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EU4Environment
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

EU4Environment work plan for 2019-2023:

AZERBAIJAN

(Final version, February 2022)



This document presents a consolidated revised Work Plan for Azerbaijan for Results 1-5 of the EU4Environment Programme for the period till end of December 2023. It was prepared following the ROM recommendation and a decision at the third EU4Environment Regional Assembly meeting (21 September 2021) to extend the European Union for Environment (EU4Environment) Programme for another year, from the anticipated end in December 2022 to 31 December 2023.

The Plan takes into account adjustments that occurred in the first two years of implementation, including the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, and feedback received from the country.

Action implemented by:



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List of acronyms

CAS	Compliance assurance system
CE	Circular Economy
DoA	Description of the Action
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EPR	Extended Producers Responsibility
EU	European Union
EU4Environment	European Union for Environment Programme
EUR	Euros
GBR	General Binding Rules
GE	Green Economy
GGI	Green growth indicators
NFPs	National Focal Points
NIP	National implementation partner
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PEF	Product environmental footprint
RA	Regional Assembly
RECP	Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production
SDG	Sustainable development goals
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SMEs	Small and Medium Sized Enterprises
SMGP	Single Market for Green Products
SPP	Sustainable public procurement
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WB	World Bank

Introduction

This document is the revised country-specific **Work Plan in Azerbaijan for 2019-2023** of the European Union for Environment (EU4Environment) Programme (as of February 2022).

It presents the activities identified for implementation in Azerbaijan for **Results 1-5**. The regional activities, involving Azerbaijan, are covered separately by the regional work plan.

It builds on the original Work Plan for the period 2019-2022 which was prepared in 2019 based on initial commitments discussed at the EU4Environment national launch event (15 April 2019, Baku) and the follow-up consultations, including mapping exercise, and discussions at the EaP Panel on Environment and Climate Change (27 May 2019, Vienna) and at the EU4Environment Inaugural Regional Assembly meeting (27-28 June 2019, Brussels), as well as the final comments received by 6 September 2019.

The work plan is revised annually, in relation to the annual reporting to the European Commission, and annual EU4Environment Regional Assemblies, to take into account the possible adjustments, and to be better aligned with the Government priorities. It takes also into account the key outcomes of the discussion during the country consultations with Azerbaijan (4 June 2020).

The revised Work Plan presented in this document reflects the decision adopted at the third EU4Environment Regional Assembly (21 September 2021) to extend the EU4Environment Programme implementation until 31 December 2023. The extension decision was made to take account of the impacts of the unprecedented challenge brought in 2020 by the Covid-19 pandemic and the results of the Result-Oriented Monitoring (ROM) evaluation carried out by independent evaluators in 2021 for the European Commission.

Table 1 maps all activities agreed for implementation in Azerbaijan. The following tables present more detailed revised planning under each Result, expected output targets and indicative timeline for the implementing period. A detailed description of each activity is available from the DoA.

The Work Plan continues to be flexible for further adjustments of the timeline and activities, especially in light of the uncertainties related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

About EU4Environment

The **general objective of EU4Environment** is to help the partner countries 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 EU4Environment programme is structured around **five Results**:

- **Result 1.** Greener decision-making (implemented by UNEP and UNECE, with coordination by UNIDO);
- **Result 2.** Circular economy and new growth opportunities (implemented by UNEP and UNIDO, with coordination by UNIDO);
- **Result 3.** An environmental level playing field (implemented by OECD);
- **Result 4.** Ecosystem services and livelihoods (implemented by the World Bank);

- **Result 5.** Knowledge sharing and coordination (implemented by OECD, with input from all implementing Partners).

The total EU4Environment budget for four years (2019-2022) is about EUR 20 million, of which EUR 19 million were provided by the European Union.

The Programme implementation started in January 2019. During the first half of 2019, so called “mobilisation and inception phase”, the Partners formalized and operationalized Programme implementation in all six countries and started selected activities. Progress on its implementation is reported to the European Commission in the annual narrative reports, and to the countries at the annual Regional Assembly meetings.

