# Sharing and Dissemination of Environmental Information Shahnazaryan Gayane

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## **Definition Environmental Information**

#### Aarhus convention, Article 2, paragraph 3

- "Environmental information" means any information in written, visual, aural, electronic or any other material form on:
- The state of elements of the environment, such as air and atmosphere, water, soil, land, landscape and natural sites, biological diversity and its components, including genetically modified organisms, and the interaction among these elements;
- **Factors,** such as substances, energy, noise and radiation, and activities or measures, including administrative measures, environmental agreements, policies, legislation, plans and programmes, affecting or likely to affect the elements of the environment within the scope of subparagraph (a) above, and cost-benefit and other economic analyses and assumptions used in environmental decision-making;
- The state of human health and safety, conditions of human life, cultural sites and built structures, inasmuch as they are or may be affected by the state of the elements of the environment or, through these elements, by the factors, activities or measures referred to in subparagraph (b) above;

## **Environmental Information in Armenia**

# Ministries and organizations under the Ministries

- Ministry of Environment and Organizations under the Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Emergency Situation,
- Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure,
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of High-Tech Industry
- Ministry of Economy

#### **Bodies under the Government**

- Statistics Committee
- Inspectorate of Nature Protection and Mineral Resources
- Cadastre Committee

- > International Cooperations
- Academic Institutes
- International Organizations and projects
- > NGOs
- > Business sector
- > and all other stakeholders

## **Databases**

- Databases of the Ministry of Environment
- Surface Water quality database,
- Ground water quality and quantity databases,
- Air quality database,
- Waste database (classification, qualitative and quantitative analysis and assessment of their harmful effects on the environment)
- Water cadastre
- Water permits database,
- Databases on the Water abstraction, water use and discharge
- And others,

## **Databases**

- Databases of the other organizations
- Water quantity database, Hydrometerological and Climatological database (State Hydrometeorological and Monitoring Service, Ministry of Emergency Situation)
- Water abstraction, permits, discharge and wastewater database (Ministry of Energy Infrastructures and Natural Resources of RA, State committe of water economy),
- Forest database (Ministry of Agriculture)
- Drinking Water Quality database (Ministry of Healthcare),
- Mineral resources database (Ministry of Energy Infrastructures and Natural Resources)
- Land cadastre, forest cadastre (Real Estate Cadastre under the Republic of Armenia Government)
- ArmStatBank on Environment (National statistical service of the Republic of Armenia)



# **Sharing and dissemination of Environmental Information**

- Official web pages of Ministries and organizations:
- Ministry of Environment www.mnp.am
- Water resources Management Agency of the Ministry of Environment www.wrma.am
- Environmental Monitoring and Information Center <a href="www.armmonitoring.am">www.armmonitoring.am</a>
- Water Committee <u>www.scws.am</u>
- Ministry of Emergency Situation <u>www.mes.am</u>
- Statistics Committee of the Republic of Armenia <u>www.armstat.am</u> and www.armstatbank.am
- Earth observation portals
  E-gov.am
- E-draft.am
- > Shared environmental information system for Lake Sevan www.seis-sevan.am
- Red book of Armenia www.mnp.am
- Social networks (Facebook)
- Public discussions/consultations
- Media
- And others



## **Shared Environmental Information System**

■ Ministerial conference Batumi Letter of Intent signed by European Environment Agency, Ministry of Environment Of RA and Statistics Committee, □ Order of Minister of Environment on Establishment of inter-institutional Council and working group for coordinating SEIS related activities, Regional and country workplan ENI SEIS II project, 2016-2019 ☐ Concept note "Implementation of Water Information System in Armenia", May 2018, ☐ Development "Step-by-step implementation of EcoPortal (Armenia)" and presented to the Ministry of Environment for review in September 2018, ☐ Formal letter from the Ministry of Environment

# **SEIS** principles

- 1. Managed as close as possible to its source;
- 2. Collected once and shared with others for many purposes;
- 3. Readily available to easily fulfil reporting obligations;
- 4. Easily accessible to all users;
- Accessible to enable comparisons at the appropriate geographical scale and the participation of citizens;
- Fully available to the general public and at national level in the relevant national language(s);
- 7. Supported through common, free, open software standards.

