



PRESS RELEASE

Basin planning trainings in the Isfara river basin

27 March 2013

BATKEN – Today members of working group on basin planning for the Isfara river basin, representatives of water management, nature protection, sanitary and epidemiology, economy sectors as well as local administration and water users associations meet to discuss and find solutions to improve water management for the Isfara river basin. The training is conducted in the framework of “Water Management and Basin Organisations in Central Asia (WMBOCA)” project funded by the European Union and implemented by [Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit \(GIZ\) GmbH](#), Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia Programme.

It's a second training on basin planning for the Isfara river basin: series of these capacity building trainings are aimed at the development of the basin plan for the Isfara river. The basin planning includes various aspects ranging from identification of the main problems and demands of a river basin to involvement of all stakeholders into the planning process. Besides of theoretical knowledge, the participants also have a chance to use practically the acquired skills.

Progress is already visible: expert on climate change, Head of Kyrgyz Hydromet forecast service, Tatiana Chernikova and GIS cartographer, Olga Matushkina, Head of Irrigation Institute GIS laboratory have presented results of their work at current stage. Ms. Chernikova works on the climate analysis, i.e. hydrometeorological data from daily monitoring in Isfara river basin is analysed statistically, so the stakeholders can have general picture on the climate tendencies in the basin. Ms. Matushkina, Head of Irrigation Institute GIS laboratory, works on the Isfara river basin map, which is being produced using GIS technology.

“I've been working on the map for the Isfara river basin, which shows both land and water resources as well as zones of potential floods and mudflows. The map is in the process of development and current version is presented and discussed during the training. But we are already getting closer to the final version!” – Olga Matushkina, Head of Irrigation Institute GIS laboratory, said.

Having the map which indicates available lands, water and dangerous zones, will allow people living in Isfara river basin to better plan their agricultural activities, irrigation, construction of housing and many other sides of the water management process in this basin.

Series of trainings for working groups on basin planning have been conducted for Kyrgyz and Tajik sides of the Isfara river basin since the end of 2012 and in fall 2013 the Basin plan for the Isfara river is expected to be drafted and handed over to the water management agencies of Kyrgyz and Tajik sides of the basin.

“Water Management and Basin Organisations in Central Asia (WMBOCA)” is funded by the European Union and implemented by [Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit \(GIZ\) GmbH](#) acting in partnership with the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC). Budget of WMBOCA consists of approximately €2 million provided by the European Union and approximately €0.5 million provided by the German Federal Foreign office.



The project is implemented by
Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
GmbH

Transboundary Water Management
in Central Asia Programme
Tektogul St.96/6, Bishkek, 720040,
Kyrgyzstan
T +996 312 90 65 27
F +996 312 90 65 26
I www.giz.de; www.waterca.org

This project is funded by the
European Union

Delegation of
The European Union
to the Republic of Kazakhstan
62, Kosmonavtov str., Astana
010000
Tel: (7172) 97-10-40
Fax: (7172) 97-95-63

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