

Achievements for January - December, 2006

Result 4: National level policy improvements /changes facilitated

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

SIC/IWMI

a) Develop ToR for all component executors and draw up contracts. Investigate submitted ToR for all project workers in each country and if necessary to make up additional ToR in the form of protocols for all project executors in each of three states with approval by National Leader and submission to SIC for consideration.

Terms of Reference for 2006 for National Coordinators, Assistants of National Leader were redeveloped and approved by IWRM-Fergana Project Direction in February 2006 as well as agreed Work Schedule of National Project Leaders in each of three states. Based on ToR the contracts were drawn up and signed.

b) Draw up clarification of created NCSGs' staff with branch departments and agree with Governments and organize their regular functioning.

According to approved Yearly Plan of Operations a certain work on clarifying NCSG staff established in 2005 was conducted as a result of personnel changes in a number of departments. In this context NCSG staff was clarified in the Kyrgyz Republic:

- Koshonov A.A. – the 2nd secretary, CIS Administration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Kyrgyz Republic, was appointed in place of the 3rd secretary, CIS Administration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Idirisova A.A.;

- Neronova T.I. – the Head of department, State Agency for environment and forestry protection was appointed in place of Volkova T.I., senior specialist of Department for ecology and environment.

- a) Organize regular meetings and roundtables.

In the Kyrgyz Republic:

1. After round table (3 February 2006) the second NCSG meeting was held (the first meeting was conducted in Osh in December last year). Taking into account that NCSG members were presented not with its full complement (5 NCSG members were presented instead of 9 approved), the issues requiring any decision making were not investigated at the meeting. All NCSG members were proposed to prepare the vision and the role of their organizations during IWRM for the next workshop in April.

2. After joint round table with Project UCC Water in April 2006, the third NCSG meeting was held, where 7 NCSG members of 9 approved ones were presented. Two issues were considered at the meeting: investigation of draft Action Plans № 1-5 prepared by workers of Osh office of IWRM-Fergana Project and Project Direction regarding calculation and analysis of water distribution indices. The respective decisions were made regarding given issues.

3. The fourth NCSG meeting was held in September this year after national workshop № 2 on the Project UCC Water regarding investigation of final version of draft national «highway map» for transference to IWRM. The NCSG candidates and the themes of participants' reports were considered for taking part in regional workshop.

4. The object was selected by polling method and additional canal (canal «Uvam») was agreed with NCSG members for experience replication of Aravan-Akbura canal operation.

- round tables:

The National Round table on the theme: «The issues on shared management with public involvement along pilot Aravan-Akbura canal» was held in February (3 February 2006) in Bishkek in Training Center of the Department for Water Resources. All leaders of basin water management

organizations, NCSG members, responsible persons from Department for Water Resources, representatives of Bishkek and Tashkent COOF, executors from other projects and WUA representatives took part in round table.

The round table was held in April in collaboration with Project UCC Water on the theme «The issues of inter-sectoral coordination on water use, the role of National Council on water and other bodies being created according to Water Code of the Kyrgyz Republic».

The Action Plan for the component provided for round tables for discussing the issues on inter-sectoral coordination on water use in June-July and establishment of river and basin councils in October. However the round table, held in April in collaboration with Project UCC Water, included planned two round tables. Taking into account that Water Code of the Kyrgyz Republic stipulates for establishment of other bodies, which are basin councils, the issue on creation, functioning and competence of basin councils has been investigated at the round table. So there is no need to hold certain round table regarding the issues on establishment of basin councils.

In the Republic of Tajikistan:

Four NCSG meetings were held: 2.03.06 – Work Planning for 2006; 7.04.2006 – Coordination of actions with Project UCC-Water (highway map of IWRM); 17.07.06 – Action Plans regarding «Canals» component; 12.09.2006 – summarizing the results of the growing season. NCSG members agreed planned steps regarding IWRM principles implementation in the Republic of Tajikistan and this document was approved with Ministry for Land Reclamation and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan, Committee on environment and forestry protection of the Republic of Tajikistan and Ministry for Economics of the Republic of Tajikistan for 2007- 2025.

