

A dynamic splash of clear blue water against a white background, with water droplets and bubbles scattered around the main splash. The splash curves from the bottom left towards the top right, framing a central white box.

European Union Water Initiative and National Policy Dialogues

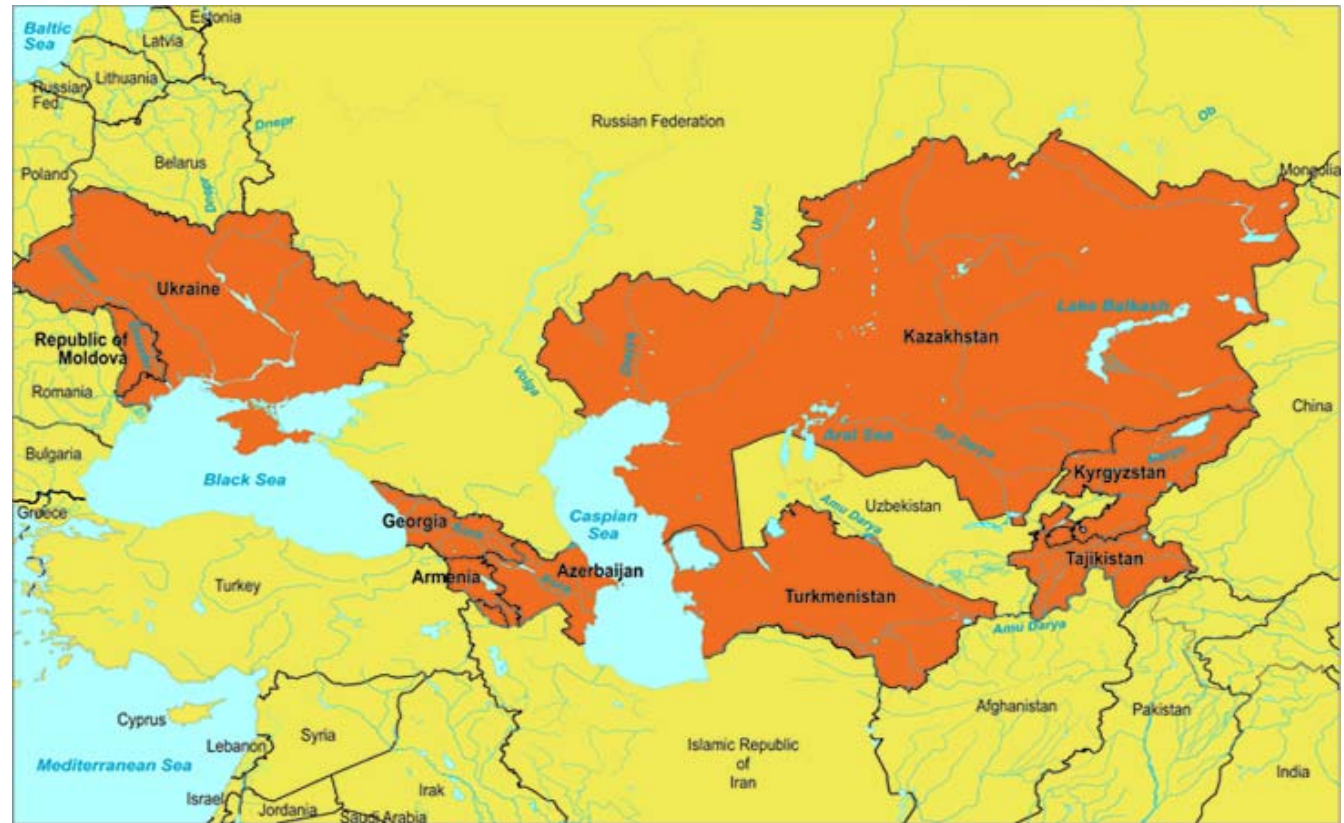
1. Background

- 2006 год - Водные инициативы ЕС (EUWI) Диалоги национальной политики (NPD) в Восточной Европе, на Кавказе и в Центральной Азии
- НДЦ, осуществляемые в 10 странах при финансировании Европейской комиссии, Финляндии, Норвегии
- Проект EUWI + для 6 стран Восточного партнерства; 24,5 млн. Евро (финансирование в размере 23,5 млн. Евро от DG NEAR / Европейской комиссии);
- Сентябрь 2016 - август 2020; Партнеры-исполнители: ЕЭК ООН, ОЭСР, Консорциум государств-членов ЕС (Австрия и Франция)
- Цель - Поддержка стран-партнеров в осуществлении национальной политики и стратегий в соответствии с Рамочной директивой ЕС по воде и другими МПС

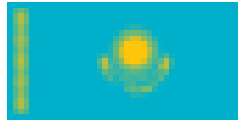
1. Country Dialogues

Программа по национальной политике ЕС по водным инициативам по комплексному управлению водными ресурсами продолжается в следующих странах:

- [Armenia](#)
- [Azerbaijan](#)
- [Georgia](#)
- [Kazakhstan](#)
- [Kyrgyz Republic](#)
- [Republic of Moldova](#)
- [Tajikistan](#)
- [Turkmenistan](#)
- [Ukraine](#)



<https://www.unece.org/env/water/npd/countrydialogues.html>



Kazakhstan

Priority areas:

- **Accession to the UNECE-WHO/Europe Protocol on Water and Health** and setting of national water and health targets and sustainable business models for WSS in rural areas and small towns.
- Increasing contribution of multi-purpose water infrastructure (MPWI) to economic development, water, food and energy security.
- State support to agriculture, rural development and water-intensive industries impacting the water sector.
- **Strengthening bilateral cooperation with neighbouring countries on the use of transboundary watercourses.**

Key achievements:

- **Development of State Programme for Water Management to 2040.** The programme was adopted in April 2014. It provides a set of targets and priority activities, some of which will be supported through the NPD process.
- In October 2015, Kazakh-Russian bilateral committee on transboundary waters decided to launch joint assessment on Ural river and Kigac tributary of Volga river..

