



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

# Report

## For October 2019

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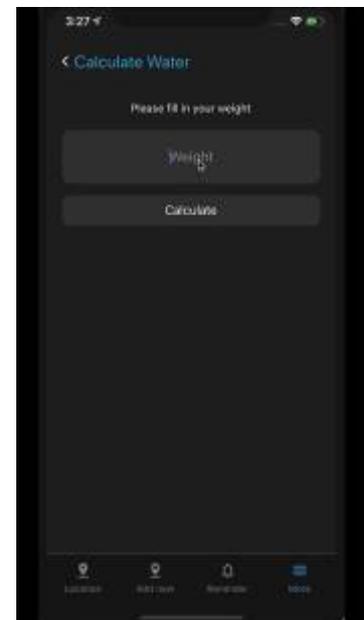
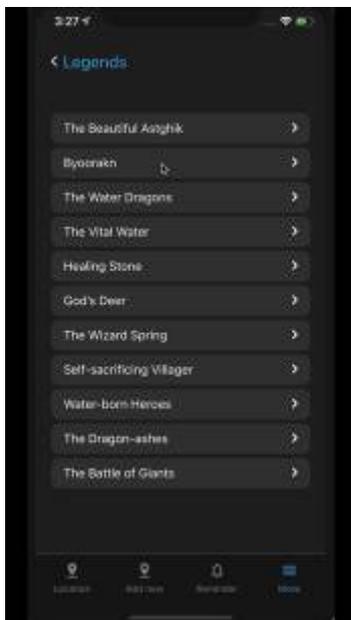
## 1. "LET'S DRINK EFFICIENTLY" IDEA TEAM OF CITIZEN SCIENTISTS PRESENTED THE BETA VERSION OF "BYOORAKN" MOBILE APPLICATION.

On October 9, within the frameworks of USAID's PURE Water project, the "Let's drink efficiently" idea team of Citizen Scientists presented the beta version of "ByoorAkn" mobile application. Although Armenia is rich in water resources and we can see drinking fountains in every corner, many people (especially tourists) do not use drinking fountains simply because the locations are unknown.



The application shows the location and distance to the nearest drinking fountain. The App offers multilingual functions: both Armenian and English. It also has other functions such as a reminder to drink water throughout the day, a calculation of how much water one should drink a day, a section "Legends" which introduces water traditions and stories of Armenia.

The app is created both for IOS and Android. It is currently in the testing phase and will be available to all users within 1-2 months.



## 2. ADVOCACY SMALL GRANT PROJECTS CONCLUDING MEETING



Within the frameworks of the USAID-funded PURE-Water Project, CWP organized the concluding meeting of advocacy at the national level small grant projects on October 17 this year. Within the period February 1- July 31, 2019, Armenian NGOs and individuals had implemented 5 grant projects, aimed at advocacy at the national level for the participatory and effective management of water resources.

The event was attended by the representatives of “Center of Expertise for Environmental Impact Assessment” SNCO of the RA Ministry of Environment, Water Committee of RA Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure, as well as the representatives of target communities, and the grantees had the opportunity to discuss with them the raised problems and their proposed solutions.

## 3. CITIZEN SCIENTISTS' GROUP "IMPROVEMENT OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM IN POQR VEDI COMMUNITY" INTRODUCED INNOVATIVE WASTE COLLECTION SYSTEM AND ITS OPERATION.



Within the frameworks of USAID's PURE-Water project, the Citizen Scientists' group "Improvement of the irrigation system in Poqr Vedi community" is still actively involved in awareness-raising events related to the prevention of irrigation water pollution and introduction of innovative waste collection system and its operation.

On October 11, the Project team conducted a seminar on operation of waste collection system and maintenance safety.

The goal of the seminar was to inform the community representatives on the consequences of the contamination of irrigation water with heavy domestic waste, the importance of waste collection net installation, its technical operation and safety rules maintenance.

The event was attended by the community's active residents, the relevant staff of the community's administrative office, medical center representatives, etc.

#### 4. NATIONAL POLICY DIALOGUE AS A LEVEL FOR ADVANCING INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT IN ARMENIA



Country Water Partnership scientific, ecological NGO took part in the 18th Meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Policy Dialogue (NPD) on Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) on 15 October 2019 in Yerevan to take stock of achievements made through the National Policy Dialogue during the 10 years of EU Eastern Partnership. Over this time, major progress has been made in reforming the country's water resources management policy.

