



Final public consultation workshop

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) on “National Strategy on use of alternative and renewable energy sources in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2015 – 2020” in line with the Draft Law on EIA

**9th of December 2015, Central Park Hotel Conference Hall
Baku, Azerbaijan**

WORKSHOP REPORT

Organisational support:

UNECE Espoo Convention and EaP GREEN Programme
(Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood)

Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources

State Agency on Alternative and Renewable Energy Resources





This Report summarizes the final Public Consultation Workshop and SEA team meeting organized within SEA Pilot project on “National Strategy on use of alternative and renewable energy sources in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2015 – 2020” at the 9th of December 2015, in Baku, Azerbaijan.





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1. Background

Brief introduction to Strategic Environmental Assessment

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) effectively promotes sustainable development by mainstreaming environment into economic development at a national and local level. SEA is a well-established, practical and efficient planning and environmental governance tool/system set out in the UNECE Protocol on SEA to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in a Transboundary Context. It ensures that development plans in key sectors such as energy, water and waste management with likely significant adverse environmental impacts are efficiently developed taking into account environmental (and health) considerations. SEA, in particular, will allow identification of the most sustainable and cost-effective strategic development alternatives in Azerbaijan for attracting new investments and for improving its environment.

SEA also helps to strengthen the country's environmental governance through fostering transparency and consultation with relevant stakeholders and the public prior to the approval of plans and programmes. SEA in a transboundary context can also greatly facilitate regional cooperation on environmental matters.

Role of the UNECE Secretariat and EaP GREEN Programme

Since 2004 the UNECE Secretariat to the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA has provided technical assistance and capacity building support to foster ratification of, and accession to, the Espoo Convention and its Protocol on SEA in the countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. The Secretariat has a broad experience in assisting the countries in improving their legislative and institutional frameworks for the implementation of both treaties. The tailor made training and pilot projects provided by the UNECE have proven to be efficient in building the necessary institutional and human capacities in countries for the effective application of EIA and SEA to their development projects, plans and programmes.

At the six session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Espoo Convention, in June 2014 in Geneva, the Government of Azerbaijan confirmed the request to the secretariat to assist in addressing the above mentioned challenges. The request was reflected in the Work Plan for 2014–2017 containing the following activities:

- (a) Review of the existing strategic environmental assessment (SEA) legislation and procedures;
- (b) Pilot application of the SEA procedure to a draft Government plan or program (hereinafter also 'SEA pilot');
- (c) Organization of a national and local level training workshops on SEA; and
- (d) Development of national guiding documents on application of SEA.

These activities have been implemented with financial support of Greening Economies for the EU Eastern Partnership countries e.i. 'EaP Green' Programme, which is a large regional programme implemented in 2013-2016 by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), OECD, UNEP, and UNIDO to assist the six European Union's Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, in their transition to green economy. The



programme is financed by the European Commission, the four implementing organisations and other donors.

Pilot SEA application on the National Strategy on Use of Alternative and Renewable Energy Sources in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2015 – 2020

Based on the communication with the representatives of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan and the State Agency on Alternative and Renewable Energy Resources, the ‘National Strategy on Alternative and Renewable Energy Sources Use in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2015-2020’ (hereinafter “Strategy”) has been selected for pilot application of the SEA procedure. The objectives of the pilot SEA was to assist the Government of Azerbaijan in:

- Testing and demonstrating opportunities of practical application of the SEA procedure outlined by the draft law of Azerbaijan on Environmental Impact Assessment;
- Building national institutional capacities and expertise to conduct SEA;
- Providing recommendations for environmental optimisation and modifications of the State Strategy on Alternative and Renewable Energy Resources Use in Azerbaijan for 2015 – 2020; and
- Developing recommendations for improvement of national legislative and institutional frameworks on SEA in the country

The SEA pilot was initiated in March 2015. The draft overview of the key environmental and health issues related to the Strategy was prepared in April 2015 and presented and discussed at the scoping consultation meeting in May 2015. The scoping report was elaborated during June – July 2015 followed by further works on impacts assessment and mitigation measures in August – September 2015. The draft SEA report was prepared in November – December 2015 and the final public consultation workshop on the draft Strategy and the draft SEA report was organized on December 9, 2015. Based on the comments received, the SEA report shall be finalized by the end of January 2016 and together with the Strategy will be submitted to the final administrative procedure (expected to be carried out in February 2016).





