



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

Report

For May 2017

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1. Training "Drinking Water Crisis: Climate Change-Natural Resources Development"

On May 24, 2017, CWP-Armenia representative as a trainer participated in the training organized by the Public Relations Department of the US Embassy in Armenia.

Students from all educational institutions - Yerevan State University, American University of Armenia, Academy of Public Administration, National Polytechnic University of Armenia, Pedagogical University - participated in the training (total: 20 people). CWP-Armenia made the following presentations:

1. Water security of the country
2. Water as a basis for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

	
Presentation "Water as a basis for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals"	Water diplomacy: students are looking for a way out of the current situation

In addition to the lectures, an imitation game "Drinking Water Crisis: Climate Change-Natural Resources Development" was also organized, during which students discussed the actions of two neighboring countries that shared water resources, but had different ways of development.

CWP-Armenia presented the GWP vision both on water crisis and climate change.

2. Starting new project "Clean Water: Cooperative and Efficient Use of Water Resources"

From April 1, 2017, CWP-Armenia in a consortium with "Urban Fund for Sustainable Development" and the Resource Center for Environmental Law of the Yerevan State University is implementing the project "Clean Water: Cooperative and Efficient Use of Water Resources" funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The project is being implemented in two regions of Armenia (in the Ararat and Armavir regions) and concerns the efficient use of groundwater resources of the Ararat artesian basin.

The goal of the project is to promote cooperative water resources management in the Ararat Valley by public participation and awareness.

The main task is to increase the water productivity, efficiency and quality, as well as to promote changes in the behavior of water users to reduce the rate of overdraft of groundwater in the Ararat Valley.

This goal will be achieved through:

- 1) Political dialogue on improving the legislative base;
- 2) Active participation and monitoring of water resources management;
- 3) Raising public awareness and changing behavior;
- 4) Identification and implementation of pilot projects in selected communities aimed at the effective use of local water resources.

3. Working meeting to discuss the "Action Plan for Ensuring Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation in Armenia"

On May 12, CWP-Armenia participated in the working meeting organized by a partner-organization NGO "Armenian Women for Health and a Healthy Environment" to discuss the Action Plan for Ensuring Equitable Access to Water and Sanitation in Armenia. The meeting was held at the Best Western Congress Hotel in Yerevan.

Representatives of interested ministries, scientific institutions, NGOs and individual experts (total: 25 people) attended the meeting.

The Action Plan and its some details, which will help to develop the concept of equal access to water and sanitation in Armenia were presented and discussed.



4. Conference on Adaptation to Climate change

Two days conference on Adaptation to Climate change, which was organized in the frames of the CFE program, took place in Tbilisi, Betsy's Hotel, on May 17-18th. The purpose of the conference was to share knowledge and experiences on Climate Change Adaptation and its sustainability gained throughout the planning and implementation of small-scale adaptation projects at local level in Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine within the 'Climate Forum East' program.

The conference was attended by representatives of EU and other donor organizations, local SCOs, government, experts from partner countries (total 65 people).

Within two days, 3 sessions and a seminar on "Project sustainability" were organized.

During Adaptation Planning participants working in country groups share their experiences, challenges and achievements in adaptation planning during the CFE project implementation. Also, representatives of all five countries had an opportunity to discuss experiences and lessons learned from small scale adaptation projects during World Cafe session which went in very interactive and informative way.



During the second day of the conference participants had more chance to share information on their projects through well-designed Marketplace section showcasing achievements of the projects in more details.

Three parallel sessions were dedicated to the Sustainability Insights. The main topics for discussion were: cost benefit analysis to advocate for local adaptation, sustainability of local adaptation actions and multiplying and scaling up of local adaptation actions.

More information:

<http://climateforumeast.org/news/80/Conference-on-Adaptation-to-Climate-Change>

<http://www.cwp.am>



5. Meeting of partners in Tbilisi

On May 18, the representatives of CWP-Armenia and CWP-Georgia met in the Greens Movement office to discuss possibilities of developing and implementing joint projects within the Black Sea cooperation and WACDEP.



