



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

# Report

## For January 2018

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## 1. “Leaving no one behind: Meeting the SDGs through IWRM in rural communities in Armenia”

In the framework of “Leaving no one behind: Meeting the SDGs through IWRM in rural communities in Armenia” seed grant project Country Water Partnership Armenia continues working with communities. CWP Armenia has already selected 50 villages, and also has selected that 17 villages for which design proposals and financial assessment for improvement of water, wastewater and irrigation systems will be implemented. Project engineers are preparing needs assessments for water and sanitation sector, drinking and irrigation water supply demand assessment for rural communities, are identifying infrastructure issues and preparing set of recommendations for system improvement.



## 2. Evaluation process of application packages of communities in the framework of USAID-funded PURE-Water project

In the framework of USAID-funded PURE-Water project 12 communities (from Ararat and Armavir marzes) participated in the training on Development of project proposals for grant program in the end of 2017. During the training, the participants learnt how to formulate the goal, objectives and results of the project proposal, how to justify the project, project feasibility, as well as the need to use water-saving and energy saving technologies in the project proposal. Other topics included in the training were project sustainability, risk reduction, innovation, management and funding.

Only 9 from 12 communities which participated in the training presented their application package. And the evaluation process is being implemented by the Country Water Partnership Armenia and Urban Foundation for Sustainable Development.



### 3. Conference on modernization of the Gardabani sewage treatment plant

Date: 15 January 2018

Location: Tbilisi

At the conference the representatives of the Georgian Water and Power Company presented the investment project "Modernization of the Gardabani sewage treatment plant". The Gardabani sewage treatment plant is a composite engineering structure of strategic importance. It provides purification and return of municipal sewage. The sewage treatment is comprehensive, step-wise procedure, as a result of which sewage becomes safe.

After the completion of the rehabilitation, the wastewater treatment at the Gardabani sewage treatment plant will be carried out according to the technical regulations of the European Water Directives. As a result, the impact on the environment will decrease and the ecological state of the rivers will significantly improve. This is one of the main tasks set by the agreement on the Association of Georgia with the EU. In addition, the project has a huge transboundary importance in relation to Azerbaijan. The Georgian Water and Power Company informed participants that the drinking water supply system in the large housing district of Varketili has been fully rehabilitated and by the end of January the rehabilitation of the system in another large Vazisubani area will also be completed. As a result of these investment projects, the life of more than 100 thousand people has been improved. The conference was attended by invited persons from government institutions, as well as private and non-governmental organizations. CWP-Georgia chairman George Dzamukashvili took part in the conference.



#### 4. Training "Internet resources for the data and information exchange: Hydrometeorological and Geographic Information Systems of the Sava Commission"

Date: 16-17 January 2018

Location: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Organizers: UNDP/GEF project, CWP-Kyrgyzstan

CWP Kyrgyzstan in cooperation with trainers from the Sava Commission organized and conducted training on the exchange of experience and best practices to enhance the capacity of CTWC and key partners within the GEF-UNDP-UNECE project "Facilitation of transboundary cooperation and integrated water resources management in the Chu and Talas river basins".



Participants: the Chu-Talas Water Commission, the CTWC Secretariat, Kazvodkhoz, Kazhydromet, the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Department of Water Resources of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Hydromeliorative Expedition, the State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic, Kyrgyzhydromet, as well as representatives of civil society. Total: 39 people (incl. 23 women).

CWP-Kyrgyzstan representative Neronova Taisia made a presentation "Situational analysis of data and information exchange in the Chu /Talas river basins".



## 5. The Seventeenth meeting of the Coordinating Council of the National Dialogue on Water Policy in Kyrgyzstan in the field of integrated water resources management

Date: 30 January 2018

Location: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Organizers: OECD, UNECE, World Bank, FinWaterWEI-II, Department of Water Resources of the Kyrgyz Republic.  
Participants: Ministry of Economy of the Kyrgyz Republic, National Institute for Strategic Studies of the Kyrgyz Republic, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry, Agency on Hydrometeorology under the Ministry of Emergency Situations, Ministry of Health, Civil Society, OECD, UNECE, World Bank, FinWaterWEI-II, Department of Water Resources and Land Reclamation, CWP-Kyrgyzstan.  
(Total: 67 people, incl. 22 women).

Purpose: Discussing current and planned activities within the framework of the National Dialogue on Water Policy in Kyrgyzstan.