2. SEA public consultation workshop

Design of the public consultation workshop

The SEA public consultation was organised by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (hereinafter also 'MENR'), the State Agency on Alternative and Renewable Energy Resources (hereinafter also the 'SAARES'), and supported by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) within the framework for the EaP GREEN Programme. The logistical support for the event was provided by the Regional Environmental Centre for Caucasus.

The general objective of the event was to support implementation of the pilot project on application of strategic environmental assessment (SEA) during preparation of the National Strategy on Renewable and Alternative Energy Use (hereinafter also the 'Strategy').

The purpose of this consultation workshop was to introduce to the public main SEA results and findings i.e. identified impacts and proposed mitigation measures developed by the national SEA team based on their analyses and previous scoping results and consultations.

The public consultation workshop also aimed to result in obtaining feedback from the key stakeholders on the draft Strategy and preliminary conclusions of the SEA. The comments and suggestions from the workshop shall help to verify the planning outputs as well as SEA findings and recommendations. Besides above mentioned reasons, the general purpose of the consultation was also to share information on SEA procedure and the national draft legal framework for SEA, in order to raise awareness of civil servants and public referring to the national practice on SEA application.

In order to further support awareness raising on SEA in general as well as on the pilot SEA (as well as considering that this was first SEA pilot project which carried out by MENR), the leaflets both in Azerbaijan and English had been printed and distributed at the event providing a brief information about SEA and SEA pilot project, supporting organisations and existing information sources on this regard.

Also, a **Summary of Draft SEA Report** (about 35 pages) and short information leaflet about SEA and Espoo Convention Action Plan activities within 2014-2015 years were prepared for the participants in the paper format to be distributed during the consultation (see event web-page at [http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41543#/#/](http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=41543#/)). The Summary included a brief information the Draft EIA Law, SEA pilot project and the Strategy, it explained SEA steps and analyses carried out as well as preliminary results and findings especially likely impacts identified (in evaluation matrixes), and proposals and recommendations formulated by the national SEA team.

More than 45 representatives from relevant ministries and other state agencies, international organizations, research institutions, universities, non-governmental organizations, as well as independent experts took part at the event. One week ahead the event all invited participants were contacted and prepared documents sent them via email to streamline the discussion at the upcoming event.

An internal SEA team meeting to discuss next steps and final work on the SEA report was organized back-to-back the public consultation workshop.



Minutes of the meeting

The public consultation workshop was launched at 10:00 am, 9th of December, 2015, by the opening speech of **Mr. Teymur Shakaraliyev**, the Head of Law Department of Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan. Welcoming the participants and UNECE Espoo Convention Secretariat and EaP Green Program representative Mr. Martin Smutny, he mentioned the importance of the event stressing out the benefits of practical application of Draft EIA Law within SEA pilot project in a chosen field.

After that, the Head of Alternative and Renewable Energy Resources Use Sector at AREA, **Mr. Ramiz Kalbiyev** took the floor for welcoming speech on behalf of the Agency expressing their gratitude for the fruitful coordination between AREA and MENR on application SEA to the Strategy and invited the participants of active involvement to the process and further discussions during the event.

Making the speech on behalf of EU Delegation in the Republic of Azerbaijan, **Ms. Ulviyya Abdullayeva**, welcomed the participants and spoke about the projects between EU and Azerbaijan on environmental issues, in particular mentioning the future TAEX Twining project with MENR.

