



**Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)**

# Report For September 2018

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## **1. CLIMATE CHANGE THROUGH THE EYES OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

Within the frameworks of the International Day of Climate Change Campaigns, September 8, Country Water Partnership Armenia Youth Network prepared the short film “Climate Change through the eyes of Young People”. The short film was prepared in the frameworks of “Water, Climate and Development (WACDEP)” project.

Climate Change has become a common issue of interest in recent years. Scientific, political and economic approaches, concepts have emerged. “Youth is the driving force of change in all areas” is a commonly used phrase. Members of CWP Armenia Youth Network tried to find out if young people are interested in Climate Change issue in Armenia and they conducted interviews with young passersby for a few days.

Here are the links of the short film:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ajlQfLWcCnk&feature=youtu.be>

<https://www.facebook.com/gwp.armenia/videos/238597736813710/>

<https://www.facebook.com/canecca/>

## **2. WATER MONITORING FIELDWORKS IN FISH FARMS**

Within the frameworks of USAID-funded PURE-Water Project, ahead of the World Water Monitoring Day, “Country Water Partnership” NGO organized water monitoring field works in the fish farms of Apaga community (named: Sasuntsi Davit), Armavir marz and Hovtashat community, Ararat marz on September 12 th and 14 th this year. The activities were implemented by the teachers of natural sciences as well as active youth of the Project target communities with the help of water monitoring toolkits acquired within the frameworks of the Project.

During the fieldworks, the participants studied the quality of the water entering the fish farm, water in the pond as well as the one exiting the farm. The results of the water monitoring activities will be presented during the World Water Monitoring Day event on September 18 th this year.



## **3. WORLD WATER MONITORING DAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

The USAID-funded PURE-Water Project and 12 partner communities, in collaboration with “Coca-Cola Hellenic Armenia” company celebrated the World Water Monitoring Day in Vedi municipality hall on September 18 this year. The event aimed at increasing public awareness on efficient management of Ararat Valley water resources, through highlighting the importance of community residents’ engagement in monitoring and protection of their water resources.

The event was attended by the USAID Mission Director Deborah Grieser, Coca-Cola Hellenic Armenia General Manager Christoph Speck, Deputy Governor of Ararat marz, heads of Project target communities, Araratyan BMO representative, school headmasters and teachers, citizen journalists, active community groups, etc.

USAID Mission Director Deborah Grieser highlighted in her speech, that USAID is proud to provide opportunities to the youth of Ararat Valley to be engaged in the protection of their rights in water resources management, as well as to teach water resources monitoring in their communities, contributing to the positive behavioral change and serving an example for other RA communities.

"Coca-Cola Hellenic Armenia" General Manager Christoph Speck stressed the importance of monitoring in their company's activities as well as possession of appropriate tools and necessary skills by the community residents in implementing water resources monitoring in their communities.

The event also marked the official ceremony of distributing the water monitoring tool kits (American LaMote production) to the project target communities' schools, with the help of which the Project implemented water quality monitoring in Armavir and Ararat marzes fish farms on September 12 and 14 this year. The results of monitoring activities were presented by the participants of the field works and uploaded on the eartheco online platform at World Water Monitoring Day website.



#### 4. Kura-2 project implementation

At present, the Kura-2 project under the GEF UN is being implemented in Azerbaijan by national specialists in cooperation with international experts. The main goal is to harmonious use of the transboundary water resources

of the Kura River by Azerbaijan and Georgia. Within the framework of this project the following events were held in September:

1. The fourth meeting of the Consultative Group was held on September 11, in Baku, Azerbaijan. CWP-Azerbaijan took part in discussion of efficient use of water resources in the agricultural sector and the restoration of Lake Hajigabul;
2. The first meeting of the Regional Working Group on Management of Ground and Surface Transboundary Waters was held on 13 September, in Tbilisi in the office of the UNDP-GEF Kura-2 project. CWP-Azerbaijan participated in this event.
3. On September 22, the GWP CACENA Regional Council member Timur Osmanov, together with international experts visited the Jafarkhan experimental and meliorative station located in the Saatli region to identify the pilot plots and irrigation system.
4. The seminar on Sustainable Development Goals was held on September 24, in Baku. CWP-Azerbaijan Chair Mamed Asadov and other partners participated in its work. CWP-Azerbaijan Chair Mamed Asadov made a presentation "Water Management and Water Safety of Azerbaijan".
5. The seminar on Sustainable Development Goals was held on September 28, in Khachmaz. CWP-Azerbaijan partners participated in its work.

## **5. North and Central Asian Forum on Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals**

Date: 3-4 September 2018

Place: Tbilisi, Georgia

Organizer: ESCAP

Participants: Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, Georgian Farmers Association, United Nations Development Programme, ICSD, Ban Ki Moon Institute for Sustainable Development, Center of Economic Studies, UNV, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, Ministry of economy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Administration of the Government of Georgia, Ministry of National Economy of Kazakhstan, Ministry of Economic Development of Tajikistan, Russian Academy of Medical Sciences, Eurasian Economic Commission, CWP-Georgia, NGOs (Total: 50 people).



