

Report
On execution of approved Action Plan for the Kyrgyz NCSG Component under IWRM-Fergana Project «Assistance in water reforms at national level» for 2002 – 2007

During 2002-2007 of Project implementation the activities were performed according to Action Plan for NCSG Component under IWRM-Fergana Project.

4.1. Establish functional IWRM National Coordination and Support Group (NCSG) in each of three states to facilitate policy uptake of lessons/ methodologies and organize regular roundtables on important IWRM issues with other stakeholders including NGOs

a) Revise ToR for involved national experts based on objectives to be implemented up to completion of each phase

Every year ToRs for National Coordinator, Assistant of National Leader, national experts and Work Plan agreed by National Leader were prepared and approved by IWRM-Fergana Project Direction. Contracts were made and signed on the basis of such ToRs .

b) Dialogues with the Governments

Provide regular discussion of the issues on IWRM dissemination and implementation within the country with interested departments and state bodies.

According to YOP NCSG composition was specified as a result of changes and objective dismissal.

Today National Leader is Koshmatov B. T., Director General, Department for Water Resources (DWR), the Kyrgyz Republic;

NCSG members regularly discuss «IWRM-Fergana» Project experience up-scaling, i.e. integrated water resources management, at different meetings, workshops, Ministries and Departments of the republic. «IWRM-Fergana» Project experience is disseminated to other sites such as Union of WUAs of Uvam system along Ak-Bura river. This Union was formed in June 2006. Attention was given to hydrographical principle and mainly to involvement of water users themselves into water management.

On 4 August 2006 DWR issued the Decree № 165 «On transference of Uvam canal to Union of WUAs (UWAU) by Regulations of the Kyrgyz Government № 234 of 6 April 2004. Then Osh BAWR issued the Decree № 15 of 9 February 2007 «On transference of Uvam canal to Union of WUA “Uvam” for temporary (three years) operation and maintenance.

Union started to function from 1 April 2007. Agreement was signed with Karasu DAWR for three years with opportunity on gratuitous assignment of the canal.

Union coverage includes agricultural lands with total area 6164 ha, which take water from Ak-Bura river.

UWUA Superior Body is Representative Assembly composed of 57 representatives from 8 regions. UWUA Council includes 7 persons. UWUA staff is composed of 16 members. Protocols of UWUA Council meetings are prepared as required. Union has office with wall straight-line scheme of UWUA coverage, posters and surnames of Council members, members of Commission on addressing disputes and UWUA Audit Commission members.

UWUA prepared three year O&M business-plan, where it was planned to increase irrigation service fee in stepwise manner to that level, which will cover all O&M costs of UWUA. Reserve fund was formed in case of force-majeure situations.

UWUA has weaknesses. It has no technical basis. There is lack of qualified colleagues. Training is needed. Condition of interfarm canals is unsatisfactory. Rehabilitation is needed. There is no water measuring facilities.

Trainings were held with specialists from IWMI, SIC and AABC MO to up-scale AABC MO experience and explain IWRM principles in July, August, October and November 2007. Specialists from UWUA “Uvam” and “Ak-Suu” as well as Karasu DAWR took part in it.

The participants were acquainted with principles of joint water distribution management along AABC, in UCWU and CWC. AABC DB maintenance by MIS-3 were explained. DB has water distribution data from the beginning of WUA activity for each outlet. MIS allows analyzing water distribution over all indicators, including water availability, uniformity and sustainability for balancing reaches and within

WUA. Trainings were given to train in data analysis and processing with participation of UWUA members and other water users .

Information on other water users, stakeholders and acting public bodies was collected. Relationships between UWUA, DAWR and BAWR were identified. Mobilization activities were carried out with UWUA representatives and local bodies.

When meeting with water users, there is feeling that as a whole they are satisfied with UWUA establishment and support hydrographical management principle with involvement of representative of water users themselves.

c) Organize regular meetings and round tables.

- NCSG meetings:

For the last 2007 NCSG held three meetings and respective decisions were made.

- Round tables:

Two round tables were held on 26 – 27 June 2007 in Batken and Osh. Establishment of Water Councils for small rivers and main canals according to IWRM principles was discussed. Representatives from Basin and District Administrations for Water Resources, established Water Councils, WUAs of Batken and Osh provinces as well as “IWRM-Fergana” and “Onfarm Irrigation” (WB) Projects took part in round tables. In conclusion the following decisions were made:

1. Such meetings should be appreciated as they were useful for representatives of water supplier and consumers, i.e. WUAs, “IWRM-Fergana” and “Onfarm Irrigation” Projects. At the present time such WUAs are thinking to create Water Councils or not and have many issues.
2. To conduct such meetings as often as possible. Next time to involve local bodies.

Round table «IWRM and national policy dialogue» was held on 31 January 2008 in Bishkek and the following persons took part in it:

- Nil Walker – UNDP Resident Representative in the Kyrgyz Republic;
- Zharas Takenov – International Advisor on Environment, UNDP;
- Juerg Studerman Pier – Water Resources Management Advisor, UNDP (Europe and CIS);
- Baratali Koshmatov – Director General, DWR, MLRWR&PI, KR;

Representatives from Department for Sanitary and Epidemiological Supervision, Ministry for Health, State Agency for Environment and Forestry at the Kyrgyz Government, World Bank, international experts and advisors from UNDP, MIA, Ministry for Finances, Ministry for Economic Development, NAN, BAWR directors and others.

