

Tbilisi | Wednesday 14 November 2018 |

SESSION 2


National impacts and deliverables of the ENI SEIS II East project

The Republic of Azerbaijan



1. Progress towards the expected results

Main achievements and developments have occurred during the past period



The Letter of Intent between the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan and The State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan and The European Environment Agency was signed;
New National Focal Point from the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources was appointed;
The first and second meetings of the National Implementation Team was held;
2 national events was organized in the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources.
The National work plan was prepared



1. Progress towards the expected results

Implementation of 2018 SEIS national work plan

Water

- A five-day training session was held in February in Baku building capacity for developing water information system that can support policy-making and implementation of integrated water resources management. As a result of the workshop the following achievements have been reached:
 - The indicator tables on relevant water indicators are being prepared and will be available for the public.
 - Coordination between the relevant state agencies was ensured to fulfill this task. Water issues are divided between several institutions of the country, so it requires a coordinated work to have the entire picture clear.
 - Relevant steps are being taken to develop a water information system on the Ministr's web page. We expect to start developing it as soon as possible.



1. Progress towards the expected results

Biodiversity

- Participation of the representative of the MENR was ensured in the first and second training workshop on reporting under Resolution No. 8 (2012) and on indicators on protected areas which was held, respectively on 17-18 April in Copenhagen and 8-9 November, in Paris.
 - The list of proposed and candidate Emerald sites as well as the data on them was updated.
 - The National Focal Point of the Bern Convention was replaced. We hope that this change will positively affect and contribute to the implementation of the biodiversity component.

Land use mapping

- Absheron Peninsula was determined as a pilot area for the CORINE Land Cover (CLC) pilot project.
- It is expected to have a country visit on and national training session on this specific topic to continue the discussion of the further details on this component.



1. Progress towards the expected results

➤ Air

- The participation in Workshop on Air Quality monitoring and reporting under the ENI SEIS East II project held on 19-21 September 2018 was ensured.
- Considering that the, currently, air quality issues are of a high priority area for the country and we are looking for the ways to improve both air quality measurement and their public dissemination. Extended national seminar, for example 5 days and country visit in this specific topic would be highly valued. Obtaining the EU/EEA examples and experience is crucial for us.



2. SEIS to support a regular assessment process

Assessment

- The country visit and the seminar on the development of the State of environment report (SOER) with the participation of the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic and the Slovak Environment Agency was held on 17-19 July 2018, in Baku.
- The knowledge of Slovak experts was obtained on the integrated environmental assessments, based on the SOER2015 experience in a regional context and initial knowledge gained on the preparation of annual State of Environment reports in national context.
- The Ministry very interested in the preparation of the State of the environment report for Azerbaijan covering latest years using the European Environment Agency's approach and getting support from the project and Slovak colleagues. We also consider shaping it as a pilot project under the project, if it is eligible.
- The comments to the draft Roadmap on SOER development in the Republic of Azerbaijan and country briefing will be provided shortly.
- 44 out of 49 UNECE environmental indicators are publicly available



3. Sustainability and connectivit

➤ **Visibility**

- Participation in Interactive regional workshop on sharing environmental information effectively held on 27-29 June 2018 in Copenhagen was ensured
- Communication and visibility plan for Azerbaijan was prepared
- Information on the national workshops and trainings are regularly published on the official website of the Ministry
- All this kind of activities would be regularly published in the web-site as well



4. Priorities in the 2019-20 work plan (1/1)

- All the activities both regional and national ones are important to us
 - Completing the respective activities for water component, especially related to the water information systems;
 - Capacity building on Corine land cover methodology for our respective experts and completing Pilot project on **CORINE Land Cover (CLC)** methodology to selected areas;
 - Building national capacities for producing state on the environment reports (SOER), possible pilot project;
 - Capacity building on air quality component through national and regional seminars and activities.

