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# EU4Climate

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

## Report for January 2023 – September 2023

October 2023



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Environment Agency Austria (Austria)  
Energy Community Secretariat (Austria)

**Prepared by:** UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub for Europe and the CIS

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## List of abbreviations

ADA	Government of Austria
AVR	Accreditation and Verification Regulation
CoM	Covenant of Mayors
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DoA	Description of Action
E5P	Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership
EAA	Environment Agency Austria
EaP	Eastern Partnership
EC	European Commission
ECS	Energy Community Secretariat
ETS	Emissions Trading System
EU	European Union
EU4Climate	European Union for Climate Programme
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GHG	Greenhouse gases
ICTA	International Chief Technical Advisor
IFIs	International Financial Institutions
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contributions
IPPU	Industrial Processes and Product Use
LEDS	Low greenhouse-gas Emission Development Strategies
ME	Ministry of Environment of Moldova
MENR	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan
MEPNR	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine
MMR/MR	Monitoring Mechanism Regulation
MNREP	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of Belarus
MoARDE	Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment of Moldova
MoE	Ministry of Environment of Armenia
MoEPA	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia
MoH	Ministry of Health of Ukraine
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NAS	National Adaptation Strategy
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
NIF / NIP	Neighbourhood Investment Facility / Neighbourhood Investment Platform
NSSD	National Strategy for Sustainable Development
ODS	Ozone-depleting substances
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TACCC	Transparency, Accuracy, Completeness, Compatibility, Consistency
ToR	Terms of Reference
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDP IRH	United Nations Development Programme – Istanbul Regional Hub
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

## Executive Summary

EU4Climate Action, funded by the EU as part of the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) East Regional Action Programme, aims to support the development and implementation of climate-related policies by the Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus<sup>1</sup>, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine) which contribute to their low emission and climate resilient development and their commitments to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change (PA). The Project in its fifth year of implementation continued to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to the development of a low-emissions and climate-resilient economy in line with the PA and EU policies in EaP countries.

The activities planned under EU4Climate are in general on-track and implemented in the time frame discussed and agreed upon by the Tenth Steering Committee Meeting (June 2022). EU4Climate focuses on developing strategic climate policy documents, including the NDCs to the Paris Agreement, low emissions strategies and national adaptation plans for the Eastern Partnership countries. As the second NDCs of Armenia and Belarus were finalized and submitted to UNFCCC in April 2021 and October 2021, respectively, additional support was provided to developing the draft second NDC for Azerbaijan in 2022. The final version of the NDC of Azerbaijan was approved by the government and submitted to UNFCCC in October 2023.

Support with LEDS development is provided by EU4Climate to Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. The LT-LEDS was finalised in Armenia and Georgia in 2023. Armenian draft LT-LEDS was presented at the UNFCCC June session 2023, with formal approval expected in 2023. Georgia has adopted their LT-LEDS and presented the strategy in July 2023. The updated LEDS-2030 of Moldova was approved in September 2023.

MRV gap analysis and roadmaps for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Moldova were reviewed, consulted with stakeholders, and finalized. Substantial progress was made in 2023, in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Moldova. In Armenia and Georgia, the finalised roadmap for the emissions inventory was translated into national languages and shared with the Ministry of Environment, with the Georgian roadmap currently in public consultation. In Moldova, the mainstreaming report was finalised to help the government mainstream GHG MRV. In Georgia, recommendations on how to accommodate LULUCF in MRV were also developed. Roadmap was also developed. In Moldova, the final report for mainstreaming climate change considerations into energy policy was prepared, and reporting considerations for the sector collected. Report on improving MRV for private sector in Armenia, Georgia and Moldova was finalized in October 2023 and will be presented to national stakeholders in November 2023.

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<sup>1</sup> Due to Belarus' involvement in Russia's unprovoked and unjustified military invasion of Ukraine, all Project's activities in the country have been suspended until further notice. It is also worth noting that Belarus has suspended its participation in the EaP at the end of June 2021.

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine developed 17 sectoral mainstreaming studies, dealing with energy, agriculture, LULUCF, transport, health, gender, waste, and water. The EU4Climate organised a regional mainstreaming workshop in Brussels on 26 April 2023.

NDC Financing Strategy and Investment Plans were developed in 2022 for Armenia, Georgia and Ukraine, the report on applicable non-market and market-based mechanisms on Carbon Pricing Possibilities in Armenia was prepared in 2022 and a climate budget study was carried out as part of NDC Finance Strategy of Georgia. The Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs) for municipalities in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Moldova are being prepared as of September 2023, with the target to finalize in 2023. In Georgia, the SECAPs include 2 investment plans.

Ukraine adopted the Environmental Security and Climate Adaptation Strategy by 2030, being considered the country's NAP. EU4Climate assisted in preparing methodological recommendations on the climate risk and vulnerability analysis (CRVA) and recommendations for sectoral adaptation in biodiversity. As of September 2023, the Adaptation communication of Ukraine was submitted to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources, with submission to UNFCCC expected by the end of 2023.

Three regional events on mainstreaming, implementation of NDCs and LEDS locally, and adaptation were organised during 2023, contributing to building the capacities of EaP governments in the key areas of climate policy. The final workshop and the last SC meeting will be held on 16 November 2023, in Brussels.

The key risks related to the project's activities are related to the political instability in the region of the Eastern Partnership (including the ongoing military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, and the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict); frequent changes among the staff in the focal Ministries; and risks related to meeting and travel restrictions due to COVID-19. Due to the Russian Federation's military aggression against Ukraine<sup>2</sup>, and the involvement of Belarus<sup>3</sup>, all ongoing or planned activities in Belarus have been suspended until further notice. The reallocated funding was used to: address the immediate war-related needs of the Ukrainian central and local authorities and reduce the impact of the war on the distressed population of Ukraine and contribute to the green reconstruction of Ukraine. The restrictions related to global COVID-19 pandemic were gradually lifted during 2022; however, most of EU4Climate events are planned in hybrid format, to allow virtual participation in the meetings as much as possible. The project's team is in continuous contact with the focal Ministries in the Eastern Partnership countries, to ensure continuous communication with the new Ministry representatives once they are appointed. For detailed analysis of the risks, please refer to the respective Annex to this report.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/3/3/unga-resolution-against-ukraine-invasion-full-text>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2022/02/28/eu-adopts-new-set-of-measures-to-respond-to-russia-s-military-aggression-against-ukraine/>

## 1. Introduction

This document is the second Progress Report of the EU-UNDP Project “EU4Climate”, implemented by UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (UNDP IRH) and financed by the European Union (EU). This document provides an overview of progress made during the period 1 January 2023 to 30 September 2023, a part of the fifth year of a five-year project (as per the EU-UNDP Agreement ENI/2017/387-538<sup>4</sup>).

### Project background and objectives

<b>Project Title:</b> EU4Climate	
<b>EC/UNDP agreement no.:</b> ENI/2017/387-538	
<b>Zone benefiting from the action/location:</b> Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine	
<b>Project duration</b>	2018-2023
<b>Budgets</b>	Total budget € 8,800,000 EU budget contribution (max) € 8,000,000

EU4Climate Action, funded by the EU as part of the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) East Regional Action Programme, aims to support the development and implementation of climate-related policies by the Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus<sup>5</sup>, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, and Ukraine) which contribute to their low emission and climate resilient development and their commitments to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change (PA). Its ambition is to limit climate change impact on citizens’ lives and make them more resilient to it. It identifies key actions and results in line with the PA, the EaP "20 Deliverables for 2020"<sup>6</sup>, and the key global policy goals set by the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The project also translates into action priorities outlined in the Eastern Partnership Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change of October 2016<sup>7</sup> and in the Presidency Conclusions of the Second Eastern Partnership Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change of November 2018<sup>8</sup>. It will also contribute to achieving the objectives set up in the Joint Communication: "Eastern Partnership policy beyond 2020: Reinforcing Resilience – an Eastern Partnership that delivers for all"<sup>9</sup> as well as being in line with the Joint Declaration of the Eastern Partnership Summit of December 2021. The document confirms EaP partner countries’ commitments to a low-carbon,

<sup>4</sup> Amended by the Addendum 1 signed on 11 November 2022

<sup>5</sup> Due to Belarus' involvement in Russia's unprovoked and unjustified military invasion of Ukraine, all Project's activities in the country have been suspended until further notice. It is also worth noting that Belarus has suspended its participation in the EaP at the end of June 2021.

<sup>6</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/eap\\_20\\_deliverables\\_for\\_2020.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/eap_20_deliverables_for_2020.pdf)

<sup>7</sup>

[https://ec.europa.eu/environment/international\\_issues/pdf/declaration\\_on\\_cooperation\\_eastern\\_partnership.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/international_issues/pdf/declaration_on_cooperation_eastern_partnership.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> [https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/52887/eastern-partnership-ministerial-meeting-environment-and-climate-change\\_be](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/52887/eastern-partnership-ministerial-meeting-environment-and-climate-change_be)

<sup>9</sup> [https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/1\\_en\\_act\\_part1\\_v6.pdf](https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/1_en_act_part1_v6.pdf)

resource efficient economy, with key policy goals including environmental and climate resilience, digital transformation, and fair and inclusive societies.

Climate change will exacerbate the current pressure on natural resources and ecosystems. The economies of the Eastern Partnership countries are characterized by high levels of energy intensity, relying on fossil fuels for over 80 percent of their energy needs. The region's challenge will be to shift to a low-carbon development model, while at the same time shielding people from the consequences of catastrophic climate change and disasters. The transition to a low carbon, resource-efficient economy demands a fundamental shift in technology, energy, economics, finance and ultimately the whole of society. For the EU and the Eastern Partnership countries this provides important opportunities, notably for economic transformation, jobs and growth.

**The project goal** is to contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to the development of a low-emissions and climate-resilient economy in line with the PA and EU policies in EaP countries.

The action implementation **methodology** follows the logic of the PA framework and relevant EU climate *acquis*, as well as their subsequent developments. The respective climate change *EU acquis* and climate provisions under the Energy Community Treaty will be an integral part of the project logic and implementation methodology, and EU best practices will be shared.

The project operates at both regional and country levels. It supports regional cooperation, learning, knowledge exchange and policy dialogue among the beneficiary countries, as well as between the countries and the EU partners. Regional/sub-regional exchanges and dialogues will be supported for each of the proposed seven thematic priority areas. The following table explains these objectives and the expected outcomes:

<b>Thematic priority areas</b>	<b>Expected outcomes</b>
<b>Implementation and update of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to the PA</b>	Finalized/up-dated NDCs and national mid-century strategies which are communicated to the UNFCCC
<b>Development of mid-century, long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies (long-term LEDS)</b>	Finalized/up-dated long-term LEDS. Improved inter-institutional awareness and coordination at political and technical level of the PA and the corresponding national commitments
<b>Introduction of robust domestic emissions monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) frameworks</b>	Established or strengthened MRV systems, with countries getting on track with the PA Enhanced Transparency Framework requirements
<b>Alignment with EU <i>acquis</i> included in bilateral agreements and Energy Community Treaty on Climate Action</b>	Advanced alignment with EU <i>acquis</i> as provided by bilateral agreements with EU and in the context of the Energy Community Treaty on Climate Action
<b>Mainstreaming climate in other policy sectors</b>	Establishment of concrete sectoral guidelines for the implementation of the PA in each of the Eastern Partnership countries, especially in the field of energy
<b>Climate Investment</b>	Developed pipelines of investment projects linked to the NDC implementation plans



	. Enhanced capacity of the governments for climate budget tagging
<b>Adaptation planning</b>	Developed national and transboundary adaptation strategies. Enhanced capacity of the governments for adaptation planning

### Planned Project's results and outputs for 2019-2023

<b>KEY RESULTS AND OUTPUTS</b>	
<b>Result 1: Finalized or updated nationally determined contributions and national mid-century strategies and communicated to the UNFCCC</b>	
<b>Result 2: Improved inter-institutional awareness and coordination at political and technical level of the PA and the corresponding national commitments</b>	
<u>Outputs:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation and update of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to the PA</li> <li>Development of mid-century, long-term LEDS by 2020 and in early 2021 (i.e., in accordance with the work plan on Armenia) with the technical assistance to be focused on Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus and Georgia</li> </ul>
<b>Result 3: Established or strengthened MRV systems, with countries getting on track with PA transparency requirements</b>	
<u>Outputs:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formulation of robust domestic emissions MRV frameworks</li> <li>The regional members of the Energy Community (Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine) are encouraged to align their legislation with the EU Monitoring Mechanism Regulation<sup>10</sup></li> <li>Alignment of countries' legislation with the new EU Energy Union Governance Regulation</li> <li>Project work to be coordinated with the support the countries have been receiving from the GEF for the enhanced national UNFCCC reporting</li> </ul>
<b>Result 4: Advanced alignment with EU climate <i>acquis</i> as provided by bilateral agreements with the EU and in the context of the Energy Community Treaty on Climate Action that are not covered by the EU4Energy programme</b>	
<u>Outputs:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alignment with EU <i>acquis</i> included in bilateral agreements and the Energy Community Treaty on Climate Action</li> </ul>
<b>Result 5: Establishment of concrete sectoral guidelines for the implementation of the PA in each of the Eastern Partnership countries</b>	
<u>Outputs:</u>	Mainstreaming climate in policy sectors Strengthened coordination between different parts of the government. Mainstream gender considerations into sectoral guidelines
<b>Result 6: Increased mobilization of climate finance (potential NIF/NIP proposals and domestic resources)</b>	
<u>Outputs:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Availability of pipelines of investment projects linked to the NDC implementation plans for a shift to a low-carbon economy</li> <li>Cooperation with existing IFIs through their programmes/projects such as Green for Growth, E5P, and Smart Cities</li> <li>Promotion of climate finance instruments and tools that are gender-responsive, and which target and reach community groups, grassroots women enterprises and provide sustainable development outcomes</li> </ul>
<b>Result 7: Adoption of national and sectoral adaptation plans</b>	
<u>Outputs:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuous iterative adaptation planning and action at the country level, and communication about those actions to the international community</li> <li>Local level integration into planning is highly promoted</li> </ul>

<sup>10</sup> Replaced by the Energy Union Governance as of 2021

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regional knowledge transfer events on NAP to promote gender focal points in UNDP country offices and national partners</li></ul>
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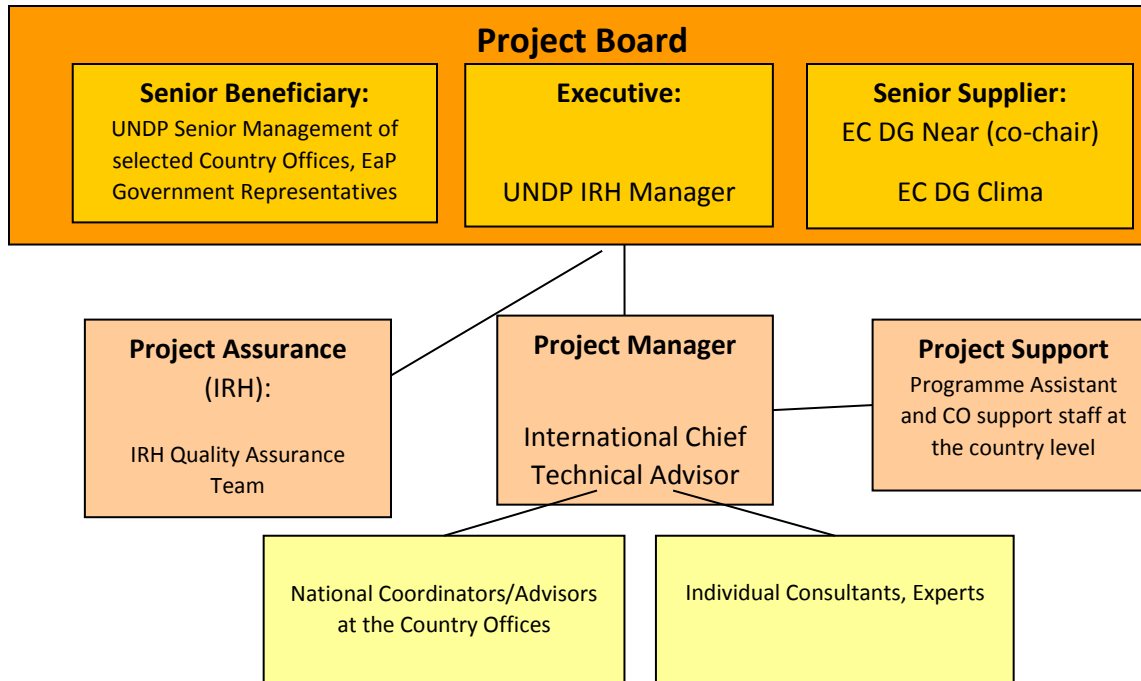
### Project's governance

The current project falls under UNDP Regional Programme for Europe and the CIS 2018-2021 Outcome 1: Accelerating structural transformations through more effective governance systems. More specifically, the project responds to the Regional Program's Output 1.1: Low-emissions and climate resilience objectives are integrated into development policies and plans through regional initiatives promoting economic diversification and green growth. The project builds on UNDP's strong foundation and \$2.8 billion portfolio, expertise, and lessons learned from climate change mitigation and adaptation programmes and projects, as well as UNDP work on National Communications, transparency, REDD+, gender, health, and climate change governance.

The project also falls under the EU Eastern Partnership initiative and the "20 Deliverables for 2020" as endorsed by the 2017 Eastern Partnership Summit Declaration as well as under the EU Global Strategy and the reviewed European Neighbourhood Policy.

EU4Climate is implemented by the UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub (IRH) under the UNDP Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) in line with UNDP's Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures and IRH Standard Operating Procedures for Regional Programme Management. UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub is responsible for the overall management, ensuring the project's coherence, backstopping, monitoring as well as the implementation of regional activities. IRH Climate and Disaster resilience Team (CDT) is responsible for project management, coordination, and reporting. National activities will be implemented through the UNDP Country Offices in beneficiary countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine). UNDP Regional Hub in Istanbul and UNDP Country Offices liaise on a regular basis with relevant EU Delegations. Responsibility for the implementation of the Communications and Visibility Plan is shared between the UNDP IRH and Country Offices with the IRH being the lead and report on the implementation of communication and visibility activities.

### Project Structure



### Project Board / Steering Committee (SC)

External Governance of the Project is ensured through the Project Board / Steering Committee. The key distinct roles of the members of the Steering Committee are identified in the scheme below:

- 1) An Executive: individual representing the project ownership to chair the group (UNDP IRH Manager).
- 2) Senior Supplier: individual or group representing the interests of the parties concerned which provide funding and/or technical expertise to the project. The Senior Supplier's primary function within the Board is to provide guidance regarding the technical feasibility of the project. A representative of the EC DG Near will act as Senior Supplier and will co-chair the group.
- 3) Senior Beneficiary: individual or group of individuals representing the interests of those who will ultimately benefit from the project. The Senior Beneficiary's primary function within the Board is to ensure the realization of project results from the perspective of project beneficiaries. Senior Management of UNDP Country Offices will perform the role of Senior Beneficiary.

National Coordination Teams are established at each beneficiary country hosted by the UNDP Country Offices and are staffed by National Coordinators/Advisors (part time<sup>11</sup>) and project Finance/Administrative Assistance. The National Coordination Teams receive technical, and operations support from the core Country office staff.

<sup>11</sup> Due to delays during the initial phase of the project, the National Coordinators in Ukraine is working full-time. National Coordinator in Armenia is working part-time with 50% of their time dedicated to EU4Climate. National Coordinator in Azerbaijan is working part-time with 60% of their time dedicated to EU4Climate. National Coordinator in Georgia is working part-time with 80% of their time dedicated to EU4Climate. National Coordinator in Moldova is working part-time with 90% of their time dedicated to EU4Climate.

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) is conducted based on the indicators outlined in the project's Logical Framework. UNDP prepares progress reports to the EU in line with the Article 3 of the General Conditions.

### **Overview of the project progress and planned activities**

The activities planned under EU4Climate are in general on-track and implemented in the time frame discussed and agreed upon by the Tenth Steering Committee Meeting (June 2022). EU4Climate focuses on developing strategic climate policy documents, including the NDCs to the Paris Agreement, low emissions strategies and national adaptation plans for the Eastern Partnership countries. The project directly supports NDC development in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus and Moldova. The second NDCs of Armenia and Belarus were finalized and submitted to UNFCCC in April 2021 and October 2021, respectively.<sup>12</sup> Substantial progress was made in developing the draft second NDC for Azerbaijan in 2021 with additional support provided in 2022. The final version of the NDC of Azerbaijan was approved by the government and submitted to UNFCCC in October 2023.

Support with LEDS development is provided by EU4Climate to Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. Draft LT-LEDS documents were prepared in 2022 for Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. The LT-LEDS was finalised in Armenia and Georgia in 2023. Armenian draft LT-LEDS was presented at the UNFCCC June session 2023, with formal approval expected in 2023. Georgia has adopted their LT-LEDS and presented the strategy in July 2023. The updated LEDS-2030 of Moldova was approved in September 2023.

MRV gap analysis and roadmaps for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Moldova were reviewed, consulted with stakeholders, and finalized. Substantial progress was made in 2023, in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Moldova. In Armenia and Georgia, the finalised roadmap for the emissions inventory was translated into national languages and shared with the Ministry of Environment, and a consultation on data gaps in the private sector commenced. The finalised roadmap opened to comments in Georgia. In Moldova, the mainstreaming report was finalised to help the government mainstream GHG MRV. In Georgia, recommendations on how to accommodate LULUCF in MRV were also developed. A national MRV inventory into climate and related policies. Roadmap was also developed. In Moldova, the final report for mainstreaming climate change considerations into energy policy was prepared, and reporting considerations for the sector collected. Report on improving MRV for private sector in Armenia, Georgia and Moldova was finalized in October 2023.

