



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

Report

For August 2019

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1. WASTE COLLECTING SYSTEM ON THE IRRIGATION CANAL

Within the frameworks of USAID-funded PURE-Water project, the Citizen Scientists team of "Improvement of the irrigation system in Poqr Vedi community" is actively involved in the technical works related to installation of waste collecting system on the irrigation canal.

On August 2, the Project team jointly with "Metalmaz" LLC and with participation of Pokr Vedi active residents,



installed the waste collecting network on 805 breaking section of Artashat canal for testing purposes. The network was tested on the next day – August 3, after a 1-2 days' irrigation water shutdown and canal cleaning activities. Due to waste collecting system a considerable amount of agricultural and domestic waste was removed from the irrigation water.

The testing activities of the waste collecting system are to be continued.



2. LAKE SEVAN PROTECTION DAY

On August 24, within the frameworks of EUWI+ "Communication Assistance to Support the Implementation of the Actions Plan for Participative RBM Planning in Armenia" Project, "Country Water Partnership" scientific, ecological NGO in cooperation with Ministry of Environment of RA, "Sevan National Park" SNCO of Ministry of Environment of RA, Water Committee of RA MTAI, Gegharkuniq marzpetaran organized the event on Lake Sevan Protection Day.



The main purpose of the event was to encourage young people to understand the effects of their behaviour on water, its quality, and ecosystems, to increase their engagement into water protection actions. The main activity of the event was cleaning about 500 meters of coastal area between the Norashen and Tsovazard communities of Sevan National Park. The coastal area was cleaned by joint efforts and the collected garbage was removed with the support of Gegharkunik marzpetaran. The environmental importance and activities of Sevan National Park were briefly presented after clean-up activity.

The event was attended by about 80 participants: representatives from Ministry of Environment of RA, "Sevan National Park" SNCO of Ministry of Environment of RA, Water Committee of RA MTAI, Gegharkuniq marzpetaran, representatives of Water Resources Management sector and EUWI + project, schoolchildren and teachers of secondary schools from 18 communities of Gegharkunik marz of RA, EU Young European Ambassadors and Media representatives.



3. Round Table "Assessment and Definition of measures for the rehabilitation of the Soviet-era hydroelectric power station"

Date: 3 August 2019

Place: Tbilisi

Organizer: Greens Movement of Georgia

Participants: CWP-Georgia, Greens Movement of Georgia (Total: 12 people)

In the office of the Greens Movement of Georgia, the second Round Table "Assessment and Definition of measures for the rehabilitation of the Soviet-era hydroelectric power station" was held.



The need to consider this issue is caused by the fact that the main wealth of Georgia's natural resources is water. This fact indicates a large hydropower potential of the country because the electricity generation relates to hydroelectric power plants.

The meeting considered and discussed the following issues:

- what methodology should be used to evaluate the rehabilitation of old plants;
- what resources are needed to complete this task;
- and
- what technologies will be used for reconstruction and rehabilitation.

The participants again expressed their interest to continue meetings on this issue and to organize a conference with participation of specialists and stakeholders.

4. Meeting on the prevention of accidents at water bodies

Date: 21 August 2019

Place: Tbilisi

Organizer: National Platform of the EU Civil Society Forum

Participants: CWP-Georgia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia (Total: 30 people)

The meeting was held at the NATO and EU information center. Participants were informed about the situation. According to the Emergency Management Services, from 2016 to May 2019, 300 deaths were recorded at water bodies in Georgia. According to WHO, 372 thousand people die in water bodies every year in the World. The main risk factor is low public awareness. State bodies are obliged to carry out activities that will reduce possible accidents by informing people about storms, floods, landslides, etc.

The National Platform appealed to state bodies in order they begin to develop policies and legislative basis on this issue. It is necessary to determine the responsible authority and create a stronger security system.



