



Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA)

# Report

## For September 2020

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## 1. Localization of SDG-6 Targets

On September 26, 2020 the regular working meeting of the UN-funded Project on "Localization of SDG-6 Targets" took place at the "Dilijan Resort" hotel complex in Dilijan.



The details of improving the legal framework for achieving the 2030 SDG-6 targets in the areas of water supply, wastewater removal and treatment, irrigation and water resources management were discussed.

The state agencies - members of the working group, clearly stated their positions on achieving the indicators of the SDG 6, made amendments in the legal field, as well as provide their willingness to include very important principles not yet regulated in the RA legislation.

The scope of work with state agencies to improve the legal framework was outlined. The CWP--Armenia team will be consistent in submitting the legal analysis to the SDG National Council.

The content of the Strategy on achieving the SDG-6 targets was discussed by the CWP-Armenia team and experienced independent experts in the water sector; the scope of the issues, the program of measures and the timeline for implementation, which should be included in the document were clearly formed. The list of follow up projects and institutional capacity building those aimed at achieving SDG targets will also be identified and included in the Strategy.

Over the next three months, the Working Group will work intensively on the Project to develop a draft strategy, at the same time negotiating with government agencies to move forward the process of legal enforcing of the document.



## 2. WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) project, funded by International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

The goal of the project is to organize public awareness campaigns on water in 29 communities and settlements of Armenia. In September, the campaigns were carried out in 7 communities and settlements.



### 3. Meeting "Implementation opportunities of the EU Wastewater Treatment Directive (N 91/271 / EEC - concerning urban waste-water treatment)"

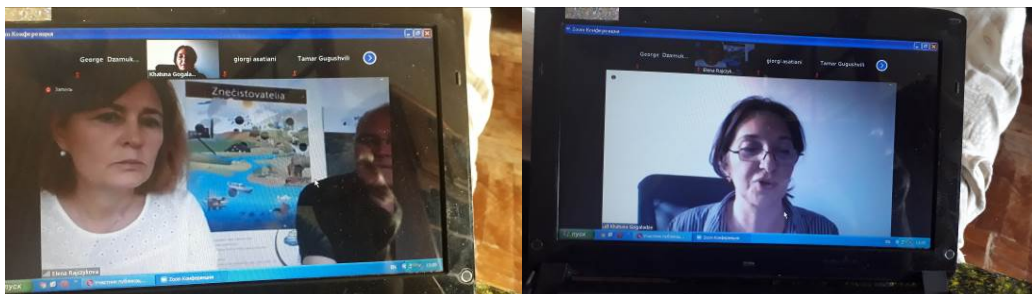
Date: 8 September 2020

Place: Tbilisi

Organizers: Georgia's Environmental Outlook (GEO) in cooperation with the Slovak Development Agency

Participants: more than 30 stakeholders (incl. CWP-Georgia).

Methodologies for identifying sensitive areas and establishing the boundaries of agglomeration were presented. Also, the presented model of construction costs of treatment facilities and wastewater sewerage systems was discussed, taking into account the reality of Georgia.



### 4. Consultative Meeting of Stakeholders within the EUWI + project

Date: 22 September 2020

Place: Tbilisi

Organizers:

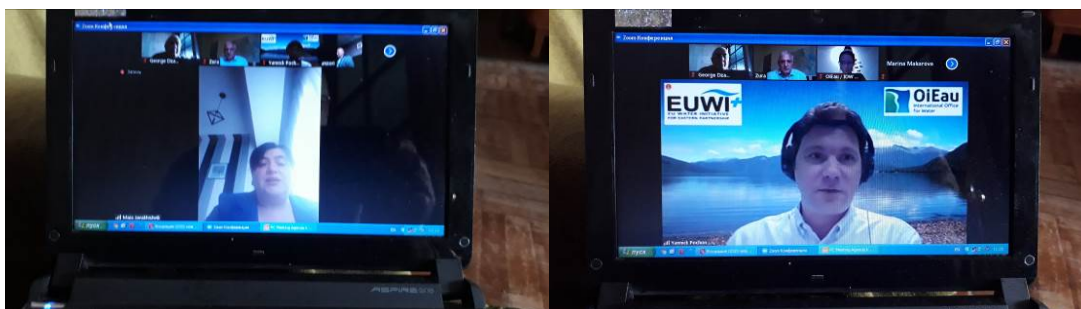


Participants: 40 people (incl. CWP-Georgia).