At the conference, reports were presented on SDGs progress as well as the situation regarding the commitments on SDGs and obstacles in the countries.

## **6. Discussion on new water law**

Date: 5 September 2018

Place: Tbilisi, Georgia

Organizer: USAID project "Governing for Growth in Georgia" and the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

Stakeholders were briefed on the latest amendments to the draft law. Participants also have listened the report "Assessing the Impact of Regulating the Law". The latest recommendations and comments on the documents were collected. The draft law has been submitted to Parliament,



where it will be approved in the autumn. CWP-Georgia was represented by George Dzamukashvili and Nino Chkhobadze.

## **7. World Cleanup Campaign**

Date: 15 September 2018

Place: Georgia

Participants: President of Georgia George Margvelashvili, the President's Office, ministries, Tbilisi City Hall, embassies and other international organizations, as well students (Total: 300 people).

On 15th of September, the Clean Up the World campaign has started in many countries of the World. About 140 countries participated in the campaign. The goal of the campaign was to involve the public in the cleanup campaign. The campaign initiated by the Greens Movement of Georgia was carried out in many regions of the country. In Tbilisi, it was held on the Tbilisi Sea. CWP- Georgia joined the action.



## **8. Meeting on the clean air investigation**

Date: 26 September 2018

Place: Tbilisi

Organizer: Parliamentary Committee on Environmental Protection of Georgia

The Parliamentary Committee on Environmental Protection of Georgia organized a meeting with interested parties (Total: 30 participants) on the issue of Parliamentary research on clean air. The Parliamentary Committee on Environmental Protection of Georgia has switched to a new format of cooperation with civil society and in May of this year engaged some Georgian NGOs in the parliamentary oversight.

CWP-Georgia expressed its willingness to participate and presented its proposal for improving air quality. CWP-Georgia's participation was motivated by the fact that air pollutants caused pollution of the rivers by means of precipitation. The CWP-



Georgia proposal provides for development of a draft law on clean air, similar to the US law, where as a result of its adoption, the pollution decreased by 69% in 1979-2014.

## **9. Working Meeting on implementation of the UNECE Aarhus Convention**

The Working Meeting to discuss the draft Action Plan for implementation of the UNECE Aarhus Convention "On Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters" for 2019-2023 was held on 7 September 2018 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.

Organizer: State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic in cooperation with OSCE.

Participants: CWP-Kyrgyzstan, the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic, Kyrgyzhydromet, OSCE, civil society, mass media (Total: 20 people, incl. 8 women).

Purpose: to discuss development of the draft National Action Plan for implementation of the UNECE Aarhus Convention "On Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters" in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2019-2023.



## **10. Training "International Water Law"**



world practice, as well as national water law.

The training "International Water Law" was held within the framework of the project "Water, education and cooperation".

Date: 19-20 September 2018

Place: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Organizer: REC CA

Participants: ministries, government agencies, academic institutions and public organizations of Kyrgyzstan (Total: 70 people, including 40 women).

The purpose of this training was to teach the theoretical and practical basics of international water law, to study of

## **11. Regional conference within FinWaterWEI-II**

CWP-Kyrgyzstan participated in the regional conference within the framework of the Finnish Program on Assistance to Water Sector of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan (FinWaterWEI-II) "TOGETHER TO WATER SAFETY".

Date: 26 September 2018

Place: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Organizer: OECD, UNECE, CWP-Kyrgyzstan

Participants: Ministry of Agriculture, Food Industry and Land Reclamation of the Kyrgyz Republic, Environmental Protection System of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, OECD, UNECE, OSCE, SDC, GIZ, EU.

Purpose: presentation of outcomes of the projects and lessons learned during implementation of the FinWater WEI II program in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, as well as the exchange of experience with regional partners. Among the various components to present tools and methodologies related to the economics of water security, issues of transboundary water cooperation, water quality monitoring and capacity building, as well as outcomes, lessons learned during implementation of the program in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan (2015-2018).



## **12. Visit to the UNECE pilot site on implementation of adaptation measures in the Chu River Basin**

Date: 27 September 2018

Place: Cholpon-Ata, Lake Observatory of Kyrgyzhydromet

Organizer: OECD, UNECE, CWP-Kyrgyzstan

Participants: CWP-Kyrgyzstan, the State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry of the Kyrgyz Republic, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan, Finnish Institute of the Environment, Kyrgyzhydromet.

Purpose: to inform on implementation of adaptation measures in the Chu River Basin; inspection cruise on the research vessel "Moltur" (measurements of water quality); study tour to the lake observatory.



### **13. OECD Study Tour**

Date: 28 September 2018

Place: Chui region, Kyrgyzstan

Organizer: OECD, UNECE, CWP-Kyrgyzstan

Purpose: visiting the pilot facility within the OECD project "Sustainable business models for optimizing the rural water supply system" (mobilizing government support and identifying local mediators; assessment of the current status of the water supply system in the village and existing business models; selection of an alternative business model (private operator); preparation of proposals for tariff reform and the beginning of its implementation on a pilot street in order to sustainably improve the efficiency of collecting payments and covering costs).