After that, the floor was given to UNECE Espoo Convention Secretariat and EaP Green Program representative **Mr. Martin Smutny**. Mr. Martin Smutny gave information about the Espoo Convention SEA Protocol and EaP Green Program tools on EIA and SEA to better address environmental and health issues in the region, in particular he mentioned step by step activities done under the Espoo Convention's Action plan for 2014-2017 on SEA in Azerbaijan. At the end of presentation a short video was showed illustrating benefits of SEA and its major steps.

After the introductory section, the workshop was facilitated by national coordinator to Espoo Convention by Azerbaijan, SEA team leader **Ms. Aysel Babayeva** and project coordinator **Mr. Fikrad Jafarov**. Further presentations referred to the Strategy content and its next development scheme (i.e. the Action Plan) and provided information the Strategy, its further Action Plan, SEA process and main SEA findings and results i.e. impacts identified and specific measures and proposals which should be considered in the Strategy and its further development.

First, **Ms. Aysel Babayeva** presented the steps and achievements done in the framework of UNECE Espoo Convention "Action Plan for 2014-2017" on SEA within 2014-2015 years and also support provided by the EaP Green Program stressing fruitful results of coordination by both organisation on implementation of SEA Pilot project in 2015. Illustrating the goals and future expectations on implementation of SEA pilot project in Azerbaijan she noted that this process enabled them to reveal gaps and opportunities on SEA in the national institutional and legislative system, as well as given ideas for further finalisation of the legislation based on national and international legislation together by using the both systems' benefits and appropriate capacity in the country that could make the new draft Law on EIA more applicable in the country. Stressing these factors, she mentioned the application of SEA steps in the pilot SEA based on national Draft EIA Law in Azerbaijan considering provisions of the SEA Protocol and EU SEA Directive.

She also described the SEA pilot process including the work of the national SEA team – i.e. steps and analyses as well as meetings conducted so far. She invited participants to actively comment to the



Strategy and SEA results, and she also announced the deadlines for last written comments to the Draft SEA Report by participants (by 25th of December).

After Ms. Babayeva's presentation, the Strategy's goals and targets and plans for further development of the renewable energy as well as current activities were introduced to the participants by **Ms. Sabina Najafova** on behalf of SAARES.

Afterwards, consultation were opened for discussion and started with the questions on the "Strategy" goals and targets.

Participant from MENR, expert on waste management Mr. Tofiq Hasanov mentioned that there is no information on how the waste energy will be used, also it is not indicated how to coordinate biogas energy activity with the waste management activities by other organisations. For example, he said that currently in Azerbaijan it is ongoing the construction of Waste Water Treatment Plants which can be biogas energy sources and by this method the contamination can be avoided. Mr. Ramiz Kalbiyev explained that Strategy target on getting the energy from biomass includes specially biogas energy and also other activities and these are the targets which will be developed further in Action Plan, thus, in the current stage, Strategy can be accepted as a conception document covering main alternative and renewable energy resources use. It was also mentioned that for this purposes consultation with relevant organisations responsible for preparation of the waste management conception and plans is an important point. Mr. Fikrad Jafarov also commented that it will be developed under the target on "biomass energy" under the Strategy.

It was also emphasized that the water use for cleaning the solar panels which will be set in semi-arid regions needs to be taken into account.

Mr. Islam Mustafayev, director of NGO 'Ruzgar', raised the questions about the using energy individually, thus (especially to install the solar panels on the roofs) conditions to provide its connection to central grid system and tariffs. Mr. Ramiz Kalbiyev said that the costs and tariffs will be further reviewed by the Agency and it is already included in the framework for further activities. Thus, the tariff proposals had been already prepared and were submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers and to the Tariff Committee to be reviewed. According to the national legislation, government allows to each user to connect to central grid system via technical conditions, however requiring a special permission from relevant organisation. Approximately till 10 kW can be used individually.

Mr. Shaig Ibrahimov (zoologist) from the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences asked about the cost of SEA and financial sources for it referring that it will take approximately 5-10% of whole project cost. Mr. Martin Smutny replied that the costs for SEA should be covered by governmental institutions responsible for preparation of the plans, programmes or strategies i.e. planning authorities. However, he also emphasized that Azerbaijan has an opportunity for international support.

