



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

Report

For November 2020

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1. Localization of SDG-6 Targets

In the frameworks of the first phase of the "Localization of SDG-6 Targets" Project, the team of legal experts has developed SDG-6 implementation legal review which has already been sent to RA Government and State institutions with official letters on behalf of CWP-Armenia.

The project is implemented by the CWP-Armenia. It was launched on July 1 and is funded under the auspices of the UNDP's Water and Ocean Governance Programme (WOGP). The main goals of the project are to support the Government of the Republic of Armenia in localizing the SDG 6 targets, to develop a strategy for their implementation and the action plan, as well as to improve the monitoring system for the implementation of the objectives.

Now CWP-Armenia team is working on the Strategy Draft.

The project aims to strengthening coordination between responsible state water institutions towards the implementation of SDG 6 targets, through establishment of intergovernmental working group dedicated to water related issues. Development of SDG-6 implementation Gap Analyses Report with a comprehensive legal review will be conducted a background for implementation strategy. Development of an inclusive and gender-sensitive Strategy and Action Plan for successful implementation of SDG 6 targets will be done and submitted to the governmental approval in 2021.

2. Clean-Up event in Mets Parni Community



Clean-Up event was held by Country Water Partnership scientific-educational NGO on November 7, in Mets Parni Community. The participants implemented cleaning works in Trchkan waterfall, emerging from Chichkhan river, a left tributary of the Pambak river, situated in Shirak and Lori regions. The participants cleaned the waterfall green area from garbage.

Separate recycling waste bins were placed in the area of Trchkan Waterfall.



3. Capacity Development Workshop on Water-related SDGs “Integration and Implementation in Eastern Partnership (EaP) Countries and beyond”

Date: 23-24 November 2020

Place: Paris, France

Organizers: OECD GREEN Action Task Force with support by the Government of Norway and the European Union

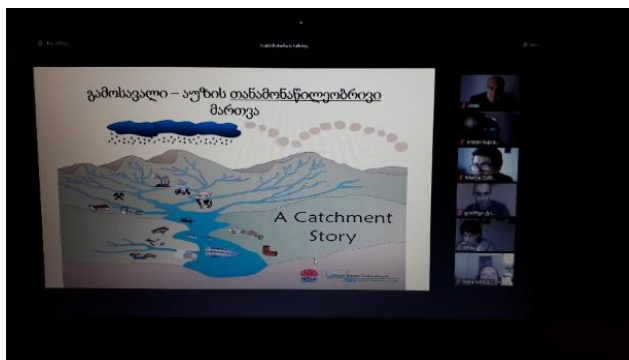
through the *European Union Water Initiative Plus for the Eastern Partnership (EUWI+)*

Participants: Government officials and experts from all EaP and selected EECCA countries, donors, selected EU and OECD members, International Organisations (IOs) and think tanks, national and multilateral development financing institutions (DFIs) operating in the region (Total:70 persons).

Objectives: To develop capacity of the EaP countries in this domain through sharing good practices and lessons learned from the EU and OECD countries and from within the Eastern Partnership and wider Eurasia region: it concerns establishing monitoring frameworks for nationalised SDG indicators, integrating them into national policy documents, and effectively using finance for water-related SDGs.

Participants discussed the following issues:

- Importance of using an integrated approach to SDGs in line with IWRM principles; and (iii) lessons learnt, outstanding issues, existing barriers and opportunities.
- Exchange of country experiences with nationalizing of, and establishing monitoring framework for, water-related SDGs
- Integrating water-related SDGs into national policy documents



- Mobilising and effectively using finance for water-related SDGs
- SDGs as a tool for measuring development impact of water-sector investment

CWP-Georgia Chairperson Giorgi Dzamukashvili made a presentation at the session "Integration of water-related SDGs into national policy documents".

Excerpt from his speech:

"This year, CWP-Georgia, together with the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture, held a

Consultative Meeting with stakeholders in order to assess the IWRM implementation degree according to indicator 6.5.1.

In the Enabling Environment section, those policy documents were listed that provided SDG 6.5. First of all, 2 documents should be noticed:

1. National Action Plan for Environmental Protection
2. National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Association Agreement between the EU and Georgia

Both were approved by the Georgian government.

The first one includes a national sectoral environmental strategy for all spheres in Georgia, including water resources management.

Chapter 3 is devoted to water resources management for 2017-2021, namely key actions to be taken to achieve major water-related reforms and meet the requirements of the Association Agreement. The list of measures includes: improvement of statistics on water resources use, urban sewerage and rehabilitation systems, rehabilitation of treatment facilities, improvement of the of surface and groundwater quality monitoring, as well as development of river basin management plans.