In the Republic of Uzbekistan:

NCSG representatives took part in workshops and work meetings in Fergana and Tashkent. Round tables on the themes «Goals and objectives of National Coordination and Support Groups», «Principal institutional, legal and financial and economic arrangements on Water Users Associations establishment and functioning», «Organization of hydrographic system of water resources management and use in Uzbekistan», «Legal framework and perspectives of development in Uzbekistan» were held.

The work meeting of NCSG was carried out in May in MAWR, where the following issues were investigated:

«Guideline on calculation and analysis of water distribution indices». «Guideline on water account for hydrometers of main canals». Hand-book on work with program «MIS IWRM-Fergana». Business-plan for WUA was also investigated and discussed. The proposal on Extension Service establishment under BISA for water users was considered at SIC ICWC work meeting. Extension Services under Naryn-Karadarya and Syrdarya-Sokh BISAs have been created.

4.2 Organize training, experience sharing workshops, study tours and exchange visits on IWRM for senior policy levels

SIC/IWMI

- a) *At least one training workshop per year in each*
- b) *One study tour/exchange visit per year*

In the Kyrgyz Republic:

Training workshop «Water governance improvement in main canals through involvement of all key stakeholders (local authority, agriculture, industry, ecology, drinking water supply, etc.) into decision-making» was held on 4-5 July (2 months late) in Osh. National Coordinator (the report on the theme «NCSG role in water governance improvement») and Assistant of National Leader took part in the workshop.

«Onfarm irrigation» Project in collaboration with IWRM-Fergana Project executors conducted the workshop regarding institutional IWRM issues and legal problems of WUA functioning in Osh on 1 December 2006 with delay in approved Plan of Operations, with participation of National Coordinator and Assistant of National Leader. 23 colleagues – WUA leading workers, workers from district WUA support units took part in workshop activity. Costs for participation of National Coordinator and Assistant of National Leader were covered at the expense of Project UCC Water (UNEP).

The required organizational assistance was given for the Kyrgyz representatives in taking part in organized study tour in Turkey.

In Tajikistan:

The workshop on the theme: «Public participation in water resources management, the issues on standardization of gauging stations and its impact on water account, solution of the problems on water and land resources protection under the conditions of transference to IWRM» was held on 18-19 July with participation of NCSG members in Sogd province.

The workshop on the theme: «Introduction and dissemination of operational management mechanisms at national level» was held on 13-14 September with participation of NCSG members and IWMI in Dushanbe.

The Republican workshop on the subject: «Preparation of Action Plan on IWRM principles implementation in the Republic of Tajikistan» was conducted on 31 October 2006 in Dushanbe with NCSG members' participation.

Training workshop regarding establishment of WUA support unit under Ministry for Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan was held locally with participation of NCSG members, representative of provinces, pilot districts and WUA. Besides, field workshops and meeting were conducted locally.

- In 20 pilot individual farms and other dekhkan farms of Association of Dekhkan Farms Zerafshan.

- 25.07.06. Training workshop on the theme «Using biological method for pest control and water account in farms» was held with Agency Support Development Process NAU representatives for dekhkan farms «Pongoz» in Asht district.

In Uzbekistan:

National workshop «Action Plans on Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Conservation». «**The issues on inter-sectoral coordination on water use and transference to integrated water resources management under the conditions of reform in agriculture and water sector of Uzbekistan**» was conducted in MAWR. The report on the theme «Objectives of integrated water resources management» was presented. NCSG members took part in the workshop. Draft **Agreement** between the Kazakh Government, the Kyrgyz Government, the Tajik Government and the Uzbek Government «On water and power resources use in the Syrdarya river basin», «On creation and functioning of national, basin and regional databases on multipurpose water resources use and protection in the Aral sea basin» was investigated.

The workshop on the subject: «Water resources management and water account, contractual relations and market relations in water use» was held in Tashkent province in Pskent district in WUA «Turon-obikhayot».

The workshop on the theme: «The problems on legal framework establishment for public involvement into water distribution governance process» was held in October. NCSG members took part in the workshop.