- The Steering Committee reviewed recent progress in developing new water legislation and policies in Armenia and highlighted the importance of amendments to the Water Code and Law on the National Water Program currently under development, as well as the concept paper on the development of the irrigation sector.
- The participants reviewed the draft first part of the Sevan and Hrazdan River Basin Management Plans and welcomed progress in the technical assistance provided by the EU under the EUWI+ in the field of monitoring, data management, as well as successful stakeholder consultations and public awareness-raising.
- The Committee welcomed synergies and cooperation between different projects supporting the development of the water sector in the Republic of Armenia.

The meeting was attended by more than 50 participants representing various national ministries and agencies, NGOs, civil society and representatives from the European Commission, International Organizations and International Financial Institutions.

The meeting was convened and co-chaired by Ministry of Environment of Armenia and Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure of Armenia and organized with the support of the EUWI+ programme.



## 5. National Workshop on the Green Climate Fund

**Date:** 1 October 2019

**Place:** Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan



**Organizers:** State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic

**Participants:** NAB experts, the Climate Finance Center, interested institutions from the public and private sectors (incl. CWP-Kyrgyzstan).

**Purpose:** to discuss and evaluate possibilities for direct access to the Green Climate Fund.

In 2015, the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, as the responsible executive body for UNFCCC, was determined by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic as the National Authorized Body (NAB) to work with the Green Climate Fund. Today, the State Agency in collaboration with international agencies (UNDP, FAO, accredited by GCF) is developing project proposals to the Green Climate Fund.

The specific objectives of this event:

- Strengthening knowledge of the GCF accreditation process;
- Identify and assess ability of interested institutions for implementation of projects / programs financed by GCF in accordance with the priorities of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The interested institutions from the public and private sectors will be evaluated according to the GCF accreditation criteria.

## 6. Lesson "Rural sanitation and SDG6"

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> of October 2019

**Place:** Khentii province, Mongolia

**Organizer:** CWP-Mongolia

**Participants:** teachers and school children mostly (Total: 50)

Prof. Basandorj made a presentation on options for improvement of rural sanitation and disseminated the Handbook "Eco-toilet and Green environment".

School children agreed on necessary improvement and looking for suitable and simple technology for rural sanitation. And children demonstrated and shared their ideas on studying the best sanitation conditions for life.

The local administration thanked CWP-Mongolia for this event.



## 7. Meeting of the Environment & Energy group of the National Civil Society Platform

**Date:** 31 October 2019

**Place:** Tbilisi

**Organizer:** National Civil Society Platform

**Participants:** 20 NGOs

The purpose of the meeting was to consider:

1. Forest Code
2. Water Law

The following issues were raised by CWP-Georgia:

- Why the adoption of the Water Law is being postponed;
- What are the flaws in the Water Law.



The environmental NGOs are concerned these issues. They agreed that the new water law is extremely important, therefore, the participants decided to create a lobbying plan in order to finish the process of discussing the Water Law soon and submit it to parliament for adoption.

## 8. Regional Seminar "Implementation of SDG 6.5.1. in the CACENA region"

**Date:** 15-16 October 2019

**Place:** Nursultan, Kazakhstan

**Organizer:** CWP-Kazakhstan

**Participants:** representatives of State bodies, NGOs, private sector, CWPs of GWP CACENA, as well as international organizations and donors (Total: up to 40 participants).

The aim of the Regional Seminar was to discuss the progress and lessons learned on SDG6.5.1 implementation in Kazakhstan and other countries, as well as to improve partnership for implementation of the IWRM Action Plan in Kazakhstan and other countries of Central Asia and Caucasus.