The National Action Plan for implementation of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement contains more specific measures, including water management measures, that will ensure that the requirements of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement are met. The main requirements included to the Association Agreement are derived from EU water directives such as the Water Framework Directive.

A new draft law on water resources management has been prepared. It is in line with the EU Water Framework Directive and other water directives. The new framework legislation is based on IWRM principles.

After the adoption of the new law on water resources management, the main policy document in the field of water resources management will be the national strategy on protection and use of water resources, and the action plan. The document will list the main national priorities and actions to be taken in the field of water resources management".



4. Series of webinars for 20 municipalities of Georgia

Date: November, 2020

Place: Tbilisi, online

Organizer: CWP-Georgia

Participants: representatives of the municipalities (Mtskheta, Gori, Khashuri, Kareli, Surami, Borkhomi, Aspindza, Akhaltsikhe, Tbilisi, Poti, Samtredia, Zugdidi, Senaki, Lanchkhuti, Ozurgeti, Terjola, Kutaisi, Tskhaltubo, Vani, Chokhatauri), non-governmental organizations, invited experts, representatives of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia and the SDG 6.5.1 Indicator Focal Point.

CWP-Georgia conducted 12 webinars in the framework of the IWRM support programme GWPO SDG6. Each webinar was attended by 24 people.



The representatives of twenty municipalities, were provided with the technical support for their online participation. The following topics were considered:

- Georgia's Water Recourses - conservation, use, management;
- SDGs and their connection to the SDG 6;
- Water resources management in accordance with the EU-Georgia Association Agreement (EU directives);
- Climate change and water resources (impacts at global and national levels);
- The key principles of IWRM (2 webinars);
- SDG 6.5.1 Indicator - review of Georgia's survey (2 webinars);
- SDG 6.5.2 Indicator - review of Georgia's survey;
- New draft law of Georgia on Water Resources Management;
- Disaster risk management - floods;
- Waste management;
- Information about GWP and GWP's activity;
- Social mobilization.

Participants got knowledge on IWRM and SDG6.5 and are able to take part in preparation of River Basin Plans under the new water law.

5. The sixth meeting of the Interdepartmental Coordination Council on the National Dialogue on Water Policy in the Republic of Kazakhstan

Date: 20 November 2020

Place: Kazakhstan

Organizers: Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan and PF Center for Water Initiatives

Participants: representatives of state bodies of the Republic of Kazakhstan, as well as experts of scientific, non-governmental (incl. CWP-Kazakhstan), regional and international organizations

The following reports and presentations were presented:

- 1) National dialogue on water policy: activities of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development;
- 2) On the tasks of the Regional Project "European Union - Central Asia: Cooperation in the Field of Water Resources, Environment and Climate Change (WECOOP)";
- 3) On the activities of Kazakhstan to develop cooperation in the field of protection and use of water resources of transboundary rivers;
- 4) On the Concept of the Water Resources Management Program of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2020-2030;
- 5) On measures to strengthen interdepartmental cooperation in the field of ensuring the safety of dams and preventing accidental water pollution in Kazakhstan and Central Asia;
- 6) On the work carried out within the framework of the implementation of the UNECE-WHO / Europe Protocol on Water and Health in the Context of the COVID19 Pandemic and on the process of Kazakhstan's accession to this Protocol.

Participants approved the National Policy Dialogue Work Plan for 2021, taking into account the comments and suggestions made, and recommended the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan to apply in the prescribed manner to the EU, UNECE, OECD and other international development partners with a request to support the implementation of the Plan for 2021.

6. Public hearing on the Aral Sea northern part development and restoration

Date: 27 November 2020



Format: Skype

Organizer: Akimat of Kyzylorda region

Participants: Chairman of the Senate Committee Murat Baktiyaruly; Senator Akmaral Alnazarova; representatives of the Committee on Water Resources of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources; water experts; heads of local executive bodies; farmers and public activists.

This event was held under the initiative of the Committee for Social and Cultural Development and Science of the Senate of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Implementation of the project "Regulation of the Syrdarya River and the Preservation of the Northern Part of the Aral Sea" was discussed. It was noted that the project is "the project of the century" and has a positive effect on the socio-economic development of the Kyzylorda region. A number of activities implemented within the framework of the RRSSAM-1 project "Regulation of the Syr Darya river bed and preservation of the northern part of the Aral Sea" were discussed. CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman Nariman Kipshakbaev took part in the discussion.