Plans for the future:

- Joint Kazakh-Russian assessment and strategy for rational use of on the water resources in transboundary Ural river and Kigac tributary of Volga river will be prepared by 2017.
- Target setting process in the context of the Protocol on Water and Health is to be completed by the end of 2016 in framework of the NPD process.



Kyrgyz Republic

Priority areas:

- **Implementation of IWRM principles, including the use of economic instruments.**
- Support to basin planning and for establishment of basin councils with a pilot in the Chu basin.
- Improving coherence between the water and other sectoral policies (agri-food, energy).
- **Setting and implementing targets in context of the UNECE-WHO/Europe Protocol on Water and Health.**

Key achievements:

- A national financing strategy for urban and rural WSS was developed, including an agreement on targets and policy recommendations to achieve the development goals for WSS.
- Recommendations for reform options for economic instruments for WRM were developed through the NPD.
- Following the recommendations of the NPD, the government added clear WSS development targets to the latest **National Strategy for Sustainable Development**. This move cleared the way for increased and strategic budgetary allocations for WSS. In direct accordance with the recommendations made by the NPD, the government established a single body responsible for urban and rural WSS.
- **Targets on water and health have been set and adopted in 2013. In 2016, a project started to assist Kyrgyzstan in meeting these targets.**



Tajikistan

Priority areas:

- **Accession to the UNECE-WHO/Europe Protocol on Water and Health** and setting of national water and health targets and sustainable business models for WSS in rural areas and small towns.
- Increasing contribution of multi-purpose water infrastructure (MPWI) to economic development, water, food and energy security.
- State support to agriculture, rural development and water-intensive industries impacting the water sector.
- Strengthening bilateral cooperation with neighbouring countries on the use of transboundary watercourses.

Key achievements:

- **A key achievement of the NPD was the development of the Water Sector Reform Programme 2016-2025** for Tajikistan. Programme was adopted by Government in December 2015 and implementation is on the way. Aim of the programme is to create framework by 2020 for the transition to water resource management according to the basin principle and to clarify the competencies of different national institutions. Separately, a Programme for Development of Irrigation and Melioration Sector was prepared in 2015-2016.
- The NPD acted as an umbrella process for transboundary water diplomacy to advance the cooperation with Afghanistan and the management of a transboundary basin with Kyrgyzstan in the Isfara basin (project led by GIZ).
- Targets have been drafted for the application of the Protocol on Water and Health



Turkmenistan

Priority areas:

- Convergence of national water management legislation and processes with the EU WFD, including the principles of IWRM and river basin management.
- Key areas of work include the review of existing national legislation and the development of a new National Water Code..

Key achievements:

- An inter-ministerial expert group was established to review the national legislation with a view to adopting the standards of the Water Convention. The group concluded that the Water Convention corresponds to the interests of the country and in August 2012, Turkmenistan acceded to the Water Convention.
- In 2013, the inter-ministerial expert group started drafting National Water Code in order to enact necessary legal changes in line with the Water Convention and principles of IWRM. The adoption of the National Water Code is in the 2016 work plan of Mejlis, the National Parliament.
- Capacity building workshops have been organized in 2014 and 2015 to introduce two UNECE legal instruments directly linked to water management - the Protocol on Water and Health and the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.

2. Key achievements/milestones in Central Asia – 2017 - 2018

Supported by FinWaterWei II and Green Economy project

- **Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan:** Revision of targets in the context of the Protocol on Water and Health and implementation of selected measures
- **Kyrgyzstan/Kazakhstan:** Report on climate change impacts in the Chu-Talas basin and implementation of selected adaptation measures
- **Kazakhstan:** Cooperation with Russia on the transboundary Ural, Kigach, Uzen rivers
- **Kazakhstan:** Study on the Shardara Multi-Purpose Water Infrastructure, launch of work on water security indicators
- **Tajikistan:** Support to the irrigation sector reform and promotion of the use of economic instruments (tariff reform) for irrigation
- **Kyrgyzstan:** Water security indicators, economic instruments for WRM – including development of training materials, New norms and guidelines for sustainable business models for rural WSS

3. Lessons learned and future plans

- Since 2016 gap in core funding for Central Asia, uncertainty about future
 - EU WECOOP project only for NPD logistics
- Continuous interest for NPDs from countries of Central Asia
- Request to maintain EUWI EECCA format and keep exchange between Eastern Europe/Caucasus and Central Asia
- Need to maintain strong ownership of NPDs by countries
- EUWI+ Regional Steering Committee meeting (Tbilisi, 15 November, 2018)
- Continuation of EUWI+ beyond 2020



8th Session of the
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