



Action funded by
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EU4Environment

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

Regional meeting with Eastern Partnership countries on implementing a Best Available Techniques (BAT) approach to environmental regulation

DRAFT AGENDA

16 November, 12h – 15h Paris time

Virtually through ZOOM

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Action implemented by:



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16 November, 12h -15h Paris time

Background

Adopting a Best Available Techniques (BAT) approach provides governments with the means to set realistic emission limits while giving industry support on adopting the best available techniques and technologies for environmental performance. Countries in the EaP region have expressed commitment to implementing BAT, and with progress already made to varying degrees. Through the EU4Environment Programme, the OECD is continuing to support that work directly, and connecting EaP countries with other national representatives and experts through the OECD Expert Group on BAT.

This workshop builds on last year's workshop, which was also held back to back with the OECD Expert Group on BAT in Seoul, South Korea.

Meeting objectives, expected outputs and outcomes

This workshop will facilitate experience sharing on adopting a BAT approach to industrial emission regulation in EaP Countries. It will serve as a regional meeting for EaP countries to provide updates on BAT-related activities that are in the process of being implemented in the region, discuss challenges, and ways in which peer countries and the EU4Environment project can continue to support implementation.

Participants

Participants include representatives from EU Eastern Partnership countries, BAT experts from EU and non-EU countries, and international organisations. Simultaneous translation will be offered between English and Russian.

About EU4Environment

The "European Union for Environment" (**EU4Environment**) aims to help the six partner countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine preserve their natural capital and increase people's environmental well-being, by supporting environment-related action, demonstrating and unlocking opportunities for greener growth, and setting mechanisms to better manage environmental risks and impacts.

The Action is funded by the European Union and implemented by five Partner organisations: OECD, UNECE, UNEP, UNIDO and the World Bank based on a budget of some EUR 20 million. The Action implementation period is 2019-2022.

For further information contact: EU4Environment@oecd.org

Draft Outline of the Agenda

Time	Item
12h00-12h05	<p>Item 1. Welcome and introductions</p> <p>Opening remarks from the moderator (Mr. Krzysztof Michalak, Senior Programme Manager, Green Growth and Global Relations Division, OECD Environment Directorate) and a brief introduction of the seminar's agenda.</p>
12h05-12h10	<p>Item 2. Ongoing work from the OECD under EU4Environment</p> <p>Mr. Guy Halpern (Policy Analyst, Green Growth and Global Relations Division, OECD Environment Directorate) will provide a brief introductory presentation, discussing ongoing OECD work on environmental regulation of industrial emitters.</p>
12h10-12h30	<p>Item 3. Key takeaways from the OECD Expert Working Group on BAT</p> <p>Participants are invited to share key takeaways and reactions following the previous week's Working Group meeting.</p>
12h30-13h30	<p>Item 4. Discussion of experiences on environmental regulation reform and BAT implementation in the EaP region</p> <p>Participants from EaP countries are invited to discuss the current state of industrial environmental regulation and BAT implementation in their respective country.</p> <p>Kick-off interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Vrezh Galoyan, Deputy Head of the Environmental Protection and Mining Inspection Body, Ministry of Nature Protection of Armenia • Mr. Zaur Mammadov, Chief Adviser of Industrial Zones Division of the Industry Department, Ministry of Economy of Azerbaijan • Mr. Valery Kurilov, Director of the State Enterprise "Ecologyinvest", Government of Belarus • Ms. Nino Obolashvili, Head of Integrated Management Division, Environmental Assessment Department, Ministry of Environment and Agriculture of Georgia • Ms. Angela Panciuc, senior consultant, Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assessment Policy Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment of Moldova • Ms. Victoria Kireieva, Director of the Department of Permitting and Licensing Activities and Prevention of Industrial Pollution of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine <p>Following each presentation, there will be an opportunity for questions and discussion on the specific challenges and barriers that they face</p>

under current environmental regulation and in the transition to a BAT approach, and the advantages and disadvantages of such a transition.

Questions for discussion:

- What are the new developments in environmental regulation that have taken place in the past year?
- What are the specific challenges and barriers faced by your country and other EaP countries in implementing a BAT approach to environmental regulation?
- What kind of assistance is needed to support countries to transition to a BAT approach?
- How has the COVID-19 situation impacted the transition to BAT?

13h30-13h40

Coffee Break

13h40-14h50

Item 5. Thematic Session: Transitioning to a BAT approach

During this session, participants from OECD and EU member states will discuss the transition process to a BAT system, sharing challenges and methods across key areas.

Kick-off interventions:

- Mr. Marcin Wiśniewski, Chief specialist, Department of Environmental Instruments, Ministry of Climate of Poland
- Ms. Kristel Lopsik, Senior Officer, Environmental Technology Department, Ministry of the Environment of Estonia
- Ms. Tatjana Kolesniková, Chemical Safety Unit, Ministry of the Environment of Czech Republic

Topics during this session include:

- Methods for environmental authorities to support firms in the transition to BAT and more stringent Emission Limit Values
- Experiences with the development of BREFs through Technical Working Groups
- Experiences with implementing BAT with challenging sectors, such as thermal power generation or the extractive sector

14h50-15h00

Item 6. Conclusions and next steps

Participants will discuss research and practical support needs and next potential steps.

The moderator will sum up the outcomes of the day's discussions.