Expert from Institute of Water Problems also raised that he designed hydropower energy facilities and he needs patent and support to test the objects. Mr. Ramiz Kalbiyev answered that SAARES has a special council, which can revise patent proposal if submitted.

Mr. Shamil Huseynov commented that the discussion should be focused on assessment of environmental impacts and social and health assessment, not the Strategy. Ms. Aysel Babayeva





replied that it is necessary for public and relevant organisation to get familiar with the Strategy targets to be able further clearly comment on the assessment results.

In the second part of the public meeting, the SEA experts from the national team presented their preliminary impact assessment results and proposals to the Strategy. Presentations were delivered by each expert and covered the environmental and health issues addressed in the pilot SEA. Presentations were supported with the GIS maps on biodiversity (landscape, migratory bird routes, bats, special protection zones), soil (soil erosion and very dry areas), and water (water stress zones, ecological sensitive rivers).

After presentations, the discussion started with the comment of the participant from Azerbaijan Amelioration and Water JSC Research Institute of Water problems mentioning that sea wave energy use evaluation is not considered properly. Experts answered that Strategy targets do not include the sea wave energy use, therefore it was not evaluated. Mr. Ramiz Kalbiyev said that the main priorities for Azerbaijan currently and till 2020 is solar, wind and water energy use, while others geothermal, biomass energy use will be priorities in future.

Experts from Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences asked that what special measures were considered for biodiversity protection (especially for fish population) regarding the hydropower energy development in the rivers.

Mr. Mehman Nabiyev answered that HPPs will be small and it is intended to apply the derivation method. However technological design is very important to be taken into account, thus depending on this, ladders and access to downstream/upstream for migratory fishes should be ensured. It was also mentioned that although derivation method is the most secure method for protection of ecosystem, however more than two small HPP in one small river should be considered as potentially serious impact for the river water flow and its ecosystem as it can lead to low water level. At the same time, other measures on noise and pollution of river during the construction process should be mitigated during the project level and all these has to be considered in EIA process for each project.

Mr. Gorkhmaz Sadigov (City Planning and Architecture Committee) indicated that there is an error in the evaluation table and stressed out that it is not correct to say that development of these targets has positive impacts, thus there is not such an activity which can be considered positive impact to the nature. He also mentioned to previous discussion indicating the requirement for a large amount of water for biomass production from plants making the biomass production less effective. He also questioned the data sources on air quality and said that atmospheric pollution is not as high as indicated in the report. SEA team responded that the data was taken from the database of monitoring results by Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources which has 8 air quality monitoring stations in the regions. At the same time it is obvious fact that air pollution in Absheron Peninsula (especially in Baku city) is very high due to industrial activities and construction. It was also replied that under the biomass energy target it is only considered to produce biogas energy from the cattle farms.

Mr. Shamil Huseynov (representing the Parliament) emphasized the importance the biogas energy production from waste, indicated that it should be included to the Strategy.



Discussion continued with the question of Ms. Tatyana Javanshir, independent expert, asking about the current ratification process of SEA Protocol by Azerbaijan. Ms. Tanya Javanshir claimed that joining the Espoo Convention was a mistake by Azerbaijan, at the same time SEA can be done without the SEA Protocol that only in addition requires public consultations which Azerbaijan also has separately Law on this.

Ms. Aysel Babayeva indicated that the position of Azerbaijan to join to the SEA Protocol will be considered after launching the SEA system in the country, thus the goal of current support by the UNECE Espoo Convention and the EaP Green Program on implementation of Action Plan on SEA for 2014-2017 is to help Azerbaijan in this way to accelerate the adoption of SEA Protocol.

She also mentioned that in order to protect environment the intention is to apply the best innovative approaches and tools in Azerbaijan. Although environmental expertise for plan and programs is applied in Azerbaijan according to the national legislation, SEA represents a systematic assessment tool to be conducted during the planning process – it has its proper stages and analyses and can be applied in compliance with the national system.

