



Action funded by
the European Union

EU4Environment

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

Second Regional Capacity Building Online Workshop on Extended Producer Responsibility in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine

Agenda

Date: Wednesday, 28 July 2021

Time: 9:30-12:30 CEST (Time in Geneva)/10:30-13:30 EEST

Format: web-based video conference

Platform: Zoom

Simultaneous interpretation (English/Russian) will be provided. The meeting will take place in virtual format – all discussion and information documents will be circulated electronically.

Action implemented by:



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Wednesday, 28 July 2021, 9:30-12:30 CEST (Geneva time)/10:30-13:30 EEST

Background

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is one of five partner agencies implementing an EU-funded EU4Environment Programme (2019 – 2022). This regional programme supports the Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine) in making policy planning and investment greener, stimulating the uptake of innovative products and technologies, and raising awareness about benefits of environmental action. The application of strategic approaches to waste management can assist in addressing countries' overarching waste management challenges. To this end, within EU4Environment's component 2.4 on "The use of strategic approaches on waste management" UNEP supports countries in promoting development of comprehensive sustainable waste management policies and policy instruments. More specifically, under *Activity 2.4.2 Initiating/assisting the establishment of Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) schemes*, UNEP provides technical assistance to EaP countries in the establishment of EPR schemes for the packaging waste streams. This will be achieved through the provision of advisory services and capacity development/trainings to policy makers, procurement practitioners, businesses and business associations, as well as NGOs and other stakeholders.

Workshop objectives, expected outputs and outcomes

The overall aim of the 2nd Regional Workshop is to meet the needs of the six partner countries in the best possible way, based on the discussions that took place during the 1st Regional Workshop and the information obtained from desktop research. The 2nd Regional Workshop will facilitate regional dialogue and information sharing and particularly focus on regional challenges and critical issues, mainly the EPR implementation, legislation, operation and competition at the EPR level, using a detailed example of performance in a post-soviet country in the EU.

The objectives of the second regional workshop are: i) to present and discuss the findings of the Report on the Current Status of the EPR Schemes for the Packaging Waste in EaP countries; ii) present and discuss the learnings from the EU, such as legislation and the practical evolution of EPR; and iii) present and discuss the EPR operational issues, competition among Producer Responsibility Organizations (PROs) and actions from the industry.

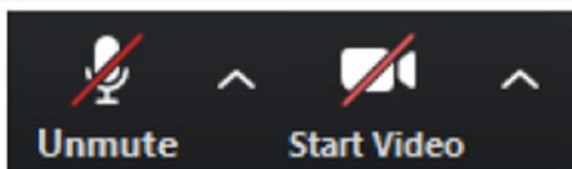
Participants

The event will bring together around 100 participants from EaP countries, including representatives of relevant Ministries, local authorities, UNEP, international organizations, the EU Delegation, private sector and Civil Society Organizations.

Practical Information

The meeting will take place virtually via the Zoom platform. All registered participants will receive connection details to access the platform. English is the main language of the regional workshop. English-Russian simultaneous interpretation will be provided during the meeting.

1. At the beginning of the meeting, we will ask everyone to turn on the cameras for greeting, as well as to introduce themselves. Then you will be asked to turn off cameras and turn on only when you want to ask a question or make a comment.
2. To maintain a high quality of communication, it is better that all participants have their microphones turned off and turn it on only when they are going to make a comment. The camera and microphone control buttons are located below and look like this.



3. If you noticed that your microphone was turned off, but you did not do it, don't take it as a technical problem, it could be done by a moderator. Also, the moderator may turn on microphones for participants who are making a speech.
4. When you want to say something during the speaker's presentation, you need to either click the raise sign, which is located in the right corner in the participant's section. Then a palm will appear opposite your name, so the moderator will be able to see that you need to give the floor. Also, you can write a question in the chat to everyone or only to a moderator and you will be given the floor when it will be possible.
5. During the video conference, we will record the meeting ONLY for our internal use (to prepare the report). We will not transfer this record to third parties or post it on the Internet.
6. During the meeting, the chat for participants will be active, you can write questions there or report problems with sound or presentations.
7. The sound quality will be better if each participant uses headphones or a headset, such as for a mobile phone.
8. We plan to take some photos during the meeting for the report. If you are opposed to being photographed, please report this to the moderator before meeting.

About EU4Environment

The "European Union for Environment" (**EU4Environment**) programme aims to help the six partner countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and 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

Within the framework of the EU4Environment programme, UNEP provides technical assistance to partner countries in the establishment of EPR schemes for the packaging waste streams under *Activity 2.4.2 Initiating/assisting the establishment of Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) schemes*. This task is carried out by UNEP with its implementing partner - Extended Producer Responsibility Alliance (EXPRA).

AGENDA

Moderators:

- Ms. Rie Tsutsumi (UNEP) and Mr. Feng Wang (UNEP)
- Mr. Kyriakos Parpounas, Managing Director, Parpounas Sustainability Consultants (PSC) and Mr. Joachim Quoden, Managing Director, Extended Producer Responsibility Alliance (EXPRA)

Time (CEST/Geneva)	Item 1: Welcoming remarks
9:30 - 9:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU (TBC) • Ms. Rie Tsutsumi, Regional Coordinator for Climate Change and Resource Efficiency, UNEP <p><i>Introduction of objectives of the meeting and agenda.</i></p>
9:45 - 11:15	<p>Item 2: Discussing findings of the Regional Report and learning from the EU</p> <p><i>Findings of the Regional Report on the Current Status of the EPR Schemes for the Packaging Waste in EaP countries</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by Mr. Kyriakos Parpounas, Managing Director, PSC <p><i>Lessons learnt from the EU: legislation and the practical evolution of EPR</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by Mr. Joachim Quoden, Managing Director, EXPRA <p>Q&A</p> <p><i>Czech Republic: Status of EPR in the country and the key operational issues</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by Mr. Petr Sikyr, Operations Director, EKO-KOM <p><i>Czech Republic: Competition in the PRO markets</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by a representative from the Centre for Economic and Market Analyses, Czech Republic (TBC) <p>Q&A</p>
11:15 – 12:15	<p>Item 3: Interactive Discussion</p> <p><i>Discussion: Participants views on the following issues:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can the country provide stimulus to producers to improve packaging by setting out a correct fee for producers and how much fee should be set out for particular types of packaging? • Action from the obliged industry: setting up EPR system and PRO, cost of PROs, management and operation, technical work on collection and recycling;

12:15 – 12:30

- Issue of double taxation: discuss overlap of already existing eco-tax and the proposed EPR;
- How to improve private sector involvement in municipal waste management;
- Number of PROs and scope – Monitoring PROs.

Item 4: Closure of the workshop

Summary, next steps, and closing remarks.