



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

Report

For August 2020

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1. WORKING DISCUSSIONS WITHIN "LOCALIZATION OF SDG-6 TARGETS IN ARMENIA" PROJECT

The Country Water Partnership NGO continues to cover the Projects implemented by it.

The cooperation between the UNDP Armenia Office and the Government of the Republic of Armenia within this Project was launched in July 2020. The working groups set up within the framework of the "Localization of SDG -6 Targets in Armenia" Project have been working for two months now under the guidance of the CWP NGO to identify obstacles to achieving the targets.

Over the past period, experts have seriously studied the methodologies for obtaining and calculating indicators / sub-indicators to achieve the SDG -6 targets, trying to make it applicable in Armenia. However, in some cases, not all data are available, and therefore, the figures are calculated approximately.

Within the Project it is planned also the development of a strategy and an action plan to achieve the SDG 6 targets with the assistance of the departments responsible for water resources and systems management, clearly combining the existing data system in Armenia and the SDG approaches and methodology.

As a result of two working meetings in the RA Ministry of Economy on August 12 and 14, the groups discussed in detail the water supply and wastewater targets and evaluation indicators to achieve them.



On August 18, the discussion continued on integrated water resources management and transboundary cooperation at the RA Ministry of Environment. In addition to the above-mentioned questions, there are many issues in this group that require legal solutions, which will be identified as a result of legal analysis.



Any data to be provided to the Statistical Committee must be collected in accordance with the methodology proposed by the SDG; this becomes all the more difficult, especially when the aggregate data are composed of several components and are received from different departments.

Interdepartmental cooperation is one of the most important preconditions in this regard, as no matter which responsible agency it is, the sources for obtaining data can be difficult to access.

The second joint discussion of all working groups took place at the Ibis Hotel on August 25.



The purpose of the workshop was to present the identified obstacles to achieving the targets, discuss the content of the full report, and identify any issues that need to be included in the future strategy.

Throughout this period, the working group was supported by professional experts with extensive professional experience in the public-private system of water resources management, as well as professional experience in other countries outside of Armenia.

The groups will work for one more month to identify the obstacles, after which the materials obtained as a result of this phase will be presented to all beneficiaries, including representatives of various financial institutions financing loan and grant water projects in Armenia.



2. Consultative Meeting with Stakeholders

Date: 31 August 2020

Place: Tbilisi

Organizers: CWP-Georgia jointly with the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

Participants: representatives of government agencies, NGOs, the private sector, academia and international organizations and projects.

Purpose: to identify a baseline assessment of IWRM implementation in terms of indicator 6.5.1. The meeting was organized within the framework of the GWPO Support Program on SDG 6.5.

The SDG 6.5.1 indicator monitoring and reporting is based on a self-assessment survey implemented by all the UN Member States every three years. Based on the completed surveys on SDG 6.5.1, an overview is being done to provide a global picture of the current state of IWRM. The first reporting cycle was carried out in 2017.

The second round of reporting took place in 2020 and all the UN Member States were encouraged to repeat the assessment process.

The FACT SHEET 2017 (baseline assessment) and the questionnaire for participants were translated into Georgian language. The facilitator (certified by GWP and UNEP) strictly followed the GWPO instructions on holding the Meeting.

As a result, a questionnaire was completed. The report is expected to be developed and submitted to GWPO and UNEP.



3. 2 video-meetings of environmental NGOs of Georgia

Date: 6, 15 August 2020

Organizer: Civil Society Forum National Platform

Participants: 18 NGOs (including CWP-Georgia).

Purpose: Discussing implementation of the commitments on Association Agreement between Georgia and the EU in the environmental sphere.

The following documents were discussed:

- N 2000/60/EC - framework for Community action in the field of water,
- N 91/271/EEC - concerning urban waste-water treatment,
- N 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption,
- 91/676/EEC concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources.



4. Discussing the draft Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Date: August 25, 2020

Place: House of Ministries, Nur-Sultan

Organizers: Department of Transboundary Rivers of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan (MEGNR)

Participants: the working group and MEGNR

CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman Nariman Kipshakbayev as a member of the working group, took part in the discussion on joint management, use and protection of transboundary water bodies.

The working group considered the comments and proposals received from experts to the draft Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

5. Meeting with the Minister and Vice-Ministers of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Date: August 25, 2020

Place: Nursultan. House of Ministries

Organizers: Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan (MEGNR)

Participants: Committee on Water Resources, Department of Transboundary Rivers

CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman Nariman Kipshakbayev and the Minister and Vice Ministers of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan discussed issues on development of the State Program for Water Resources Management of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2020-2030.



