



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

Report

May 2014

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Section 1: Regional Secretariat

1.1. Cooperation with South Korea

In accordance with the Protocol of Intentions signed on 20th December 2013 between the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of Uzbekistan and Korean Institute of Construction Technology (KICT) about development of information system for water sector of Uzbekistan, Regional Secretariat of GWP CACENA arranged a working visit of KICT delegation to Uzbekistan during 11-18 May 2014. The delegation included Dr. Kim Hyun Jun, Director of Department in KICT, Dr. Hong Ilpyo, Project Manager and Mr. Lee Joonseok, IT Expert.

<http://www.gwp.org/en/CACENA/News/GWP-CACENA-actively-promotes-cooperation-with-South-Korea/>

1.2. Regional high-level conference in Almaty

On 27-28 May 2014 in Almaty, Kazakhstan there was held the Regional Conference "Prospects of water resources management in Central Asia: From the river basin approach to regional cooperation". This event was summarizing two regional programs: the project "Water management and river basin organizations in Central Asia » (WMBOCA), funded by the European Union, and the second phase of the Programme "Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia", supported by the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany. The purpose of the meeting was to share knowledge and experience gained in the implementation of these programs, as well as identify future directions for cooperation on the sustainable management of water resources in Central Asia, in particular in the framework of the proposed third phase (2015-2017) of the program the German Foreign Ministry . At the meeting at the highest level were presented water authorities of Central Asian countries, regional organizations (EC IFAS , ICWC, CAREC) and international partners (GIZ, EU, UNECE, SDC, UN Centre for Preventive Diplomacy, GWP CACENA and others). The conference was attended by Vadim Sokolov, Regional Coordinator GWP CACENA.

On the first day of the meeting there were discussed the lessons from the river basin planning in the countries of Central Asia, with a focus on the Aral-Syrdarya basin in Kazakhstan, the Murghab River Basin in Turkmenistan, Padshaota basin in Uzbekistan and the Isfara river shared by Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. In particular, they highlighted details of results on the creation of basin councils and preparation of basin plans. Among the positive aspects of the activities carried out with the support from the German Foreign Ministry and the European Union, noted the following:

- Maximum involvement of local professionals to gain ownership of introducing modifications;
- Coordination of the various donors at the basin level, where the main work was carried out, to avoid duplication and distribution of responsibility for the final result ;
- The rejection of the introduction of new solutions in favor of the development of specific traditional solutions for river basin by the concerned parties.

Representatives of countries and regional organizations have the opportunity to share their ideas on future directions of cooperation that require support from development partners. In particular, the acting EC IFAS Chairman, Mr. Khamrayev noted the need to support the activities of the executive bodies of IFAS; further strengthening of human resources and improve information support decision-making in the field of water resources management at the national, basin and regional levels; continued work on the safety of hydraulic structures. Chairman of the Committee for Water Resources of Kazakhstan Mr. Abishev identified the following priority areas: the creation of an information system and monitoring of water quality; Development forecasts for future development based on modeling; continued work on regional arrangements; development of long-term vision of water and energy resources in the region. Director General of the Department of Water Resources and Land Reclamation of the Kyrgyz Republic Mr. Tashtanaliev noted the need to continue

work under the agreement between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan on transboundary rivers. Deputy Minister of Energy and Water Resources of Tajikistan Mr. Rakhimov outlined the following priority areas: strengthening the capacity of regional institutions, including the Secretariat of ICWC; bringing to an agreement between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan on transboundary rivers; implementation of national projects for small hydroelectric power stations, as well as feasibility studies for medium and large hydropower plants; support the reform process in the water sector in Tajikistan, including strengthening the capacity of the newly created service safety of hydraulic structures; and the need for investment in infrastructure projects. Head of Department of the Ministry of Water Resources of Turkmenistan Mr. Khanmedov among the priorities for future cooperation called the need for a regional project on water quality monitoring; strengthening of monitoring water-salt regime by examining the European experience; introduction of modern methods of hydrometric and strengthening cooperation on the basis of universally recognized principles of international law.

