



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

Report

For December 2017

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1. Youth meeting in Ararat marz

On December 8, 2017, PURE-Water project team met with the active youth from Ararat marz to raise their awareness on the irrigation and drinking water problems in Ararat valley and to find out how they can contribute to the solution of the issues of common concern. At the beginning the attendees watched a number of short heart touching video films, containing powerful messages on the significant role of water in our lives. The first two parts of an animated movie “Where does the citizen stand” was shown to the attendees. The film features the structure and the functions of Armenia’s local self-government system and the mechanisms of public participation. Some basic knowledge on water circulation process, groundwater formation, as well as the causes of Ararat Artesian Basin exhaustion was also delivered to the attendees.

All the provided information and knowledge led to emotional discussions among the young participants and inspired them to discover more about the existing water problems in their communities and to take actions for their solution.

The project is implemented by UFSD - Urban Foundation for Sustainable Development in cooperation with Country Water Partnership NGO and YSU Environmental Law Resource Centre.



2. Introduction of financial mechanism for the RA intended nationally determined contributions in medium, small urban and rural communities

“Khazer” NGO with funding from The GEF Small Grants Programme is implementing “Introduction of financial mechanism for the RA intended nationally determined contributions in medium and small urban and rural communities” project since March 1, 2017.

The project has the Consortium which member is “Country Water Partnership” Armenia. The project is based on the idea of establishing a Green Climate Civic Circulating Investment Fund which is the inalienable right of the community residents. “Country Water Partnership” met the representatives of 5 communities (Basen community of Shirak marz, Margahovit and Mets Parni communities of Lori Marz, Erasghahun community of Armarvir marz, Aygavan community of Ararat marz) to raise their awareness on the new innovative initiative.

The goal of the project is to help the community residents and civil society representatives to get engaged in the process of identification and resolution of issues related socio-economic development and environment. The most important issue of civic circulating investment fund formation process is the real and active involvement of the residents, which in its turn implies the sufficient level of self-organization capacity of community residents.

The primary group of the residents' self-organization is the community, and in the case of community enlargement, it is the residence. Therefore it is preferable to begin the formation process of civic circulating investment fund from medium and small urban and rural communities of RA.



3. CWP-Armenia Network partner's meeting

CWP Armenia Network partner's meeting was held at "Article 3" Club on the 21th of October, 2017.

The goal of the meeting was to introduce the activities implemented by GWP Secretariat and CAC GWP, as well as update the member organizations and to select the new member of Central Asia and Caucasus Global Water Partnership Regional Council.

Arevik Hovsepyan, CWP NGO President, Member of Regional CAC GWP Council, introduced the Global Water Partnership secretariat news and new working disciplines. She introduced the new seed grant project "Leaving no one behind: Meeting the SDGs through IWRM in rural communities in Armenia". The project is funded by Central Asia and Caucasus Global Water Partnership. She noted that by helping to achieve the SDGs the project contributes national policies on equitable access to water both in terms of quantity and quality for all members of society, particularly those who are disadvantaged or suffer from social isolation, leaving "no one behind." Different administrative questions were discussed and there were suggestions on activation the cooperation between CWP Armenia Network Members.



CWP-Armenia Network Partners

4. Three-day seminar "Water Security Role in Sustainable Development of Azerbaijan"

Date: 6-8 December 2017

Location: Baku

Organizer: Project "Support to Development of Water User Associations" (financed by World Bank)

Participants: water specialists; specialists in land reclamation (Total: 62 people).



The seminar discussed the following issues:

- Effective use of irrigation water;
- Development of water use plan;
- Cultivation of crops under climate change;
- Role of WUAs in the rational water use;
- WACDEP outcomes in 2013-2016.

Participants were also informed of the results of experiments conducted by the Scientific and Production Association "AzGiM" with the use of collector-drainage water for irrigation, the role of IWRM principles.

5. Round Table on Water Supply Problems

Date: 15 December 2017

Location: Baku

Organizer: National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan

Participants: representatives of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, OJSC Environment and Water Resources of Azerbaijan, Azersu OJSC, the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan, their research and design institutes, the Azerbaijan Architecture and Construction University and non-governmental organizations (Total: 24 people).

Director of the Institute of Geography of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan, academician Ramiz Mammadov said in his speech that in some cases there is duplication of functions of organizations involved in

water resources management. Taking this into account, he suggested that the Water Council should be established to ensure efficient use of water resources and coordination between organizations. Mr. Mamed Asadov informed participants about GWP CACENA, CWP-Azerbaijan, mission, strategy, IWRM etc. Also he informed that CWP-Azerbaijan conducted trainings and awareness raising campaigns on IWRM. He noted that until now the form of the CWP's activity has not been fully clarified and this creates certain difficulties in the work. He expressed his agreement on the establishment of the Problem Council and possibility for CWP-Azerbaijan to participate in it.



