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**EU4Environment**  
Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

# EU4Environment in ARMENIA

Highlights of progress

*5th meeting of the Regional Assembly, 20 September 2023*

Action implemented by:





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## Highlights of the achievements with EU4Environment support

- ✓ Economic analysis of the **deposit refund system** models to integrate extended producer responsibility schemes, in line with CEPA and the government's Action Plan to introduce EPR by 2024 (UNEP)
- ✓ Over **35 staff** of the Ministry of Environment, Urban Development Committee and experts trained on SEA as part of a preparatory phase of the pilot SEA (Nov 2022) (UNECE)
- ✓ Introducing **RECP methodology** in several fisheries companies served as a platform for Government dialog with business on the forthcoming regulations to implement full closed cycle requirements for water use in the industry (UNIDO)
- ✓ Two **Green (RECP) Clubs** were launched for 20 SMEs in Armavir and Gyumri (UNIDO)
- ✓ Draft report "**Environmental liability provisions in Armenia: Damage prevention and assessment**" (OECD)
- ✓ Facilitating transfer of knowledge with designing & issuing **green bonds** from Armenia to Uzbekistan (OECD)
- ✓ **Guidelines for preparing Emerald sites management plans** developed to ensure effective management of the sites (World Bank)
- ✓ Ongoing development of **National Action Plan**; preparatory work underway for pilot **management plans at two selected sites**, with focus on **capacity building** for effective implementation and monitoring (World Bank)

More in the [audio-recorded presentation](#)



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## Zoom on... Environmental compliance assurance and liability for environmental damage in Armenia (OECD)

- ✓ **Analysis:** review of the environmental compliance assurance system (published in 2022, ARM/ENG); review of environmental liability (forthcoming).
- ✓ **Main partners:** Ministry of Environment and the Environmental Protection and Mining Inspection Body (EPMIB)
- ✓ **Selected achievements:** use of a risk methodology for inspections since 2019; a requirement for companies to carry out self-monitoring; a variety of methods for reporting violations; an inspection guide with a standard checklist; yearly awareness-raising plans of the EPMIB.
- ✓ **Recommendations:** closer co-operation between the Ministry and the EPMIB; up-to-date overview of all permitted entities; skills enhancement of inspectors; digitization of information; checks of self-monitoring reports; accreditation of the Hydrometrology and Monitoring Centre; reform of penalties to remove benefits of non-compliance.
- ✓ The concept of **environmental liability and the approach to damage assessment** in Armenia's legislation differs markedly from that of the EU Environmental Liability Directive.
- ✓ The review offers a **number of specific recommendations and guidance for reform**



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## Zoom on... Advancing the Emerald Network in Armenia (World Bank)

- ✓ **Strategic planning for Emerald sites:** developing a National Action Plan for 2023-30 to prioritize steps for fully implemented and operational Emerald Network
- ✓ **Guidelines for effective management:** proposed methodological elements for various types of Emerald site management plans from pre-planning to monitoring stage
- ✓ **Piloting management plans:** identifying two sites for development of Emerald site management plans
- ✓ **Building capacity for Emerald Network constitution and management:** five workshops planned, one already delivered in 2023 with 30 beneficiaries
- ✓ **Regional collaboration:** enhancing knowledge exchange with EU and EaP countries
- ✓ **Synergies for biodiversity protection:** links to EU Twinning Project on Enhancing Protection of Biodiversity in Armenia and Armenia Integrated Resilient Landscape Improvement Project



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## Feedback from the country

1. What are Armenia's priorities for strengthening **environmental compliance** assurance system, including approximating the EU Environmental Liability Directive?
2. What are your priorities in **establishing the Emerald Network**, and how can the program better support you in achieving these priorities?
3. What are the most tangible achievements and priorities on **greening the economy** with EU4Environment support in your country?