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EU4Environment
Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries



EaP | Eastern 
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BUILDING THE GROUND FOR A GREEN ECONOMY: Lessons learned from cooperation in the Eastern Partnership (EaP) framework

Draft Agenda

Date: 13 – 14 March 2024

Venue: Armstrong Hall, Bedford Hotel, Brussels, Belgium

Format: Hybrid meeting (in person & via Zoom)

Language: English (no interpretation available)

Action implemented by:



DAY 1: Wednesday, 13 March 2024 (Brussels time)

9:00 – 9:30 (30 min)	<p>Item 1. Opening remarks Mrs. Adrienn KIRALY, Director for Neighbourhood East and Institution Building, European Commission Mr. Andrzej JANUSZEWSKI, DG Environment, European Commission Mr. Christophe YVETOT, UNIDO Senior Representative/Head of Brussels office</p>
9:30 – 11:00 (90 min)	<p>Item 2. Highlights of progress and lessons learned in the Eastern Partnership countries <i>This session will demonstrate selected results achieved and lessons learned under the regional EU4Environment programme. Country representatives may also outline their plans for country ownership and sustainability of results. The floor will be open for additional interventions after each country presentation.</i></p> <p>Armenia Ms. Gayane GABRIELIAN, Deputy Minister of Environment of the Republic of Armenia</p> <p>Azerbaijan Mr. Ilkin ALIYEV, Head of Division for supporting access of SMEs to financial sources, Small and Medium Business Development Agency, Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Azerbaijan (online)</p> <p>Georgia Ms. Nato ORMOTSADZE, Senior Specialist of Sustainable Development Division of the Department of Environment and Climate Change, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia Mr. David ADVADZE, Head of Sustainable Development Division, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p> <p>Republic of Moldova Ms. Veronica ARPINTIN, State Secretary, Ministry of Economic Development and Digitalisation of the Republic of Moldova Ms. Irina PUNGA, General-Deputy Secretary of the Minister, Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Moldova</p> <p>Ukraine Ms. Nadiya BIHUN, Deputy Minister of Economy of Ukraine (online) Ms. Svitlana SUSHKO, Acting Head of the Reform Support Team, Ministry of Environmental Protection of Ukraine</p>
11:00 – 11:30 (30 min)	<p>Networking break</p>
11:30 – 13:00 (90 min)	<p>Item 3. Moving beyond EU4Environment: What priorities for the future? Moderator: Mr. Gerald Audaz, Team Leader, DG NEAR, European Commission</p> <p><i>The European Commission will present available tools to ensure the continuity of the green agenda implementation in EaP countries. Countries will have the opportunity to outline priorities for the next phase of the regional programme¹. Three rounds of questions will be conducted to receive feedback on e.g. priorities for policy and legal reform, practical tools, including digital ones, needed in support of policy implementation and upscale of green investments, most effective cooperation approaches, etc.</i></p>
13:00 – 14:30 (90 min)	<p>Lunch and bilateral discussions</p>
14:30 – 15:30 (60 min)	<p>Item 4. Making public administration fit to facilitate a green transition in EaP countries Moderators: Mr. Krzysztof MICHALAK, Senior Programme Manager, OECD, and Ms. Irina BELKAHIA Assistant Action Coordinator, OECD</p> <p>4.1 Greening public administration at all levels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction by OECD • Reactions from the EaP country representatives • Open floor discussion
15:30 – 16:00 (30 min)	<p>Networking break</p>
16:00 – 17:00 (60 min)	<p>4.2 Building capacity within environmental authorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction by OECD • Reactions from EaP country representatives • Open floor discussion
17:00 – 17:30 (30 min)	<p>4.3 Ways of strengthening countries' administrative capacity for environmental management and greening their economies, followed by closing remarks</p>
17:30 – 19:00 (90 min)	<p>Networking cocktail / dinner</p>

¹ Action Document for next EU-funded Programme “EU for Green Recovery East” can be consulted at: https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/document/download/7b010535-4cfb-4ac8-b5e7-ae0f95e34ff9_en?filename=C_2023_5812_F1_ANNEX_EN_V1_P1_2889109_Annex%20X.PDF