EU4Climate supports EaP countries with mainstreaming climate policies in the key sectors. A workshop was held in Brussels on 26 April 2023 to discuss approaches to mainstreaming climate action. Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine developed 17 sectoral mainstreaming studies, dealing with energy, agriculture, LULUCF, transport, health, gender, waste, and water.

NDC Financing Strategy and Investment Plans were developed in 2022 for Armenia, Georgia and Ukraine, the report on applicable non-market and market-based mechanisms on Carbon Pricing Possibilities in Armenia was prepared in 2022 and a climate budget study was carried out as part of NDC Finance Strategy of Georgia. The Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs) for municipalities in Armenia,

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<sup>12</sup> The Second NDC of Moldova was submitted to UNFCCC in March 2020; please refer to the Second Annual Report of EU4Climate covering the period of 1 January 2020 – 31 December 2020, for more details.

Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Moldova are being prepared as of September 2023, with the target to finalize in 2023. In Georgia, the SECAPs include 2 investment plans.

EU4Climate Project initiated the NAP development work in Belarus during 2021, which was suspended in 2022 due to the Russian invasion. Ukraine adopted the Environmental Security and Climate Adaptation Strategy by 2030, being considered the country's NAP. EU4Climate assisted in preparing methodological recommendations on the climate risk and vulnerability analysis (CRVA) and recommendations for sectoral adaptation in biodiversity. As of September 2023, the Adaptation communication of Ukraine was submitted to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources, with submission to UNFCCC expected by the end of 2023.

Three regional events were conducted during 2023, contributing to building the capacities of EaP governments in the key areas of climate policy. For detailed information on the project events please refer to Chapter 2.

Information on the progress achieved under each of the project's outputs, challenges during implementation and the measures taken, is provided in Chapter 2, Progress on Activities and Outputs. The total Project's budget is \$ 9,365,600. As of 1 October 2023, cumulative utilization of the Project's budget is \$ 8,376,071.24 (89% of the total Project's budget). Utilization during 1 January 2023 – 30 September 2023 is \$ 1,932,605.05 (66% of the budget). Please refer to the Project's financial report for January – September 2023 under the Chapter 5 for more details on financial performance.

#### *Cooperation with other partners and projects*

In accordance with the Description of the Action (DoA), EU4Climate continued coordination and synergies with other relevant ongoing initiatives during 2023. Representatives of the EC and EU Delegations in the EaP countries attended and presented during the project's key regional and national events. Day-to-day contact takes place between UNDP Country Offices in the EaP region and the respective EU Delegations. UNDP in the EaP countries is in continuous contact with the respective EU Delegations regarding all media activities, the project's visibility, and technical outputs of the project. All press releases and media activities are consulted and agreed upon between UNDP Country Offices and EU Delegations.

UNFCCC representatives have contributed to regional workshop on adaptation planning of EU4Climate in 2023. Other partner organizations involved in conducting the regional events in 2023 were the Covenant of Mayors East and Environment Agency Austria.

More details about the synergies between EU4Climate and other projects and partners can be found in the Annex on cooperation with other partners and projects.

#### *Project visibility*

The EU4Climate project approaches communication strategically, promoting not only project objectives, impact, and results, but also the importance of climate action, its impact on people's lives and the relevance of EU policies in this context. A Visibility Guide for Country Offices was developed<sup>13</sup> to ensure the correct application of logos and disclaimers and a unified image for the EU4Climate Action. All

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<sup>13</sup> The Visibility Guide was developed in February 2020 and updated in January 2023.

information posted by any parties at their designated websites was subject to a regular procedure of review and approval by the EU, including using the EUDigitool at the regional and local levels.

At the beginning of the project, a special Workshop for Communications Officers took place at the UN Office in Brussels on 19 September 2019, defining strategic objectives, content goals, and target audience for the project communications. The outcome of the workshop helped define the updated Communications and Visibility Plan, as well as the Visibility Guide for Country Offices. The Communications and Visibility Plan was updated each year according to the project activities.

Project communication was carried out on the dedicated website [www.eu4climate.eu](http://www.eu4climate.eu)<sup>14</sup> starting from the launch in September 2020 which was publicized by a bilingual press release published in all six EaP countries. Working through stories (video, photo, text), video materials, press releases, joint social media campaigns with EU Delegations (when possible and applicable), as well as through project brochures, infographics, and other promotional items, the project increased and steered communication with all beneficiaries and stakeholders.

All relevant information and news updates are shared through the [www.eu4climate.eu](http://www.eu4climate.eu) website and other appropriate partners' websites in the Project, including the EC EaP, UNDP IRH and UNDP Country Offices, partner institutions, partner NGOs, etc.

The first newsletter of the EU4Climate project was issued in November 2020 to draw more attention to the project's activities and events. The project newsletters were issued every quarter in February, May, August, and November for 2020-2023, and a special edition on the COP27 side event of the project in 2022. It highlighted the main activities as well as achievements throughout the project implementation with updated sections about the video materials produced by and within the project's activities. The newsletters were shared with the main subscribers representing the main stakeholders and partners of the project in the EaP countries and beyond.

Targeting key audiences, namely - governments, youth, and populations outside of capitals, the private sector, municipalities, and media was ensured by coherent and coordinated communication at the regional and national levels and by continuously coordinating all communications and advocacy component activities among all partner organisations. For that purpose, besides the project's website as a main channel, media, UNDP country websites and online platforms of partner organisations were used in addition to the social media platforms.

Due to different levels of pandemic limitations in the EaP countries, the events and activities were held in all possible formats: online, offline and hybrid where applicable which in turn kept limited the media appearance and interview opportunities. The communications activities were built around the five milestones throughout the year changing the format to the online when needed: Europe Day (May), EU Green Week (May), World Environment Day (5 June), EU Sustainable Energy Week (June), and the European Mobility Week (September). Shaped for the specific national audiences with a focus on youth and rural population, they included diverse activities, such as photo and video stories dedicated to the celebration of those milestone days/weeks, TV spots and social media campaigns, contests for the youth and students, etc.

Detailed information on the project visibility events during the reporting period is provided under Chapter 5 of this report.

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<sup>14</sup> The project website is archived

# 1. Introduction

## Report objective and structure

This document is the fourth Annual Progress Report of the EU-UNDP Project “EU4Climate”, directly implemented by the UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (UNDP IRH) and financed by the European Union (EU). The document provides an overview of progress during the period 1 January 2022 – 30 September 2023, as per the EU-UNDP Agreement ENI/2017/387-538.

### **The structure of the report is as follows:**

Chapter 2 - Overview of results/targets/achievements as per the Logframe - provides a summary on the indicators.

Chapter 3 - Progress on activities and outputs - provides details on the achievements of the project during the reporting period within each of the Project Outputs, including status of progress indicators, and also gives an overview of the activities to be carried out until the end of the project.

Chapter 4 - Communication and Visibility Action - activities undertaken as well as further planning are described.

Chapter 5 - Financial Report - provides an overview of project expenditures incurred since the start of the project.

Annexes

## 2. Overview of results/targets/achievements as per the Logframe

The project's Logical Framework was revised upon request of the European Commission by the Project Management Unit in 2020. The revised Logical Framework including indicators and results achieved during 1 January 2023 – 30 September 2023 are presented below.

Objectives / Outputs / Activities	Indicators	Baselines (incl. reference year)	Targets (incl. reference year)	Results, January-September 2023	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
<b>Overall objective: Impact</b>						
Project Goal: Enhanced resilient and low carbon development in the six EU Eastern Partnership countries	Levels of GHG emissions reported to UNFCCC <sup>15</sup>	Armenia (2017): 10,624 kt CO <sub>2</sub> e Azerbaijan (2016): 61,257 kt CO <sub>2</sub> e Georgia (2017): 17,766 kt CO <sub>2</sub> e Belarus (2019): 90,116 kt CO <sub>2</sub> e Ukraine (2019): 332,114 kt CO <sub>2</sub> e Moldova (2020): 13,660 kt CO <sub>2</sub> e	Six EaP countries are on track with the implementation of their NDCs and with their reporting commitments under the Paris Agreement	Note: Emissions levels for 2023 will be available in the national reporting in 2025-2027	National Communications to the UNFCCC. National reports on the implementation of the Paris Agreement	Policy priorities in six beneficiary countries do not change.  Political, social, and economic stability is maintained in the region.  Interest in cooperating with the EU is maintained.
Project Objective: Low-emissions and climate resilience objectives are integrated into development policies/plans in six EaP countries through improved and consolidated climate policies and legislative alignment.	Enhanced capacities of six EaP countries to plan, implement, monitor, and report on the climate change adaptation action.	Moldova has a NAP developed in 2017. The National Adaptation Strategy for Ukraine was completed in 2021. NAP development for Belarus was initiated in 2021, however, all project activities have been	Six EaP countries are on track with the implementation of their NDCs and with their reporting commitments under the Paris Agreement.	2 <sup>nd</sup> NDC of <b>Moldova</b> was submitted to UNFCCC in 2020. 2 <sup>nd</sup> NDCs for <b>Armenia</b> and <b>Belarus</b> were submitted to UNFCCC in 2021. 2 <sup>nd</sup> NDC of <b>Azerbaijan</b> was adopted by the	National Communications to the UNFCCC. National reports on the implementation of the Paris Agreement,	No major disasters / extreme weather events or other force majeure resulting in temporary disruption of the government operations and/or budgetary constraints.

<sup>15</sup> Emissions data provided according to the latest available national reporting to UNFCCC.



		suspended in Feb. 2022 until further notice.		government and submitted to UNFCCC in October 2023. The LT-LEDS was finalised in <b>Armenia, Moldova</b> and <b>Georgia</b> in 2023. Armenian draft was presented at the UNFCCC June session 2023; the updated LEDS-2030 of <b>Moldova</b> and the LEDS-2050 of <b>Georgia</b> were adopted in 2023. In <b>Armenia</b> , the draft legal package for the NDC IP/FS&IP was adopted in 2023.	National sustainable development strategies/plans/reports	
<b>Overall objective(s): Outcomes</b>						
An enhanced capacity of countries to develop and implement climate policy and to meet their commitments under the Paris Agreement  An enhanced transparency of emissions and climate action  Mainstreaming climate in sectoral policies, such as energy,	Number of EU supported countries and cities with climate change and/or disaster risk reduction strategies: (a) developed, (b) under implementation.  (ii) Status of nationally determined contributions, national mid-	2017: none. (ii) All beneficiary countries have submitted their INDCs for the COP21, have ratified the Paris Agreement and have their NDCs. Moldova has an updated LEDS and NAP. Institutional arrangements for climate policy development and	Six EaP countries are supported with development of climate change strategies (including NDCs, LEDS, NAPs). (ii) Finalized nationally determined contributions, national mid-century strategies and NAPs communicated to	(i). <b>Armenia, Belarus, Moldova, and Azerbaijan</b> were supported in developing their 2 <sup>nd</sup> NDC. <b>Georgia and Ukraine</b> were assisted with awareness raising and communicating the revised NDC targets. (ii) 2 <sup>nd</sup> NDCs for <b>Armenia and Belarus</b> were	National Communications to the UNFCCC  National reports on the implementation of the Paris Agreement	Policy priorities in six beneficiary countries do not change.  Political, social, and economic stability is maintained in the region.  Interest in cooperating with the EU is maintained.  Decision-making by recipient authorities is

<p>transport, and agriculture</p> <p>Advanced implementation of climate-related provisions of bilateral agreements with EU and in the framework of the Energy Community Treaty</p>	<p>century strategies and NAPs communicated to the UNFCCC in 6 EaP countries</p>	<p>implementation are varied across countries. Most countries require capacity building and institution strengthening support for effective implementation of their Paris commitments.</p>	<p>the UNFCCC (6 countries)</p>	<p>submitted to UNFCCC in 2021. Updated NDC of <b>Azerbaijan</b> was adopted by the government and submitted to UNFCCC in October 2023. Draft LT-LEDS for <b>Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia</b> were developed in 2021-2022 and were in national consultations with the key stakeholders after that. <b>Georgia's</b> LT-LEDS and <b>Moldova's</b> updated LEDS-2030 were adopted in 2023. Following intra-governmental review, the draft LT-LEDS for <b>Armenia</b> was presented at SB58 in Bonn in June 2023. Elements of LT-LEDS of <b>Belarus</b> were developed during 2021-2022; further work has been suspended as of 24</p>	<p>overall timely and coherent.</p> <p>Alignment with needs identified by the government translate into full support by the authorities in the implementation phase.</p> <p>Selected governance and implementation arrangements are effective and not contested by beneficiary countries.</p>
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				Feb. 2022 until further notice.		
	(ii) Level of institutional capacities in the six EaP countries for the implementation of the Paris Agreement	(ii.a) As Annex-I countries, Ukraine and Belarus have basic MRV systems in place. Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Moldova have no such system in place, but have started establishing them	(ii.a.) At least 4 EaP countries have established national systems for implementing the Paris Agreement. Transparency Regime in line with UNFCCC requirements	EAA reviewed and improved roadmaps for enhancing national MRV systems in <b>Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Moldova</b> in 2022. Final version of the documents with recommendations for improvements have been submitted to the Governments.	National Communications to the UNFCCC  National reports on the implementation of the Paris Agreement	
		(ii.b) Institutional capacity scorecard for Paris Agreement Implementation will be developed in Year 1 of the project. Baseline level to be established in Year 1 of the project	(ii.b) 50% increase in institutional capacity for the implementation of the Paris Agreement measured through an institutional capacity scorecard to be developed in Year 1	Institutional capacity assessment was conducted in 2023. The baseline level of institutional capacity for the implementation of the Paris Agreement identified mean value for the six EaP countries: 52.03%. The level of institutional capacity for the implementation of the Paris Agreement after	Completed institutional capacity scorecards for all six EaP countries.	

			the fourth year of project implementation, mean value for the five EaP countries: 65.94 % or an increase of 13.91% in relation to the baseline.	
(iii) Level of alignment with EU <i>acquis</i> as provided by bilateral agreements with EU and in the framework of Energy Community Treaty	(iii) No beneficiary country has a fully aligned legislation with the EU <i>acquis</i> outlined in the bilateral agreements	(iii) Countries are on track with the regulatory reform to align with EU <i>acquis</i> as provided by bilateral agreements with EU and Energy Community Treaty on Climate Action	Energy Community Secretariat provided Georgia, <b>Moldova and Ukraine</b> with updating the legal alignment roadmaps based on the revision of the respective Association Agreements; assistance with implementing elements of the Green Deal in <b>Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine</b> ; implementing the Monitoring Mechanism and EU Governance Regulations for <b>Ukraine</b> . Support was provided for the alignment with the <i>acquis</i> . F-gases regulation, in <b>Moldova</b> , which	National reports on regulatory alignment with EU <i>acquis</i> and Energy Community Secretariat

			has been approved by the Government in 2022 and adopted by Parliament in 2023. Draft climate change laws are being developed in 2023 for <b>Armenia, Moldova, and Ukraine</b> . Armenian and Moldovan drafts are currently in process of public consultation.	
(iv) Level of mobilization of new climate finance resources by countries (including under NIF/NIP) since the start of the project	(iv) Armenia is the only country in the region that mobilized new GCF resources for a climate change mitigation project	(iv) New climate finance resources mobilized by countries (including under NIF/NIP)	No investment projects related to NDC implementation were developed in 2022. NDC Financing Strategy and Investment Plans were developed in 2022 for <b>Armenia, Georgia and Ukraine</b> . The Report on Carbon Pricing was drafted for <b>Armenia</b> , and a Climate Budgetary Study was prepared as the NDC Financing Strategy for <b>Georgia</b> . SECAPs for municipalities in <b>Armenia</b> ,	National Communications to the UNFCCC  National reports on the implementation of the Paris Agreement

				<b>Azerbaijan, Georgia and Moldova</b> are being prepared. In <b>Georgia</b> , 2 investment plans are being developed		
<b>Outputs:</b>						
<p><b>Output 1. Implementation and update of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement</b></p> <p>1.1. Two regional training and knowledge exchange workshops on the NDC implementation and reporting to UNFCCC.</p> <p>1.2. Support to NDCs implementation in at least four EaP countries</p> <p>1.3. Public awareness on NDCs for private sector, academia, NGO community and for other relevant stakeholders</p>	Availability of NDC implementation plans/roadmaps	No NDC implementation plans developed	At least 2 NDC implementation plans developed in EaP countries	SEA carried out for the draft updated LEDS 2030, considered the NDC implementation plan for <b>Moldova</b> in 2022. The draft NDC Implementation Plan, Financial Strategy and Implementation Plan for <b>Armenia</b> was submitted to the Government in 2022, <b>Georgia's</b> NDC Financial Strategy and Investment Plan was submitted to the Government All document are currently being consulted with the stakeholders and adoption is expected in 2023. NDC Financial Strategy and Investment Plan for	National reporting to UNFCCC under the Paris Agreement	<p>Governments are committed to increase the ambition of their NDC targets.</p> <p>Staff turnover at the government agencies involved in the climate policy development and implementation remains limited.</p> <p>Sufficient buy-in from the sectoral ministries (e.g., energy sector)</p> <p>The developed NDCs and implementation plans are adopted and submitted on time.</p> <p>Ministries/government agencies are willing to participate in a holistic "all-of-the-government" approach to climate action.</p>

				<p><b>Ukraine</b><sup>16</sup> has been submitted to the Government for a review.</p> <p>In 2023, in <b>Armenia, Georgia</b> and <b>Moldova</b>, support for the development of SECAPs was initiated, with two SECAPs under active preparation now in Georgia. Azerbaijan has also started working on SECAPs.</p>		No institutional tensions among various government stakeholders.
	Level of knowledge and institutional capacities for sectoral implementation of NDCs (measured through capacity scorecard)	Baseline to be established during the first year of the project	75% increase over baseline (75%) as of 2022	Institutional capacity assessment was conducted in 2023. The baseline level of institutional capacity for the sectoral implementation of the NDCs, mean value for the five EaP countries was 57.27% and after the fourth year of project implementation, mean value for the six EaP countries was 73.52%	Workshop reports  Institutional capacity assessment scorecards/government	

<sup>16</sup> In Ukraine, some limited activities are ongoing depending on the circumstances and subject to the Government's approval.

	Level of awareness and buy in of the targeted national private sector and other stakeholders in the NDC implementation	Baseline to be established during the first year of the project	50% increase over baseline (75%) as of 2022	Institutional capacity assessment was conducted in 2023. The baseline level of awareness and buy in of the targeted national private sector and other stakeholders in the NDC implementation was identified, mean value for the five EaP countries was 50.06% and after the third year of project implementation, mean value for the six EaP countries was 63.20%.	Institutional capacity assessment scorecards/government	
	Number of training and awareness events directly supported by the project / number of decision makers and practitioners benefiting from capacity building	No trainings conducted	6 events in each country and 50 decision-makers/stakeholders benefiting from trainings in each country (6 / 50 in each country) conducted as of 2022.  50% increase of private sector and other stakeholders' awareness over baseline as of 2022	Two regional workshops implemented in 2019 and 2021, this activity is completed. As for national events, some <b>165</b> stakeholders from EaP countries participated during various NDC awareness events. Some additional 100 participants were present	Workshop reports Targeted private sector questionnaire	



				<p>during SECAP consultations in 2023.</p> <p>In <b>Armenia</b>, the draft NDC Financing Strategy and Investment Plan, was discussed at the national workshop held on May 26 with the participation of some 63 representatives from the Deputy Prime Minister's office, Ministries of Environment, Finance, Economy, Territorial Administration and Infrastructure and related state bodies, private sector, and NGOs.</p> <p>A workshop was organized on 23 June 2022 in <b>Azerbaijan</b>, to identify priority options and to raise awareness of NDC among the private sector and NGO community. 52 senior officials and representatives from line ministries,</p>		
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				<p>as well as experts participated.</p> <p>Around 50 participants were present at the workshop on NDC Financing strategy and Investment Plan in <b>Georgia</b>. In <b>Ukraine</b>, the draft NDC Financial Strategy and Investment Plan were finalized in October 2022 and presented to the Ministry in the online meeting with the Deputy Minister for EU Integration. In 2023, <b>Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Moldova</b> organised consultations on SECAPs with selected municipalities.</p> <p><b>Ukraine</b> has organised 4-day consultations with interested municipalities to provide guidance on SECAPs under theegis of Covenant of Mayors, with more</p>		
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				than 100 participants (online and offline).		
<p><b>Output 2.</b> Development of mid-century, long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies (long-term LEDS)</p> <p>2.1. Regional training workshops for six beneficiary countries on the LEDS development process.</p> <p>2.2. National technical roundtables</p> <p>2.3. Development of mid-century, long-term LEDSs in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia</p>	Status of LEDSs in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia	0	3 LEDS developed and submitted for government approval (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia)	Draft LT-LEDS were developed during 2021-2022 for <b>Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia</b> . Approval of the LT-LEDS for <b>Armenia</b> is expected in 2023, while the LT-LEDS for <b>Azerbaijan</b> remains under evaluation. The LT-LEDS for <b>Georgia</b> was approved in July 2023; the updated LEDS-2030 of <b>Moldova</b> was approved in September 2023. LT-LEDS for <b>Belarus</b> was initiated in 2021 and has been suspended until further notice.	UNFCCC Registry	<p>No significant staff turnover in the national entities hampering retention of the knowledge and experience on LEDS.</p> <p>Sufficient level of institutional cooperation among participating government entities.</p> <p>No delays due to heavy bureaucratic procedures within the beneficiary governments.</p>
	Number of national government officials and planning practitioners trained in the development of LEDS.	No LEDS events conducted	Two regional events conducted, 60 government officials and planning practitioners trained.	Two regional events focused on LEDS were delivered by the project in 2022: 1) A side event during UNFCCC COP27 in November 2022, presenting	Training workshop reports  LEDS Guidebook	

