

Reporting Agency: United Nations Development Programme  
for Global Environmental Facility  
Country: Armenia



## STANDARD PROGRESS REPORT

No. and title: Enabling Activities for the Preparation of Armenia's Second National Communication to the UNFCCC, UNDP/GEF/00035196  
Reporting period: January-December 2009

### I. PURPOSE

This nationally executed project aims to respond to the objectives of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The main components of the project are:

- a) Preparation of the Second National Communication of Armenia and its submission to the Conference of Parties in accordance with Article 12 of the UN Framework Convention of Climate Change;
- b) Enhancing general awareness and knowledge on climate change related issues in Armenia;
- c) Identification and formulation of projects related to adaptation to the impacts of climate change and abatement of greenhouse gases emissions;
- d) Strengthening the national capacities to participate in different mechanisms aimed at fulfillment of commitments under the UNFCCC.

The Project contributes to UNDAF Outcome 4 and CP Outcome 7, CPAP Output 7.4.  
The Implementing Partner for the Project is the RA Ministry of Nature Protection.

### II. RESOURCES

The resources to the Project come in full from GEF allocations: 111,550.00 USD for the current year.

### III. RESULTS

Within the main AWP components, the project results in the reporting period are as follows:

**1. The draft Second National Communication of Armenia** to the UNFCCC (in Armenian) was submitted to the Ministry of Nature Protection for review and stakeholder comment request. The comments are expected to be received and incorporated into the final document in the year 2010. Several chapters of the communication were translated into English.

**2. Greenhouse Gas Inventory.** The updated data in respective sectors were incorporated into the developed web-based database software. The reporting sheets were archived and translated into Armenian. The development of the GHG Cadastre report for the year 2000 (in Armenian) was completed, finalized, reviewed and published as separate edition. The English-Armenian Glossary of GHG Inventory terms per sectors was developed.

**3. Programmes Containing Measures to Mitigate Climate Change.**

The Project assisted the Ministry of Nature Protection in execution of the DNA functions through providing technical expertise for the following tasks: (i) clarification of conditions of the "Nubarashen Landfill Gas Capture Project in Yerevan" Project signed by Yerevan Municipality and Shimizu Corporation, (ii) of small hydro power plants CDM Project documents (iii) development of the draft DNA internal procedure for revision and approval of the CDM project documentation (currently discussion of the developed draft procedure is underway in the Ministry of Nature Protection (DNA)). At the written request of "Arax Poultry Farm" CJSC, addressed to the Ministry of Nature Protection of Armenia, an extended Project Identification Note (PIN) of the CDM project for the biogas utilization and thermal (electricity)

power production in Arax poultry breeding factory was developed by the Project Team and consultations were initiated with UNDP MDG Carbon Facility for funding the CDM development.



The project experts participated in the Asia Carbon Forum 2009, in Singapore on October 26-27, and presented information on the recent CDM developments in Armenia. For the purpose of the Forum the project team developed PINs for Mica Cement and 14.5 MW Semenovka Wind Farm CDM projects as well as updated the Overview of Implementation of the Kyoto Protocol's CDM in Armenia. The information materials were demonstrated in the country booth at the Exhibition Pavilion and disseminated among participants of the Forum. The Project proposal on "Energy Efficiency in Buildings" was developed for the GEF financing and endorsed by the GEF Council in June 2009.

The TOR for the task (I) to assess general coefficient (tCO<sub>2</sub> equivalent/kWh) of GHG emission by operating electric power plants in the RA energy system and (II) to prepare Project Idea Notes (PINs) for GHG emissions reduction was developed, announced, and an expert was contracted in October, 2009. Two PINs on GHG emissions reduction via agricultural waste's biogas utilization and power generation were elaborated and submitted to the MNP for approval.

A brochure on "Renewable Energy Use Worldwide and in Armenia" was developed, designed and published (300 copies) for dissemination to stakeholders and educational establishments.

**4. Programmes Containing Measures to Facilitate Adequate Adaptation to Climate Change.** Trainings on climate change adaptation were organized in five Agricultural Support Regional Centers of Armenia. A seminar on "Complex Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources of Marmarik River Basin of Armenia" was organized in early 2009. The report on "Climate Change and Vulnerability of Water Resources of Armenia" was submitted to the Water Resources Management Agency of the Ministry of Nature Protection to be presented at the World Water Forum on March 5, 2009.

The Project Identification Form for water saving technologies, with focus on drip irrigation, was developed. The GEF proposal for full size project funding was developed by national experts, the endorsement letters were received from GEF Focal Point and the documents were submitted to GEF. The comments received from GEF CEO were addressed and sent to UNDP-RBEC office for submission to the GEF. The project proposal on water saving technologies, with focus on drip irrigation, can serve as background information for adaptation policy development in the country.

