



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

Report

For May 2019

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1. FINALIZATION OF SOCIAL AUDIT ACTIVITIES



Within the frameworks of USAID-funded PURE-Water project, the activities related to social audit of WUA/local government 2018 model budget parameters were concluded at a special meeting on May 3 this year. During the meeting, the process and outcome of the social audit of Armavir WUA, as well as Aratashen, Yeraskhahun, Yeghegnut, Vedi and Poqr Vedi communities' budgets were presented.

After the presentation of the results, the participants shared their impressions related to the necessity of the acquired skills and knowledge, as well as the importance of social audit tools availability for ensuring efficiency, transparency and public participation in the process of community budget development and expenditure.



2. OPEN LESSON ON WATER IN AKNALICH COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Akmalich community school Chemistry teacher Mrs Aghunik Galstyan has recently organized an open lesson on Chemistry on the topic “Water is precious, every drop is special”. During the event the students covered a number of topics, particularly water in nature, its physical properties, water molecule structure and its features, as well as other interesting facts on water. Riddles were presented related to water aggregative



state, and small awards were provided to those who guessed them, The students also tested the quantity of chlorine in the water, with the help of chlorine determination small kit, which was provided to the Akmalich community school within the USAID-funded PURE-Water project. With the help of the teacher, the schoolchildren have also created an environmental corner at school, which exhibits an informative poster on the topic “Water is precious, every drop is special”.

3. CWP-ARMENIA YOUTH NETWORK BRAINSTORMING MEETING

On May 8, CWP Armenia Youth Network brainstorming meeting was held.

The main topic of the topic was Environmental games for children. The importance to keep children aware about the present and the coming future was discussed. Children need to be taught all the possible steps that can help



them in creating a sustainable environment. CWP Armenia Youth Network members discussed what kind of environmental education games can be organized for school-aged children.

The environmental games should be developed on the following topics:

1. Water access and sanitation (SDG 6),
2. waste recycling
3. Biodiversity



4. MICROFINANCE EVENT: Sustainable Finance Forum; May 22 – 23, 2019; Yerevan, Armenia



CWP Armenia took part in Sustainable Finance Forum, on May 22-23. The first edition of this event focused on sharing ideas among impact investors, “venture philanthropists,” commercial banks, microfinance institutions and social entrepreneurs. The main goal of the forum was to develop business models that unite traditional financial institutions with organizations seeking to create a positive social and environmental impact in the region. Session topics will include: “green” banking and finance; renewable energy and energy efficiency; “smart” cities and mobility; and fintech (financial technology) and blockchain development.

The event was organized by two partners: ImpactAim of Armenia and Impact Hub of Austria. Launched in October 2017, ImpactAim provides advisory services, networking, mentorship and funding to start-up companies that work towards the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

5. Scientific-Practical Conference dedicated to the Day of Water Professionals

Date: 30 May 2019

Place: Baku, Azerbaijan



Organizer: Open Joint-Stock Company Azersu, Institute of Geography of the National Academy of Sciences of Azerbaijan, Association of Water Specialists, Ecological & Meliorative Monitoring Center "Safsu"

Participants: national partners of Azerbaijan, research institutes, a representative of the Milli Mejlis, NGOs, educational institutions, etc. (Total: 35 people).

Speakers raised issues related to the use and protection of water resources in the context of climate change, the development of adaptation measures, strengthening coordination between organizations that deal with water issues in the country, etc. The conference decided to

accelerate and expand the application of IWRM principles to be ready and adapt to climate change.



6. Round table "Assessment and Definition of Measures for Rehabilitation of a Soviet-era Hydro-Power Plant"

Date: 30 May 2019

Place: Tbilisi, Georgia

Organizer: Greens Movement of Georgia

Participants: Greens Movement of Georgia, CWP-Georgia (Total: 20 people).

Water is the main wealth of Georgia's natural resources. This fact indicates a large hydropower potential of the country. This is the reason why hydro-power plants are the main objects for generating electricity. The Meeting considered and discussed a methodology to be used to conduct a study assessing rehabilitation of old hydro-power plants, and what resources and technologies should be used for reconstruction and rehabilitation. The participants agreed to continue meetings on this issue and afterwards to organize a conference with specialists and interested parties.

7. The Student Conference "Agreement on Caspian Sea - goals, challenges and youth perspectives"

Date: 30 May 2019

Place: Tbilisi, Georgia

Organizer: Grigol Robakidze University, Scientific Research Laboratory of Juvenology; the Embassy of Turkmenistan in Georgia

Participants: diplomats; experts on history, economics, environment; teachers and students (Total: up to 60 people).