<http://senate.parlam.kz/ru-RU/news/details/3988>

7. Preparatory process to the 18th meeting of the Kazakh-Chinese joint commission on transboundary rivers

Date: 12 November 2020

Place: Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan

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

Participants: representatives of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan and members of the Joint Commission

Participants discussed the preparation of 18th meeting of the Joint Commission to be held in December 2020. CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman Nariman Kipshakbaev took part in the discussion.

8. The Balkash-Alakol Basin Council meeting

Date: 9 November 2020

Place: Kazakhstan

Organizers: Balkash-Alakol Inspection on Regulation of Water Resources Use and Protection

Participants: members of the Balkash-Alakol Basin Council, and invited representatives of Biosphere-Kazakhstan LLP and Tau-Ken Samruk LLP, CWP-Kazakhstan.

The meeting discussed the geological exploration work in the Balkashsky district of Almaty region (the western part of Balkhash lake, and the delta of the Ile River), in order to discover the copper-porphyry fields.

CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman Nariman Kipshakbaev took part in the discussion.

9. Regional Scientific and Practical online conference “Silk Road of Knowledge”

Date: 25-27 November 2020

Place: Kazakhstan

Organizer: Kazakh-German University with the financial support of the Federal Foreign Office of Germany (DKU)

Participants: representatives of government, educational institutions, youth organizations, international and regional, as well as public organizations (incl. CWP-Kazakhstan, CWP-Kyrgyzstan).

Goals:

- ✓ Identification of scientific gaps regarding the impact of climate change contributing to the enhancement of constructive regional dialogue in Central Asia (CA).
- ✓ Knowledge generation covering the impact of climate change on water and land management, food, water and climate security, infrastructure development and energy efficiency practices in Central Asia.
- ✓ Strengthening emphasis on educational and youth outreach and experience-sharing.

The Conference set the basis for knowledge transfer of what has been developed in the Berlin process 2009-2019 as well as filling research gaps in future in the frame of Green Central Asia, a regional initiative on climate and security in Central Asia and Afghanistan launched by the Federal Foreign Office in the beginning of 2020.

More information: <http://conference.academic-waters.org/>



10. Central Asia Youth Forum

Date: 24 November 2020

Format: online, ZOOM

Organizer: National Coordinator of Central Asia Youth for Water Network (CAY4W) in Kazakhstan

Participants: young people from the water sector of Kazakhstan (Total: 69 people).

CWP-Kazakhstan expert, supervisor of youth involvement Aigerim Karibay took part in the online forum. She was a moderator of the discussion "The role of youth in solving water problems".

Central Asia Youth for Water
CAY4W

Программа форума

24 ноября 2020 года в 14:00
ID ZOOM: 608 905 69 21
Pass: T76 345

Часть 1. Вступление

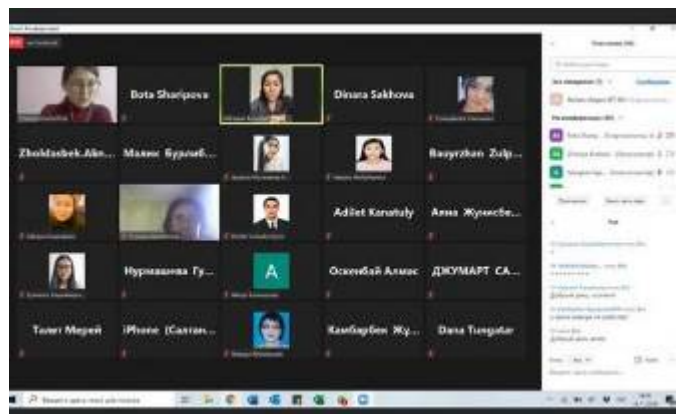
Приветствие и представление от координатора
Цель проведения форума
Коротко об САММВ, цели и задачи.

Часть 2. Работа в группах

Какие возможности для развития молодежи есть в Казахстане? Какие проблемы/барьеры существуют в нашей стране?

Часть 3. Обсуждение поставленных вопросов и пути их решения.

