



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

Report

For February 2018

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1. “Leaving no one behind: Meeting the SDGs through IWRM in rural communities in Armenia”

In the framework of “Leaving no one behind: Meeting the SDGs through IWRM in rural communities in Armenia” seed grant project CWP-Armenia continues working with communities. CWP-Armenia is developing design options for improvement of water, wastewater and irrigation systems in the 17 rural communities. And one of the main goals in frame of piloting stage is development of fundraising & resource mobilization strategy, as well as the action plan for further successful implementation of that strategy. The fundraising & resource mobilization strategy and the action plan are in development stage.

The following components should be developed for effective implementation of local and international resource mobilization activities:

- Fundraising & resource mobilization general strategy development
- Long-term action plan development for strategy implementation
- Dissemination of developed documents among 17 rural communities representatives
- Two-day seminar/training on usage of fundraising tools and techniques

Fundraising & resource mobilization strategy will be enabling to further involve additional funding for the implementation of the next stages of the project



2. Small Grant Agreement (SGA) on SDG 6 and two-day seminar

The monitoring of water and sanitation, including the monitoring of progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG 6), is a technical process, but its successful implementation is closely linked to a country's institutional arrangements and associated institutional capacity. Following the 2016 pilot testing of SDG 6 monitoring, country feedback highlighted the importance of integration - across sectors and stakeholders, and within existing national processes and structures - for successful collection, analysis and reporting of data. Based on this feedback, the UN-Water Integrated Monitoring Initiative for SDG 6 is providing seed funds to contribute to country processes.

Country Water Partnership scientific, ecological NGO with the support of State Committee of Water Economy of the RA MEINR implements SDG 6 seed grant project, which goal is to bring together responsible parties for monitoring of SDG 6 indicators, to identify their abilities, to conduct their need assessment and to organize trainings and workshops.

Small Grant Agreement (SGA) was signed on February 15 between United Nations Office for Project Services ("UNOPS") and Country Water Partnership Scientific, Ecological NGO.

State Committee of Water Economy of the RA MEINR is the focal point for coordinating the integrated monitoring of SDG 6 and it has already established the Intersectoral monitoring team (IMT) via state bodies who are responsible for water and sanitation indicators monitoring by SDG 6 National focal point. IMT members are representatives from State Committee of Water Economy of the RA MEINR, Ministry of Nature Protection, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Emergency Situations, Ministry of Territorial Administration and Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Veolia Djur CJSC, JINJ Ltd.

On February 22-23, a two-day training workshop for members of the Intersectoral Monitoring Team was organized by Country Water Partnership scientific, ecological NGO at "Tezh Ler" Resort.

During the workshop the purpose of IMT establishment, the purpose and process of water and sanitation goal indicators monitoring, as well as the implementation of monitoring and relevant training needs were evaluated and presented during the workshop. Monitoring and Reporting on SDG 6 were presented by the facilitators: Alice Savadyan, Liana Margaryan, Edgar Pirumyan. Group discussions were held by the World Cafe

Method on the following indicators:

6.3.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality

6.6.1 Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time

6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation

6.4.1 Change in water-use efficiency over time

6.4.2 Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources.



3. "Ararat Artesian Basin in the Eyes of Youth"

USAID-funded PURE-Water project continues its series of events named "Ararat Artesian Basin in the Eyes of Youth". A regular event took place on February 21, 2018 devoted to the principles of integrated water resource management and public participation in decision making processes.

The event incorporated the representatives of USAID, project target communities, Ararat and Armavir Infotuns and CWP-Armenia Youth Network.