At the same time Ms. Babayeva stressed out the importance of the Espoo Convention in the region, she gave an example of the Decision of Espoo Convention 6th Meeting of Parties on 2-4 June, 2014, in Geneva, supporting the rights of Azerbaijan public on access to the environmental information about the construction of New Metsamor Nuclear Power Plant in Armenia which notification process of the public of Azerbaijan was breached under the provision 3.1 of the Convention (Decision VI/2). Thus, she indicated the Espoo Convention is an essential international legal treaty for transboundary environmental cooperation and supporting the rights of public on access to information on the environment.

Mr. Martin Smutny added that although SEA can be conducted without having Protocol transposed, it still can be used as a 'driving force' for introducing a full SEA system in the country.

Mr. Samir Isayev (NGO "Ecolex") mentioned that as the other international agreements, Espoo Convention despite its benefits also reduces 'sovereignty of rights' as well. Mr. Martin Smutny stressed out that nor Espoo, neither SEA Protocol, limit anyhow right to 'make a decision' by the country. It stipulates the obligation to enter the transboundary consultations (in case the likely transboundary effects are identified) and to consider the opinion of the likely affected country or countries, however the right to approve the plans, programmes, or projects, solely belongs to the national government (or other national or sub-national governmental authorities in accordance with the national legal framework).

At the end of the discussion, taking into account necessity of publishing the SEA Report and the draft Strategy, it was stressed out that the draft SEA Report will be distributed by the 15th of December 2015, and finalized SEA Report will be published in planning authority's and UNECE web-page. For this purpose, the information about the next steps until the approval of the Strategy was provided. The participants were kindly asked to send their written comments to the SEA Report till 25th of December 2015.



After that Ms. Aysel Babayeva briefly summarized the discussion and closed the consultation workshop.

Concluding note on the public consultation workshop

It can be summarized that the public consultation workshop was very informative and provided an opportunity for stakeholders not only to get familiar with the Strategy and SEA results, but also to discuss wider SEA-related aspects. The discussions showed certain progress on SEA understanding as well as an interest in its future application. Thus, the workshop contributed to awareness raising regarding SEA and benefits of its application.

Internal SEA team meeting

After the lunch break, the national SEA team together with Martin Smutny (UNECE International SEA expert) continued in the discussion regarding next activities i.e. finalizing the SEA report and proceeding with the procedural steps in SEA process as outlined in the national legal framework (the conclusions from the internal meeting are summarized in the Chapter 4 of this Report).



3. Summary of main outcomes

Following major outcomes from the meeting can be outlined:

- I. Stakeholders' proposals regarding the Strategy and comments on the SEA results (i.e. mainly the likely impacts identified)
- II. Procedure and ways on how to disseminate the draft and final versions of SEA Report
- III. Work plan for the next steps to be carried out by the national SEA team (see next section)

4. Next steps

Following the discussion at the internal SEA team meeting, next steps and tasks defined in order to further proceed with the SEA process after the final consultation are summarized below:

1. Finalizing the draft SEA Report according to the proposals by stakeholders and distributing the draft SEA Report by December 15, 2015, for their final comments (with a deadline given December 26, 2015)
2. Translation of the SEA Report to English by mid-January 2016.
3. Getting comments from the UNECE international consultants by the end of January 2016.
4. Submitting the Strategy together with the final SEA Report to the State Expertise Department of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (by SAARES, February 2016);
5. Reviewing the Strategy and the final SEA Report and issuing the SEA conclusion (by the State Expertise Department, February 2016)
6. Preparing the statement on taking into account SEA outcomes in the Strategy and its submission to relevant authorities (by SAARES, February 2016);
7. Publishing the Strategy, final SEA Report and the statement on the website (February 2016);

It was also agreed that the meeting with the SAARES will be organized in order to introduce the actual SEA outcomes and discuss formal steps (as outlined above) in accordance with the draft SEA by-law.



