

Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

# Report

## For June 2021

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## 1. The first youth dialogue "Chu-Talas River Basin"

Date: 18-20 June 2021

Format: Teleconference between the Almaty and Bishkek

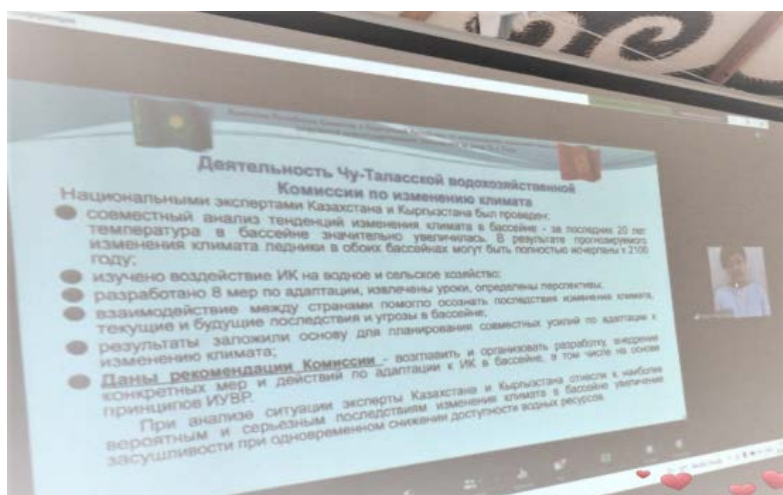
Organizers: Central Asia Youth for Water, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), International Secretariat for Water, Kazakh-German University (DKU).

Participants: Representatives of youth associations of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

CWP-Kazakhstan, recognizing the role of youth as future water managers, provided them with advice to improve bilateral relations between states, given the importance of their understanding of transboundary water issues and methods for managing transboundary water resources in both countries.

The following topics were discussed:

- 1) The river role in the life of local communities: ways of individual and collective involvement and responsibility for water;
- 2) Is water only of material value? Or does it also carry a spiritual, sacred meaning?
- 3) The role of Central Asian youth in the Blue Peace movement.



## 2. International online conference "The value of natural ecosystems as a basis for climate preservation and sustainable development"

Date: 8 June 2021

Organizers: International Socio-Ecological Union, Global Forest Coalition, Climate Change Network and Ecological Movement "BIOM".

Participants: about 130 participants from Central Asia, Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, USA, Canada, Colombia, Chile and Australia.

A multilateral dialogue on the recognition of the value of natural ecosystems and their key role in shaping the climate and conditions for Human Being as a basic priority of development programs took place.

The conference considered the followings:

- 1) Promotion of the Initiative on recognizing the value of natural ecosystems for climate stabilization and sustainable development at the regional and international levels;
- 2) The "Roadmap" of initiative;
- 3) Supporters;
- 4) Working groups and a committee to promote the initiative.

CWP-Kazakhstan took part in the conference.

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/16w0NAD\\_V1T5cc1BSREqCHjAAfHrJKXST?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/16w0NAD_V1T5cc1BSREqCHjAAfHrJKXST?usp=sharing)

### **3. Launching the USAID Regional Water and Environment Project**

Date: 18 June 2021

Format: online/offline (Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan)

Organizers: USAID Regional Water and Environment Project, Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Participants: members of the National Multisectoral Working Group (NMWG), representatives of the USAID Mission in Kazakhstan and the USAID Regional Water and Environment Project, CWP-Kazakhstan.

There are presented the USAID Regional Water Resources and Environment Project, its goals, objectives, and preliminary plans for the first year of the project, capacity development and education, Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), Regional and National Transboundary Water Initiatives as well as the project activities within the framework of Objective 4 (Ecology) aimed at afforestation of the dried bottom of the Aral Sea in the Kazakhstan part.

Participants discussed issues regarding potential national initiatives to promote regional water cooperation through the prism of the “water-energy-food-environment” nexus approach and exchanged of views on national priority areas of regional cooperation.