5. Meeting with the chairman of the environmental commission of the Tbilisi City Government



Date: 2 August 2019
 Place: Tbilisi
 Organizer: CWP-Georgia
 Participants: 5 people

Issues related to the fulfillment of obligations on water resources (Agreement on the Association of Georgia with the EU, and SDGs) were discussed: improvement of legislation, and the Protocol on Water and Health.

Issues related to the activities of the Georgian Water and Power Company, which provides water and sanitation in the cities of Tbilisi, Mtskheta and Rustavi, were raised.

The chairman of the commission, Irakli Kukhianidze, expressed his desire for regular meetings, as well as to plan the WASH conference in Tbilisi.

6. Roundtable “IWRM role in achieving SDGs in Kyrgyzstan”

Date: 1 August 2019
 Place: Bishkek
 Organizer: CWP-Kyrgyzstan
 Participants: Water Resources Agency of the Kyrgyz Republic, Basin administration of the Chui oblast, Kyrgyzhydromet, the Chui-Talas local administration, the Secretariat of the Chu-Talas commission of the Kyrgyz Republic, CAREC, the Aarhus Center in Bishkek, CWP-Kyrgyzstan (Total: 20 people, incl. 12 women).

Purpose: to discuss the role of IWRM in achieving SDGs in Kyrgyzstan, the rational use of water resources of transboundary rivers, practical measures to combat pollution of water bodies, informing the society about the environmental status of water resources.

The following presentations were made:

- "Transboundary cooperation between Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan" by the Head of the Kyrgyz office of the Secretariat of the Chu - Talas Commission Satymkulova G.S.;
- "Implementation of SDG 6 in Kyrgyzstan" by the Head of the special department of water use of the Chuisk basin administration Umarbaeva Nuria.



7. Seminar on creation of rural sanitation and improvement of SDG6

Date: 12-13th of August 2019

Place: Countryside in Arkhangai province in the Natural Spring area, Mongolia

Participants: community group (Total: about 30 people)

Main outputs of activities:

- Lessons on Risk pollution of soil and water and simple and easy sanitation for rural area;
- Guide on installation of sanitation in rural area;
- User guide of new sanitation and M&O;
- Wastewater treatment of septic system and drainage treated water;
- Reuse treated water for toilet flushing;
- Water saving and cleaning of Toilet rooms;
- Woman's role in changing rural life and in teaching child to better use of good sanitation.



8. Preparing new collection book "Uzbekistan on the road to achieving water security" for publication

In accordance with the CWP-Uzbekistan's work plan 2019, in September this year it is planned to publish a collected works "Uzbekistan on the road to achieving water security" in the framework of the national water strategy.

CWP-Uzbekistan's partners presented the following scientific articles:

- 1) "Five components of water security of the Asian Development Bank: a valuable approach to developing water policy in Central Asia" by Vadim Sokolov, Head of the IFAS Agency.
- 2) "Regulation of the hydraulic structures safety in the Republic of Uzbekistan" by Tolipov Sh. G., Regional expert on dam safety.
- 3) "Interconnection of water resources problems, stability and security" by Salakhiddinov A.A., Professor of Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers (TIAME).

All three scientific articles were reviewed and discussed by representatives of key partners of CWP-Uzbekistan, namely: SIC ICWC, IWMI, Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan, etc.

Participants approved the materials presented and decided to publish a collected works in a book format and disseminating this publication among water professionals and other interested people. CWP-Uzbekistan's partners were instructed to familiarize the public with this publication in the regions of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

9. Meeting of the Expert Council on Water Resources Management

Place: Nur-Sultan, House of Ministries

Date: July 25, 2019

Organizer: Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Participants: CWP-Kazakhstan Chair Nariman Kipshakbaev, members of the Expert Council, representatives of state bodies, invited experts.

Members of the expert council discussed the draft Concept of Water Security of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

10. 16th meeting of the Working Group of Experts of the Kazakhstan-China Joint Commission on the Transboundary Rivers Use and Protection

Place: Almaty

Date: July 15-18, 2019

Organizers: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of Transboundary Rivers, Ministry of Agriculture, Public Foundation "Water Partnership of Kazakhstan"

Financing: Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Participants: representatives of state bodies, members of the working group of the Republic of Kazakhstan and China.