CWP-Kyrgyzstan representative Dzhaloobaev made a presentation "Using the water security indicators of the Kyrgyz Republic for decision-making" at the Session n 2 "Institutional, economic and financial aspects of water resources management and water management systems".



## 6. Seminar "Water governance and management"

Date: 19 January 2018

Location: Ulaanbaatar, Conference room of the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Organizers: CWP-Mongolia, National Water Committee of Mongolia

Participants: 36 representatives of various institutions of water sector of Mongolia

CWP-Mongolia Chair Prof. Basangorj and the National Water Committee Chair Mr. Myagmar opened the seminar with greeting.

Two presentations were made:

1. "Main principle of Water Governance" by Dr.Dolgormaa, Academy of Water Science;
2. "Current assessment of Water management and governance" by Dr.Sosorbaram, water sector advisor, the President Office of Mongolia.

The working group for development of the Organ-chart of water sector of Mongolia was established and participants decided to suggest good water governance to Government of Mongolia. All the participants agreed on

improvement of water governance of Mongolia and need to establish the water department and an umbrella organization to coordinate all water related activity.



## 7. Conference of the Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan

On January 20, 2018, a conference dedicated to the results of the activities in 2017 of the Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan, its deputy group in the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the



Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan was held. Deputies of the Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, employees of ministries, departments, organizations and educational institutions, representatives of international organizations, members of the Central Kengash, kengashes of territorial branches, employees and activists of the Ecological movement, representatives of NGOs, central and local media were invited to the conference.

The report for 2017 was presented by the Deputy Speaker of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Chairman of the Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan Alikhanov B.

Most of the report was devoted to water management problems as an integral part of nature. In the course of the report, the achievements of CWP-Uzbekistan in the implementation of large-scale works on IWRM practical implementation at the country level were noted. The published research materials, the results of competitions among journalists and ongoing activities to attract attention and raise awareness of the general public about the importance of rational water use and environmental protection under climate change, as well the strengthened interaction between the Ecological Movement and CWP-Uzbekistan were positively approved.



A concrete program of joint activities for 2018 was planned.

## 8. The Central Asia Climate Change Conference

The Central Asia Climate Change Conference was held in Almaty on January 24 - 25 2018.

The subject of the Conference is "Building path towards sustainable regional adaptation", the main objective of which is to support the regional dialogue, dissemination of knowledge and information on adaptation to climate change and to identify opportunities for further joint actions between all stakeholders.

The Conference was organized by the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC). At least 200 representatives of governmental and non-governmental institutions, the scientific community, multilateral development banks that work in the field of climate change have attended this event.



Vadim Sokolov at the Expert panel of the Conference

GWP CACENA Regional Coordinator Vadim Sokolov attended the Conference with presentation of results on the Gap assessment in the implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change (executed by GWP CACENA with support from external expert Andriy Demydenko from GWP Ukraine).

GWP CACENA organized in 2017 a gap assessment to synthesize the results of that was done in the CACENA region and to answer the following questions:

1. Are there gaps between what is being implemented and what is set out in the NDCs and NAPs?
2. Are there gaps between what is set out in the NDCs and the NAPs and what is needed to enhance water security and climate resilient development? Are these gaps addressed elsewhere?
3. Are there gaps between what is set out in the NDCs and NAPs and the enabling activities related to capacity, knowledge, governance and financing needed in order to achieve them?
4. Are there gaps between the experiences of accessibility, relevance and amount of climate financing that is available compared to what is needed?

**Paris Agreement Implementation by Countries of Central Asia: Gap Assessment did by GWP CACENA**

Vadim Sokolov  
Head of Agency GEF of IFAS, GWP CACENA Regional Coordinator

with support from Andriy Demydenko, GWP Ukraine

Central Asia Climate Change Conference  
24-25 of January 2018 Almaty, Kazakhstan.

[www.gwp.org/en/CACENA](http://www.gwp.org/en/CACENA)

GWP CACENA Regional Coordinator Vadim Sokolov presented in Almaty overview of findings from gap assessment done by GWP CACENA

In the result of overview there were shown the following findings:

- Poor understanding even among specialists of climate risk and its factors – hazard, exposure and vulnerability. No GWP knowledge was enough sharing on this
- Few climate impact assessments and no vulnerability assessment done by countries
- No quantitative NAP targets
- No links to SDGs 6, 13 and 17
- Science-policy gap: GWP should speak on risk reduction instead of “achieving security”
- No GWP role as a neutral platform

## 9. The opening of the Information Resources Center of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of Uzbekistan

On January 22, 2018, GWP CACENA Regional Coordinator Vadim Sokolov together with the Swiss Ambassador to Uzbekistan, Mr. Olivier Shav and Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Mr. Shavkat Khamrayev, took part in the opening of the Information Resources Center of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources.

