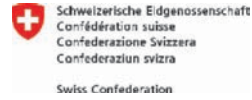


# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



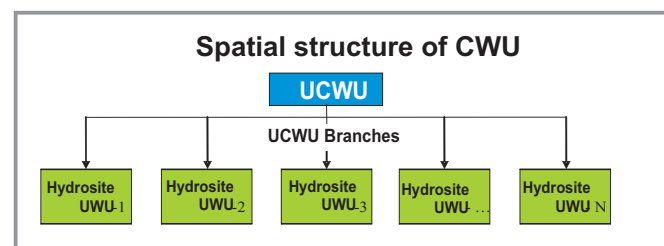
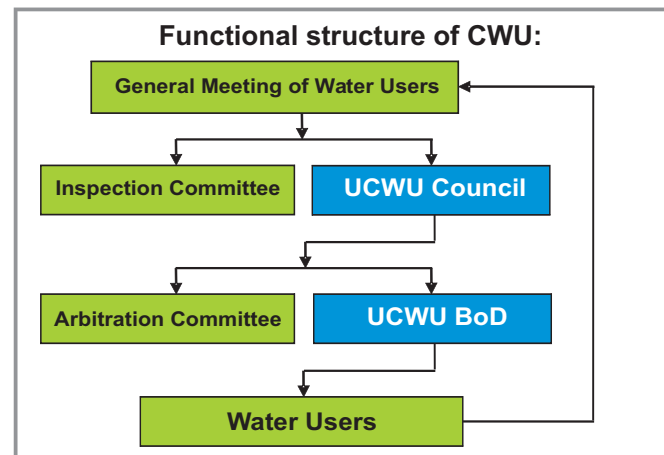
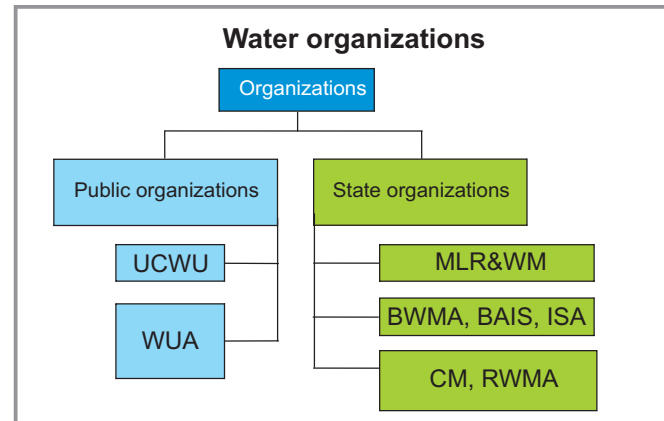
## Experience of establishing and organizing CWU activity

### Starting situation

Before "IWRM-Ferghana" Project started its implementation the public participation principle worked only at the level of local community self-administration stakeholders (mahallya). Introduction of public participation principle started developing at the level of former collective farms through establishing Water Users Associations (WUA). At the level of main canals this process started developing during the Project' progress.

### Achievements

1. Canal Water users Unions (CWU) established and officially registered:
  - SFMC UCWU.
  - AAC UCWU.
  - KhBC UCWU.
2. Administrations of CWU are formed and function. Meetings of CWU Administrations are held regularly (on a monthly basis).
3. Since SFMC is a very large canal (compared to AAC and KhBK), in order to improve operational efficiency of SFMC UCWU their subdivisions were established at 10 hydro sections of SFMC.
4. CWU through their representatives in Administration of CWC, participate in decision making regarding joint water management at the canal level. In the course of the SFMC meetings and analysis of monitoring results a number of problems emerged such as instability of power supply for pumping stations, theft and discharge of water, discrepancy of planning data on irrigated areas, etc.
5. As a result of CWU activity awareness of water managers and water users increases. What is more that some problems become matter at issue, which in the past were suppressed (interference of local authorities in water distribution process) or appropriate attention was not given to them (uncoordinated actions of energy operators leading to sudden outage of pumping stations and consequently to unstable water delivery from canals to diversions; excessive extraction of gravel from Hodjibakirgansay river bed resulting in water erosion of banks and trees and consequently in security threat to hydro schemes). Water users awareness enhancement is carried out through workshops and training, dissemination of booklets and bulletin, as well as mass media.



**Scientific-Information Center ICWC**

11, Karasu-4,  
Tashkent, 100 187,  
Republic of Uzbekistan  
Tel.: (998 71) 265 92 95,  
266 41 96  
Fax: (998 71) 265 27 97  
e-mail: info@icwc-aral.uz,  
http://sic.icwc-aral.uz;  
www.cawater-info.net

**IWMI Central Asia and Caucasus Office**

Apt, 123, home 6,  
Murtazaeva str.,  
P.O. Box 4564,  
Glavpochtamt  
Tashkent, 100 000,  
Republic of Uzbekistan  
Telephone:  
(998 71) 237 04 45  
Fax: (998 71) 237 03 17

## New type of water organizations

Before “IWRM-Ferghana” Project started its implementation the public participation principle worked only at the level of local community self-administration stakeholders (mahallya). At higher levels of water distribution management was carried out exclusively by state governmental water management organizations (Fig. 1). And only when state independence had been obtained by Central Asian Republics, introduction of public participation principle started developing at the level of former collective farms through establishing non-governmental water organizations – Water Users Associations (WUA).

At the level of main canals this process had been for the first time launched only within the framework of the Project by way of unifying WUAs, production cooperatives and other water users located in the main Canal Zone into Canal Water users Unions (CWU).

## Main Canal Water users Union (CWU)

Canal Water users' Union (CWU) – is a community in the form of a voluntary association being a non-commercial public organization that unifies judicial entities (WUAs, production cooperatives, etc.) on the basis of community of interests for coordination of their activities and protection of their interests and rights. A CWU function in accordance with the Articles of CWU, adopted by the General Meeting of water users, has its stamp and bank account.

The main objective of CWU is to improve the well-being of the Union's members in the Canal Zone through facilitating water and land use productivity on the basis of integrated water resources use management.

## Functions of CWU

1. Elaboration and reconciliation of long-term policy on IWRM principles implementation.
2. Consideration of seasonal and operational plans of water distribution along the canal.
3. Execution of control over development and implementation of water distribution plans.
4. Consideration of the maintenance plan with regard to infrastructure of the canal.
5. Get labor, mechanisms and materials of water users and organizations – members of the Union involved in the certain operational and repair works, when necessary and by their approbation.
6. Development of strategy and methods to improve collection of fees and other payments for water and other services.
7. Search for additional (besides budget) sources of funding the Canal Administration activity (through mobilization



- of means owned by organizations – members of the Union as well as donors' and credit sources).
8. Consideration of annual statements submitted by the Canal Administration and development of recommendations to improve water distribution and water use.
9. Handling matters of argument occurring between water users within its competence.
10. Enhancing public awareness on water management issues and current water situation.