Purpose: to discuss the presented draft of the Khrami-Debed River Basin Plan. .

This Plan is already the third one among 5 basin plans in Georgia (according the new water law there will be 6 basin plans (one of river basins is located in Abkhazia).

According to the Agreement between Georgia and the EU, Georgia has obligations to complete the basin plans development by the end of 2024, therefore the submitted document was accepted by the participants as a positive event. The plan will be finalized by the end of 2020.



## 5. Cleanup campaign

Date: 18 September 2020

Place: Tbilisi

Organizers: CWP-Georgia together with the Green Movement of Georgia

Participants: 30 people.

This event was organized in favor of the global cleanup activities that took place on September 18-20. More than 150 countries took part in the cleanup action.

In Tbilisi, the action took place around the Tbilisi Sea. Due to the COVID19 situation, the action was not a large-scale. However, representatives of the authorities, international organizations and the public took part in it.



## 6. Field trip on observing the modern irrigation technologies

CWP-Kazakhstan Chairman Nariman Kypshakbayev and specialist Aigerim Karibay visited the Mangystau region to search for advanced technologies for water supply and water saving, where they got acquainted with an experimental site of the "Boribay" farm in the Munaily district.

Date: 01-03 September 2020

Place: Mangystau region

Organizers: CWP-Kazakhstan, local administration

The results of the trip were reported to the regional akim Trumov Serikbay and asked to pay attention to such a positive experience carried out by the "Boribay" farm and LLP "Batys-2008" and to spread this experience on the coastal zone of the Caspian Sea of the Mangystau region. It is necessary to prepare a program for each region, taking into account local conditions.



## **7. Seminar on coordination and finalization of the 2020 reporting SDG 6.5.1 indicator "Degree of implementation of integrated water resources management"**

Date: 15 September 2020

Place: Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan

Organizers: Committee on Statistics of the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Participants: representatives of the Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan (Committee for Water Resources, Committee for Forestry and Wildlife, Committee for Geology), Ministry of Agriculture (Committee for Land Management), the Ministry for Emergency Situations and CWP-Kazakhstan.

Participants discussed the following issues:

- Basin-level management plans based on IWRM;
- Agreements on transboundary water management;
- Subnational regulations in the field of water resources;
- Organizational structure of transboundary water management;
- Subnational Designated Bodies to manage the IWRM implementation;
- Regulation of pollution at the national level;
- Management of water-related ecosystems;
- Management tools to reduce the impact of water-related natural disasters;
- Cross-border exchange of data and information between countries;
- Financing of cross-border cooperation;
- Subnational or basin-level budgets allocated to finance IWRM components.

The completed report has been sent to government agencies for approval.



## 8. Training on the project "Dissemination of available technologies at the local level in Central Asia to support the SDGs and adaptation to climate change"

Date: 8-10 September 2020

Place: Center for the dissemination of knowledge "Kyzylorda", the experimental field of the KazNII Rice-growing named after Y. Zhakhaev

Organizers: Network of Sustainable Development Experts in Central Asia" and CWP-Kazakhstan

Participants: farmers, teachers of educational institutions, staff members of scientific institutions.

CWP-Kazakhstan Executive Secretary Kurulay Yakhiyaeva made 2 presentations: "Climate Change in Central Asia and Recommendations for Adaptation to Climate Change" and "Gender Aspects of Climate Change".



## 9. Online-conference "Adventure of Science: Women and glaciers in Central Asia"

Date: 10 September 2020

Organizers: Inspiring Girls Expeditions and UNESCO cluster office in Almaty

Participants: CWP-Kyrgyzstan, Researchers / Experienced Authors (Candidates of Science, Doctors of Science), Experts, Young Emerging Scientists, Postgraduate Students from Universities and Research Institutions Working and Conducting Research on Gender and Water Resources in Central Asian Countries

The workshop included a summary of the Science Adventure at Home program by participants and instructors, as well as a series of presentations from invited women speakers. Speakers "Women and Glaciers in Central Asia - An Expedition for Inspiring Girls" will touch upon the topic of gender equality in science and technology in Central Asia, talk about their work as scientists and professionals in the field of climate change and environmental protection and show examples of how bring science to society through Civic Science projects.

