

GWP CACENA during March – June 2011

1. IWRM Water Policy & Strategy development facilitated at relevant levels

The first round of the National policy dialogues and training seminars on IWRM was conducted during March – April by the CWPs and GWP CACENA Secretariat in all eight countries. This round of dialogues and seminars is an element of the awareness campaign and capacity development program to facilitate National IWRM planning process in all CACENA countries. The target is capacity development for key players of planning and IWRM implementation process, not only involving water specialists, but also water users and other stakeholders (in average about 35-40 persons in each country were attended to the meetings).

As example, the brief report about round-table devoted to the World Water Day in Armenia: CWP Armenia, jointly with its partner organizations: Association for Sustainable Human Development NGO and UN Armenia Public Information Department, organized a round table devoted to the World Water on March 22, in the UN office. The title of the round table was “Water for Cities. Responding to the city challenges”. The Minister of Nature Protection, Deputy-chairman of State Committee of Water System under the Ministry for Territorial Governance, representative of UN Armenia Public Information Department, representatives of Ministry of Health and other Ministries, international organizations, Water and Sewerage CJSC, research institutions, civil public (total 65 participants) took part in the round table.

According to the topic of the WWD of this year, the participants represented the challenges of drinking water and wastewater in Armenia and the role of integrated water resources management in the country for providing sustainable water supply and wastewater services.

The three water sewerage companies functioning in Armenia represented their problems and obtained results in the process of water supply system improvement, providing the customers with reliable service and high quality water. Materials devoted to the WWD were translated into Armenian and published, besides, information leaflets were prepared and disseminated among the meeting participants. For more detailed information please visit: www.cwp.am

Outcomes and the past activities that influenced them

Country Water Partnerships in all CACENA eight countries has implemented eager activity amongst all ministries, research and educational institutions, the functions of which are related to water resources. As a result, the representatives of the water and sewerage companies and research institutions have prepared corresponding materials and represented at the round table discussions.

2. IWRM Programs & Tools developed in response to regional and country needs

On June 2 the CWPs of Caucasus countries (Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia) organized events devoted to Kura-Araks Basin protection day. The following issues were discussed during these events:

- Legal bases for transboundary river management process and preconditions for enforcement of the “Protection and use of trans-boundary watercourses and international lakes” Convention (Helsinki, 1992Ä.) in the countries of Caucasus.
- Participation of stakeholders and the public in the process of development of integrated river basin management plans.
- The role of river basin councils in the involvement of stakeholders and the public.

Information leaflets and cloth-bags with logos of GWP and Kura-Araks regional coalition were disseminated among the meetings participants.

Collaboration with Executive Committee of the International Fund for the Aral Sea (EC IFAS) on new “Aral Sea Basin Programme” (ASBP-3)

In occasion of the Tashkent Conference, GWP Executive Secretary Ania Grobicki and GWP CACENA Regional Coordinator Vadim Sokolov met on 13 May with Mr. Saghit Ibatullin, Chair of EC IFAS to proposing the involvement of GWP CACENA as a neutral platform to support the capacity development component of the ASBP-3. The idea is to conduct capacity development together with information dissemination as a cross-cutting programme for the four main directions of the ASBP-3.

During the discussion it was agreed: GWPO will send official letter to EC IFAS with clear articulation of the proposed contribution to the ASBP-3 via GWP CACENA. GWP CACENA will submit detailed proposal in the required format for ASBP-3.

3. Linkages between GWP and other frameworks, sectors & issued ensured

The Chair of GWP CACENA, Mr. Yusup Kamalov took participation in the 1st Asia-Pacific Regional Synthesis Meeting for the 2nd Asia-Pacific Water Summit and the 6th World Water Forum on April 21 and 22, which was held at the United Nations Conference Center (UNCC) in Bangkok, Thailand. Forty-seven representatives from lead organizations of the APWF, sub-regional coordinators, and partner organizations had lively discussions. It was agreed the first announcement for 2nd Asia-Pacific Water Summit: http://www.apwf.org/doc/2nd_APWS_1st_announcement.pdf