### **4. Meeting with local specialists of the "Kazvodkhoz" and the Balkash-Alakol Water Inspection on regulation of water resources use and protection**

Date: 3-5 June 2021

Place: Bartogai reservoir on the Sharyn river; Dostyk hydroelectric complex on the Khorgos river.

Organizer: CWP-Kazakhstan

Participants: young specialists, undergraduates of the Kazakh-German University.

CWP-Kazakhstan organized a meeting of young specialists and future water specialists with employees of the Almaty branch of the Kazvodkhoz RSE. Young people visited the Bartogai reservoir on the Sharyn river and the Dostyk hydroelectric complex on the Khorgos river. Local water specialists spoke about the work of these structures, their purpose and regulation of water resources use.

### **5. Launch of UN World Water Development Report 2021: Valuing Water**

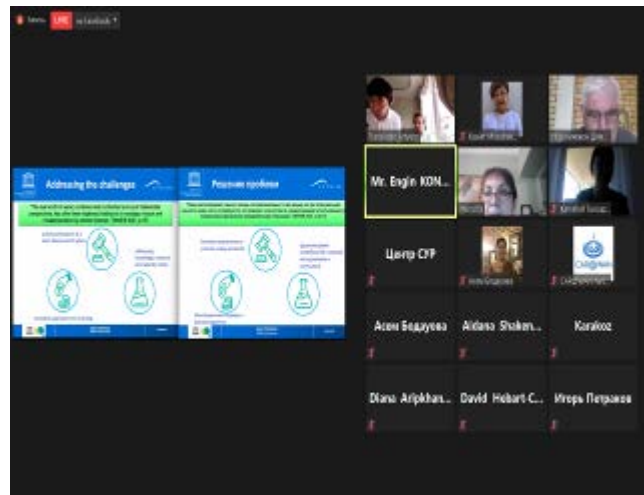
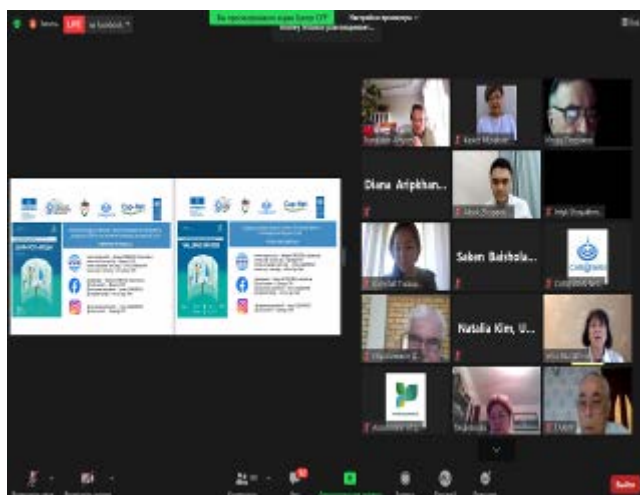
Date: 8 June 2021

Format: online

Organizers: UNESCO Cluster Office in Almaty, Central Asian Regional Network for Capacity Building in Water Management CAR @ WAN, Center for Assistance to Sustainable Development

Participants: representatives of Central Asia region, incl. CWP-Kyrgyzstan

Participants were acquainted with the main conclusions and recommendations of the Report, and also heard the opinion of experts on the value of water resources in Central Asia for hydrological infrastructures, agriculture and energy, human health and other aspects.



## 6. Round table "Raising awareness of stakeholders on sustainable management and use of land and water resources in the context of climate change"

Date: 3 June 2021

Place: Chui region, Kyrgyzstan

Organizers: OSCE Program Office in Bishkek, Aarhus Center in Bishkek, Association of Land and Forest Users of Kyrgyzstan, GWP-Kyrgyzstan

Participants: the public of the region, farmers and the civil community of nearby places, representatives of the land and pasture committees of the region, employees of ayil okmotu (Total: 28 people, incl. 10 women).