6. The Kura-2 project meeting

In Baku, on May 16, a meeting on the Kura-2 project was held. CWP-Azerbaijan's partners, international experts, manager and national coordinator of the Kura-2 project participated in the meeting. The project is being implemented through the UN GEF. The goal is the harmonious use of transboundary water resources of the Kura river by Azerbaijan and Georgia. CWP-Azerbaijan chairman Mamed Asadov widely informed participants about water resources and technologies of integrated water resources management in Azerbaijan.



7. Seminar "IWRM role in rational water use"

The seminar "IWRM role in rational water use" organized by CWP-Azerbaijan was held on May 26, 2017, in the Sabirabad region located in the arid zone in the confluence zone of the Kura and Araz rivers.

Water users, farmers and local administration (total: 24 people) attended the seminar. At the seminar, the national partners M.Gurbanov and E. Rufullaev made presentations on rational use of water resources and implementation of IWRM principles in Azerbaijan. Special folders, pens, notebooks and booklets with GWP logo were given to the participants.



8. The Chu Basin Council meeting

CWP-Kyrgyzstan, being a member of the Chu Basin Council, took part in the meeting of the Working Group on development of the Chu Basin Activity Plan.

Organizer: Chu Basin Water Administration

Venue: Chu Basin Water Administration

Date: 12 May 2017.

Purpose: consideration of the Chu Basin Activity Plan and priorities for planning.



9. 1st Joint Meeting of the Working Group of the Chu-Talas Water Commission

CWP-Kyrgyzstan participated in the 1st Joint Meeting of the Working Group of the Chu-Talas Water Commission (ChTWC). The working group deals with adaptation to climate change and long-term action programs on development of the Strategic Action Program for the Chu and Talas River Basins.

Organizers: ChTWC Secretariat, under support of the GEF-UNDP-UNECE project "Facilitating transboundary cooperation and integrated water resources management in the Chu and Talas river basins".

Venue: Bishkek

Date: May 23-24, 2017

Participants: Representatives of NGOs, ministries and departments of water sector of Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan.

Purpose: Discussion of vision and objectives the Strategic Action Program (SAP). Development of innovative ideas for achieving the SAP objectives. The SAP Roadmap.

Outcomes: the draft SAP Roadmap prepared.



10. UNECE meeting on adaptation to climate change

CWP-Kyrgyzstan participated in the UNECE meeting on adaptation to climate change.

Date: May 25, 2017

Venue: Conference-Hall of the Ethnic Complex "Supara Chunkurchak" (in 40 km from Bishkek)

Purpose: learning the UNECE activity on adaptation to climate change and discussing possible project proposals on adaptation to climate change for Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan.



11. Meeting on Sustainable Development Goal 6: Clean water and Sanitation for All

Date: 09 May 2017

Organizers: CWP-Mongolia and NGO "WASH action"

Venue: Conference Hall of the Mongolian University of Science and Technology, Ulaanbaatar

Participants: 25 people from 16 different organizations including delegates of Ministry of Construction & Urban Development, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment & Tourism and others; Tuul River Basin authority, Water Service Regulatory Commission, civil society, scientific institutes and universities.

Purpose: discussing SDG6 among stakeholders dealing with water sector of Mongolia.

Discussion topics:

- Sharing the Mongolian delegates' Information on the 2017 SWA High-level Meetings (HLMs) held in Washington D.C., USA (L. Byambasuren, Vice Minister of Health);
- Presentation about Global Water Partnership and CWP-Mongolia: strategy, potential partnership for SDG 6 implementation in Mongolia (Prof. Basandorj; Mongolian Water Partnership);
- Presentation by the Ministry of Construction and Urban Development about lessons learnt from MDG in Mongolia and SDG 6.1-6.2 Clean water and sanitation (Ms Batchimeg, water and sanitation senior specialist, Ministry of construction and urban development);
- Presentation by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism "Waste water issues and its legal improvement" (SDG6.3-6.4) (Mr. Erdenebulgan, head of the water policy implementation department, Ministry of environment and tourism);
- General introduction and monitoring indicators for DSG 6 (Ms. Battseren, executive director of WaSH Action of Mongolia);

Questions:

- ✓ SDG 6 topic was new for participants. CSO and research institutes and other organizations are interested in how Mongolian government has policy and implementation activities for SDG6 currently;
- ✓ How to receive information of policy, technical capacity, professional assistance from UN organizations and other international organizations;
- ✓ How to involve professional CSOs;
- ✓ Need more clarification of SDG 6.