National Focal Points and National Action Coordinator in Azerbaijan

As envisaged by the DoA, to support the Programme implementation, the Ministries of Ecology and Natural Resources and of Economy appointed **National Focal Points** (NFPs) of the EU4Environment. The NFPs aims to serve the coordination role and represent their respective countries during and between the annual Regional Assembly meetings.

Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources

Ministry of Economy

Faig MUTALLIMOV

Acting Head,
Environmental Policy Division

Aytekin GULUZHADADE

Deputy Head, Department on Cooperation
with International Organizations

The Programme implementation is facilitated by the EU4Environment **National Action Coordinator – Mr. Kamran Rzayev.**

Revised final consolidated plan of work in Azerbaijan for Results 1-5

Table 1. Consolidated list of activities in Azerbaijan under Results 1-5.

Activities	Azerbaijan
RESULT 1. Greener decision-making	
1.1: Green economy ownership, policy coherence and cross-sectorial coordination (UNEP)	
Activity 1.1.1: Survey and large-scale training of public sector employees	V
Activity 1.1.2: Fitness tests of relevant policy documents and policy proposals	V
Activity 1.1.3: Facilitation of National Policy Dialogues on Green Economy	V
1.2: Sectoral investment planning and comparative analysis of costs and benefits (UNEP)	
Activity 1.2.1: Investment needs assessment in priority sectors	V
Activity 1.2.2: Development of investment strategy proposals or action plans	V
1.3: Strategic Environmental Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment (UNECE)	
Activity 1.3.1: Assistance for finalizing the legal reforms on SEA and on transboundary EIA	V
Activity 1.3.2: Comprehensive capacity and institutional building	V
1.4: Awareness, education and public acceptance of the Green Economy transition (UNEP)	
Activity 1.4.1: Implementation of educational courses	X
Activity 1.4.2: Awareness raising campaigns for general public	X
RESULT 2. Circular economy and new growth opportunities	
2.1: Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production and eco-innovation among SMEs (UNIDO)	
Activity 2.1.1: Eco-industrial parks feasibility	X
Activity 2.1.2: Supporting RECP Clubs	V
Activity 2.1.3: Promoting Circular Economy – Waste mapping in municipalities	V
Activity 2.1.4: Training national experts	V
Activity 2.1.5: Additional RECP Assessments	V
Activity 2.1.6: Raising awareness and sharing knowledge	V
Activity 2.1.7: Further institutionalising RECP	V
2.2: Concept and tools of the EU Single Market for Green Products (SMGP) initiative (UNIDO)	

Activity 2.2.1: Mapping of existing practices and barriers for existing labelling schemes	V
Activity 2.2.2: Awareness and understanding of SMGP opportunities and benefits	X
Activity 2.2.3: Piloting product environmental footprint (PEF) in selected industries	X
2.3: Green Public Procurement and complementary tools (UNEP)	
Activity 2.3.1: Assessments/advisory services to establish SPP and eco-labelling policies	O
Activity 2.3.2: Capacity development of business sectors to respond to public tenders/eco-labelling	X
2.4: Use of strategic approaches on waste management (UNEP)	
Activity 2.4.1: Developing draft action plan for waste management (national or municipal level) ¹	O
Activity 2.4.2: Initiating/assisting the establishment of Extended Producers Responsibility schemes	V
2.5: Reforms in priority green economy sectors (UNEP)	
Activity 2.5.1: Identify priority sectors for policy reform, suitable policy instruments and support needs	X
Activity 2.5.2: Support introduction/adjustment of enabling policies and policy tools in priority sectors	X
2.6: Ecological value-chain and product innovation (UNEP)	
Activity 2.6.1: National trainings on sustainable production/eco-innovation for companies and governments	V
Activity 2.6.2: Market assessment and policy analysis of eco-innovation potential in selected sectors ²	O
Activity 2.6.3: Assess SMEs/companies' potential for eco-innovation & provide advisory services for business strategy review/development	X
Activity 2.6.4: Awareness raising activity among business sector and government	X
RESULT 3. An environmental level playing field	
3.1: "Smart" regulation of environmental impacts (OECD)	
Activity 3.1.1: Reforming regulatory regimes for large emission sources, including State Owned Enterprises	V
Activity 3.1.2: Greening Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs)	V
3.2: Environmental compliance assurance and environmental liability regimes (OECD)	