### **14. Meeting “Role of NGOs in Society”**

Date: 13<sup>th</sup> of September 2018

Place: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Participants: NGOs dealing with water (Total: 90 people)

The meeting considered the followings:



- Improvement of partnership in the NGOs sector;
- Establishment of the National Water Association, and joint coordination of NGOs dealing with water at the national level;
- Improvement of water governance and preparation and submission of recommendations to the Central Government and the President office.

Participants have exchanged information and shared experiences,

prepared recommendations for improvement of water governance and recommended to establish water agency under the Premier Minister office. All NGOs dealing with water problems agreed to establish the Joint consultation board and asked CWP-Mongolia to lead the partnership and organize the consulting meeting for establishment of the National Water Association.



## 15. Meeting "Water Project Development and Planning"

Date: 28 September 2018

Place: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Organizer: President office, Ministry of Environment, CWP-Mongolia

Participants: NGOs dealing with water, mass media (Total: 120 people)

Participants discussed recommendation of NGOs to coordinate water bodies. The government officials agreed to improve water governance and to discuss this issue with the National Security board and President at the end of October. Participants decided to celebrate 80 years of water sector of Mongolia on 26 October 2018 and during this event 800 invited water professionals will discuss top water problems of Mongolia.



## 16. Meeting on multisectoral financing

The meeting was held in the framework of the project "Central Asian dialogue on the use of opportunities for multisectoral financing by strengthening "Water-Energy-Food Nexus".

Date: 7-9 September 2018

Place: Almaty, Kazakhstan

Organizer: REC CA

Participants: Experts from Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan), as well as project managers, experts and specialists of REC CA and EC IFAS (Total: 14 participants, incl. 5 women).

Purpose: Preparation of the regional project proposals to be submitted to the International financial institutions; and discussing the Aral Sea Basin Program (ASBP-4).

The following issues were discussed: 1) Unrealized projects on ASBP-3 and selection of those, which will contribute to the achievement of water, energy and food security in the region 2) clarification of the potential and feasibility of projects, 3) Development of the project proposals.



## 17. Round Table "Irrigation and Land Reclamation - the Base of Sustainable Development"

The roundtable was dedicated to the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028" and the Day of Land Reclamation in Tajikistan.

Date: 15-16 September 2018

Place: Kairakum, Tajikistan

Organizer: CWP-Tajikistan, the initiative group of graduates of the Faculty of Land Reclamation



Participants: representatives of the Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation, regional and district organizations, water specialists and scientists, graduates of the Irrigation Department of the Tajik Agrarian University (Total: 36 people, including 3 women).

Purpose: capacity building at the national and sub-regional levels by means of dialogue, exchanging information and developing cooperation between water organizations and specialists.

The main directions and issues addressed: exchange of views and dialogue on the role of irrigation, land reclamation and water resources as the main factors of the socio-economic development of Tajikistan; dissemination of knowledge and experience on water saving, innovative technologies and mitigating the negative impact of climate change on water sector and agriculture; global water initiatives of the Republic of Tajikistan, especially the International Decade for Action "Water for Sustainable Development, 2018-2028" and "September 13 - Day of Land Reclamation of Tajikistan".

## **18. Meeting with experts of the International Water Management Institute**

Date: 18-19 September 2018

Organizer: IWMI, CWP-Tajikistan

Place: Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Participants: IWMI Central Asian Office, CWP-Tajikistan, Institute of Water Problems of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Tajikistan (Total: 11 people, incl. 2 women).

The main directions and issues addressed: further cooperation on IWRM implementation; rational use of water resources; land reclamation and irrigation; introduction of new technologies; water sector capacity building.



## **19. Round Table "The Improved Management of Water and Energy Resources in the Machine Irrigation Zone of the Amudarya River Basin"**

The roundtable was organized within the framework of the USAID project "Reducing the level of competition for water resources in the Amu Darya river basin in Central Asia through effective water use".

Date: 4 September 2018

Place: Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Organizer: IWMI

Participants: CWP-Uzbekistan, IWMI, Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers, Ecological Movement of Uzbekistan, Legislative Chamber of the Oliy Majlis, Ministry of Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan, international organizations (Total: more than 70 people).



Purpose: to identify solutions to the most important development problems with the support of scientific and technical researches and to test new innovative technologies.

CWP-Uzbekistan's partner Mr. Toshev R. took part in the round table with a report "The state of the machine irrigation system in the Kashkadarya region and ways to improve its efficiency."

The roundtable discussed the following reports:

"The Impact of Improving Water Use on Water Saving, Electricity Consumption by Using Modeling Tools in the Machine Irrigation

Zone in the Kashkadarya Region of Uzbekistan", "Reducing Competition for Water Resources in the Amudarya Basin in Central Asia through effective water use" etc.

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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.