6. CWP-Azerbaijan partners' meeting

Date: 23 December 2017

Location: Baku

Organizer: CWP-Azerbaijan

Participants: CWP-Azerbaijan partners; students of the Azerbaijan Architecture and Construction University, Baku State University, employees of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan, research and design institutes, JSC Azersu and others.

During the seminar the following issues were discussed: CWP- Azerbaijan activity in 2017 and the work plan for 2018; water issues within sustainable development of Azerbaijan and ways to address them; strengthening activities of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on water issues; climate change and ways to adaptation; the GWP CACENA program "Youth for Water and Climate", which is planned to be implemented in 2018; administrative issues etc.

GWP CACENA Regional Council member Timur Osmanov informed about the GWP CACENA Regional Council Meeting held 6-9 November in Bishkek. Partners approved candidature of Gaibali Gadjimetov for the Chairman of CWP-Azerbaijan. Teimur Osmanov will continue to be a member of GWP CACENA Regional Council.



7. International Workshop on Water Scarcity: Taking action in transboundary basins and reducing health impacts

Date: 11-12 December 2017

Venue: Salle XII, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

Participants: **CWP-Kyrgyzstan**, representatives of governments, non-Governmental and intergovernmental organizations, international financial institutions, academia, the private sector and other experts.

Purpose: to accelerate actions to address water scarcity and thereby reduce the related health, social, economic and environmental risks, by sharing practical solutions, in particular from the perspective of transboundary water cooperation and health impacts.

Organizers: the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), the European Investment Bank (EIB), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and in particular the Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP) by GWP and WMO, the Global Environment Facility's International Learning and Exchange Network, the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations as well as UNECE and WHO-Europe.

At the interactive session "Market approaches, tools and examples of solving the problem of water scarcity", the practical experience of joint use of the Chu and Talas Rivers by Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic was considered within the following themes: "Provisions on water shortage in the Chu-Talas transboundary river basin" and "National policy dialogues on IWRM in Kyrgyzstan".

8. 9th meeting of the Task Force on Water and Climate

Date: 13 December 2017

Venue: Salle XII, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland

The ninth meeting of the Task Force was held back-to-back with International Workshop on Water Scarcity “Taking action in transboundary basins and reducing health impacts”.

CWP-Kyrgyzstan took part in this event.

The ninth meeting of the Task Force on Water and Climate discussed, planned and provided guidance to the implementation of the activities on water and climate under the programme of work for 2016-2018 of the Water Convention as well as to discuss future activities in this framework. The meeting was open to experts representing governmental authorities, the private sector, non-governmental and international organizations as well as other interested stakeholders.





9. Regional Workshop “German Central Asia Water Initiative: Sustainability, Results and Opportunities”

Date: 4-5 December 2017

Venue: Conference Hall of the Atakent Park Hotel, Almaty

Participants: **CWP-Kyrgyzstan**, governmental bodies of Central Asian countries and Afghanistan, NGOs, international and regional organizations.

Purpose: Review the results of implementation of the German Government's program and forward-looking solutions to further advance the next phase of the program.



10. Symposium "Water and Future"

Date: 8 December 2017

Venue: Conference room of Mongolian University of Science and Technology

Organizer: CWP-Mongolia

Participants: Number of attendees 40: mostly higher class of school children's and some students from University.

Prof. Basandorj made presentation about the GWP Youth activity. There were presented also 5 PhDs about water, culture and water education traditions. Children actively discussed water management development and suggested to increase water tariff and value. CWP-Mongolia suggested to give more attention to involve young generation in the network activity and establish social page to extend water network for young Mongolian people. In 2018 CWP-Mongolia will give more attention for young water professionals and will lead process and activate and motivate water education and with Ministry of Education will organize Water Olympics for school children.



11. Workshop "Strengthen link between the Associated Program on Flood Management (APFM) and the Integrated Drought Management Program (IDMP)"

Date: 27 December 2017

Venue: Black Pearl Restaurant, Ulaanbaatar

Organizer: CWP-Mongolia

Participants: representatives of National Meteorological Organization, Institute of Metrology and Hydrology, Ministry of Environment, NGOs, University and academicians (Total: 16 people).