National workshop on the theme: «Draft highway map of stepwise transference to IWRM in Uzbekistan and required actions» was carried out in MAWR. NCSG members and leader of other departments took part in the workshop for discussing the issues.

A successful Study Tour to Turkey for 11 participants (key stakeholders) was organized. The main goal of the tour was to study the Turkey's significant experience on IMT. Study tour participants visited DSI regional offices, irrigation development projects at various river basins, Irrigation cooperatives, Municipalities, Village authorities and Water Users Association.

4.3 Prepare and disseminate policy briefs for senior water policy levels and information brochures, leaflets, maintaining website pages, newspaper articles etc. for general awareness

SIC/IWMI

a) At least three policy briefs based on project results

Goals and objectives of Department for Water Resources: «Goals and objectives of Department for Water Resources are regulating management and rational use of the whole national water fund (with the exception of mineral and thermal water) based on water balance evaluation, providing water users fully with water resources including agricultural ones for executing their objectives by themselves based on principles of integrated water resources management through supporting and facilitating to organize effective Water Users Associations, to develop, operate and maintenance interfarm irrigation systems» were given in the new Provision on Department for Water Resources approved by the decree of Ministry For Agriculture and Water Resources and Processing Industry of the Kyrgyz Republic № 103 of 2 May 2006.

According to agreeing with NCSG members, the canal was selected for replicating the experience of pilot Aravan-Akbura canal operation by the decision of Department for Water Resources (DWR) direction.

According to the results of IWRM-Fergana Project progress investigation at annual collegium of DWR, it is planned to select sites for further experience replication of pilot canal operation in the territory of the republic.

b) Materials for Web-Site updated every month.

Materials were submitted to SIC as required. More detailed materials are submitted regarding CAREWIB Project for placing in portal.

c) Two articles on the project in newspapers per year (republican)

The article on «IWRM-Fergana» Project results was prepared and translated into the Kyrgyz language in order to publish in newspapers «The word of Kyrgyzstan» and «Kyrgyz Tuusu». However, the articles were not published in those newspapers of republican meaning because of financial lack. It is required to stipulate for financial resources for publication in newspapers (price of one strip in newspapers of republican meaning – 20 - 70 thousand som) in Plan of Operation for 2007.

The attention was paid to IWRM-Fergana Project in broadcast on water sector by the republican radio in September 2006 among the project being implemented with brief characteristics and achieved results.

Assistant of National Leader Kozhoyev E.I. telling about «Onfarm irrigation» Project activity covered also IWRM-Fergana Project activity in telecast devoted to WUA in the republic in October that year.

The video film on WUA development and strengthening was made also in October regarding «Onfarm irrigation» Project, where frames were shot and the interview of WUA «Zhapalak» was given, which was one of the pilot WUAs of the project.

d) Assisting in presentations of the Project staff in national \ regional and international conferences

The results of «IWRM-Fergana» Project activity were registered and shown in separate special stand at Republican conference on WUA development, which was held on 14-15 December in Bishkek. «IWRM-Fergana» Project colleagues: National Coordinator Dzhayloobaev A.Sh., Assistant of National Leader Kozhiev E.I., Provincial Coordinator Matraimov B.E., head of Aravan-Akbura Canal Management Organization Alimov M. as well as National Leader Koshmatov B.T. took active part in the conference.

Positive experience of project activity and opportunities of its application were especially marked out in speeches of Director General, DWR, Koshmatov B.T., Head, Osh Basin Department for Water Resources, Matraimov B.E. and colleague, Bishkek COOF, Makhmutov Bakyt.

Taking into account that it is possible henceforward to hold conferences on the theme of reforming in water sector and as a whole in agrarian sector not only of republican meaning but of provincial one, it is required to prepare centralizely respective leaflets, booklets, information brochures and to submit to national teams for using in such situations and disseminating.