Annex 1: Public consultation agenda

SEA for the National Strategy on use of alternative and renewable energy sources in the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2015 – 2020

Public Consultation Workshop

9 December, 2015

Venue: Central Park hotel Conference Hall, S.Rahimov st. 165

Baku, Azerbaijan

A public consultation workshop aims at presenting and discussing the draft National Strategy on use of alternative and renewable energy sources in the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2015 – 2020 (hereinafter also 'Strategy') and the main findings and recommendations formulated by the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) applied for the Strategy.

The workshop is organised by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR'), the State Agency on Alternative and Renewable Energy Resources (hereinafter also the 'Agency'), and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in the framework of 'Greening Economies in the European Neighbourhood (EaP GREEN)' programme, financed by the European Commission, UN Economic Commission for Europe, OECD, UNEP, and UNIDO. The logistical support for the event is provided by the Regional Environmental Center for Caucasus.

The public consultation workshop should result in obtaining feedback from the key stakeholders on the draft Strategy and preliminary conclusions of the SEA. The comments and suggestions from the workshop will help to verify the planning outputs as well as SEA findings and recommendations. Furthermore, they will be integrated in the final version of the SEA Report.

The workshop will gather representatives of the relevant ministries and other state agencies, international organizations, research institutions, and non-governmental organizations.

09:30 – 10:00	Registration of Participants
10:00 – 10:30	<p>Opening the Meeting and Welcome Speeches</p> <p>Mr. Rasim Sattarzade, Head of the Division of Environmental and Nature Protection Policy at the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources</p> <p>Mr. Rajab Mammadov, Director of Monitoring Department at the State Agency on Alternative and Renewable Energy Resources</p> <p>Ms. Ulviya Abdullayeva, Programme Manager of the EU Delegation to Azerbaijan</p> <p>Mr. Martin Smutny, Secretariat to the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Protocol on SEA)</p>



10:30 – 10:45	<p>Introduction to the SEA for the National Strategy on use of alternative and renewable energy sources in the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2015 – 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Brief overview of steps and analyses</i> • <i>Approach and methodology for the SEA</i> <p>Ms. Aysel Babayeva, SEA Pilot Team Leader Mr. Fikret Jafarov, SEA Pilot Project Coordinator</p>
10:45 – 11:15	<p>National Strategy on use of alternative and renewable energy sources in the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2015 – 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Brief overview of main priorities</i> • <i>Implementing scheme and follow-up planning i.e. preparation of the Action Plan</i> <p>Mr. Ramiz Kalbiyev, Deputy Head of Department on Alternative and Renewable Energy Use, the State Agency on Alternative and Renewable Energy Resources</p>
11:15 – 11:45	<p>Coffee Break</p>
11:45 – 12:45	<p>Main SEA findings and recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Major impacts on the key issues (to be presented by the SEA experts)</i> • <i>Participants' feedback and comments</i> <p>Facilitated by Ms. Aysel Babayeva, SEA Pilot Team Leader, and Mr. Fikret Jafarov, SEA Pilot Project Coordinator</p>
12:45 – 13:15	<p>Concluding discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Summary of comments received</i> • <i>Outline of further steps in finalizing the SEA Pilot</i> <p>Ms. Aysel Babayeva, SEA Pilot Team Leader Mr. Martin Smutny, Secretariat to the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Protocol on SEA)</p>
13:15	<p>Closure of the workshop</p>



Annex 2: Invitation letter

SEA for the National Strategy on use of alternative and renewable energy sources in the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2015 – 2020

Invitation to the Public Consultation Workshop

Dear Madam/Sir,

Hereby we kindly invite you to the public consultation workshop on the SEA for the National Strategy on use of alternative and renewable energy sources in the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2015 – 2020 (hereinafter also the 'Strategy'), which will take place **at Central Park hotel Conference Hall, S. Rahimov st. 165, Baku, on Wednesday, 9 December 2015. The meeting will be opened at 10.00am.**

A public consultation workshop aims at presenting and discussing the draft National Strategy on use of alternative and renewable energy sources in the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2015 – 2020 (hereinafter also 'Strategy') and the main findings and recommendations formulated by the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) applied for the Strategy. The comments and suggestions from the workshop will help to verify the planning outputs as well as SEA findings and recommendations. Furthermore, they will be integrated in the final version of the SEA Report.

