

IWAC activities and its role in strengthening intersectoral cooperation

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IWAC



WATER
CONVENTION

14th meeting of the Working Group
on IWRM (Geneva, 22-24 October
2019)



UNECE

Progress in the IWAC's Programme of work

Contribution to item 3.3 Supporting equitable and sustainable water allocation in the transboundary context of the Water Convention Work Program for 2019-2021

Project: “Sustainable water allocation in the transboundary context”

Project: “Environmental flow – the basis for conservation of ecosystem”

Start of projects - July 2019, completion – December 2020

Part of a global process on development of the Transboundary Water Allocation Handbook. Main objective: to contribute to implementation of the best practices in water allocation in transboundary cooperation.

Funded by the Government of Kazakhstan

Progress in the IWAC's Programme of work (cont.)

Group of international experts and national experts from the Region, including Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, China, Iran, Mongolia and Russia

Main tasks for the group of experts:

1. To analyze the existing water allocation practice in the Region (including review of international treaties and soft law documents, scientific and methodological approaches in water allocation and assessment of the environmental flow of transboundary water bodies, effectiveness of the existing institutional structures, main fundamental approaches to water allocation in transboundary context).
2. To develop proposals to the draft TWA Handbook based on the analysis of the existing practice in the Region.

Water Allocation: next steps

Technical Meeting of National Experts on discussion of the preliminary analysis and proposals for the TWA Handbook, December 2019, Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan (*date to be conf*)

Regional Workshop on transboundary water allocation, July 2020, Almaty, Kazakhstan
Purpose: to develop regional proposals on water allocation and contribute to the content of the draft Handbook.

Expected participants: national experts, representing water management and environmental agencies from the countries of the Region, representatives of the Water Convention Secretariat, as well as experts and representatives of partner institutions and countries involved in the development of the TWA Handbook

Progress in the IWAC's Programme of work

Contribution to the PA 3 of the Convention: Promoting an integrated and intersectoral approach to water management at all level

Training on the Safety of Hydraulic structures in collaboration with VVB (Slovakia)

- VVB visit to Kazakhstan in April 2019
- Workshop - Training for the CA countries in Bratislava (OSCE, UNECE support), 7-11 October 2019
- Application to NATO Science for Peace and Security Programme (to be conf. in November) for the Second workshop - training for the experts of 5 CA countries and Afghanistan, March 2020

Strengthening intersectoral cooperation

Water & Energy

XII Astana Economic Forum: a high-level panel session on “Water as a factor of economic growth and security in Central Asia”

- High level officials from the key ministries (finance, economy, energy and water sectors), strategic institutes from 5 CA countries
- Initiative on development of the common vision of using water and energy resources of CA
- In cooperation with the Government of Kazakhstan, SDC, EU and WB
- Official call for participation in the Initiative on development of the common vision
- Technical meetings of experts

Water & Ecosystems

Workshop on conservation of Ural River ecosystem, 25-26 July 2019, Uralsk, Kazakhstan

Assistance in developing water cooperation

- MoU between Kazakhstan and Hungary of 29 April 2019
- July 23-25, 2019 - Visit of Hungarian delegation to Nur-Sultan to discuss further cooperation based on MoU (Joint Expert Group, implementation of the joint project in water allocation, mutually identified fields of coop: flood forecasting, drought management, studying effective irrigation methods).
- Process on signing MoU between Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources of Kazakhstan and Ministry of Natural Resources of Slovakia on support to IWAC activities

Future Activities

- Water allocation (cont.)
- Regional Training – Workshop on Safety of Hydraulic Structures
- Development of an information monitoring database for the transboundary river basin of the Ural (Zhayik) River
- Regional workshop on development of cooperation in the field of water quality assessment in cooperation with the Slovak Hydrometeorological Institute
- Activities on strengthening intersectoral cooperation

The background of the slide features a white central area with blue wavy patterns at the top and bottom. The waves are composed of overlapping, semi-transparent bands in various shades of blue, ranging from light sky blue to a deep navy blue. The overall effect is a clean, modern, and professional aesthetic.

Thank you!