Regional Coordinator of he GWP CACENA, Vadim Sokolov took participation at the 2nd Istanbul International Water Forum, which has taken place from May 3rd to 5th, 2011, at the Haliç Congress Centre in Istanbul, Turkey, the same venue as the 5th World Water Forum. The motto of the 2nd Istanbul International Water Forum was "An Istanbul Perspective on Regional Water Challenges and Solutions". There were 6 Main Themes with 26 Sessions, 4 Regional Special Focus Meetings, 5 High-Level Panels and 19 Side Events during the Forum. The one Regional Special Focus meeting was addressing to the topic “Water Challenges and Solutions for each Country and How it affects Central Asia”. Outcome reports are accessible via website: www.iusf.org.tr

Within the framework of the preparatory process to the 6th WWF, an international conference was organized by the Uzbekistan Government and World Water Council.

The Uzbek Ministry of Agriculture and Water requested GWP CACENA to co-organize the conference by leading a session on priority target “IWRM”. It was for the first time that the Uzbek authorities recognized GWP CACENA being the most appropriate platform in the region, to prepare a joint statement for Central Asia for the WWF6 (to be held in Marseille in 2012).

More than 350 participants from 32 countries and representatives of the most active international agencies and donors attended the conference and discussed regional issues of sustainable water resources management. The opening plenary speeches were made by each of 5 Central Asia high level ministerial representatives. Address notes was given via video speech by L. Fauchon, the President of WWC. Key note speeches were given by J.F.Donzier (INBO), Ambassador Miroslav Jenča (UNRCCA), S.R. Ibatullin (EC IFAS), L.Guye (Swiss Dev Coop Agency) – main international donors of regional cooperation in Central Asia. High level officials from Russia proposed to the Conference participants Charter of Water Security to be adopted as outcome of the meeting for submission to the WWF-6. A keynote speech about GWP as a neutral platform for capacity building in the water sector was given by Ania Grobicki, GWP Executive Secretary.

Plenary session was followed by parallel sessions and more than 70 presentations (over two days). In addition to IWRM session, there were the following sessions:

- guaranteeing water for future generations
- ensuring sustainable drinking water supply
- cooperation on transboundary management on the basis of UN Conventions
- adoption of innovations in agrarian sector
- risk management and water security, and
- climate change and conserving environmental capacity.

The recommendations of each of the round table sessions were brought to the final plenary session. Ania Grobicki presented the conclusions of the session on IWRM as a tool for balancing multiple uses of water, emphasising the need to separate regulatory functions from management.



GWP Executive Secretary Ania Grobicki at the Presidium of Closing Plenary of the Tashkent Conference

It was positive that each session report and recommendations were disseminated to participants prior to the conference and were placed at: www.cawater-info.net/6wwf website. It was agreed that the preparatory process towards 6th WWF is an open process

and additional comments are welcomed. List of participants and presentations will also be uploaded at this page.

At the end of the conference, Uzbek Government recommended to endorse a resolution and Charter of Water Security. Significant reservations were made by Kyrgyz and Tajik delegations, thus, consensus about the final Central Asia statement was not reached. But there is enough time to create needed consensus towards WWF6 before March 2012.

Delegation of GWP took participation in the Conference “The New Politics of Water: Water security and economic growth in emerging economies”, which was held on 14-15 June 2011 in Chatham House, London

Focusing on the major emerging economies, this conference addressed key issues of water including:

- the complexities of transboundary water agreements: are new foreign policy approaches required?
- what national plans are for water management in emerging economies
- how industrial policy and economic growth will be shaped in 'dry' countries
- what policy innovations can tackle water scarcity
- which technological innovations can increase water productivity
- what new partnerships and structures can unlock investment in water.



Delegation of the GWP at the Chatham House Conference



Margaret Catley-Carlson, Patron of Global Water Partnership, chaired the session

Representatives of GWP presented during the Conference five presentations on the basis of the GWP experiences with IWRM in the transboundary context (in the order of appearance): Dr. Vadim Sokolov, Regional Coordinator of GWP CACENA, Professor Patricia Wouters, TEC member, Director, International Water Law Research Institute, University of Dundee, HE Watt Botkosal, Deputy Secretary General Cambodia National Mekong Committee (GWP SEA), Mike Muller, TEC

member, Member, National Planning Commission, South Africa, Dr Ania Grobicki, Executive Secretary Global Water Partnership.