Comments:

- ✓ Organize more meeting on SDG6 subgoals;
- ✓ Need to include all specialists of relevant ministries;
- ✓ Need of professional and technical guideline as well information from international professional organizations;
- ✓ Need to translate and develop a methodology guide and a monitoring guide;
- ✓ Need to have capacity building for national monitoring of SDG6;
- ✓ Need to involve National statistic office, National Development Agency;
- ✓ Need to promote SDG6 approach
- ✓ Need to increase partnership for SDG6 implementation.

During the meeting, comments and recommendation forms were distributed to the attendees and included to the report of the meeting in Mongolian language. All the presentations, short introduction of SDG 6 and discussion reason, the agenda, photos were sent to all participants and registered people (total: 45 people). Decisions, comments, the report was delivered to the Ministry of Construction, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment and Tourism.



Ms. L. Byambasuren, Vice Minister of Health (on the left), and Prof. Basandorj, CWP-Mongolia member



Presentation by Prof. Basandorj



Presentation by Ms. Batchimeg (Ministry of Construction and Urban development)



Presentation by Mr. Erdenebulgan (Ministry of Environment and Tourism) and Ms. Battseren (WASH action)

12. Regional Training on Cooperative Water Management for Gobi and Eastern Regions' River Basin Administrations

Date: May 15, 2017 to May 18, 2017

Venue: Khanbogd town, 570km from Ulaanbaatar

Organizers: CWP-Mongolia and the Ministry of Environment and Tourism

In accordance with the guideline approved by the State Secretary of the Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism (MNET) and the Mongolian Water Partnership, the training on Cooperative Water Management for

Gobi and Eastern Regions' River Basin Administrations was successfully held on May 15-18, 2017 in the Umnugobi province (in Khanbogd and Tsogttsetsii towns). This training was organized by the basin administration department of MNET under financial support of the following projects and organizations: "Support of Mining Infrastructure Investment" Project of the World Bank, the Underground Water Management data unit, NGO "Mongolian water partnership" as well as "Ecosystem based adaptation approach to maintaining water security in critical water catchments" project.

This training was attended by 70 people including the basins administration authorities and specialists, 40 specialists responsible for the eastern and Gobi regions' basins, underground water resource, study and analysis, geographical information, water information subfoundation, water construction and use, lake ecosystem assessment, study and analysis, industrial and agricultural water use, water user organizations and local representatives.

The chairman and specialists of the basin administration department of MNET, the senior specialist of the water resource department as well as journalists of "Water is a treasure" newspaper participated in this training, and the head of the basin administration department N. Battulga gave an opening speech.



The objective of this training was to implement the planning of basin's water resource integrated management, make an interdisciplinary regulation on water issues in the local areas and qualify specialists and personnels of the basin administrations.



The crucial topics on the basin administrations activity were touched upon, recent investigation news were reported by water branch scientists and specialists and attention was put towards the upgrading of specialists' knowledge and capability.

The following presentations were made:
Water branch policy and challenging issues;
City's water complex management or water resource complex management, spiral structure;

Sustainable Development Goal 6 or international and evaluation methods for solution of water challenges;
 Gobi region's water quality and quantity, and technology of water softener and refresher;
 Way to solve districts' challenging issues;
 Basin's water statistics outcome and analysis of inner Gobi in Altay, underground water shortage, protection from pollution, training on models;
 Water saving technology and remote system for water resource monitoring;
 Technology for sewage purification and opportunity to reuse it;
 Amendment to the Guide on the IWRM planning;

The training was completed after introducing the Ukhaa Khudag Maiga-Uul reservoir.