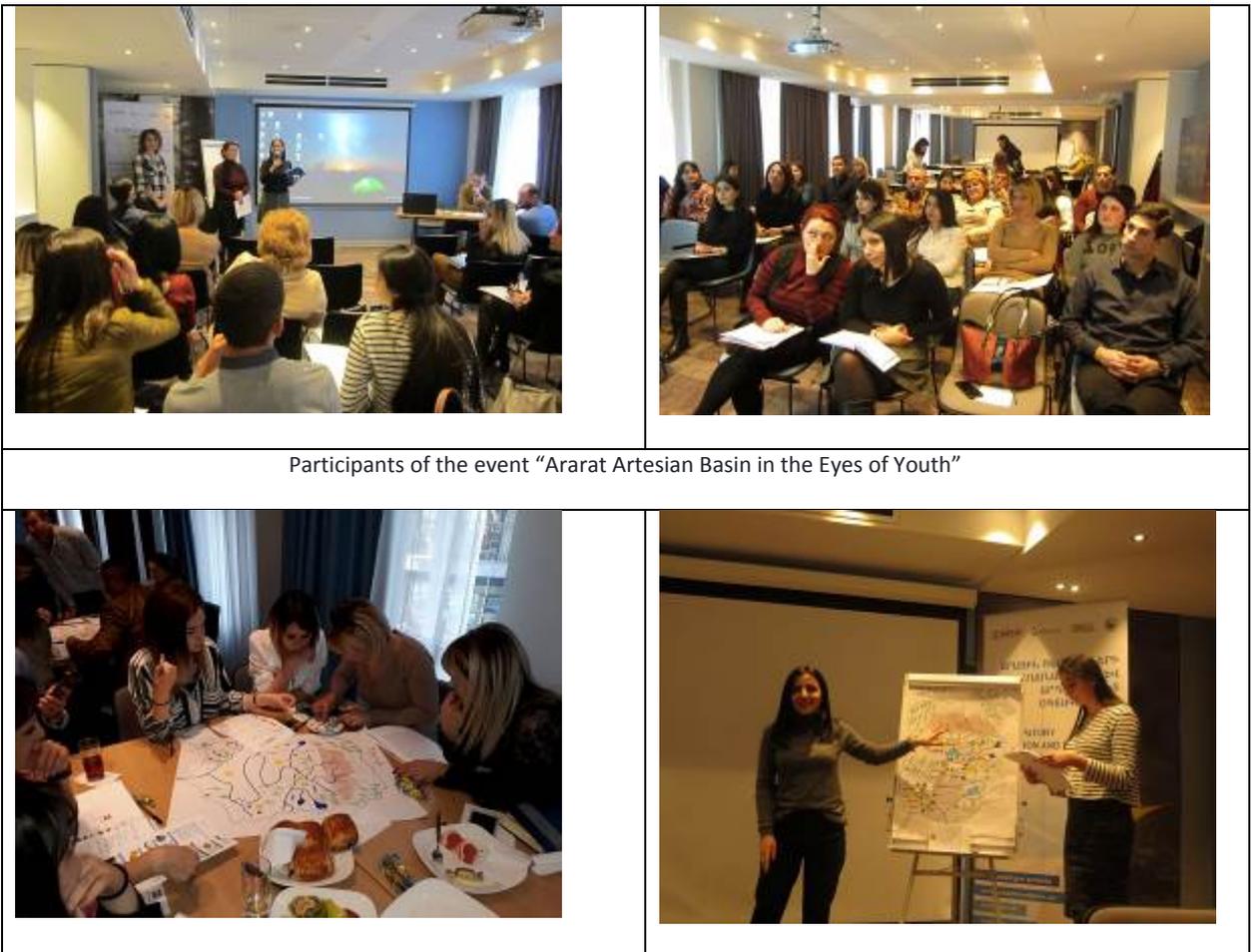
The event was moderated by Mrs. Liana Margaryan, CWP-Armenia Community Outreach Coordinator and Mr. Edgar Pirumyan, CWP-Armenia Water Expert. The working group activities were facilitated by the representatives of CWP-Armenia Youth Network, namely Marine Voskanyan, Areg Karapetyan, Liana Hovsepyan and Margarita

Melkonyan.

At the beginning the attendants were introduced to the principles and advantages of integrated water resource management, the concept of a watershed, the economic value of water, the role of Public Advisory Councils, etc.

The introductory part was followed by an interactive discussion, which was carried out in the format of an AquaGame called “Managing our water resources”, designed and developed by CWP Armenia. During the exercise the participants had the opportunity to act as water managers, and independently organize the efficient use and protection of water resources in a hypothetical watershed. The goal of the exercise was to educate the participants on how they can contribute to efficient water resource management via knowledge exchange, public awareness raising, and active participation.

The project is implemented by UFSD - Urban Foundation for Sustainable Development, Country Water Partnership Armenia, NGO and YSU Environmental Law Resource Centre. The project is funded by USAID.



