

First Achievements:

- Initial level of gender awareness in the region
- Special session on "Gender and Water in Central Asia", May 2004
- Gender surveys (CIDA, GWP CACENA, SIC ICWC)
- Seminar with participation of rural women in Fergana, September 2004
- Training workshop on gender concept at ICWC TC, March 2005
- Web site and forum
- UNDP Resource Guide on Mainstreaming Gender in Water Management translated into Russian
- Regional on-line discussion "Gender aspects in sustainable development and environmental protection" (together with CARNet)
- "Gender Aspects of Integrated Water Resources Management" published (GWP CACENA)



Scientific-Information Center ICWC
11, Karasu-4, Tashkent, 700 187, Republic of Uzbekistan
Tel. (998 71) 166 50 95 Fax (998 71) 166 50 97
e-mail: dukh@icwc-aral.uz, dinara@icwc-aral.uz
www.gender.cawater-info.net



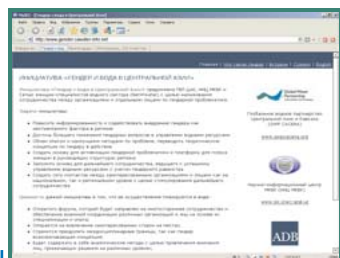
GWP CACENA Secretariat
Apt. 123, Block 6
Murtazaev Str., Tashkent, 700000, Uzbekistan
tel/fax: +998712652555, +998711370445
e-mail: vadim@icwc-aral.uz; i.babaev@cgiar.org; website: www.gwpcacena.org

In developing the full and effective participation of women at all levels of decision-making, consideration has to be given to the way different societies assign particular social, economic and cultural roles to men and women. There is a need to ensure that the water sector as a whole is gender aware implementation of training programmes for water professional and community or grass root mobilizers.

Global Water Partnership Integrated Water Resources Management



GENDER and WATER IN CENTRAL ASIA



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Scientific-Information Center of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (SIC ICWC) is developing a initiative on Gender and Water in Central Asia with assistance of Global Water Partnership Central Asia and Caucasus (GWP CACENA), CIDA, ADB, McGill University to establish co-operation among various agencies and individuals on gender issues.

Objectives:

- Raise awareness on gender issues in the region
- Attain knowledge and practice of gender issues in water use and management
- Strengthen interaction and networking among different stakeholders
- Promote “women movement to top” in water sector
- Demonstrate gender specific water and land productivity increase at the pilot sites

We will need to:

At the macro level:

- Raise the awareness of policy makers, water managers, water users and women and men themselves, of the fact that economic transition and economic development are not gender neutral.
- Strengthen information and analytical capacity we need reliable information on baseline gender differentials and on the gender impact of policies, programs and reforms
- Support gender sensitive and participatory operations designed to address specific gender issues
- Foster greater collaboration between all stakeholders government, NGOs, civil society and communities in water management
- Incorporate gender approaches in the development of the legislative basic in water sector

At the micro level:

- Publicly recognize women as irrigators, through joint membership into Water User Associations and Canal Water Committees
- Set targets and quotas for women in representative structures of water management organizations
- Facilitate women landowners to formalize their land and water rights
- Build both male and female awareness and capacity on gender issues and its relation to water management
- Develop qualified extension services to farmers
- Increase the access of women to microcredit facilities and financial sectors
- Challenge the rigid norm that irrigation is, only and exclusively, a male affair



The Main Directions of Activities:

- Gender-disaggregated data collection and analysis; surveys and analytical reviews
- Training on gender and water issues combined with pilot demonstrations on gender specific water and land productivity increase
- Dissemination and exchange of relevant information