				<p>the government the EaP countries with developing LEDS; 2) Joint workshop with the Covenant of Mayors in November 2022, focused on the local implementation of LEDS' and NDCs. On 13 Jun, 2023 UNDP IRH organized an online event to present "Implementation of Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) at Local and Regional Levels." In <b>Armenia</b>, initial discussions on the scope of the LT-LEDS were held. <b>Georgia's</b> LT-LEDS is finalized and was presented to a wide range of stakeholders on 17 July.</p>		
<p><b>Output 3.</b> Introduction of robust domestic emissions monitoring, reporting and</p>	<p>State of the domestic emissions MRV frameworks in EaP countries</p>	<p>No analysis of the national MRV systems performed</p>	<p>Robust domestic emissions MRV frameworks (GHG inventories)</p>	<p>MRV gap analysis and roadmaps for <b>Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia</b></p>	<p>National reporting to the UNFCCC</p>	<p>No significant staff turnover in the national entities hampering retention of the</p>

<p>verification (MRV) frameworks</p> <p><b>Activities:</b></p> <p>3.1. A regional workshop/training on MRV (GHG inventory) systems according to the UNFCCC requirements</p> <p>3.2. A study tour (preferably) to the EEA in Copenhagen to learn about the MRV system in the EU.</p> <p>3.3. Review/gap analysis of the existing MRV systems (GHG inventory)</p> <p>3.4. Proposals for national MRV (GHG inventory) systems in line with the UNFCCC transparency requirements</p> <p>3.5. Trainings of MRV experts</p> <p>3.6. Training materials for the private sector stakeholders on their contributions to national GHG inventories</p>		<p>in the EAP countries.</p>	<p>developed in 5 beneficiary countries.</p>	<p><b>and Moldova</b> were reviewed, consulted with stakeholders and finalized. Substantial progress was made in 2023, in <b>Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Moldova</b>. In <b>Armenia and Georgia</b>, the finalised roadmap for the emissions inventory was translated into national languages shared with the Ministry of Environment, and a consultation on data gaps in the private sector commenced. In <b>Moldova</b>, the mainstreaming report was finalised to help the government mainstream GHG MRV into policy. In <b>Georgia</b>, recommendations on how to accommodate LULUCF in MRV were also developed. A</p>	<p>Workshop reports</p> <p>E-publication of the guidelines for private sector</p>	<p>knowledge and experience on MRV.</p> <p>Private sector in the beneficiary countries actively participates in the project and is committed to meet the national reporting requirements.</p> <p>Proposals for the enhancement of national MRV (GHG inventory) systems are endorsed by the governments.</p>
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				<p>national MRV inventory roadmap was also developed. In <b>Moldova</b>, the final report for mainstreaming climate change considerations into energy policy was prepared, and reporting considerations for the sector collected. Report on improving MRV for private sector in <b>Armenia, Georgia and Moldova</b> was finalized in October 2023.</p>		
	<p>Guidance/training materials for private sector on incorporation of GHG emission reporting requirements into corporate reporting.</p>	<p>No guidance/training materials available in the EaP countries</p>	<p>Guidance/training materials for private sector on MRV developed and presented in 6 EaP countries.</p>	<p>The guidance and training materials are being developed as the roadmaps for national MRV improvement were reviewed and consulted with national stakeholders in 2022. A regional workshop with 90 participants was organized in May 2022, followed by a series of national events in <b>Armenia</b>,</p>		

				<p><b>Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Moldova.</b></p> <p>In <b>Azerbaijan</b>, training materials for government institutions were developed, and for the private sector are under development.</p> <p>In <b>Moldova</b>, specific training for GHG assessment in the waste sector is being provided, with an interactive course held on 3/4 May. Report on improving MRV for private sector in <b>Armenia, Georgia and Moldova</b> was finalized in Oct. 2023</p>		
	Number of government officers/practitioners trained / Number of training events on MRV	No MRV training events	At least 100 sectoral government officers/practitioners trained.  5 trainings conducted on MRV for sectoral government agencies e.g., energy, transport, agriculture, forestry	In <b>Moldova</b> , training on QA/QC for GHG inventory process was held in June 2022 with 42 participants, training on energy sector in October with 30 participants, In 2022 training on waste sector was prepared, including		

				<p>the training materials, and the event was held in May 2023 with some 35 participants. Another training event was organised in September 2023 on GHG inventory in LULUCF. Training events in <b>Armenia and Azerbaijan</b> were held in the course of 2023 on closing the availability data gaps, resolving problems with higher tier methodology. In <b>Azerbaijan</b>, support was given to the development of training materials for civil servants and public sector, which were presented in 2023. In <b>Georgia</b>, the finalized Roadmap will be presented to private sector in November 2023.</p>		
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<p><b>Output 4.</b> Alignment with EU <i>acquis</i> included in bilateral agreements and Energy Community Treaty on Climate Action</p> <p>4.1. Workshops in each of the countries on respective EU <i>acquis</i></p> <p>4.2. Analysis of the national legislation and fiscal policies, and elaboration of proposals and plans for legislative alignment.</p> <p>4.3. Providing relevant input on progress to relevant Sub-Committee meetings, Platform and Panel discussions, Energy Community meetings and providing updates to DG NEAR and relevant EU Delegations</p>	<p>Level of alignment with EU <i>acquis</i> and Energy Community Treaty. Number of laws, legislative/regulatory acts drafted, adopted and implemented in line with the country commitments in the Association Agreements with Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, Energy Community Decisions and/or Recommendations, Strategic Partnership agreement with Armenia, as well as Partnership priorities between EU and Azerbaijan, EU and Belarus (Specific laws will be identified after the gap analysis performed during the inception phase)</p>	<p>No roadmaps developed for the alignment with EU <i>acquis</i>.</p>	<p>References to the specific laws will be added in the roadmaps for alignment with EU <i>acquis</i>.</p>	<p>For <b>Armenia</b>, updating the CEPA Roadmap is an ongoing process, the Roadmap for approximation with EU <i>acquis</i> was delivered by EAA (2020), a package of the F-gas legal act was prepared and submitted to Government (2021), the “General Concept for improving air quality monitoring in Armenia” was developed by EAA and submitted to the government, Report on carbon pricing feasibility submitted (2022). The draft Concept on Climate Law for <b>Armenia</b> was developed in 2022; approval is expected in 2023. In <b>Azerbaijan</b>, Roadmap for legislative alignment with EU was presented (2020); it includes requirements for F-gases and ODS. Gap</p>	<p>National policies and legislation</p>	<p>No major external factors influence the pace of regulatory alignment reforms.</p> <p>Decision-making on the adoption of regulatory enhancements is not delayed.</p> <p>Interest in cooperating with the EU is maintained.</p> <p>Political, social and economic stability is maintained in the region.</p>
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				<p>analysis and recommendations on updating the MRV system submitted in 2021 and updated in 2022.</p> <p>For <b>Belarus</b>, needs assessment and Roadmap for alignment with EU acquis on F-gases, ODS, air quality and industrial emissions was delivered.</p> <p>In <b>Georgia</b>, draft F-gases regulation was prepared and submitted (2020) and is currently being revised, Roadmap for approximation with EU acquis was submitted by EnC (2020) and updated in 2022. The draft Assessment of <b>Georgia's</b> readiness to align with the EU Green Deal was developed and presented in 2022. Draft NECP was prepared, including technical and sectoral reports.</p>		
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				<p>For <b>Moldova</b>, Roadmap for EU approximation were developed by EnC (2020). The law transposing the ETS Directive was prepared and adopted. The draft Law on F-gases of <b>Moldova</b> was prepared and adopted by the parliament in March 2023. A concept of the climate law was developed in 2022, adoption is expected in 2023. The EU Green Deal and EnC Decarbonization Roadmap was prepared, adoption is expected in 2023.</p> <p>In <b>Ukraine</b>, Roadmap for strategic alignment with EU acquis, prepared by EnC was presented in 2020. Draft by-laws on F-gases and ODS were prepared. Recommendations on the development of the</p>		
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				<p>framework climate law of <b>Ukraine</b> were developed in 2022, and a draft is currently being prepared.</p> <p>Recommendations on the implementation of the EU 525/2013 Regulation and the Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 on the Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action in <b>Ukraine</b> were developed in 2022. Recommendations on methane strategy and reduction of methane emissions in industrial sectors were prepared in 2023.</p> <p>During 2022 the Energy Community Secretariat (ECS) as a partner of EU4Climate helped <b>Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine</b> with updating the legal alignment roadmaps based on the revision of the</p>		
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				<p>respective Association Agreements; assistance with implementing elements of the Green Deal in Moldova and Ukraine; implementing the Monitoring Mechanism Regulation for Ukraine. In 2023 they also helped in developing recommendations on strategy to reduce methane leaks for Ukraine.</p>		
	<p>Number of stakeholder meetings organized on the process of policies and legislation development.</p>	0	<p><b>2020</b> 1/41 <b>2021</b> 4/35 <b>2022</b> 2/62 <b>2023</b></p> <p>Total: Over 138</p>	<p>In <b>Moldova</b>, public consultations on the draft F-gas law and draft decision on amending the MRV system were held online on 17 December 2020 with 41 participants. On 10 March 2021, <b>UNDP Armenia</b> presented and discussed the draft package of legal acts on F-gases at a working meeting with 12</p>	Meeting reports	

				<p>representatives of various ministries.</p> <p><b>Moldova</b> held consultations on F-gases proposal with national experts, MARDE's and private sector's representatives on 17 May and 8 June 2021 (12 participants – 5 males, 7 female). In <b>Ukraine</b>, consultations on the climate change concept were held on 24 September 2021 with 21 participants from Ministries, think tanks, technical assistance, and civil society organizations. In Armenia, a 3-day mission by UBA was organised to present the concept of air quality legislation to the stakeholders in July 2022. Georgia organised a meeting with 62 participants to present EU Green Deal.</p>	
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				<p>In <b>Moldova</b>, first consultation on the draft concept climate was organized in Oct. 2022 to be followed up by a second round in Feb. 2023 and result in finalised Concept by end of March 2023. F-gases law finalised and submitted for the approval procedure. It has been adopted in March 2023. Internal consultation procedure was organized in June 2022.</p> <p>In <b>Georgia</b> consultations are ongoing on the F-gases draft with various stakeholders in 2023. <b>Moldova</b> is currently consulting on the draft climate law.</p>		
	Number of workshops conducted by the project/number of people trained.	0/0	<b>2019</b> 1/28 participants <b>2020</b> 3/76 participants <b>2021</b>	In <b>Moldova</b> , workshop to present results of gap analysis was organized in Dec.	Workshop reports	

			5/215 participants <b>2022</b> 3/212 <b>2023</b> - Total:531	2019 with 28 participants. In <b>Georgia</b> , workshop on Roadmap for alignment with EU acquis was organized on 22 May 2020 (16 participants). In <b>Moldova</b> , Roadmap workshop took place on 27 May 2020 (30 participants). In <b>Ukraine</b> , Roadmap for alignment with EU acquis was presented at the workshop on 29 Sept. 2020 for 30 participants. In <b>Armenia</b> , the "Gap analysis and a Roadmap for further legal approximation with the EU climate acquis and CEPA, prepared by the EAA was discussed at the national workshop on 30 June 2021 with about 40 participants, including 24 women		
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				<p>and 16 men. In <b>Azerbaijan</b>, a workshop was organized on 20 July 2021 with the participation of 30 representatives from line ministries (14 female, 16 male) to discuss the current legislative basis enabling the implementation of a MRV system in the country. In <b>Belarus</b>, webinar on CBAM was organized on 27 May 2021 with 90 participants (38 women and 52 men). A draft ETS normative act and its regulatory impact assessment were presented and consulted on in a national event in <b>Moldova</b> on 16 December 2021 with some 35 representatives (21 female, 14 male). In Ukraine, webinar on F-gases and ODS by-laws was held on 15 April 2021 with 55 participants.</p>	
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				<p>In <b>Azerbaijan</b>, a workshop was organized to discuss the results and decide on the legal basis for MRV on 22 December 2022 with 62 participants.</p> <p>In <b>Georgia</b>, workshop on the EU Green Deal alignment held on 28 June with some 50 relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>In <b>Ukraine</b> recommendations on Ukraine's greenhouse gas emissions monitoring and reporting legislation were presented in February 2022. Almost 100 participants from governmental bodies, expert society, NGOs and other stakeholders joined the workshop. In 2023, countries have held consultation meetings with stakeholders.</p>		
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<p><b>Output 5.</b> Mainstreaming climate in policy sectors</p> <p>5.1. Inception/training workshop on CC mainstreaming into sectoral policies</p> <p>5.2. Each country is supported to develop mainstreaming recommendations for 2 priority sectors: detailed sectoral policy review, analysis of climate risks and GHG emission reduction potential, cost benefit analysis, mainstreaming recommendations, regulatory/institutional /coordination framework, monitoring framework, and financial resources/planning.</p> <p>5.3. Two sub-regional sector-based training and knowledge exchange workshops and a series of national consultations</p> <p>5.4. Sectoral guidelines for the implementation of the Paris Agreement</p>	<p>Number of sectoral climate change mainstreaming policy papers/recommendations developed.</p>	<p>No policy papers or recommendations available</p> <p>No sectoral guidance available</p>	<p>At least 10 sectoral climate change mainstreaming policy papers/recommendations developed.</p> <p>Sectoral guidelines for the implementation of the Paris Agreement</p>	<p><b>Regional:</b> A workshop was held in Brussels on 26 April 2023 to discuss approaches to mainstreaming climate action. Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine developed <b>17 sectoral mainstreaming studies</b>, dealing with energy, agriculture, LULUCF, transport, health, gender, waste and water.</p> <p><b>Armenia:</b> mainstreaming recommendations for the energy sector developed in 2022. In 2023, procurement of a CSO to help with the assessment of community perceptions was undertaken, and four target communities were selected, and work commenced.</p>	<p>Sectoral policy documents and strategies</p>	<p>Sufficient buy-in from the sectoral ministries (e.g., energy sector)</p> <p>The developed mainstreaming policies/recommendations are adopted.</p> <p>Ministries/government agencies are willing to participate in a holistic “all-of-the-government” approach to climate action.</p> <p>No institutional tensions among various government stakeholders</p> <p>Favourable investment and lending climate in beneficiary countries</p>
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				<p><b>Azerbaijan:</b> Guidelines on mainstreaming climate change concept into the energy and agriculture policies developed in 2022. In 2023 work on a report covering agriculture, irrigation and animal husbandry commenced. On 23 Feb 2023 a workshop was held to discuss guidelines on mainstreaming climate policy into the energy and agriculture policies.</p> <p><b>Georgia:</b> Climate Mainstreaming Recommendations developed for Energy, Agriculture, and Health Sectors in 2022</p> <p>In 2023, consultations were held to establish the relationship between long-term decarbonization pathways, Just Transition, and human rights, and</p>		
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				<p>the project supported the Green Market Festival in Tbilisi.</p> <p><b>Moldova:</b> recommendations on mainstreaming climate change into the energy policy sector were prepared in 2022.</p> <p><b>Ukraine:</b> National Strategy for Bicycle Transport prepared in 2022. The current draft of the Energy Strategy 2050 is not approved due to the war. A consultant hired for SEA is available to the ministry.</p>	
	<p>Level of institutional capacities for CC mainstreaming (institutional capacity scorecard/baseline, mid-term and completion surveys)</p>	<p>Baseline to be established during the first year of the project</p>	<p>50% improvement against baseline</p>	<p>Institutional capacity assessment was conducted in 2023. The baseline level of institutional capacities for CC mainstreaming identified, mean value for the five EaP countries was 54.60% and after the fourth year of project implementation,</p>	<p>Workshop reports</p> <p>Institutional capacity assessment scorecards/ reports</p>

				mean value for the six EaP countries was 68.55%.		
<p><b>Output 6.</b> Climate Investment</p> <p><b>Activities:</b>          6.1 Two regional climate finance forums: regional events on investment planning and increased mobilization of climate finance          6.2 Training and capacity building through national workshops to relevant staff in the ministries to enable them to develop a prioritized pipeline of bankable projects.          6.3 Regional and national workshops on</p>	<p>Status of investment pipelines of bankable projects contributing the implementation of NDCs</p>	<p>No NDC-related investment pipelines in the beneficiary countries</p>	<p>Each country has developed national/sectoral pipelines of investment projects linked to the NDC implementation plans.</p> <p>NDC implementation plans, LEDS, NAPs supported with financial frameworks.</p>	<p>So far, no investment pipelines of bankable projects contributing to implementation of NDCs have been developed as the countries' NDCs Financial Strategies Implementation Plans have been prepared for Armenia, Georgia, and Ukraine. SEA for Moldova's LEDS, considered NDC implementation plan, has been carried out in 2022. SECAPs are being prepared in</p>	<p>Sectoral policy documents and strategies</p>	<p>CC agenda is strongly pursued at the political level in the beneficiary countries.</p> <p>Sufficient buy-in from the national ministries of finance, planning and economy.</p> <p>Ministries/government agencies are willing to participate in a holistic "all-of-the-government" approach to climate action.</p> <p>Favourable investment and lending climate in beneficiary countries</p>

<p>climate finance frameworks</p> <p>6.4. Three pilot studies and two sub-regional workshops on climate budget tagging and introducing CC parameters into national budget planning and reporting</p>				<p><b>Armenia Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Moldova</b>, based on the report on Local Implementation prepared by the project. It is expected that these will help deliver a pipeline of investment projects.</p>		
	<p>Number of national officials from the finance and planning ministries trained on climate finance leveraging and management, climate change finance frameworks and budgeting</p>	<p>No climate finance framework workshops conducted.</p>	<p>At least 18 government officials from the finance and planning ministries trained.</p>	<p>Two regional workshops on climate finance were organized in June and September 2021. National capacity building events are planned in 2023 for <b>Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine</b>. In <b>Armenia</b>, the report on applicable non-market and market-based mechanisms was shared with the Ministry of Environment. In <b>Azerbaijan</b>, the guidelines on implementing CBT were submitted to the Ministry of</p>	<p>Workshop reports</p>	

				Finance and accepted by the Ministry. These have now been included in the Budget Guide for Citizens.” In 2023, a training on developing bankable projects has been developed for the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of <b>Ukraine</b>		
	Implementation of pilots on climate budget tagging	No budget tagging pilots implemented	3 national pilots implemented.	The first pilot study for <b>Armenia</b> was completed in 2021. A study for <b>Georgia</b> was completed in 2022. An additional study for <b>Azerbaijan</b> was initiated in 2022, to be completed in 2023.	Project reports	
<b>Output 7.</b> Adaptation planning  <b>Activities:</b> 7.1. Support to the national adaptation	Number of NAPs adopted.	0	At least 2 NAPs are adopted <sup>17</sup>	The NAP development was initiated in <b>Belarus</b> during 2021 but was suspended in February 2022 until further notice.	NAP documents  Capacity assessment scorecards on NAP	Sufficient buy-in from the sectoral ministries – an increased recognition of adaptation priorities

<sup>17</sup> Depending on the national context, the countries could choose to adopt different formats for adaptation planning instruments (e.g., National Adaptation Strategy, Action Plan, Adaptation Framework, etc.).



<p>planning in at least in 2 countries</p> <p>7.2. Follow up and facilitation of adoption of national and sectoral adaptation plans.</p> <p>7.3 Cross country knowledge exchange on NAP development, implementation and reporting to UNFCCC.</p>				<p><b>Ukraine</b> adopted the Environmental Security and Climate Adaptation Strategy by 2030, which is considered the country's NAP, and work on National Adaptation Communication is planned for 2023.</p>	<p>implementation and reporting</p>	<p>Ministries/government agencies are willing to participate in a holistic "all-of-the-government" approach to NAPs.</p> <p>Countries are willing to participate in knowledge transfer and information exchange on NAP processes.</p>
<p>7.4. Workshops with national, local and sectoral authorities on NAP process</p>	<p>Number of regional knowledge transfer events on NAPs / number of people trained.</p>		<p>5 workshops / at least 18 people trained during each event.</p>	<p>The first Regional Workshop on Adaptation Planning and Mainstreaming of Climate Risks into National and Sectoral Planning Processes was held in Chisinau, <b>Moldova</b> (30 October – 1 November 2019). The second Regional Workshop on Adaptation Plans and Strategies was conducted virtually on 18-19 November 2020 (100 participants). The third Regional Workshop on National Adaptation Strategies and Plans</p>	<p>Workshop report</p>	<p>No significant staff turnover in the national entities</p>

				<p>was conducted virtually on 30–31 March 2021 (136 participants.)</p> <p>A regional workshop was held on 4 April 2023 in Warsaw, Focused on national approaches to CCA and the development of NAPs (54 participants).</p> <p>In <b>Ukraine</b>, a training on incorporating climate risks and vulnerability assessments was held in September 2023 (some 30 participants).</p>		
	Transboundary NAPs (TBC)	No transboundary NAPs developed	1 transboundary NAP (TBC)	Discussions on a transboundary adaptation plan for the region, which would cover relevant Upper Prut River basin territories in Ukraine, Moldova and Romania have been suspended due to the war in Ukraine.		
	Status of NAP roadmaps,		NAP roadmaps, institutional and	Environmental Security and		

	<p>institutional and coordination frameworks and NAP processes</p>		<p>coordination frameworks and NAP processes established at least in 2 countries.</p>	<p>Climate Adaptation Strategy of <b>Ukraine</b> by 2030 with an Operational Plan by 2024 was approved by the government in October 2021.                  In <b>Ukraine</b>, the work plan for the NAP was updated in February 2023, and this will now include indicators of impact and response to climate change, which in turn will support Ukrainian membership in the OECD Declaration on integrating climate change adaptation into development cooperation.                  National Adaptation Communication was prepared in 2023 and should be approved by Government in Q4 2023.</p>		
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### 3. Progress on activities and outputs

#### Output 1: Implementation and update of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement

##### Background

Each party to the Paris Agreement is expected to develop and communicate their quantitative commitments to reduce GHG emissions, known as NDCs. Countries are obliged to submit their NDCs to UNFCCC every five years. Every subsequent NDC submitted is to have increased ambition compared to the previous one. All EaP countries except Azerbaijan submitted their updated NDC in 2021. Therefore, the focus of the work carried out in 2023 was on supporting the implementation of NDC by formulating NDC implementation roadmaps and developing sectoral strategies. Financing NDC implementation in Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Moldova, and Ukraine) involves creating pipelines of investment projects linked to the NDC implementation plans for a shift to a low-carbon economy.

