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The Narrative report covers the period of April 2015 – May 2016 for the Joint EU / UNDP / UNECE Project “Supporting Kazakhstan’s transition to a Green Economy model”, which is being implemented under Project Number: DSI – ASIE/2014/355 – 664. The project is funded by the European Union.

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## ACRONYMS

UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
EU	European Union
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
CWR	Committee on Water Resources
GoK	Government of Kazakhstan
WHO	World Health Organization
EIB	European Investment Bank
DoA	Description of Action
NPD	National Project Director
IDB	Islamic Development Bank
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
GE	Green Economy
ToR	Terms of References
NGO	Non-Government Organization
CAREC	Central Asia Regional Environment Centre
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
IFI	International Finance Institution
GGI	Green Growth Indicators
GGGI	Global Green Growth Institute
COP	Conference of Parties
EECCA	Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SGP/GEF	Small Grant Programme/Global Environment Facility
SM	Social Media
VCS	Visibility and Communication Strategy
ToT	Training of Trainers
BID	Boost Industrial Development



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an overview about the state of implementation of the project for the period from April 2015 – May 2016.

The project provides a valuable contribution to the water sector in Kazakhstan's way towards Green Growth as it purposely addresses all of the sectors of society, i.e. the state sector, the private sector as well as civil society. Similarly, all of three key dimensions of sustainable development in the water sector are addressed by the project: Economy (Water as an Engine for Growth); Environment (Protection and Conservation of Water Resources) and Development (Water for an Improved Quality of Life).

A key challenge for this project is to demonstrate the benefits of green growth approaches through pilot infrastructure projects. This involves addressing institutional, legislative, and governance issues, in addition to technical and financial hurdles and promoting innovative approaches. Collaboration and partnerships among key actors and stakeholders allows to display key lessons of the successful operation of multipurpose "green" and sustainable water management.

The project design put particular emphasis on creating synergies among the project partners, the four outcomes and all of the activities of the project. Beyond organizational coherence, activities under the various results are being shaped in such way that they can multiply the impact of certain activities and thus contribute to the future sustainability of the project. This applies in particular on the selection and design of the three pilot projects.

A series of dialogues were held with the beneficiary, the donor and the participating organizations leading to a through integration of the project with initiatives of the Kazakh government and the aspirations of the Kazakh civil society. In addition, the private sector became a part of those dialogues. The project was thus truly embedded in the national and international context.

A highlight of the period under review was the process of selecting and design of pilot projects as foreseen in activity 4.1., i.e.

1. Integration of green growth ideas in the construction of centralized water supply and water discharge in rural areas in the Almaty region;
2. Re-equipment and Operation of Multifunctional Hydraulic Structures in the Aktobe region;
3. Demonstration of the new technologies in irrigation:
  - Development of Urban Agriculture for Astana;
  - Prospects of Oasis Irrigation in Desert and Semi-desert regions in Kazakhstan.

Special attention was given for the promotion of the joint efforts of the UN system and the European Union to support the integration of Green Economy principles into the water sector of Kazakhstan. The role of the EU as a donor of the project was clearly indicated through all of the PR activities.

Moreover, this joint UN-EU project was promoted outside of the country, through holding side-events at international fora such as the Ministerial conference of the Environment for Europe process and the Astana Economic Forum.



## **OUTCOME 1: WATER GOVERNANCE IN LINE WITH GREEN ECONOMY REQUIREMENTS**

### **Development of Water Governance for a Green Economy:**

Water has always played a central role in societies and it is a key driver of growth and poverty alleviation. It is a source of production, growth, and prosperity. Water security is the main aim of investment in water. Investment in water drives green growth, the green growth in its turn drives the investment in water. Investment in the governance of water resources ensures water security as it becomes a driver of green growth and a prerequisite for investments.

### **RESULT 1.1: TRANSBOUNDARY WATER MANAGEMENT**

The Description of Action foresees:

Activity 1.1.1. Training courses on international water legislation.

Activity 1.1.2. Development of the review and recommendations on the policy of Kazakhstan for Trans-boundary water cooperation.

Activity 1.1.3 Assessment of the situation in the transboundary Ural River and Kigach canal.

During the review period, in consultation with the beneficiary, i.e. the Committee for Water Resources of the Ministry of Agriculture, the project team started a series of activities in line with the Description of Action, recommendations from the inception process and the work plan:

- Training seminar on the «Improvement of transboundary water resources management in the Republic of Kazakhstan» was held on December 7-8, 2015 in partnership with the Scientific Research Center “Green Academy”, in Astana;
- The Center for Water Initiatives Support was identified as a national partner to carry out the activity 1.1.3 (assessment in Ural and Kigach transboundary basins), necessary experts were identified and contracted;
- Detailed work plan and terms of reference for consultants for the preparation of the review of transboundary waters and transboundary water cooperation for Kazakhstan has been developed and agreed upon;
- Two bilateral expert meetings were held on the Ural River (February 17, 2016 in Uralsk) and the Kigach Canal (February 24, 2016 in Atyrau);
- Assessments of the Ural River and Kigach canal were initiated in January 2016, and their preliminary findings were presented on May 30, 2016 at the NPD SC meeting in Borovoe.

#### **Activity 1.1.1. Training courses on international water legislation**

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

The first training seminar on “Improving Transboundary Water Management” was held on December 7-8, 2015, in Astana. The event was organized to expand the understanding of international water law, transboundary water management policies in the Republic of Kazakhstan, and activities of joint management bodies as well as opportunities for further development of water cooperation. International experts provided an overview of international water law, experience of international basin

commissions from the Sava and Danube rivers, approaches to reform the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS), experiences from the implementation of the UNECE Water Convention and the UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents. A separate session was dedicated to the experiences of Kazakhstan in furthering bilateral water cooperation.

The target group included national decision makers and technical experts involved in transboundary water cooperation with Russia, China and Central Asian states. The seminar was attended by the Heads of Transboundary Rivers Management under the Water and Biological Resources Department, Heads of the Water Resources Control and Protection, Heads of the Basin Inspections under the Committee on Water Resources of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Ministry of National Economy officials, managers and officers of the Green Economy Department under the Ministry of Energy and its affiliates, UNDP and UNECE officers, international and national experts, and NGOs. In total 31 participants participated in the seminar.

The participants underlined their interest in continuing regular discussions on transboundary cooperation to keep staff of the basin inspections and relevant water management bodies updated on the corresponding innovative water management practices. The report of the seminar is available in Annex B.

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

A second seminar-training on improvement of transboundary water resources management in the Republic of Kazakhstan will take place in October-November 2016. Back-to-back with the seminar a high-level round table will be arranged with the aim to discuss the draft Policy review and recommendations on transboundary water management in Kazakhstan (see below Activity 1.1.2).

Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentations and hand-outs for the seminars;</li> <li>• Agendas, participants registration lists, minutes and resolutions of the seminars;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report of the first seminar-training is available in the Annex B. Other materials of the first seminar-training are available on-line at <a href="http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=42872#/">http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=42872#/</a></li> </ul>

**Activity 1.1.2. Development of a review and recommendations on the policy of Kazakhstan for trans-boundary water cooperation**

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

The development of the review and formulation of recommendations on the policy of Kazakhstan for trans-boundary water cooperation was initiated in February 2016. A team of three international and national experts were identified to review the status of transboundary waters and transboundary water cooperation of Kazakhstan, and to develop policy recommendations including on elaborating drafts for



possible changes in the national legislation. A detailed work plan and terms of reference for consultants for the preparation of the Policy review and recommendations on transboundary water cooperation for Kazakhstan have been developed and agreed upon.

The Policy review provides an analysis on the status of the implementation of the bilateral and basin agreements and protocols on specific transboundary rivers with the Russian Federation and Central Asian states, as well as it will outline the opportunities for development of the cooperation. The outline of the Policy review was discussed with the Ministry of Agriculture and Committee on Water Resources and Ministry for Foreign Affairs (May 12, 2016, Astana).

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

The first draft of the Policy review with comments received during the meeting with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Agriculture will be available in July 2016. After consultations with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Agriculture during the summer of 2016 the Policy review will be a subject to a larger national consultations process. These national consultations will be arranged in two steps: (1) seminar-training on improvement of transboundary water resources management in the Republic of Kazakhstan, that will broadly discuss all chapters of the Policy review, and (2) high-level round table that will focus on discussing and approving recommendations. Both events will take place back-to-back in October-November 2016. The Policy review will then be finalised in December 2016, taking into account the comments received during these two events

Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment report on Kazakhstan's dependence on transboundary waters;</li> <li>• Recommendations for improving the national policies on transboundary waters;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Policy Review and recommendations on transboundary water management in Kazakhstan will be finalised in the next reporting period</li> </ul>

**Activity 1.1.3 Assessment of the situation in the transboundary Ural River and Kigach canal**

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

In the Ural basin, the declining water flow hinders fish migration. As suggested during the inception period, a thorough assessment of the status in the transboundary Ural River and Kigach canal will be carried out upon the request of the beneficiary.

The Astana based Centre for Water Initiatives Support has been identified as a national partner and has been contracted to assist in carrying out the work under this component; necessary experts were identified and contracted.

An expert group was established to assess the situation in the Ural River and Kigach canal and to provide recommendations for the programme of work of the Kazakh-Russian Bilateral Commission. Two technical meetings had been held so far, i.e. Russian-Kazakh meeting on Ural (Uralsk, February





17, 2016) and a Russian-Kazakh meeting on Kigach (Atyrau, February 24, 2016). Reports of the two meetings are provided in the Annex C.

The Russian MFA nominated two technical experts from the Orenburg Oblast for the assessment of the Ural River and two experts from Astrakhan Oblast for the assessment of Kigach canal. During the expert meeting on Ural assessment, the difficulties of accessing the necessary data from the Bashkortostan Republic and Chelyabinsk Oblasts of Ural basin were indicated.

The preliminary findings of the assessments were presented on 30-31 May 2016 at the NPD Steering Committee meeting.

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

Following the feedback received during the NPD meeting (Borovoe, 30-31 May 2016), an updated version of the assessment on Kigach and Ural will be discussed at the two-day technical meeting of Russian and Kazakh experts (June 23-24, 2016, Astana). The drafts assessments will be discussed at regular meetings of Kazakh-Russian working group on Ural and working group on Kigach (both initially planned for July 2016). Draft assessments will then be presented at the annual meeting of the Russian-Kazakh bilateral commission on the use and protection of transboundary water courses (initially planned for August 2016). Depending on the outcomes of the commission's discussion, the assessment will be finalized in fall 2016. Additional studies on Ural and Kigach will be conducted in fall 2016 with final results to be presented at 5th NPD Steering Committee (initially planned for May 2017). As a follow-up to the studies, a strategy for use of water resources for Ural and Kigach basins will be drafted in the second half of 2017.

Based on request from the beneficiary (CWR) during the inception phase and as raised at the bilateral meetings with the Deputy Minister of Agriculture Mr. Nysanbaev in February and June 2016, the possibility of conducting a background study in the trans-boundary basin of Bolshoi and Malyi Uzen will be considered. Depending on budget availability, this background study may be initiated in the second half of 2017 as part of the activity 1.1.3.

Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agendas, participants registration lists, minutes and resolutions of the seminars;</li> <li>Assessment report on Ural and Kigach River basin.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Materials of the two meetings are provided in the Annex C.</li> <li>Assessment report will be finalized in the next reporting period</li> </ul>



## RESULT 1.2: REVIEW AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE INSTITUTIONAL BASIS FOR RIVER BASIN MANAGEMENT

The Description of Action foresees:

- 1.2.1. A review of current experience with river basin management plans in Kazakhstan, with a focus on one pilot basin to be selected during the inception phase;
- 1.2.2. The preparation of policy recommendations for strengthening basin administrations and basin councils, building on international good practice.
- 1.2.3. Develop a basin plan in full compliance with the green economy concept.

### Activity 1.2.1. Review current experience with river basin management plans in Kazakhstan, with a focus on one pilot basin to be selected during the inception phase

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

During the inception phase, the Balkhash-Alakol river basin was selected. The technical workshop has been scheduled to be held in autumn 2016 in Almaty to facilitate the sharing of experience of managing the Balkhash Alakol basin. The workshop is expected to be attended by representatives of basin councils from all eight major Kazakh basins and two major sub-basins of Kazakhstan. The workshop will be organized as a back-to-back event on Basin Council meeting, supported by UNDP within activity 2.1.2.

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

Technical workshop will be conducted in Almaty (initially planned for November 2016) as a back-to-back event on Basin Council meeting, supported by UNDP. It will explore an experience with existing river basin management practices in Kazakhstan, discuss the needs of the river basin inspections, the issues hampering effective realization of the river basin management policy. Based on the outcomes of the discussions at the workshop, the report on recommended policy and institutional improvements in river basin management will be prepared.

Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report on recommended policy and institutional improvements in river basin management</li> </ul>	To be developed in the next reporting period

### Activity 1.2.2. Prepare policy recommendations for strengthening basin administrations and basin councils, building on international good practice

The beneficiary – Committee on Water Resources, expressed during the inception period its interest to advance its experiences from the European region on ways of establishing the sustainable financing for basin administrations. Accordingly, the issue of financing and multi-annual planning of



water use and distribution at the basin and Akimat level are considered to be subjects for respective training activities.

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

During the first half of 2017, training activities will commence with seminars on multi-annual planning of water use. Distribution will be selected from those basins that already have some relevant experience, i.e. the basins of Aral-Syrdarya, Tobol-Turgai and Balkash-Alakol.

Once the anticipated study on strengthening of basin management with policy recommendation is completed, a national-level conference for policy-makers will be organized in 2017 to present the key findings addressing Central government, Akimats and civil society.

Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment report on river basin management practices in Kazakhstan;</li> <li>• Agenda, participants' list, minutes, and resolution of the national conference;</li> <li>• Training modules;</li> <li>• Training hand-outs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be prepared in the next reporting period</li> <li>• To be available in the next reporting period</li> </ul>

**1.2.3. Develop a basin plan in full compliance with the green economy concept.**

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

During UNECE missions to Astana in May and July 2015 and in follow-up correspondence, it was agreed with the Committee on Water Resources of the Ministry of Agriculture to drop activity 1.2.3. This was also accounted for in the inception report of the project. Instead of designing yet another basin plan, CWR stressed that at this point, practical recommendations and trainings are more relevant to improve water resources management at the basin level.

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

There are no further plans as the activity has been cancelled.

Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstration river basin Management Plan.</li> </ul>	There will not be such deliverable due to cancelling the entire activity



## RESULT 1.3: SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH

The following activities are foreseen:

- 1.3.1 Establishing a National working group and an expert group to identify and set national targets and target dates;
- 1.3.2. Setting national targets and target dates on water and health as the result of participative process;
- 1.3.3. Providing support for the formal adoption of the national targets by appropriate Governmental agencies;
- 1.3.4. Initiating implementation of selected 'soft' (i.e. non-infrastructure) national targets, and
- 1.3.5. Preparation of the Kazakh national report under the Protocol on Water and Health.

### Activity 1.3.1. Establishing a national expert group on water and health

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

The Committee on Consumer Protection (CCP) of the Ministry of National Economy is the main governmental body in charge of coordinating work under the Protocol on Water Health in Kazakhstan. New focal point from the CCP on the Protocol on Water Health was nominated in early 2016.

In February 2016, a national expert group on setting targets under the Protocol was formally established. The group consists of representatives of relevant governmental bodies including the Committee on Consumer Protection and Committee on Construction, Communal Housing and Land Management of the Ministry of National Economy, Ministry of Health and Social Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Committee on Geology and Subsurface Resources Management of the Ministry of Investments and Development as well as relevant non-governmental bodies and academia.

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

No further plans are available for this activity

Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Document setting up the National working group;</li> <li>• List of participants of the National working group meeting;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available in Russian upon request</li> </ul>

### Activity 1.3.2. Setting national targets on water and health

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):



On 1 March 2016, a kick-off meeting of the national expert group on setting targets under the Protocol took place in Astana. UNECE made a presentation on the obligations under the Protocol and particularly on the target setting, describing its step by step process. The WHO country office was also attending the meeting and made a commitment to provide feedback on the draft targets once they are available. The national expert group presented the first draft of the Kazakh national targets to the National working group in April 2016 and initial feedback from stakeholders was collected at the workshop held on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in Almaty. The draft national targets were presented at the NPD Steering Committee meeting on May 30-31<sup>st</sup>, 2016 in Borovoe.

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

In June 2016 to January 2017 the drafted national targets will be consulted with relevant stakeholders and finalised.

Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documented inclusive process on setting the national targets under the Protocol on Water and Health;</li> <li>National targets and target dates under the Protocol on Water and Health.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report of the first kick-off meeting of the national working group is available on-line at the <a href="http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/water/meetings/Water_Convention/2016/Projects_in_Central_Asia/Report_EN_on_Protocol_on_Water_and_Health_March1_EN.pdf">http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/water/meetings/Water_Convention/2016/Projects_in_Central_Asia/Report_EN_on_Protocol_on_Water_and_Health_March1_EN.pdf</a></li> <li>Proposed draft national targets and target dates as passed to the Government is available in Russian upon request.</li> </ul>

### **Activity 1.3.3. Adoption of national targets**

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

This activity is directly linked to the process of accession to the Protocol on Water and Health and it is expected that the two processes will be run simultaneously.

The Government indicated its interest to proceed with accession to the Protocol and also supported the setting of national targets. The UNECE officer in charge of the Protocol met with the Committee on Consumer Protection and Committee on Construction, Communal Housing and Land Management of the Ministry of National Economy in March 2016 to confirm that the secretariat would be ready to provide all of the necessary support for this work. It was also emphasized that ideally the accession process should be finalized or to be close to finalization prior to the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Water and Health (Geneva, 14-16 November 2016).

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):



The draft national targets on water and health will be submitted to the Government for formal approval by the end of 2016. The UNECE expert will follow-up the process of review/approval of priority target areas and national targets on Water and Health developed by the national expert group and will continue to support the work on ratification of the UNECE/WHO Protocol on Water and Health.

The progress update on ratification of the Protocol on Water and Health and review/approval of priority target areas and national targets on Water and Health will be reported and reviewed at the NPD working group meeting in late 2016 and NPD Steering Committee meeting in spring 2017.

Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National targets and target dates under the Protocol on Water and Health.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be available in the next reporting period (pending approval by the Government).</li> </ul>

**Activity 1.3.4. Implementation of few selected targets**

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

No activities were conducted during the reporting period

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

This activity will start following the setting and approval of national targets on water and health.

Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An action plan for achieving targets, including legal and administrative tools, prepared, with priority actions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be available upon approval of the targets by the Government</li> </ul>

**Activity 1.3.5. Preparation of the Kazakh national report under the Protocol on Water and Health**

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

No activities were conducted during the reporting period

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

Initially, the Government planned to prepare the national summary report under the Protocol on Water and Health for which the deadline of submission was on 18 April 2016. Nevertheless, as the main objective of the reporting exercise under the Protocol is to collect the data on the achievement of national targets and since the target setting process required additional time and consultations among



national stakeholders, the Government decided to postpone the report until draft targets have been formulized. Also taking into consideration that Kazakhstan is still in the process of accession to the Protocol, the country is not yet under the legal obligation to submit its national summary report.

#### Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report on baseline analysis;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be prepared in 2018</li> </ul>

### **RESULT 1.4: TRAINED WATER MANAGERS**

Kazakhstan experiences a lack of young and mid-career professional water sector specialists with high qualification. To efficiently manage its water resources, Kazakhstan needs professionals with technical knowledge as well as interdisciplinary management skills. It also needs to ensure transfer of knowledge and experience on teaching water resources management related disciplines from Europe. The project responds to the issue by the following activities foreseen in the Description of Action (DoA):

- 1.4.1. The development of training modules and manuals; and
- 1.4.2. Conducting training of teachers and students;
- 1.4.3. Capacity building of staff

#### **Activity 1.4.1. Development of training modules and manuals**

##### Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

During the review period, consultations were held with several potential partners and the German Kazakh University was selected as a partner for this activity. Synergies with other initiatives of the UN system regarding IWRM training have been identified and explored.

German-Kazakh University (GKU) has invited several higher education institutions for cooperation under this activity. These institutions include the Taras State University, the Kazakh National Agrarian University, the Eurasian National University and others. It has been agreed that training modules (including teaching manuals, lectures, seminars and presentations) will be developed in four thematic areas: legal, economic, technological and political aspects of IWRM.

GKU has identified and contracted national and international experts, discussed and approved the outline of the manual and proposed the structure for the four training modules. Each of the four modules (legal, economic, technological and political aspects of IWRM) would include 10 lectures and 10 seminars on the designated subject of the module (2 lectures and 2 seminars per day). The length of each module will be five full days.

It was also agreed that for each of the four modules a dedicated manual will be developed. Manuals are to be developed by international and national experts in advance of the trainings and will be based on handbooks used for teaching the IWRM course at the Free University of Berlin and the GKU. Manuals will be complemented and adopted by the Kazakh experts participating in the training.



To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

In June-July 2016 GKU will review and approve the draft manuals prepared by the international and national experts, as well as the lecture and seminar materials.

The draft manuals will be used as training materials during the first training. The training participants will be invited to provide their comments and feedback on the content. Manuals will then be completed, printed and offered as teaching materials to participants of the training courses and other universities teaching water-related subjects.

Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment report on current curriculum in the field of water resources management gaps and needs for improvement;</li> <li>Report on recommendations to the relevant academic courses;</li> <li>TOT modules for the newly proposed courses;</li> <li>Set of educational materials for teachers and students for newly proposed courses.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There will be no such deliverable due to re-distribution of part of the funds to the training of governmental staff (activity 1.4.3)</li> <li>There will be no such deliverable (see above)</li> <li>To be available in the next reporting period</li> <li>To be available in the next reporting period</li> </ul>

**Activity 1.4.2. Conduct training of teachers and students**Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

In March 2016 GKU agreed with UNECE and sent invitations to participate in the training to the 10 leading Universities of Kazakhstan teaching water related subjects. The work plan as well as budget for developing the training courses was prepared and agreed. The UNDP office in Astana proposed its assistance for the training in the form of supporting the travel of trainings participants outside of Almaty. GKU will provide for all necessary logistical arrangements for the trainings.