Presentations at the seminar:

- "The degree of IWRM implementation by SDG 6.5.1 as indicator in Georgia" by Irakli Kobuliya and George Dzamukashvili (CWP-Georgia);
- "Sustainable Development Goals - Commitments of Uzbekistan: monitoring of progress on SDG 6.5.1. - IWRM" by Vadim Sokolov and Mansur Abduraimov (CWP-Uzbekistan);

*The report noted that since independence, the Republic of Uzbekistan has been pursuing a water policy with IWRM elements, including water and environmental laws, strategies and programs, activity of river basin organizations, economic and regulatory documents. But the practical implementation of strategies and laws is still the main problem. Economic sectors and companies don't have sufficient interests and motivation to change unsustainable water use. Investigation showed that the level of IWRM implementation in Uzbekistan is only 45.15%. Thus, for the complete and effective implementation of IWRM principles in Uzbekistan, a lot of remains to be done. The guidelines for this are a number of Resolutions and Decrees by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Priority directions and key performance indicators of the leadership of the Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan up to the end of 2022 are defined by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Measures to Further Improve the Water Management System" of October 9, 2019.*



## 9. Round table "Consulting Services on Development of Information System for Irrigation Management for the Nizhny Kafirnigan River Basin"

**Date:** October 10-11, 2019.

**Place:** Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

**Organizers:** Project "Consulting Services on Development of Information System for Irrigation Management for the Lower Kafirnigan River Basin" and the Water Information Center of the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan.

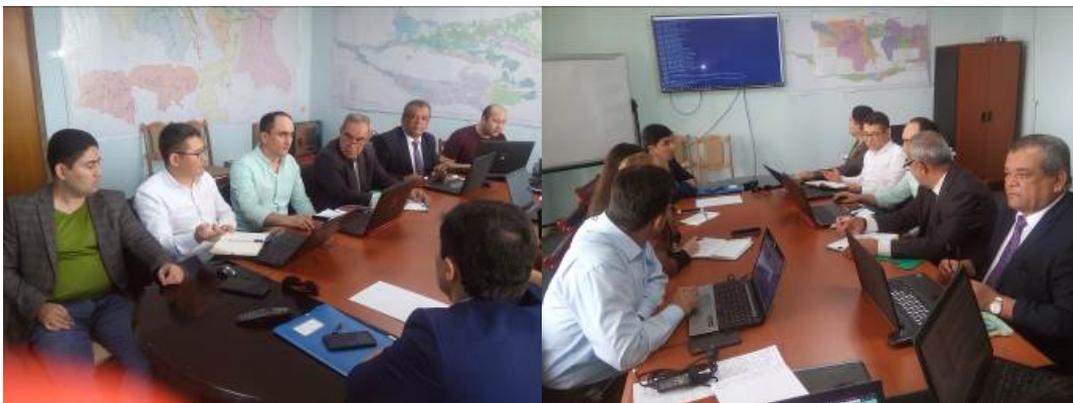
**Participants:** the World Bank's international experts, the project consultants, the national project experts, and IT, GIS, and database specialists (Total: 12 people).

**Main goal:** Creation of database and information system for irrigation management in the Nizhny Kafirnigan river basin.

The main issues discussed:

- Testing of the developed information system for irrigation management in the Nizhny Kafirnigan river basin. Discussion of the composition and indicators of the Database and their use;
- Organization of training and meetings with employees of the Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation on the Information System use, the data input form, reports, request forms and the data import and export;
- Preparation of the user's manual on IS and database.

CWP-Tajikistan Chairman Prof. Pulatov Ya.E. participated as a Project Team Leader, in the discussion of the issues above mentioned.



## 10. Republican Campaign "Let's Protect Glaciers!"

The republican campaign "Let's Protect the Glaciers!" was dedicated to the International Decade of Action "Water for sustainable development, 2018-2028"

**Date:** 25 October 2019

**Place:** Dushanbe (Navruzgokh Square), Tajikistan.

**Organizers:** Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, Committee for Environmental Protection, Academy of Sciences, CWP-Tajikistan.

**Participants:** Over 3000 people from the Committee on Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan; Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan; Institute of Water Problems, Hydropower and Ecology; Center for the Study of Glaciers of the Academy of Sciences; international organizations, research institutes and centers, public organizations, mass media and people living in Dushanbe.

**Purpose:** raising public awareness on Tajikistan's glaciers, which are being reduced up to 1% annually; to consolidate people in the action for saving water resources, especially glaciers.

Participants appealed people to protect glaciers. CWP-Tajikistan's partners have presented the results achieved in the rational use of water resources, disseminated the booklets and flyers on water issues and SDGs. The campaign was widely covered in the mass media.



## 11. Publication "Uzbekistan towards achieving water security"

The collection of articles prepared by representatives of CWP-Uzbekistan acquaints the reader with some various aspects of problems and solutions to achieving water security in the framework of the national water strategy of 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.