ENI SEIS II East Project

EXPECTED RESULTS

The project is based on the best EU and EEA Practices.

| Improved implementation of regional and international commitments on environmental reporting; | Improved capacity to manage and use environmental information to support decision-making. | Regular 'state of environment' reports and indicator-based assessments in line with EU and EEA methodologies. |

OBJECTIVE

The main objective of the project is to continue to implement the principles and practices of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS).

The ENI SEIS II East project supports the regular production of a regional set of environmental indicators and assessments as a solid basis for good environmental governance. The project builds capacity in participating countries by sharing knowledge on the best EU and EEA practices for preparing regular **state of environment reports** and indicator-based assessments to improve reporting on international environmental commitments.

The systematic production of assessments and indicators by countries and regions is essential for compliance with reporting on the environment-related Sustainable Development Goals and the UN and UNECE conventions. The Aarhus Convention obliges countries to produce state of the environment reports every 4 years.

As of May 2017 the EEA has compiled a review of the availability and accessibility of environmental information on regional environmental indicators, national environmental assessment reports and online public access to environmental information.

Type of report	Armenia	Azerbaijan	Belarus	Georgia	Moldova	Ukraine
State of the environment	Yes/Last 2007-2011	Yes/Last 2008-2012	Yes/ Annual	Yes/Last 2010-2013	Yes/Last 2007-2010	Yes/ Annual
Specialised reports – climate (national communications to UNFCCC)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Specialised reports – air	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Specialised reports – water	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Specialised reports - biodiversity	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Specialised reports – waste	No	No	No	No	No	No
Indicator-based reports	No	No	No	No	No	No
National Statistical Yearbook	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
National Statistical Yearbook on environment	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Key findings:

1. All countries produce **environmental reports**. National **state of the environment reports** are not published regularly, except in Belarus and Ukraine. The Ministries responsible for the environment are the authors of most environmental reports, but they are often funded by external support.

2. In almost all six Eastern Partnership countries, **specialised environmental bulletins** are published on a half-yearly, quarterly, monthly, weekly or even daily basis. These bulletins include monitoring data with interpretation but without detailed analysis. The authors of these bulletins are nationally funded hydro-meteorological services.

3. The review shows that the application of UNECE **environmental indicators*** is progressing towards a final stage in most target countries and certain indicators are used to report to conventions and international fora.

    **http://www.unece.org/env/indicators.html*

> The European Union has provided global environmental leadership for 40 years... The EU has demonstrated that well-designed, binding policies work - and deliver huge benefits. »
>
> Hans Bruyninckx
> Executive Director, EEA

The table below summarises the progress made by the countries on environmental policy priorities as shown via UNECE environmental indicators. It shows that countries are striving to share the information produced by the indicators, while improving the content and user friendliness of the websites where information on the indicators is shared.

UNECE Environmental Indicators	Armenia	Azerbaijan	Belarus	Georgia	Moldova	Ukraine
A. Air pollution and ozone depletion						
B. Climate change						
C. Water						
D. Biodiversity						
E. Land and soil						
F. Agriculture						
G. Energy						
H. Transport						
I. Waste						
J. Environmental financing						
Total						

0/No data	25	50	75	100

All six environment ministries have websites, that are accessible in national languages, with some pages also available in English and Russian. Many national assessment reports are available in national languages or in English.

Country	Institution	Portal	Language
Armenia	Ministry of Nature Protection	http://www.mnp.am//	AR, EN, RU
	The State Committee of Real Estate Cadastre	http://www.cadastre.am/	AR
	National Statistical Office	http://armstatbank.am/	AR, EN, RU
Azerbaijan	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources	http://eco.gov.az/	AZ,EN
	The State Statistical Committee	http://www.stat.gov.az/	AZ, EN
Belarus	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection	http://www.minpriroda.gov.by/ru/	RUS, EN
	Belarusian Research Center 'Ecology'	http://www.ecoinfo.by/	RUS, EN
	National Statistical Committee	http://www.belstat.gov.by/en/	RUS, EN
Georgia	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources	http://www.moe.gov.ge/	GE
	National Statistics Office	http://www.geostat.ge/	GE, EN
Moldova	Ministry of Environment	http://mediu.gov.md/	RO, RU, EN
	State Agency MOLDSILVA	http://www.moldsilva.gov.md/	RO, RU, EN
	State Hydro meteorological Service	http://www.meteo.md/	RO, RU, EN
	Institute of Ecology and Geography	http://www.ieg.asm.md/	RO, EN
	Climate Change Office	http://clima.md/	RO,E N
	National Bureau of Statistics	http://www.statistica.md/	RO, RU,.EN
Ukraine	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources	http://menr.gov.ua/	UA, EN
	State Statistics Service of Ukraine	http://ukrstat.gov.ua/	UA, EN

A robust set of environment statistics is essential for measuring the environment-related Sustainable Development Goals (see below), supporting the reporting compliance aspects, in particular for the UN and UNECE conventions (water, air, climate change, etc.). This approach requires long-term perspective and innovation, and reflects new policy demands such as green growth and the circular economy. The project will contribute to building countries' capacity to meet their global environmental reporting obligations.