

**MINUTES**  
**of the working meeting of the IWRM-FV Project**

**Tashkent**

**January 31, 2012**

In attendance were: Sokolov, V.I., Khorst, M.G., Ergashev, I., Muminov, Sh., Alimdjanov, A., Yakubov, Sh., and Galustyan, A.

The working meeting was chaired by Deputy Director of SIC ICWC V.I. Sokolov with the participation of project specialists from SIC ICWC.

Mr. Sokolov started by informing the attendees of that one month remained until the finish of the Project Phase 5 during which it is necessary to accomplish all the works planned according to the Project Document focusing on the outcomes and indicators set in the Actions Plan. Currently, the process of the coordination of the Actions Plan and Budget for the next 8-month (from March 1 to October 31, 2012) Phase VI, the aim of which is overall completion of the project activities, between Association and SDC is going on. In this phase, field works will be reduced to minimum, and focus will mainly be made on the improvement of made more user-friendly guidelines and training materials on Institutional Aspects and IWRM Tools as well as on the delivery of training workshops in two areas: financial & economic plans, accounting, and daily water distribution planning – for 43 (most viable) WUAs of the project zone. At that, the project positions achieved by the end of Phase 5 with regard to organizational and managerial capacity development must be maintained.

In this context, in February it is necessary to intensify the project activity as follows:

- As to the completion of the Phase 5 tasks:
  - Conduct a planned workshop on CWC Performance Enhancement;
  - Continue monitoring of the Kuva district WLC activity;
  - Continue preparing WUA certificates;
  - Continue the involvement of the leaders of local self-government bodies in the WUA Council activity;
  - Update the initial information for the process control software being introduced in the WUA “Akbarabad” (Solodkiy, G.F., Zherelyeva, S.F.);
  - Update the measures and assess their compliance with the set indicators proceeding from the results of the forthcoming consideration of annual financial balances of WUAs (Muminov, Sh., Zikriyaev, Ch.);
  - Supervise the preparation of WUA budgets for 2012 (Muminov, Sh., Zikriyaev, Ch.);
  - Supervise the preparation of WUA water use plans for 2012 (Alimdjanov, A., Yakubov, Sh.), with paying special attention to the WUAs that are planned to be equipped with computers.
- Preparation of final reports on Positions A1.1 (Mirzaev, N.N.), A2.1 (Khorst, M.G., Muminov, Sh., Pinkhasov, M.A., Zikriyaev, Ch.) and A2.2 (Khorst, M.G., Ergashev, I., Alimdjanov, A., Yakubov, Sh.).

IWMI must also intensify the works related to the completion of and reporting on Positions A1.1.4 – A 1.1.7 and manuals on Position B1.1.1.

Then, the meeting considered the progress of the works on the basic positions of the LogFrame.

**Position A1.1. Complete the establishment of basic institutional arrangements for IWRM structures and strengthen their organizational capacities at three lower levels with focus on resources management and water delivery including the STTs.**

*1.1.1. Finalize contract relationships between all water users, WUAs, UCWU, CMO, ISA and CWC and re-registration of WUAs (SFC) as per the current law and strengthen the governance structures.*

The process of the election of kishlak (makhalla) gathering chairs as WUA Council Chairs is in progress: 11 chairs are selected in Uzbekistan and 10 in Kyrgyzstan.

The Uzbekistan National Project Coordinator has prepared the schedule of holding general meetings of WUAs, where every WUA is assigned with local project implementers and Regional Group experts. On February 3, a meeting, chaired by Mr. Kh.U. Umarov and attended by Regional Group experts, will be conducted. It is going to set the procedure of holding General Meetings providing for:

- Clear separation of duties assigned to the WUAs project implementers are in charge of: SIC ICWC specialists (Regional Group) are responsible for the methodology and coordination of local implementers; the local implementers are responsible for the WUA activities.
- Holding meetings provided there is quorum (if there is no quorum, the meeting should be postponed).
- Khokimiyat's responsibility for ensuring quorum (according to the schedule approved by relevant khokims).

*1.1.2. Assist IWRM structures in self-monitoring and evaluation. (Mirzaev, N.N., March 2011 – February 2012).*

Based on the monitoring results, certificates for project zone WUAs are being prepared. To date, 23 certificates for Uzbekistan WUAs and 12 certificates for Kyrgyzstan WUAs have been prepared.