The purpose of the conference was to inform students and specialists about the Agreement on the status of the Caspian Sea and to identify the role of young people in the process of implementing this initiative. Three questions were raised - historical, economic and security. The Ambassador of Turkmenistan to Georgia, spoke in detail about the significance of this Agreement not only for 5 countries that signed the document, but for the region as a whole. CWP-Georgia Chairman Georgi Dzumukashvili made the presentation on cooperation with the Central Asian countries on water problems and SDGs (gender, youth, climate, education, etc.) as well as on GWP CACENA's activity as a

whole. The conference noted the need for exchange programs between Turkmenistan and Georgia. This initiative will also be reviewed at the GWP CACENA RC meeting. Ambassador of Turkmenistan to Georgia Dovleturat Muratov handed over certificates.



8. Final workshop On the Job Training in Water Evaluation and Planning WEAP system

Date: 24 May 2019

Place: Radisson Blue Hotel, Tbilisi, Georgia

Organizer: USAID

Participants: water specialists (Total: 26 people).

The final workshop on the Job Training in Water Evaluation and Planning WEAP system was organized in the framework of the USAID project "Governing for Growth in Georgia". The organizers presented the Water Distribution Plan in the Tedzama River Basin. To develop a scenario for the use of water resources, the WEAP program (Water Evaluation and Planning) developed by the Stockholm Environment Institute was used. This program is used in more than 100 countries. The best scenarios were presented. Participants were also informed about the benefits of using the WEAP Program.

9. Working Meeting of independent experts on water and environmental issues

Place: Kazakhstan, Astana

Date: 12-14 May 2019

Organizer: Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan

Participants: employees of the transboundary rivers department, independent experts (Total: 9 people).

CWP-Kazakhstan Chairperson Nariman Kipshakbayev and GWP CACENA Regional Council member Bulat Yesekin took part in the working meeting to prepare a report on water security of Kazakhstan.

A report on water security issues with proposals for improving of governance and monitoring of water resources, the personnel support for the water sector was prepared. Special attention was paid to transboundary water uses.

10. The Aral-Syrdarya Basin Council meeting

Place: Kazakhstan, Kyzylorda

Date: 17 May 2019

Organizer: EC IFAS, Aral-Syrdarya Basin Water Inspectorate

Participants: the Basin Council members, CWP-Kazakhstan and invited experts.

The meeting discussed a safety of hydraulic structures in the basin, ways to address water shortages in the Otyrar district during the sowing season.

11. The technical working session of on preparation of the Agreement on sharing transboundary water resources between Kazakhstan and China

Date: 28-29 May 2019

Place: Almaty, Kazakhstan

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

Participants: Special working group, CWP-Kazakhstan (Total: 15 people).

The meeting considered and discussed several versions of the Agreement, taking into account the results of discussions with China.

12. Round table "Action Plan on achieving SDG 6.5: IWRM in Kazakhstan"

Date: 27 May 2019

Place: Almaty, Kazakhstan

Organizer: CWP-Kazakhstan

Participants: Representatives of state and local bodies, scientific and public organizations, the private sector and international partners, CWP-Kyrgyzstan, as well as media (Total: 87 people).

The round table decided to provide information on IWRM implementation plan to donors and to develop an agreement with them on implementation of the Activity Plan.





CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman Nariman Kipshakbayev made a presentation on implementation of the Work Plan for 2019 and the main activities. The measures implemented in Kazakhstan to support the meetings of the Basin Councils were discussed. The results of the GWPO project and the UNEP project on SDG 6.5 (IWRM) were presented too.

The results of the consultations at the national and local levels, which have been held in Kazakhstan since 2017 according to the GWPO methodology and UNEP, by means of questionnaires, works with experts, as well as open discussions and workshops, including reports to the parliament and government, were considered. The results of the consultations were included into a draft Action Plan on Achieving SDG 6.5.1 (IWRM) in Kazakhstan.

The participants approved the activities carried out and recommended:

1. Support the implementation of the SDG6.5 Action Plan in Kazakhstan as the basis for cooperation of all interested partners for 2019-2030.
2. Welcome the new powers of CWP-Kazakhstan to fulfill the function of the Working Secretariat of the Action Plan on achieving the SDG 6.5.1 (IWRM) in Kazakhstan.
3. Call upon donors and international organizations to support the implementation of the IWRM Plan in Kazakhstan and the countries of Central Asia.