¹ For possible implementation in a later stage of the project - subject to funds availability.

² The overall scope and depth of Output 2.6 will be decided after having the national trainings as part of Activity 2.6.1. This Activity will be considered for possible implementation in a later stage of the project – subject to the country's potential and capacity, and available funds.

Activity 3.2.1: Strengthening of Compliance Assurance Systems, Instruments, and Tools	O ³
Activity 3.2.2: Reform of high impact enforcement and compliance promotion instruments, including environmental liability	O
Activity 3.2.3: Networking and capacity building	V ⁴
3.3: Domestic public finance, subsidy reforms, public-private partnerships and private finance for green investment (OECD)	
Activity 3.3.1: Greening public expenditure	V
Activity 3.3.2: Review of selected national funding entities	V
Activity 3.3.3: Reforming energy subsidies	X
Activity 3.3.4: National and regional policy dialogues on green finance and investment	V
3.4 Administrative capacity for environmental management (OECD)	
Activity 3.4.1: Assessment of existing and required administrative capacity in the environmental sector	V
Activity 3.4.2: Provision of Expert Support to the Ministries of Environment and or Economy	V
RESULT 4. Ecosystem services and livelihoods	
4.1: Support to protect biodiversity and natural ecosystems (Emerald Network) (World Bank)	
Activity 4.1.1 Preparing draft action plans in selected sites to advance the establishment of the Emerald Network and management of existing sites	V
Activity 4.1.2 Regional collaboration and exchange with EU member states; communication and awareness raising	V
4.2: Promoting sustainable natural resources management, economic development and participation at local community level (World Bank)	
Activity 4.2.1: Baseline mapping for community engagement on forests and other natural resources management	V
Activity 4.2.2: Supporting targeted communities with gaining practical knowledge on natural resource management (NRM)	V
Activity 4.2.3: Supporting the EaP countries in the development of lessons learnt reports	V
4.3: Support to the promotion of legal trade and preventing illegal trade in wood products (World Bank)	
Activity 4.3.1: Strengthening timber/wood trade control systems in the EaP countries	
Activity 4.3.2: Promoting innovation and technology to strengthen export and trade controls over timber/wood	V
Activity 4.3.3: Awareness raising, communication, trade events	V
4.4: Enhancing strategic financing to the forest and natural resources management sectors (World Bank)	
Activity 4.4.1: Developing country investment and financing plans for natural capital conservation and sustainable utilization	V

³ Short CAS review and brief assessment report.

⁴ Include regional activities.

Activity 4.4.2: Promoting regional and international collaboration	V
RESULT 5. Regional knowledge sharing and coordination	
Activity 5.3: Monitoring of progress at the economy-environment nexus	V

Notes: V – selected; O – for possible implementation at a later stage – subject to funds availability; X – not selected.