Participants at the meeting hall in Khanbogd



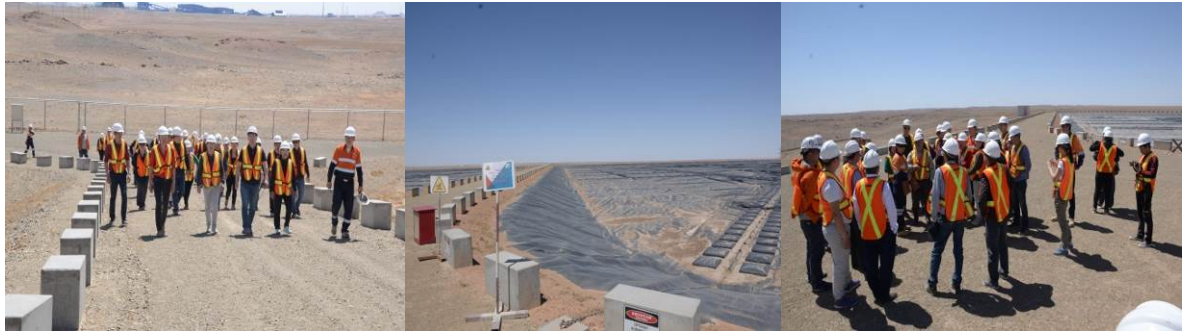
Potable water supply

Reservoir in Khanbogd

the Oyu Tolgoi reservoir



Participants at the Oyu Tolgoi museum



Field work at the Oyu Tolgoi reservoir

13. International EECA NWO Conference “Challenges of River Basin Management in context of Climate Change”

The International Conference of the EECA NWO "Challenges of River Basin Management in the context of Climate Change" was held in premises of the Russian Research Institute of Hydraulic Engineering and Land Reclamation (VNIIGiM) on 18-19 May 2017 in Moscow. The Conference brought together researchers and experts from many countries, including Russia, Belarus, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, France, Switzerland, and Austria.

The focus areas of the Conference will include:

- transboundary river basin cooperation,
- sustainable water management and adoption of information-communication technologies (ICT) at basin level,
- adaptation of water management to climate change and anthropogenic impact,
- water-food production-hydropower-environment nexus,
- SMART-water,
- water supply and sanitation,
- river basin reclamation issues.

CWP-Tajikistan Chairman Prof. Pulatov Ya.E. (Institute of water problems, hydropower engineering and ecology of Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan) made a presentation "Water resources and irrigated agriculture in the context of climate change in Tajikistan".

More information: <http://sic.icwc-aral.uz/releases/eng/305.htm>



14. Roundtable "Ways for Implementation of the International Decade for Action 2018-2028: Water for Sustainable Development"

The Roundtable "Ways for Implementation of the International Decade for Action 2018-2028: Water for Sustainable Development" organized by the State Institution "Tajik Research Institute of Hydraulic Engineering and Land Reclamation" and CWP-Tajikistan was held on May 25, 2017 in Dushanbe.

Participants: representatives of the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation, the Committee for Environmental Protection, Academy of Sciences, the staff of the State Institution "Tajik Research Institute of Hydraulic Engineering and Land Reclamation" and others (total: 35 people).

Purpose: Raising awareness of round table participants about the UN General Assembly Resolution on announcement of International Decade 2018-2028 "Water for Sustainable Development"; getting acquainted with the main directions and ways of implementing the Decade, as well as developing an action plan.



15. Seminar "Sustainable management of water resources as a measure to mitigate the climate change effects and the Aral ecological catastrophe"

On May 11, 2017 in the Urgench State University (USU), CWP-Uzbekistan under the leadership of the Samarkand State Architectural and Construction Institute, as well as with the support of the Technical Faculty and the Department of "Construction of Engineering Communications" held a seminar "Sustainable management of water resources as a measure to mitigate the climate change effects and the Aral ecological catastrophe".

The purpose of the meeting: to inform young specialists, masters of water management from educational institutions about the water resources use in the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as in the Aral Sea zone.

The following presentations were made at the seminar:

- "Sustainable management of water resources as a measure to mitigate the climate change effects and the Aral Ecological catastrophe", Gadaev A.N., national coordinator of UZWATER project;
- "Water supply of settlements in the Republic of Karakalpakstan", Jumamuratov D.

Participants were informed about GWP activities in Uzbekistan too.

Scientists from various institutes as well as young specialists took part in the discussion.

Participants (total: 85 people) noted that in the era of globalization, one of the main factors is the awareness raising of local specialists and youth on IWRM, water security etc., as well improvement of their literacy, forming a culture of rational use of natural resources, promoting best practices in the field of nature management.



16. Workshop on setting targets under the Protocol to support implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

The workshop on setting targets under the Protocol to support implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals was held on 4-5 May 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The workshop provided a forum for:

- exchanging experience on the arrangements made to support the implementation of the SDGs, in particular SDG6,
- analyzing how the Protocol, and in particular the process of setting targets and implementing them, can support attaining the water, sanitation and health goals by 2030.

