

## PRESS RELEASE

6 March 2014

## Training on basin planning

BATKEN ( 6 March 2014) – the working group of the Isfara River Basin Plan development and implementation with members representing water management, environmental protection, sanitary, epidemiological, economic agencies and representatives of local administration and water users met in training on basin planning. Participants discussed the issues regarding effective use of water resources in selected basin in framework of the fourth training on stages of basin planning. They also considered the project of the Isfara River Basin Plan. The training on basin planning 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.

For Central Asian region introduction and implementation of basin planning is a crucial subject as water management on every level is complicated with growing need in water resources and rising symptoms of climate change. The series of introductory trainings on basin planning are held in an attempt to support capacity building of stakeholders in the Isfara river basin since 2012.

Trainings cover different aspects of basin planning: from formation of basin problem lists that need improvement to attraction of all stakeholders to the planning process. The fourth training as well covered all stages of basin planning - from stage of initiation the plan, where the government role in water management and necessary resources for development of plan are considered to the last stage of defining the structure of plan. Thus, participants learned the theoretical basis of the basin planning, and in interactive manner practiced the basin planning process.

Moreover, during this training the project of the Isfara river basin plan was introduced and discussed. The project has been developed by local experts with high consideration of international experience in basin planning. The project covered analysis and assessment of current and perspective situation of the basin, priority problems lists, long-term vision of basin's water resources condition, measures for implementation and financial resources of these measures. Participants expressed their comments and suggestions on the project of the document. Considering the discussion during the training, the project will be finalized into the actual Isfara River Basin Plan and be passed to relevant water management agency for further implementation.

"Water Management and Basin Organisations in Central Asia (WMBOCA)" is funded by the European Union and implemented by <u>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH</u> 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.

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

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This project is funded by the

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