Table 2. Activities in Azerbaijan under Result 1: timeline and expected output targets

Selected activities in Azerbaijan	Time line																Progress (as of Dec 2021)	Expected output target	Comments			
	2019			2020				2021				2022				2023						
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1				Q2	Q3	Q4
RESULT 1. Greener decision-making																						
1.1: Green economy ownership, policy coherence and cross-sectorial coordination (UNEP)																						
Activity 1.1.1: Survey and large-scale training of public sector employees																						
– General training courses on Green Economy (GE)																				GE course translated and made available at https://www.uncclearn.org/courses/introduction-to-green-economy/	Online course in national language, delivered to government officials via a national academic/public training institute	The course will be hosted and delivery facilitated.
– Training civil servants from line ministries to apply GE concepts																				7 nominated public servants from line ministries took course, with regular assignments and supervision by an international expert		Capacity-building trainings for civil servants to improve GE knowledge, establish necessary pre-requisites for GE introduction, and be able to carry out GE policy fitness tests (activity 1.1.2)
Activity 1.1.2: Fitness tests/analytical documents of relevant policy documents and policy proposals																						
– Fitness tests/analytical documents of relevant policy documents and policy proposals																				5 Green Economy policy papers prepared (as a part of the 1.1.1)	Analysis of at least 2 sectoral policies by trained civil servants	Fitness test carried as part of training (1.2), they can be further developed for selected sectoral policies Further fitness test can be carried out for the 1.1.3.
Activity 1.1.3: Facilitation of National Policy Dialogues on Green Economy																						
– Support for interministerial and cross-sectorial policy coordination meetings																				Ministry of Environment led the discussion among ministries to organize a cross sectoral coordination meeting	At least 1 meeting per year conducted/supported	Support to the Commission on SDGs or facilitating establishment and functioning of a new inter-ministerial body

Selected activities in Azerbaijan	Time line																Progress (as of Dec 2021)	Expected output target	Comments			
	2019			2020				2021				2022				2023						
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1				Q2	Q3	Q4
1.2: Sectoral investment planning and comparative analysis of costs and benefits (UNEP)																						
Activity 1.2.1: Investment needs assessment in priority sectors																						
– Investment needs assessment in priority sectors																				Scoping discussion & concept note development	1 assessment	Waste is selected as a priority theme
Activity 1.2.2: Development of investment strategy proposals or action plans																						
– Development of investment strategy proposals or action plans																					1 investment proposal/action plan for a selected sector	
1.3: Strategic Environmental Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment (UNECE)																						
Activity 1.3.1: Assistance for finalizing the legal reforms on SEA and on transboundary EIA																						
– Legal review and drafting (in support of finalization of secondary implementation legislation), including a round-table																				draft secondary implementing legislation on EIA and SEA aligned with the international standards in Q3 2020	2 pieces of draft secondary implementing legislation on SEA and on EIA	Adopted regulations to be reviewed for compliance provisionally in Q2 2022 (tbc)
Activity 1.3.2: Comprehensive capacity and institutional building																						
– Pilot project on SEA																				Proposed topic under consideration	1 SEA pilot	Q1 2022 a preparatory phase of the pilot
– Training workshops on SEA																				Completed	2 workshops	
– Guidelines on SEA (in line with the start and focus of the pilot project on SEA)																				Timing to be reconfirmed by the MoE		
– Preparation of Azerbaijani translation of a video on transboundary EIA and its benefits (already prepared)																				in progress, to be finalized in Q1 2022	1 video on Espoo Convention in Azerbaijani language	

Selected activities in Azerbaijan	Time line																Progress (as of Dec 2021)	Expected output target	Comments				
	2019			2020				2021				2022				2023							
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1				Q2	Q3	Q4	
by UNECE in English)																							
– Developing other awareness materials on SEA and EIA, incl. transboundary EIA (leaflet and brochure)																					Timing to be confirmed by MoE		
– Awareness raising event to promote the application of SEA and EIA, incl. transboundary EIA																					Timing TBC		
– A model for a SEA database to support application of SEA procedures																							This is a model only (not a turn-key fully fledged database for an individual country) to be developed as a generic one for all beneficiary countries (applicable as a template for all countries)
1.4: Awareness, education and public acceptance of the Green Economy transition (UNEP)																							
Activity 1.4.1: Educational courses (on-line and/or lecture series)																							
(On-line and/or lecture series)																					On-line course translated		Discussion is ongoing to collaborate with a university to develop a GE course