The participants also discussed the registration of partners by GWPO and noted the complexity of registration system: currently, CWP-Kazakhstan has more than 40 partners, but many of them are not accredited by GWPO, as they could not get registration on the GWPO website. It was recommended to request GWPO to simplify the registration process.

At the same day the solemn evening dedicated to the **85th anniversary of the CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman Nariman Kipshakbayev** was held. About 120 people from various state organizations, local administrations of some regions, the research and education institutions, the Ministry of Agriculture, SIC ICWC, GWP CACENA, IFAS and others took part in the event. Prof. Nariman Kipshakbayev was awarded the Order named after "D.Kunayev" for special services to the people of Kazakhstan.



Source: <http://sic.icwc-aral.uz/releases/eng/339.htm>

13. National Olympiad on Integrated Water Resources Management

Date: 2 May 2019

Place: Almaty, Kazakhstan

Organizer: UNESCO at the Kazakh-German University, Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan; SDC; ISW; CWP-Kazakhstan; DAAD.

Participants: students of universities and institutes of Kazakhstan, who is specializing in aspects of water management.

The Olympiad was held under the auspices of the Youth network "Central Asia Youth for Water" ("CAY4W").





Within the framework of the Olympiad a scientific student seminar "Water Day" was held. The winner of the National Olympiad was invited to participate in the Regional Olympiad, which will be held within the framework of the International Summer School to be held from 11 to 18 August 2019 in Kazakhstan under support of the Swiss Confederation and the Central Asia Youth Network for Water ("CAY4W").

14. Workshop «Integrated Water Resources Management Master Program Retreat»

Date: 17-18 May 2019

Place: Kazakh-German University, Almaty

Organizer: Kazakh-German University

Participants: more than 70 representatives from Central Asian government structures, local and international partners, UNESCO Chairs and research institutes, partner Universities from Central Asia, and Alumnus of the IWRM Master program from each CA countries, CWP-Kyrgyzstan.



The program is aimed at training young professionals from Central Asia and Afghanistan, and preparing the leaders of tomorrow as integrated water resources management professionals to help solve the Central Asia water problems on regional and national levels.

Within the framework of this event, representatives of Universities of Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan) presented their training programs in renewable energy and told about training, student practice, laboratories, etc. After lunch, DKU staff met with professors from Germany to discuss further cooperation to create curricula on renewable energy.

Source: <https://dku.kz/ru/news/view/?slug=workshop-integrated-water-resources-management-master-program-retreat>

15. Chui Basin Water Management Council meeting

Date: 29 May 2019

Place: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Organizer: Chui Basin Water Management Council; Project “National Water Resources Management – Phase 1”

Participants: Chui Basin Water Management department, local administration, Chu-Talas water management commission, agencies on environment protection & emergency, NGOs, WUAs, CWP-Kyrgyzstan, etc. (Total: 32 people)

Purpose: discuss the Basin Plan on Development, Use and Protection of Water Resources in the Chu River Basin. The outcome for CWP-Kyrgyzstan: recognizing the role of CWP-Kyrgyzstan by the Water Management Department and local water administration as a partner on water problems solution.



16. SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE “ULAANBAATAR WATER-CLEAN ENVIRONMENT 2019”

Date: 15 May 2019

Place: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Organizer: CWP-Mongolia, Mongolian University of Science and Technology

Participants: 80 participants including MUST professors and students, water specialists, engineers and officials from the Ministry of Construction and Urban Development, Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry, Office of the President of Mongolia

The main purpose of this scientific conference was to share and exchange valuable suggestions, advices and experiences between government and organizations, scientists and researchers on the current issues such as reduction of urban water supply and solid waste management, water and air pollution in the world's biggest cities caused by the increase of industrialization and population growth, dry waste and pollution of water and air.



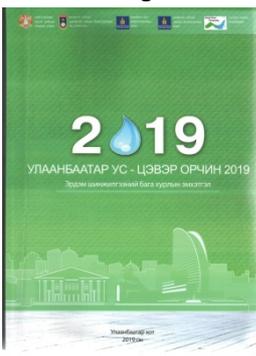
About 37 scientific articles and 18 research works were presented and discussed. All the works presented in the conference were related to the most pressing issues facing the environment in Ulaanbaatar and about innovative technologies to solve them.



