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UZWATER NEWSLETTER

26 January 2015

Dear Uzwater colleagues,

This newsletter intends to keep you all updated on the work and development in the Uzwater project. Note that the homepage is there to be used. Please visit the homepage at least once a week, uzwater.ktu.lt. Register so you have access to Intranet. The homepage will be in three languages – English, Uzbek and Russian.

Lars Rydén, Coordinator Uppsala University

Third Uzwater Coordination Meeting at Uppsala University, December 1-7

The Uzwater project has three coordination meetings, one for each year. The third and final meeting was hosted by Uppsala University in December 2014. All partners were present although regrettably Tashkent Technical University and Urgench State University took part using Skype, as the representatives did not receive permission to travel. A report (minutes) from the meeting is available on the project [website](#), both in English and Russian.

At the meeting all Uzbek universities made presentations of the development of their centres with equipment, courses that were running in the fall of 2014 and in general how the project was established at their universities. Impressions were in general very good and the EU partners congratulated to the successes. These reports are now delivered in written form to the Advisory Board.

The planning for the last and final year of the project was much focused on the *production of the course books* – or compendia if you wish – for the 15 courses in the project. This is a main undertaking for this last year: 15 books, each of some 150 or so pages! The meeting decided that the English versions of the books should be available by March 15.

A main topic was also how to develop *accreditation of the master programme*. The final decision from this discussion was that the group will ask for accreditation of two master programmes, one focusing on water management and the other on environmental science and sustainable development. Samarkand Institute of Architecture and Civil Engineering with Professor Abror Gadaev in the lead will take responsibility for the first,





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and the National University of Uzbekistan with Prof. Azamat Azizov will lead the second one. This process is now in full activity.

Finally the *final conference of the project* was discussed and it was decided that it will be organised in Tashkent, if possible in the first days of September 2015, coordinated by the National University of Uzbekistan. All Uzwater partners as well as a long list of authorities, projects and universities will be invited.



The Uzwater team gathered after a public lecture on the Aral Sea by Prof Abror Gadaev and Dr Rustam Eshniyasov.



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First Meeting of the Uzwater Advisory Board

The Uzwater project has an Advisory Board to oversee the project and work for its continuation beyond Tempus funding. It is coordinated by Warsaw University of Life Sciences. The Board met for the first time on December 4th at Uppsala University. The report from the meeting is available on the Project Homepage both in English and Russian. The contribution by Danka Thalmeinerova, Global Water Partnership, was of particular value as she offered an excellent resource for Uzwater universities: a wealth of information is available on the GWP homepage <http://www.gwp.org/>, both in English and Russian.

An important discussion at the meeting concerned the possibility to extend the Uzwater network to other universities in Central Asia. Many of the Uzbek participants testified to several such contacts and this extension seem to be fairly easy to realise, and was very much promoted by the Board.

The topic of the master thesis work and cooperation with stakeholders in the Uzbek society was a main issue. A number of recommendations were given and these are available in the report from the meeting.

The Board will next produce a Sustainability Plan for the project. It will meet next time in the fall of 2015.

First of Uzwater course book printed

During the Coordination Meeting the first book of the Uzwater project was presented by Prof. Maris Klavins of University of Latvia, and Prof. Azamat Azizov of the National University of Uzbekistan. The book, called *ENVIRONMENT, POLLUTION, DEVELOPMENT: THE CASE OF UZBEKISTAN* will be the material for two of the courses in the A module, *Environment and Sustainable Development in the Central Asia region* and *Environmental Chemistry*. The book is available in pdf format on the project homepage. It is being translated into Russian and Uzbek languages