Table 3. Activities in Azerbaijan under Result 2: timeline and expected output targets

Selected activities in AZERBAIJAN	Time line																Progress (as of Dec 2021)	Expected output target	Comments			
	2019			2020				2021				2022				2023						
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1				Q2	Q3	Q4
RESULT 2. Circular economy and new growth opportunities																						
2.1: Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production and eco-innovation among SMEs (UNIDO)																						
Activity 2.1.2: Supporting RECP Clubs																						
– Identifying and recruiting Clubs Facilitator			■			■															1 facilitator	
– Recruiting municipalities for RECP Clubs						■	■	■	■												2 municipalities	
– Identifying and recruiting companies-members of RECP clubs						■	■	■	■												Around 20 SMEs	
– Delivery of replication programmes										■	■	■	■	■	■						2 programs	
– Evaluation of replication programme														■	■	■	■				1 report	
– Monitoring of RECP measures implementation and companies' support														■	■	■	■				2-3 reports	
Activity 2.1.3: Promoting Circular Economy (CE) – Waste mapping in municipalities																						
– Awareness events on CE concepts and approaches										■	■	■			■	■			■		1-2 events	Mapping of industrial waste to support efforts of recently adopted waste management strategy (2018)
– Identification and assessment of waste sources from production activities										■	■	■									1 report	
– Identification of recycling options for identified waste sources												■	■	■						1 report		

Selected activities in AZERBAIJAN	Time line																Progress (as of Dec 2021)	Expected output target	Comments				
	2019			2020				2021				2022				2023							
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1				Q2	Q3	Q4	
– Preparation of waste maps in 2-3 municipalities																						1 report	
Activity 2.1.4: Training national experts																							
– Trainee experts identified and recruited																						Around 15 experts	
– Training program conducted																						Around 10 experts	
– Advanced RECP training modules identified and implemented																						2-3 modules	
Activity 2.1.5: Additional RECP Assessments																							
– Recruitment of demonstration companies																						Around 15 SMEs	
– Assessment by RECP trainees																						10 reports	
– RECP implementation support																						2-3 reports	
– Monitoring and success stories																						2-3 reports, 10 success stories	
Activity 2.1.6: Raising awareness and sharing knowledge																							
– National RECP websites (re)launched and regularly updated																						Web presence	
– National RECP Conferences																						2 conferences	
– Thematic awareness events																						2-3 events	
– Knowledge sharing platform development and launched; regular alumni meetings																						3 meetings	

Selected activities in AZERBAIJAN	Time line																		Progress (as of Dec 2021)	Expected output target	Comments		
	2019			2020				2021				2022				2023							
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3				Q4	
Activity 2.1.7: Further institutionalising RECP																							
– Stakeholders group established and meets regularly																					Report/members		
– National implementation partner (NIP) identified and recruited																					NIP recruited		
– National capacity and institutional activities regularly planned																					Work plans/	To build on institutionalisation efforts of EaP GREEN	
2.2: Concept and tools of the EU Single Market for Green Products initiative (UNIDO)																							
Activity 2.2.1: Mapping of existing practices and barriers for existing labelling schemes																							
– A study on eco-labelling alternatives																					Report		
– Mapping of barriers to SMGP application																					Report		
2.4: Use of strategic approaches on waste management (UNEP)																							
Activity 2.4.1: Developing draft action plan for waste management (national or municipal level)																					National Waste Management Plan (subject to further discussion with Azerbaijan)	Upon request from Azerbaijan, EU4Environment will start this work as of Q1 2022. Detailed plan is under discussion with NFP.	
Activity 2.4.2: Initiating/assisting the establishment of Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) schemes																				Assessment conducted. EPR technical report Roadmap and recommendations for EPR schemes developed	.PR technical report Roadmap and recommendations for EPR schemes	Assessment conducted, Roadmap developed, further technical assistance to EPR is under discussion	