GWP CACENA Regional Coordinator and Deputy Director of SIC ICWC Dr. Vadim Sokolov encouraged donors, along with the implementation of national and bilateral interstate projects, to pay more attention to the need for regional multilateral projects. The benchmark for such projects could be three documents adopted at the 63d meeting of ICWC in April 2014 - Implementation Plan of ICWC Strengthening, Concept on Development Information Network for Water Management in Central Asia, and Strategy to build educational capacity in integrated management water resources in Central Asia. Dr. Sokolov also noted the need to develop activities of monitoring of the Priaralie zone, creating water users associations for the Priaralye zone. Important direction - establishing a system of knowledge transfer to farmers, which was developed jointly with the SDC in the Fergana Valley - turn it into an extensive system of advisory service over the region.

In a parallel way, on May 27, 2014 at the Kazakh National Technical University named after Satpaev there was held a Scientific-Practical Conference dedicated to the 80th anniversary of the Prof. Nariman Kipshakbaev (CWP-Kazakhstan Coordinator) on "Actual problems of water management and water conservation." GWP CACENA Regional Coordinator Dr. Vadim Sokolov did a presentation to the conference about GWP's activities in the region and delivered sincerely congratulations to Prof. Kipshakbaev on behalf of all GWP family.



Panel discussion of basin representatives during the Conference



Working moments of the Conference



Members of ICWC delivered sincerely congratulations to Prof. Kipshakbaev with his 80-years anniversary



High level panel at the Conference, representing EC IFAS (Khamraev), UNECE (Vasilev), UNCPDCA (Yencha), SDC (Umerberth) and GWP CACENA (Sokolov)

1.3. Central Asia Climate Knowledge Forum: Moving Towards Regional Climate Resilience

GWP CACENA representatives took part in the 2nd Central Asia Climate Knowledge Forum held on 12-15 May 2014 in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

The 2nd Annual Central Asia Climate Knowledge Forum: Moving Towards Regional Climate Resilience continued to promote knowledge and experience sharing among policy makers and practitioners, international experts and other stakeholders (including research and knowledge institutions), on cooperative solutions

for resilience at national and regional levels. The Forum span was across 3 days with the first two days consisting of technical discussions combining regional and international experiences in climate-smart development, integrated water resource management, and disaster-risk management. The last day of the Forum consisted of a high-level discussion on a possible Climate Resilience Program that aims at a concerted, systematic and integrated landscape approach at the national as well as regional scales. The second forum brought together policy-makers and practitioners from Central Asian governments (Ministries of Environment, Economy, and Finance), external experts, national and regional learning institutions, universities, civil society organizations, development partners, organizations as well as other stakeholders interested in climate resilient development.

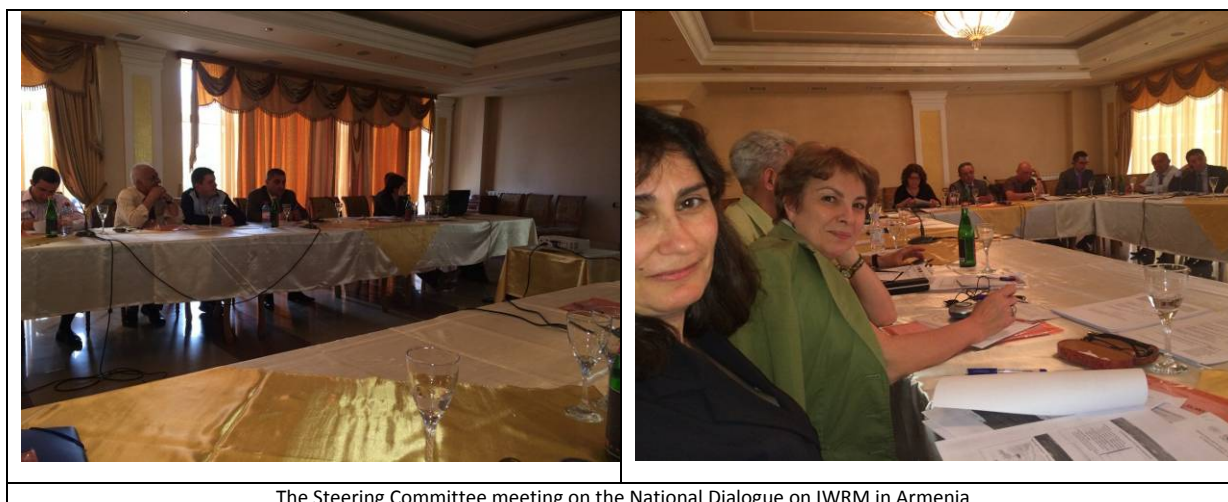


Section 2: CWP- Armenia

2.1. The Steering Committee meeting on the National Dialogue on IWRM in Armenia

On 6 May 2014, CWP-Armenia participated in the Steering Committee meeting on the National Dialogue on IWRM in Armenia that was organized by the Agency on Water Resources Management at the Ministry of Environment Protection of Armenia. The report about the demonstration project "Creation of decentralized system for wastewater treatment in the Parakar village in the Armavir marza in Armenia" within the Water, Climate and Development Programme for Central Asia and Caucasus (WACDEP CACENA) was done by CWP-Armenia.

