

Monthly Press Review in the Field of IWRM in Central Asia: October 2014

Date	News	Reference
Kazakhstan		
08.10.2014	Integrated water resources water management About 20 new water storage facilities will be constructed in Kazakhstan by 2020. According to the vice-chairman of the Committee on Water Resources of the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan Bolat Bekniyazov, river runoff has been regulated in places where the hydraulic structures are maintained or can be built. Building water storage facilities will help solve issues like overflow of water from rivers, mudslides and floods. Moreover, there is currently a number of problem factors like global climate change, existence of transboundary water resources, the problem of purification of polluted lakes and rivers, irrational use of water resources which are to be solved within the program “Akbulak” and Program in Water Resources Management.	«Kazakhstanskayapravda»
13.10.2014	Green economy The problem of water scarcity is planned to be solved by 2025. Long-term state program “Akbulak” aimed at supplying population with quality fresh water has already been started in Kazakhstan. According to its plan, water supply problem in Kazakhstan will be solved by 2020. Meanwhile, The Planet is Our Home program is being started. It aims at providing possibilities to people to propose an innovative project which would guarantee increase of effectiveness of water sector and to receive funding of up to 150 thousand US dollars.	«24.kz»
25.10.2014	International cooperation Mr. Nursultan Nazarbayev, president of Kazakhstan stated in a meeting with Ms. Shri Mulvane Indrāvati, who is both the director of operational issues as well as the managing director of the WB Group, “Kazakhstan is interested in the prolongation and development of further cooperation with the World Bank”. In response, Ms.Shri Indrāvati remarked on the progress that was reached by Kazakhstan in the sphere of global and regional integration. She expressed hope that the republic in its future will play an important role in solving regional issues regarding the use of energy and water resources.	Easttime
Kyrgyzstan		
01.10.2014	Waterpolicy The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Erlan Abdyldayev, spoke on the Common Political Debates of the 69-th session of the UN General Assembly in New York. He emphasized the issues of water and hydropower in Central Asia region. “Kyrgyzstan believes that building of big hydropower stations is to be considered one of the elements of low carbon development and water resources can become a model kernel of “green development” in this region. Besides net energy output, building of hydropower stations in Kyrgyzstan will allow to change a regime of water storage from energetic to irrigative and subsequently increase the level of guaranteed water supply of the irrigated lands of downstream neighbor countries», said the Minister.	«Knews»
20.10.2014	Water supply According to the information agency «Knews», the state plans to spend 15,416,000,000 soms for the implementation of the state program for the	IA «Knews»

	development of drinking water supply and sanitation of settlements in Kyrgyzstan during the period from 2014 to 2024. It was announced at the meeting of the Parliamentary Committee on Agrarian Policy, Water and Regional Development. According to the project, "2,189,000,000 soms of the amount is the national budget. During the period from 2014 to 2024, the annual state program will spend 6,885,000,000 soms to implement construction and rehabilitation of water supply systems in 425 villages with population over 800,000 people; 6, 403,000,000 soms will be spent on construction and rehabilitation of water supply systems in 11 cities of the country with population over 2,350,000 people; 1,600,000,000 soms will be spent on drainage systems of 27 regional centers".	
24.10.2014	Law "On glaciers" "Glaciers are melting in Kyrgyzstan under the influence of global warming", the conclusion made by the members of the Conciliation Commission established to develop solutions to be adopted by the Parliament Law "On the Salvation and Protection of Glaciers" ("On Glaciers"). According to experts, the country has already lost two thousand glaciers that melt naturally under the influence of global warming. The commission was created to test the influence of large industrial companies on conditions of glaciers in Kyrgyzstan.	«Gezitter.org»
Tajikistan		
1.10.2014	Blackouts In rural areas of Tajikistan nightly rolling blackouts have been introduced to conserve water resources accumulated in the reservoirs of hydroelectric power plants of the country. This measure is undertaken to conserve water stored in the reservoir of the Nurek hydropower plant, which generates 80% of electricity in the country. Limits are introduced in the energy supply in Tajikistan every year from October to April due to a shortage of electricity.	«Bnews.kz»
24.10.2014	International cooperation In Dushanbe the second meeting of the joint Afghan-Tajik Technical Working Group on the basin of the transboundary rivers Amu Darya and Panj started. The event is supported by the Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of Tajikistan, the local representative of the OSCE and the UN Economic Commission for Europe. During the meeting, the parties assumed the exchange of data for monitoring water resources, carried out work, including expeditions in the border areas, as well as plans for the 2015-2016 biennium.	Afghanistan.ru
27.10.2014	Hydropower Tajik President Emomali Rahmon, speaking at the first investment forum on the action plan of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in cooperation with Central Asia, noted the importance of water and energy problems solution in Central Asia as a catalyst for social and economic welfare. The President called on the IDB to support interregional construction project on transmission lines CASA-1000 to export electricity from Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan to Afghanistan and Pakistan, which was initiated with support of the World Bank and other international financial institutions. This is one of the effective ways to solve these problems.	«Avesta»
Uzbekistan		
07.10.2014	Interstate cooperation The Government of Uzbekistan and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) signed country framework program. The priorities of the agreement,	«Gazeta.uz»

	«Gazeta.uz»for the period from 2014 to 2017 are crop diversification, improved livestock production and health, strengthening the fight against locusts, the expansion of fish production and rational use of natural resources on a sustainable basis. Special attention in the document is given to the conservation of natural resources in Uzbekistan with their sustainable use. Forest resources, manage the risks associated with drought, rational attitude to wildlife, sewage treatment and other joint activities are also reflected in the agreement.	
25.10.2014	Interstate cooperation During official visit to Turkmenistan of Uzbek President, Islam Karimov and Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov paid special attention to the use of water resources in the region. As noted, in solving problems related to water and energy sector, including the construction of large hydroelectric facilities on rivers, one must adhere to international standards as defined in the UN Convention to conduct an independent international review of such projects. They also discussed the situation in Afghanistan.	«UZdaily»
24.10.2014	Adaptation to climate change Uzbekistan has launched a large project "Provision of climate resilience of farming enterprises located in arid regions of Uzbekistan". The total amount of co-financing of UNDP and the Government of Uzbekistan 5.4 million USD. Project duration – 6 let. The main goal of the project is to create a climate resilient agricultural and livestock farming enterprises located in the arid regions of Uzbekistan, particularly in Karakalpakstan. The project will assist the central, regional and local public authorities, as well as the most vulnerable farming enterprises engaged in crop and livestock production in increasing resistance to arise as a result of increasing aridity and the projected increase in the frequency of droughts in the region.	«Econews.uz»
Turkmenistan		
10.10.2014	10.10.2014 Ashgabat hosted a seminar on aspects of international cooperation in the areas of water use and health in the context of the UN Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International lakes. It was noted in report that the workshop was held in the framework of cooperation between Turkmenistan and UN agencies - the European Economic Commission (UNECE) and the development Programme (UNDP). Workshop agenda included issues related to the basic provisions of the Protocol on Water and health to the Convention on the Protection and use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, as well as the exchange of experiences on the practical implementation of its obligations at the national level.	«Trend»

Sources:

1. «Gezitter.org»
2. «Afghsnistan.ru»
3. «Kazakhstanskaya pravda»
4. East Time
5. «Trend»
6. «Knews»

7. «Gazeta.uz»

8. «Avesta»

9. Ecologic portal «Econews.uz»

10. «24.kz»

11. «Bnews.kz»

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