The followings were discussed:

- IWRM,
- ways to create frameworks for activities between two initiatives (IWRM and national policy dialogue (NPD)),
- vision of water problems and ways to address them at republican and regional level,
- forms of possible cooperation.

Finally the participants decided to form two Working Groups under the aegis of UNDP:

1. IWRM (DWR),
2. Drinking water supply, sanitation and environment protection (Department for Water Supply, Ministry for Health, State Agency for Environment and Forestry).

Representatives from MAWR&PI, Ministries for Economic Development, Health and State Agency for Environment and Forestry supported this initiative.

National Coordinator for IWRM-Fergana Project N.Mamataliev and Assistant of National Leader E.Kozhoev took part in preparatory process and round table.

4.3. Prepare and disseminate policy briefs for senior water managers and information brochures, leaflets, maintaining website pages, newspaper articles for raising public awareness.

b) Materials for web-site updated monthly.

Materials are provided by request of CAREWIB Project for publishing on portal.

c) Assistance in presentation of staff at national \regional and international conferences

Positive experience of «IWRM-Fergana» Project and possibilities of its usage were reflected in presentations made by Director General, DWR, Koshmatov B.T., Ex-Head, Osh BAWR, Matraimov B.E. during workshops in Osh and Fergana in February-March 2007 and in presentation «Experience dissemination of pilot projects» made by Director, the Kyrgyz Office of SIC ICWC, Mamataliev N. P. during a special session of ICWC CA regular jubilee meeting #47 in Almaty on 24 – 27 April 2007 as well as during regional fair «IWRM in Central Asia» in Osh on 7-8 September 2007. Project experience was presented during the Course “Water resources use management and water conserving technologies” in Israel. This Course was organized by Direction of ICWC, MIA for Israel, Center for International Cooperation MASHAV and Center for International Cooperation on Agricultural Development CINADCO.

«IWRM-Fergana» Project experts developed recommendations for up-scaling experience of pilot sites, water distribution management. Such recommendations are applied in UWUAs «Uvam» and «Ak-Suu». This fact facilitates and regulates dissemination of experience on joint governance of sites. This process will take a certain time. It will be enabling to disseminate it in stepwise manner without any risks in other regions of the republic after its successful implementation.

In order to improve water hierarchy activity and its effectiveness Department for Water Resources prepared and approved Provision on the following nominations:

- the best operational reach;
- the best pumping station;
- the best District Administration for Water Resources

4.4. Transition to full management by CMOs/CWCs at pilot canals by the end of Project Phase

a) Issuance of decrees on transfer of pilot canals management to CWCs/CMOs, including review and introduction of methodical documents.

AABC MO was formed by the Decree № 140 of 24.03.2003 of Department for Water Resources of the Kyrgyz Republic for transition to hydrographical principle of water management, equitable and sustainable water distribution between water users regardless of territorial dependence of lands in Karasu, Aravan districts in Osh.

AABC WC Board was organized on the basis of trilateral Agreement «On joint governance of AABC» between Department for Water Resources at MAWR&PI for the Kyrgyz Republic, Osh BAWR and AABC UCWU. The Agreement was agreed on 3 March 2006 and approved by General Assembly of AABC UCWU Founders on 8 October 2006.

At the present time AABC UCWU experience is being disseminated along Uvam canal of UWUA «Uvam» and Yakkalik canal of UWUA «Ak-Suu».

c) Assistance in establishing legal framework to force legal registration of UCWU

«Provision on Public Water Councils» applied in the whole republic was approved by the Decree of Director General for DWR of the Kyrgyz Republic № 63 of 30 March 2007. For today 35 Water Councils have been formed in the republic. At the present time efforts are taken to strengthen their activity.

4.8 IWRM development including canal, WUA and Farm level according to results gained within Components 1,2,3.

a) Evaluation and adoption of Project Recommendations by national policy makers regarding results 1,2,and 3 –participation in Project Steering Committee activity.

Independent experts carried out Project External Review in September 2007. Strategy for further project implementation was prepared on the basis of External Review findings and recommendations.

Department for Water Resources of the Kyrgyz Republic provided a number of its suggestions and comments:

Basically, all IWRM pilot activities were completed in pilot AABC. Now active steps should be taken and directed at experience up-scaling not only along Uvam canal, but along other canals and in other regions in the country. However, activities of AABC WUGs and UCWUs should be supervised, since they can be deactivated after even small Project sponsorship. Such sponsorship will be required for some time to achieve more sustainable activity of UCWU.

It is too early to speak about WUA reorganization by the Japanese model, since WUA do not achieve appropriate level of O&M of irrigation infrastructure and full cost recovery.

Roles of AABC UWUA Councils as a managing body are not felt. Governance transparency is also not proper. Some time will be required for it and efforts should be taken.

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