In Tajikistan:

1. NCSG members assisted MAWR in preparing draft act «On Water Users Association» and amendments in Water Code.
2. At the present time the Tajik Government approved the Act «On Water Users Association».
3. The article on the theme «To resources economically» was published in Republican National newspaper on 11 October 2006 as well as a number of articles in provincial newspapers in Sogd province.
4. The assistance was provided in holding workshop on WUA issues on 3 November in Dushanbe with participation of Robby-Leytos, ADB International Consultant, technical assistance of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation.

In Uzbekistan:

The work on preparing SFC for automation was carried out. According to the decree № 260 of 18.12 2006 two tail hydrounits of SFC canal were transmitted from Surdarya-Sokh Basin Irrigation System Administration balance to Canal Management Organization balance.

The issue related to UCWU registration along SFC is still not decided in Ministry of Justice. Project Direction from its part submitted all materials, letters of organizations and respective khokimiyats to Ministry of Justice. The payment for registration was not also made.

Dr. Alisher Tashmatov was hired on consultancy basis to develop a Policy Briefs based on project results. In December 2006, Dr. Tashmatov developed 1st issue of the Technical Note called "Implementation of IWRM principles; Results and achievements of the IWRM Ferghana Project; Already the first draft of the next issue on Capacity Building for IWRM-Fergana Project".

In 2006, by the recommendations stated in the Annual Meeting (January 22, 2006 in Ferghana) IWMI has hired a PR consultant, to plan, structure and implement the public awareness campaign on IWRM Project's main achievements. Konstantin Mosin was successful in carrying out the tasks he planned, which were built around the following approach:

- Development of the PR strategy included the review of project goals and objectives, project materials and reports by components, meeting and interviews with project staff and key stakeholders, field visits;
- Stratification of key stakeholders into the focus groups (national, policy and decision making, sectoral interests; provincial, basin level organizations, canal organizations, WUAs, farming organizations, local communities, authorities and other social networks etc.);
- Selection of the mass media (national, local, provincial) to target the audience on IWRM principles;
- Drafting and agreeing with project staff and among partners the content and concepts of future outputs;

4.4 Transition to full management by CMOs/UCWUs at pilot canals by the end of Project phase

SIC/IWMI

- a) *Issuance of the decrees with regard to the transfer of management to UCWUs/CMOs;*

The respective agreement on joint management of Aravan-Akbura canal was concluded between UCWU (Union of WUA of Aravan-Akbura canal) and Osh Basin Department for Water Resources (BDWR), on the instructions of DWR. At the present time the experience on joint canal governance is being worked out – the experience on practical partnership of water managers and water users, for making in future amendments and supplements for signed agreement and further dissemination. *Government's decision on adoption of IWRM strategy and pilot canals' experiences dissemination*

Respective documents will be accepted after developing final recommendations, receiving the decision from respective ministries, departments, services and units on project implementation with drawing up correspondingly according to requirements and instructions on legislative technique approved by the decree of Zhogorku Kenesh of the Kyrgyz Republic of 8 June 2006 № 1064-III.

At the present time draft decree of the Kyrgyz Government regarding the results of the Republican Conference activity on WUA development is being prepared, where respective recommendations will be taken into account.

In Tajikistan:

The Assistance was given in preparing UCWU Statute and certificate № 004-1612 approved on 12 November 2006 by Provincial Department for Justice of Sogd province in the Tajik Republic was received.

In Uzbekistan:

NCSG members took part in preparing Government Decrees regarding speeding up reforms in agriculture. In particular according to decrees № 255 of 11 January 2006 and № 514 of 21 November 2006 all shirkat farms (except specialized ones) were transferred into individual farms and it was planned to establish 412 WUAs for organizing services on water supply to farmers, maintaining onfarm irrigation and drainage networks.

4.5 Adoption and Up-scaling of IWRM Financial mechanisms at national levels

SIC/IWMI

- a) *Creation of national system for sustainable CWCs/CMOs functioning and increased contributions by farmers as their incomes increase.*
- b) *Establishment of incentive-based performance improvement principle for all water hierarchy levels for improving water productivity*

In the Kyrgyz Republic the activity is implemented within the agreement on joint governance of Aravan-Akbura canal. The replication is planned in canal «Right-bank». After DWR Collegium regarding the work results per year, the corresponding objects will be investigated and approved in the territory of other provinces in the Republic.

In Tajikistan:

Ministry for Land Reclamation and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan assisted in sustainable functioning of Khodjabakirgan Canal Management Organization; 52,361 thousand somoni or 15491 USD were allocated from budgetary funds for 2006.

4.6 Adoption and Up-scaling of IWRM operational management mechanisms at national levels

SIC/IWMI

- a) *Introduction and dissemination of operational management mechanisms of IWRM at national level*

b) *Advanced training courses are organized at national level to disseminate experience*

NCSG of three states conducted the work on developing the Program of respective courses and Work Plan as well as required financial resources (all documents will be submitted for investigation and approval). For example, it is planned to carry out such courses in the Kyrgyz Republic during 2007 at the expense of «IWRM-Fergana» Project funds and partial attraction of «Onfarm irrigation» Project finances.

It is required to provide for funds allocation for next year for such works at the expense of finances saved this year, which have been stipulated for component implementation.

4.7 Technical Upgrading at national level

a) National Plan on Upgrading was prepared by NCSG and submitted to donors.

b) NCSG by support of SIC and IWMI

a) *Organizing work on developing National Plan for upgrading prepared by NCSG*

b) *Working out practically measures on technical upgrading by NCSG members.*

The concept of National IWRM Plan - «highway map» - planned steps on IWRM implementation at national level was developed in coordination with NCSG members in each of three states under the financial support by Project UCC Water. At the present time the final version has been prepared, discussed in September at national workshops with participation of NCSG members, colleagues of water sector of the republic, public organizations, etc. The second final Joint Workshop of GWP and UCC Water (UNEP) on the theme «Speeding up implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management goals in Central Asia» was held on 29-30 November 2006 in Tashkent. Representatives of National Coordination and Support Group of IWRM in three republics (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan) and international financial institutes took part in the workshop activity. Prepared «highway maps» of transference to IWRM in mentioned three states and possibility for beginning of new project on developing Country National IWRM Plan were investigated at the workshop. It is planned that the new project will be started in May 2007 under the support of GEF and UNDP.

National plan for upgrading was prepared and sent to donors by NCSGs for consideration in their activities. The SIC Project Manager (Sokolov) should provide proper coordination with the activities under the sub-regional component for Central Asia developed by UNEP Collaborating Centre for Water and Environment (UCC-Water) and UNEP in close consultation with GWP CACENA (and coordinated with UNDP and UNECE). This Project objective is: *Acceleration of the implementation of the IWRM 2005 target in Central Asia* The outputs foreseen are:

- Sub-regional report on progress on IWRM 2005 Target and IWRM Planning
- Completed national road maps/work plans for implementation of the IWRM target (for three countries: Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan).
- Needs assessment for support to implementation of IWRM reforms as identified in road maps and work plans.
- Capacity built on IWRM planning for key water managers and decision makers

4.8 IWRM development for new objects including canal, WUA and Farm level

a) *Review and adoption of Project recommendations by national policy makers regarding results 1,2, and 3 – participation in Project Steering Committee activity*

Participation in Project Steering Committee activity will be realized according to Work Plan. Received recommendations regarding results 1,2, and 3 were submitted to respective ministries, departments, services and Project implementation units for working out the issues on application.

b) *Coordination of activity and results of other projects related to IWRM-Fergana Project objectives in the country.*

Activity and results of other projects related to Project objectives are coordinated in three states by National Leaders and National Coordinators.

c) Identify one additional canal, agree it with NCSG and organize the work on experience replication of AABC CMO/CWC activity

One additional canal (NFC – in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, canal Right-bank – in the Kyrgyz Republic) was identified in each country, agreed with NCSG members (by polling method) and preliminary organizational works were proposed regarding experience replication of pilot canals' CMO/CWC activity, as it was stipulated by Work Plan. The required list of Work types and assistance needed for experience replication was prepared.

d) Involve required experts during NCSG activity.

There was no need in this work in other republics, since necessary experts, who were NCSG members, were involved within and at the expense of Project UCC Water (UNEP).