

PRESS RELEASE

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Final Training on geographic information systems (GIS) in Turkmenistan in the framework of the European Union action

ASHGABAT(7-8 February, 2014) – The final training on geographic information systems (GIS) in the framework of the EU action “Water Management and Basin Organisations in Central Asia (WMBOCA)” was held by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Transboundary Water Management in Central Asia Programme.

Professionals in spheres of water management from Akhal, Balkan, Dashoguz velayats and GIS specialists of Water Survey Control under Ministry of Water Economy of Turkmenistan participated in the training.

The training was aimed at introducing the participants to the advantages of GIS tools application in water resources management. Particularly, the training introduced the special geographic modeling software - *ArcGIS Spatial Analyst* that is used mainly for development of general land use and soil salinity potential geographic information maps.

Moreover, organisers presented the major results and works on the Murgab river basin GIS maps developed during the series of GIS training sessions for Mary and Ashgabat water specialists in 2012 and 2013.

The training was conducted by highly qualified specialists of the Scientific Information Center of the Interstate Coordination Water Commission of the Central Asia (SIC ICWC).

In 2012, the Programme handed over the GIS equipment to the partner organisations Marysuwhojalyk and Water Survey Control under the Ministry of Water Economy of Turkmenistan. The partner organisations use the equipment for more planned and effective allocation of water resources in the Murgab river basin.

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