

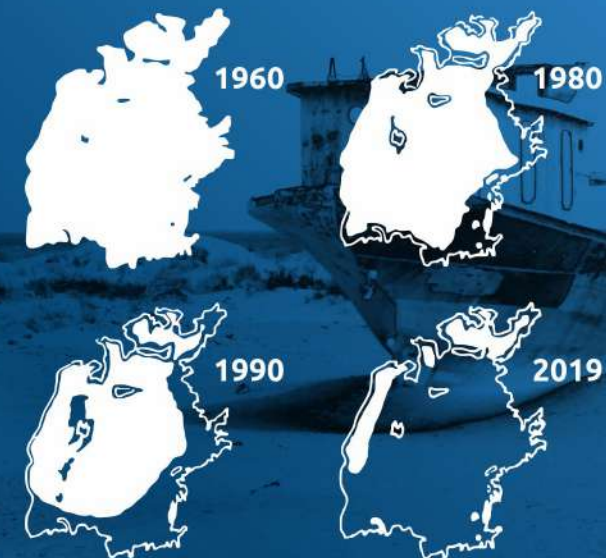


Central Asia Youth for Water Network
hosted by the Kazakh-German University
UNESCO Chair on water resources
management in Central Asia

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The First Aral Sea Summer School Young Water Leaders – Vector of Change



10-18 August
2019

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Background

Today, more than ever before, water is recognized as a fundamental resource to ensure future sustainable and inclusive economic growth; and access to water is vital as a basic human right. In committing to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's), we aim to implement our summer schools on an annual basis, focusing on United Nations World Water Development Reports' themes. Consequently, the first Aral Sea summer school will be entitled to "no one is left behind", and will service youth – one of the most vulnerable groups as specified in the 2030 Agenda.

Young water leaders are future decision-makers, who will influence development of the Central Asian region and beyond. Thereby, we aim that the summer school will be a tool to empower and inspire youth to choose nature-based solutions when addressing environmental challenges. We will lead an expert-to-youth knowledge exchange, as well as capacity-building and networking opportunities for future water leaders.

The first summer school in Aral will also celebrate the 80th anniversary of "Barsakelmes" Nature Reserve by implementing nature-based solutions approach in enhancing skills of participants, and providing the youth with an opportunity of engagement with local communities.

Structure and approach Three main directions of influence:

■ Ecosystem based disaster risk reduction

Ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction is the sustainable management, conservation and restoration of ecosystems to provide services that reduce disaster risk by mitigating hazards and by increasing livelihood resilience. Healthy ecosystems reduce people's vulnerability to disasters by supporting livelihoods and meeting basic needs for food, water, fuel and shelter.

■ "Conservation agriculture"

Agriculture is by far the largest water consumer, accounting for 69% of annual water withdrawals globally. Agriculture will need to meet projected increases in food demand by improving its resource use efficiency while simultaneously reducing its external footprint, and water is central to this need. A cornerstone of recognized solutions is the 'Conservation agriculture', which incorporates practices aimed at minimizing soil disturbance, maintaining soil cover and regularizing crop rotation, is a flagship example approach to sustainable production intensification.

■ Transboundary Water Management

"We need new solutions in managing water resources so as to meet emerging challenges to water security caused by population growth and climate change. If we do nothing, some five billion people will be living in areas with poor access to water by 2050. This Report proposes solutions that are based on nature to manage water better. This is a major task all of us need to accomplish together responsibly so as to avoid water related conflicts," declared the Director-General of UNESCO.

For too long, people have been implementing "grey" infrastructure and this needs to be improved for embracing nature-based solutions for water. Along with focusing on environmental engineering – it is essential to apply effective management of transboundary waters to produce benefits for people living in shared basins.

All three thematic scopes will be structured to develop a better understanding of transboundary and regional cooperation, as well as discover potential of youth for water and peace.

Methodology

The summer school will be based on interactive thematic lectures, which then to be followed by working sessions to foster intergenerational dialogue, and build capacities of the participants. Field trip around the Aral Sea Basin will provide an opportunity for engagement of youth with local community and interaction with civil society, which will be an essential part of experience and traditional knowledge sharing.

Objective

- Expand knowledge of future water leaders in the field of nature-based solutions by approaching disaster risk reduction, agriculture and energy sectors;
- Raise awareness of the youth through strengthening a platform for networking to create ties between different youth initiatives and allow new, concrete actions to emerge in the region and beyond;
- Promote dialogue between the youth and civil society;
- Cultural representation of the event in media to provide more visibility and opportunities of cross regional cooperation.

Expected outputs

- Promote nature-based solutions in committing to address water availability and quality in the Aral Sea Basin and beyond;
- Knowledge and experience exchange to valorize local actions of youth active for water;
- Engagement of young experts with civil society;
- Media coverage of situation of the Aral Sea Basin.

Partners

The event is organized by "Central Asia Youth for Water" (CAY4W) Network in cooperation with the Kazakh-German University, Almaty and International Secretariat for Water, Canada (ISW) with the support of Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), World Bank (WB), Global Water Partnership (GWP), The International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea and Barsakelmes Nature Reserve.