4. Training “Advocacy campaigns planning and implementation”

On February 6 and 9, 2018 in the framework of USAID-funded PURE-Water project Country Water Partnership Armenia organized a training on “Advocacy campaigns planning and implementation” for the community residents of Ararat and Armavir marzes. The trainings were attended by the residents of Ararat, Artashat, Ginevet, Armash, Surenavan and Azatavan communities of Ararat region and the residents of Metsamor, Lukashin, Hatsik, Noravan, and Khanjyan communities of Armavir region.

The trainings were conducted by Advocacy Experts Tigran Matevosyan (Armash village, Ararat region) and Vardes Davtyan (Lukashin village, Armavir region). The participants acquired knowledge on how to plan advocacy campaigns, how to identify problems and carry out public advocacy campaigns. The attendants learned about the

types of advocacy tools and how to apply them in practice, as well as were introduced to examples of water sector public advocacy campaigns organized on the local level.

The project is implemented by UFSD - Urban Foundation for Sustainable Development in cooperation with Country Water Partnership NGO and YSU Environmental Law Resource Centre. The project is funded by USAID.



5. Working discussion on the results of the legal analysis Assessment of the Policy of the Water Resource Management Sphere

On February 5, 2018, a working discussion on the results of the legal analysis Assessment of the Policy of the Water Resource Management Sphere and Legal-Regulation Frame and Elaboration of the Improvement Ways took place at the Standing Committee on Territorial Administration, Local Self-Government, Agriculture and Environment of the RA National Assembly moderated by Vadevan Grigoryan. The legal analysis was implemented within the framework of “Participatory Utilization and Resource Efficiency of Water” project implemented by Urban Foundation for Sustainable Development (UFSD), the Country Water Partnerships NGO and YSU Environmental Law Resource Centre. The project is funded by USAID.



Project Components 1&2 Lead Hayastan Stepanyan mentioned that over the years, the uncontrolled exploitation of natural waters in the Ararat Valley has led to a sharp decline in the underground water reservoirs, causing many communities to become waterless. According to her, the state of water resources management is miserable, the system is not transparent, the society does not participate in the decision making process of vital importance. The speaker noted that the goal of the project is to promote the effective use of water resources in the Ararat Valley, as well as to

reveal the existing legal gaps as a result of studies and analysis, presenting them to the RA Government and the National Assembly. The Doctor-Professor of Legal Sciences, the Head of YSU Environmental Law Resource Centre Aida Iskoyan highlighted the transparency of the process, public awareness and active participation in the decision-making process. The experts of the Centre Heghine Hakhverdyan and Olympia Geghamyan presented the gaps and shortcomings revealed as a result of water legislation analysis and indicated the solutions.

The representatives of the Project proposed to adopt the “Law on Irrigation Water” of RA by setting out the terms, fees, economic instruments, rights and responsibilities of water users and water suppliers to define the description of irrigation water supply description standards.

Thanking the participants of the discussion, the Committee Chair Vardevan Grigoryan expressed readiness for cooperation to discuss the results of the studies to be implemented within the framework of the Project, as well as to analyze the recommendations and call them into life.



6. Meeting of the Aral-Syrdarya Basin Inspectorate

CWP-Kazakhstan Secretary Ms Kuralai Yakhiyayeva took part in the meeting of the Aral-Syrdarya Basin Inspectorate devoted to preparation for spring floods.

Location: Kyzylorda

Date: February 23-24, 2018

Organizers: Aral-Syrdarya Basin Inspectorate, Administration of Kyzylorda region

Participants: members of the Basin Council

The joint action plan has been developed.

7. CWP-Kazakhstan contribution to Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the People's Republic of China

CWP-Kazakhstan sent proposals and comments on the draft Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the People's Republic of China on using transboundary rivers to the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan.

Location: Almaty

Date: February 05, 2018

Organizer: Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Participants: independent experts

CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman Prof. Nariman Kipshakbaev gave an expert conclusion to the draft "Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the People's Republic of China on Water Allocation of Transboundary Rivers".

8. CWP-Kazakhstan contribution to Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Location: Almaty

Date: February 15, 2018

Organizer: Department of Transboundary Rivers of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Participants: independent experts

CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman Prof. Nariman Kipshakbaev gave an expert conclusion to the draft "Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the joint use and protection of water resources of transboundary rivers between the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Uzbekistan and operation of interstate channels".