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

During June-July 2016 GKU will finalise the list of Universities participating in the training. The first two training modules will take place from August 15<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and will cover water policy and technology in water management. The next two training modules (economy of water management and water law) are provisionally scheduled for January 2017.

Deliverables against DoA:



Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agendas of the trainings, participants registration lists, minutes and other related training materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be available in the next reporting period</li> </ul>

#### **Activity 1.4.3. Capacity building of staff**

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

During the inception period the beneficiary – Committee on Water Resources, has requested to dedicate part of the capacity building activity to government staff. For the capacity building of governmental staff, the State Academy is being considered as the project's main partner.

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

A set of courses is planned to be organized in 2017-2018 to build capacity of staff of ministries and other public institutions. Tentatively five two-day courses will be organized. Preparative work for these courses will commence in autumn 2016.

Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agendas of the training courses, participants registration lists;</li> <li>Set of training courses materials</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be available in 2018</li> </ul>



## OUTCOME 2: INCREASED EFFICIENCY OF WATER USE

Kazakhstan considers the further improvement of the economic mechanisms as an essential provision for fair sharing and effective use of water resources, both in national and transboundary contexts. Respective instruments need to be adapted to the country specific conditions. While it is obvious that the economic instruments should be adjusted to ensure that the 'polluter pays' and 'user pays' principles are correctly adopted in Kazakhstan, the instruments should also include incentives to achieve changes and encourage best practices.

Based on the inception period consultations, Outcome 2 addresses three main thematic areas:

- Economic instruments for drinking water supply and sanitation;
- Promotion of innovative water technologies and practices in irrigation and water safe technologies; and
- Business models to ensure sustainability of operations, maintenance and financing of water infrastructure.

Based on the inception consultation held with the Department of Green Economy of the Ministry of Energy, a workshop on OECD green economy indicators is foreseen as well.

During the 2016 Astana Economic Forum, an international panel organized by UNDP Kazakhstan addressed Kazakhstan's transition to a Green Economy, focusing on the potential of economic instruments.

The earlier experiences gained in Kazakhstan within this project was shared by a special side event at the Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference, held in Batumi from 8-10 June 2016.

Most importantly, the outputs of this result provided important inputs to the pilot projects as foreseen in Result 4.1. thus underline the approach taken by UNDP of proactively establishing synergies among the outcome and results of this project.



## RESULT 2.1: ANALYSIS AND REFORM OF ECONOMIC INSTRUMENTS TO DRIVE WATER EFFICIENCY (UNDP)

The following activities are foreseen within this result, i.e.:

- 2.1.1. A review of existing economic instruments in two sectors;
- 2.1.2. Development of a roadmap for reform in one pilot basin; and
- 2.1.3. Development of training curricula and conducting of training for local officers.

### Activity 2.1.1. Review existing economic instruments in two sectors (water supply and sanitation)

#### Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

During the inception period the priority area for this activity was identified as - water supply and sanitation. Both a national institution (Green Academy) and an international expert (Professor D. Zetland) prepared jointly a profile of the current economic instruments in Kazakhstan, their impact, options for improvement, initial recommendations and an analysis of training needs. A series of consultations with stakeholders from Governmental bodies, civil society and private sector dealing with water supply and sanitation were held. A national review was prepared and recommendations for the improvement of economic instruments on water supply, and sanitation were outlined.

A set of recommendations was presented at a national workshop in Astana on 12<sup>th</sup> of February 2016 in Astana. The final report was submitted to the beneficiary, i.e. the CWR, endorsed, and has been published jointly by CWR and UNDP Kazakhstan. The respective report is attached as Annex D. The publication was presented and disseminated during the Green Economy session on Astana economic Forum (May 25, 2016).

#### Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

Based on the recommendations given in the report on Economic instruments and OECD report on Sustainable Business Models for Water Supply and Sanitation in Small Towns and Rural Areas in Kazakhstan, the pilot business model will be developed for Akshi village. National Expert on Social issues to be recruited to identify best model for Akshi village. In second half of 2016 series of consultations with local farmers, administration and other interested parties will be conducted to create local cooperative of drainage water. In 2017 cooperative will be created and trained for sustainable operation of local organization. This cooperative will be responsible for maintenance of drainage system build as outlined in outcome 4.1.

#### Deliverable against DoA

Deliverable	Status
Assessment report on the efficiency and effectiveness of existing economic instruments for water management	Done, please see annex D



### Activity 2.1.2. Develop a roadmap for reform in one pilot basin.

#### Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

During the review period the beneficiary, i.e. the Water Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture, underlined its wish to focus on developing a roadmap for reform by increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of economic instruments in a particular watershed to act as pilot demonstration in the Kazakh context.

The Balkhash Alakol basin was selected and a roadmap for reform in this basin will be developed. Recommendations will be prepared, in co-ordination with the Basin Council, to develop capacities and apply economic instruments.

This activity is being implemented in cooperation with the Balkhash - Alakol Basin Inspection and Council. A national expert has been recruited and a working group was established. Currently, the expert liaises with water consumer organisations in the basin, prepares an analytical note on the environmental status of Lake Balkhash.

As of today, the first working group meeting was conducted on 15 April 2016 where the current situation of the Ili-Balkhash basin was discussed. Also the meeting covered the preparation of the plan to address the solving of Lake Balkhash basin problems with participation of relevant government bodies, the head of Balkhash Alakol basin, representatives from “Kazgidromet”, “Kazgiprovodhoz” and other stakeholders.

As a result of the meeting, the following recommendations were made:

- 1) To consider that the level of Balkhash Lake decreased by 64 cm in comparison to 2012, continuing negative impact of economic entities on the level and quality of the lake water, given the dependence of the river flow, or from a neighbouring state requires developing a programme (plan) to address the solving of Lake Balkhash basin problems;
- 2) To approve the presented Calendar plan on programme development to address the solving of Lake Balkhash basin problems (provided in Annex E);
- 3) To discuss a programme on addressing the solving of Lake Balkhash basin problems and develop respective recommendations at the Balkhash Alakol Council Meeting in July 2016.

#### Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

During the next reporting period, June 2016 – June 2017, a research note based on Ili-Balkhash basin current environmental study will be prepared, the environment and water resources conservation measures for Ili-Balkhash basin will be developed, the Program for monitoring, improving and conserving favourable environment in Ili-Balkhash basin proposals will be developed to mitigate and, wherever possible, prevent harmful impacts from businesses on the environment and water resources. Two Balkhash Alakol Basin Councils in 2016 will be held, the first is in July 2016 with the participation of members of the Balkhash-Alakol Basin Inspection Board, the second meeting of Balkhash-Alakol Basin Inspection Board will be held in autumn 2016 to present the prepared Plan & Proposals to Address the Lake Balkhash Basin Conservation Issues, and in the afternoon of the same day and/or the next day, depending on the agenda, to ensure participation of eight Kazakhstani basin



councils in discussion on dam safety. A report on recommended economic instruments in one pilot basin will be prepared during the next reporting period.

#### Deliverable against DoA

Deliverable	Status
A roadmap for reform for Balkhash - Alakol Basin	Will be provided in the next reporting period
Report on recommended economic instruments in Balkhash - Alakol Basin.	Will be provided in the next reporting period

#### **Activity 2.1.3. Develop training curricula and conduct training for local officers**

##### Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):



On 26 May 2016 there was a Technical training conducted on “Water tariffs, water allocation and sustainable fiscal policies” organized by Prof. Dr David Zetland, UNDP International expert on development of economic instruments in water supply and sanitation sectors and Professor of Economics at the University of Leiden in The Hague. The training was attended by Government officials (Ministry of Energy, Department of Green Economy; Committee of Water resources, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of National Economics etc.) , non-governmental organizations (Association Su Arnasy, Centre of Water initiatives, Water association AquaKazakhstan etc), private companies, as well as other experts in the field of water management. It

covered an overview of the pros and cons of different revenue sources (tariffs, taxes, transfers) for urban water utilities, tariff structures for charging customers (fixed, volumetric, seasonal). Also, the workshop provided a platform to discussion the value of water for economic and social uses on the included exercises on the implementation ways of foreign best practices to Kazakhstan.

##### Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

It is planned to develop curricula and training modules for staff at institutions involved in setting up and managing water tariffs and subsidies by the end of 2016. This will include developing training materials and conducting workshops, targeting key stakeholders, such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Committee on Water Resources; the Ministry of National Economy; the Ministry of Finance; the Ministry of Health and Social Development; the Anti-Monopoly Committee; the Agency for Regulating Natural Monopolies; water utility providers; and water user associations.

In order to provide sustainability of the result, developed training materials will be passed to the state Academy of Public administration under the President of Republic of Kazakhstan to be introduced to



the general management course of Academy. The Project will provide full support to the Academy to integrate course into the Academy's program.

Coordination is intended with other capacity development activities as envisaged in the activities 1.4. and 4.2.

#### Deliverable against DoA

Deliverable	Status
Training programs and hand-outs	Will be provided in the next reporting period
Training toolkits (modules) for teachers and students.	Will be provided in the next reporting period

#### **Activity 2.1.4. Capacity development of the state officials for development green economy indicators**

##### Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

Kazakhstan is implementing a Road map for 2013 - 2020 on the realization of the Concept on a transition of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the "green economy".

The Committee of Statistics is an organization responsible for the implementation of item 7, which is to ensure the collection of statistics within the statistical work plan needed to assess and monitor the implementation of the Concept on a transition of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the "green economy" on a regular basis. This activity is implemented in a cooperation with the OECD experts under the Country Programme of the Cooperation between the Government of Kazakhstan and OECD. Currently there are 38 indicators already introduced and the work is undergoing on the adaptation of other OECD indicators.

Along with item 7 of the programme, The Ministry of Energy is implementing item 8, to make proposals for the establishment of an integrated "green" standard of living for the population of the regions, which will include a certain level of economic development, environment, public health, provision of clean water and also item 9, which is based on the level of ecological safety develop the comprehensive system of gradation for the regions of Kazakhstan.

The Project held consultations with the Ministry of Energy, Committee of Statistics, as well as representatives of the OECD in order to coordinate their actions within the framework of these activities.

##### Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

The project will develop a recommendations for the model of integrated "green" indicators of population living standards for the regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan, including the level of economic development, the environment, health, clean water, and others. Moreover, the recommendations will be given for the methodology of development the model of gradation system for the regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the degree of environmentally safety.



As mentioned above, these activities are implemented as a part of the Plan of Measures to realize the Concept of transition of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the "green economy" in the years 2013 -2020, outcome 8 and outcome 9.

In fall 2016 it is plan to organize technical workshop jointly with OECD, Ministry of Energy and Committee of Statistics in order to present results of the study.

