



Funded by
the European Union

EU4Environment
Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

EU4Environment introduces the Product Environmental Footprint methodology in Azerbaijan

Baku (online), 15 March 2023

March was an important month for environmental awareness in the European Union (EU) Eastern Partnership region, marking several significant events related to environmental footprints and the promotion of green products. On 15 March 2023 (a day coinciding with World Consumer Rights Day), an online event dedicated to the introduction of the Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) methodology took place in Azerbaijan. Around 90 participants tuned in to learn more about the concept and potential benefits of PEF for Azerbaijani enterprises wishing to export their products to the EU market.

The implementation of the PEF methodology can contribute to the several strategic documents adopted by the Republic of Azerbaijan. I would like to particularly note the “Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities for Socio-Economic Development” and “Socio-economic development strategy for 2022-2026 of the Republic of Azerbaijan” in which economic diversification and increased non-oil export, as well as the sustainable use of natural resources, and environmental industrialization, are all key areas for the sustainable industrial development of Azerbaijan, said Ms. Gunel Guliyeva, Senior adviser of the Department of Cooperation with International Organizations, Ministry of Economy, Azerbaijan.

The online event served as a platform to introduce the EU Single Market for Green Products (SGMP) initiative and the PEF methodology, which is based on a product's Life Cycle Assessment (LCA). The event consisted of presentations on the green agenda for Azerbaijani enterprises, an introduction to green product instruments, the EU policy landscape for green products and the potential impact of PEF, as well as the Circular Economy context in the country, with a focus on Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP).

The cooperation between Azerbaijan and the EU on environmental and climate goals has been strengthened through a series of regional programmes (including EU4Environment) as well as bilateral projects, notably those related to air quality and industrial emissions. These initiatives assist Azerbaijan in meeting its National Determined Contributions to the Paris Agreement, as well as achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Cooperation in this sector also helps Azerbaijan to appreciate the economic restructuring and modernization measures to achieve its climate change and environmental management targets, said Ms. Leyla Aliyeva, Head of Division of the Department of Ecological Policy, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources.

Action implemented by:





Funded by
the European Union

EU4Environment

Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

As UNIDO is promoting resource efficiency within manufacturing enterprises, the EU4Environment programme (generously supported by the EU) allows us to introduce the RECP methodology in the country and support the concept of green products and processes. In Azerbaijan, UNIDO is already working as part of its second regional programme on greening the economy, using the experience of the previous EaP GREEN programme (fully dedicated to RECP) to support enterprises in improving their production and reducing pollution and waste. Here, we welcome the engagement with the private sector, and we look forward to seeing the benefits of opportunities such as environmental footprint and green products for industries in Azerbaijan and across the region, said Ms. Tatiana Chernyavskaya, EU4Environment Project Manager, UNIDO.

Background

The “European Union for Environment” (EU4Environment – Green Economy) Action helps the Eastern Partnership 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. It is funded by the European Union and implemented by five Partner organizations - OECD, UNECE, UNEP, UNIDO, and the World Bank – over the 2019-2024 period, with a budget of EUR 20 million. For more information about the Action, please visit: www.eu4environment.org. For more information about resource efficiency in Azerbaijan, please visit: www.recp.aceconsultants.az

Contact

Ms. Tatiana Chernyavskaya
EU4Environment Project Manager
Department of Technical Cooperation and Sustainable Industrial Development
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
Email: T.CHERNYAVSKAYA@unido.org

Action implemented by:

