

IDMP by GWP CACENA in 2022-2023

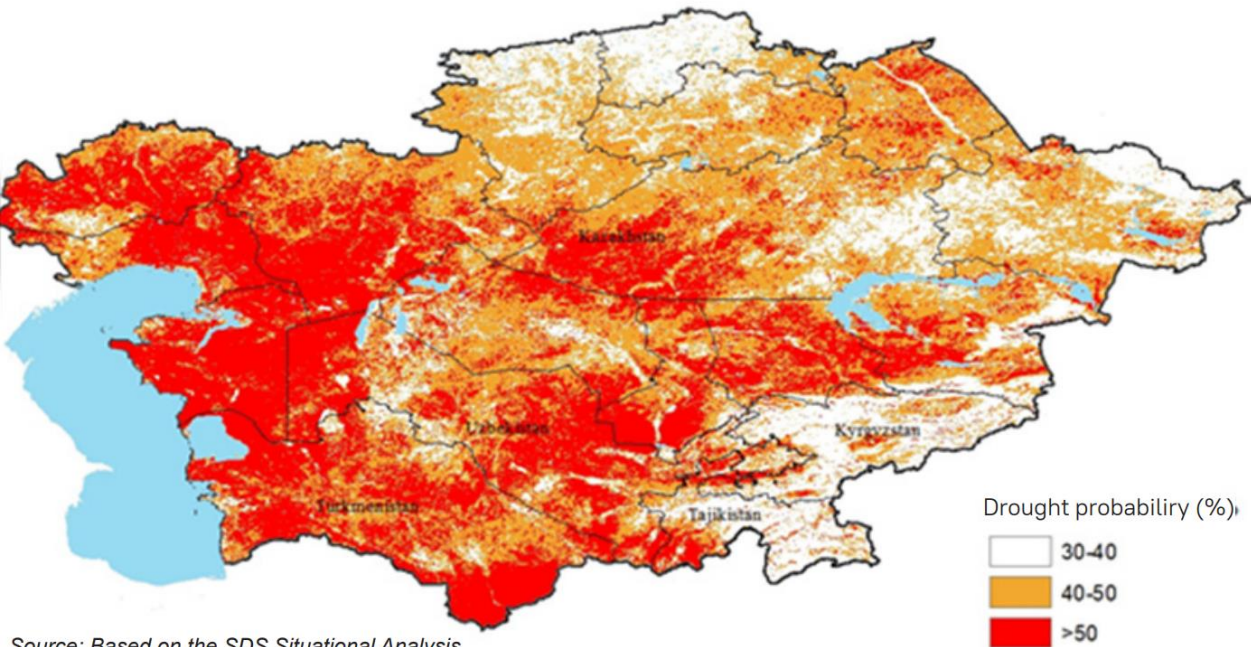
**Advisory Committee Meeting of the
Integrated Drought Management Programme (IDMP)**

August – 2023

Stockholm



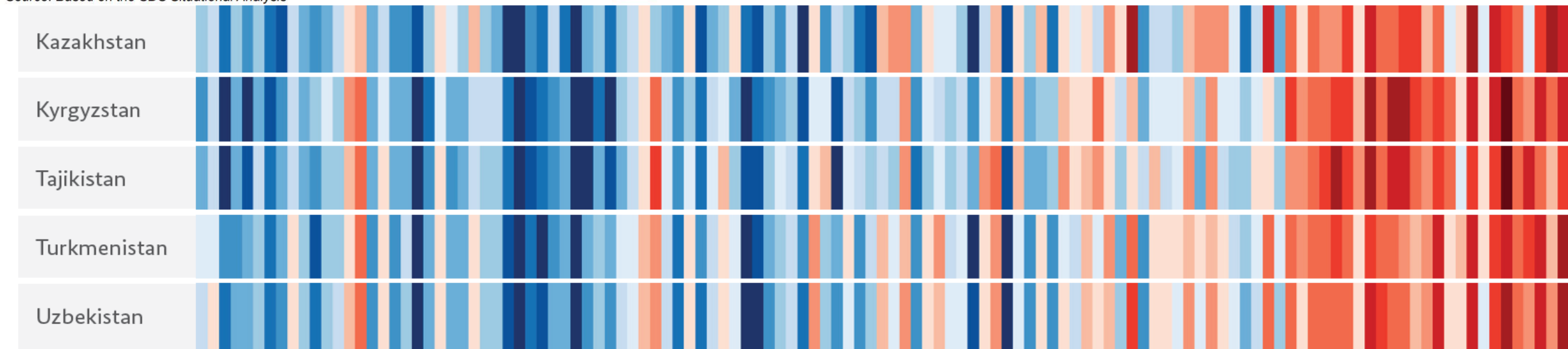
Picture 2. Drought probability in Central Asia



Why Drought is on the agenda?

Many countries in Central Asia and Caucasus are currently experiencing massive drought and water scarcity. This situation has been causing tensions and open conflict in the region for a long time, with the disappearance of the Aral sea being a prime and widely known showcase

Source: Based on the SDS Situational Analysis



Warming Stripes of Central Asia (graphically representing the period from 1901 to 2021). The stripes turn from mainly blue to mainly red in more recent years, illustrating the rise in average temperatures in that country.

Source: <https://showyourstripes.info/s/asia/>, Professor Ed Hawkins (University of Reading)

Annual IDMP report (2021-2022)

- As it was mentioned in the IDMP Workplan for 2021-2022 for Central Asia and Caucasus countries that are currently exposed to 5-year drought, two countries (Uzbekistan and Armenia) were supported in a format of seed funding from the budget provided by NOAA countries to make an initial step for drought policies using the experience and support of the regional IDMP CEE programme, which underwent a similar process during the past 20 years. While designing these country needs oriented programs, the preparatory work has been performed by relevant CWPs (mapping of stakeholders, development the overview for draught management and etc.).
- So, let me update on the progress of IDMP activities started in 2021-2022 and performed at the country and regional levels...

Country level – ARMENIA (Caucasus):

Main goal: to explore opportunities of developing an integrated drought management plan for Armenia

Wide and specific objectives:

- to identify the existing legal, institutional and governance gaps in drought management sector in the country,
- to clarify the directions of drought monitoring, early warning, risk management and consequence elimination systems.

Format of activities:

- Study, research and analysis by project expert;
- Setting of working group (presented by representatives of various government agencies, members of intergovernmental committee, also an experienced independent experts) – series of stakeholder meetings
- Formal inter-agency workshop that took place in May 4-5, chaired by the Deputy Minister of Environment, Mrs. Gayane Gabrielyan

Country level – ARMENIA (Caucasus):

Documents developed and discussed:

- A summary report on **“Analysis of Drought Management System in Armenia, Identification of Weaknesses and Gaps”** was prepared within the project related to the gaps in the drought management system, such as problems in receipt, analysis, exchange of monitoring data, drought early warning system development, drought risk assessment, inclusion of drought in agricultural insurance system, capacity building and other issues.
- **"Content of the Drought Management Plan"**, which describes what chapters the Plan should consist of and what information each chapter should contain.

Country level – ARMENIA (Caucasus):

Next steps to be undertaken:

- It is planned to work on legal reforms to enable the drought management system in Armenia
- To work on the formal recognition of "Drought Management Plan"
- To organize a meeting with members of the drought intergovernmental committee established in 2021, as well as with the experts in the field of disaster risk reduction and management to ensure the synergy and to discuss the ways on getting progress

Project title: Knowledge transfer on drought issues due to climate change for Armenia

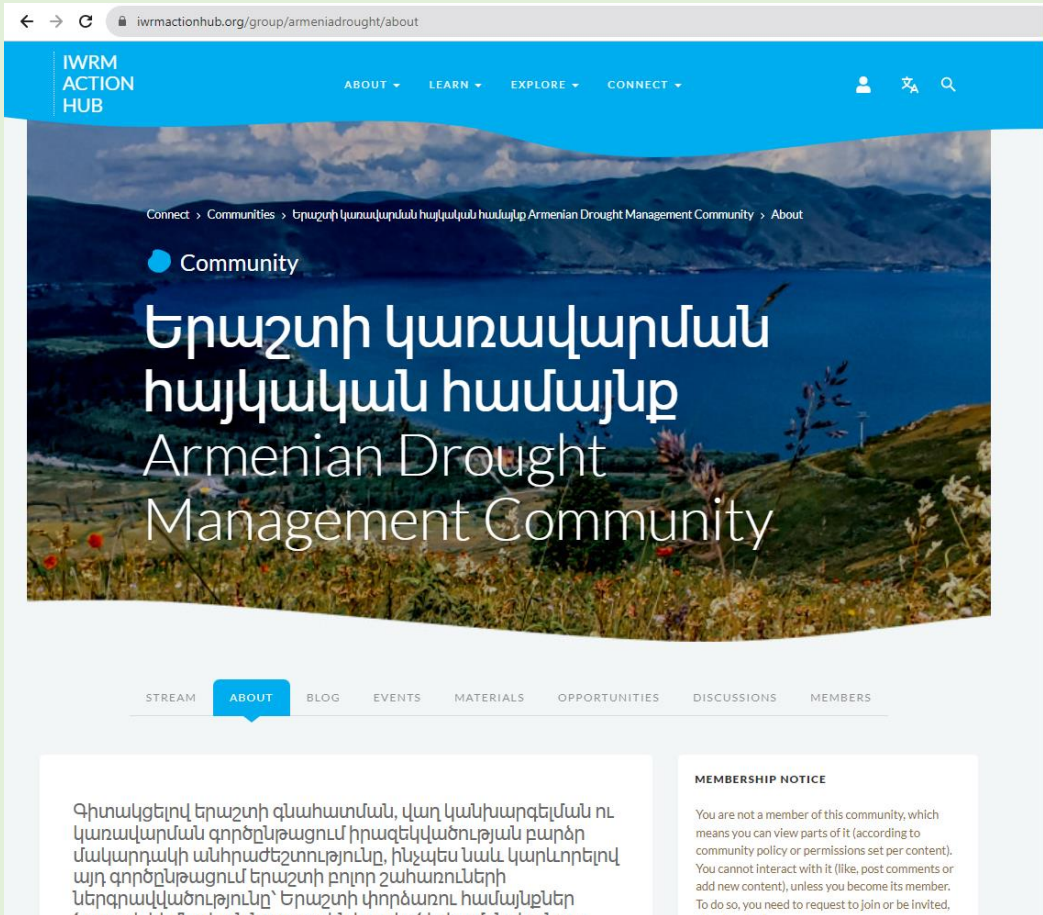
Duration: Sept. 2022 – Oct. 2023

Grant amount: 45 854 euros

Funder: VISEGRAD + (Fund supporting regional cooperation, backed by Hungary, Poland, Czech Republic and Slovakia and with a focus on supporting projects in Western Balkans and Eastern Partnership)

Brief description: The main purpose of the project is to contribute to promoting the Visegrad regional cooperation in drought management and mitigation of the climate change and knowledge transfer to Armenia conditions. The objectives will be achieved by conducting two main activities which are the development the Drought platform related to Drought Management and Training workshop on drought issues for the decision and policy makers in Armenia focused on an integrated, proactive approach to drought planning, adaptation and management

Community of practice on Drought on IWRM Action HUB



Establishment of Drought platform (Community of Practice - CoP) related to Drought Management by streamlining and collecting scattered drought knowledge, experiences, and lessons learned from Visegrad and Caucasus countries (Some information will be used from the Southern European countries as well due to the climate similarities). Specifically, in platform information on drought management, monitoring, mitigate the impacts, new approach to drought impact calculation methodology, opportunity to use capacity of international narrow specialists in legal, institutional and other aspects on drought

Recognizing the need for a high level of awareness in the process of drought assessment, early prevention and management, as well as attaching importance to the engagement of all drought beneficiaries in the process, the main goal of the Drought Community of Practice project was to create a universal platform that would:

- bring together the parties primary affected by drought,
- allow effectively identifying the existing problems,
- offer possible and innovative solutions,
- exchange knowledge and experience.

It should also be noted that the CWP Armenia NGO will also cover the activities of the platform and present the expected news during its future events.

The official online launching ceremony of this platform took place on April 21st at 1:30 p.m. The meeting was attended by 40 participants who had the opportunity to get acquainted with the details of the platform, its content, working process and principles, as well as all the possibilities of the platform.

Details of the platform's activity and goals can be found at <https://gwptoolbox.org/group/armeniadrought/about>.

Trainings and workshops



1. SERIES OF WEBINARS:

“Drought hazard assessments as base for DRR (disaster risk reduction) (mixed meteorological and hydrological drought indices) – part 1” and “Drought Impact Reporting (National Drought Monitoring System in Czech Republic)”, “Drought management legal and technical perspective”, “Drought hazard assessments as base for DRR (disaster risk reduction) (mixed meteorological and hydrological drought indices) – part 2” and “Drought Impact Reporting (National Drought Monitoring System in Czech Republic)”

2. STUDY TOUR:

Local experts from “Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center” (HMC SNCO) Gohar Yeghizaryan and Hasmik Panyan went on a study visit to the Republic of Slovenia within the framework of the "Drought Community of Practice" program funded by the Visegrad Fund. The main purpose of the visit is to develop experts' knowledge and present international experience in drought management, implementation of monitoring, preparation of monthly reports and application of innovative methods for drought determination.

3. THREE-DAY WORKSHOP is scheduled for September 2023

Country level – UZBEKISTAN (Central Asia):

Main goal: Development of recommendations on setting the priorities for National Drought Management plan for 2023-2030 to ensure the synergy to combat drought and land degradation in Uzbekistan

Wide and specific objectives:

- Analysis of current status, gaps and challenges for the three pillars of the IDMP + drought policy (in Uzbekistan)
- Review of existing resources and capacities (to check what country programs and institutions already exist related to drought management in Uzbekistan);
- Stakeholder mapping (to identify who to involve and/or distribute the survey to, invite to the IDM planning workshop)
- Development of draft concept for a revision of the National Action Program to combat drought and land degradation in Uzbekistan; GWP CEE was invited to provide guidance on the proper use of the "National Drought Management Policy Guidelines A Template for Action" by Uzbekistan

Format of activities:

- Study, research and analysis by project expert;
- Setting up working group of experts
- Series of in-person and online stakeholder meetings
- Formal inter-agency workshop that took place in April 5, attended by representatives of all ministries, departments, research institutes, non-governmental organizations involved in the problem of droughts.

Country level – UZBEKISTAN (Central Asia):

Documents developed and discussed:

- **An overview report on the current state of drought management in Uzbekistan** has been prepared and published (https://aral.uz/wp/2022/03/31/n_drought/). This report comprises five sections:
 - *General information and definition of drought;*
 - *National legislation on drought control;*
 - *Responsibility for drought - national institutions involved;*
 - *Drought assessment process;*
 - *Looking ahead - developing drought risk management programs.*
- **Concept for revision the National Action Program to combat drought and land degradation in Uzbekistan.** *Four priority areas specified as:*
 - *capacity development for monitoring, risk assessment and drought prevention: strengthening the technical base of the Hydrometeorological Service and introducing innovative solutions for drought monitoring and forecasting; development of a drought monitoring and early warning system that will improve the decision-making process for planning and managing risks regarding the impact of drought on food and water security;*
 - *drought mitigation*
 - *Raising awareness of population on climate change and effective agricultural practices*
 - *Development of Regional cooperation*

Country level – UZBEKISTAN (Central Asia):

Next steps to be undertaken:

- Continue the overall support of governmental agencies in implementation of national water management strategy;
- Participation in IDMP events organized by National and International agencies to ensure the synergy and efficiency.

Country consultation aimed to discuss the concept note of regional project proposal jointly developed by alliance of Agencies (WMO, UNCCD, FAO, GWPO, CAREC) to Adaptation fund has been performed in UZBEKISTAN . CWP Uzbekistan is continuously supporting the country consultation process

Progress updates: Country level – Uzbekistan (CA):

- Central Asian countries are in a process of permanent institutional optimization that results to frequent reforming...
- As it was announced in the end of 2022, number of executive institutions has been decreased up to 28 (against 61 previously existed); number of ministries decreased up to 21 (against 25). Number of employees were reduced for 35%. All these reforms were made within the First Stage of reforming.
- The institutional optimization is to be continued in the nearest future (as formally announced)
- ... it is hard to expect the IDMP progress... Might be later – CWP UZ' specialists are involved in development of national strategies on Climate Change Adaptation, so Drought is anyway still in their focus.

Country level – TURKMENISTAN (Central Asia):

Human and technical resource capacity of the Turkmen Hydromet Service has been assessed by GWP CACENA under the technical guidance of WMO and financial support of the Central Asia Water and Energy Program (CAWEP) of Worldbank and WMO. TurkmenHydromet is under the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection, which are key actors for drought related activities and therefore key partners for IDMP on the country.

The Assessment was performed in a format of interview with key specialists of the Turkmen Hydromet and covers the following sections:

- Institutional Status
- Stakeholders
- Service Delivery Chain
(Observation, Forecasting, Data processing, Service delivery, Human Resources)
- Organizational needs for defining strategic goals for the service delivery chain
- Performance indicators
- Costs of the strategic goals
- Monitoring and evaluation criteria
- Turkmenhydromet strategic plan and financial plan

The assessment report “Turkmen Hydromet Review Report – 2022” has been developed in Russian and English and is used for the development of a project proposals on technical assistance to Turkmen Hydromet.

Strategic partnering at a country level – TURKMENISTAN (CA):



<https://www.undp.org/turkmenistan/projects/developing-national-adaptation-planning-process-turkmenistan>

The project is focused on developing a national coordination mechanism and governance processes for conducting adaptation planning and measures and on strengthening the evidence base within the water sector so as to provide the information required for effective decision-making. Lastly, the project will increase the capacity of those involved in adaptation planning as within the water sector and adaptation planning in general.

- The proposed project seeks to achieve the following outcomes:

- Outcome 1: An Institutional framework to implement the Paris Agreement established
- Outcome 2: The evidence base for adaptation planning in the water sector strengthened
- Outcome 3: The capacity for adaptation planning strengthened

Project areas: Ashgabat (capital); Dasoguz region



1. Series of tri-partite meeting (government-business and CSOs; plus regional institutions (SIC ICSD, GWP CACENA)

- ✓ 3rd Meeting (“DROUGHT”) - IDM Program has been presented (27th of April 2023)

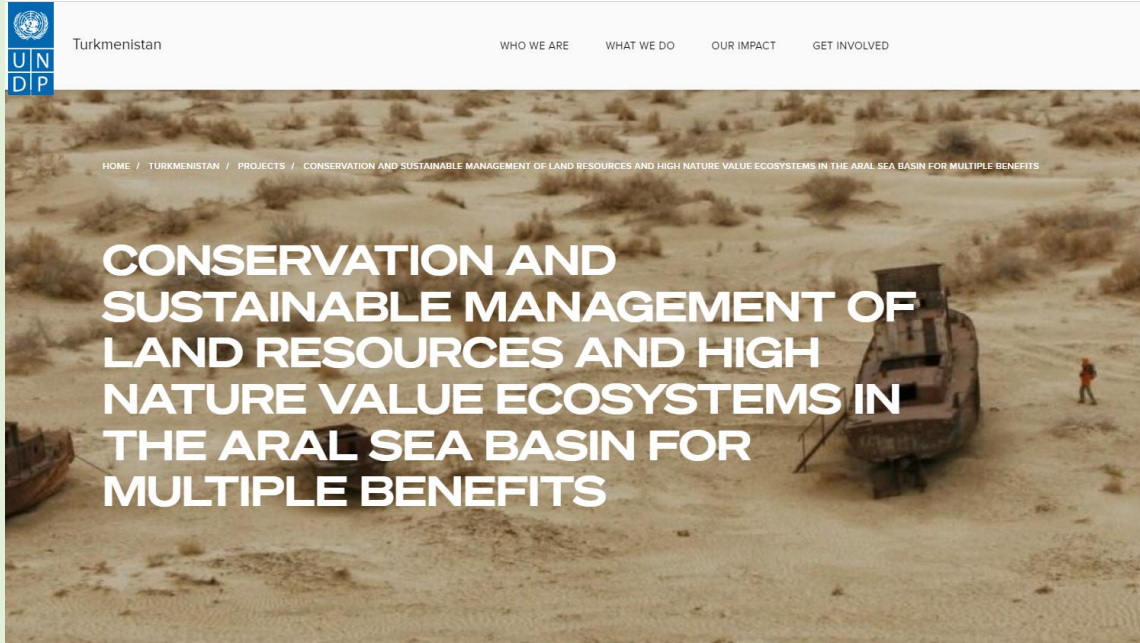
- ✓ 4th Meeting (“INNOVATIVE FORMATS FOR BETTER COOPERATION”) - Presentation GWP CACENA’s format (25th of May 2023)

- ✓ 5th Meeting (“Sources of Finance”) – scheduled for 17th of September

(input for technical content and co-financing of tri-partite meetings)

2. (Jointly with Hydrophil as leading company) GWP CACENA’s input in provision of services for conducting climate change risk assessments on the water resources on sub-national level in the city of Ashgabat and on water and agricultural sector in Dashoguz province (on IWRM & Climate Change Adaptation and on Gender Mainstreaming)

Strategic partnering at a country level – TURKMENISTAN (CA):



<https://www.undp.org/turkmenistan/projects/conservation-and-sustainable-management-land-resources-and-high-nature-value-ecosystems-aral-sea-basin-multiple-benefits>

- The objective of the project is to promote land degradation neutrality, restore and improve the use of land and water resources in Turkmenistan's Amudarya watershed to enhance the sustainability and resilience of livelihoods and globally significant ecosystems. This will be achieved through a multifocal strategy, that includes three interrelated outcomes that will support the government's efforts to prioritize policies and technical capacities to address desertification and biodiversity loss and deliver multiple Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs).
- The GEF investment will promote non-depleting farming and at the same time effective conservation of critical ecosystem services, through a no-net-loss approach to the land-based natural capital, within the context of supporting sustainable livelihoods for local resource users.



1. Participation in thematic events organized for various categories of stakeholders

- ✓ *Public awareness campaigns*
- ✓ *Creative competition "Posters for Desertification Combating" (July-August 2023)*
- ✓ *Gender aspects and water management*
- ✓ *Women at the frontlines of the climate action (8th of March 2023)*
- ✓ *Climate Change & Water Diplomacy (December 2022)*
- ✓ *Information workshop for rural women ("New skills required for better adaptation for Climate Change") – scheduled for September*

(input for technical content)

2. Working meetings between partner projects/programs (GIZ ILUCA: Regional Programme "Integrative and Climate-sensitive Land Use in Central Asia"/«Интегративное землепользование с учетом изменения климата в Центральной Азии для совместных усилий по достижению нейтральности баланса деградации земель»; FAO SACILM-2/FAO ИСЦАУЗР-2 в рамках НБДЗ)

At the regional level following activities have been performed by GWP CACENA:

- Drought and water scarcity portfolio of GWP CACENA was developed including formal documentation, methodological and discussion papers, strategies and etc. on drought management issued by national and international institutions.
- Participation in drought management related events to ensure the delivering of GWP CACENA's input (including the expert's comments for Regional Drought Strategy by CAREC)
- GWP CACENA's partners and donor institutions were communicated on the interest on project proposals on drought related issues to be submitted on behalf of CWPs and RWP
- Participation in Project Development Group Meetings aimed to develop the joint application to Adaptation Fund.
- Materials (both English and Russian) on drought related activities were developed for GWP sites

GWP CACENA continuously works on further development of drought management related issues to ensure the synergy and efficiency of joint efforts.

Strategic partnering at a regional level – CENTRAL ASIA:



THE REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR DROUGHT RISK MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION IN CENTRAL ASIA FOR 2021-2030

POLICY BRIEF

PRIORITY AREAS:

OVERALL GOAL

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

Ms. Dinara Asieвна Kutmanova
Minister Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment
and Technical supervision
Kyrgyz Republic

KAZAKHSTAN

Mr. Olzhas Agabekov
Head - Climate Change Department
Ministry of Energy
Kazakhstan



TAJIKISTAN

Mr. G.K. Gulmahmadzoda
Chairman of the Committee for Environmental
Protection Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Tajikistan

TURKMENISTAN

Mr. Berdi Berdiyev
Head of Department of Coordination of
International - Environment Cooperation and
Projects
Ministry of Agriculture and Environment
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Uzbekistan

Strategic partnering at a regional level – CENTRAL ASIA:



Project title: Climate risk management in Central Asia

Key partners: Relevant ministries in five CA countries and Center for emergency situations and disaster risk reduction (CESDRR)

Project duration – 2022 - 2026

The proposed project seeks to achieve the following outcomes:

- Outcome 1: The capacities of local actors in transboundary climate risk management are strengthened
- Outcome 2: The technical administrative foundations for transboundary early warning of hydrological disasters are improved
- Outcome 3: Regional dialogue forums promote transboundary climate risk management.



Kyrgyzstan: State Committee for Ecology and Climate;

Kazakhstan: Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources;

Tajikistan: State Committee for Environmental Protection;

Turkmenistan: Ministry of Nature Protection (newly re-established upon collapse of Ministry of Agriculture and Environment);

Uzbekistan: State Committee for Ecology and Environmental Protection



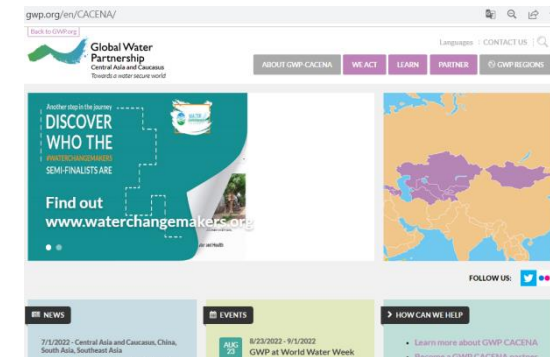
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THANK YOU!

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



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