Deliverable against Inception report (this activity was added during inception phase)

Deliverable	Status
Recommendations on introducing integrated "green" standard of living for the population of the regions, which will include a certain level of economic development, environment, public health, provision of clean water	Will be provided in the next reporting period
Recommendations for the methodology of development the model of gradation system for the regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the degree of environmentally safety	Will be provided in the next reporting period

## **RESULT 2.2: PROMOTION OF INNOVATIVE WATER TECHNOLOGIES AND PRACTICES IN TWO PRIORITY SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY (IRRIGATION AND WATER SAFE TECHNOLOGIES)**

This result comprises two major activities:

- 2.2.1. A review of the policies that affect the diffusion of innovative technologies and practices for water efficiency;
- 2.2.2. The Formulation of policy recommendations for the adoption and diffusion for water related innovation.

Both activities are implemented in close cooperation with the pilot projects on greenhouses in Astana and the Kyzylorda irrigation scheme as foreseen in Result 4.1.

### **Activity 2.2.1. Review the policies that affect the diffusion of innovative technologies and practices for water efficiency and develop policy recommendations**

Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

The activity will be started in the next reporting period

Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

During the second half of 2016 a review will take place to understand the limiting factors regarding the diffusion of innovative technologies and practices for water efficiency in Kazakhstan, and the ways to overcome them. The Project will review the policy, their impact, present initial recommendations and prepare the analysis.



National review outcomes and recommendations will be presented during the third technical workshop with the participation of stakeholders from Governmental bodies, NGOs and private sector to be held in the second half of 2016. Based on the consultations, a national review will be prepared and recommendations will be finalized.

Deliverable against DoA

Deliverable	Status
Gap analysis report on policies effecting the diffusion of water efficient technologies in Kazakhstan;	Will be provided in the next reporting period

**Activity 2.2.2. Develop policy recommendations for the adoption and diffusion for water related innovation**

Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

The activity will be started in the next reporting period

Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

Based on the review outlined in 2.2.1, a set of recommendations will be prepared and submitted to CWR for endorsement. The recommendations are expected to be integrated in the state programme BID for the development of a national industry for the production of irrigation and drainage machinery.

Deliverable against DoA

Deliverable	Status
Recommendations on policy improvements to enable the diffusion of water efficient technologies in Kazakhstan	Will be provided in the next reporting period





## RESULT 2.3: BUSINESS MODELS TO ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY OF OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE AND FINANCING OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Water infrastructures (including dams, reservoirs and irrigation canals) in Kazakhstan are financed by the public budget. International good practice provides options to consider alternative business models, in which multiple uses generate the revenues to cover the operation and maintenance costs of these infrastructures, promoting efficient operation, freeing public finance and potentially attracting private operators. The recent experience in Kazakhstan suggests that the new investments are planned to be undertaken the need to review the current business models of the operation of dams and local automated and remote alert systems, in order to ensure their long-term sustainability, safety, efficiency and effectiveness.

Following discussions with the CWR, activity 2.3. will focus on small and medium dams. Project partners agreed that a study would be carried out on the feasibility of assessing how far international good practice in business models would be applicable to manage small and medium dams in Kazakhstan.

The following activities are foreseen in the Description of Action (DoA):

- 2.3.1. An assessment of the current business models applied in Kazakhstan for managing multipurpose water systems vis-a-vis international good practice, and draft recommendations;
- 2.3.2. The implement of a pilot project in one particular multipurpose water system.

### Activity 2.3.1. Assess the current business models applied in Kazakhstan for managing multipurpose water systems vis-a-vis international good practice, and draft recommendations

#### Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

A series of consultations with stakeholders from governmental bodies, NGOs and private sector were held by a national consultant in cooperation with the Chief Technical Adviser. Based on the consultations, a set of recommendations were developed to promote and facilitate the sound management of dams, including suggestions to revise relevant regulations (Annex F). The recommendations were submitted to the CWR for endorsement and subsequent publication.

#### Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

Developed recommendations will be bases for pilot activities within Pilot Project 2. Re-equipment and operation of multipurpose water infrastructure – Aktobe region.

#### Deliverable against DoA

Deliverable	Status
Assessment report on business models	Done, please see Annex F
Recommendations for the business models applicable in Kazakhstan context	Done, please see Annex F
Recommendations on improvement of the policies regulating multi-purpose water	Done, please see Annex F



infrastructure	
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### **Activity 2.3.2. Implement a pilot project in one particular multipurpose water system and produce final recommendations**

#### Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

The Water Committee suggested that a respective pilot project (see also Activity 4.1.) would be implemented with a particular focus on dam safety aspects. During the inception phase, guidelines and criteria were developed for the pilot project on multipurpose water systems. The pilot project concept was further developed and sharpened through a multi stakeholder approach as well as in dialogue with the submitting organizations (please see Activity 4.2.4. Carry out the workshops on knowledge sharing and capacity building for potential applicants and other target groups). Detailed information about pilot project on the “Development of a feasibility study "Integrated use of the potential Kargaly reservoir” and on “Re-equipment and operation of multipurpose hydraulic engineering structures (Aktobe region)” is reflected in Activity 4.1.3. Form a pool of pilot projects through a screening and review process.

#### Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

During May –September 2016 Design and Estimate Documentation (DED - ПСД) for pilot project will be developed. Based on DED the procurement process for the construction services and equipment will be proceeded in Fall 2016.

Feasibility study will be started in July 2016 and to be completed till Spring 2017.

#### Deliverable against DoA

Deliverable	Status
Pilot project description and progress reports	Pilot project description in given in Annex H and Annex I Progress reports to be submitted in the next reporting period



## RESULT 2.4: TECHNICAL SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF HYDRO-TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

The following activities are foreseen in the Description of Action (DoA):

- 2.4.1. Strengthen the capacity for training of experts including by procurement of equipment;
- 2.4.2. Analyse the existing national system of supervision and control of hydro-technical infrastructure and develop recommendations for the improvement of the system;
- 2.4.3. Conduct training for experts.

### Activity 2.4.1. Provision of selected equipment to the Taraz international center for the safety of hydro-technical infrastructure

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

A list of the equipment necessary for conducting the trainings for experts on the safety of hydro-technical infrastructure was prepared by the Taraz Center, reviewed by UNECE and agreed upon by the two sides.

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

The procurement process through UNITED Nations Office in Geneva (UNOG) will be initiated in July 2016 with the aim for the equipment to be in place before the end of 2016/early 2017.

Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List of equipment and document on passing the ownership rights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be available in the next reporting period</li> </ul>

### 2.4.2. Analyse the existing national system of supervision and control of hydro-technical infrastructure and develop recommendations for the improvement of the system

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

Based on the outcomes of the round-table on legislation and institutions to be in charge of the safety control of hydro-technical infrastructure which took place in Astana in December 2015, a detailed analysis of the existing national system of supervision and control of hydro-technical infrastructure has been initiated. A cooperative arrangement with the Executive Board of the International Fund for the Saving of the Aral Sea (EB-IFAS) has been signed in May 2016 for the implementation of this activity.

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

The draft of Analysis of the existing national system of supervision and control of hydro-technical infrastructure along with recommendations on improving related policy, technical, and institutional aspects will be prepared in October 2016. Both, the analysis and the recommendations will be



discussed at the roundtable in autumn 2016 in Astana that will be organised in cooperation with OSCE Astana.

#### Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment report on current technical regulations and quality control practices applied in Kazakhstan in water infrastructure;</li> <li>Recommendations to improve the above, including policy, technical, and institutional aspects;</li> <li>Roadmap for implementation of the recommended improvements;</li> <li>Stakeholder workshop program, minutes, and resolution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be available in the next reporting period</li> <li>To be available in the next reporting period</li> <li>To be available in the next reporting period</li> <li>To be available in the next reporting period</li> </ul>

#### **2.4.3. Conduct training for experts**

##### Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

The Taraz International Centre for the Safety of Hydro-technical Infrastructures has been selected for carrying out the training of experts on modern approaches to the safety of hydro-technical infrastructures. The contracting procedure for Taraz international centre was finalised in April 2016.

##### To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

The first training seminar will take place in autumn 2016.

#### Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training programs, modules and hand-outs</li> </ul>	To be available in the next reporting period



### **OUTCOME 3: ESTABLISHING A MODERNIZED ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE SYSTEM**

In Kazakhstan the agricultural sector consumes 78% of the country's total water supply and a significant amount is lost through inefficient water use (e.g. leakages through old infrastructure account for 30% of losses or pollution caused by insufficient treatment of wastewater and industrial waste dumping). While Kazakhstan is not confronted with water resources problems, such as lack of resources, yet the management of the water resources can be improved to prevent problems in the future. Development of policy and action in the water sector has obvious ramifications to agriculture, fisheries, energy, industry, waste management, urban planning and other sectors of the economy.

Strategic environmental impact assessment (SEA) is a well-established, practical and efficient planning and environmental governance tool. SEA ensures that sectoral and regional development plans and investments projects with likely significant adverse environmental impacts are efficiently developed taking into account environmental (and health) considerations. In particular, SEA allows the identification of the most sustainable and cost-effective strategic alternatives for achieving Kazakhstan's long term green economy targets.

#### **RESULT 3.1: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW PROCEDURES IN THE WATER SECTOR ARE IMPROVED**

The following activities are components of this outcome:

- 3.1.1 A review of the existing national legislation regarding environmental assessment procedures;
- 3.1.2 Development of draft amendments to the national legislation with regards to SEA application;
- 3.1.3 Trainings for the national and local officials to apply SEA in Kazakhstan; and
- 3.1.4 Analysis of the water policy for the third Environmental Performance Review of Kazakhstan, including conduction of a review mission and drafting of the recommendations on ways to improve problem areas.

During the inception period discussions with the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kazakh national focal points to the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Protocol on SEA) indicated two initial priorities for the project: (a) a review of existing national legislative and administrative frameworks in order to prepare for the development of the SEA system in line with the Protocol on SEA, and (b) the drafting of new legislation on SEA based on the results of the legislative review.

A national focal point on SEA for cooperation under the project has been identified as well as international and national experts to draft the legislative review. Three respective meetings with the Ministry of Energy were held (February 16, February 18, and March 4 2016).

##### **Activity 3.1.1. Revision of the existing national legislation on environmental assessment**

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

During the inception period it was decided to cancel the activity 1.2.3 (Develop a basin plan in full compliance with the green economy concept), therefore the activity 3.1.2 (Pilot application of the SEA procedure to a selected government water sectoral plan or programme) has also been cancelled as initially it was planned to apply the SEA to a developed pilot basin management plan.

Due to the above and also because of the reduced allocated budget for the Result 3.1, it became impossible to cover the implementation of the activity 3.1.3 (and Develop guidelines for application of SEA in Kazakhstan based on the pilot in the water sector).

During the inception period discussions with the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kazakh national focal points to the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Protocol on SEA) took place.

The Ministry of Energy indicated two initial priorities for the project: (a) a review of existing national legislative and administrative frameworks in order to prepare for the development of the SEA system in line with the Protocol on SEA, and (b) the drafting of new legislation on SEA based on the results of the legislative review.

A national focal point on SEA for cooperation under the project has been identified as well as international and national experts to draft the legislative review. Three respective meetings with the Ministry of Energy were held (February 16, February 18, and March 4 2016).