The updated 2030 targets have been set by analysing historic emission trends (GHG inventory), carrying out sectoral policy analyses, considering the economic development, identifying possible measures, and calculating emission scenarios. The main characteristics of the country's NDCs<sup>18</sup> are:

- All countries presented their targets for 2030 as relative emission reduction targets compared to a base year.
- All countries except Georgia included the LULUCF sector in their target.
- All countries except Azerbaijan and Armenia presented an unconditional as well as a conditional target.
- All countries carried out a stakeholder consultation during the preparation of their NDC.
- None of the countries include concrete targets and measures for climate change adaptation.
- Ukraine's NDC included the goal to become carbon-neutral by 2050.
- Moldova presented the highest target, -70% net GHG unconditionally and up to -88% net conditionally.

A summary of the targets in the updated NDCs of the Eastern Partnership countries is provided in the table below:

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<sup>18</sup> Based on the NDC Study, prepared by the EU4Climate project in November 2021.  
<https://eu4climate.eu/download/ndc-preparation-and-implementation-in-eap-countries>

Country	NDC version	Submission date	Time frame	Objective	Mitigation target (base year)
Armenia	INDC	23 Mar 2017	2015-2030	annual average of 5.4 t CO <sub>2</sub> eq per capita	NA
	Updated NDC	5 May 2021	2021-2030	40% reduction compared to 1990 level with and without LULUCF	-40% (1990)
Azerbaijan	INDC	9 Jan 2017	2021-2030	35% reduction compared to 1990 level	-35% (1990)
	Updated NDC	10 Oct 2023	2021-2030	35% reduction compared to 1990 level	-35% (1990)
Belarus	INDC	21 Sep 2016	2021-2030	at least 28% reduction compared to 1990 level	-28% (1990)
	Updated NDC	Draft	2021-2030	Conditional: 40% reduction compared to 1990 level with LULUCF	-40% net (1990)
				Unconditional: 35% reduction compared to 1990 level with LULUCF	-35% net (1990)
Georgia	INDC	8 May 2017	2021-2030	Conditional: 25% reduction below BAU scenario = -40% compared to 1990 levels	-40% (1990)
				Unconditional: 15% reduction below BAU scenario	-32% (1990)
	Updated NDC	5 May 2021	2021-2030	Conditional: -50-57% of its total greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990	-53% (1990)
				Unconditional: 35 % below 1990 level of its domestic total greenhouse gas emissions by 2030	-35% (1990)
Moldova	INDC	25 Sep 2015	2021-2030	Conditional: up to -78% compared to 1990 by 2030	-78% net (1990)
				Unconditional: -64-67% compared to 1990 by 2030	-65% net (1990)
	Updated NDC	4 March 2020	2021-2030	Conditional: up to -88% compared to 1990 by 2030	-88% net (1990)
				Unconditional: -70% compared to 1990 by 2030	-70% net (1990)
Ukraine	INDC	19 Sep 2016	2021-2030	It will not exceed 60% of 1990 GHG emissions level in 2030	-40% (1990)
	Updated NDC	31 Jul 2021	2021-2030	Economy-wide net domestic reduction of 65 % in GHG emissions by 2030 compared to 1990.	-65% net (1990)

As the **Energy Community (EnC)** supports Ukraine, Moldova, and Georgia as contracting parties in implementing the relevant EU energy, environment and climate acquis, the Project ensures the alignment of the acquis with the NDC and LT-LEDS.

Throughout the project, the EnC focus was on preparing National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) to be reported under the EU's Energy Union and Climate Action Governance Regulation. These plans combine the reporting of low carbon development with energy and climate policies (decarbonisation, energy efficiency, energy market, energy security, research, and innovation). They also provide for the mainstreaming of energy and climate related issues.

## 1. Country-by-country overview

### Armenia

In **2022**, the draft legal package on the NDC Implementation Plan, Financing Strategy and Investment Plan was shared with the Ministry of Environment. Based on the comments and suggestions received from the Ministry, the draft was amended and submitted to the Ministry of Environment for official circulation among the line

ministries. The whole file/dossier is currently in governmental consultations and adoption is expected in December 2023.

In line with the revised 2023 Workplan, the Project has initiated the drafting of the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) for Alaverdi municipality. Initial consultations were carried out with the Mayor of Alaverdi to prepare for an effective and participatory process. The baseline review and preparation of the GHG baseline emission inventory for the selected baseline year is underway, aligned with the SECAP Development Guidebook and relying on all available information.

### Azerbaijan

Since **2019** UNDP Azerbaijan has undertaken a dialogue with the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources (MENR) on the need to update the NDC. This continued with the UNDP Azerbaijan assisting the MENR to coordinate the State Commission's activities on Climate Change (SCCC) in regard to the NDC update. The SCCC was re-organized on 12 March **2020** per the Decree of the President. The first meeting of the working group under the SCCC was held in June 2020. UNDP Azerbaijan kept in continuous contact with the government to facilitate the process of an NDC update.

In **2023**, the Project has organized several meetings with key representatives from the focal Ministries to discuss the country's climate change priorities and the NDC update. The recommendations received from the national stakeholders during the consultations and workshops were incorporated into the NDC update. This has been finalized and submitted to the Government of Azerbaijan for approval, the updated NDC was submitted to UNFCCC in October 2023. Also, an additional meeting was organised regarding the development of the NDC Finance Roadmap to identify priority options and to clarify the questions raised by the ministry.

### Georgia

In Georgia, the NDC update process was led by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture (MoEPA) and Georgia's Government, with limited support from the donor organizations in **2021**. EU4Climate assisted the MoEPA to plan and organize a formal public consultation event and NDC communication campaign. UNDP helped to raise social ownership of the updated NDC and related Climate Change Strategy and Climate Action Plan (CAP) by developing the Climate Communication Strategy, Awareness Raising Action Plan and Public Outreach Campaign (CCSARP).

EU4Climate also assisted the MoEPA to develop the NDC Financing Strategy and Investment Plan, which was finalised in May **2022**. The document, including the Climate Budget exercise was translated into Georgian and both Georgian and English versions have been made available in December 2022 on the UNDP Georgia website. In 2023, UNDP Georgia signed the partnership agreement with the Energy Efficiency Centre Georgia, to prepare 2 SECAPs for the newly joined Covenant of Mayor's signatories and at least two project proposal ideas that could be transformed into bankable projects.

### Moldova

The strategic environmental assessment (SEA) procedure for the updated draft LEDS 2030, considered at the NDC implementation plan was presented in 2022. The Project supported the Ministry in organizing public consultation on the draft SEA report for the updated LEDS-2030 on 19 December 2022 in a virtual mode. Recommendations were received on the approach to interpreting statistical data, methodology as well as

other technical issues. Subsequently, the SEA Report was updated, finalized, and published for consultation on the Ministry of Environment's page.

In 2023, the TOR for national consultants to develop Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs) for the Cahul municipality, Giurgiulești and Valeni has been approved. The work started in the second part of July of 2023.

#### Ukraine

The draft NDC Financial Strategy, the draft NDC Investment Plan by 2030, and the recommendations on the institutional reforms to implement these documents due to the impacts of the Russian military aggression on the Ukrainian economy have been finalised. An additional chapter was included in the reports on the post-war economic reconstruction in line with NDC. These documents have been submitted to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources in November 2022 for comments. In 2023, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources prepared a concept for the video on updated NDC, to be presented in November 2023.

#### **4. Number of training and awareness events directly supported by the project and number of decision makers and practitioners benefiting from capacity building**

UNDP IRH has organised a regional webinar on "Implementation of Low Emissions Development Strategies (LEDS) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) at Local and Regional Levels". The event brought together 59 experts and representatives of different municipalities from Eastern Partnership countries on 13 June 2023 to enable conditions for the implementation of NDCs and LEDSs also on regional and local levels and thereby support not only the horizontal but also vertical mainstreaming of climate actions. The workshop aimed to raise awareness of the importance and benefits of climate action at regional and local levels and guide how to engage at different levels on the development of sustainable energy and climate action plans (SECAPs) and on accessing finance and developing bankable projects.

As per the revised 2023 Workplan, **UNDP Armenia** has initiated the drafting of the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) for Alaverdi municipality and held initial consultations with the Mayor of Alaverdi.

In **Azerbaijan**, a meeting was organised regarding the development of the NDC Finance Roadmap to identify priority options and to clarify the questions raised by the ministry.

**UNDP Georgia** signed the partnership agreement with the Energy Efficiency Centre Georgia, to prepare 2 SECAPs for the newly joined Covenant of Mayor's signatories and at least two project proposal ideas that could be transformed into bankable projects.

UNDP **Moldova** started work on Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs) for the Cahul, Giurgiulești and Valeni municipalities in July of 2023.

**Ukraine** organised four-day consultations with interested municipalities under the egis of the Covenant of Mayors to provide guidance on preparing SECAPs (11, 14, 15, 27 September 2023). The consultations focused on strengthening municipal efforts toward the development of local adaptation plans and supplemented the planned climate mitigation measures that have been developed as part of the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) under the Covenant of Mayors East project, as well as the development of regional environmental programs. The event also facilitated inter-local exchange on sub-national activities, providing training and guidance on risk and vulnerability assessment methodologies and highlighting emerging best

practices. The consultations were attended by over 100 representatives of the Ukrainian municipalities (online and in-person).



## Output 2: Development of national mid-century, long-term low greenhouse gas emissions development strategies (LEDS)

### Background

All beneficiary countries of the EU4Climate project are parties to the UNFCCC and have signed the Paris Agreement. [Article 4.1](#) of the Paris Agreement states the urgent need for achieving climate neutrality – defined as the balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and after:

*In order to achieve the long-term temperature goal set out in Article 2, Parties aim to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, recognizing that peaking will take longer to developing country Parties, and to undertake rapid reductions thereafter in accordance with best available science, so as to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century, on the basis of equity, and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.*

[Article 4.19](#) of the Paris Agreement asks Parties to prepare long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies. The reporting of these is not mandatory. The LT\_LEDS submissions of 52 Parties are available<sup>2</sup>. Currently, Ukraine is the only country of the EaP countries to have submitted its LT-LEDS to the UNFCCC:

*All Parties should strive to formulate and communicate long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies, mindful of Article 2 taking into account their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances.*

This has been translated into the EU MS requirement under the Energy Governance Regulation (Article 15):<sup>3</sup>.

### Article 15

#### Long-term strategies

*1. By 1 January 2020, and subsequently by 1 January 2029 and every 10 years thereafter, each Member State shall prepare and submit to the Commission its long-term strategy with a perspective of at least 30 years. Member States should, where necessary, update those strategies every five years.*

The EU has communicated its LEDS in 2020 committing to climate neutrality by 2050, which has been enshrined into law (European Climate Law (EU)2021/1119<sup>4</sup>). This will be achieved through the implementation of the 'European Green Deal', which already resulted in an amendment of climate, energy, transport, and taxation policies to also prepare for meeting the intermediate target of reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030, compared to 1990 levels.

Within the EU4Climate project, the EU is also helping governments of the EU Eastern Partner countries to align their policies with global and European ambitions and get on a low emission development pathway and enabling a just transition.

The table below (Table 1) summarizes the key information from the LEDS prepared by countries. It must be

noted that the LEDS of Ukraine has been prepared already in 2017 before the EU4Climate project has started.

In all countries, the ministry responsible is the Ministry dealing with environmental affairs and the LEDS are being prepared by external national and international consultants financed by the EU4Climate project.

**In summary, the fact that the LEDS in all countries are covering the whole geographic area, all economic sectors and include all GHGs (i.e., CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>4</sub> and F-gases), as well as IPCC sectors should be positively highlighted. Georgia has presented its LT-LEDS until 2050 in July 2023; and Moldova has approved an updated LEDS until 2030 by a government decision in September 2023. Finalisation of LT-LEDS' in Armenia and Azerbaijan is anticipated by the end of 2023.**

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<sup>2</sup> <https://unfccc.int/process/the-paris-agreement/long-term-strategies>, as of 23 Sept 2022

<sup>3</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/energy-climate-change-environment/implementation-eu-countries/energy-and-climate-governance-and-reporting/national-long-term-strategies\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/energy-climate-change-environment/implementation-eu-countries/energy-and-climate-governance-and-reporting/national-long-term-strategies_en), as of 23 Sept 2022. The national long-term strategies have been submitted by all EU Member States except four

<sup>4</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R1119&from=EN>

**Regarding the ambition, Armenia, and Georgia state that climate neutrality is the goal for 2050. The 'best' emission scenario of Azerbaijan shows that climate neutrality could be achieved by 2081. In Moldova, the LEDS covers only the time until 2030 and lays down the action plan to implement the NDC2. Here, it should be noted, that Moldova's NDC2 target for 2030 is the one with the highest ambition among the EaP counterparts.**

The emission development paths designed by countries are following various mitigation options and result in emission trajectories, also covering intermediate years, which allows for monitoring and tracking progress. All countries have monitoring mechanisms in place, and plan for updates of the LEDS at regular intervals. Stakeholders from governmental entities, the private sector and the public have been included in the process of establishing the LEDS and approving the LEDS through consultation meetings and official public consultation phases. In Armenia and Moldova, the LEDS is adopted by the government, while in Azerbaijan and Georgia the LEDS is not to be legally binding but approved by the national governments.

Concerning adaptation, all countries have in common that the LEDS is focusing on mitigation, and adaptation goals or adaptation development plans are not part of the LEDS but treated in separate processes and documents.

**Table 1: Key Information on LEDS in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Ukraine**

	<b>Armenia</b>	<b>Azerbaijan</b>	<b>Georgia</b>	<b>Moldova</b>	<b>Ukraine</b>
<b>Status</b>	The draft LEDS is prepared, governmental approval is expected by the end of 2023	LT-LEDS is under review in the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources. The finalization is expected by the end of the year 2023	LT-LEDS is finalized and published in July 2023	The updated LEDS until 2030 is finalised and approved in September 2023	finalised 2017 and submitted to UNFCCC in 2018
<b>Responsible Entity</b>	Ministry of Environment; Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure are co-performer ministries	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture	Ministry of Environment	Ministry for Environmental Protection and Natural Resources
<b>Developed by</b>	international consultancy company	team of national experts (consultants)	consultancy company with national and international experts	team of national experts (consultants)	national experts
<b>Geographic Coverage</b>	whole country/economy wide	whole country/economy wide	whole country/economy wide	whole country/economy wide	whole country/economy wide
<b>GHG coverage</b>	all GHGs (CO <sub>2</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O, CH <sub>4</sub> , F-gases)	all GHGs (CO <sub>2</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O, CH <sub>4</sub> , F-gases)	all GHGs (CO <sub>2</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O, CH <sub>4</sub> , F-gases)	all GHGs (CO <sub>2</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O, CH <sub>4</sub> , F-gases)	all GHGs (CO <sub>2</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> O, CH <sub>4</sub> ) except F-gases
<b>Sector coverage</b>	all IPCC sectors	all IPCC sectors	all IPCC sectors	all IPCC sectors	all IPCC sectors
<b>Time frame</b>	2050	2050	2050	2030	2050

	Armenia	Azerbaijan	Georgia	Moldova	Ukraine
Ambition level	Climate neutrality by 2050	Climate neutrality	Climate neutrality by 2050	unconditional target -70% and conditional target up to -88% by 2030 compared to 1990	Climate neutrality by 2060 (stated in revised NDC)
Intermediate targets	for 2030 and 2040	for 2030 and 2040	trajectories until 2050	for 2025	sectoral trajectories until 2050
Stakeholder consultation	Validation workshop is planned for public and private sector stakeholders; final document will be circulated within the Government as required by regulation.	stakeholders involved to the public consultations, e.g. MENR, Ministry of agriculture, Ministry of energy, Ministry of finance, Ministry of transport and NGO's.	Yes, the ministries and NGOs were involved as stakeholders	Stakeholder consultation was carried with representatives from governmental authorities, civil society, academia, youth associations, developing partners, etc.	NA
Legal Status	Governmental adoption planned, following official instruction to be applied to all the strategies for adoption by the Government and requiring public finance for implementation	It will not be legally binding	Not legally binding	Approved by the Government through a Governmental Decision.	NA

	Armenia	Azerbaijan	Georgia	Moldova	Ukraine
Adaptation	LT-LEDS of Armenia will refer to the National Adaptation Plan adopted by the Government in 2021.	Separate adaptation goal is not presented in the document	Adaptation is mentioned, but a separate adaptation goal is not presented.	National Adaptation Planning is handled as a separate process.	no adaptation goals included
Monitoring	A description of the monitoring and review framework is a part of the strategy.	A mechanism for monitoring will be provided and implemented by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources.	The Climate Change Council is the responsible body for conducting verification processes because it is a governmental entity that has the authority to review and discuss all key documents to be developed by Georgia under obligations of the UNFCCC and monitor the implementation of these documents	Governmental Decision 1277/2018 regulates the establishment and functioning of the National System for monitoring and reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and other information relevant to climate change.	GHG inventories are prepared on an annual basis to track progress.
Consistency with NDC	2050 mitigation goal set by initial NDC is maintained, and therefore reflected in the LEDS	The LEDS is consistent with revised NDC.	Differences of emission trajectories and the NDC targets are explained in the LEDS.	The targets are the same and updated LEDS 2030 is foreseen as a document that plans the implementation of the NDC2 at the national level.	As LEDS was prepared before initial NDC, inconsistencies are a matter of fact.

## Progress on developing the LEDSD in the EaP countries

### Status of the LEDSD development in the EaP countries

The EU4Climate project assisted Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia in preparing their LEDSD, which includes the development of scenarios, analysis of mitigation options, carrying out consultations, quality assurance and control as well as drafting of reports. The LEDSD documents of Armenia and Azerbaijan are undergoing their final national approval procedures and are expected to be approved in 2023. The LEDSD-2050 of Georgia, with the target to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, was finalised and officially presented in July 2023. Moldova's LEDSD is covering the time frame until 2030, due to national legislation, and includes a concrete action plan on how the NDC target will be achieved. The updated LEDSD-2030 of Moldova was approved in September 2023. Ukraine already has a LEDSD in place, which was submitted to the UNFCCC in 2018, and therefore refers to the situation and projected development before the war. Important to note is that all countries commit to climate neutrality, whereby the ambition shall be achieved by 2050 or later.

## Country-by-country overview

Progress achieved under Output 2 by the individual EaP countries.

### Armenia

The draft Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDSD) of the Republic of Armenia was amended based on the comments received from the stakeholder ministries. A series of discussions were held on mitigation scenarios with the participation of the representatives of the Ministry of Environment, and the expert team. The final document was submitted to the Government. On 9 June 2023, within the framework of the 58th session of the Subsidiary Bodies of UNFCCC, the document was presented by the Deputy Minister of Environment during the side event organized at the initiative of Armenia, in Bonn, Germany. Approval of the LT-LEDSD of Armenia is expected by the end of **2023**.

### Azerbaijan

The work on updating the final LEDSD report was finalised in early **2022** and was presented to the Ministry of Environment. The Project Team assisted with public consultations for the Ministry Representatives on the scope and objective of LEDSD and the need for LEDSD implementation in Azerbaijan. Within the workshop, the consultancy group delivered the report with the information collected following a range of meetings with line ministries. After careful consideration of senior officials, representatives from line ministries and foreign experts, the report was updated in accordance with the comments and feedback received from relevant ministries. Furthermore, the finalised LEDSD-2050 of Azerbaijan was under review by the government. The Project assisted with public consultations for the government representatives on the scope and objective of LEDSD and the need of LEDSD implementation in Azerbaijan with the participation of 55 representatives from the Ministries of Environment, Agriculture, Transport, Economy, and Finance.

To accelerate the approval process of the document the Project met with the high officials of the Ministries of Environment, Agriculture, Transport, Economy, and Finance and was informed that the LEDSD approval is expected by the end of **2023**.

## Georgia

Georgia's LT-LEDS final document was delivered to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture and presented during the online validation workshop on 10 December **2021**. The workshop was attended by a total of 36 participants including the Ministry of Environment and Agriculture, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, National Environmental Agency, Environmental Information and Education Centre, Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure, Rural Development Agency and the representatives of the local NGOs (CENN, WEG, EEC Georgia, RECC, GEO, GoG, Remissia) as well as international organizations (World bank, FAO, WWF, GIZ, EBRD).

EU4Climate project supported the Ministry with organising the public consultation process for the draft LEDES, and also supported MoEPA with updating LT-LEDES document in line with the requirements of the Governance Regulation. The LEDES of Georgia was finalised in July **2023**.

## Moldova

The updated LEDES 2030 covers emission reduction targets in various sectors, such as energy, industry, buildings, transport, agriculture, LULUCF and waste, and elaborates the planning at the national level to achieve them. The updated draft LEDES was presented to the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment and discussed with the stakeholders during the national consultation event organized online on 17 June **2021**. The event was attended by 90 participants (governmental authorities, civil society, academia, youth associations, developing partners, etc.).

As a result of public consultations, the Ministry of Environment requested that a strategical environmental assessment (SEA) procedure for the updated draft LEDES 2030 be carried out. The competition for selecting a company to support the Ministry of Environment in conducting the SEA for the updated draft LEDES 2030 was delayed due to the lack of qualified applicants; the contract with the company that supported the Ministry of Environment in this procedure was signed on 7 April **2022**.

A series of meetings with beneficiaries were organised in 2022 to discuss the action plan for the assignment, as well as the proposals of the Ministry on the structure of the SEA Report. The SEA Report for the updated LEDES-2030 of Moldova was developed and presented to the Ministry of Environment on 15 August **2022**. Based on the additional comments to the SEA Report received from MoE, the SEA Report was updated, finalised and published for consultation on the Ministry of Environment page.