DAY 2: Thursday, 14 March 2024 (Brussels time)

9:30 – 10:30 (60 min)	<p>Item 5. Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) as an accelerator of a green transition Moderator: Ms. Lesya NIKOLAYEVA, International Environment Expert, UNEP</p> <p><i>The session will review the importance of SPP and overview of best practices from the European Union, as well as their applicability to EaP countries.</i></p> <p>5.1 Case studies of SPP progress in EaP countries Ms. Tamar ALADASHVILI, Director of the Environmental Information and Education Centre, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia Ms. Irina PUNGA, Deputy Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Moldova Ms. Svitlana PERMYNOVA, Director of the Center for Environmental Certification and Labelling, NGO “Living Planet”</p>
10:30 – 11:00 (30 min)	Networking break (showcasing SPP infographics)
11:00 – 12:30 (90 min)	<p>5.2 Panel discussion on sustainability of SPP achievements in EaP countries Ms. Gayane GABRIELIAN, Deputy Minister of Environment of the Republic of Armenia Ms. Natalia POSTOLACHE, Public Procurement Expert, Public Procurement Agency of the Republic of Moldova Mr. David ADVADZE, Head of Sustainable Development Division, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia Mr. Kamran RZAYEV, EU4Environment National Action Coordinator in Azerbaijan Ms. Olena MASLYUKIVSKA, EU4Environment National Action Coordinator in Ukraine</p>
12:30 – 14:00 (90 min)	Networking lunch
14:00 – 15:40 (100 min)	<p>Item 6. The role of product policies and the EU’s Single Market for Green Products (SMGP) Moderator: Ms. Tatiana CHERNYAVSKAYA, Project Manager, UNIDO</p> <p>Introducing Product environmental Footprint (PEF) as a tool for access to the EU SMGP in the EaP countries: presentation of the key learnings Ms. An DE SCHRYVER, PEF Expert, UNIDO International Partner (online)</p> <p>6.1 Case studies from Georgia Mr. Armen HOVSESYAN, UNIDO National Partner on PEF in Georgia, CIVITTA Mr. Basheer AHAMED, PRe lead expert on Georgia (online) Ms. Tamar CHELIDZE, national PEF trainee expert and Ms. Ekaterine DOJURISHVILI, founder of pilot company <i>Martha Bebo Dambalkhacho</i> Ms. Elene JAPUSHVILI, national PEF expert and Ms. Tamar KOBAKHIDZE, owner of pilot company <i>Handicraft</i></p> <p>6.2 Case studies from Ukraine Ms. Renata TSITSIKAN, UNIDO National RECP Partner in Ukraine (Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production Centre) Ms. Svitlana PERMYNOVA and Ms. Tetiana OMELIANENKO, National PEF experts in Ukraine Ms. Eline WILLEMS, PRe lead expert for Ukraine (online) Mr. Vadym GRYSHYN, co-founder of pilot company <i>Prime Snack LLC</i> Ms. Tetiana YAHODIAK, CEO of pilot company <i>Alfa HT</i></p>
15:40 – 16:00 (20 min)	Networking break (showcasing video on SMGP/PEF introduction in Ukraine)
16:00 – 16:45 (45 min)	<p>6.3 Panel discussion on PEF/SMGP awareness and plans in the EaP countries Moderator: Ms. Tatiana CHERNYAVSKAYA, Project Manager, UNIDO</p> <p>Ms. Gayane GABRIELIAN, Deputy Minister of Environment of the Republic of Armenia Mr. Aslan SHIKHALIYEV, UNIDO National Partner on PEF, Azerbaijan Branch of the Regional Environmental Centre for the Caucasus (online) Ms. Ana KIRVALIDZE, Third Category Senior Specialist, Food Policy Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Georgia Mr. Oleksii BAKHTINOV, Reform Support Team, Ministry of Economy, Ukraine (online)</p>
16:45 – 17:00 (15 min)	<p>Item 7. Wrap up and closure of the event Final remarks by EU4Environment implementing partners and the European Commission</p>