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10-18 August, 2019

Organizers:	"Central Asia Youth for Water" (CAY4W) Network in cooperation with the Kazakh-German University
Date:	10.08.2019 — 18.08.2019
Place:	10-11 august — Kazakh-German University 173, Nazarbayev avenue, Almaty 12-18 august — Aral Sea Basin (Kamystybas lake, Barsakelmes SNR, cluster area "Kaskakulan", "Aral" STC, Aralkum desert)
Language:	English and Russian

Day 1 (10.08)

Moderators: Lyazzat Syrlybayeva and Marhabo Yodalieva

09:00 – 09:30

Registration

09:30 – 10:00

Welcome speech

Barbara Janusz-Pawletta

Vice-rector on international cooperation and public relations — Kazakh-German University

Abdybai Dzhailoobaev

GWP CACENA

Alma Chengelbaeva

Chief Specialist — Department of Water Resources
The International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea
in the Republic of Kazakhstan

Manon Cassara

Consultant for Water Resources — World Bank

Botagoz Sharipova

International Secretariat for Water (ISW), Canada

10:00 – 10:20

**“The activity of Executive Board of IFAS
as indicator of ecological recovery
of the Aral Sea area”**

Alma Chengelbaeva

Chief Specialist at Department of Water Resources
The International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea
in the Republic of Kazakhstan

10:20 – 10:40

**“Concepts and elements
of water security of Kyrgyzstan”**

Abdybai Dzhailoobaev

GWP CACENA

10:40 – 11:20

Panel discussion with experts and youth

11:20 – 12:00

Ice-breaker followed by Coffee break

12:00 – 12:30

**“The Aral Sea Crisis and Ways Forward
to Use New Opportunities following New
Initiatives of the President of Uzbekistan”**

Vadim Sokolov

Head of Agency of the International Fund
for Saving the Aral Sea in the Republic of Uzbekistan

12:30 – 13:00

**“Youth Empowerment for Water
in Central Asia”**

Lyazzat Syrlybayeva

Coordinator of Central Asia Youth for Water
(CAY4W) Network

13:00 – 14:00

Lunch

14:00 – 16:00

Regional Water Contest

Poster presentations of Regional Water Contests
winners (6 winners of national water contest)
«Innovative approach to IWRM»

16:00 – 16:30

Coffee break

16:30 – 17:30

**“Public Participation and Role
of Youth Networking”**

Botagoz Sharipova

International Secretariat for Water

19:00

Welcome dinner

Day 2 (11.08)

Moderators: Marhabo Yodalieva and Lyazzat Syrlybayeva

09:00 – 09:30	Warm-up game «Water Bingo»
09:30 – 10:00	“Glaciers2Aral” Almas Kitapbayev CAWa project coordinator in Central Asia
10:00 – 11:30	Session on hydropolitics Hussam Hussein Mohammed Assaf “Mediterranean Youth for Water” (MedYWat) Network
11:30 – 12:00	Coffee break
12:00 – 13:00	“Theories of cooperation” Botagoz Sharipova International Secretariat for Water
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	CA Data Portal Manon Cassara Consultant for Water Resources World Bank
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee break
16:00 – 16:30	Announcement from organizers

Day 3 (12.08)

Conservation Agriculture

Almaty — Kyzylorda — Kamystybas	Field lecture during a visit to the “Manak Baba” farm “Monitoring and Assessment of Water Use Efficiency in Central Asia” Dr. Mike Netzband University of Wuerzburg Almas Kitapbayev CAWa project coordinator in Central Asia
	Arrival to the STC «Aral», getting acquainted with Centre
	Setting camp
	Acquaintance with IFAS and Barsakelmes SNR team
	camping – overnight stay in “Aral” STC

Day 4 (13.08)

Kamystybas — Barsakelmes SNR	Getting acquainted with hydro-construction Aklak, Kokaral dam and small Aral Sea
	Visiting cluster area “Kaskakulan” of Barsakelmes SNR (possible spectating after kulans)
	Excursion to the historical mausoleum Begim-Ana
	Camping – overnight stay on Kaskakulan

Day 5 (14.08) Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction

Kaskakulan
—
Barsakelmes
—
STC «Aral»

Visit to old town Kerderi

Field lecture during a visit
to former island Barsakelmes

**"Hydrological Extremes
and Management of Disaster Risk"**

Takara Kaoru
Kyoto University

Ecological trail «Butakov Cape»

«Kari Buget» bridge

Overnight stay in the lodging house

Day 6 (15.08) Climate Change and Adaptation

Kamystybas
—
Aralkum
—
Kamystybas

**"Climate Change
and Adaptation Approaches"**

Marhabo Yodalieva
Water Programme Coordinator
Kazakh-German University

Zoia Kretova
Kyrgyz HydroMet

Visiting project territories of the UNESCO
and «Baytak Dala» LLP – saxaul plantings

STC «Aral», Kamystybas lake, free time – on the lake

Camping – overnight stay in "Aral" STC

Day 7 (16.08)

Kamystybas
—
Aralsk

Excursion to the local history museum
& fishermen museum

Visit to house of writer N. A. Nurpeissov

Visiting Barsakelmes SNR office

Entertainment program in the house of culture

Overnight stay in "Noor" hotel

Day 8 (17.08)

Aralsk
—
Kyzylorda

**"Establishing cooperation
and networks in water sector"**

Research presentation
Botagoz Sharipova
International Secretariat for Water

Game «Negotiations»

Overnight stay in hotel "Rema"

Day 9 (18.08)

Kyzylorda
—
Almaty

Arrival to Almaty

Farewell lunch

