

GWP CACENA in March 2005

Changes of political leadership in Kyrgyz Republic did not create any serious impact to water resources management system nor in the country, nor in Central Asia as a whole. The National Water Administration remains in force and continues its operative functioning. The new country leadership confirmed that National water strategy should be addressed to the IWRM principles implementation.

The Water Agency of Armenia with involvement of NGOs (members of the GWP CACENA family) organized in Yerevan (capital city) the National round table on drinking water supply and sanitation issues in a context of achievement of MDGs, which was held on 22 March – the World Water Day.

The GWP CACENA Secretariat documented and operationalized the principal activities foreseen by the Work Program 2005 in all countries:

- Support to public awareness campaign towards IWRM principles. These activities should be the continuation of the work started in each country of the region in 2004 – in order to ensure the complete comprehension of the concept of IWRM in context of the achievement of MDGs by civil society.
- Organization of political dialogue on IWRM implementation (in the form of inter-sectoral seminars and round tables)
- Preparation of the national reports “Condition of water ecosystems and conservation issues”. On the basis of these reports it is intended to publish consolidated regional report, which aims to consolidate the information about existing condition of water ecosystems in the region, in order to attract world’s attention as well as to activate the decision makers in countries.
- Organization of national working groups in seven countries under supervision of RTAC members for resolving of organizational issues of development of country water partnerships (in Kazakhstan this role plays Project team “National IWRM and Water Efficiency Plan” supervised by UNDP).

The UNDP and Country Water Partnership – Kazakhstan - disseminated document titled “Concept Note for the National IWRM and Water Efficiency Plan”. It contains mainly headings with some ideas on approaches to the Plan and explanations of what will be included in the draft National IWRM and Water Efficiency Plan at the end of May 2005. It is open for discussion and comments.

During 28-31 March the first regional training seminar was conducted in order to train trainers on key IWRM aspects at Training Center of ICWC in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The specialists from seven states of CACENA region (except Kazakhstan - as their training is provided within the UNDP project) had passed this course. The main attention during seminar was paid to following advanced aspects of the IWRM implementation learned in the region: organizational issues of the water sector reforms and how to organize the public participation; legal and financial aspects of water management; technical and managerial innovations and tools. The second regional seminar will be organized in May. With acquired knowledge and materials from this regional seminars the trained trainers with the assistance of RTAC members will organize during coming summer 3-4 national seminars in each country - for more wide dissemination of knowledge about IWRM concept and tools.