The Project supported the Ministry in organizing public consultation on the draft SEA report for the updated LEDES-2030 on 19 December 2022 in a virtual mode. Recommendations were received on the approach to interpreting statistical data, methodology as well as other technical issues. The Report in the national language was finalised. The updated LEDES 2030 of Moldova was approved in September **2023**.

### **Number of training and awareness events directly supported by the project and number of decision makers and practitioners benefiting from capacity building**

In June 2023, UNDP IRH organized a regional webinar on the "Implementation of Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDES) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) at Local and Regional Levels" on 13 June 2023. The Covenant of Mayors presented their experience in developing and



implementing the Sustainable energy and Climate Action Plans / SECAPs for municipalities. A wide range of different funding opportunities for municipal climate action projects were presented during the event. 59 representatives of municipalities from the Eastern Partnership countries, as well as experts in municipal climate action participated in the event.

The draft Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy (LT-LEDS) of the Republic of **Armenia** was presented on 9 June **2023** by the Deputy Minister of Environment during the side event within the framework of the 58th session of the Subsidiary Bodies of UNFCCC.

### **Output 3: Introduction of robust domestic emissions monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) frameworks and strengthening of the existing ones**

The Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) was established under the Paris Agreement to track progress towards achieving countries' global emission reduction commitments. The COP26 in Glasgow finalized the ETF reporting guidelines while the COP27 consequently took up ETF implementation as one of the critical issues on its agenda.

The Decision [-]/CMA.3 on Guidance operationalizing the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the enhanced transparency framework (ETF) referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement<sup>22</sup> and its Annexes I-V, provides detailed information on the ETF, including the common reporting tables (CRT) for the electronic reporting of the information in the national inventory reports of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases (<https://unfccc.int/documents/311076>). It also covers common tabular formats for the electronic reporting of NDCs under Article 4 of the Paris Agreement (including structured summary); common tabular formats for the electronic reporting of the information on financial, technology development and transfer and capacity-building support provided and mobilized, as well as support needed and received; outline of the biennial transparency report and outline of the national inventory document, all pursuant to the modalities, procedures and guidelines for the transparency framework referred to in Article 13 of the Paris Agreement.

As the more stringent reporting requirements under the ETF will also require more resources from the developing countries, the negotiations at COP27 focused heavily on the provision of financial and technical support to developing countries for the ETF implementation. The negotiations on these issues were not finalized and will continue until COP28 in Dubai, UAE.

The issues at COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh covered a regular array of reporting and updates under the measurement, reporting, and verification (MRV) cycles of the Convention as well as the issues under the Enhanced Transparency Framework (ETF) under Article 13 of the Paris Agreement. To support the negotiations and the start of ETF implementation under the Paris Agreement, the UNFCCC Secretariat hosted a 2-week series of "Together4Transparency" events covering key issues in national emission reporting, showcasing achievements, successes, and best practices in the national MRV from the past 30 years. The series comprised 22 events (7 side events, 3 mandated events and 12 partner events), involving 184 speakers from Parties, non-Party stakeholders, and international organizations.

The COP 27 mandated events included the 13<sup>th</sup> workshop of Facilitative Sharing of Views (FSV) where 11 developing countries, including Armenia, showcased their climate actions and shared their experience in the transparency processes and their transition to the Enhanced Transparency Framework. FSV is the final step of the international consultation and analysis (ICA) process for the non-Annex I Parties under the current MRV procedures of the Convention.

#### **1. Robust domestic emissions MRV frameworks (GHG inventories) developed in 5 beneficiary countries**

Progress by individual EaP countries is presented below.

##### **Armenia**

The draft MRV Roadmap was developed by the EAA and stakeholders were consulted during a national event on 30 June **2021** attended by 40 participants. After integrating stakeholders' proposals, the MRV roadmap has been finalized and validated, and is available in English and Armenian languages. A series of discussions were held between EU4Climate and the EAA to plan the next steps towards effective implementation of the "Roadmap for the Development of a Functional National Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory System for Armenia". As a result, it was decided that a regional workshop on MRV QA/QC system will be conducted by the EAA to be followed by a national roundtable discussion/workshop in 2022. The final version of the roadmap, which incorporates all comments was updated and delivered by EAA in Q4 **2022**, following an online national roundtable discussion on June 28 to discuss questions and concerns of the 44 participants from the Ministries of Environment, Economy, Territorial Administration and Infrastructure, Statistical Committee, Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Centre, specialized organizations, and UNDP CO. The finalized "Roadmap for the development of a functional National Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory System and MRV system for Armenia" provided by EAA was translated into Armenian and shared with the Ministry of Environment in **2023**.

## **2. Guidance/training materials for the private sector on MRV developed and presented in the EaP countries**

**UNDP Armenia** has been preparing a series of consultations in 2023 on the data gaps concerning the private sector. The consultations helped inventory compilers apply a higher-tier (more granular) methodology, especially in the industrial processes (IPPU) and energy sectors. The first online discussion was held with the participation of the international MRV consultant, country experts and the project team. It was decided to involve an expert on F-gasses, who carried out bilateral discussions with the national energy expert.

In **Azerbaijan** Project activities focused on the preparation of training materials for both governmental and private sector. A national expert presented the draft version of training materials for MRV experts from technical departments within the line ministries in Azerbaijan.

**Georgia** developed a national MRV inventory roadmap, in close cooperation with the Environmental Agency of Austria. The preparation of the roadmap included interviews with the inventory experts of Georgia to finalize the roadmap and materials to be presented to the private sector representatives.

In **Moldova**, the Final Report was prepared in February 2023 covering consolidated recommendations for mainstreaming climate change considerations into the energy policy of Moldova and further development of national MRV practices in the energy sector. Best practices and recommendations from the national workshop on GHG inventory for waste sector have been incorporated. The next will be a training on the GHG inventory for the LULUCF sector.

## **3. At least 100 sectoral government officers/practitioners trained**

**UNDP Moldova** organized an interactive training course on a GHG Inventory for the waste sector, delivered on 3 - 4 May 2023 for more than 35 stakeholders. The workshop was conducted for 2 days in an interactive format and included practical exercises and debate to enhance the capacity of participants. Participants from the focal ministry, the Environmental Agency and State Environmental Inspectorate, were actively engaged throughout the workshop. During the second technical day, recommendations and new techniques were jointly elaborated and developed to calculate waste indicators for the Republic of Moldova. The reporting requirements and process for reporting GHG

emissions in the waste and wastewater sector in the Republic of Moldova were presented and discussed with the authorities and stakeholders participating in the GHG inventory.

The competitive selection of the International Consultant on Project Implementation to support the institutional capacity building for implementation of the MRV system in the Republic of Moldova was completed. This will focus on training to compile the GHG inventory for the land use (LULUCF) sector. For the private sector, the concept of the training and the training materials were developed, and the event was held in September 2023.

## Output 4: Alignment with EU acquis included in bilateral agreements and Energy Community Treaty on Climate Action

In analysing the countries' national legislation and fiscal policies and assessing the EU acquis alignment, the UNDP IRH concluded partnership agreements with the Environment Agency Austria (EAA) and the Energy Community Secretariat in September 2019. The EAA was engaged to carry out a gap analysis of the national legislation with the EU climate acquis as per EU bilateral agreements with Armenia, Azerbaijan and Belarus followed by a roadmap. The Energy Community Secretariat focused on a detailed gap analysis of the national legislation against the EU climate acquis included in bilateral agreements and/or the Energy Community Treaty with Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, followed by a roadmap. These partnership agreements have remained in force throughout the lifetime of the Project.

Countries currently have various levels of requirements to align with the EU climate acquis, depending on their bilateral agreements with the EU. For Armenia, the Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA) provides a framework for alignment with selected EU climate acquis acts including Art. 14, 15, 16(1) and 17 of the ETS Directive, Regulation on Monitoring and Reporting (EU 601/2012), Art. 5&12 of MMR (EU 525/2013), ODS and F-gasses regulations, as well as Industrial Emissions Directive and CAFÉ Directions.

Since the updated Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and Azerbaijan is still being negotiated, work under the Project focused on the alignment with the EU acquis that would enable the fulfilment of Azerbaijan's obligations under the Paris Agreement; ETS Directive, EE and RES Directives, F-gases and ODS, as well as the MMR and EU Governance regulations.

For Georgia, the EU Association Agreement, and its Annex XXVII stipulate alignment with some provisions of the EU regulations on F-gases and ODS, while obligations under the Energy Community Treaty oblige Georgia to comply with the MMR and the EU Governance Regulations.

For Moldova, the EU Association Agreement (Annex XII) prescribes alignment with the ETS Directive, F-gases and ODS regulations, Directive on petrol and diesel quality, with additional obligations under the EnC, particularly on the MMR and EU Governance regulations.

For Ukraine, the Association Agreement and its Annex XXX prescribe alignment with the ETS Directive, F-gases and ODS regulations, meeting its obligations under the UNFCCC as well mitigation and adaptation efforts. Additionally, there is also a dedicated high-level dialogue between the EU and Ukraine on the EU Green Deal and Ukraine Green Transition complementing the Association Agreement.

On 28 February 2022, Ukraine applied for EU membership, followed by the Republic of Moldova and Georgia on 3 March 2022. On 17 June 2022, the European Commission presented its Opinions on the application for EU membership. Subsequently, the European Council adopted conclusions on the membership applications from Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia and has decided to grant the status of candidate country to Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, also recognising the European perspective of Georgia on 23 June 2022.

Each Opinion provides key requirements for the countries to continue the accession path. For Ukraine<sup>19</sup>, including the political and economic requirements, and the ability to assume obligations of the EU membership, on the cluster Green Agenda and sustainable connectivity, “particularly good results were reached in energy as regards the set-up of its electricity and gas markets, including the unbundling and certification of the gas- and electricity transmission network operators. Ukraine has also carried out a structural transformation of its electricity and gas market design, based on the EU rules. Ukraine’s membership in the Energy Community has given a boost to the process of approximation of legislation”. However, “considerable efforts are needed to ensure legislative alignment for instance with the EU climate and environmental acquis, as well as to secure the adequate administrative, financial and organisational capacities to implement and enforce it”, to enable country’s green transition and reaching their targets under the Paris Agreement.

For Moldova, a European perspective and candidate status were granted on the understanding that Moldova takes some key steps, including structural reforms. In the Commission’s opinion, one of the points made is to “increase the capacity to deliver on reforms and to provide quality public services including through stepping up implementation of public administration reform.”<sup>20</sup> On the environment and climate change, “significant efforts are needed, coupled with political and financial support, to align Moldovan legislation with the EU acquis. Meaningful reforms will be needed in view of European Green Deal”.

At the same time, Georgia was given a European perspective with the expectation that the candidate status will be granted once Georgia addresses some key priorities<sup>21</sup>. The opinion stresses that in areas of environment and climate change, Georgia will have to invest considerable efforts in further legislative alignment with the acquis and the European Green Deal policies as well as strengthening its administration to enable the green transition.

In February 2023, the European Commission published its analytical reports assessing the capacity of Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova and Georgia to assume the obligations of EU membership. The reports provide a detailed analysis of where the countries stand on their alignment with the EU *acquis*. The reports complement the Opinions on the three countries' applications for EU membership adopted by the European Commission in June 2022. The level of approximation was assessed on the basis of the replies to the questionnaires from the three applicant countries, as well as relevant information obtained in the framework of the intensive dialogues carried out over many years under the Association Agreements, including the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Areas (AA/DCFTA).

The reports provide a snapshot of the situation as regards the capacity of the three countries to fulfil the obligations of EU membership and offer valuable guidance on the work ahead under the different *acquis* chapters. The Commission will report on progresses of the three countries to address the reform priorities identified in the Opinions as part of the next ‘Enlargement package’ due in the Autumn of 2023. These reports

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<sup>19</sup> Commission Opinion on Ukraine's application for membership of the EU, COM (2022) 407 final  
[https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/opinion-ukraines-application-membership-european-union\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/opinion-ukraines-application-membership-european-union_en),

<sup>20</sup> [Commission Opinion on the Republic of Moldova’s application for membership of the European Union](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/opinion-moldovas-application-membership-european-union_en) \*COM(2022) 406 final)

<sup>21</sup> Commission Opinion on Georgia's application for membership of the European Union (COM(2022) 405 final),  
[https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/opinion-georgias-application-membership-european-union\\_en](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/opinion-georgias-application-membership-european-union_en)

will consider policy developments since June 2022 and provide policy recommendations regarding the reforms to address for the next period.

Overall, all countries have a low to moderate level of preparedness when it comes to climate acquis and are in an early stage of preparation in this area. In general, challenges remain concerning the capacities for mainstreaming the environmental and climate acquis and the European Green Deal in all policy areas, as well as for effective implementation and enforcement of legislation. Environmental protection and green transition would benefit from increased political attention and a whole-of-government and whole-of-the-economy approach.

In view of these developments, the countries will now be facing increasing demands for ever closer alignment with the EU acquis, stemming not only from the association agreements but also the priority agenda of the EU Green Deal. Once the decision is made on the opening of negotiations, structured into thematic clusters, including the Green agenda and sustainable connectivity, and under Chapter 27 – Environment and Climate Change, the entire EU acquis under this Chapter will apply. This will have implications on the work countries have been doing so far aligning with the MMR and the EU Governance regulation ((EU) 2018/1999), the ETS Directive and the related MRV regulations, F-gases and ODS regulations, but will shift focus on the wider legislative alignment under the Chapter 27<sup>22</sup>.

The Logical Framework indicators under the EU *acquis* alignment output are listed below.

### **1. Level of alignment with EU *acquis* and Energy Community Treaty**

The comprehensive review and update of the Roadmaps for the development of a functional national GHG system and MRV system for Armenia, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova were done by the Environment Agency Austria (EAA). Roadmaps outline future steps in developing the fully functional GHG inventory and in necessary alignment with the relevant EU MRV acquis.

In September 2021, the UNDP IRH concluded a partnership agreement with the Energy Community Secretariat (ECS), to provide further assistance to Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine with updating the legal alignment Roadmap based on the revision of the respective Association Agreements; assistance with implementing elements of the Green Deal in Moldova and Ukraine; implementing the Monitoring Mechanism Regulation for Ukraine; recommendations on a strategy to reduce methane leaks for Ukraine.

Details on the progress made by UNDP Country Offices are provided below.

#### **Armenia**

The draft “General Concept for improving air quality monitoring in Armenia” was developed by the EAA and shared with the national partner for review. To finalize the Concept, the concrete details of IT options/set-up as well as specific regulatory requirements for the creation of the state information system in Armenia will

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<sup>22</sup> For more information, please use a link below to explore in more detail key EU legislation and policies on climate change action:

[https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/european-green-deal\\_en](https://climate.ec.europa.eu/eu-action/european-green-deal_en)

be addressed. Following the consultations, the draft Concept was amended by the EAA. The “Position Paper on the EU-Armenia Cooperation in the Framework of the EU Green Deal” was prepared by the project on the principles of green, resilient, and low carbon growth.

Concrete details of IT options/set-up as well as specific regulatory requirements for the creation of a state information system have been discussed between EAA and the “Hydrometeorology and Monitoring Centre” throughout 2022. This is aimed at improving air quality monitoring and at improving environmental reporting in Armenia in general. After an expert mission, the EAA provided a concept paper, which includes locations for the pilot stations, the number of the overall stations, necessary capacity building and the costs for the pilot station(s) and IT. The document was shared with the national stakeholders in Q2 **2023**, and it is publicly available in Armenian and English. The Concept was discussed during the 3rd meeting of the GREEN Armenia Platform on 12 July.

The first draft of the Concept of Climate Law was also prepared by a local consultant. The improved version was shared with the EC and EUD prior to organizing the national consultation process. Based on the comments received the document was amended and shared with the Ministry of Environment.

### **Azerbaijan**

In **2022**, The final gap analysis and the Report identifying the necessary updates and/or changes for the legal alignment of the GHG MRV system were submitted to the Government of **Azerbaijan**. A workshop was organized to discuss the current legislative base and implementation of the MRV system which would improve the GHG inventory in the country. The current legislative base and implementing actions of the MRV system in the country to improve the GHG inventory remain under discussion. In **2023**, the final identification report on necessary updates or changes in legal alignment of gap analysis was finalized and submitted to the Government of Azerbaijan

### **Georgia**

A document assessing Georgia’s readiness to align with the EU Green Deal was prepared in **2022**. It provided mapping of the EU Green Deal legislation and supportive policy/legal documents in Georgia. The study provides a gap analysis of the existing environmental and climate policies of Georgia, as well as a roadmap for the implementation of the mandatory EU legislation within the framework of the Georgia-EU Association Agreement and Energy Community commitments.

In **2023** the F- gas regulation is undergoing final assessment by the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture. The document was submitted to the parliament for discussions and review.

### **Moldova**

**UNDP Moldova** prepared a concept for the climate change law in 2022, which is expected to formally set the climate change mitigation targets (medium and long-term); sources of financing to achieve these targets; and describe the institutional framework and coordinating mechanisms between the state authorities working in the field of climate change.

Thus, the draft concept of the climate law has been prepared, considering the relevant national and the EU legislation, Moldova’s commitments under the Association Agreement RM-EU, the Energy Community Treaty



and the Paris Agreement. The linkage between the processes of development of the climate law concept and transposition of the Regulation 2018/1999 on the Energy Governance and Climate Action (carried out within the FPI Programme “Addressing the impacts of the energy crisis in the Republic of Moldova”) was established to avoid duplication of the provisions and overlapping.

Additionally, the European Green Deal and Energy Community Decarbonization Roadmap, given the fact that Moldova has been given the status of the EU candidate country, have also been taken on board. In mid-October, consultations with the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development were organized resulting in numerous recommendations. The final draft and adoption are expected in 2023.

The F-gases law has been adopted by Parliament in 2023.

In 2023 UNDP Moldova conducted consultations on analytical review and draft Concept Climate Law. It was concluded that current laws and sub-laws were a good starting point and will be a basis for future development of Climate Law itself. Each article of the EU Law was considered in the final analysis submitted by international consultant.

## Ukraine

In 2023 **UNDP Ukraine** supported by the Energy Community Secretariat agreed on the preparation of the general recommendations to Ukraine to implement best EU practices on monitoring and measuring methane emissions, per different economic sectors (oil, gas and coal), applicable in Ukraine, taking into account the war impact on different economic sectors. The tasks will be delivered by end of June 2023 and agreed with the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine.

The recommendations need to be based on the Commission's October 2020 Communication (COM 2020/663 final) on the EU strategy to reduce methane emissions, related Resolution by the European Parliament of 21 October 2021, Inception Impact Assessment of Proposal for a legislative act to reduce methane emissions in the oil, gas and coal sectors. The EnC should consider the Global Methane Pledge as signed by Ukraine in November 2021.

The Recommendations need to consider best industry practices on monitoring and measuring methane emissions, considering OGMP 2.0 and the framework settled by the upcoming EC proposal for a Regulation on methane emissions reduction in the energy sector.

## 2. Number of stakeholder meetings organized in the process of policies and legislation development

In Q1 2023, the final draft of the “General Concept for improving air quality monitoring in Armenia” was translated into Armenian to share with the national stakeholders. In Q2 The **GREEN Armenia** Platform was initiated by UNDP, EUD, WB, and the Deputy Prime Minister’s Office – a forum for high-level policy dialogues on the Green Economy which hosts a series of knowledge sharing events. The dialogues present knowledge products, tools, funding mechanisms and practical recommendations that can help advance Armenia’s inclusive and resilient recovery and development through the promotion of the green economy agenda. The report on the status of implementation of the measures stipulated in the climate change chapter of the

Roadmap for the implementation of the PA was prepared by the Project and shared with the Ministry of Environment. Based on the report, the amendments to the Prime Minister's Decision on the Roadmap are currently being developed (Oct. 2023).

In **Georgia**, the F- gas regulation is undergoing final assessment by the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture. During the discussions, a prevalent opinion is that the country might not need to adopt this document due to the fact that either they don't enter the country or there is another regulatory framework that already regulates the scope of the document.

In **Moldova**, terms of reference for the international and national consultant to develop a decarbonization roadmap for installations potentially included under the ETS are in the process of development.

The draft Climate Law has been drafted and is currently under review. In order to move forward with approval procedure, the project team conducted two meetings with the Ministry of Environment during Q3 2023 (on 24 August and 26 September) to identify priority options and to clarify the raised questions from the ministry. The draft Climate Law with DG CLIMA comments has been circulating among the national stakeholders. The stakeholders provided their position on the law's provisions. Currently, the draft Climate Law is being revised to address and incorporate additional comments to finalize and submit it to the Ministry of Environment to launch the public consultations.

Impact assessment of the Regulation (EU) 2018/2067 of 19 December 2018 on the verification of data and on the accreditation of verifiers pursuant to Directive 2003/87/EC is currently being drafted and will be completed at the end of October.

The regulatory impact assessment of the Climate Law is also being drafted and will be presented to the Ministry of Environment and other stakeholders at the end of October.

The national consultant has provided support to the Ministry of Environment in adjusting the legislative framework to the provisions of the adopted F-gases Law, by preparing a draft legal package for official consultation process among the line ministries. Currently, the document is being revised to address and incorporate additional comments before being submitted to the Government.

The Project is providing support to Ministry of Environment in developing National HFCs Phase -Down Programme until 2045 and the Action Plan for its implementation. The activity is ongoing.

**UNDP Ukraine** continues to support the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine in the development of new recommendations for the draft law on climate by engaging experts on legislation and climate finance. The climate law draft is currently under review by the Ministry of Environment. The EU4Climate experts prepared recommendations for climate policy and financial markets in Ukraine, including gaps, opportunities and emerging risks for achieving the goal of climate policy in Ukraine for the Ministry's working group. Additionally, the expert developed draft provisions of articles in the "Instruments and mechanisms to achieve climate policy" section of the draft Climate Law.