9. 24th meeting on interstate use of Chu & Talas rivers

Representatives of CWP-Kyrgyzstan participated in the 24th meeting of the Kyrgyzstan/Kazakhstan Commission on the use of water management facilities on the Chu and Talas rivers.

Date: 27 February 2018

Location: Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek

Organizer: UNDP / GEF Project

Participants: the Chu-Talas Water Commission (ChTWC), the ChTWC Secretariat, Kazvodkhoz, Kazhydromet, the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Department of Water Resources of the Kyrgyz Republic, Hydromeliorative expedition, the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic, Kyrgyzhydromet, civil society (Total: 61 people, incl. 23 women).

Representative of CWP-Kyrgyzstan Djailoobaev Abdybay made a presentation "Contribution of the project for improving the regulatory and institutional framework of the commission and its secretariat". The meeting recognized the role of CWP-Kyrgyzstan as a partner of ChTWC.



10. Training "Possible effective investments and technological solutions for municipal treatment facilities"

The training was conducted within the contract on the GEF-UNDP-UNECE project "Facilitation of transboundary cooperation and integrated water resources management in the Chu and Talas river basins".

Date: 28 February -1 March 2018

Location: Kyrgyzstan, Bishkek

Organizers: UNDP/ GEF Project, CWP-Kyrgyzstan

Participants: the Chu-Talas Water Commission, the ChTWC Secretariat, Kazvodkhoz, Kazgidromet, the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Department of Water Resources of the Kyrgyz Republic, the

Hydromeliorative Expedition, State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry of the Kyrgyz Republic, Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic, Kyrgyzhydromet, civil society (Total: 37 people, including 23 women).

Purpose: sharing Information on opportunities for the Chu-Talas Water Commission related to "Applicable and beneficial practices of investment and technological solutions for development of municipal treatment facilities: the Sava River Basin case study".

Representative of CWP-Kyrgyzstan Ms. Neronova Taisiya made a presentation "Management of the return waters in the Chu-Talas river basin: situational analysis".



11. Civil Society Forum of Central Asia towards the 8th World Water Forum

Representatives of 3 CWPs - Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan - took part in the Civil Society Forum of Central Asia for preparation to the 8th World Water Forum.

Date: February 14-15, 2018

Location: conference hall of the Sheraton Hotel, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Organizers: Government of Tajikistan, Kazakh-German University, World Water Forum.

Participants: ministries and agencies of the Republic of Tajikistan, international organizations (EC IFAS, IWMI, REC CA, OSCE, SDC) a civil sector of Central Asia, educational institutions, academic sector (Total: 120 people, incl. 45 women).

Purpose of the Forum:

1. To contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Eighth World Water Forum and the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development 2018-2028."
2. Creating partnerships to ensure "the participation of all sectors of society" and the cooperation promoted by the Sustainable Development Program of 2030, including those groups of society that are often and easily left behind.
3. Contribution to the Agenda for Action of the High-level Panel on Water, the Paris Climate Agreement and the new International Decade for Action.

The main issues:

- Panel discussions on WWF processes: Korea - Brazil;
- Ensuring water safety: partnership and participation;
- Multilateral approach to water resources management;
- Joint use: sustainability through stakeholder involvement;
- Governance: Water Resources Management for the Development Agenda 2030;
- Capacity: Education, capacity building and technology exchange.

The active participation of CWP-Kyrgyzstan representative M. Musabayeva in the work of the Forum was highly appreciated, and confirmed by a letter with thanks from the organizers of the forum.

On February 13, 2018, the meeting of the Central Asian and Afghanistan Women's and Water Association CAA WWA was organized in the framework of the Forum.

The agenda included the following questions:

- ✓ The Statute of the organization, the role and responsibilities of the members of the Steering Committee, the Executive Committee, Council of international experts;
- ✓ Development strategy and work plan for 2018-2019. Approval of the Executive Committee;
- ✓ Consideration of grant applications.

The organization is at the initial stage of its formation, so the experience of professional partnership on the network platform, developed by GWP CACENA, will greatly facilitate the development of this regional initiative (thus, not only the exchange of knowledge and experience on professional topics, but also the experience of GWP CACENA experts in solving organizational issues are already in demand in the region).