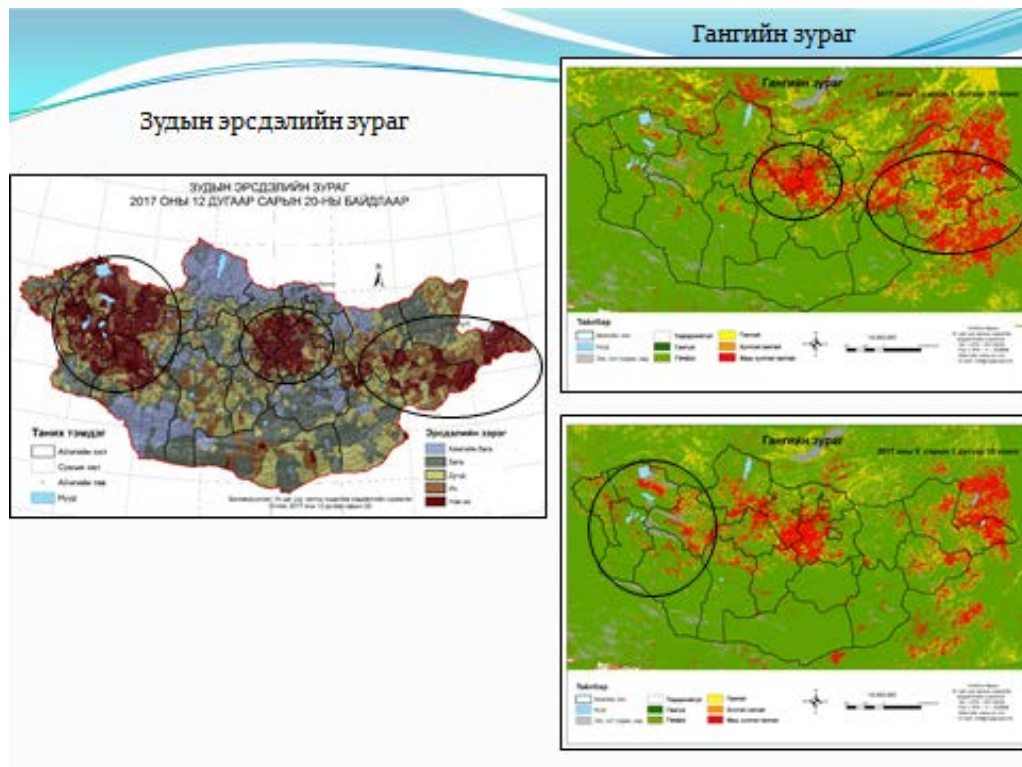


There were made 3 main presentations:

1. "GWP activity on APFM and IDMP and involvement of regional programs and partnership into related programs and the strategy 2017-2019 concerning implementation of APFM and IDMP" - by Prof.Basandorj;
2. "Results of Drought Study in Mongolia" - by Dr.Bilegjargal;
3. "Drought Early Warning System in Mongolia" - by Dr.Adyasuren.

The following issues were discussed:

- Development of national strategy on Drought management and improvement of institution for APFM and IDMP;
- Involvement of WMO and GWP activity and suggestion to organize National and regional conference about APFM and IDMP processes;
- developing a pilot project proposal and establishing a working group under leadership of CWP-Mongolia;
- Working group should be focused on study and data collection;
- to the end of January 2018 the working group should deliver a project proposal to CWP-Mongolia and find ways for better cooperation on implementation of APFM and IDMP.



Mongolian Drought Map

12. Introductory meeting with water and ecological NGOs, state and youth organizations

CWP-Uzbekistan Chair Mansur Abduraimov took part in the Introductory meeting organized by the Branch of Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC) in Uzbekistan with the financial support of the European Union. This event was held on 12 December 2017 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The event was held within UzWaterAware project aimed to raise the awareness of population on the issues of water consumption as well as to strengthen the partnership between governmental and non-governmental organizations to ensure sustainable water and environmental development in Uzbekistan.



The representatives of press-services of the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Ecology and Environmental Protection, Ecological Movement, Ecoforum, Youth Union, state children's center "Barkamol avlod", heads and experts of water and ecological NGOs from Fergana, Khorezm, Navoi, Samarkand and Tashkent regions, Republic of Karakalpakstan and Tashkent city were in attendance.

During the meeting, Environmental Management Program Specialist from CAREC - Ms. Balzhan Zhumagazina gave an overview of CAREC cooperation with NGO sector as well as current initiatives and further plans ahead of the Central Asian

International Environmental Forum to take place in Tashkent in 2018.

CWP-Uzbekistan Chair Mansur Abduraimov informed participants about CWP-Uzbekistan activity in 2017.

13. Seminar on SDG 6.5.1 progress monitoring on IWRM in Uzbekistan

Date: 22 December 2017

Location: Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Participants: interested ministries and agencies, public and environmental organizations, regional and international organizations.

Purpose: to discuss results of monitoring of SDG 6.5.1 progress on IWRM in Uzbekistan.



Participants developed recommendations on seven areas, including: the need to accelerate the development of the National Water Management Strategy of Uzbekistan for 2017-2021 based on IWRM principles; about the way to introduce economic tools to cover the costs of water services, and others.

As a whole the participants agreed the total average score of SDG 6.5.1 indicators as 45 and 15.

That is, the tools used by water management organizations to manage water resources protection in

Uzbekistan are at a moderately high level.

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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.