

PROGRAM ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Online Training: Gender and Social Inclusion in Transboundary Waters

The [CAWEP Central Asia Knowledge Network](#), in partnership with the [Central Asia Regional Environmental Center \(CAREC\)](#), delivered an online training on Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI) in Transboundary Waters on March 2-3, 2022. The training aimed to raise awareness of, promote, and mainstream gender aspects of efficient water resource management in Central Asian countries.

Women are typically the primary collectors, users, and managers of water in Central Asian households. They strive to ensure that household water is clean, as the burden of caring for family members sickened by contaminated water or poor sanitary conditions falls on them. Despite this, women's voices [are often unheard](#) in water-related decision making, exacerbating gender inequalities in water services. Development programs need to ensure women and men benefit equally from investment in water services.



During the training Ms. Ellen Hagerman, internationally recognized Gender and Social Inclusion expert, explained gender concepts and their connection to effective and inclusive transboundary water management at the institutional and project levels. She explained how [GESI principles can be applied throughout the project cycle and within specific water and transboundary water contexts](#).

The training gathered more than 20 participants from the five Central Asian countries, CAREC, donor agencies, and international organizations.

Weather and Climate Services for the Energy Sector in Central Asia

Most Central Asia countries have established renewable energy targets. But weather and climate variables affect energy demand and supply (especially from renewable sources), and thus the energy sector requires customized meteorological information services to support both day-to-day operations and longer-term strategic planning. Such information services can help optimize efficiency, economic viability, and public acceptance of energy supply and demand management.

CAWEP and partners held the first [online training course](#) for experts in energy and hydrometeorology sectors in



Central Asia from February 21 to March 4, 2022. The course was designed to help practitioners and policymakers develop and use climate and weather tools to guide the clean energy transition in Central Asia. The training course aimed to raise awareness of, and build capacity in, the design and application of weather and climate services for the sector. It demonstrated how climate data can be used to inform smart, clean energy transitions, and to foster dialogue and partnerships between hydrometeorological agencies and energy service providers.

Sessions explored why weather and climate services matter for energy management, what is needed for delivering weather and climate services, how to design a climate service, and applying weather and climate services in the energy sector (and the connected water and agriculture sectors).

The course was designed and conducted in partnership with the World Energy and Meteorology Council, the World Meteorological Organization, the German-Kazakh university, Kazhydromet, UNECE, and UNESCAP. Over 40 participants attended all six sessions with representatives from all Central Asian countries. Participants included energy service providers, hydrometeorological service providers, academics, and interested stakeholders.

Consultations for Revised Kyrgyz Code of Practice for Water Supply and Wastewater Systems



On January 19 and March 31, 2022, stakeholder consultations were conducted to discuss multiple construction norms and standards (SNIIP) for Kyrgyz water supply and wastewater systems. The consultations were hosted by the State Agency for Architecture, Construction and Communal Services (Gosstroy), its Department of Water Supply and Wastewater Disposal together with the Community Development and Investment Agency. More than 50 representatives of state agencies, design institutes, utilities, rural service providers and development partners participated. CAWEP supported participation of international experts to share global best practices.

The revised SNIIPs introduce new water consumption norms, recommend new technologies (including for small-scale wastewater treatment), and revise requirements for water supply and wastewater systems. Participants provided feedback and suggestions for further improvements of the SNIIPs; the revised SNIIPs will be submitted to Gosstroy's Technical Council for review.

PUBLICATIONS & MULTIMEDIA

How Running Water is Changing Rural Lives in the Kyrgyz Republic and Uzbekistan



A [story on water supply projects in Uzbekistan and Kyrgyz Republic](#) was recently published on World Bank website. For years, residents of the Alat and Karakul districts of Uzbekistan, as well as of Tamga village in the Kyrgyz Republic, experienced water supply problems. Nearly one quarter of the Alat population and one seventh of the Karakul population lacked piped water supply, instead relying on unsafe water from irrigation channels, saline wells, or expensive water delivered by tanker. In Tamga village in the neighboring Kyrgyz Republic the situation was similar. Villagers relied on water from ditches or from an open reservoir.

These untreated sources were contaminated by drainage through the village cemetery. The World Bank-funded projects are helping provide safe drinking water to Alat and Karakul residents and Tamga villagers.

Tajikistan Must Strengthen Resilience of its Forests and Restore its Landscapes



A [blog](#) by Drita Dade, World Bank Senior Natural Resources Management Specialist, explains how the Regional Resilient Landscape Program for Central Asia (RESILAND CA+) is helping to restore degraded lands, improve ecosystem, and ensure food security in Tajikistan. The blog highlights the economic impacts of land degradation on livelihoods, and thus the importance of intervention. The multiple funders of RESILAND CA+ include the International Development Association, CAWEP, the Global Environment Facility, and PROGREEN.

CAWEP funds initiatives that improve water and energy management, strengthen national and regional institutions, and facilitate regional dialogue on water and energy security.

This newsletter was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the World Bank and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

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