Purpose: Informing the public of the Chui region about the activities of CWP-Kyrgyzstan and the Aarhus Center in Bishkek; dissemination of knowledge and further establishment of cooperation with local governments and the public.



## 7. National Dialogue on Water Policy within the European Union Water Initiative Component for Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia

Date: 11 June 2021

Place: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Organizers: State Agency for Water Resources under the Ministry of Forestry and Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic

Participants: Representatives of the European Union in the Kyrgyz Republic, UNECE, OECD, CWP-Kyrgyzstan, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Purpose: Discussion of an approach to compensation for damage to water resources and water bodies, as well as indicators reflecting the transboundary aspect of water security.



## 8. Round table on issues of water security within SDGs in Kyrgyzstan

Date: 17 June 2021

Place: Kyrgyzstan

Organizers: CWP-Kyrgyzstan, OSCE Program Office in Bishkek, Aarhus Center in Bishkek

Participants: representatives of the State Agency for Water Resources under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Agency for Hydrometeorology under the Ministry of Emergencies, members of the Kyrgyz Secretariat of the Chui-Talas Water Commission, the Water Users Association, universities and civil society (total: 25 people, incl. 18 women).

Purpose:

- Discussion of the SDGs 6.5.1/6.5.2 implementation plans in Kyrgyzstan;
- Information on the UN report "Valuing Water".





## 9. Photo contest “Valuing Water”

Date: from March 15 to June 15, 2021

Place: Mongolia

Organizers: CWP-Mongolia, Water agency of Mongolia



In honor of World Water Day, an amateur photo contest under the motto "Valuing Water" was held from March 15 to June 15, 2021. The contest received 109 entries from 11 river basin administrations and made them available to the public through the "Usnii gazar" Facebook page.

9 photos were selected at the First round:









For the final round the professional judges selected 3 best photos. The winners were selected by Water Agency commission.



## THE BEST DESCRIPTION



1. Uvs-Nuur Tes river basin  
administration  
Photographer: M.Ankhubayar  
Photo name: Tes river  
Mongolia, Uvs province



3. Ongi-Taats river basin  
administration  
Photographer : G.Sukhbaatar  
Photo name: Winter excessive  
Mongolia, Uvurkhangai province



2. Uench-Bodonch-Bulgan river  
basin administration  
Photographer : B.Munkhbat  
Photo name: Kholboo lake  
Mongolia, Uvurkhangai province

### 10. International Scientific Conference: "The Role of Reclamation in New Farming Systems"

Date: 23 June 2021

Place: Moscow, Russia

Organizers: Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation, Department of Land Reclamation, Land Policy and State Property of the Ministry of Agriculture of Russia, Department of Agricultural Sciences of the Russian Academy of Sciences and the All-Russian Research Institute of Hydraulic Engineering and Land Reclamation named after A.N. Kostyakov

The main topics:

1. The land reclamation value for increasing the agricultural land productivity;
2. Conceptual approaches and technological methods of complex regulation of agricultural system parameters;
3. Innovative technologies for precise regulation of the actual fertility of agricultural lands;
4. Methods and means of managing the hydrothermal regime of agrophytocenosis during land reclamation;
5. Innovative methods, means and technologies for crop irrigation;
6. Social, environmental and economic aspects of land reclamation in the precision farming.

CWP-Tajikistan Chairman professor Yarash Pulatov made a report "Innovative approaches to improving the technology of crops irrigation in Tajikistan" at the plenary session.

The participants discussed issues regarding the existing reclamation and irrigation problems in the CIS countries, especially water cooperation in Central Asia in the context of a rapid population growth, climate change impact and the development of economic sectors that affect the use and balance of water resources. There were questions related to the problems of introducing IWRM principles in the context of climate change and SDGs. The participants discussed the legal, regulatory, organizational, technical, and financial aspects of IWRM and SDGs too.

As a result of the conference, a declaration was adopted.