It was decided that the legislative review will consist of (a) a review of the existing national legislation on environmental assessment and environmental expertise as well as of the existing institutional structures, with a view to identifying gaps and development needs; and (b) development of recommendations for required changes or amendments to the legislation as well as institutional and process improvements to effectively implement SEA in full compliance with the Protocol on SEA (and the European Union Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment).

A national partner – Scientific Educational Centre “Green Academy” - has been identified to assist UNECE for conducting the work under this activity.

During the consultation with other international organisations active in the field of environment in Kazakhstan, OSCE office in Astana expressed its interest to participate in the SEA related activities under the project.

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

The legislative review will commence in autumn 2016, and will be kicked off by a national round table event organized in Kazakhstan to inform the national authorities and stakeholders about the SEA its benefits; and about other countries' experience in using the SEA procedure. The review will be conducted by a qualified international legal expert with experience in both post-Soviet and EU legal

systems. The international expert will be supported by a national expert on environmental assessment legislation.

The Ministry of Energy will take active part in conducting the review, being responsible for collecting the required materials, participating in their analysis, and facilitating interviews of national environmental assessment authorities by the international and experts.

In early 2017, the review and its main findings will be presented for comments at a second national round table involving all relevant stakeholders. Based on the recommendations for legislative and institutional changes required for the development of the SEA system in line with the Protocol and the feedback received at the national consultation event, the international and national experts in cooperation with the Ministry may start the preparation of a draft law on SEA or amendments to existing legislation.

#### Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment report on potential implications of using SEA methodology for water resource management in economic sectors of Kazakhstan;</li> <li>• Recommendations on amendments to the legislation needed to introduce and implement the SEA approach in water resource management;</li> <li>• Pilot river basin Management Plan (Activity 1.2.) developed through SEA procedures;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be available in the next reporting period</li> <li>• To be available in the next reporting period</li> <li>• There will not be such deliverable due to cancelling the entire activity</li> </ul>

#### **Activity 3.1.4. Conduct trainings for the national and local officials to apply SEA in Kazakhstan based on the water sector**

##### Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

Major part of this activity has been implemented. Specifically, an initial training for the national and local officials to applying SEA in Kazakhstan and, thus, setting a basis for the subsequent implementation of the other project activities, was carried out in the framework of a sub-regional conference and a training event organized by UNECE from 2 to 6 November 2015 in Khaheti (Georgia). The project sponsored the attendance of five Kazakh governmental officials from the



Ministry of Energy to the events. The workshop included a one-day sub-regional conference on developing legislative frameworks for SEA in conformity with the Protocol on SEA; and a four-day “Training of Trainers” workshop on the design and delivery of training events on SEA.

The training was organised to enhance regional capacities in developing national SEA systems by facilitating the exchange of experience between countries in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia with a view to aligning legislation and practice with the UNECE treaties and the relevant European Union legislation on SEA and EIA. Kazakh officials had the possibility to exchange opinions with their colleagues from Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan that have already undergone similar activities.

The purpose of the Training of Trainers workshop was to prepare national experts as trainers for carrying out further SEA capacity-building and awareness-raising events at national and local levels. Further specific training (-s) for the national and local officials to apply SEA in Kazakhstan with a focus on the water sector could possibly be undertaken during the second half of 2016.

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

The further need for capacity building to strengthen Kazakhstan ability to implement SEA, will be clarified with the Ministry of Energy during the legislative review process in 2016.

Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agendas, participants' lists, minutes, and resolutions of the workshops.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training materials are available on-line at <a href="http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=40656#/">http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=40656#/</a></li> </ul>

**Activity 3.1.5. Analyze water policy for the 3rd Environmental Performance Review, conduct review mission and draft the recommendations on ways to improve problem areas**

Implemented in the reporting period (April 2015-May 2016):

In the framework of the 3rd Environmental Performance Review, based on consultations with Kazakh counterparts, an analysis of the Kazakh water policy will be initiated.

To initiate the work on the 3<sup>rd</sup> EPR UNECE is expecting the dates proposed for conducting the review to be agreed by the Ministry of Energy of the Republic of Kazakhstan as the agency requesting the 3<sup>rd</sup> EPR. According to the preliminary dates proposed by the UNECE 3<sup>rd</sup> EPR of Kazakhstan should be initiated in autumn 2016 to be completed by October 2017.

To be implemented in the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

An international expert will be hired to assess the country's performance on management of surface, ground and seawaters and address sustainable water use, water pollution prevention and control, access to safe water and protection of water ecosystems. Based on the analysis, the expert will draft recommendations, which should be concrete, measurable and realistic.





Deliverables against DoA:

Deliverable	Status
• Water resources chapter in the 3rd EPR	To be available in 2018



## **OUTCOME 4: HIGHLY VISIBLE AND REPLICABLE PILOT ACTIONS, FOCUSING ON WATER RESOURCES AND CLIMATE CHANGE, WITH DEMONSTRABLE EFFECTS AT LOCAL (REGION, CITY, DISTRICT) LEVEL**

Translating the theory of green growth into practical applications - this outcome intends to demonstrate practical examples of pilot projects to policy makers, local government officials, business leaders, and civil society representatives. The project intends to demonstrate approaches which are appropriate to the Kazakh context, how stakeholders can be motivated and coordinated, and how critical resources can be mobilized. Entrepreneurs are mainly interested in economic gains and risks. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are generally concerned about the environmental and social impact of projects or programs. These interests should be matched for the success of the project. The suggested grants and pilot projects have been selected taking into consideration the state, the market, and community stakeholders.

### **RESULT 4.1: DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS IN KEY SECTORS**

The Description of Action (DoA) describes the following activities:

- 4.1.1. Development of a comprehensive Grants Programme and communicating the Call for Proposals to all target groups;
- 4.1.2. A series of outreach trips, meetings and consultations in all target regions for the Grants Competition;
- 4.1.3. Forming a pool of pilot projects through a screening and review process;
- 4.1.4. Providing expert, technical and logistical support for the selected projects and identified international Partners; and
- 4.1.5. Monitoring the implementation of the active pilot projects based on individual projects' monitoring plans.

In dialogue with the donor it was decided, in order to achieve a higher impact to develop cost effective demonstration activities already during the first year of the project and therefore, to sub- divided the outcome into the following parts: (1) a Grant programme for NGOs ≈ EURO 600.000 and (2) the pilot projects per se ≈ EURO 3.000.000.

Thus the main aim of outcome 4.1. is to provide a tool of demonstrating economically viable pilot activities with the aim of upscaling and to act as a tool to create synergies throughout all results of the project.

As a logical addition to the Result 4: Quick-win operational highly visible and replicable GE pilot actions with demonstrable effects at local (region/city/district) levels are being implemented. It is subjected to the initiate creation of a pool of “green” start-ups by entrepreneurs. This can be implemented through partnership with the Bolashak Association, who hold a national Start-up competition in 2015.

The concept of the competition is in line with project activity 4.1: Demonstration projects in key sectors (UNDP). In addition, the competition will be a logical addition to the project activities as per the following structure:

- 1 year – NGOs Grant Programme, under which there are 14 projects currently implemented;
- 2 year – Pilot Projects that cover four large-scale projects;
- 3 year – Development of small start-up projects in the field of Green Economy.

The Competition «Start-up «Bolashak» is aimed to develop the start-up projects of socially significant business initiatives by young entrepreneurs, which is implemented by Association of "Bolashak" and Entrepreneurship Development Fund "Damu" with a support of various investors. The first season started on 20 July 2015 and consisted of two stages:

1. Upon receiving more than 2000 application, the competition evaluating committee selected 20 of the most interesting ideas. After which, the representatives of 20 selected start-up projects participated in seminars and trainings to learn the ways of developing their ideas further and receiving the business insights needed for the implementation process.
2. The evaluating committee meeting selected 10 best projects of 20 selected earlier to begin to developing the business plans for the each project with a guidance from the individually selected professional mentors. By the end, there were 3 winners selected.

The second season will be implemented in 2016 – 2017 with a separate nomination – *Green Economy Start-up project*. The criteria for the Green Economy nomination will be created with a particular focus on the level of replicability.

#### **Activity 4.1.1. Develop a comprehensive Grants Programme and communicate the Call for Proposals to all target groups**

Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

The grant competition focuses on the design and implementation of a portfolio of local demonstration projects which focus on the incorporation of effective approaches, methods and technologies which would eventually contribute to sustainable water resources management with the proactive involvement of the public and local communities.

The review, evaluation and final projects selection was done by a Grant committee, which consisted of experts, representatives of the EU Delegation to Kazakhstan, UNDP, The Committee of Water resources of the Ministry of Agricultural of RK, other relevant government bodies and technical experts. The following projects were selected:

1. Zhenskiy Luch (Women's beam) NGO, the "Integrated use of water-saving technologies in socially significant facilities of Akmola Region" project – 52,000 USD;
2. Orleu Consulting YNGO, "Clean and quality drinking water supply to pupils of Aral District and the city of Aralsk" project – 40,000 USD;
3. Kassietti Or Altai NGO, "Demonstration of use of power efficient solar water heaters for sustainable preservation of natural resources of the EKO" project – 55,000 USD;



4. Karaganda Ecomuseum NGO, project of "Introduction of water-saving green technologies and practices to improve the quality of life in rural areas of the Karaganda Oblast" – 70,000 USD;
5. Green Bridge&G-Global NGO, the project of "Integrated implementation of 3 water-saving technologies on private land lots of at least 160 families in 8 rural areas located in 50 km zone away of the city of Astana" – 60,000 USD;
6. NGO International Center for Energy Efficiency , resources and environmental technologies "PRO ECO", the project "Development and installation of cold storage and supply of drinking water for residential apartment buildings in Aktau " – 70,000 USD;
7. \*Association of Peasant Farms NGO of Shet District of Karaganda Oblast, "Save the springs" project – 40,000 USD;
8. Ugam NGO, "Optimization of water use in the region through demonstration and implementation of domestic use of water supply systems operated using wind and solar energy" – 45,000 USD;
9. Biogen NGO, "Use of innovative technologies for water saving (drip and sprinkler irrigation) in climate iridizations conditions" project – 45,000 USD;
10. Alakol Tabigaty NGO, "Sustainable use of water resources and water saving" project - in this project there are the state subsidies for fisheries, it was noted that the equipment used in these farms is obsolete.- 67,000 USD;
11. AgroGrin NGO, "Demonstration of integrated approach to water consumption for energy-efficient greenhouses in climate conditions of Northern Kazakhstan"-60,000 USD;
12. Children's Academy of Television and Radio of Kazakhstan NGF, Project for information coverage of water resources effective use using video and implementation of "green economy" practices by an example of children's social institution of Astana in the framework of the EU/UNDP/ UEC UN project "Granting support to Kazakhstan in its transition to green economy model" – 63,709 USD;
13. Coalition for green economy and G-Global development ULE, the project "Promotion of policies for transition of Kazakhstan to green economy model by clarifying of "green" idea of the Head of State and strategic documents, coverage of energy and water supply issues in order to create culture of energy and water saving in public conscience"- 64,680 USD;
14. NGO "PosadiDerevo.kz", the project "Implementation of comprehensive measures to reduce the consumption of water resources in cities of Kazakhstan, by raising awareness of citizens – 41,930 USD.