The image consists of two parts. On the left is a promotional poster for an online event titled "Онлайн-мероприятие" (Online Event) held on September 10, 2019, at 13:00 (GMT + 6). The poster features a logo for "Приключения Науки" (Science Adventures) and text in Russian and English. It mentions that the event is organized by the UNESCO office in Almaty and will conclude the "Science Adventures at Home" program. The poster also lists topics: "Резюме участников" (Participant Resumes), "Гендерное равенство" (Gender Equality), "Изменение климата" (Climate Change), and "Климатические действия" (Climate Action). On the right is a screenshot of a WhatsApp group chat titled "В собрании (38)". The chat list shows several participants, including Kasiet Musbayeva, Nargisa (guest), BARANDUN Martina (highlighted), HOELZLE Martin, Tahmina (guest), Sabrina Sobirova (guest), Tovmasyan, Kristine, Atanov, Serikzhan (with a note "Запись начата" - Recording started), Margit (Guest), and gulzar.omur (Guest).

## 10. Online Discussion "Women's Leadership by the Example of Georgia"

Date: 14 September 2020

Organizer: [UNDP in the Kyrgyz Republic](#)

Participants: Director of the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) in Georgia Ketі Maisuradze, representatives of UNDP, state institutions, civil society of the Kyrgyz Republic, incl. CWP-Kyrgyzstan (Total: 23 people, including 21 women).

Purpose: exchange of experience and a discussion about women's participation in politics, the lessons learned and the future perspective in this direction, based on the experience of Georgia.

This event was organized within the framework of the Kyrgyz Republic Election Assistance Program implemented by UNDP with the support of the governments of Switzerland, Japan and Germany.



## 11. The final online meeting in a series of UNDP discussions on increasing women's political participation "Women's Participation in Elections: Lessons Learned and Prospects"

Date: 23 September 2020

Organizers: this event was organized within the framework of the Kyrgyz Republic Election Assistance Program implemented by UNDP with the support of the governments of Switzerland, Japan and Germany.

Participants: Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of the Kyrgyz Republic Mrs. Nurzhan Shildabekova, Senior Adviser on UNDP Elections Yulia Shipilova, as well as CWP-Kyrgyzstan, state institutions, civil society of the Kyrgyz Republic (Total: 32 people, including 25 women).

Purpose: to summarize the online discussions on women's participation in politics, the lessons learned and the future outlook in this direction.





## 12. The expert group workshop on Assessing the Implementation of SDG 6.5.1 in the Kyrgyz Republic

Date: 17 August 2020

Place: Recreation center HYDE-PARK, Kok-Jar

Organizer: CWP-Kyrgyzstan

Participants: State Agency on Water Resources, Department for Development of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation, Kyrgyzhydromet, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Emergency Situations, State Inspectorate for Environmental and Technical Safety, State Committee for Industry, Energy and Subsoil Use, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Center on climate finance, etc. (Total: 16 people, incl. 11 women).

Purpose: Familiarization and informing the interdepartmental expert group about the planned processes on the research tool "Assessment of the SDG 6.5.1 implementation degree in the Kyrgyz Republic".

CWP-Kyrgyzstan, according to the agreement with the coordinator for SDG 6.5.1 on a procedure for obtaining the necessary information and conducting a survey among interested ministries and departments of the Kyrgyz Republic related to the content of the indicator, will consult with the appointed coordinator during the research tool preparation.

The representative of State Agency on Water Resources in cooperation with the representative of CWP-Kyrgyzstan made a presentation on indicator 6.5.1 and the reporting process; a representative of the CWP-Kyrgyzstan prepared and disseminated an overview of the basic reporting of the Kyrgyz Republic; a questionnaire "Assessment of the SDG 6.5.1 implementation degree" was sent to the interagency expert group".