The workshop discussed the following issues:

- How is the implementation of the 2030 Agenda unfolding in the pan-European region: insights on the process, latest developments and next steps;
- SDG targets monitoring under WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP), the UN Water Integrated Monitoring initiative GEMI, UN-Water Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS);
- From ambition to action: How to implement the water, sanitation and health related SDGs building on the Protocol on Water and Health.

The workshop was attended by people responsible for SDGs implementation as well as representatives of governmental organizations, private sector, academia, NGOs, international organizations, local administrations etc. from 27 countries (total: more than 100 people).

CWP-Georgia George Dzamukashvili took part in the workshop.

17. Ninth meeting of the Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting

The ninth meeting of the Task Force on Target Setting and Reporting was held on 5 May 2017 in Geneva back to back with the workshop on setting targets under the Protocol to support implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The main objectives of the ninth meeting of the Task Force were to:

- ✓ Follow up to the workshop on setting targets under the Protocol to support implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, to discuss future work under the Task Force in supporting Parties and other States in the targets and translating the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda and other global and regional commitments into national action.
- ✓ Review general progress by countries in setting and/or revising their targets and implementing them.
- ✓ Discuss the implementation of the Task Force's programme of work for 2017-2019.

<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=44749#/>

CWP-Georgia George Dzamukashvili took part in the meeting.



18. Meeting of the Working Group on Ecology and Energy of the National Civil Society Platform within the Eastern Partnership

The Frontlineclub Georgia hosted the Meeting of the Working Group on Ecology and Energy of the National Civil Society Platform on 19 June 2017 in Tbilisi.

The meeting discussed development of hydropower engineering in Georgia. Communities' leaders have given their views on the hydropower engineering problem. Participants assigned the working group to prepare a document for and a meeting with the Minister of Energy with aim to convey their views.

At the meeting the representative of the Canadian Embassy in Ankara, Mrs. Chery Cruz, made a presentation. She informed participants about intention of the Canadian Embassy to implement the Environmental Program for civil society of Georgia in 2018.

Participants (including CWP-Georgia Chairman George Dzamukashvili) from more than 20 organizations attended the meeting.



19. Towards 5th Interdepartmental Coordination Council on the National Policy Dialogue on Water in the Republic of Kazakhstan

CWP-Kazakhstan Executive Secretary Kuralay Yakhiyayeva took part in the meeting on preparation for the fifth meeting of the Interdepartmental Coordination Council on the National Policy Dialogue on Water in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Date: May 31, 2017

Venue: Astana (Kazakhstan)

Organizers: Public Foundation "Center for Water Initiatives"

Participants: representatives of interested state bodies, private sector, public organizations, international organizations, as well as national experts.



Activities carried out within the National Policy Dialogue on Water, the draft targets of Kazakhstan on the Protocol on Water and Health to the Water Convention were considered and discussed, and the draft agenda of the Fifth Meeting was agreed.

20. International Forum on Sustainable Development of the Aral Region

CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman Prof. Nariman Kipshakbaev took part in the International Forum on Sustainable Development of the Aral Region held on May 30-31, 2017 in Kyzylorda, Kazakhstan.



Organizers: local administration of the Kyzylorda region, EC IFAS, International Scientific Complex "Astana".

Participants: representatives of embassies in Central Asian countries, the near and far-abroad countries, state bodies of the Republic of Kazakhstan, international, regional, scientific and public organizations, business structures, experts' community of Central Asia and other regions of the World.

The Forum became a platform for raising awareness on environmental and socio-economic problems of the Aral Sea region, drawing attention of the world audience to its topical issues in line with SDGs.



CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman made a presentation "Engineering and technical measures implemented in 1992-2017 to stabilize the socio-economic and environmental situation in the Northern Aral Sea and future tasks". Prof. Nariman Kipshakbaev was awarded with the badge "For contribution to saving the Aral Sea", and also gave an interview to mass-media of the Kyzylorda region.

21. International Scientific and Practical Conference "Effective Water Resources Management in Kazakhstan and the Central Asian Region"

Date: May 24, 2017

Venue: Almaty (Kazakhstan)

Organizers: University "Narkhoz", School "Finance and Technology", International Scientific and Research Economic Laboratory on water and energy saving.