The Project also prepared the analysis and recommendations on monitoring and measuring methane emissions in different economic sectors (oil, gas, and coal) for Ukraine's Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources. The reports contain the baseline of methane emissions per different economic sectors in Ukraine as well as the recommendations to implement the best EU practices on monitoring and measuring methane emission, per different economic sectors, applicable in Ukraine, considering the war impact on different economic sectors.

The report findings were presented to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine and expected to be used in its work on improving climate policies and legislation in Ukraine.

## Output 5: Mainstreaming climate into other policy sectors and sectoral guidelines for the implementation of the Paris Agreement

### 1. Number of sectoral climate change mainstreaming policy papers/ recommendations developed

*At least 10 sectoral gender-sensitive climate change mainstreaming policy papers/ recommendations developed.*

By signing and ratifying the Paris Agreement, countries have committed to transforming into low-carbon economies. Climate change is caused by GHG emissions from various sectors (energy, industries, agriculture, transport, waste management) and has impacts on economies, environment, health, biodiversity, energy systems, food systems, land use and our wellbeing. Therefore, climate actions require mainstreaming of policies, finances, legislation, institutional cooperation with the ambition to develop and implement effective and efficient programmes to support low carbon development and adapt to climate change.

Climate mainstreaming refers to the systematic integration of climate mitigation and adaptation considerations across all policy sectors, as well as financial, legislative, and procedural frameworks. Mainstreaming is not a single action but is a continuous process that needs to be enshrined in policy planning. Policy makers in all fields and all institutional levels should be aware of their responsibility and power to support the implementation of low carbon and climate resilient development pathways. This requires institutional coordination and cooperation to set an enabling legislative, financial and political environment.

A mainstreaming study *Summary of sectoral mainstreaming studies and experiences made in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine*<sup>23</sup> was prepared under the Project to provide insights into the mainstreaming practices, collate information on what has been done under the Project and draw recommendations for future actions.

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine developed 17 sectoral mainstreaming studies, dealing with energy, agriculture, LULUCF, transport, health, gender, waste and water (see Figure 1).

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<sup>23</sup> <https://eu4climate.eu/download/climate-mainstreaming-activities-in-eap-countries/>

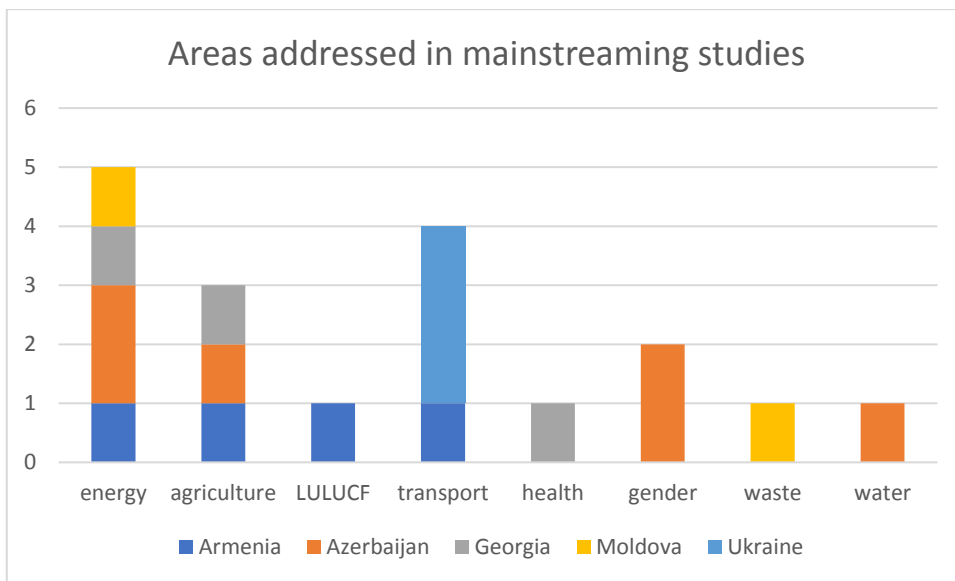


Figure 1: Overview of mainstreaming studies per area addressed and per country<sup>24</sup>

In **Armenia** a study on the Reform of Yerevan Transport System in the context of low-carbon development policy was carried out in **2020**. Studies on Mainstreaming Climate Policy in Armenia’s Energy Sector, Assessment of Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry Sector Potential in Achieving Climate Change Mitigation Objectives in Armenia and Study on Mitigation Opportunities and Mainstreaming in the Agriculture were prepared in **2021**.

In **2020**, studies on Mainstreaming Climate Change related activities into the water sector of **Azerbaijan** and Mainstreaming Gender Aspect into Climate Change Policies and Strategies, as well as Report on energy mainstreaming were prepared. Study on Gender and climate change integration into the energy policy was drafted in **2021**, and Analysis of problems in the agricultural sector in Azerbaijan related to climate change was done in **2022**.

In **Georgia**, studies on incorporating climate mainstreaming recommendations in sector development of policy documents in (1) health, (2) energy and (3) agriculture sectors were prepared in 2021. They are focused on analysing regulatory frameworks and development plans in the said sectors. Also, a review of the NDC and Climate Action Plan from a private sector perspective was carried out to provide guidance for the private sector on the challenges and opportunities stemming from climate-related policy documents and the UNFCCC requirements.

**Moldova** two mainstreaming documents: (1) a study and recommendations on mainstreaming climate change into the energy policy sector (**2021-2023**), and (2) guidelines on the consolidation of climate and energy planning processes (**2021**).

**Ukraine** prepared Final recommendations for the development of the use of alternative fuels in the aviation and waterborne transport of Ukraine, study on Improving state construction norms and state standards of Ukraine for improvement safety and comfort of bicycle use and a White paper on micro-mobility in **2022**. A

<sup>24</sup> One study from Azerbaijan addressed gender AND climate change integration in energy policies.

report on the national standards related to road signs, road markings, traffic lights, etc. with a review of international practice was developed.

**UNDP IRH** organized a regional workshop in Brussels, on 26 April 2023, to discuss approaches to mainstreaming climate action. DG NEAR introduced important insights into climate mainstreaming in the EU through its multiannual financial framework (MFF). The details about the EU taxonomy and how it can help guide private and public investments in financing green transition were presented by DG CLIMA. Good practices of mainstreaming by the EU member states in the energy sector were brought to the participants' attention by DG NEAR. The Energy Community Secretariat provided a status update and lessons learned for energy and climate governance and preparing National Integrated Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) in the Eastern Partnership region. 46 representatives of EaP governments and experts exchanged ideas on mainstreaming policies, finance, and legislation to support low-carbon development with recommendations provided for energy and agriculture.

**UNDP Armenia** started an initiative to involve civil society organizations for the assessment of the communities' perception and readiness for participation in energy and climate change policies implementation in Armenia. The selected CSOs prepared four catalogued information modules for the target communities Pambak of Lori marz, Yeghegis of Vayots Dzor marz, Talin of Aragatsotn marz, Dilijan of Tavush marz, identifying problems and providing solutions and recommendations as per their respective reports.

In **Azerbaijan**, a knowledge-sharing workshop to present and discuss the Guidelines on mainstreaming climate change concept into the energy and agriculture policies was conducted on 23<sup>rd</sup> February with the participation of 26 representatives from the Ministry of Energy and Agriculture. Both "Analysis of problems in the agricultural sector in Azerbaijan related to climate change" and "Gender and Climate Change integration into the energy policy" guidelines were presented to the GoA for approval. **UNDP Azerbaijan** organised the procurement process and selected the consultancy company to produce the report on "Analysis of the agricultural and irrigation possibilities in new areas as well as development potential of cultivated areas and animal husbandry".

UNDP **Georgia** continued a series of consultations on the relationship between Long-term decarbonization pathways and just transition and human rights. The exhibition and presentation were held on 18-19 March at Club Tes, where representatives of the government, CSOs, and youth attended. The exhibition will move to MediaTech, a public common working space to further engage youth on these topics. In addition, a review of the NDC and Climate Action Plan from a private sector perspective was carried out to provide a guidance for the private sector on the challenges and opportunities stemming from climate-related policy documents and the UNFCCC requirements. The report which is currently being translated was presented in November 2022. Also, the Project supported the Green Market Festival in Tbilisi, organized by the "Vintylator" social enterprise and the "Betterfly" advertising company in collaboration with a range of contributors. The Green Market Festival provided an excellent platform for civil society, the private sector, youth, and activists to show case their commitment to a sustainable future, promote green lifestyles, learn from each other's experiences, and explore partnership opportunities.

In **Ukraine**, the approval of the Energy Strategy by 2050 is postponed due the uncertain situation and the current draft is marked "For Official Use Only". The expert on strategic environmental assessment was hired under the EU4Climate project and is available to support the Ministry of Energy of Ukraine.

## Output 6: Climate Investment (Budget Tagging)

### Background

Climate Budget Tagging (CBT) is a tool for monitoring and tracking of climate-related expenditures in the national budget system. CBT provides comprehensive data on climate-relevant spending, enabling government to make informed decisions and prioritize climate investments, in pursuit of the objectives of the NDCs and NAPs. CBT also enables public scrutiny on government and development partner spending on tackling climate change issues, thereby strengthening accountability and transparency.

Enhancing the capacity of the governments for CBT is one of the expected outcomes of the EU4Climate project, under *Output Six: Mobilising Climate Finance*. Over the course of the project implementation, EU4Climate has thus developed several CBT guidelines and strategies for EAP countries and emphasised the importance of CBT when working with government partners in the EaP.

As per the Description of the Action, the CBT work took place during the implementation of the project in Armenia and Georgia. Based on the request of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan, and the subsequent amendment of the workplan by the Steering Committee, an additional CBT study was performed for Azerbaijan.

### 1. Progress on Climate Finance (Budget Tagging)

#### Azerbaijan

A local expert was engaged following the roundtable to develop recommendations on how to integrate climate finance into the national budgeting process and perform the CBT exercise. The needs assessment report was completed in January **2021**. The conclusions were used to support the finalization of the scope of the budgetary review with the Ministry of Finance, and to engage an international consultant to contribute to the budget tagging review. The report prepared by international and local experts on applying CBT and the perspectives of applying CBT methodology on the national budgeting system was submitted to the Government for review by the end of the year.

The approval by the government of the aforementioned report was received in Q2 **2022**. Following this, international and local experts carried out the piloting exercise on the CBT by developing guidelines for implementing CBT in Azerbaijan, in consultation with the Ministry of Finance. The aim of these guidelines is to introduce the climate change parameters into the national budget planning and reporting. The study was finalised and submitted to the Project in **January 2023**. It was followed by a capacity building workshop and consultations with the participation of 18 relevant staff in the ministries on September 13, 2023. The aim of the workshop and consultations is to enable the participants to develop a prioritized pipeline of bankable projects and mainstream CC into national funding instruments.

#### Georgia

In **2023** UNDP Georgia has developed a CBT glossary to support the process for the involved partners and the process for CBT will be further discussed with the representatives of commercial banks.

## **2. Number of stakeholder meetings organized in the process of policies and legislation development**

### **2023**

In Azerbaijan, guidelines on introducing the climate change parameters into the national budget planning and reporting was submitted to the Project in **January 2023**. It was followed by a capacity building workshop and consultations with the participation of 18 relevant staff in the ministries on September 13, 2023. The aim was to develop a prioritized pipeline of bankable projects and mainstream CC into national funding instruments.



## Output 7: Adaptation planning

Adaptation to climate change is set among the key priorities of the Paris Agreement under Article 2, establishing in Article 7 the global goal on adaptation of enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience, and reducing vulnerability to climate change, with a view to contributing to sustainable development and ensuring an adequate adaptation response in the context of the temperature goal referred to in Article 2.

The Glasgow Climate Pact, the main political outcome of COP26, further emphasized the urgency of scaling up action and support, including finance, capacity-building, and technology transfer to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability, accounting for the priorities and needs of developing countries. It also welcomes the adaptation plans submitted so far, which deepen the understanding and implementation of adaptation actions and priorities. The Pact also urged countries to further integrate adaptation into local, national, and regional planning.

In addition, Decision -/CP.26 on long-term climate finance commits developed countries to double the collective share of climate adaptation finance and reach the USD 100 billion goal as soon as possible. Parties also commit to a process to agree on long-term climate finance beyond 2025.

On adaptation, COP26 adopted the Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh work programme for the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). This will take place between 2022 and 2024 — to help improve the assessment of progress toward the adaptation goal and enable its implementation — through regular workshops and work on methodologies to assess progress. Countries also decided that 5% of proceeds must go towards funding adaptation under traditional market mechanisms (Article 6.4).

The COP also decided to establish a dialogue between Parties, stakeholders, and relevant organizations to support efforts to avert, minimize and address loss and damage associated with climate change. Countries agreed to operationalize and fund the Santiago Network on Loss and Damage, established at COP25 in Madrid, and to catalyze the technical assistance developing countries need to address loss and damage in a robust and effective manner.

Set against a difficult geopolitical backdrop, COP27 saw significant progress on adaptation, with reaffirmation of commitments to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels<sup>25</sup> and governments agreeing on the way to move forward on the GGA, which will be concluded at COP28 and inform the first Global Stocktake and improving resilience amongst the most vulnerable. New pledges, totalling more than USD 230 million, were made to the Adaptation Fund. COP27 President Sameh Shoukry announced the Sharm el-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda, enhancing resilience action for people living in the most climate-vulnerable communities by 2030. The UNFCCC's Standing Committee on Finance was requested to prepare a report on doubling the adaptation finance for consideration at the COP28 in 2023. The COP decision, known as the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan,<sup>26</sup> highlights that a global transformation to a low-carbon economy is expected to require investments of at least USD 4–6 trillion a year. Delivering such funding will require a swift and comprehensive transformation of the financial system and its structures and processes, engaging governments, central banks, commercial banks, institutional investors, and other financial actors. Some progress was seen on the Glasgow Climate Pact, further emphasizing the urgency of scaling up action and support, including finance, capacity-building, and technology transfer to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability, considering the priorities and needs of developing countries.

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<sup>25</sup> Decisions taken at the Sharm El-Sheikh Climate Change Conference: <https://unfccc.int/cop27/decisions>

<sup>26</sup> Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan: <https://unfccc.int/documents/624444>

The Pact welcomed the adaptation plans submitted so far, which deepen the understanding and implementation of adaptation actions and priorities, and urged countries to further integrate adaptation into local, national, and regional planning.

Governments also agreed to establish a ‘transitional committee’ to make recommendations on how to operationalize both the new fund and funding arrangements at COP28.

The EUs new Strategy on Climate Adaptation,<sup>27</sup> adopted in 2021, outlines the updates the EU and its Member States plan to adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change and become climate resilient by 2050. The Strategy has four principal objectives: to make adaptation smarter, swifter and more systemic, and to step up international action on adaptation to climate change. This will be done by focusing on robust data and risk assessment tools that are available to all, so that more and better data are collected on climate-related risks and losses and enhance the European Environment Agency Climate-ADAPT tool as the European platform for adaptation knowledge. Further, it will focus on developing and rolling out adaptation solutions to help reduce climate-related risks, increase climate protection, and safeguard the availability of fresh water. It will also continue to actively mainstream climate resilience considerations in all relevant policy fields.

It supports the further development and implementation of adaptation strategies and plans at all levels of governance with three cross-cutting priorities: integrating adaptation into macro-fiscal policy, nature-based solutions for adaptation and local adaptation action. The EU will increase support for international climate resilience and preparedness through the provision of resources, by prioritizing action and increasing effectiveness, through the scaling up of international finance and through stronger global engagement and exchanges on adaptation.

This will particularly focus on strengthening the support for the development and implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) in the EU partner countries and mainstream conflict-sensitive, anticipatory and preventive climate resilience and preparedness in relevant EU policies and instruments for external action; intensify and broaden adaptation support to local authorities in EU partner countries and develop regional programmes, including for countries in the EU Southern and Eastern neighborhoods, and in candidate countries and potential candidates; include climate change considerations in the future agreement on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction; aim to increase international climate finance for adaptation through the EU instruments for external action and by leveraging private sector investments; promote the design and implementation of disaster risk finance strategies to increase macroeconomic climate resilience in partner countries; support partner countries in the design of policies and incentives to promote climate resilient investment, including in nature-based solutions; enhance the climate proofing of all EU external investments and actions; deepen political engagement on climate change adaptation with international and regional partners, and partner countries; increase the pool of knowledge and tools on adaptation available to non-EU countries and promote adaptation in Green Alliances and partnerships.

#### EU4CLIMATE support for national adaptation planning

The overall goal of the EU4Climate project is enhanced resilient and low carbon development in the six EU Eastern Partnership countries (EaP). The overall objectives of the project are for low-emissions and climate resilience to be integrated into development strategies and plans in the six EaP countries through improved and consolidated climate policies and legislative alignment in support of the implementation of commitments to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change (PA), the EaP “20 Deliverables for 2020,” and the key global policy

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<sup>27</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2021:82:FIN>

goals set by the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The project also translates into action priorities outlined in the Eastern Partnership Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change of October 2016<sup>28</sup> and in the Presidency Conclusions of the Second Eastern Partnership Ministerial Meeting on Environment and Climate Change of November 2018.<sup>29</sup> It will also contribute to achieving the objectives set up in the Joint Communication: “Eastern Partnership policy beyond 2020: Reinforcing Resilience – an Eastern Partnership that delivers for all.”<sup>30</sup>

Support for national adaptation planning under activity 7.1 was provided to Belarus and Ukraine.

UNDP Ukraine provided assistance to the development and adoption of key adaptation planning documents, including the Environmental Security and Climate Adaptation Strategy by 2030 (NAS) with an Operational Plan by 2024,<sup>31</sup> and the first National Adaptation Communication (in 2023). The NAS establishes the basis for adaptation policy and focuses on the essential steps to assess climate-change impacts on society, economy, and the environment in Ukraine. Support was also provided through communication and engagement on adaptation with sectoral experts and local authorities.

### **1. Support to the national adaptation planning**

In **Ukraine**, the Environmental Security and Climate Adaptation Strategy by 2030 (NAS) with an Operational Plan by 2024 was adopted in October 2021.<sup>32</sup> The NAS establishes the basis for adaptation policy and focuses on the essential steps to assess climate-change impacts on society, economy, and the environment in Ukraine. It also addresses adapting sectoral and local policies and making better use of climate data. The NAS and the Operational Plan were developed according to a Decree of the President of Ukraine and the National Security and Defence Council of Ukraine on 14 September 2020.

### **3. Cross country knowledge exchange on NAP development, implementation and reporting to UNFCCC**

The fourth Regional Workshop on National Adaptation Strategies and Plans conducted on 4 April 2023 in Warsaw, **Poland**, focused on the transition from the development of NAP plans into adaptation action, while enhancing efforts toward national adaptation plans and seize linkages to DRR and natural hazard management. It also facilitated inter-regional exchange on national and sub-national activities, providing guidance, highlighting emerging best practices, and showcasing case studies. Tools and approaches will be presented that support policymakers, governmental, administrative, and technical government officials at the sub-national level. The regional workshop contributed to activities (3) and (4) of Output 7; and was attended by 54 participants, including ministerial representatives from EaP countries. Women accounted for 51% of participants (i.e., 28 participants).

### **4. Workshops with national, local, and sectoral authorities on NAP process**

In **Ukraine**, the first National Adaptation Communication was developed (postponed from 2022). The National Adaptation Communication is expected to be adopted by the Government in October 2023)

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<sup>28</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/international\\_issues/pdf/declaration\\_on\\_cooperation\\_eastern\\_partnership.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/international_issues/pdf/declaration_on_cooperation_eastern_partnership.pdf)

<sup>29</sup> [https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/52887/eastern-partnership-ministerial-meeting-environment-and-climate-change\\_be](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/52887/eastern-partnership-ministerial-meeting-environment-and-climate-change_be)

<sup>30</sup> [https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/1\\_en\\_act\\_part1\\_v6.pdf](https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/1_en_act_part1_v6.pdf)

<sup>31</sup> <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1363-2021-%D1%80#Text>

<sup>32</sup> <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1363-2021-%D1%80#Text>

In **Ukraine**, a series of two webinars and a two-day practical workshop on integrating climate adaptation to local policy planning were conducted in September 2023. The webinars and workshops covered the following topics: local adaptation policy, CRVAs and climate data gaps and integration (11, 14, 15, 27 September 2023). Each webinar was attended by over 100 participants, including sectoral experts, while the workshop was attended by at least 30 participants from seven Ukrainian cities – Kyiv, Vinnytsia, Khmelnytskyi, Ivano-Frankivsk, Lutsk, Zaporizhzhia (which is located near the front line), and Bucha (which was under temporary Russian military occupation in 2022).

## **Output 10: Addressing the immediate war-related needs of the Ukrainian central and local authorities**

Since the start of the large-scale Russian aggression in February 2022, the Steering Committee of EU4Climate approved a decision to repurpose a part of the project's resources towards emergency response. Specifically, the revised workplan for activities in Ukraine includes three additional activities contributing to addressing humanitarian needs: a) the procurement of medical equipment; b) providing support to internally displaced people (IDPs) in Ukraine; and c) assisting war-impacted municipalities in Ukraine.

One of the project partners, the Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS), has been carrying out activities related to emergency support for IDPs located in or near protected areas. Most of this IDP support is focused on the Carpathian region where 13 target protected areas of the FZS are located. The focus of support has been on food and hygiene products. As IDP numbers are rather stable and accommodation is largely set up, the provision of subsistence goods is now the most important action rather than providing housing equipment. The FZS finalized its tasks for the IDPs in April 2023 amounting to some \$43,000.

The other partner "Association Energy Efficient Cities of Ukraine" has purchased twelve generators for the territorial communities of Pokrovsk, Novopokrovska, Blyzniukivska, Chuguyivska, Mykolaivska, Druzhkivska, Kramatorsk, Mykolaiv and two for villages in Kharkiv oblast. The total amount of spent resources is about \$46,000.