Applying the wastewater treatment technology used in the Parakar village to other communities in Armenia within international projects was discussed.



The Steering Committee meeting on the National Dialogue on IWRM in Armenia

2.2. The kickoff workshop on the project "Promoting dialogue between the management system and NGOs within implementation of the "Post-Rio +20" process in Armenia"

On 25 May 2014, CWP-Armenia took part in the kickoff workshop on the project "Promoting dialogue between the management system and NGOs within implementation of the "Post-Rio +20" process in Armenia". This project is being implemented by the CWP-Armenia partner - Association "For sustainable human development" within IHP (GEF).

Representative of CWP-Armenia was appointed a member of the inter-departmental commission on coordination of implementing resolutions of the Rio+20 in Armenia (the subcommission "Sustainable water resources management").

Currently Association is preparing the project on water resources that will include all the "hot spots" on water resources management and use (particularly, issues on wastewater treatment plant construction, rehabilitation of Sevan lake, groundwater protection in the Ararat valley etc.).



The kickoff workshop on the project "Promoting dialogue between the management system and NGOs within implementation of the "Post-Rio +20" process in Armenia"

2.3. WACDEP CACENA in Armenia

The construction works are going on a full scale. Currently the sedimentation tank of concrete and the sludge bank are being constructed.



the sludge bank construction



control well

drainage tubes

2.4. The training tour in Brussels

As a member of the "Climate Forum East" project financed by EU, Austria Development Agency, Austria Red Cross and the World Wildlife Fund, CWP-Armenia participated in the training tour held in Brussels on 11-15 May 2014. The training tour was organized for representatives from 6 countries - the project participants (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova). The goal was to make aware of the Red Cross activity in Brussels and Vienna, EU organization structure and Parliament, coordination of East-Europe neighbourhoods, etc.

The regional project on climate change adaptation for 2 years in 6 countries was presented.



Training in Brussels

2.5. Best practice in Armenia

According to request of coordinator of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification in Armenia, CWP-Armenia prepared "Review of implementation effectiveness: best practice in Armenia". The project implemented in Parakar was presented as a best practice on rehabilitation of degraded agricultural lands in rural areas.

Section 3: CWP- Georgia

3.1. Workshop “Counting our gains: Sharing experiences on identifying, assessing and communicating the benefits of transboundary water cooperation”

CWP-Georgia took part in the Workshop on benefits of transboundary water cooperation “counting our gains” held on 22 - 23 May 2014 in the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland.

The Workshop was organized under the leadership of the Government of Estonia, funded by Estonia, Switzerland and Luxembourg, with the support of the UNECE secretariat in partnership with UNESCO.

This workshop brought together professionals, from all over the world (more than from 80 countries), working on transboundary water cooperation, to discuss the wide variety of potential benefits of transboundary water cooperation as well as the opportunities for further engaging into cooperation by broadening its scope.

In line with to the holistic approach to cooperation of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the workshop consider the environmental, social, economic and geopolitical dimensions of transboundary water cooperation.

The outcomes of the workshop are contribution to the further elaboration of the Policy Guidance Note. The Note will support Governments and other actors in realizing the potential of transboundary water cooperation by providing an overview of the full set of potential benefits that can be exploited, an introduction to how the specific benefits can be assessed, and guidance on how the assessment of benefits can be integrated into policy processes.



3.2. CWP-Georgia's activity within WACDEP CACENA

During April-May 2014 CWP-Georgia jointly with the Greens Movement of Georgia conducted a lot of seminars and meetings within the "Clean Up Georgia" campaign in various provinces of Georgia. The total number of participants - 300.