The workshop is organised by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, the State Agency on Alternative and Renewable Energy Resources, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in the framework of 'Greening Economies in the European Neighbourhood (EaP GREEN)' programme, financed by the European Commission, UN Economic Commission for Europe, OECD, UNEP, and UNIDO. The logistical support for the event is provided by the Regional Environmental Center for Caucasus.

The workshop will gather representatives of the relevant ministries and other state agencies, international organizations, research institutions, and non-governmental organizations.

We look forward to meeting you at the workshop

Yours sincerely



Annex 3: List of Participants

List of participants



Public consultations "Strategy on Use of Alternative and Renewable Energy Resources -2015-2020" Draft Strategic Environmental Assessment Report

9th of December, 2015

Central Park Hotel Conference Hall,
St. S.Rahimov 165. Baku, Azerbaijan

Start Date: Wednesday, 9th of December, 2015 End Date: 9th of December, 2015

Participants: 41

Female participants: 9

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SEA pilot project - Final public consultation workshop

Report



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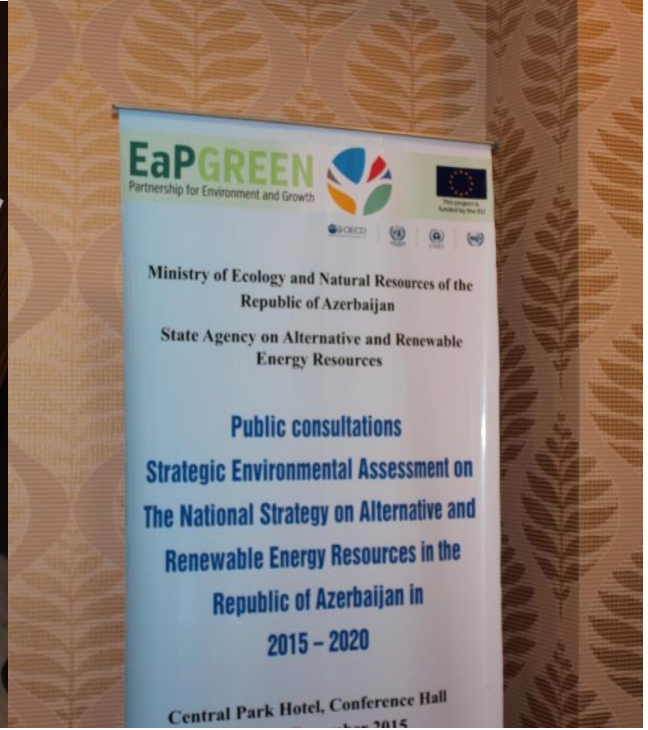
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Annex 4: Proposals and comments raised at the public consultation workshop

Organisation	Theme	Proposals and comments
Parliament, MENR	Strategy targets	Waste energy should be included to the Strategy as biogas source
MENR, Parliament, Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences	Coordination with relevant bodies	Coordination with relevant authorities responsible on waste management development
NGO	Strategy development scheme	Conditions on providing individual user's connection to central grid system
Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences	SEA for Strategy	To take into account the water consumption for cleaning the solar panels that intended to be set in semi-arid regions
State City Planning and Architecture Committee	Strategy targets	Biomass production from plants indicated as less effective
Azerbaijan Melioration and Water Use Institute of Water Problems	SEA for Strategy and targets	Necessity sea wave energy use evaluation
Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences	SEA for Strategy	biodiversity protection, especially for fishes during the Hydropower energy use
MENR		To avoid more than two small Hydro power installation in one little river and to consider it serious impact for the river water flow and its ecosystem.





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