The Ministry of Health agreed on the procurement of negative pressure wound therapy equipment in May 2023. The Ministry selected three hospitals in Dnipro, Kremenchuk and Lutsk to be recipients of this medical equipment. The procurement was initiated in mid-May through the UNDP global procurement unit. The medical equipment for a total value of \$445,000 was delivered to the hospitals in September 2023.

## 4. Communication and Visibility Activities

The EU4Climate project approaches communication strategically, promoting not only project objectives, impact, and results, but also the importance of climate action, its impact on people's lives and the relevance of EU policies in this context. A Visibility Guide for Country Offices was developed<sup>33</sup> to ensure the correct application of logos and disclaimers and a unified image for the EU4Climate Action. All information posted by any parties at their designated websites was subject to a regular procedure of review and approval by the EU, including using the EUDigitool at the regional and local levels.

### Website

The regional website of EU4Climate <http://eu4climate.eu> went online on 18 September 2020. The website has the following sections and information:

- General information about the Project (including its budget, partners, objectives, main activities, and other details);
- Publications featuring project activities at the local and regional levels, covering events and main outcomes of the project.
- Country profiles on the current state of climate change and project objectives to be addressed;
- Country-specific information about the project components and activities;
- Publications of the project reports and other outcomes;
- Posts about media publications of the project's activities and events.

The website launch was supported by a press release (English and Russian versions) published on UNDP websites in all six Eastern Partnership countries; the website launch was announced via social media channels (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram). The information about the launch was shared by the EU representatives as well as posted on the EU Neighbours website with overall having around 20 publications in all participating countries as well as at the websites covering the Eastern Partnership countries regionally.

The regional website of EU4Climate [www.eu4climate.eu](http://www.eu4climate.eu) gained 205267 visits by the 79452 visitors from launching until September 2023. All materials relevant to the regional website are mirrored and published on the website alongside the documents fully updated and posted as results of the project's different activities and components. While visits per page picture the home page of the website as the most visited – 37438, country-specific subpages received the highest number of visits after the home page - 28745. Publications about the regional workshops and activities are amongst the most popular materials. The website dominantly got the visits directly, but also via [www.google.com](http://www.google.com), [www.euneighbours.eu](http://www.euneighbours.eu), [www.bing.com](http://www.bing.com), [www.linkedin.com](http://www.linkedin.com), etc. mainly having visits from USA, Germany, Ukraine, France, UK, etc.

### Media coverage

During January-September 2023 the EU4Climate activities appeared in different media:

- A presentation with the latest results and plans of EU4Climate for 2023 was delivered during the EU4Environment Regional Assembly (22-23 September 2022) sharing information about the project's response to the war in Ukraine, key activities, progress with main components of the project, its priorities for 2023 and significant achievements.
- EU4Climate's assistance to Armenia and Moldova in alignment with the EU Climate Acquis including the EU ETS is illustrated in the EU4Climate assists Armenia and Moldova in alignment with the EU

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<sup>33</sup> The Visibility Guide was developed in February 2020 and updated in January 2023.

Emissions Trading System: reducing emissions where most cost-effective story sharing details about the EU4Climate's assistance to Armenia and the Republic of Moldova in this regard. Both countries have obligations about transposing the elements of the EU ETS stemming from their EU agreements; the Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and the Association Agreement (AA) respectively. For both countries, the introduction of the carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM) with reporting obligations from 2023, will make the alignment with the EU ETS even more timely and justified.

- During the Conference of Parties 27th meeting (COP27), a side event was held by the EU4Climate Project, where a comparative analysis of developing “Long-Term Climate Strategies in the EU Eastern Partnership countries” was presented, highlighting the EaP countries’ progress in low emission development pathways. A special edition of the newsletter was issued to announce the COP27 side event as well as a publication on the regional website that shared details of the event. A press release was issued after the event and based on that a comprehensive article was published on the eu4climate.EU website sharing all presentations, details, and event recordings.
- As a part of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU, a conference on “Perspectives and transfer of transformation experience about the resilience of local governments» organized by the Union of Towns and Municipalities of the Czech Republic was held in Liberec (Czech Republic) on 4 November 2022. An article illustrates the presentation of the EU4Climate project during the event, its key activities and achievements as well as the project’s response to the war in Ukraine by providing humanitarian assistance (i.e., medical procurement, energy supply) to the Ukrainian population and green reconstruction of Ukraine.
- On November 29-30, 2022, the joint regional conference of the "Covenant of Mayors" and the "EU4Climate" EU-UNDP project was held in Tbilisi, Georgia, to mark the 10th anniversary of the EU Covenant of Mayors in the Eastern Partnership region. EU4Climate discussion panel offered an opportunity to exchange information on experiences and enabling conditions for implementing NDC and LEDS on a regional and local level, thereby supporting not only the horizontal but also vertical mainstreaming of climate action. The event was covered on the regional website with sharing of materials and presentations.
- On 4 April, the regional workshop on national adaptation strategies and plans (NAPs) was held within the EU-funded “EU4Climate” project in Warsaw. Four Governmental representatives and two Project experts participated in the regional workshop. The national state of play on the NAP in Armenia was briefly presented. Armenia’s experience and challenges in undertaking climate risk and vulnerability assessments, as well as the overview of the methodology applied, an update on the international context, legal frameworks, and the progress of national adaptation planning processes in Armenia were presented.
- On 26 April, the regional workshop on Climate Mainstreaming Activities in the EaP countries: Recommendations for Energy and Agriculture was organized by the EU4Climate regional project. Four Governmental representatives and the Project task leader participated in the regional workshop. During the workshop, Armenia’s experience with its programme on energy saving and renewable energy 2022-2030, and the mainstreaming of climate considerations while developing energy sector policy, were presented.

### **Other activities and products**

On the 3rd of February in the frames of the UNDP “Modern Parliament for a Modern Armenia” project a thematic meeting on "Parliamentary Action on Climate Change" was held in the National Assembly of Armenia, with the participation of NA parliamentarians and members of Committees, and representatives from the Ministry of Environment and the project. The discussion focused on integrating climate change-

related issues into the agenda of the National Assembly and the possibilities of its engagement in the actions against climate change impacts.

On March 9-11, the project was represented in the meeting held for the Members and experts of the RA National Assembly, organized by "Strengthening Armenia's Energy Security" project that is financed by the UK Government's Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF). The meeting discussed Armenia's international obligations on climate change, in particular, the policies adopted in the energy sector, the reforms in the electricity market in Armenia, the importance of the National Assembly's oversight in these processes and public engagement, the legislative regulations in the field of renewable energy and climate change, and other related issues. The project task leader delivered a presentation on "2021-2030 Nationally Determined Contributions of the Republic of Armenia under the Paris Agreement."

EU4Climate Azerbaijan supported the EU Neighbours East in preparation for the success story of one of the project's beneficiaries, Fidan Manafova. The story was published in EN, AZ & RU languages on the EU Neighbours East website. It was also published in local media, including Trend.az, Milli.az & Day.az websites and their social media channels. Under the main theme, it added some 'tips' from bloggers on how ordinary people can produce their eco-friendly items at home to encourage other people in Azerbaijan to become more eco-friendly by showcasing their own experiences.

Along with the NAP project, the Project team has started the preparation for the "The Future Starts Here" School Symposium for high school children from 13 schools to encourage schoolchildren to take climate action and protect the environment. As a part of the event, an intellectual game involving environment-related questions will be organized and the winners will receive awards and gifts. Within the event, focal points from government institutions, NGOs and working groups will deliver a speech about best cases on climate change mitigation and adaptation measures to provide students with an introduction to climate change and motivation to make a difference.

EU4Climate Azerbaijan was also working on a #BeatPlasticPollution video contest to tackle plastic pollution for youth. The event aims to engage youth in preventing plastic pollution and encourage young people to propose solutions to limit plastic consumption and waste through showcasing their videos highlighting actions to be dedicated to World Environment Day.

EU4Climate Georgia produced a video talking about the art exhibition #LandscapesOfTheInvisible that showcases how our world gets destroyed by climate-induced disasters, pollution and unsustainable management of natural resources, and how the hidden, but acute impacts of climate change affect the most vulnerable – women, children, and socially or economically disadvantaged communities.

The non-governmental organization "Climate Basics" and the group of artists "Collective Failure" organised this artistic display with support from the European Union and UNDP, as part of the EU4Climate programme.

A press release on the adoption of the Law on the restriction of F-gases usage was prepared by UNDP Moldova and published on the regional website.

The youth awareness-raising campaign entitled "Alaverdi towards Clean Energy Transition" was conducted online from 5-7 June 2023. The campaign featured presentations and lectures by key experts, aiming to foster awareness among approximately 50 youths (aged 15-21) about climate change, global and local efforts to reduce human impact on the atmosphere, and innovative energy-efficient solutions utilizing renewable energy sources.

On June 23, the summary event of the "My Green Alaverdi" youth idea competition, organized as part of the EU Sustainable Energy Week, took place at the "Green Camp" in Poqr Ayrum village, Alaverdi community. The competition was held with the cooperation of the Sida-funded "Strengthened Community Resilience through



Energy Efficiency and Low Emission Development" Project, in collaboration with the "Center for Community Mobilization and Support" NGO. The winning teams received awards. The event received social media coverage through the local NGOs social media channels and was also posted on the Climate Change Program webpage.

In May, UNDP Georgia supported Media Source Publika in organizing training for media representatives from Georgia, Ukraine, Belarus and Armenia. The event gathered 20 participants across these countries and focused on mitigation, adaptation and long-term low-emission development in a two-day seminar accompanied by site visits.

UNDP Georgia supported a festival in Tbilisi celebrating the organic delights of Georgian wine and food and promoting sustainable living and climate action. The event focused on eliminating plastic and the importance of resource efficiency when organizing festivals.

Green Market Festival in Georgia supported by the EU4Climate got wider coverage on the web Green Market Festival Sparks Urgency for Climate-Smart Future, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram.

The art project "Landscapes of the Invisible" supported by the EU4Climate Georgia got web coverage as well as presentations on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube and Instagram. Green Market Festival, which was also supported by the project, was covered on Formula TV Morning Show, Twitter and Instagram.

Media workshop for journalists from EaP (23-25 May, Tbilisi, Georgia) was covered with posts on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram.

An article on the overview of the Ukrainian delegation at the Bonn Climate Conference (5-15 June 2023) was prepared and published on the project's website in June 2023.

#### **Publications on [www.eu4climate.eu](http://www.eu4climate.eu) and events covered during January-September 2023:**

- Summarising achievement of EU4Climate Azerbaijan
- Carbon taxation or incentives for emitting less – what are the possibilities of carbon pricing in Armenia
- Presenting achievements of EU4Climate in the context of Armenia's energy security
- Improving air quality monitoring in Armenia
- EU4Climate achievement: energy efficiency and renewable energy frameworks for Armenia
- Landscapes of the Invisible: supporting art exhibition in Georgia
- Climate adaptation: turning plans into actions with EU4Climate support
- Moldova is gradually switching to natural cooling agents, to eliminate fluorinated gases by 2050
- Encouraging youth to take climate action in Azerbaijan
- We don't have a planet B – celebrating Earth Day in Georgia
- EU4Climate workshop focuses on energy and agriculture: steps of Eastern Partners in mainstreaming climate change
- Eastern Partners increased ambitions in reducing greenhouse gas emissions supported by the EU4Climate
- EU4Climate supported the development of Low Emissions Development Strategies to achieve climate neutrality in Eastern Partner countries
- EU4Climate achievement: integration of gender in energy policy in Azerbaijan
- Green Market Festival sparks urgency for climate-smart future in Georgia
- Celebrating World Environment Day, the "Alaverdi towards Clean Energy Transition" youth awareness campaign launched for the local youth
- The draft of Armenia's LT-LEDS presented at Bonn Climate Change Conference
- EU4Climate stands for supporting the implementation of NDC and LEDES locally

- Ukraine's commitment to a safe environment and justice: contributions at the Bonn Climate Change Conference
- "My Green Alaverdi" Youth Idea Competition summarized within EU4Climate project
- Setting stage for carbon-neutral future: Georgia presents Long-Term Low-Emission Development Strategy, with support from EU and UNDP.

## **5. Financial report for January-September 2023**

**Please see full financial report in the spreadsheet attached to this document.**

## **Annexes**

### **List of Annexes:**

- a) List of Technical outputs and communication products during January-September 2023
- b) Risk analysis
- c) Workplan 2023
- d) Cooperation with other partners and projects
- e) Communications and visibility plan
- f) Country fiches (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine)

## Annex. List of technical outputs and communications products

(January - September 2023)

### Technical outputs

#### NDC

- [Draft Government Decree on approving the Action Plan, Financing Strategy and Investment Plan for implementation of NDC of Armenia 2021-2030 under the Paris Agreement](#)
- [Assessing the private sector role and opportunities in Nationally Determined Contributions, Climate Strategy 2030 and Action Plan 2021-2023 \(CSAP\) and the draft Long-Term Low Emission Strategy \(LT-LEDS\) of Georgia<sup>34</sup>](#)

#### LEDS

- [Draft Long-term \(until 2050\) Low Emissions Development Strategy of Armenia](#)
- [Georgia's Long-Term Low Emission Development Strategy<sup>35</sup>](#)
- [Low Emissions Development Programme \(LEDP\) of Moldova until 2030 in Romanian](#)

#### MRV

- [Roadmap for the development of a functional National GHG Emissions Inventory System and MRV system for Armenia: updated](#)
- [Towards development/strengthening of the national GHG Inventory system – conceptual framework for MRV of LULUCF Georgia](#)
- [Recommendations for Mainstreaming CC Considerations into Energy Policy of Moldova and Further Development of National Practices of GHG Gases Emissions Measurement and Reporting in the Energy Sector Taking into Consideration the Best Practices](#)

#### EU *Acquis*

- [Concept for Improving Air Quality Monitoring in Armenia](#)

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<sup>34</sup> Available also in Georgian

<sup>35</sup> Available also in Georgian

## Climate Mainstreaming

- [Climate Mainstreaming Activities in EaP Countries](#)
- [Study on Mitigation Opportunities and Mainstreaming in the Agriculture for Armenia](#)
- [Technical report with comprehensive analysis of alternative fuels that can be used in the aviation and water transport sectors in Ukrainian](#)
- [Note on policies and basic recommendations for the development of the use of alternative fuels in the aviation and water transport sectors of Ukraine sectors in Ukrainian](#)
- [Note on policies and basic recommendations for the development of the use of alternative fuels in the aviation and water transport sectors of Ukraine sectors in Ukrainian](#)
- [Overview report of the technical and legislative aspects of the aviation and water transport sectors of Ukraine in Ukrainian](#)

## Climate Investment

- [Carbon Pricing Possibilities in Armenia](#)
- [Guidelines for Implementing Climate budget tagging in Azerbaijan](#)

## Communications products

- <https://eu4climate.eu/armenia/>
- <https://eu4climate.eu/azerbaijan/>
- <https://eu4climate.eu/georgia/>
- <https://eu4climate.eu/moldova/>
- <https://eu4climate.eu/ukraine/>
- [EU and UNDP train Ukrainian specialists in climate change adaptation planning](#)
- [The Low Emissions Development Programme was approved, bringing Moldova one step closer towards a carbon-free economy](#)
- [Setting stage for carbon-neutral future: Georgia presents Long-Term Low-Emission Development Strategy, with support from EU and UNDP](#)
- [“My Green Alaverdi” Youth Idea Competition summarized within EU4Climate project](#)
- [Ukraine’s commitment to a safe environment and justice: contributions at the Bonn Climate Change Conference](#)
- [EU4Climate stands for supporting the implementation of NDC and LEDS locally](#)
- [The draft of Armenia’s LT-LEDS presented at Bonn Climate Change Conference](#)
- [Celebrating World Environment Day, “Alaverdi towards Clean Energy Transition” youth awareness campaign launched for the local youth](#)
- [Green Market Festival sparks urgency for climate-smart future in Georgia](#)
- [EU4Climate achievement: integration of gender in energy policy in Azerbaijan](#)
- [EU4Climate supported the development of Low Emissions Development Strategies to achieve climate neutrality in Eastern Partner countries](#)
- [Eastern Partners increased ambitions in reducing greenhouse gas emissions supported by the EU4Climate](#)

- [EU4Climate workshop focuses on energy and agriculture: steps of Eastern Partners in mainstreaming climate change](#)
- [We don't have a planet B – celebrating Earth Day in Georgia](#)
- [Encouraging youth to take climate action in Azerbaijan](#)
- [Moldova is gradually switching to natural cooling agents, with the goal of eliminating fluorinated gases by 2050](#)
- [Climate adaptation: turning plans into actions with EU4Climate support](#)
- [EU4Climate achievement: environmental security and climate change adaptation strategy of Ukraine](#)
- [Landscapes of the invisible: supporting art exhibition in Georgia](#)
- [EU4Climate achievement: energy efficiency and renewable energy frameworks for Armenia](#)
- [Improving air quality monitoring in Armenia](#)
- [Presenting achievements of EU4Climate in the context of Armenia's energy security](#)
- [Carbon taxation or incentives for emitting less – what are the possibilities of carbon pricing in Armenia](#)
- [Summarising achievement of EU4Climate Azerbaijan](#)

## Annex. Risk Analysis

#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Probability and Impact	Countermeasures / Management response	Owner	Submitted, updated by	Last Update	Status
1	Lack of full support from beneficiary governments during implementation despite alignment with needs identified by governments during the programming phase	December 2017	Political	P = 3 I = 4	During the project implementation UNDP will be conducting regular policy dialogues with the project countries and their relevant institutions. During the project preparation, all relevant government stakeholders were consulted through UNDP COs and continuous follow up will be provided in order to maintain relevance and ensure project support	UNDP IRH, UNDP COs	UNDP COs	September 2023	UNDP is maintaining dialogue with the focal institutions in the partner countries. Frequent changes of governments, and related to that a risk of decreased political support for climate policy remains valid for most of the countries in the region.
2	Changing policy priorities	December 2017	Strategic	P = 2 I = 4	UNDP will carefully monitor policy reforms in all countries and respond timely	UNDP COs	UNDP COs	September 2023	UNDP continuously monitors policy changes in the partner countries to react to the possible changes in policy priorities.
3	Lack of absorption capacity in beneficiary countries	December 2017	Operational	P = 2 I = 4	The project will coordinate with all relevant on-going activities in countries and sequence activities with	UNDP IRH, UNDP COs	UNDP IRH, UNDP COs	September 2023	UNDP continuously coordinates with the ongoing projects/activities and consults with



#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Probability and Impact	Countermeasures / Management response	Owner	Submitted, updated by	Last Update	Status
					other initiatives and coordinate with other donors				other donors regarding the upcoming programmes to ensure sufficient absorption capacity of the partner countries.
4	Lack of willingness/capability of other ministries or government agencies to participate in the "holistic approach" needed to fight climate change. Institutional tensions among various stakeholders, including governmental authorities	December 2017	Operational	P = 2 I = 3	UNDP will closely coordinate and use all available climate policy tools at the highest political levels as well as at technical level across sectors. Throughout the activities, the project will work on ensuring high-level participation from all sectors in order to ensure support for an integrated approach.	UNDP COs	UNDP COs	September 2023	UNDP continuously works with both focal ministries and other ministries and agencies to increase their awareness about climate change and ensure participation of all relevant government bodies in the climate policy formulation and implementation.
5	Administrative reforms and staff turn-over within the key government agencies weakens the efficiency of the project's capacity building activities, causes implementation delays and erodes institutional memory	December 2017	Operational	P = 4 I = 3	The risk cannot be mitigated fully. As a risk mitigation strategy, the project will involve technical staff and mid-level managers and also will exercise a whole-of-the-government approach to engage all relevant institutional	UNDP IRH, UNDP COs	UNDP COs	September 2023	UNDP works with mid-level managers and technical staff of the ministries to ensure that in the case of staff turnover, the new staff are trained, become knowledgeable and institutional memory on

#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Probability and Impact	Countermeasures / Management response	Owner	Submitted, updated by	Last Update	Status
					stakeholders in the beneficiary countries and secure sustainability of action. The project will develop tools and guidelines to be disseminated across participating entities.				the issues is transferred.
6	Delays because of heavy bureaucratic procedures within the beneficiary governments	December 2017	Operational	P = 2 I = 2	Systematic involvement of the UNDP COs and EU Delegations and provision of support to project implementers, blended with careful planning of activities and good knowledge of procedural requirements by the beneficiary governments	UNDP COs	UNDP COs	September 2023	UNDP IRH works in close partnership with UNDP Country Offices and EU Delegations to ensure effective planning and thorough knowledge of the national procedures.
7	Political and social unrest	December 2017	Political	P = 4 I = 4	Flexibility in reallocating resources to other countries if activities are at the country level	UNDP IRH, UNDP COs	UNDP COs	September 2023	UNDP monitors political changes in the partner countries to be able to adjust the project's activities if necessary. The project's workplan for 2023 was developed reflecting the political situation in a few countries

#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Probability and Impact	Countermeasures / Management response	Owner	Submitted, updated by	Last Update	Status
									of the region <sup>36</sup> .
8	Major disasters / extreme weather events in the region, including those caused by the changing climate, result in temporary disruption of the government operations and/or constraints in national budgetary resources for climate policy reform	December 2017	Environmental	P = 2 I = 3	Flexibility in reallocating resources to other countries if activities are at the country level. The project itself will contribute to the enhanced resilience of governance and government systems to withstand disasters and extreme weather events.	UNDP COs	UNDP COs	September 2023	UNDP monitors the developments in partner countries to be able to adjust the project's activities if necessary. The project's Output 7 (adaptation planning) shall contribute to increased resilience of the partner countries to extreme weather events related to climate change.
9	Restrictions imposed on travel and meetings due to the SARS-CoV-2 epidemic situation	March 2020	Environmental	P=4 I=3	Use of videoconferencing to conduct meetings and workshops. Postpone the events which cannot be conducted online	UNDP IRH, UNDP COs	UNDP IRH, UNDP COs	September 2023	UNDP monitors the progress with the epidemic restrictions related to the SARS-CoV-2 in the beneficiary countries and in the EU. As restrictions were gradually lifted, the project's events in 2023 are planned

<sup>36</sup> On 24 February 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine. The ensuing military operations have included attacks on the civilian population and the destruction of civilian infrastructure across the country. Estimates by UNHCR indicate that the number of refugees fleeing Ukraine was 4.98m while an additional 7.13m are internally displaced according to the IOM. To respond to this humanitarian emergency, the EU4Climate has been repurposing part of the project's budget towards the humanitarian response and addressing the immediate needs of the war-distressed population, complementing EU humanitarian and civil protection assistance. All project activities in Belarus have been suspended until further notice.