3.3. New campaign "Blue Spring"

The "Blue Spring" campaign was initiated by CWP-Georgia during the World Water Day. The aim is to save and clean up water bodies, springs, small rivers by means of broad involving of public. CWP-Georgia jointly with the Greens Movement of Georgia, NGO "Orhis", and NGO "Ecovision" conducted a lot of actions on cleaning up river banks and springs in the various regions in Georgia. The campaign is continuing.

The total number of participants - more than 2000. It was decided to celebrate 17 May as the Alazan River Protection Day. The Alazan river is a biggest tributary of the Kura river and is a transboundary river between Georgia and Azerbaijan.





Section 4: CWP- Kazakhstan

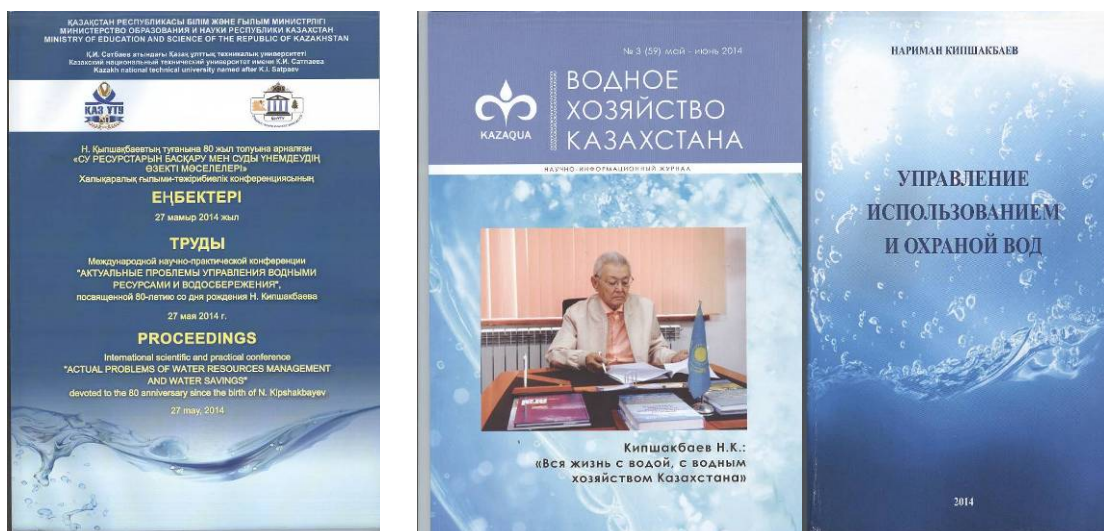
4.1. Scientific-Practical Conference dedicated to the 80th anniversary of the Prof. Nariman Kipshakbaev

On May 27, 2014 at the Kazakh National Technical University named after Satpaev there was held a Scientific-Practical Conference dedicated to the 80th anniversary of the Prof. Nariman Kipshakbaev (CWP-Kazakhstan Coordinator) on "Actual problems of water management and water conservation." This conference was organized by CWP-Kazakhstan jointly with the Committee on Water Resources at the Ministry of Environment and Water Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kazakh National Technical University named after Satpaev and IFAS.

Representatives of international, national, industrial, scientific, educational and public organizations attended this conference.



The collection of articles "Actual problems of water resources management and water saving" was issued within the conference. The special issue of the journal "Water management of Kazakhstan" devoted to the 80th anniversary of Prof. Kipshakbaev (CWP-Kazakhstan Chair) as well as the monograph "Management of water use and protection" by Prof. Kipshakbaev were published.



4.2. Seminar "Good drinking water"

Partners of CWP-Kazakhstan took part in the Seminar "Good drinking water for rural areas in Almatinskaya and Akmolinskaya provinces of the Republic of Kazakhstan" organized by the Public Fund "Center on promotion of sustainable development". Mr. Petrakov I. made a presentation "Potable Water Supply Solutions in the National Program on Water Resources Management in Kazakhstan for 2014-2020".

4.3. WACDEP CACENA in Kazakhstan

Implementation of the demonstration project "Drought Risk Management: IWRM solutions on water demand regulation in irrigation" is going according to the work plan. Water expert Sagimbaev S.I. and Agronomist Tautenov I. regularly observe the pilot plot (. Specialists of the Research Institute of Rice also make observation on air, wind, humidity etc.

The conditioned mid-ripening variety of rice ("Yantar") was sown in the pilot plot. The land reclamation and treatment works were implemented as well fertilizers (ammophos and carbamide - 200 kg/ha) were introduced.