**Position A2.1. Develop (after preliminary testing) and recommend to the governments measures aimed at strengthening financial viability of IWRM structures at all water hierarchy levels.**

*2.1.1. Prepare a detailed analysis of financial means collection on the basis of monitoring the financial flow of funds and assessment economic indicators. Define reasons for low ISF collection taking into account farm profitability and ability to pay ISF. Recommend measures to improve the situation (WUAs and CMOs). (Muminov, Sh., March-December 2011).*

As of 1 January 2012, the rate of the collection of the payments for actually provided services in the pilot canal zone WUAs averaged 84 % (against the indicator of 80 %). In 37 % of the WUAs (against the indicator of 30 %), planned costs matched with the actually borne. In 84 % of the WUAs (against the indicator of 75 %), WUA water service fees were at least 5 \$/ha. The accounts receivable in the pilot canal zone WUAs came to 40 % of the annual budget (against the indicator of 60 %). The level of the WUA personnel salary of 85 \$/person/month was achieved in 61 % of the WUAs against the indicator of 75 %), while in the SFMC zone WUAs this measure was 81 %, and in the KBC zone 20 %.

Processing of the monitoring materials is about to be completed. A report on Position A2.1 along with assessments and analysis is under preparation. Messrs. I. Ergashev and Sh. Muminov shall check all data in order to prevent discrepancies in the report.

**Position A2.2. Strengthen IWRM management mechanism viability.**

*2.2.1 Improvement of Canal Management based on SCADA system and better links to MIS. (Ergashev, I., March-November 2011).*

In connection with the end of the vegetation period, water supply was reduced according to the plan since October 1 (water was mainly supplied to winter wheat for harvesting in 2012). In early November, water supply to the heads of three pilot canals was stopped. Regulating releases are carried out from lateral inflows to the main canals.

A report with the analysis of the SCADA system operation on the pilot canals in 2011 is prepared.

*2.2.2 Introduction of daily and time-based water distribution in 10'000 hectares of WUAs. (Alimdjanov, A., March-November 2011).*

Daily planning of water distribution during the vegetation period 2011 has been introduced in WUAs based on updated (as of 01.01.2012) data on areas: in the SFMC zone – 11,293 ha; KBC – 4,068 ha; and RBMC – 1,476 ha.

The report of daily planning implementation for the previous vegetation period shall be submitted to the project managers by 3 February.

**Position B1.1. Elaborate a user-friendly water governance manual based on SDC's IWRM approach.**

*1.1.1. Finalize a user-friendly water governance manual based on SDC's IWRM approach for STTs.*

User-friendly IWRM related manuals have been prepared:

- Volume 1. IWRM Implementation (Institutional Aspects).
- Volume 2. IWRM Implementation: Water Management in Irrigation Systems.
- Volume 3. Water Management in Water Users' Associations (WUA).

Those are approved by the Steering Committee members from Kyrgyzstan (letter № 1-1910 dd. 25 August 2011), from Uzbekistan (letter №04/29-754 dd. 28 August 2011), and Tajikistan NCSG (NCSG meeting Minutes dd. 13 December 2011).

**Output B2. Comprehensive FV hydrographic study is completed.**

The Comprehensive Hydrographic Study of the Fergana Valley Report coordinated with IWMI was submitted to SDC on 23 November. On 28 December, comments to the Report were received from SDC. Summary with answers to the comments and the Report improved according to the comments was sent to SDC on 17 January 2012.

The Comprehensive Hydrographic Study of the Fergana Valley Report was approved by the Steering Committee members from Kyrgyzstan (letter № 1-2486 dd. 23 November 2011), from Uzbekistan (letter № 01/29-769 dd. 15 October 2011).

**Position B3.1. Elaborate in collaboration with governments and Donors, visions, at national levels, on ways and means to integrate the new IWRM organizations in the existing water management structures.**

The process of the coordination of the National Visions has been completed:

Vision of the National Development of IWRM in the Kyrgyz Republic was considered and approved at Kyrgyzstan NCSG meetings which were held in the Osh city on 16 November 2011 and in the Bishkek city on 16 December 2011.

The Vision of the National Development of IWRM Based on the IWRM-FV Project Experience in the Republic of Tajikistan was considered at the NCSG meeting in Dushanbe on 13 December 2011. After the discussion, it was decided to endorse it taking into consideration the meetings participants' comments and recommendations and note that "the final decision regarding the terms and approaches to the IWRM implementation in the Republic will be made based on the decision of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan".

The Vision of the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) based on the IWRM-FV Project Experience in Uzbekistan was considered by different ministries and institutions of the Republic of Uzbekistan: State Committee for Nature Protection, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Finance, Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Melioration, and MAWR. Comments and recommendations were received, in compliance with which amendments and changes were introduced in the Vision. The Vision improved according to the comments was considered at the NCSG meeting with the participation of the representatives of different ministries and institutions of the Republic of Uzbekistan on 29 December and endorsed by a member of the Uzbekistan Steering Committee.

The approved National Visions have been submitted to SDC. It is necessary to have consultations with NCSGs concerning additional discussion of the Visions with all stakeholders in each country.

**Deputy Director of SIC ICWC**

**Sokolov, V.I.**