This is a strategic stage in the National Water Management Project, which supported by Swiss SDC with proper contribution from GWP CACENA. The Project is funded by Switzerland and the new Center will help the Ministry to strengthen analytical and strategic planning, information exchange, professional development, donor coordination, and support Water User Associations in improving the rational use of water.

The Information Resources Center was officially established in accordance with Presidential Resolution No. PP-3172 dated August 4, 2017 "Measures to improve the order of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources".





GWP CACENA Regional Coordinator Vadim Sokolov among honorable officials at the opening ceremony of the Information Resources Center (CID) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources.

## 10. Regional Process towards the 8<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum

The session "Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Nexus as a Tool towards SDGs in the CACENA Countries" included by the Forum Organizers in the program of ordinary sessions of the Regional Process. GWP CACENA will conduct the session on March 22nd from 09:00 - 10:30 am (Brazil time). The all our partners are welcome to attend!

## 11. Final workshop “Transboundary Water Management Adaptation in the Amudarya River Basin to Climate Change and Future Challenges: Tools and Recommendations”

The final workshop under the PEER Project “Transboundary Water Management Adaptation in the Amudarya River Basin to Climate Change Uncertainties” (hereinafter, PEER Project) was held in the city of Tashkent on 31 January - 1 February 2018. This research project was implemented by SIC ICWC of Central Asia together with BWO Amudarya and the Analytical Agency Ynanch-Vepa (Turkmenistan) with the support of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

The main objective of the workshop was to discuss with key stakeholders the PEER Project results on comprehensive research and assessment of development in the riparian countries of the Amudarya basin and their respective individual zones by 2050 in the context of climate change. There was also exchange of future plans with key national, regional, and international partners in order to undertake coordinated and complementary actions for the improvement of water management and enhancement of cooperation in the Amudarya basin.

Participants of the workshop were represented by ministries and departments in Uzbekistan, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources (MEWR) of Tajikistan, regional organizations (IFAS Executive Committee, BWO Amudarya and its territorial branches in the riparian countries, SIC ICWC, and CAREC), Analytical Agency Ynanch-Vepa (Turkmenistan), Institute for Strategic and Inter-regional Studies under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers (TIAME), National University of Uzbekistan, US Embassy in Tashkent, and key international partners (ADB, GIZ, SDC, and IWMI).

More information: [http://www.cawater-info.net/projects/peer-amudarya//workshop\\_31-01-2018\\_e.htm](http://www.cawater-info.net/projects/peer-amudarya//workshop_31-01-2018_e.htm)

***CWP-Tajikistan Chair Prof. Yarash Pulatov and CWP-Turkmenistan Chair Guljamal Nurmukhamedova took part in this event.***

## 12. SEnECA Kick-Off meeting on Strengthening and Energizing EU – Central Asia relations

From 23 to 24 January 2018, the kick-off meeting of the Horizon 2020 project “SEnECA – Strengthening and energizing EU-Central Asia Relations” took place in Berlin (hosted by the Institut fuer Europaeische Politik, IEP). The meeting was the first opportunity for the twelve consortium members from think tanks, universities and NGOs in Europe and Central Asia to meet and lay the foundation for future cooperation.



The main objective of this initiative is the review / analysis (mapping) of the existing infrastructure for joint research and the identification of the most promising areas of cooperation between researchers from Central Asian countries and the EU through improving the interaction of the academic community, decision-makers and representatives of civil society.

It is assumed that the specialists of Ynanch-Vepa (CWP-Turkmenistan) will take part in three components of the program:

1. New forms and priorities for scientific cooperation
2. Future priorities for EU policy-making towards Central Asia
  - Political relations and security
  - Economic relations, trade, development and natural resources
  - Cultural and other relations
3. Awareness-raising, dissemination and communication

It is expected that this project will contribute to the development of the "EU-CA post-2020" strategy. The draft strategy was discussed in September last year in Brussels.

<http://www.tepsa.eu/projects/seneca/>



Project partners from Central Asia

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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.