Рекомендации / предложения по продвижению / улучшению дальнейшего молодежного сотрудничества в регионе



11. Interviews with CWP-Kazakhstan Deputy Chairman

CWP-Kazakhstan Deputy Chairman Anara Tleulesova gave interview to:

- on November 03 to the first Kazakhstan multimedia business news channel "Atameken Business" via Skype about the problems of Lake Balkhash <https://youtu.be/zZ8H-jlHVcl>;
and

- on November 13 to the "Aikyn" newspaper

<https://aikyn.kz/87421/%D1%96%D0%BB%D0%B5%D0%BD%D1%96%D2%A3-D0%B0%D1%82%D1%8B%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%83%D1%8B%D0%BD-%D0%B1%D2%AF%D0%BB%D0%B4%D1%96%D1%80%D1%81%D0%B5%D0%BA-%D0%B1%D0%B0%D0%BB%D2%9B%D0%B0%D1%88%D1%82%D0%B0/>

12. Expert group meeting on SDG 6.5.2

Date: 12-13 November 2020

Place: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Organizers: CWP-Kyrgyzstan, State Agency for Water Resources of the Kyrgyz Republic, UNECE, WECOOP

Participants: Deputy Director of the State Agency on Water Resources under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (SAWR KR), representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic, the State Agency on Water Resources of the Kyrgyz Republic, SAEPF, the Hydrometeorological Agency, the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic, the State Inspectorate on Environmental and Technical Safety under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, civil society, UNECE, OECD.

Purpose: Discussing and filling out questionnaires on SDG 6.5.2 "The share of transboundary water basins covered by existing agreements on cooperation in the field of water use".



13. National Conference on Water Supply and Demand Management and Ways to Transfer Water for Long Distance

Date: 11 November 2020

Place: International symposium center, Mongolian University of Science and Technology (MUST)

Organizers: CWP-Mongolia and MUST

Participants: various ministries and agencies, academic institutions, educational organizations (Total: 60 people).

Presentations:

1. Water supply scenario for 2030-2050 in the Southern Gobi of Mongolia by Dr.Ayurzana;
2. Water reuse and greywater management by Dr.Basandorj;
3. Surface water supply and tendency of increasing water demand in Mongolia by Dr.Ganzorig;
4. Baidrag water dam for water supply in Gobi by Dr.Anjin;
5. Development of Kherlen river water supply project by Dr.Batdorj;
6. Artificial recharge of groundwater aquifers and application of pipelines for groundwater transfer to Gobi by Dr.Nasanbayr;
7. Ongo-Orkhon River Eco Project by Dr.Solongo;
8. Study of groundwater aquifers in Gobi and hydrogeological mapping by Dr.Enkhbayar.

Year by year water supply is rapidly growing, especially because of economic growth in the eastern part of Mongolian Gobi region, and there is need to water supply from the northern part of Mongolia, where bigger rivers are located. A lot of projects on water supply to Gobi were developed, but they were not implemented. At least 2 projects for keeping economic growth of the country as well as the mining activity are needed to implement in the coming year.

Participants agreed that:

- Water supply and demand should be managed by Central Government and proper water management is important and it is needed to increase investment in water projects;
- Water law of Mongolia should be updated and water institutions and water governance should be improved;
- Reuse of treated water for roads and mining activities as well as water tariffs should be reconsidered;
- Water supply of eastern Gobi region is most important and water delivery from the water rich area should be implemented in coming years;
- Building dams, hydropower production, tourism development and environment impact assessment are necessary.





14. Report on assessment of IWRM implementation progress in Uzbekistan

In accordance with the request of the Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Global Water Partnership (GWP), the IFAS Agency, with the support of CWP-Uzbekistan, within the assistance to the Ministry of Water Resources, has prepared a report on assessment of IWRM implementation progress in Uzbekistan.

The report was drawn up in a consultative manner with the participation of a wide range of stakeholders such as the Ministry of Water Resources, the State Committee on Environmental Protection, the Hydrometeorological Center, SIC ICWC, the Institute of Water Problems and a number of other departments and organizations. This provides benefits by helping these stakeholders develop a common understanding of existing water management challenges and opportunities, which is a useful input to the national planning process to improve water management, balancing social, economic and environmental priorities.

Assessment of IWRM implementation in Uzbekistan in 2020 shows that all stakeholders (and mostly the Ministry of Water Resources, as the national coordinator of the process) need to rethink their policies, plans and regulation (legal and financial) concerning the IWRM components. All this should be correctly reflected in the Strategy on Water Management Development up to 2030 that should be finalized in 2023. Therefore, it is advisable at the IWRM Support Program - stage 2 to set intermediate goals for 2025 - 2027, so that we can confidently reach a high level of implementation of all indicators up to 2030.

The "Analytical Review: Degree of SDG 6.5.1 indicator achievement - IWRM implementation in the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2020" report has been published, and 200 copies were distributed among all interested organizations for business use.

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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.