**5. Other Information Considered Relevant to the Achievement of the Objective of the Convention.** Analysis of the institutional framework and capacity building for Article 6 implementation was completed. A survey on climate change education and public awareness as well as assessment of climate change related research frameworks was conducted. Gaps, constrains and capacity needs assessment related to implementation of the UNFCCC were identified and assessed.. Results of the SNC preparation and lessons learned were presented during national and international events:

- INC inception seminar held in Podgoritsa, Montenegro on January 15th;
- Seminar on "Climate Change and Low Carbon Technologies" organized by "Transistor Plus" LLC for the mass media representatives with financial support of the British Council in Armenia took place on February 27th;

- Seminar on "Assessment of vulnerability of Gegharkunik region water resources as a result of climate change and hydrometeorological activities in Gegharkunik region" held in Gavar Public Environmental Information Aarhus Centre on March 25th;
- Seminar on Climate Change Issues for the students of the Faculty of Biology, Chemistry and Geography of the Armenian State Pedagogical University on April 15th. More than 60 students and 10 lecturers attended the seminar;
- Training in Climate Proofing for Armenia UN programme organized by the UNDP RBEC and UNDP Armenia on April 22nd;
- Seminar on "Environmental Security and Climate Change" organized by the Armenian Atlantic Association (AAA) on May 30th in cooperation with the Climate Change Information Center of Armenia. 43 students from different universities and youth representing various NGOs of Armenia attended;
- SunChild 2nd International Environmental Festival 2009 was organized on October 27-29, 2009 by the Foundation for the Preservation of Wildlife and Cultural Assets (FPWC) and OSCE Office in Yerevan. Climate change issues were presented by the Project coordinator during the "Climate change and its security implication" panel discussion;
- The interview was given by A.Gabrielyan and D.Harutyunyan to "Lyunse" Radiobroadcast on Public Radio. Climate change related topics, including issues on the Copenhagen Negotiations were presented. The radiobroadcast was aired twice on November 05, 2009;
- Presentation for the schoolchildren in Yerevan Aarhus center. The presentation on "Climate change and its Impacts in Armenia" was delivered on October 28, 2009;
- Drip irrigation implementation partnership creation. With collaboration with Fruitful Armenia the future cooperation possibilities and drip irrigation project was discussed. It was agreed to develop the proposal advertising the drip irrigation project involving Armenian State Agrarian University as a training center;



The project supported the Ministry of Nature Protection in preparation of background materials for COP 15 negotiations.

The project provided also support for organization of events, including:

- the World Environment Day on June 5, 2009, celebrated by the Ministry of Nature Protection of Armenia and UNDP CO Armenia. The theme of this year's World Environment Day was "Your Planet Needs You - Unite to Combat Climate Change".
- the "Forth International Renewable and Clean Energy Conference and Exhibition" organized by the Scientific Research Institute of Energy of RA on October 5-7, 2009, and
- the seminar "Towards Copenhagen" organized by Khazer NGO on October 15-16, 2009, during which project experts made presentations on SNC project results.

The publication of the "CC Newsletter – Armenia" bilingual e-journal (Armenian, English) was initiated by the Project in order to raise public awareness and knowledge on global climate change issues and its local impacts. The first 3 issues of the "CC Newsletter – Armenia" e-journal dedicated to climate change, water resources and health were developed and published.

The Climate Change Information Centre website was regularly updated with information on the project activities and progress, as well as with news on climate change related issues. The website serves as a bilingual information and data dissemination/ exchange network for the project experts, stakeholders and general public. The Climate Change Information Centre website was presented during a TV broadcast through the “Kentron” Channel in October, 2009.



**6. Implementation arrangements.** According to new GEF requirements to enabling- activity projects, the PIR was developed and submitted to UNDP-RBEC. The annual outcomes of the project were evaluated as satisfactory. Quarterly, mid-term and annual reports on project implementation in 2009 were prepared and submitted to the GEF, the Ministry of Nature Protection and the UNDP.

The project participated in completion of global surveys on implementation of National Communications and climate change capacity building initiatives in Armenia.

Addressing the request of the National Communications Support Program (NCSP) was developed article providing information on the National Communications implementation status in Armenia and success stories/lessons learned during the process, as well as description of the case study on technology transfer in Armenia.

#### **IV. FUTURE WORK PLAN**

For the year 2010, the project work plan's tasks and activities, as well as the budget allocations are defined in AWP 2010, based on the Project document objectives.

#### **V. FINANCIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

The Project's actual expenditure from the GEF allocations for allocations for 2009 period totals to to 52,400 USD (delivery rate: 47%). Up to the end of 2009 the total percent of the expenditure of the corresponding planned commitments will be 83% of the allocated amount.