## 13. The interdepartmental expert group workshop on "Degree of Integrated Water Resources Management implementation"

Date: 31 August 2020

Place: Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

Organizers: CWP-Kyrgyzstan, State Agency on Water Resources of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Participants: State Agency on Water Resources, Department for the Development of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation, Kyrgyzhydromet, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic, State Inspectorate for Environmental and Technical Safety of the Kyrgyz Republic, State Committee for Industry, Energy and Subsoil Use of the Kyrgyz Republic, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Center on climate finance, Aarhus Center in Bishkek, WUA, to (Total: 16 people, incl. 11 women).

Purpose: Discussion and completion of the questionnaire on SDG 6.5.1 indicator "Integrated Water Resources Management implementation degree".



The agreed responses were collected, processed and included in the final version of the questionnaire. The answers to each question and its assessment were reviewed and agreed upon in detail, then a report with all documents attached was sent to the responsible persons in GWPO and UNEP.



#### 14. 11th Innovative Online Central Asian Leadership Program on Environment for Sustainable Development (CALP)

Date: 14 September 2020

Organizers: CAREC, in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Program, the OSCE Program Office in Nur-Sultan, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) project "Water, Education and Cooperation", the WB/UNDP Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Program for the Aral Sea Basin (CAMP4ASB).

Participants: young people from Central Asia and Afghanistan

Purpose: to build collective leadership, strengthen environmental volunteering, develop capacity, enhance the role of youth in transboundary water and climate cooperation in Central Asia and Afghanistan, and provide a neutral regional platform for youth dialogue.

A representative of the CWP-Kyrgyzstan Youth Wing made a presentation "Examples of youth volunteering and leadership in Central Asia and Afghanistan in the context of recovery from the COVID-19 crisis".





## 15. Gobi water and green development symposium

Date: 10 September 2020

Place: Umnugobi province of South Mongolia

Organizers: CWP-Mongolia, Local government of South Gobi province

Participants: local NGOs and partners (Total: 250 people)

Water shortage and dryness in Gobi area is a bigger problem and this symposium was focused on water supply and delivery from central Mongolia and improvement of sanitation plan for 2020-2024 in the South Gobi province.

Dr. Basandorj made a presentation on development of Greywater management in Gobi and introduction of water saving technology and improvement of drinking water quality in Gobi province. Participants discussed how to link water supply for mining and pasture land without any conflict. Participants sent a letter to Mongolian president asking him to support implementation of water project in Gobi. The working group for better water management in Gobi area was established. This working group will be led by Member of Parliament of Mongolia Mr. Baterdene. The next water symposium in Gobi area is planned to be organized by CWP-Mongolia in 2021.







**16. Scientific-practical conference "Contribution of the leaders of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to strengthening friendship, good-neighborly relations and trust, as well opening a new page in Tajik-Uzbek relations of strategic partnership"**

Date: 14-15 September 2020

Place: Dushanbe, Tajikistan

Organizers: Government of Tajikistan, National Academy of Sciences.

Participants: representatives of the Parliament of the Republic of Tajikistan, the Academy of Sciences of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan; heads of institutes; scientists and prominent figures in science, education, culture; other stakeholders (Total: 200 people).

Purpose: Development of bilateral scientific, educational and cultural cooperation.

The main directions of further joint research on the rational use of water resources, joint publications, dissemination of knowledge on water issues, aimed at solving the tasks of achieving SDG-2030 are proposed.

CWP-Tajikistan Chairman Professor Y.E. Pulatov made a presentation "Tajikistan - Uzbekistan: status and prospects for the development of science and water cooperation".





## **17. Publication: "Aral: from ideas to practical implementation"**

The Pravda Vostoka newspaper editorial office asked Dr. Vadim Sokolov, Head of Agency of the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) and one of the leading experts on the Aral Sea problems in Uzbekistan, to comment the article about the Aral Sea of Philip Micklin (USA) and Nikolay Aladin (Russia) in the book "Large Asian Lakes in a Changing World" issued by the Springer publishing house.

<https://yuz.uz/ru/news/aral-ot-idey-do-prakticheskoy-realizatsii>

<https://www.gwp.org/en/CACENA/>

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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.