Rice variety "Yantar" was sown on the land area of 18 hectares belonging to the Limited Partnership "Shagan-Jer" (seeding rate - 270 kg/ha; total: 5000 kg). Sowing date: 22 - 23 May 2014. The paddy field was flooded on 23 May 2014 with water rate 6,5 thousand m³/ha: soil temperature - 19° C; air temperature - 33° C; air humidity - 25%.

Section 5: CWP- Tajikistan

5.1. National training (first stage) "Integrated Water Resources Management"

On 17 April 2014, CWP-Tajikistan jointly with the Hydro Land Reclaiming Department of the Tajik Agrarian University named after Shotemura conducted the National training on IWRM for students, masters of science and PhD students, applicants for PhD, and teachers. The aim was to increase knowledge and awareness in the IWRM field as well as to develop joint actions on IWRM implementation in Tajikistan.



5.2. The workshop "Third National Report of the Republic of Tajikistan to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change"

On 30 April 2014, CWP-Tajikistan jointly with TajikHYDROMET under support of UNDP organized the workshop "Third National Report of the Republic of Tajikistan to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change" for decision-makers, organizations working on climate change problems (total: 20 participants). The aim was to analyze progress and completion of the final version of the Third National Report of the Republic of Tajikistan on Climate Change.



5.3. Publication "Water, Climate and Development in Tajikistan"

Publication "Water, Climate and Development in Tajikistan" was issued in the framework of the International Conference "Modern problems of water management and communication systems and ecology" held on 14-15 April 2014 in Baku, Azerbaijan. Mr. Pulatov Ya., CWP-Tajikistan Chair, is a co-author.

5.4. WACDEP CACENA in Tajikistan

The field seminar "Testing and evaluation of demonstration sites within the Water, Climate and Development Programme was held by CWP-Tajikistan on 28 April 2014 in "Ziroatkor" farm (Gissarsky province). This seminar was organized for project executors and farmers (total: 14 people) in order to test demonstration sites and evaluate and analyze the project work plan.





5.5. Practical seminar on monitoring and assessment of main indicators of the Climate Investment Fund

CWP-Tajikistan participated in the practical seminar on monitoring and assessment of main indicators of the Climate Investment Fund held on 6 May 2014 in the Ismailitsky Centre in Dushanbe. This seminar was organized by the Environment Protection Committee at the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan within ADB project (TA 8090 TAJ). The aim: capacity building for climate change adaptation; further steps on monitoring and assessment of main characteristics and key indicators for national planning. This seminar was intended for the planning organizations, departments on investment, donors supporting projects on climate change.

5.6. The organizing committee meeting

On 7 May 2014 CWP-Tajikistan participated in the organizing committee meeting on preparing and conducting the International Conference "Transboundary cooperation on decreasing anthropogenic impact on the environment: problems and ways to solve" organized by the Environment Protection Committee at the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan. The aim: preliminary discussion of the draft conference program.

5.7. WACDEP CACENA in Tajikistan

The field seminar "Progress on implementation and assessment of the demonstration project within WACDEP CACENA in Tajikistan" was held by CWP-Tajikistan on 11 May 2014 in the demonstration plot n1 of the "TajikNIIGIM" (Rudaki province) and the demonstration plot n2 ("Ziroatkor" farm, Gissarsky province). Aim: Analysis of progress on implementation and assessment of the demonstration project within WACDEP CACENA in Tajikistan, and considering the calendar plan. This field seminar was intended for specialists working on demonstration projects, in production sphere, as well for students and representatives of mass media and advertising of innovation technologies (total: 16 participants).

5.8. The round table "Green development in the water sector of Tajikistan"

The round table "Green development in the water sector of Tajikistan" organized by the Institute of water problems, hydropower and ecology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan, CWP-Tajikistan, "Green Climate Fund", Germany Development Bank, GIZ, was held on 13 May 2014 in Dushanbe. Aim: Developing cooperation on climate change; preparing proposals to the Green Climate Fund; capacity building on climate change adaptation. This round table was intended for researchers, project planners, experts and other stakeholders.