The following presentations were made:

- Results of a comparative analysis of hydrological data of the gauging stations located along the border for 2017.
 - Progress of work on assessing the water resources of the entire basin of transboundary rivers between the Republic of Kazakhstan and China, and also the first exchange of available hydrological data of the Ulken Ulasty river for 2018.
 - Situation in the management and operation of the Dostyk joint hydropower complex "Dostyk" on the Khorgos River and the reports of experts on the results of the meetings of the Expert Working Group on the analysis and prevention of threats from the moraine (glacial) lakes in the Khorgos river basin and design work.
- Following the meeting, the parties signed a protocol.



11. 2nd Session of the Regional Working Group on Development of the Action Program on Assistance to the Aral Sea Basin Countries (ASBP-4) and the expert meeting on improving the organizational structure and the legal framework of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea

Place: Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

Date: July 30-31, 2019

Organizers: The IFAS Executive Committee with the support of the Regional Program “Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia” of the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ), the European Union’s project “Nexus Dialogue in Central Asia”, the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia (CAREC), the “Water, Education and Cooperation” project (“Smart Waters Project”) of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the OSCE Center in Ashgabat.

Participants: CWP-Kazakhstan Chair Nariman Kipshakbaev, representatives of the working groups of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Executive Committee of IFAS, the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination (ICWC), the Interstate Commission for Sustainable Development (ICSD), as well as GIZ and CAREC.



The experts verified positions and agreed on approaches to development of regional document and improving the activity of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea. The main outcome document of the meeting of experts was a developed strategy for collaboration and implementing key tasks.

The latest version of the draft program includes a set of measures for sustainable water use: optimization of irrigation and innovation in this area; improvement of land reclamation conditions; reconstruction of hydrotechnical facilities of interstate importance; restoration of small local reservoirs in the Amu Darya delta. It is planned to check the siltation of Central Asian reservoirs, assessment of river flow regulation, and creating analytical platforms (more than 30 coordinated regional projects with various components).

The final document includes a project on investigation of transboundary rivers - Amu Darya, Syr Darya, Zeravshan, as well as the project of the Interstate Coordination Water Commission, aimed at creating an environmental culture - "Water and Education". The participants focused on the need to increase the material and technical potential of regional and national water management organizations, keeping in mind a balance of interests, increase the practical impact of the Fund and improve the activities of its structures - ICSD and ICWC.

12. The Day of Water Management of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Every year CWP-Kazakhstan's partners celebrate the Day of Water Management.

1) As part of the festive events, a round table "The Role of Water Management Specialists in Sustainable Water Supply and Development of Kazakhstan", dedicated to the Day of Kazakhstan Water Management Workers was held.

Date: July 09, 2019

Place: Almaty region, Talgar.

Organizers: Public Foundation "Water Partnership of Kazakhstan"; Office of the main water inlet.

Participants: workers and veterans of the water sector (Total: 70 people).



The round table discussed problems of Kazakhstan's water sector and ways to solve them, the role of water sector specialists in the sustainable water supply and development of Kazakhstan.

As part of the celebration, a bust to D.A. Kunaev at the Bolshoi Almaty Canal Office was opened and a tour on water bodies for young specialists was organized. A number of veterans and water workers were awarded with the Honorary diplomas and letters of thanks of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

2) The Chairman and Executive Secretary of CWP-Kazakhstan were invited to celebrate the Day of Water Workers in the Kyzylorda region.

Date: July 11, 2019

Place: Kyzylorda region.

Organizers: Public Foundation "Water Partnership of Kazakhstan", administration of the Kyzylorda region, Kyzylorda branch of "Kazvodkhoz".

Participants: invited guests, workers and veterans of the water sector of the Kyzylorda region (Total: 66 people).

A concert was organized. Many veterans and water workers were awarded with letters of thanks of the Kyzylorda region administration, diplomas and letters of thanks of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

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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.