The following presentations were done:

1. "Government policy and future objectives on water supply and sewerage" by O. Lkhagvatseden, Head of Department for Urban Utility Policy of the Ministry of Construction and Urban Development;
2. "Current situation, issues and solutions on water supply in Ulaanbaatar city" by L. Altangerel, Water Supply and Sewerage Expert of the City Governor's Office;
3. "Amendment to the Law on Water Pollution Fees" by L. Erdenebulgan, Head of Water Resources Division of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism.

At the closing ceremony all specialists, engineers and professors were invited to attend discussion "Water Related Issues and Challenges facing Organizations and Private Sectors" on June 7th, 2019 at the Parliament House.



All articles and the researches results were published in the Scientific Conference proceedings "Ulaanbaatar Water - Clean Environment 2019" and distributed among participants.

17. Awareness Raising Campaign "Drinking Water Quality and SDG6"

Date: March-May 2019

Place: Huvsgul province, Badmaarag high school, American School of Ulaanbaatar, Mongeni complex high school.

Participants: environmental inspectors and delegates of Water Basins and water specialists; Academy of Science and the related institutes; administrations and specialists of the committee of regulating the usage and the service of water supply; High schools (Total: over 100 people).



Every year Mongolia celebrates the World water day as the other countries in the World. The Ministry of Environment and Tourism, NGOs, various organizations, students and people celebrate this day by challenging others with water related challenges, participating in events, organizing competitions, demonstrate importance of the World Water Day and also the value of water.

On the World Water Day CWP-Mongolia organizes the public events with speeches and presentations about the water scarcity, pollutions and qualities. This year, CWP-Mongolia has organized the presentations and speeches in many places under the slogan "Equal water sufficiency" in cooperation with GWP CACENA.

From March to May, Ch. Javzan (Ph.D), Head of the Hydrochemists' Association made a presentation "Water resources, scarcity of water consumption and water quality in Mongolia" at the meeting "Water is equal to everyone" where participants had discussed that presentation.

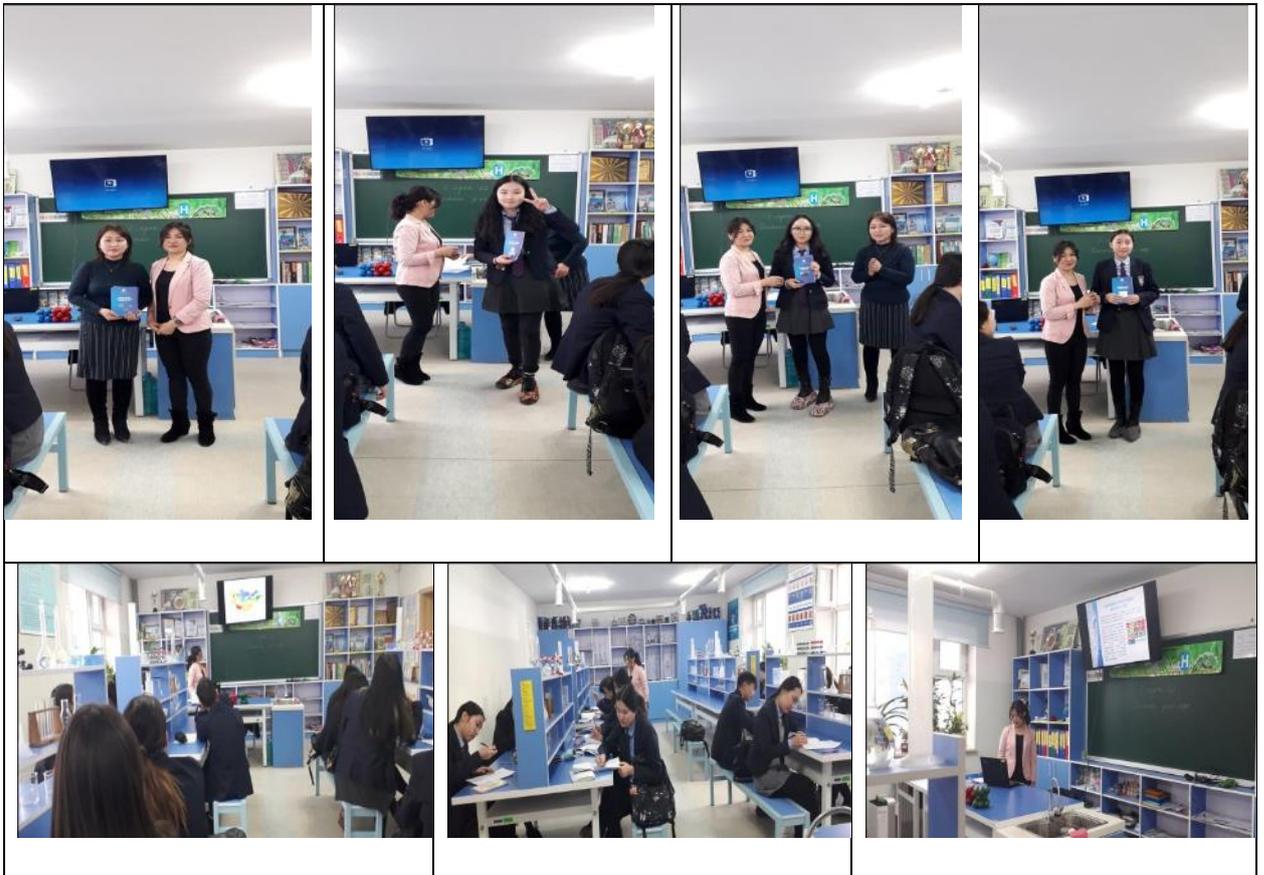
This year, the specialists on hydrochemistry visited the general education's high schools and organized the discussions:

- Chemist D. Gerelt-Od made a presentation with the thesis "Fresh water-equal sufficiency" to the students of Mongeni complex high school, a leading school of Bayangol district and organized the contest with 20 questions and answers among the students, qualified the winners' places and awarded them with the books.
- Chemist B.Oyun-Erdene made a presentation "Surface and groundwater " to the students of the American School of Ulaanbaatar, a leading school of Khan-Uul district and organized the contest with 20 questions and answers among the students, qualified the winners' places and awarded them with the books.
- Chemist T. Enkhjargal made a presentation "Uses of Water" to the students of Badmaarag high school, a leading school of Sukhbaatar district and organized the contest with 20 questions and answers among the students, qualified the winners' places and awarded them with the books.



On March 27, Ch.Javzan made a presentation "The water quality issues for the rural populations and the agriculture" at the meeting of environmental inspectors and delegates of water basins and the related specialists who arrived from the urban areas.

Photos (various discussions and presentations):







18. International Scientific and Practical Conference " Water-Energy-Food-Ecology Nexus: the sustainable development basis"

Date: 26-28 April 2019

Place: Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Organizers: CWP-Tajikistan, Institute of Water Problems, Hydropower and Ecology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan, Tajik Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan, International Institute for Water Resources Management (IWMI)

Participants: representatives of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Parliament of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Tajik Academy of Agricultural Sciences, the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Tajik Agrarian University named after Sh. Shotemur, the Institute of Water Problems, Hydropower and Ecology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Center for the Study of Glaciers of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Tajik National University, the State Institution "TajikNIIGiM", the Tajik State Pedagogical University, the Tajik Technical University named after Acad. Osimi, the Tajik Technological University, the Institute "Agriculture", the Institute of Soil Science, the Institute for Horticulture and Viticulture, Design Institute "Tajikgiprovodhoz", the Institute of Geography and Natural Resources Research of China; the Research Center for Water Resources of the Chinese Academy of Sciences; the Ural University (Russia); the International Institute of Water Management (IWMI), the Central Asian Office of IWMI (Tashkent); GWP CACENA, the Kazakh-German University, UNDP, Tajik Branch of SIC ICWC and other organizations (Total: 115 people).

The conference was dedicated to the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028" and the 40-year-old creative activity of Professor Yarash Pulatov.

Main themes:

Session 1: Development of water and agricultural science (dedicated to 40 years of creative activity of Professor Pulatov Ya.E.);

Session 2: Water cooperation, education and science are the basis of sustainable development;

Session 3: Formation, rational use and protection of water resources;

Session 4: IWRM. Water-energy-food-ecology NEXUS;

Session 5: Glacier monitoring and climate change;

Session 6. Water quality and environmental aspects of water use;

Session 7. Youth and science.

19. National Olympiad on IWRM in Tajikistan

Date: 24 April 2019

Place: Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Organizers: CWP-Tajikistan, Kazakh-German University, German Academic Exchange Service in Tajikistan (DAAD), Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Tajikistan, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan, Tajik Agrarian University named after Sh. Shotemur.