5.9. The round table "President's message to the Parliament of Tajikistan: development outlook"

The round table "President's message to the Parliament of Tajikistan: development outlook" organized by the Institute of water problems, hydropower and ecology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan, CWP-Tajikistan, "Chuyankaron" djamoat, was held on 14 May 2014 in "Chuyankaron" djamoat (Vakhdatsky province). Aim: Discussing the President's message, and analysis of vital problems and their solutions. This round table was intended for people living in the "Chuyankaron" djamoat (Vakhdatsky province), administration, specialists in social sphere etc.

5.10. Exhibition "Science and Practice"

The Institute of water problems, hydropower and ecology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan jointly with CWP-Tajikistan organized the Exhibition "Science and Practice" that was held on 21 May 2014 in "Kokhi Vakhdad", Dushanbe. Aim: 14 demonstration of achievements of science and

industry in the field of water, hydropower, agriculture and ecology. Contracts for implementation of innovative technologies for water saving in production. More than 100 people visited this exhibition.

5.11. 6th meeting of the Steering Committee on Water Policy Dialogue in IWRM sphere in Tajikistan within the EU Water Initiative

CWP-Tajikistan participated in 6th meeting of the Steering Committee on Water Policy Dialogue in IWRM sphere in Tajikistan within the EU Water Initiative, held on 23 May 2014 in the Dushanbe-Plaza. Organizers: the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of Tajikistan; Agency of Land Reclamation and Irrigation at the Government of Tajikistan, EU, UNECE. Aim: Analysis, evaluation and coordination of further joint action on water sector reforming and implementation of IWRM principles in Tajikistan. This meeting was intended for managers of water, agriculture, environment, energy sectors of the Republic of Tajikistan, as well as representatives of international organizations.

Section 6: CWP- Turkmenistan

6.1. Pilot training for Water Managers in Turkmenistan was approved

UNECE approved financial support to CWP-Turkmenistan for the pilot training for water managers in Turkmenistan (ECE/GC/2014/04/012). During the pilot training implementation the interactive training modules on IWRM will be tested for specialists who are serving the interfarm irrigation systems.

6.2. WACDEP CACENA in Turkmenistan

Implementation of administrative and technical measures (mounting of irrigation system, land treatment, tillage, land grading, preplant watering, cotton sowing), collecting and processing of analytical materials.



Field works at the pilot plot

6.3. Central Asia Climate Knowledge Forum: Moving Towards Regional Climate Resilience

CWP-Turkmenistan took part in the Second Central Asia Climate Knowledge Forum: Moving Towards Regional Climate Resilience, which convened in Almaty, Kazakhstan, from 13-15 May 2014.



Section 7: CWP-Mongolia

7.1. Agreement with National Television

CWP-Mongolia together with the Parliament of Mongolia and the Magazine "Economy" agreed with Ulaanbaatar National Television about yearly program "Water & Development". The agreement will be officially signed early June 2014. This program will go to the air on 10 times per 20 minutes as discussion of water related problems in Mongolia.

7.2. Visiting the IFAT in Munich

CWP-Mongolia visited the IFAT in Munich (Germany) on 5-9 May 2014. IFAT 2014 is the largest trade fair for the environmental solutions in the world. With growing pressures on European countries to reverse years of environmental damage and to find more integrated pollution control techniques, the potential is limitless. IFAT provides a unique exhibiting venue, providing a single access point to the entire European environmental market. The visit aim was to introduce advanced wastewater treatment technology for Mongolian partners.



7.3. Meeting with partners

CWP-Mongolia together with the Tuul Basin Council organized the meeting with its partners (21 organisations) on 15 May 2014 at the Ministry of Environment and Green Development. The aim was to provide questionnaire for improving institutional capacity of RBO. The expected output is a training program for stakeholders from RBO.



7.4. Steering Committee Meeting

Members of MWP Steering Committee (17 persons) have met on 19 May 2014 in the Government building to discuss preparation to the GWP CACENA meeting in Ulaanbaatar in July this year. There was considered a celebration of the World Environment Day and the Championship for stopping pollution of rivers too.

7.5. "Green HUB Korea-2014"

On 20-23 May 2014 CWP-Mongolia attended the conference "Global Green HUB Korea-2014" held in Seoul, Korea. More than 40 countries attended this event. CWP-Mongolia has done a presentation "Water projects in Mongolia", and had a number of meetings about financing water projects in Mongolia by developing partnerships with Japan, Korea, Germany, USA, and China.



Member Countries of GWP CACENA:

Armenia
Azerbaijan
Georgia
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Tajikistan
Turkmenistan
Uzbekistan
Mongolia