

CWP-Georgia initiated Campaign "Blue Spring" devoted to the World Water Day within the project "Clean Georgia". "Georgia Movement", "Orchis" and "EcoVision" were involved in this campaign that was started on 22 March 2014 to protect and clean water bodies, small rivers, springs. Public at large also took part.

Campaign "Blue Spring" took place in Tbilisi, Kutaisi, Vani, Ninotsminda, Telavi and other towns. Riversides of Gldanula, Rioni, Alazani, Sulori, Kvirila were cleaned from wastes.



### 7.4. International Conference "Responding to Climate Change in Eastern Partnership Countries"

International Conference "Responding to Climate Change in Eastern Partnership Countries" organized by the Georgia Red Cross Society within the project "Climate Forum East" was held on 26-27 March 2014 in the Metekhi Hotel, Tbilisi.

Representatives of governmental organizations, NGOs, donors, as well as CWP-Georgia took part in this conference. Participants (Total: 80) considered problems on climate change adaptation, risk assessment for cities and rural area etc.

In 2013, CWP-Georgia signed the Memorandum of cooperation on the project "Climate Forum East" with the Georgia Red Cross Society.



### 7.5. The Roundtable "Tbilisi Development Strategy"

The Roundtable "Tbilisi Development Strategy" was held on 28 March 2014 at the Marriott Hotel in Tbilisi. This roundtable on development of Tbilisi for 2014-2030 was organized by the city's administration. The working group on city development, specialists of governmental organizations,

NGOs participated. CWP-Georgia participated as a member of the working group. The Tbilisi Development Strategy was considered. This document provides drinking water supply and sanitation for citizens.



*Member Countries of GWP CACENA:*

Azerbaijan  
Armenia  
Georgia  
Kazakhstan  
Kyrgyzstan  
Tajikistan  
Turkmenistan  
Uzbekistan  
Mongolia