## 11. Towards the 20th Anniversary of GWP CACENA

The collection "20 years of GWP CACENA: National Water Partnership of Uzbekistan on the way to water security" was published for the 20th anniversary of GWP CACENA and the 15th anniversary of the National Water Partnership of Uzbekistan. CWP-Uzbekistan partners took part in the preparation of this collection.

The publication provides detailed information on the participation of members of CWP-Uzbekistan together with the IFAS Agency in a series of webinars organized by the Asia-Pacific Water Forum (APWF).



**20 лет GWP CACENA**  
**Национальное водное партнерство Узбекистана**  
**на пути к водной безопасности**



## 12. KURA- ARAKS BASIN PROTECTION DAY 2021



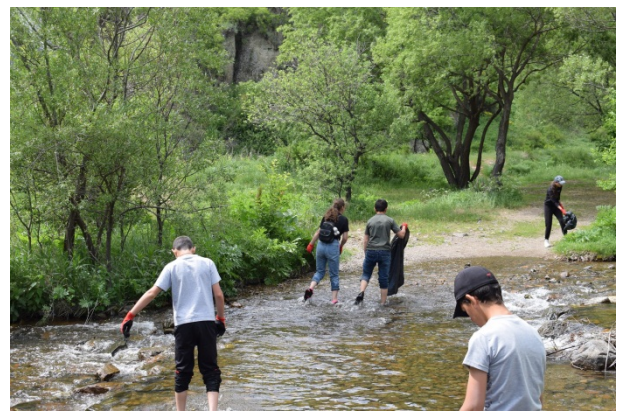
river bank and the garbage was cleaned.

An environmental event on Kura-Araks Rivers' Protection Day was held by CWP-Armenia in Trchkan waterfall area.

June 2, 2000 has been declared a Kura-Araks Rivers' Protection Day by the initiative of "Kura-Araks" Coalition. This event is celebrated in the three South Caucasus countries every year.

The importance of the Kura-Araks Rivers' Protection day was presented during the event.

On the same day, willows were planted to protect the



## 13. WHAT KIND OF WATER DO I USE? WATER MONITORING WITH SIMPLE STEPS

Within the framework of the European Union's Water Initiative Plus (EUWI+), the Armenia Water Partnership NGO has conducted awareness campaigns, working with 22 schools in a number of marzes and providing simple water monitoring devices that can quickly determine water quality.

"We have worked in the Sevan basin with schools from Gegharkunik marz and in the Hrazdan basin with schools



from Kotayk, Armavir, Aragatsohn, and Ararat marzes. We have held training courses for teachers and showed them how to monitor the water quality with the equipment we provided. In addition, we have handed over these devices to the teachers, and each of the pupils checked the quality of drinking water and monitored the water bodies in their area. In one case, students found out that their water did not meet the drinking water standards and submitted an application to the municipality," said Arevik Hovsepyan, President of the Armenia Water Partnership.

Arevik Hovsepyan demonstrated how fast the testers work on a sample of tap water in the Yerevan city center. The testers work with 5 indicators of water quality: hydrogen index (pH), total alkalinity, total hardness, nitrites



(NO<sub>2</sub>-), and nitrates (NO<sub>3</sub>-).

“Immerse the stick in the water sample and hold it still for 1 or 2 seconds. Then, shake it to remove the water and wait for 25 seconds. We can see that the litmus paper on the stick is starting to change colour. By comparing these colours with the corresponding scale, we can determine how safe the water is,” she explained.

All the indicators of our samples were within the safe range, which means that the water could be used without concerns. Naturally, we had a completely different picture after monitoring the water samples taken from Lake Sevan and Hrazdan River.



[https://mediamax.am/en/news/special-report/43460/?fbclid=IwAR0UsoOdoRjNoXoy8yKnwvsPxHM5I2EprCbttmXrGOu3SeEuN3yORiH9Y\\_k](https://mediamax.am/en/news/special-report/43460/?fbclid=IwAR0UsoOdoRjNoXoy8yKnwvsPxHM5I2EprCbttmXrGOu3SeEuN3yORiH9Y_k)

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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.