Participants: Tajik National University, Tajik Agrarian University named after Sh. Shotemur, Tajik Technical University named after M. Osimi, branch of Moscow State University named after Lomonosov, Khojent State University, etc. having studied (Total: more than 80 students)



The main goal was to widely promote the IWRM principles in Tajikistan, to improve the skills and knowledge of students on IWRM issues, to exchange knowledge and develop water cooperation. The knowledge on integrated water resources management was tested (stage 1) and the best prepared 10 candidates passed to the next stage of the Olympiad. To identify the winner, they passed an oral exam (interview) in accordance with the program of the Olympiad. Winners of the national competition on IWRM in Tajikistan were selected on a collegial basis. All participants and winners have received certificates.

CWP-Tajikistan chairman prof. Yarash Pulatov made a presentation "IWRM - the sustainable development basis".



20. Regional Meeting on Cooperation on Dam Safety in Central Asia

Date: 1-3 May 2019

Place: Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Organizer: Agency of IFAS (Host Institute of CWP-Uzbekistan)

The meeting was organized within the framework of 3rd phase of the project "Dam Safety in Central Asia: Capacity Building and Regional Cooperation", which is being implemented by UNECE. The project is undertaken under the auspices of the SPECA Project Working Group on Water&Energy as a contribution to the implementation of the SPECA Cooperation Strategy on Rational and Efficient Use of Water and Energy Resources in Central Asia. It aims to improve national legislation and state regulation in the field of dam safety in the participating countries and to strengthen regional cooperation in this area.



Within the framework of this event, on May 1, there were held two bilateral meetings: first - to discuss possible cooperation on safety of hydraulic structures between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, and second meeting of representatives of Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan to consider the possibility of assistance from UNECE for developing cooperation between countries on interstate use of Orto-Tokoi (Kasansay) reservoir.

The meeting was attended by experts from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan; IFAS was represented by 2 participants. GWP CACENA, OSCE, EBRD, GIZ, AFD, SDC, CAREC participated at the meeting. Together with the staff of the UNECE Secretariat, consultants and representatives of other organizations, in total 45 people took part in the meeting.



Guldjamal Nurmukhamedova, Chair of GWP CACENA and other active partners of GWP attended the meeting in Tashkent.

Currently, more than 40 thousand employees work in the water management system in Uzbekistan. Water management requires high qualified specialists in water sector who must be able to cope with modern challenges and possess knowledge and skills.

21. National Stage of the Olympiad for students in the field of integrated water resources management

Date: 20 May 2019

Place: Tashkent Institute of Engineers in Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Organizer: Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan, Kazakh-German University and CWP-Uzbekistan

28 students have registered online to participate in the Olympiad. At the initial stage, students answered 20 test questions. 8 students who scored the highest grade received a ticket to the second round. In the second round, the contestants answered oral questions from members of the jury.

Azizbek Khaydarov, a 3rd year student won the National Olympiad, gaining the maximum points during two stages.



Now he will represent Uzbekistan at the Central Asian Olympiad in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in August, this year and participate in an expedition to the Aral Sea.



At the end of the event, the participants were awarded by the organizers with a certificate and memorable gifts. Such Olympiad stimulates the desire to gain knowledge from the younger generation, increases the intellectual potential of the country, and also raises the prestige of our country in the international arena.

22. Presentation of the UN World Water Development Report 2019 "Leaving no one behind"

Date: 21 May 2019

Place: Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Organizer: UN in Uzbekistan

The UN annual water development report is a key report in the field of water use, the purpose of which is to provide decision makers with the tools to develop a sustainable water policy. The UN declared the theme of the report in 2019, "Leaving no one behind." This report is of particular relevance for the entire world community, including Uzbekistan and Central Asia.



"In Uzbekistan, we see more clearly than anywhere else evidence of the irrational use of water, which led to the tragedy of the Aral Sea. For future generations, in order not to leave anyone behind, it is necessary to constantly remember that the Aral Sea disaster was the result of human hands and only with human hands we are able to achieve "Goal 6: clean water and sanitation for all," said the UN Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan Helena Fraser.

Following this direction, it is necessary to use modern technologies. It is necessary to involve and encourage civil society to solve problems, it is necessary to inculcate culture and a polite attitude to water among the population. We also need to tell and share information about what needs to be done so that water is accessible to everyone and how to protect it. In this regard, CWP-Uzbekistan cooperates actively with the government in order to achieve this goal and believes that this is necessary for the future generation.

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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.