UNECE technical assistance within EaP GREEN

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EaP GREEN

Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighbourhood (EaP GREEN) programme is a large regional programme implemented in 2013-2017 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.

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The programme's overall objective is to assist the EaP countries **to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation and resource d**epletion.

The programme component that ECE is in charge of implementing, aims to **promote the use of strategic environmental assessment (SEA) and environmental impact assessment (EIA) as essential planning tools for an environmentally sustainable economic development**.

SEA/EIA work-streams

- Revision of the existing national regulatory and legislative framework
  - Legal reviews and legal drafting

- Capacity building on SEA/EIA procedures
  - Trainings and workshops (national and sub-regional)
  - SEA/EIA pilots

- Strengthening of administrative capacities
  - Facilitating policy dialogue
  - Recommendations on institutional framework for SEA/EIA

Establishing legislative framework for SEA and EIA	Armenia	Azerbaijan	Belarus	Georgia	Republic of Moldova	Ukraine
Legislative review carried out	✅	✅	✅	✅	✅	
Support to drafting the legislation provided including awareness raising events to support adoption of the legislation	✅	✅	✅	✅	✅	✅
Draft legislation in intergovernmental discussion or submitted for adoption		✅		✅		✅
Legislation adopted	✅		✅	✅	✅	✅

Implementing SEA/EIA pilots	Armenia	Azerbaijan	Belarus	Georgia	Republic of Moldova	Ukraine
SEA/EIA pilots finalized		✅	✅	✅	✅	✅
SEA/EIA pilots to be finalized in 2017	✅				✅	

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Preparing national SEA guidelines	Armenia	Azerbaijan	Belarus	Georgia	Republic of Moldova	Ukraine
National SEA guidelines prepared				✓		✓
National SEA guidelines to be finalized in 2017	✓	✓			✓	

Organizing trainings on SEA

	Armenia	Azerbaijan	Belarus	Georgia	Republic of Moldova	Ukraine
The training manual prepared English and Russian as a background for future trainings and workshops in the countries	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Training materials on SEA tailored to national and local conditions produced	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Relevant governmental staff, experts, representatives of NGOs trained on SEA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Participation of the country representatives at the sub-regional events	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

ACTIVITIES IN UKRAINE

General approach and objectives

- The activities have been carried out in close cooperation with the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, and coordinated with other relevant projects (EBED, PLEDDG, SEA pilot supported by Denmark, etc.)

- Main objectives of UNECE assistance
  – To raise awareness among national, local and sectoral authorities about SEA process and its benefits;
  – To build national and local capacities on practical application of SEA;
  – To assist the country in defining roles and responsibilities of various authorities in the SEA process.

SUB-REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

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Activities

- Overview of legislative and administrative reforms for implementing SEA in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus
- General Guidance for Developing SEA Framework

- Three sub-regional events organized:
  - Study tour on SEA to the Czech Republic (2014)
  - 1st Sub-regional conference & Training of trainers workshop: Enhancing SEA in selected countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (Georgia, 2015)
  - 2nd Sub-regional workshop: Sharing experience with introducing SEA and EIA in selected countries of Eastern Europe and the Caucasus (Ukraine, 2017)

- Manual for Trainers: Application of the Protocol on SEA

- Video and brochure on SEA facts and benefits

Legislation

Capacity

Training

Awareness

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Major outputs and achievements

Establishing legislative framework for SEA and EIA

Legislation adopted

- New SEA and EIA legislation prepared and adopted/submitted to the Parliament – UNECE assisted in promoting a need to prepare and introduce legislative framework for SEA and EIA

Implementing SEA/EIA pilots

SEA/EIA pilots finalized

- Pilot project on the transboundary EIA post-project analysis (Khotislavskoye quarry) was carried out in cooperation between Ukraine and Belarus

Preparing national SEA guidelines

National SEA guidelines prepared

- Methodological recommendations on SEA application prepared to support implementation of SEA procedures

Organizing trainings on SEA

Participation of the country representatives at the sub-regional events

- Awareness on SEA raised (over sixty representatives of governmental authorities and CSOs attended SEA seminars)

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Challenges and priorities

Legislation

- Adoption of the Law on SEA

Capacity

- Capacity building on SEA application, optimally through SEA pilots

Awareness

- Further awareness raising on SEA in particular among the planning agencies

Other

- Enhancing quality control in SEA and EIA

Thank you for your attention!

https://www.unece.org/environmental-policy/greening-the-economy-in-the-pan-european-region/eap-green.html