Table 4. Activities in Azerbaijan under Result 3: timeline and expected output targets

Selected activities in Azerbaijan	Time line																			Progress (as of Dec 2021)	Expected output target	Comments	
	2019			2020				2021				2022				2023							
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
RESULT 3. An environmental level playing field																							
3.1: "Smart" regulation of environmental impacts																							
Activity 3.1.1: Reforming regulatory regimes for large emission sources, including State Owned Enterprises																							
– Analysis on the existing approaches				Fact-finding mission											Launch of data collection		Draft report	Final report		To be done	Analytical report	The report will present the current approaches to the regulation of large emission sources and recommendations for reform in light of the EU IED.	
– Developing/updating road maps for the reform																		Road map	To be done	Roadmap			
– Training (country-specific, sub-regional or regional - subject to confirmation)																		Training	To be done	10-20 government officials trained			
Activity 3.1.2: Greening Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs)																							
– Analysis of existing instruments for financing SME greening												Launch of data collection	Report and workshop							To be done		Report and workshop on financing SME greening. See also regional activities	
– Incorporating "green" components in the SME Development Strategies				Fact-finding mission			Development of a web-based self-assessment tool for greening SMEs			Completion of the SME greening Self-Assessment tool			Review of SME strategy							Partly completed		The online self-assessment tool (portal) was completed for Azerbaijani SMEs to receive customised information about how to adapt greener practices. The tool offers practical supports to businesses to help them reduce waste, water energy, through simple "no cost" "low cost" changes.	

Selected activities in Azerbaijan	Time line																			Progress (as of Dec 2021)	Expected output target	Comments	
	2019			2020				2021				2022				2023							
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
																						Review of SME Development Strategy will provide proposals for the integration of green components into Strategy.	
3.2: Environmental compliance assurance and environmental liability regimes																							
Activity 3.2.1: Strengthening of Compliance Assurance Systems, Instruments, and Tools (<i>no in-depth country activity planned</i>) ⁵																							
– Screening the compliance assurance system (CAS)																				To be done	Short CAS review	<p>The short CAS review will provide a brief overview of the main components of its legislative and permitting basis for environmental protection, the institutional set-up for compliance assurance, monitoring and enforcement activities and promotion of compliance, followed by general directions for improvement.</p> <p>Short review of the compliance assurance system to prepare background for possible implementation in a later stage of the project - subject to funds availability.</p> <p>Activity 3.2.1 is combined with Activity 3.2.2.</p>	

⁵ “No in-depth country activity” means that due to its limited resources the OECD is not able to accommodate this Activity to its full extent. But taking into account the importance of this work for Azerbaijan, it was decided to conduct a light CAS review and prepare a short assessment report as a background for possible implementation in a later stage of the project - subject to funds availability.

Selected activities in Azerbaijan	Time line																		Progress (as of Dec 2021)	Expected output target	Comments												
	2019			2020				2021				2022				2023																	
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3				Q4											
Activity 3.2.2: Reform of high impact enforcement and compliance promotion instruments, including environmental liability (<i>no in-depth country activity planned</i>) ⁶																																	
– Support to reform of the systems of administrative sanctions, monetary payments and penalties for non-compliance																					Launch of data collection					Brief assessment		To be done	Brief assessment report	Combined with short CAS review under 3.2.1.			
3.3: Domestic public finance, subsidy reforms, public-private partnerships and private finance for green investment																																	
Activity 3.3.1: Greening public expenditure																																	
– Project on the costing of priority green economy-related public investment programmes and development of competence profiles for civil servants in the area of green financing									Preparatory work	Analysis	Programme design														Final report		On track	Analytical report					
– Training for government officials, including development of competence profiles for civil servants in the area of green financing																									Training		On track	20 people trained; Trainees involved in follow-up programme implementation					
Activity 3.3.2: Review of selected national funding entities																																	
– Review of existing national public funding entities and practices of a selected entity (-ies) (<i>to be identified in</i>																									Launch of data collection				Report		To be done	Report	The report will review the set up and operations of the National Environmental Fund of Azerbaijan and will

⁶ “No in-depth country activity” means that due to its limited resources the OECD is not able to accommodate this Activity to its full extent. But taking into account the importance of this work for Azerbaijan, it was decided to conduct a light CAS review and prepare a short assessment report as a background for possible implementation in a later stage of the project - subject to funds availability.

