

WESTERN BALKANS FORUM: ENVIRONMENTAL / CLIMATE ACHIEVEMENTS AND FUTURE CHALLENGES

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REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
MINISTRY OF
ENVIRONMENT

Government Programme of Armenia for 2021-2026

The main objectives are:

Complex conservation, protection, improvement, recovery and rational use of environment and natural resources, through balancing the social justice and economic efficiency.

The minimization of the negative impacts on the environment and exclusion of the overexploitation and illegal use of natural resources, ensuring the implementation of the preventive measures.

the vision towards green transition and climate resilience rests on the principles of green, resilient and low carbon growth, which entails scalability of adaptation and bankability of mitigation efforts, ranging from reforestation at scale to investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Environmental Policy of Armenia

The environmental protection policy of Armenia is:

- based on national legislation in full compliance with obligations taken by ratified multilateral and European agreements
- developed with the notion of identified environmental sector priorities, importance of cooperation with other sectors to catalyze finance towards addressing global environmental issues

Legal, Institutional and Strategic Framework

Legal Framework

Environmental sector is regulated by more over 1000 legal acts:


Codes, Laws, Government Decrees, Prime minister Decrees, Vice Prime minister Decrees, Minister orders

Institutional Framework

2018

- ✓ The environmental protection and mining inspection body was removed from the structure of the Ministry of Environment of RA.
- ✓ The State Forest Committee was formed as a state body under the Ministry.
- ✓ Biodiversity and forest policy department was formed at the Ministry, which was later split into two different departments.


2019

- ✓ Climate policy department was formed at the Ministry.
 - ✓ The function of the Ministry of Emergency Situations – observations, studies and forecasts of hydrometeorological phenomena has been delegated to the Ministry of Environment.
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2020

- ✓ “Forest Monitoring Center”, “Environmental Monitoring and Information Center”, “Service of Active influence on Hydrometeorological and Atmospheric Phenomena” SNCO-s have been united in “Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Center” SNCO.

2021

- ✓ The Department of Permits, Licenses and Compliances was split into the Department of Water Resources Management, Bioresource Management Department and Waste and Atmospheric Emissions Management Department.
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EU-RA Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement

2018

EU-RA Comprehensive and enhanced partnership agreement(CEPA) ratified by RA.

2019

Roadmap of implementation of CEPA established

«Environment» Chapter

The Chapter includes over 100 activities related to air quality, water quality, natural resource management, waste management, biodiversity conservation, environmental governance, industrial pollution, chemicals management.

«Climate Change» Chapter

The Chapter includes 20 activities . The activities are aimed, in particular, at meeting the commitments under the Paris Agreement, reducing and preventing climate change negative impact through appropriate mitigation and adaptation measures.

SDG 2030 Agenda


2015

- ✓ The Interagency Commission for the Sustainable Development Goals was formed.

2018

- ✓ The ecological subgroup of the Commission developed recommendations for the nationalization of SDG 6, 11, 13, 14, 15 and 17.

2020

- ✓ New Council on Sustainable Development Goals was formed.
 - ✓ Armenia developed and submitted the voluntary report on the assessment of SDGs in Armenia in 2020.
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Main achievements

The new and **updated NDC** and the **National Climate Change Adaptation Plan and the Action Plan for 2021-2025 (NAP)**. The updated NDC demonstrates increase in Government's climate ambition and defines that country's new mitigation goal to be implemented by 2030 is equivalent to 40% reduction compared to the level of emissions in 1990, which is driven by the energy sector.

On July 21, 2022 the GoA adopted the RA Law "**On Amendments to RA Law "On Atmospheric Air Protection"**" laying down modern approaches to atmospheric air protection, tightening administrative and tax liability for atmospheric air pollution.

Draft law «On Environmental Impact Assessment and expertise» (EIA) Since 2019, the Ministry of Environment has initiated the development of a new Draft law on EIA based on the EU relevant directives and obligations established under the Aarhus Convention and the Espoo Convention. The series of discussions with the involvement of diverse range of stakeholders were initiated and conducted by the Ministry, taking into account the strong public interest and a wide range of defined projects that are to be regulated by the Law. The revised draft law «On the Environmental Impact Assessment and Expertise» is submitted to the Office of the Prime Minister.

The Revised Water Code of the Republic of Armenia jointly with secondary legislation is adopted in 2022

The draft law “On Specially Protected Areas of Nature” is under revision. The new Law envisages the regulation of creation, protection, conservation and sustainable management

The draft of the Government Decision “On National Programme of measures for the years 2022-2026 for the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants” is developed

The RA Law “On Mercury” is adopted, according to which a ban was imposed on the mining of mercury-containing minerals, as well as the production of mercury-containing products. It is also envisaged to adopt the procedure for the export and import of mercury, as well as the list of mercury-containing products prohibited for import and export

The Law "On Amendments and Amendments to the Waste Law" was adopted



Fostering Green Economy

Adoption of policies aimed at fostering Green Economy has been outlined as a priority in Government Programme 2021-2026 of the Republic of Armenia.

implementation of the e-vehicles promotion strategy (EVs imported in 2017 is 27, while in 2022 – more than 7000. More than 100 charging stations are installed in nearly all regions of Armenia)

introduction of the Extended Producer's Responsibility concept in Armenia,

introduction of a cost-effective renewable energy source in the country in line with its strategy to foster low carbon generation and development of renewables

In response to several challenges the Government of Armenia has delivered a successful Covid-19 response by providing support measures such as creating green jobs for the suffered sectors of economy and vulnerable strata of population. Green recovery approach has been prioritized and incorporated into the designed support framework and negotiated with international development partners. However, the ongoing economic downturn requires more resources to be channeled and mobilized for re-engineering economic growth, and thus requires support from donor agencies and international development partners in recovering the country's economy through green recovery interventions.

International Cooperation

More than 30 grant projects are implementing with financial assistance of Environmental Funds and IDOs with the total budget USD 70 million

4 Project Proposals are submitted to the GCF and GEF-8 to be approved with USD 21,9 million total budget

Currently Armenia is implementing 4 Regional Projects aimed at Climate Change, Water Resources Sustainable Management, Waste Management and Green Economy

Armenia is a signatory part for more than 20 global and regional environmental treaties, agreements and conventions

26 bilateral MoUs in the field of Environment are signed

15 MoUs are in the stage of finalization

Thank you!