Participation in this conference opened opportunities for establishment new links between GWP and very influential part of global water business.

4. GWP Network effectively developed & managed

The GWP CACENA Regional Council meeting was held on 14 May in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. There was full quorum – all eight countries were represented plus Danka as NO. The following issues were discussed and agreed:

a) Reporting of CWPs

Regional Coordinator Vadim Sokolov summarized reporting schedule and the process of development and processing of countries' input into Annual Report. He requested CWPs on timely submission of their monthly reports. Allocation of core funds in the second half of the year are conditional upon submission of activities reported. To all members: submit monthly reports on regular basis to support CACENA Secretariat to report to GWPO.

b) Astana 2011 Conference in September 2011

Danka informed on inputs made by CEE and CACENA in substantive documents of UNECE (Water and water related ecosystems, Greening Economy and Astana Water Recommendations). Also, GWP (CEE, MED and CACENA) registered for the side event (workshop). Letitia confirmed her attendance; it is anticipated that she will have a prominent role (as offered by UNECE) and also will chair the GWP workshop. It was agreed that four presentations will be made (2 CACENA and 2 CEE). Vadim informed that CACENA was also invited for the side event by Gulnara Roll (UNECE), but it is assumed that UNECE is seeking additional resources for their side events rather than for speakers. To do list:

- Danka to send the abstract for GWP side event, Ilhom to translate and disseminate it (asap)
- 2 presenters agreed by CACENA Secretariat by end of May – preliminary agreed
 - Nariman Kipshakbaiev (Kazakhstan) and one speaker from Caucasus
- CACENA Secretariat will investigate budget estimate and will agree number of participants at the conference. If budget allows, 10-12 people will attend the conference (with the follow up CACENA Council meeting). Deadline for participants is end May. Each participant must register to the conference by 13 June.
- Each CWP will send to Danka contacts (with emails) of people (government and other) who will attend the Astana Conference. These people will be invited to GWP side event by special invitations – end June.
- Danka to communicate and consult with speakers their presentations (August)

c) Rio+20 IWRM Survey

It was discussed that UNDP/GWP Survey on IWRM progress is fully supported by CWPs. CWPs supported ministries to fill out the questionnaires. The problem is that CACENA ministries (and contact persons) do not consider the email request (although made by UN Water official letter) and require post mails. Also, some

ministries were reluctant to fill out the questionnaire and required a long administrative process (following hierarchy in decision making) – support of CWPs was critical. To do list:

- Nino to contact Georgia ministry to review the questionnaire
- Danka to alert Joakim and Alan about necessity to send snail mail
- Nariman (KAZ), Abdibay (KYR), Guljamal (TUR) and Vadim (UZB) to contact responsible for the prompt response. The second phase (in-depth analysis) can not start with the completion of the first phase.

d) Accreditation and partner database

Existing Conditions for Accreditation will be revised. This will call to assess how CWPs comply with the conditions. Also, partner database needs to be updated that creates basic requirements for the accreditation of CWP. Those CWPs that did not submit revised partner database will respond to Ilhom by end May. Actual (and valid email addresses are necessary as an electronic voting on GWP Statute will be made in August).

During reporting period GWP CACENA has undertaken a wide information activity on GWP in all countries over the region.

In the line with fundraising strategy, GWP CACENA is looking to any opportunities to be involved into projects, funded by different donors. This year GWP CACENA created collaborative alliance with Danish partners DHI and COWI Consortium to participate in the tenders for some projects. In the begging of June the above mentioned consortium won the **PROJECT: “Comprehensive analysis of the economic value of the integrated use and conservation of water resources in the Aral Sea Basin”**. The Project funded by USAID grant (USD 520 K), client is Executive Committee of the International Fund for saving the Aral Sea (EC IFAS). This is good example of how GWP can provide its neutral platform to involve Partners into donors’ funded projects.