Selected activities in Azerbaijan	Time line																			Progress (as of Dec 2021)	Expected output target	Comments
	2019			2020				2021				2022				2023						
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
consultation with the Government)																						provide recommendations for reform. Knowledge exchange between Moldova/ others and Azerbaijan will be arranged as needed.
Activity 3.3.4: National and regional policy dialogues on green finance and investment																						
– National-level analysis to support green investment (green bonds), identification of key challenges/ways forward to align financial mechanisms with policy reforms							Selection of an international consultant	Selection of an international consultant	Preparatory work	Online stakeholder discussions		Country-level assessment								On track / close to final	Analytical report	This work is also part of the regional report.
3.4 Administrative capacity for environmental management																						
Activity 3.4.1: Assessment of existing and required administrative capacity in the environmental sector																						
– Analytical report on existing/required administrative capacity in the environmental sector and development of recommendations			Preparatory work, discussions with SIGMA				Selection of an international consultant	Kick-off event with NACs (15 Jan)	Interviews	Draft report	Final report	Country event								On track / close to final	Report	
Activity 3.4.2: Provision of Expert Support to the Ministries of Environment and or Economy																						
– Plans for administrative strengthening												Launch of plan development	Plan for administrative strengthening							To be done	1 plan	The plan will be prepared on the basis of the analysis (3.4.1). Training will be considered in conjunction

Selected activities in Azerbaijan	Time line																		Progress (as of Dec 2021)	Expected output target	Comments	
	2019			2020				2021				2022				2023						
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3				Q4
– Possibly, development of sustainable and targeted training mechanism													Training							To be done		with Activity 3.2.3.
– Provision of on-going/ad hoc expert support to the Ministry of Environment or Economy																			No support requested	On as needed basis		

Table 5. Activities in Azerbaijan under Result 4 “Ecosystems Services and Livelihoods”: timeline and expected output targets

The EC/World Bank contractual procedure was completed in December 2020, with start of activities in 2021. This Table presents is the final country-specific **Plan of Work for Result 4 in Azerbaijan for 2021-2024** of the European Union for Environment Programme (EU4Environment). It builds on initial commitments discussed at the EU4Environment national launch event (April 15, 2019), discussions at the EU4Environment Inaugural Regional Assembly meeting (27-28 June 2019, Brussels), and consultations of the World Bank Team with National Focal Points and responsible officials from the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR) and Ministry of Economy (MOE) of Azerbaijan (April 23, 2021, and through July 2021). It takes into account the results of the discussions at the Regional Assembly to be held on September 21, 2021.