From left to right: Vice-Minister Gromov, CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman Kipshakbaev, Minister Myrzagaliev, Keushimov (EC IFAS), Vice-Minister Nysynbaev

6. The working meeting on SDG6.5.1 "Degree of implementation of integrated water resources management"

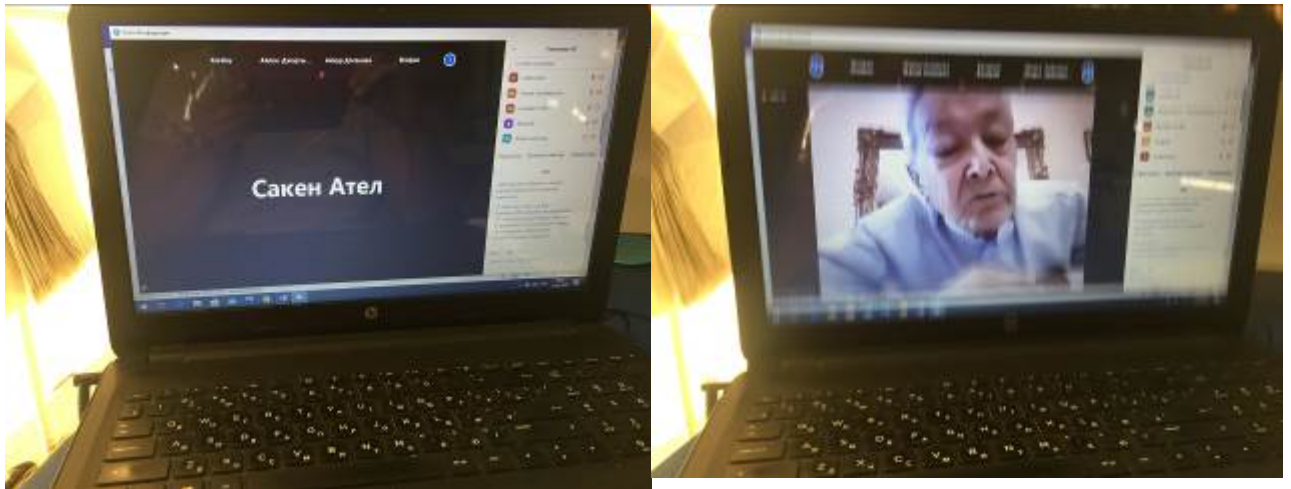
Date: August 14, 2020

Format: videoconference

Organizers: Committee on Statistics of the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Participants: representatives of state bodies and experts of CWP-Kazakhstan.

Purpose: to agree upon and finalize the reporting on SDG 6.5.1 indicator "Degree of implementation of integrated water resources management".



7. Supporting the WaterCafe¹ network initiative

CWP-Kazakhstan supported the initiative of young water professionals - members of the WaterCafe network - to create a video about water professions. CWP-Kazakhstan took part in collecting information about the water professions.

Date: 01-18 August, 22-28 August 2020

Place: water facilities located in Almaty, East Kazakhstan and Kyzylorda regions.

Organizer: CWP-Kazakhstan

The purpose of video is to demonstrate for students the variety of potential jobs in Kazakhstan. The following topics are planned to be included in the video:

- reservoirs / dam;
- treatment facilities;
- water supply / wastewater disposal facilities;
- gauging stations / canals;
- irrigated land / irrigation;
- groundwater / water quality laboratory;
- work in the civil service / international organizations;
- work in universities, colleges / scientific and design organizations.

¹ *WaterCafe – volunteer group of young water researchers from Central Asia - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/watercafecentralasia>*

8. Skype conference on the ISTC Project "Assessment of water and land resources in small transboundary rivers of the Amu Darya river basin using remote sensing data"

Date: 28 August 2020

Place: Almaty, Kazakhstan

Organizer: International Scientific-Technology Centre (ISTC)

Participants: ISTC, IWMI (International Institute for Water Resources Management), Institute of Water Problems, Hydropower and Ecology of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan; Taraz State University, American University of Central Asia; BWO Amu Darya, CWP-Tajikistan (Total: 9 people)

Main goal: Discussing the project results, the work plan, the technical report for 3rd quarter, determination of further tasks and other organizational, technical and research issues related to the project.

The Institute of Water Problems, Hydropower and Ecology of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan - CWP-Tajikistan's partner - is a participant of the Project TJ-2412 "Assessment of water and land resources in small transboundary rivers of the Amu Darya river basin using remote sensing data".



9. Global Water Partnership's support for water management initiatives of key partners in Uzbekistan

CWP-Uzbekistan, in cooperation with the Agency of International Fund for saving the Aral Sea (IFAS), has prepared and published a collection of articles on water management initiatives of CWP-Uzbekistan's partners.

The collection includes 4 articles in Russian of leading experts of the IFAS Agency, Scientific Information Center of Interstate Commission for Water Coordination (SIC ICWC) and CWP-Uzbekistan:

1. Global Water Partnership;
2. Uzbekistan's actions to increase water availability in the Aral Sea region;
3. Integrated water resources management according to a neutral land degradation concept in Uzbekistan;
4. General description of the state and use of water resources for drinking water supply in Central Asia.

It was decided to distribute the collection among specialists of the Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the public and other interested people. The CWP-Uzbekistan partners were asked to familiarize the public with this collection in the regions of Uzbekistan.

<https://www.gwp.org/en/CACENA/News/global-water-partnerships-support-for-water-management-initiatives-of-key-partners-in-uzbekistan/>

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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.