# **Development of Ecoportal in Armenia**

#### **Water**

- > Step-by step implementation plan of an Ecoportal (water component) was developed,
- > The modules of Ecoportal is expected to be developed in the coming months.
- ➤ Water indicators (C1-C5, C10, C11) on national level are being developed and will be published in ecoportal
- National capacity building
  - The national experts on water component were appointed
  - Trainings
  - Kick-off meeting
- National dialogue and communication with other EU/regional/international partner organisations (USAID and EU WI+)

## **Environmental Data and Information in Armenia**

#### **Biodiversity**

- ➤ Development National Indicators on protected areas (D1- Protected Areas of the UNECE Environmental Indicators)
- ➤ Capacity building in national experts on reporting under Resolution N. 8(2012) of the Bern Convention
- •1st Workshop on reporting under Resolution N. 8(2012) of the Bern Convention, 17-18 Copenhagen
- •Second Workshop on reporting under Resolution N. 8(2012) of the Bern Convention, 8-9 November, 2018, Paris

#### **Air quality**

Technical assistance related to implementation of EU Air Quality Directives and the management of air quality data and information

regional workshop on air quality (Copenhagen, 19-21 September 2018)

# **Chalanges**

- ➤ Establishing Ecoportal in Armenia,
- ➤ Improved capacities in the national administrations to manage and use environmental information to support decision-making;
- ➤ Produce State of Environment report and formalize regular assessment,
- ➤ Implementation of regional/international commitments related to environmental reporting;
- ➤Increase the use and public accessibility of Environmental data in Armenia,
- ➤ Pilot on extending CORINE Land Cover (CLC) methodology to capital areas of the partner countries
- Expanding the application of official environmental indicators in various reports: a report on climate change, a report on desertification, reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Green Growth In Armenia,
- ➤ Develop Environmental Monitoring System to meet international obligations,
- Improve Legal framework regarding the collection and management of environmental information, state of environment reports, and ets,

### THANK YOU



#### REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

#### MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT





MINISTRY - LEGISLATION - ENVIRONMENT - E.MANAGMENT -

ENVIORNMENTAL PROTECTION AND MINING INSPECTION BODY

EXPERTISE .

LICENSES AND PERMITS .

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION +

NATIONAL REPORTS

AGREEMENTS PROGRAMMS \*

PROGRAMMS/General information

UNCCD

SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR PROTECTED AREAS - ARMENIA (SPPA-A) +

COOPERATION WITH NGOS +

**ENI SEIS EAST Project** 

- ENI SEIS II EAST Project -

Implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System principles and practices in the Eastern Partnership countries (ENI SEIS II East project)

LETTER OF INTENT between The Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Armenia and The Statistical Committee of the Republic of Armenia, on the one part and The European Environment Agency, on the other part.

The project is managed and implemented by the EEA because of its extensive experience in Public reviews will be held over the facilitating cooperation and developing expertise through the Eionet. The project furthers construction of a new building of Martuni

the EEA's lead role in environmental knowledge-sharing and capacity building. The European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) SEIS II East medical center, submitted by "Armproject" Project runs from 2016 to 2020 and is financed by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR).







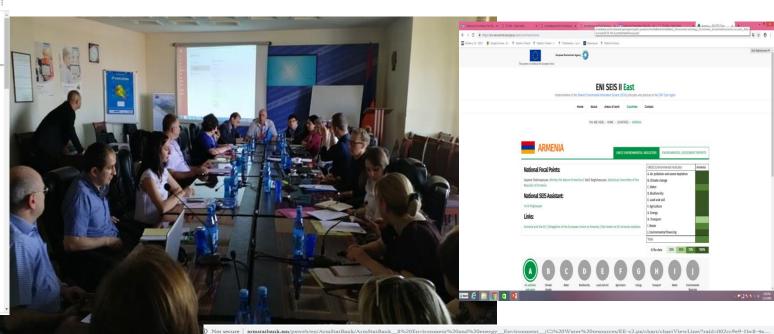
#### Search ANNOUNCEMENTS

2019-09-05 On 10 September 2019 in Yerevan, a roundtable discussion will be organized with the technical assistance of PricewaterhouseCoopers international...

Public reviews will be held over liquefied natural gas (LNG) refueling station envisaged in 12 Yerevan-Meghri highway, submitted by "LPG Energy" OJSC

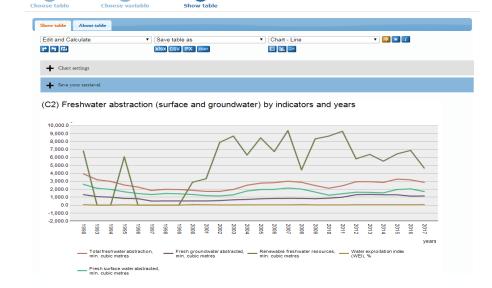






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