

GWP CACENA Activities in October 2012

Regional Coordinator of GWP CACENA, Vadim Sokolov visited Seoul, South Korea on 4-5 October to have a consultation meeting with Global Green Growth Institute for launching new joint project addressing to development of **Guidance and Strategies for the Water Security to Promote the Green Growth in the Aral Sea Basin**. The main goal of the project is to put agenda and scope of the water related clusters of the ASBP-3 more precisely in tracks of green growth process. From 1 November 2012 started inception phase of the project, for which GGGI allocated the GWP CACENA the budget of USD 80 thousand.



On the photo: Meeting of GWP CACENA Regional Coordinator, Vadim Sokolov with GGGI staff, led by Dr. Hong Ilpyo (first on the left) to be involved into joint project.

The proposed agenda of the SPGG-Aral Project will be addressed to:

- Facilitate regional water-related information exchange –as a key basis for water security in Central Asia
- Support public awareness campaign aiming the Green Growth process to be deeply linked with government side within water related clusters of the ASBP-3
- Promote regional policy dialogue to discuss Green Growth through water sector
- Provide international workshop for Central Asian Green Growth linked to ASBP-3 progress
- Make overall strategic policy recommendations to promote green development in water sector.

During October 8-12 CWP-Armenia carried out five-day training courses within the framework of “Clean Water – Clean Catchment” project in the primary school No. 155 in Yerevan. The goal of the course was to introduce to the school students the present global problems in water resources, particularly with regard to issues of global climate change, and to identify the importance of water resources, not only in everyday life but also in the process of sustainable development in Armenia to inform about water pollution sources and therewith to form a new water use behavior among them.



As a result of the five days training the school children prepared an open letter addressed to the Prime-Minister of the Armenian Republic:

“Honorable Mr. Prime Minister,

Thanks to the training courses held recently in our school we understood that the Earth is facing a serious problem, which of course, can have a negative impact to our country. The water resources in Armenia are abundant and based on it the people still uses them in a very unreasonable manner. It cannot be life without water, and it would be absurd to lose the conditions and quality of water that we have today. We shall value and save them. People should realize the fact that clean drinking water is limited. Through TV, mass media it is to be advocated among the population to use water efficiently and not to pollute water resources. The schools’ curricula should include training on the importance of water resources or such courses should be often organized beyond the main curricula.

People should be more alert and vigilant, not to unnecessary consume water resources, keep under consideration especially those (water thieves) who use drinking water to irrigate their parks and lands, while irrigation water is wasted unnecessarily in many cases, because of the lack of sufficient network. Control over and penalties against water stealing must be made stricter. Even rainwater is to be collected and used for irrigation purposes, as well as in the economy.

It is necessary to introduce water purification equipment in houses and economy. Household and industrial wastewater must not be discharged into rivers or other water bodies without treatment. It is necessary to carry out waste sorting, for its further processing, because for producing "waste" a large amount of water is consumed.

We propose also to install valves on all fountains, since because of their lack currently clean drinking water is lost to the sewer system. Saving water, we will be able to save thousands of lives. We also propose to prohibit production of juices and fast food products prepared with chemical substances. Therewith, we will save the water, which is used for their production and will take care of the people's health.

We also recommend that in all schools uniforms are approved. Therewith, we will contribute to saving of virtual /invisible water, since to produce only one cotton shirt, 2700 liters of water is used. People need to realize that if they continue to carelessly consume and pollute water resources as they are used to, the future generations will not have enough clean water to live.

Sincerely,

Pupils of primary school № 155 of Yerevan city”

The 10th conference of the "EUROPE-INBO" group was held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 17 to 19 October 2012, at the invitation of the Turkish Water Institute (SUEN). It gathered 354 participants, representatives of national administrations and basin organizations as well as Research Centres, Universities, NGOs and companies from 47 Countries. Regional Coordinator of GWP CACENA, Vadim Sokolov attended as representative of Secretariat of the INBO-EECCA (Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia).



The conference was organized around six major issues:

- Water, food and energy nexus;
- Cooperation with EECCA and Mediterranean Partner Countries on the implementation of the WFD principles and methods;

- Improve water governance in transboundary river basins;
- Adapt to challenges linked to climate change and to the prevention of extreme phenomena: with the implementation of the Floods Directive and the reduction of drought risk in particular (this round table was chaired by GWP CACENA);
- Develop new approaches to river restoration and protection of water ecosystems;
- Economic analysis, cost recovery under the WFD, value of ecosystems services

Within the Conference agenda **INBO World Liaison Bureau meeting was held on 16 October**. Liaison Bureau meeting adopted report of the Permanent INBO Secretariat about activities in 2012, and agreed to organize the INBO General Assembly in August 2013, which will be held in Fortaleza, Brazil.

On 10th October Regional Secretariat of GWP CACENA announced vacancy for position of Communication Officer via newspaper “Central Asia News”. The selected candidature will be adopted by Regional Council meeting in December 2012 in Yerevan.