Selected activities in Azerbaijan	Timeline							Expected output target	Comments
	2021		2022				2023-24		
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
RESULT 4. Ecosystem services and livelihoods of the European Union for Environment Action									
Output 4.1: Support to protect biodiversity and natural ecosystems (Emerald Network)									
Activity 4.1.1: Preparing draft action plans in selected sites to advance the establishment of the Emerald Network and management of existing sites									
Developing methodological guidelines on preparing Emerald Network Management Plans								Methodological guidelines	
Developing Emerald Network Management Plans for 2-3 selected sites								Emerald Network Management Plans (number TBD)	Plans to be presented and discussed at the stakeholder consultation meetings
Capacity building for the implementation of the Guidelines for sustainable management of forest areas within Emerald sites in line with the Bern Convention								Three events dedicated to training of local authorities on the management of Emerald sites and forests within them, and awareness rising among local communities	Follow up of the first two activities
Activity 4.1.2: Regional collaboration and exchange with EU member states; communication and awareness raising									
<i>Covered by the Regional Work Plan</i>									
4.2: Promoting sustainable natural resources management, economic development and participation at local community level									
Activity 4.2.1: Baseline mapping for community engagement on forests and other natural resources management									
Survey/study to identify community needs for better engagement on forests ecosystem services and natural resources management								1 analytical report with recommendations for further action	
Activity 4.2.2: Supporting targeted communities with gaining practical knowledge on natural resource management (NRM)									
Development of business plans for 2-3 targeted communities, with a focus on community-led NRM activities, including opportunities for local entrepreneurs in eco-tourism development and community forest management (TBD based on 4.2.1)								2-3 Business Plans	This activity is a follow-up of activity 4.2.1 and can be undertaken after completion of activity 4.2.1
Awareness raising events to disseminate the results of Activity 4.2.1							TBD	2 dissemination events	
Activity 4.2.3: Impact assessment and development of lessons learnt reports for Azerbaijan									
Rapid assessment of the implemented activities, including update of SWOT if/as needed, and formulation of lessons learnt; recommendations for future interventions/support							TBD	1 report with a set of recommendations	Planned for Q2 of 2024
4.3: Support to the promotion of legal trade and preventing illegal trade in wood products									
Activity 4.3.1: Strengthening timber/wood trade control systems in the EaP countries									
Analytical study and recommendations for establishing timber tracking system								1 report with a set of recommendations	

Analytical study and recommendations for the enhancing of state statistical system on wood production and consumption in Azerbaijan								1 report with a set of recommendations	
Activity 4.3.2: Promoting innovation and technology to strengthen export and trade controls over timber/wood									
NA									As explained above, due to the ban on the production forest cutting, Azerbaijan is not involved in timber/ wood /trade, so this activity is not applicable
Activity 4.3.3: Awareness raising, communication and trade events									
Experience exchange and knowledge sharing with EU member states on the mechanisms and legislation for mandatory certification of forests								One knowledge exchange event	Regional activity, can be conducted as part of a study tour to an EU country, or through participation (as an observer) in a wood product trade fair. Regional activity. Due to the above reason , Azerbaijan can participate as an observer to learn from good trade practices
4.4: Enhancing strategic financing to the forest and natural resources management sectors									
Activity 4.4.1: Developing country investment and financing plans for natural capital conservation and sustainable utilization									
Develop guidelines for the assessment of ecosystem services provided by forests								Guidelines for the assessment of ecosystem services provided by forests 1 dissemination event	
Develop recommendations to the legislation that would allow paying for ecosystem services at the expense of state and local budget funds								1 report with a set of recommendations to the legislation 1 dissemination event	
Develop national investment and financing plan which will determine a mechanism for mobilizing investments into forest sector from international financing flows, domestic resource mobilization and private capital								1 national investment and financing plan 1 dissemination event	
Activity 4.4.2: Promoting regional and international collaboration									
<i>Covered by the Regional Work Plan</i>									

Table 6. Activities in Azerbaijan under Result 5: timeline and expected output targets

Selected activities in Azerbaijan	Time line																			Progress	Expected output target	Comments	
	2019			2020				2021				2022				2023							
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
5.3: Monitoring of progress at the economy-environment nexus (OECD)																							
– Preparation /update of country profiles using indicators				draft	1st profile			draft	2d profile			3d profile				4 th profile				5 th profile	More than initially planned	4 profiles (1 per year)	The 2021 edition of the country profile was launched at the EU Green Week (27 May 2021) and was prepared in English and national language. Additional edition of the country profile will be prepared towards end of the Programme.
– Update of GGI report												Launch of work				Report					To be done	Updated report with new data, possibly indicators	
– Development of a policy brief, organising policy debates around key messages from GGI analysis																Policy brief					To be done	1 policy brief	