The implementation of the grant projects started in January 2016. A technical workshop was held in February 2016 for all of the grant recipients to introduce them to UNDP and EU rules, its procedures and templates that were used for grants implementation, including the EU communication and visibility strategy.

Upon signing the grants agreements with NGOs, national expert on a small grant programme was recruited. The main responsibility of the National Expert is to provide day-to-day technical support and monitoring of grants implementation.



The first monitoring visits on grants implementation were organized. 9 project sites were visited during reported period.

As of May 2016, there are early results of the visited projects are evident.



A special equipment to collect water was installed in three pilot buildings in micro-district No. 9 (160 apartments, and about 500 people in total) in Aktau. The system consists of water collecting tanks and three pumps to supply water when required. Owing to this system, the required stable pressure is provided to ensure uninterrupted water supply for the entire building; the residents will have a daily water reserve in case that water supply to the building is interrupted. In addition, the influence of this building on the

water supply pipelines will be decreased at peak water consumption loads.

It is planned to monitor the operation of the installed equipment in summer 2016 when the water consumption load peaks. While results are achieved, the local authorities, water supply facilities, and other Housing and Utilities and residents will be informed about the advantages of implementing the reserve tanks by promoting the water-saving measures implementation.



Another example of effective water consumption in agricultural practices is a Project titled 'Demonstration of Comprehensive Approach to Water Consumption in Operating Energy-Efficient Greenhouses in North Kazakhstan', being implemented by AgroGreen Public Association in Akmola and Kostanai Oblasts. As part of the Project, an energy-efficient greenhouse in Arnasai Village was equipped with a special system that allows growing

vegetables in winter while saving considerable water and energy resources. The first vegetables are being supplied to a canteen in Vyacheslav High School and Vasilyok Childcare Center in Arnasai Village. The Project is implemented at the Green Technology Practice Promotion Center that has training classroom and uses all of the innovation water-saving practices such as drip irrigation, use of



hydrogel, agro textiles, etc. Thus, more than 60 people were trained, and cutting-edge agricultural practices were demonstrated to representatives of agricultural facilities, farmers, Akims of rural areas, leaders of NGOs, and others. Later, field visits by stakeholders from other regions of Kazakhstan will be arranged.

Moreover, the Orleu Consulting International Public Association has proposed a project for supplying clean potable water to school pupils in Aral district by installing water treatment systems. According to the grant recipient, the water is currently supplied to many schools in local villages by water tank trucks and is kept in stationary tanks. Such water is not stored properly thereby affecting children's health. A membrane water cleaning unit (filter) helps to effectively remove such harmful substances and etc. This Project is also funded under the grant program, and now, due to the membrane filters installed, approximately 1,500 school pupils and 250 teachers in 8 schools in the said district are supplied with clean potable water. For that purpose, individual tanks are installed with a special tap for drinking in every school. A number of schools also use the water for cooking at the school canteens. Information on Project is actively distributed by the project partner at the local level, and hopefully in the future it will be replicated by local authorities as well.

Within the grant program, 3 out of 14 projects are aimed to promote and increase awareness on the grant program activities and goals of the joint project.

The organization Posadi Derevo is focused on working directly with people and the communal housing sector in Almaty, Astana, Karaganda and Shymkent. So far they have been developing promotion materials that will be distributed among students, schools and residents of selected houses where they will be measuring water meters at the beginning of information campaigns and at the end. They want to demonstrate how much water one residential place can save by simple means. They have developed posters, leaflets, banners and other visual materials and will start their activities in June 2016.



Children's Academy of Radio and TV aims to raise awareness of people on the project's objectives through social media and creating a website where all grant projects will be placing information about their activities. The NGO has developed a website [www.saveh2o.kz](http://www.saveh2o.kz) with the link to a YouTube page where all video clips created by all of the partners within the grant program are placed. In order to attract attention to the web page, special flash mob event was

organized in two main shopping centers of Almaty and Astana.

The Coalition of Green Economy focused their works on the promotion of grant program and the concept of green economy at the larger scale. They have announced the grant program details through various media outlets and held an essay contests among school pupils with a topic of "what



water means for me”. Eight essays in both Kazakh and Russian languages were selected and winners received the souvenirs from the project.

In order to address the media, a contest among journalists have been developed and launched. It will end in October 2016. The Coalition has also developed the media tours to the project sites and will start the first tour at the end of May.

Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

During the following reporting period till June 2017, regular monitoring of Grants programme implementation will be organized, visits to pilot sites on a regular basis will be conducted. The Conference for NGOs “Green practices and technologies implementation at the local level” will be held in August 2016 in Astana. The overall goal of the Conference is to demonstrate practices and technologies implemented by grant recipients within the EU-UNDP joint project and to get comments and recommendations from civil society representatives. It is expected participation of EU, UNDP, government, NGOs representatives. As a result, upon the Conference, the final report on technologies and practices will be prepared including recommendations received during the event. Interim narrative and financial reports on grant programme implementation will be prepared by grant recipients based on the endorsed schedule of reports submission. The next tranche will be transferred upon the approval of the reports by UNDP. A mass media publications on project grant programme implementation on a regular basis will be monitor.

Deliverable against DoA

Deliverable	Status
Call for Proposal prepared and launched	Done, can be provided upon request
Grant Contracts awarded civil society organizations	Done, can be provided upon request

**Activity 4.1.2. Complete outreach trips, meetings and consultations in all target regions for the Grants Competition**

Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

Within August 2015, the national expert conducted consultations with local NGOs in Astana, Almaty, Shymkent, Karaganda, Atyrau, Pavlodar, Semey and Ust-Kamenogorsk. More than 90 NGOs representatives attended meetings.

Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

No further actions are foreseen for this activity

Deliverable against DoA

Deliverable	Status
Report on Workshops for NGO including lists	Done, can be provided upon request



of participants	
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### Activity 4.1.3. Form a pool of pilot projects through a screening and review process

Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

During the inception phase, guidelines and criteria were developed for the selection of the pilot the selection, development and management of the pilots. The pilot projects concepts were further developed and sharpened through a multi stakeholder approach as well as in dialogue with the submitting organizations according to the above-mentioned criteria by the end of 2015. The selected pilot projects provide interfaces to the activities 2.1., 2.2., 2.3., 3.1.

As a result of technical workshops, outlined in Result 4.2. ToRs were developed and the following pilot projects were selected:

*Pilot Project 1. Integration of green growth considerations in the construction of a centralized rural water supply and water discharge system (Almaty region).*

The following round lots were established within the project:

- Development of the Design and estimate Documentation (DED) for construction of local domestic sewage system and drainage system in Akshi, Enbekshikazakh district. Expert examination shall be carried out in 2016.
- Reconstruction of a collector and drainage system in Akshi, Enbekshikazakh district in accordance with the DED developed during the first phase (2016 - 2017).

The procurement process was started. The announcement was distributed between all stakeholders and advertised on UNDP's web-site.

The LLP "Project Construction Firm Taza Su" was selected. A contract with "Taza Su" was signed. As soon as the final DED for construction of the local domestic sewage system and drainage system in Akshi, Enbekshikazakh district is finalized and approved, the second lot on the "Reconstruction of a collector and drainage system in Akshi, Enbekshikazakh district in accordance with the DED developed during the first phase will be announced.

*Pilot Project 2. Re-equipment and operation of multipurpose hydraulic engineering structures – (Aktobe region)*

The following round lots were established within the project:

- Development of pre-project documentation (feasibility study) for the "Integrated use of potential of the Kargaly Water Storage Basin, including installation of small scale HPP" (2016 - 2017).

The procurement process was started. The announcement was distributed between all stakeholders and advertised on UNDP official web-sites on 1 March 2016. An evaluation meeting was conducted on 04 May, 2016.

The Production Cooperative "Institute of Kazgiprovodhoz" was recommended by the evaluation panel as a best bidder base on the technical requirements. In accordance to UNDP rules, a final review will be carried out by the Regional procurement office for final review and subsequent approval.





- Development of design and estimate documentation (DED) to install diagnostic equipment and devices and the automatic control system by an example of the Aktobe Water Storage Basin (2016).
- Installation of diagnostic equipment and devices and the automatic control system at the Aktobe Storage Reservoir in accordance with the DED developed during the first phase (2016 - 2017).

The procurement process was started. The announcement was distributed between all stakeholders and advertised on UNDP official web-sites on 14 March 2016. An evaluation meeting was conducted on May 04, 2016. The Evaluation Committee recommended to seek technical expertise on the bidder's from an independent consultant or company. Further, the technical expertise was conducted by the Project expert and the final review was provided to the CAP for the final subsequent approval as per the UNDP rules and procedures.

The second lot on the "Installation of diagnostic equipment and devices and the automatic control system at the Aktobe Storage Reservoir in accordance with the DED developed during the first phase" will be announced once the final DED is received and approved.

#### Pilot Project 3. Development of Urban Agriculture for Astana

The following round lots were established within the project:

- A competitive tender for suppliers' business ideas requiring a land plot available, enabling to co-finance the project and create an education center within the greenhouse complex, development of Service Provider's Design and Estimate Documentation (DED) (March-August 2016).
- Announcement of competitive tender for the supply of process equipment. Commencement of construction and installation. The Partner will make its investments, while UNDP will finance the cost of the process equipment (October 2016 – April 2017);

The ToR for "Business Plans Bidding to Demonstrate Sustainable Urban Agriculture Model" was developed and announced on 14 March 2016.

The aim of the pilot project: is to create a knowledge exchange center on sustainable urban agriculture practices in Astana or in its suburban areas, with the demonstration of the best European technologies and practices. The center will serve as a model for the development of urban agriculture in northern regions to supply the population with ecologically safe agricultural products at a competitive cost. Kazakh State Agrarian University will act as a project partner and will use the center as an educational platform for students.

By the deadline, four business plans were received and potential bidder's representatives were invited to make presentations of their business plans. The Evaluation Committee meeting was conducted on April 1, 2016.

As a second round of the evaluation process, site visits were conducted on April 8<sup>th</sup>. "ORTEX Engineering" LLP (Astana city) was recommended as a best option for the pilot project implementation. The result of the conducted visits is attached as Annex G.



Pilot project 4. Oasis irrigation prospects in Arid and Semiarid regions of Kazakhstan (Kyzylorda region)

The following round lots were established within the project:

- Development of the Design and Estimate Documentation for field demonstration of the oasis irrigation project (Kyzylorda Region).
- Creation of an oasis irrigation system on the basis of the DED developed during the first phase of the project with the designer's supervision and close support by the developer of the DED (February - December 2017).

An announcement was distributed between all stakeholders and advertised on UNDP's web-sites on 14 March 2016 with a deadline 31 March 2016. An evaluation Committee meeting was conducted on April 6, 2016.

The tender was granted to the LLP "Kazakh Scientific Research Institute of Water Resources" (KSRIWR) and a contract with the LLP "KSRIWR" was signed. As soon as the final Development of the Design and Estimate Documentation for field demonstration of the oasis irrigation project (Kyzylorda Region) are finalized and approved, the second lot on the Creation of an oasis irrigation system on the basis of the DED developed during the first phase of the project with the designer's supervision and close support by the developer of the DED (February - December 2017) will be announced.

Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

During May –September 2016 Design and Estimate Documentation (DED - ПСД) for pilot projects will be developed. Based on DED the procurement process for the construction services and equipment will be proceeded in Fall 2016.

Feasibility study will be started in July 2016 and to be completed till Spring 2017.

Deliverable against Inception report (This activity was modified within inception report)

Deliverable	Status
Pilot project description and progress reports	Pilot project description is given in Annex H and Annex I Progress reports to be submitted in the next reporting period



## RESULT 4.2: KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IS IN PLACE (UNDP)

Knowledge management (KM) is the process of capturing, developing, sharing, and effectively using organizational knowledge. It refers to a multi-disciplinary approach to achieving organizational objectives by making the best use of knowledge. Knowledge management efforts typically focus on, innovation and the sharing of lessons learned, and integration, of initiatives. KM focusses on the management of knowledge as a strategic asset and a focus on encouraging the sharing of knowledge. KM strategies follow two processes, i.e.: codification and personalization: Codification focuses on collecting and storing of knowledge in databases to make it accessible while personalization aims at encouraging individuals to share their knowledge directly. In other words knowledge management focuses on collecting content & connecting people. The aims of knowledge management in green economy are twofold: first, to identify major knowledge gaps in green growth theory and practice, then address those gaps by promoting collaboration and coordinated research; and second, to use knowledge management and communication tools to give practitioners and policymakers the policy analysis, guidance, information and data necessary to support a green economy transition.

The concept of the knowledge management system is based on the understanding that the effectiveness and impact of its partners are enhanced by collaborating to develop, manage and disseminate green growth research and other knowledge products. Originally the following activities were anticipated in the Description of Action:

- 4.2.1. Establishment of a Database of relevant technologies and knowledge available at the EU market;
- 4.2.2. Set up a roster of EU experts and companies interested in within the pilot projects;
- 4.2.3. Design and print catalogue of the resource efficient technologies and knowledge available in the EU market;
- 4.2.4. Carry out the workshops on knowledge sharing and capacity building for potential applicants and other target groups;
- 4.2.5. Scaling up the project results within a broader community based on the Visibility and Communication Strategy.

Two processes have to be initiated during the second half of 2016:

- (i) To develop the concept of a moderated portal with four key components:
  - A *library*, in which participating entities will insert reports and knowledge related to green growth and green economy in Kazakhstan
  - A *learning section*, which could include already existing e-learning materials such as the e-learning tools, provide a platform for webinars to hosted by UNDP and moderated by national- and international experts, refer to already existing tools such as the Green Business Model Navigator of GIZ, the modeling tools for sustainable development policies of UN- DESA, the green city development kit of the ADB, etc.



- A *component on sectors*, which are of direct relevance to Kazakhstan, such as Agriculture, Energy, Urban Development, Manufacturing, Transport, Mineral Resources, Waste, etc., and
- A *component on themes* such as institutions and governments, investment, technology and innovation, market mechanisms, etc.

To develop those components, three groups composed of institutions and individuals will be initiated:

- Knowledge partners about green growth in Kazakhstan;
- an advisory committee of relevant international and national experts;
- and a small secretariat within UNDP.

The activities were already started through the recruitment of a national expert on environmental information. The main task of the expert is to develop a structure of the database on green technologies. The main recommendations of the Expert are described below:

*Ownership:* It is recommended to place the databases on the relevant national internet resource, preferably of the ministry (economy, energy or agriculture) or of an independent business association. Specifics will be identified during internal consultations with stakeholders.

*Structure:* To develop Data Base and Roster structure including all six priorities (not only water related) of State Concept on Green Economy: (1) Water resources; (2) Sustainable agriculture; (3) Energy conservation and energy efficiency; (4) Electro energetics; (5) Waste Management; (6) Reduced air pollution.

**Activity 4.2.1. Establish Database of relevant technologies and knowledge available at the EU market.**

Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

The activity will be started in the next reporting period

Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

Activities will be started in the end of 2016. The structure of the roster will be developed based on the suggested concept on knowledge management (was attached to the inception report) and would provide the networking platform for technologies owners and potential users. This will include relevant reference to upcoming technologies exhibitions, informational campaign in social media, as well as linkage with already existing EU data bases. Technologies, which will be used for pilot projects will be registered in the data base.

Deliverable against DoA

Deliverable	Status
Database of the efficient water management practices, technologies, equipment, and training opportunities for different economic sectors available in EU countries.	Will be provide in the next reporting period



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**Activity 4.2.2. Set up a roster of EU experts and companies interested in collaborating within the pilot projects.**

Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

The activity will be started in the next reporting period

Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

The same approach will be used as in 4.2.1. A respective information campaign will be mostly focusing on the professional associations and social society networks.

Deliverable against DoA

Deliverable	Status
On-line rosters of international experts, consulting companies, technology providers	Will be provide in the next reporting period

**Activity 4.2.3. Design and print catalogue of the resource efficient technologies and knowledge sharing and capacity building for potential applicants and other targets groups.**

Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

The activity will be started in 2017-2018 when all needed information for catalogue will be collected.

Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (2018):

Catalogue of the resource efficient technologies and knowledge available in EU market will be designed and printed. Information will be collected on the basis of the experience obtained from the implementation of pilot projects and grants.

Deliverable	Status
Design and print catalogue of the resource efficient technologies and knowledge available in EU market	Will be provided in 2018 reporting period

**Activity 4.2.4. Carry out the workshops on knowledge sharing and capacity building for potential applicants and other target groups.**

Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

A first technical workshop was organized on November 26-27, 2015 in Borovoye with the support of the Committee for Water Resources under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Kazakhstan

and in cooperation with the "Centre of Water Initiatives" Public Foundation. The meeting was attended by over 50 people, including representatives of the interested state bodies of the Republic of Kazakhstan, scientific organizations, business structures, non-governmental organizations, international organizations as well as experts in the field of water resources management, water supply and water disposal, agriculture and others.



The report of the meeting is available in Annex H.

The main goal of the meeting was to provide a platform for discussion and collection of recommendations for the pilot projects under the EC/UNDP/UNECE Project "Supporting Kazakhstan's Transition to a Green Economy Model". Discussion among the participants was organized on the following topics:

- Integration of green growth ideas in the construction of a centralized water supply system in rural areas;
- Business models for stable operation, maintenance and financing of hydraulic structures;
- Introduction of innovative water-saving technologies and practices in agricultural industry.



On February 12, 2016, in Astana, a second technical workshop was held with participation of more than 60 participants representing state bodies, research institutions, businesses, non-governmental organizations, international organizations and experts. The workshop was organized to discuss the draft terms of reference for four pilot projects and develop specific requirements for implementation of these projects. The projects were discussed in four groups. Workshop participants were asked to review the draft terms of references. Upon completion of the discussions, some groups issued specific proposals on the terms of reference of the project concerned and prepared their revised version. The workshop report is available in Annex I.

Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):



The third technical workshop will be organized in autumn 2016. The aim of the third workshop is to present and discussed the pilot project's design, as well as national review and recommendation outlined in Activity 2.2.1. Review the policies that affect the diffusion of innovative technologies and practices for water efficiency and develop policy recommendations and Activity 2.2.2. Develop policy recommendations for the adoption and diffusion for water related innovation.

Moreover, an additional workshop will be organized as a side events during the EcoTech Exhibition in 2017. EcoTech is the largest specialized exhibition in Kazakhstan and Central Asia, which present international and domestic companies engaged in collection, utilization, processing and disposal of industrial and domestic wastes, water treatment and waste water treatment, recycling, gas, air and soil purification, resource saving technologies etc.

Also as a part of the pilot project it is planned to use the best international experience of the European Union. In this regards, a Study tour programme n «Water resources management» is planned to be organized in summer 2016. The overall goal of the study tour is to explore new modern European methods and technologies in water resources management under the framework of thematic pilot projects. In order to develop the capacity of Kazakhstan government bodies, water organizations, and local authorities in the field of water management, water infrastructure operation, including multipurpose water infrastructures, irrigation systems, water supply and sanitation and drainage.

The Study tour will be conducted for a maximum 10 relevant experts from the above mentioned organizations to explore modern approaches and European technologies on the implementation of international water management tools - European approaches, methods, techniques and equipment. Likewise, to improve the capacity of Kazakhstan government bodies, relevant water companies and local authority of Kazakhstan, knowledge and experience of European practices in the field of water management.

#### Deliverable against DoA

Deliverable	Status
Workshops programs, lists of participants, hand-outs.	Done, can be provided upon request
Distribution lists	Done, can be provided upon request
Report summarizing the success, failures, and challenges of the completed pilot projects	Will be provided in the next reporting period

#### **Activity 4.2.5. Scaling up the project results within a broader community based on the Visibility and Communication Strategy.**

##### Implemented for the reporting period (April 2015 – May 2016):

The project held a number of events with participation of high-level officials, technical experts, NGOs, and media. One charity event was arranged as a public awareness event. Manager of the project presented the project at different conferences to raise awareness on the project activities, aims and developments, such as:



- CAREC Central Asia Leadership Programme workshop on environment and sustainable development (Almaty, September 2015);
- National Policy Dialogue (Astana, December 2015);
- First Global Forum on Green Economy Learning (Paris, December 2015);
- Water and jobs conference (Almaty, March 2016).

**A charity event** at an Astana orphanage was arranged. The event had the following coverage:

- <http://weproject.kz/kultura/den-vodi-v-detskom-dome-astani>
- [http://kazakh-tv.kz/ru/view/news\\_kazakhstan/page\\_145076\\_den-vody-proshel-v-stolichnom-detskom-dome-%E2%84%961](http://kazakh-tv.kz/ru/view/news_kazakhstan/page_145076_den-vody-proshel-v-stolichnom-detskom-dome-%E2%84%961)
- <http://www.kz.undp.org/content/kazakhstan/ru/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2016/02/04/-html>
- <http://www.ayala.kz/redesign2/index.php/ru/portfolio-rus/orphanages-rus/item/1532news-kz/>

The project arranged a **press conference on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2016** to announce the pilot projects and brief about the project development. The Head of the European Union Delegation, UN and the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan participated in the press conference.

- <http://www.kazinform.kz/kaz/article/2874389>
- <https://baq.kz/kk/news/terezemiz-ten/zhasil-ekonomika-modeli-ushin-kazakistan-7-1-mln-euro-kolemindegi-karzhilik-kolda-80447>
- <http://dknews.kz/4-pilotny-h-i-14-demonstratsionny-h-zeleny-h-proektov-budut-realizovany-v-kazahstane-do-2018-g/>
- <http://www.kazpravda.kz/rubric/ekonomika/ozvucheni-detali-perehoda-k-modeli-zelenaya-ekonomika-v-rk/>
- <http://www.kursiv.kz/news/industry-issues/perehod-na-zelenuu-ekonomiku-cerez-upravlenie-vodnymi-resursami/>
- <http://astanatimes.com/2016/03/water-use-key-to-launch-of-kazakhstans-transition-to-green-economy/>

The project held a separate press briefing with grant program results announced there (Astana, March 14, 2016).