Participants: representatives of international organizations, international and domestic educational institutions, independent experts in the field of water resources.

The following issues were discussed at the conference:

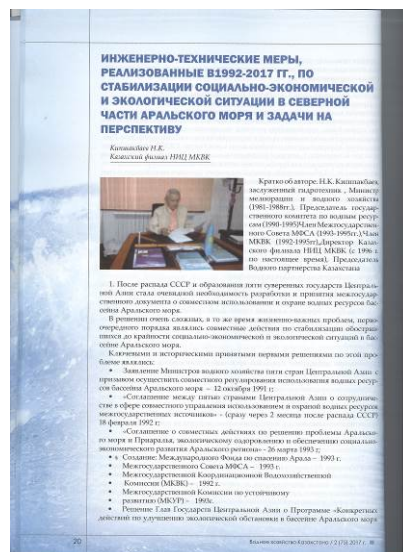
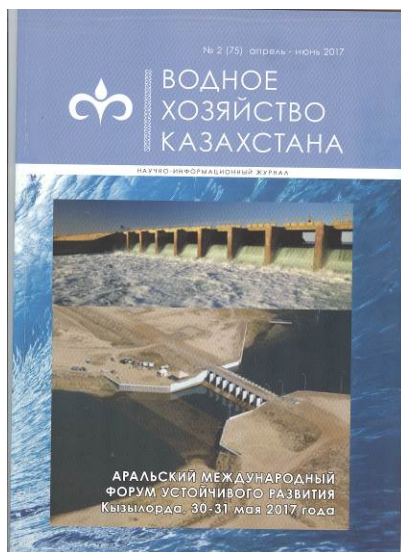
- 1) The hydro-political complex of security: the Aral Sea case study;
- 2) Joint Economic Tools on use of water resources of transboundary rivers for Central Asian countries ;
- 3) State financing measures to modernize water infrastructure;
- 4) Developing and using an hydro-electricity generator in the household;
- 5) Economic model of water use assessment for the Kazakhstan part of the Aral Sea Basin;
- 6) Research on increasing the efficiency of wastewater treatment methods at the enterprises of the oil and gas sector of Southern Kazakhstan;
- 7) Monitoring of water resources through the example of the Caspian Sea.

CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman Prof. Nariman Kipshakbaev, spoke about water resources management in Kazakhstan.

22. Publications of the International Forum on Sustainable Development of the Aral Region

All the reports of the Forum were published in the scientific and information magazine "Water Management of Kazakhstan", including the GWP CACENA partners:

- 1) N. Kipshakbaev "Engineering and technical measures implemented in 1992-2017 to stabilize the socio-economic and environmental situation in the Northern Aral Sea and future challenges";
- 2) V. Sokolov "Problems of the Southern Priaral and the ways to their solution".



23. Meeting on the "Climate Change, Water Resources and Food Security" project

On May 24, 2017, the Meeting on the "Climate Change, Water Resources and Food Security" project within the Newton-Al-Farabi Programme was held in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

Organizers: University of Reading (Great Britain) Institute of Geography, Nazarbayev University, Kazakh National University (Kazakhstan).

The meeting discussed the followings:

- 1) Assessment of Climate change and cryosphere in Kazakhstan;
- 2) Changes in the number and area of lakes and the risk of their breakdowns in the Dzungarian Alatau and the forecast of their development using space images of Landsat satellites;
- 3) Climate scenarios using the regional PRECIS model;
- 4) Runoff changes assessment and modeling for the northern Tien Shan;
- 5) Estimation of glacier runoff;
- 6) Water use in agriculture in the southern regions of Kazakhstan: current problems and adaptation;
- 7) Remote sensing of soil moisture, snow cover and vegetation index to the drought preparedness in Kazakhstan.

CWP-Kazakhstan Executive Secretary Kuralay Yakhiyayeva, took part in the discussion of the climate change impact on river flow formation.

24. Fundraising by CWP-Kazakhstan

CWP-Kazakhstan won the tender of the State purchases in the amount of 6.8 million tenge (about 19.5 thousand euros) for organizing and holding meetings of the Basin Councils in Kazakhstan in 2017.

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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.