CWP-Kyrgyzstan and CWP-Turkmenistan became members of the Central Asian and Afghanistan Women's and Water Association (CAA WWA). Guljamal Nurmuhamedova was elected a member of the CAA WWA executive committee as a representative of the professional community of the non-governmental sector of Turkmenistan.

More information can be found on the website of the Kazakh-German University:

http://ru.dku.kz/index.php?title=%D0%A4%D0%BE%D1%80%D1%83%D0%BC_%D0%93%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B6%D0%B4%D0%B0%D0%BD%D1%81%D0%BA%D0%BE%D0%B3%D0%BE_%D0%BE%D0%B1%D1%89%D0%B5%D1%81%D1%82%D0%B2%D0%B0_%D0%A6%D0%B5%D0%BD%D1%82%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%BB%D1%8C%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%B9_%D0%90%D0%B7%D0%B8%D0%B8_%D0%BF%D0%BE_%D0%BF%D0%BE%D0%B4%D0%B3%D0%BE%D1%82%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%BA%D0%B5_%D0%BA_8_%D0%92%D1%81%D0%B5%D0%BC%D0%B8%D1%80%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%BC%D1%83_%D0%92%D0%BE%D0%B4%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%BC%D1%83_%D0%A4%D0%BE%D1%80%D1%83%D0%BC%D1%83



12. Future collaboration of Union of NGOs and the Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia

On February 6, 2018, in the Conference room of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia in Ulaanbaatar, the Partnership Contract between the Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia and the Union of NGOs was signed.

Participants agreed the followings:

- Planning joint activity for 2018;
- CWP-Mongolia is responsible for organizing the water forum and water network for Children and Young generation;

- Celebrating of 80th Anniversary of Water sector of Mongolia: establishment of working group and planning activity.



Signing ceremony: Minister of Environment and Tourism Mr.Terenbat (in the middle) and Board members of Steering Committee of NGOs' Union

13. Regional training "IWRM and Basin Planning"

The regional training "IWRM and Basin Planning" dedicated to the International Decade of Action "Water for Sustainable Development 2018-2028" and the Program "Reform of the Water Sector for 2016-2025" was held on February 20-22, 2018 in Khodzhent (Sughd Region).

The training was organized by the Tajik Research Institute of Hydraulic Engineering and Land Reclamation (GU "TajikNIIGiM") under support of international organizations (GIZ and HELVETAS).

The training covers the following issues:

- ✓ Legal basis for water resources management, including the new Water Code of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Environmental Law, the law on WUAs and regulatory legal documents;
- ✓ Integrated management, common goals and requirements (ADB and GWP Guidelines);
- ✓ Basin institutions, structures and their functions, transition to river basin management;
- ✓ Basin planning: General methodology, vision, goals and objectives, action plan;
- ✓ Example of basin plan: Syr Darya.

Participants: Ministry of Energy and Water Resources; regional department of melioration and irrigation; water management and agricultural organizations; WUAs; sanitary-epidemiological organizations; housing and communal organizations; public organizations; educational institutions, scientists and specialists working in the water sector (Total: 55 persons).

CWP-Tajikistan Chairman Professor Pulatov Yarash headed the session and made a presentation "Integrated water resources management: basics, goals and objectives, development perspective".



14. Seminar-training for state organizations and the environmental & water NGOs

On 22-24 February, 2018, in Tashkent, CWP-Uzbekistan under the initiative of the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia and financial support of the European Union, conducted the seminar-training within the project "Raising awareness and partnership for sustainable water and environment development in Uzbekistan".

The seminar-training was attended by representatives of press-services of state organizations, as well as environmental and water NGOs (Total: 24 people).

The seminar aimed to draw attention and raise awareness among the general public about importance of rational water use and environmental protection under climate change, as well as strengthen the interaction between ministries, departments, ECO-NGOs and youth organizations for effective cooperation. CWP-Uzbekistan Chairman Mansur Abduraimov took part and made a presentation about the ongoing activity of CWP-Uzbekistan, in particular, on providing advice and documents on water policy to national and local authorities. Most of the national-level events during 2017, supported by CWP-Uzbekistan, were aimed at raising awareness on IWRM and water security. CWP-Uzbekistan focuses mainly on identifying the water related problems and solutions.

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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.