- <http://ortcom.kz/ru/briefing/perehod-k-zelenoio-ekonomike-sootvetstviet-zadacham-plana-natsii--gisaeva.8746>
- <http://ortcom.kz/ru/briefing/14-kazahstanskih-npo-realizuyut-proekti-v-sfere-zelenoio-ekonomiki.8745>
- <http://munara.kz/other/author1kaz/2016/03/15/zhasul-ekonomika-xalukhtun-zhagdaiun-zhakhsartadu.html>
- <https://strategy2050.kz/ru/news/33038>
- <http://journal.zakon.kz/4780404-v-rjade-oblastej-kazakhstana.html>





- <http://www.inform.kz/rus/article/2880775>
- <https://kapital.kz/economic/48604/v-8-regionah-rk-realizuyut-proekty-po-energoberezhniyu.html>
- [http://bnews.kz/kz/live/briefing/kazakstanda\\_zhasil\\_ekonomika\\_boiinsha\\_zhobalardi\\_zhuzege\\_asiru\\_turali-2016\\_03\\_14-4714](http://bnews.kz/kz/live/briefing/kazakstanda_zhasil_ekonomika_boiinsha_zhobalardi_zhuzege_asiru_turali-2016_03_14-4714)
- [http://bnews.kz/ru/live/briefing/o\\_realizatsii\\_proektov\\_po\\_zelenoi\\_ekonomike\\_v\\_kazahstane-2016\\_03\\_14-4715](http://bnews.kz/ru/live/briefing/o_realizatsii_proektov_po_zelenoi_ekonomike_v_kazahstane-2016_03_14-4715)
- [http://bnews.kz/ru/news/obshchestvo/v\\_kazahstane\\_tekushchim\\_letom\\_sostoitsya\\_konkurs\\_z\\_elenaya\\_pressa-2016\\_03\\_14-1261936](http://bnews.kz/ru/news/obshchestvo/v_kazahstane_tekushchim_letom_sostoitsya_konkurs_z_elenaya_pressa-2016_03_14-1261936)
- <http://www.time.kz/articles/zloba/2016/03/14/pejte-na-zdorove>
- <http://www.qazaquni.kz/?p=40413>
- <http://www.kazpravda.kz/fresh/view/zelenie-rodniki-progressa/>

The project had organized a **Green café** with the representatives of Mass Media and bloggers. The aim was to the opportunity for conversing with journalists, editors, and bloggers to give more detailed and in depth information about the pilot projects.

- <http://nacecoaudit.kz/>
- [http://aikyn.kz/ru/articles/show/23204-aza\\_sh\\_l\\_sh\\_raily\\_oaziske\\_ainalady](http://aikyn.kz/ru/articles/show/23204-aza_sh_l_sh_raily_oaziske_ainalady)
- <http://www.inform.kz/eng/article/2892969>
- <http://24.kz/kz/teleproject/taldau/item/117463-aldyn-alu>
- <https://kaztube.kz/video/237859>
- <http://www.kazpravda.kz/interviews/view/chetire-proekta-proon-kotorie-perevernut-vodnii-sektor-kazahstana/>

Plan to be implemented for the next reporting period (June 2016-June 2017):

Activities will be continued according to the communication and visibility strategy

#### Deliverable against DoA

Deliverable	Status
Media monitoring reports	Done (Report for April 2015- May 2016) will be provided in the next reporting period (Report May 2016-May 2017)



## COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY ACTIVITIES

The initial communication strategy was drafted in consultation with the project team, UNDP, UNECE and EU Delegation. The whole visibility and communication activities strive to promote the image of UN-EU joint cooperation. The role of the EU as a donor of the project and the roles of implementing partners has been clearly indicated. All visual materials, events and publications prepared were approved by representatives of the EU Delegation and UNDP and were used at public events, workshops, conferences held by the project, as well as our implementing partners UNECE.

### Visual materials

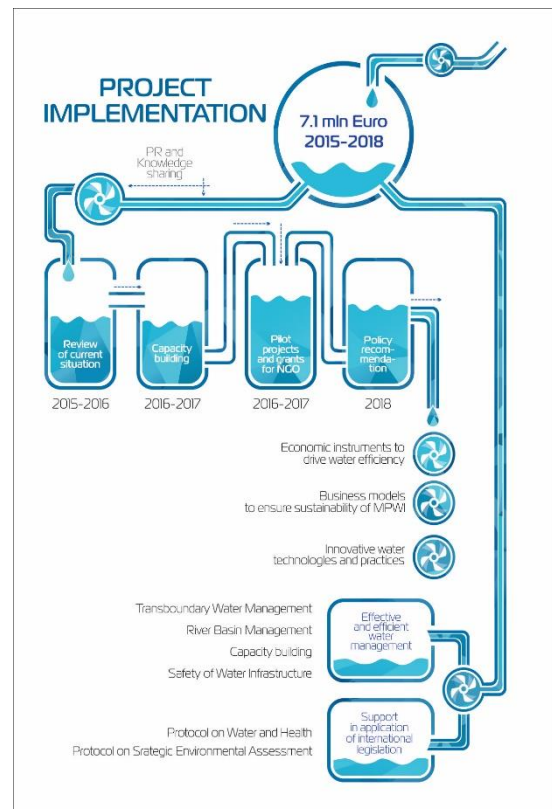
The project has developed a common design of all the promotion and visual materials. It contains logos of the EU, UNECE, the Republic of Kazakhstan (indicating cooperation with the Committee of Water Resources of the Ministry of Agriculture) and UNDP to reflect the joint cooperation. Visual materials consist of the visual components such as the map of Kazakhstan with the circles where each circle demonstrate a particular grant project implemented in the region, and the H<sub>2</sub>O element indicates the focus of the project on water.

Below are the samples of visual materials:

- Press banner



➤ Folders



Internet pages

- <https://www.facebook.com/Поддержка-Казахстана-для-перехода-к-модели-Зеленой-Экономики-637813909690771>

A page created to raise public awareness of the project activities, to promote Green Economy in general. The page serves as a platform to share information on activities, works and results of the project.

- <http://www.saveh2o.kz/>

The website created by the partner NGO. All of the video clips, information on all of the completed works by NGOs, announcement of all public activities are to be announced on this webpage.

Video clips prepared

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S2A5-xivoUA&feature=youtu.be>

Gives a general overview of the project. The video is used at public official events as a visual explanation of the project aims.

Visual materials are used at all workshops, seminars, public awareness events, conferences.

## Interviews

Furthermore the project management has been giving **interviews** on different occasions with an overview and general information about the project raise public awareness on the project, the role of EU and implementing partners. :

- <http://weproject.kz/delo/zelenaya-ekonomika-planiruya-razvitie-strani-na-budushchee-mi-dolzhni-planirovat-nashi-resursi>
- <http://www.inform.kz/rus/article/2827630>
- [http://bnews.kz/ru/live/conference/kazahstan\\_i\\_zelenaya\\_ekonomika-2016\\_03\\_11-4706](http://bnews.kz/ru/live/conference/kazahstan_i_zelenaya_ekonomika-2016_03_11-4706)

Also TV channels that have aired the information about the project:

- <http://24.kz/ru/tv-projects/green-economy/item/99032-zelenaya-ekonomika>
- <http://24.kz/ru/news/social/item/113960-proon-vydelil-kaz>
- <http://khabar.kz/ru/news/obshchestvo/item/51742-es-proon-vydelil-3-milliona-evro-na-realizatsiyu-v-kazahstane-proekta-po-okhrane-vodnykh-resursov>

The following radio stations broadcasted interviews with the project management:

- [http://astanafm.kz/kz/archive/programs/akparat\\_astana/edinstvo\\_kz/244770](http://astanafm.kz/kz/archive/programs/akparat_astana/edinstvo_kz/244770)  
Radio interview on Astana FM;
- <http://www.unmultimedia.org/radio/russian/archives/214014/#.VwICmKRJmTM>  
Radio interview at UN Radio.

The project overview has been published in specialized magazine “Water management in Kazakhstan”. The hard copy of the magazine is available upon request from the project team.

The project had held a plenary session “Green Economy providing social Innovation, economic diversification and environmental sustainability” at Astana Economic Forum on May 25, 2016. The session intended to demonstrate successful experience of the European Union cities, as well as the positive experience of integration of instruments by UNDP in the Kazakh water sector and the possibility to provide entry points for green growth interventions that would positively contribute to Kazakhstan’s national policy vision. The speakers were RBEC Regional Director/Assistant Secretary General Ms. Cihan Sultanoglu, Ambassador and Head of the European Union Delegation to Kazakhstan, H.E. Traian Hristea, Vice-Minister of Energy of RK, Mr. Gani Sadibekov, OECD Co-Chair, Mr. Jürgen Keinhorst national and international experts.

- <http://www.1tv.kz/ru/news/video25052016/glavnye/4>
- [http://bnews.kz/ru/news/ekonomika/es\\_planiruetsozdat\\_170\\_tis\\_rabochih\\_mest\\_v\\_sektore\\_up\\_ravleniya\\_othodami\\_k\\_2035\\_godu-2016\\_05\\_25-1273105](http://bnews.kz/ru/news/ekonomika/es_planiruetsozdat_170_tis_rabochih_mest_v_sektore_up_ravleniya_othodami_k_2035_godu-2016_05_25-1273105)
- <http://dknews.kz/proon-i-evropejskij-soyuz-podderzhivayut-zelenuyu-strategiyu-kazahstana/>
- <http://www.kazpravda.kz/rubric/kultura/chto-budut-obsuzhdat-na-astaninskom-ekonomicheskome-forume-2016/>



- <http://www.zakon.kz/4795069-v-astane-nachalsja-astaninskijj.html>
- <http://www.centrasia.ru/newsA.php?st=1464156720>
- <http://www.kz.undp.org/content/kazakhstan/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2016/05/26/green-economy-providing-social-innovation-economic-diversification-and-environmental-sustainability.html>
- <http://astanatimes.com/2016/06/undp-eu-support-kazakhstans-move-to-green-economy/>

### Visibility of Grant program

The project has supported 14 NGOs to implement different “green” projects focused on water sector. All of the projects have committed to arrange public awareness raising events. The aim of the events is to inform on the project activities and results that could be replicated in other regions. All of the projects follow our visibility guidelines, include all of the logos that indicates the role of the donor and implementing partners. NGOs are advised to get approval from the project team, before disseminating any visual materials to the public.

The major events held by NGOs so far are:

- Press conference held on 14th of March 2016 to raise awareness on the grant program within joint project;
- Flash mob on social media to promote the saveh2o.kz website and raise awareness on the joint project;
- Contest among journalists on “green media” are announced;
- Environmental youth competition “Water in Aul” for “green” business ideas;
- Training for Akims of different regions on water saving technologies in rural areas.

Within some projects a few video clips have been developed that are placed at website and YouTube page dedicated to our project activities. Below are the links:

- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxLqIF3B71sPlwiNjnbE-Qw>
- <http://www.saveh2o.kz/>