#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Probability and Impact	Countermeasures / Management response	Owner	Submitted, updated by	Last Update	Status
									either in-person or in hybrid mode.

## Annex. Workplan 2023

The project's time plan for September 2022 – October 2023, approved by the Tenth Steering Committee meeting in June 2022 is provided below:

Action/activity	2022-2023															Deliverables	Responsible Parties/Partners Comments
	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
<b>1. Implementation and update of nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
<b>1.1. Two regional training and knowledge exchange workshops on the NDC implementation and reporting to UNFCCC.</b> Two regional workshops on NDCs were organized and delivered in 2019 and 2021. The activity is completed.																	
<b>1.2. Support to NDCs implementation in at least four Eastern Neighbourhood countries</b>																	
<b>Georgia:</b>  (i) Develop a full Project Document, for attracting new funding, based on the officially adopted and submitted NDC 2030 and CSAP 2030			X	X	X	X	X	X	X							(i) List of priority options drafted and validated by the Ministry  (ii) A detailed project proposal developed based on list of priority options as per the officially adopted and submitted NDC 2030 and CSAP 2030	UNDP Georgia  Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia
<b>Ukraine</b>  (i) Presentation of the NDC Roadmap and NDC Financial Strategy					X	X	X									(i) Events and events reports.	UNDP Ukraine, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Resources of Ukraine, governmental stakeholders

																		(ii) At least 30 key stakeholders participating.	
<b>1.3 Public awareness on NDCs: awareness-raising activities related to NDC implementation phase for private sector, academia, and NGO community and for other relevant stakeholders.</b>																			
<b>Armenia:</b>  (i) Support the Government in communicating NDC 2021-2030 implementation plan, financing strategy and investment plan with national stakeholders	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				(i) Information materials and knowledge products for public consultations and events prepared	UNDP Armenia, Ministry of Environment
<b>Azerbaijan:</b>  (i) Prepare training program to enable deeper understanding of NDC objectives and requirements  (ii) Conduct national trainings aimed to raise awareness of NDC among the private sector, academia, line ministries and NGO community.																		(i) Training programme prepared and carried out.  (ii) At least 50 stakeholders involved. Representatives from the line ministries, academia, NGOs, and private sector participate during awareness-raising events related to the	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Ministry of Economy, CO, UNDP IRH

																			NDC implementation	
<b>Georgia</b>																				
(i) Based on the NDC Communication roadmap, prepare a series of information materials on climate change, climate change mitigation, and NDC implementation				X	X	X	X	X	X										(i) Designed NDC information campaign, with the focus on other ministries involved in NDC implementation and industry  (ii) Prepared and disseminated information materials among other ministries involved in NDC implementation, the private sector with the focus on industry, NGOs, and academia, including during the outreach events	UNDP Georgia  Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia
<b>Ukraine</b>																				
(i) Develop NDC/climate policy animated video					X	X	X												(i) NDC video is developed and promoted via UNDP social media and EU4Climate website	UNDP Ukraine, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine
<b>2. Development of mid-century, long-term low greenhouse gas emission development strategies (LT- LEDS)</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X										
<b>2.1. Regional training workshops for six beneficiary countries on the LEDS development process.</b>			X	X																
The fourth regional event on LT-LEDS to be organized during Q4 2022 online.																				
(i) Development of the concept and content of the workshop with the focus on local plans for implementing NDCs, LEDS or NAPs;																			(i) 25 people from six EaP countries trained (ii) Training/workshop report produced	UNDP IRH





<p><b>3.1. A regional workshop/training on MRV systems according to the UNFCCC requirements (GHG Inventories):</b> The Regional Workshop on MRV systems was delivered in 2020</p>																	UNDP IRH
<p><b>3.2. A study tour to the European Environment Agency (EEA) in Copenhagen to learn about MRV system in EU:</b> The Regional study tour on MRV systems was delivered in 2020</p>																	UNDP IRH
<p><b>3.4. Proposals for national MRV systems (GHG Inventories) that are in line with the UNFCCC requirements, builds on EU experience and is fit for national circumstances of the countries</b></p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
<p><b>Armenia:</b> (i) Support the Government in setting up the necessary actions for LULUCF sector emissions and mitigation actions reporting under MRV system with assistance of Austrian Environmental Agency</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	(i) Progress assessment report	UNDP Armenia
<p><b>3.5. Trainings of MRV experts from technical departments of line ministries (i.e. energy, transport, environment, agriculture, forestry) and other relevant government agencies</b></p>																	UNDP IRH, UNDP COs
<p><b>Georgia:</b> (i) MRV Framework Design for LULUCF (Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry) sector of Georgia (ii) Training on MRV in LULUCF sector for MEPA and inventory experts</p>						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	(i) Recommendations for MRV System for LULUCF provided (ii) Consultations on recommendations with key stakeholders (iii) Comments compiled and integrated and shared with national partner (iv) Training on MRV in the LULUCF sector conducted	UNDP Georgia Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia
<p><b>Moldova:</b></p>					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	(i) National training on GHG	UNDP Moldova,

<p>(i) Organize targeted training on GHG inventory for LULUCF sector, for the beginner level (in accordance with MRV Roadmap developed by the Austrian Environmental Agency).</p>																					<p>inventory for the LULUCF sector organized. At least 15 persons trained at the national event (at least 30% women).</p>	<p>Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environmental Agency, Public Institution "Environmental Projects Implementation Unit"</p>
<p><b>3.6. Training materials/guidance for the private sector stakeholders on their contribution to national UNFCCC reporting developed in English and in local languages.</b></p>																						<p>UNDP IRH, UNDP COs</p>
<p><b>Azerbaijan:</b></p> <p>(i) Develop training materials for private sector stakeholders based on a review of climate change related governmental policies and strategies, including NDC, focused on sectoral mitigation opportunities</p> <p>(ii) Carry out training sessions for private sector stakeholders</p>																			<p>X X X X X X X X X X X X</p>	<p>(i) Review of the current government policies, recent strategic plans or roadmaps adopted by the government, mid-term and long-term strategies in place, the current NDC, state support programs in each sector, institutional and regulatory framework, perspectives of each sector development in terms of enhancing productivity and mitigation opportunities presented.</p> <p>(ii) Training materials based on the abovementioned review prepared and training carried out.</p>	<p>Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Energy and Industrial Affairs</p>	

<p><b>Georgia</b></p> <p>i) Develop training materials/guidance for the private sector stakeholders on their contribution to the national UNFCCC reporting in local language</p> <p>(ii) Organize a series of public events to present and disseminate training materials/guidance</p>																			<p>i) Develop training materials/guidance for the private sector stakeholders on their contribution to the national UNFCCC reporting in local language</p> <p>(ii) Organize a series of public events to present and disseminate training materials/guidance</p>	<p>UNDP Georgia Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</p>
<p><b>Moldova:</b></p> <p>(i) Develop training materials/guidance for the private sector stakeholders on their contribution to national UNFCCC reporting, as data providers for the National System for Monitoring and Reporting Greenhouse Gas Emissions and other Information Relevant to Climate Change</p> <p>Carry out training sessions for private sector stakeholders</p>																			<p>(i) Training materials developed and presented to the private sector within a national event.</p> <p>At least 25 people from the private sector trained on the MRV at the installation level implementation</p>	<p>UNDP Moldova Ministry of Environment, Environmental Agency</p>
<p><b>4. Alignment with EU acquis included in bilateral agreements and Energy Community Treaty on Climate Action</b></p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
<p><b>4.1. Workshops in each of the countries on respective EU Acquis</b></p>																				<p>UNDP COs, UNDP IRH</p>
<p><b>Azerbaijan:</b></p> <p>(i) Organize the workshop (virtual if relevant) on EU Acquis on climate change</p>																			<p>(i) At least 30 representatives from the national counterparts (i.e. energy, MENR, agriculture, waste, health, transport,</p>	<p>Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Energy and UNDP C</p>

																		and etc) are introduced to the recommendations for improving the environmental management systems based on EU Acquis	
<b>4.2. Analysis of the national legislation and fiscal policies, and elaboration of proposals and plans for legislative alignment that is foreseen in the Association Agreements with Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine and in the CEPA with Armenia.</b>																			UNDP IRH, Energy Community Secretariat Environment Agency Austria
<b>Armenia:</b>																			
(i) Support the national partners in implementation of the revised CEPA roadmap related to climate change chapter	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				(i) Progress assessment report, with follow up recommendations	UNDP Armenia Ministry of Environment
<b>Georgia:</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
i) Provide support to the Ministry of EPA in further alignment relative to F-gas regulation (amendment for F-gas technical regulation; introduce control on the use and restrictions; labelling of equipment; establishment of enforcement systems)																		(i) F-gas regulation amendments developed	UNDP Georgia Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia
(ii) Preparing policy documents to support the process of preparing of the legislative acts																		(ii) Policy documents to support the process of preparing legislative acts compiled/prepared and shared with national partner	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia
(iii) Support MoEPA of Georgia in organizing consultations on the proposed alignment to the Green Deal	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					

															<p>(iii) Recommendations for Georgia regarding adopting the elements of the Green Deal developed</p> <p>(iv) Recommendations for adoption of Green Deal elements consulted with key stakeholders</p>	
<p><b>Moldova:</b></p> <p>(i) Support to the Ministry of Environment to develop a framework climate law</p> <p>(ii) Support to the Ministry of Environment in conducting the public consultation on the draft framework climate law</p> <p>(iii) Elaboration of the draft Regulation on the accreditation of verifiers within the ETS</p>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	<p>(i) Draft framework climate law and related package of documents requested by the national legislation developed National event for consultation of the draft framework climate law organized</p> <p>(ii) At least 60 participants (30% women) attended the public consultations from Governmental institutions, private</p>	<p>UNDP Moldova, Ministry of Environment</p>



<p><b>Armenia:</b></p> <p>(i) Progress review of and follow-up on mainstreaming recommendations defined in the prepared sectoral studies and consultations conducted with national authorities.</p> <p>(ii) Trainings on implementing the mainstreaming recommendations for government representatives, academia and civil society</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	<p>(i) Report on recommendations for climate change mainstreaming in energy, agriculture, and LULUCF sectors</p> <p>(ii) Trainings on implementing the mainstreaming recommendations for government representatives, academia and civil society are conducted for at least 50 stakeholders</p>	<p>UNDP Armenia MoE, MoEc, MTAI</p>
<p><b>Moldova:</b></p> <p>(i) Development of a decarbonisation roadmap for an installation potentially included under ETS</p>					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	<p>(i) Decarbonisation roadmap developed for one installation</p>	<p>UNDP Moldova, Ministry of Environment</p>	
<p><b>Ukraine:</b></p> <p>In the energy sector:</p> <p>(i) Discussion and promotion of mainstreaming recommendations</p> <p>(ii) Assist in conducting Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Hydrogen Strategy</p> <p>(iii) Assist in conducting Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Energy Strategy by 2050</p> <p>(iv) Discussion and promotion of the EIA Guidelines for construction of new wind energy projects under the EU nature legislation</p> <p>In the transport sector:</p> <p>(i) Assist in Conducting Strategic Environmental Assessment of the National Bicycle Transport Strategy</p> <p>(ii) Discussion and promotion of National Bicycle Transport Strategy</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	<p>In the energy sector:</p> <p>(i) Discussion and promotion of mainstreaming recommendations carried</p> <p>(ii) Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Hydrogen Strategy</p> <p>(iii) Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Energy Strategy by 2050</p> <p>(iv) Discussion and promotion of the EIA</p>	<p>UNDP Ukraine; Ministry of Energy Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine Ministry of Infrastructure</p>	

<p>(iii) Conduct a school/hackathon on sustainable urban mobility for students and activists</p> <p>(iv) Assist in developing draft National Strategy for Low-emission transport development by 2030</p>	X	X	X	X																<p>Guidelines for construction of new wind energy projects under the EU nature legislation carried</p> <p>In the transport sector:</p> <p>(i) Strategic Environmental Assessment of the National Bicycle Transport Strategy</p> <p>(ii) Discussion and promotion of the National Bicycle Transport Strategy Carried</p> <p>(iii) A school/hackathon on sustainable urban mobility for students and activists</p> <p>(iv) Draft National Strategy for Low-emission transport development by 2030 developed</p>	
<p><b>5.3. Sector-based training and knowledge exchange workshops</b></p>																					
<p><b>Armenia:</b></p> <p>(i) Knowledge exchange workshop on climate change mainstreaming into the prioritized sectors.</p>									X	X	X	X								<p>(i) At least 15 representatives of state bodies and private sector in energy, agriculture and LULUCF sectors participated in the event</p>	UNDP Armenia
<p><b>Azerbaijan:</b></p> <p>(i) Knowledge exchange workshop on climate change mainstreaming into the energy and agriculture sectors.</p>									X	X	X	X								<p>(i) At least 10 representatives of state bodies and private sector in energy and agriculture sectors participate and identify opportunities in</p>	<p>Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Transport</p>



																		assessing and addressing the needs at the regional and international level	Communications and High Technologies; UNDP CO	
<b>5.4. Sectoral Guidelines for the implementation of Paris Agreement:</b> Develop a set of guides for local implementation of NDCs and LEDS covering at least four EaP countries (i) Task team on the development of the sectoral mainstreaming guidance is established; (ii) Concept, outline and work plan developed. (iii) Guidelines prepared for the local NDC/LEDS implementation plan (iv) Local implementation plans developed						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			(i) Guideline document available for NDC/LEDS local implementation for the EaP countries (ii) Local implementation plans for NDC/LEDS implementation prepared for at least two EaP countries	UNDP IRH, UNDP COs, EU4Climate Project Teams	
<b>6. Climate Investment</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
<b>6.1. A regional climate finance forum: regional event on investment planning and increased mobilization of climate finance.</b> The first regional climate finance forum on investment planning and increased mobilization of climate finance was delivered in 2021.																			UNDP IRH	
<b>6.2 Training and capacity building through national workshops to relevant staff in the ministries to enable them to develop a prioritized pipeline of bankable projects</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X												
<b>Azerbaijan:</b> (i) Provide training, consultations, and capacity building through national workshops on climate finance to relevant staff in the ministries																			(i) Training session and knowledge-sharing workshop organized (at least 25 participants attended the workshop) to enhance their understanding of climate change issues and the context to which the region is engaged in climate finance.	Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, UNDP CO, IRH

<p><b>Georgia:</b></p> <p>(i) Provide training for the representatives of the Ministries on CBT methodology</p> <p>(ii) Develop online climate dictionary to support CBT activities across various ministries</p>																	<p>(i) At least 25 participants are trained on the methodology to Climate Budget Tagging</p> <p>(ii) Online climate finance related dictionary is developed</p>	<p>UNDP Georgia Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture</p>
<p><b>Moldova:</b></p> <p>(i) Support development of the NDC climate finance strategy</p>																	<p>(iii) NDC climate finance strategy developed;</p> <p>(iv) National workshop on presenting the NDC climate finance strategy organized;</p> <p>At least 30 representatives of the relevant institutions attended the national event (30% women).</p>	
<p><b>Ukraine:</b></p> <p>(i) Provide training on bankable projects development for NDC financial strategy and Investment Plan by 2030</p>																	<p>At least 30 participants are trained</p>	<p>UNDP Ukraine Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine</p>

<b>6.3 Regional and national workshops on climate finance frameworks.</b> Two regional workshop on climate finance frameworks were delivered in 2020 and 2021																			UNDP IRH
<b>6.4. Two pilot studies and two sub-regional workshops on climate budget tagging and introducing climate change parameters into national budget planning and reporting.</b> The first pilot study on climate finance budgeting and expenditure tracking for Armenia was completed in 2021. Two additional studies for Azerbaijan and Georgia are to be completed in 2022	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X									(i) Guidelines developed and submitted	UNDP IRH and Country Office pilot countries.
<b>Georgia:</b> i) Provide support in disseminating results of the Climate Budget Tagging Pilot study for Georgia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	(i) National workshop on results of the Climate Budget Tagging Pilot study (ii) Comments collected and integrated in the final output; follow up steps discussed	UNDP Georgia Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia Ministry of Finance of Georgia
<b>Ukraine</b> (i) Study on climate-related budgetary programmes (pre CBT study)	X	X	X	X	X													(i) Study on climate-related budgetary programmes conducted	UNDP Ukraine Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine
<b>7.Adaptation planning</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X											
<b>7.1. Support to the national adaptation planning in at least 2 countries.</b>																			
<b>Ukraine:</b> (i) Assist in Developing sectoral climate adaptation plans/strategies for prioritized sectors (biodiversity, coastal zones)  (ii) Undertake climate vulnerability and risks analysis for the prioritized sector	X	X	X	X														(i) Stock-taking reports and recommendations for sectoral climate adaptation strategies for prioritized sectors developed;	UNDP Ukraine, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources of Ukraine, other governmental stakeholders

<p>(iii) Organise a scientific conference on climate change impacts and adaptation in Ukraine with some incentives/prizes for young scientists for the undertaking of the most promising studies (e.g. funding a trip to an international conference)</p> <p>(iv) Support the participation of two scientists in the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties</p> <p>(v) Develop methodological recommendations for integrating climate adaptation in the EIA and SEA procedures</p>	X	X	X																																<p>(ii) Climate vulnerability and risks analysis for the prioritized sectors (biodiversity, coastal zones) undertaken</p> <p>(iii) A scientific conference on climate change consequences and adaptation in Ukraine with some incentives/prizes for young scientists for undertaking of the most promising studies (e.g. funding a trip to an international conference for 2 scientists) held.</p> <p>(iv) Two scientists participated in the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties with the Project support</p> <p>(v) Methodological recommendations on integrating climate adaptation in the EIA and SEA developed</p>	
<p><b>7.3. Cross country knowledge exchange on NAP development and implementation. Consultations/alignment on transboundary and interregional cooperation.</b></p> <p>The fourth Regional Workshop on National Adaptation Planning organized in 2023 (in person if the situation allows):</p> <p>(i) Development of the Regional Workshop Concept and Agenda, decision on key speakers and moderators;</p> <p>(ii) The Regional Workshop on National Adaptation Planning</p>									X	X																									<p>(i) At least 18 EaP government officials and experts trained/engaged;</p> <p>(ii) Training/workshop report.</p>	UNDP IRH
<p><b>7.4. Workshops for national and local authorities</b></p>																																				

<b>Ukraine:</b> (i) At least four sectoral webinars on undertaking climate risks and vulnerability assessments organized	X	X	X	X	X										i) At least 30 sectoral representatives (government officials, experts, academia) trained ii) Workshop report	UNDP Ukraine Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Ukraine
<b>8. M&amp;E, communications, visibility and reporting</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		UNDP IRH
<b>Armenia:</b>  (i) World Environment Day (ii) EU Sustainable Energy Week										X	X				(i) Activities in partnership with the stakeholder ministries. (ii) Round table /workshop in consultation and in coordination of EUD	UNDP Armenia MOE
<b>Azerbaijan:</b> (i) EU Mobility Week  (ii) Promotion of thematic video series to raise awareness of climate change, Paris Agreement, NDC, Climate Promise, energy, waste, agriculture, future eco-professions, kids and climate change	X	X							X	X	X	X			(i) Invite participants from the health sector, governmental organisations and anyone concerned to a webinar series to consider the linkages between transports, physical and mental health and lifestyle diseases, especially in cities. The webinar is aimed to raise awareness on the harmful effects of transport on our health and how the health sector has been active to showcase the burden of disease from the transport sector.  (ii) Thematic videos are promoted on social	Ministry of Ecology and Resources, Tourism Agency Management, EUD and UNDP C

																		media. KPI for each of the video is 10,000 viewers	
<b>Georgia:</b> (i) Participation in September 2022 in the EU Sustainable Mobility Week awareness campaign (ii) Participation in the Europe Day (9 May) 2023 in Georgia awareness campaign; (iii) Participation in the Environment Day (5 June) awareness campaign; (iv) Participation in June in EU Green Week (v) Participation in June in the EU Sustainable Energy week awareness campaign;	X																	(i) EU Sustainable Mobility activities report (ii) European Day activities report (iii) Environment Day activities report (iv) EU Green Week activities report (v) EU Sustainable Energy Week activities report	
<b>Moldova:</b> (i) Press releases (ii) Development of thematic articles (iii) Arrangement of interviews and participation at talk shows on radio and tv (iv) Social media posts prepared	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							(i) 10 press releases developed, translated, coordinated with EUD and distributed by UNDP CO. (ii) At least 4 articles developed, translated, coordinated with EUD and distributed by UNDP CO. (iii) At least 3 interviews and	UNDP Moldova, Ministry of Environment

																				(iv) talk show participation arranged Social media posts prepared and published at least twice a month	
<b>Ukraine:</b>  Implement the EU4Climate communication and visibility plan, including the following:  (i) Participation to the Europe Day (21 May) in Ukraine awareness campaign; (ii) Participation to the Environment Day (5 June) awareness campaign; (iii) Participation in June to the EU sustainable energy week awareness campaign; (iv) Participation in September to the European Mobility Week awareness campaign focused on curbing emissions from mobility sources; (v) Feed UNDP and EU4Climate regional project webpages and ensure social media presence; (vi) Develop and disseminate by the end of the year at least 4 success stories of the EU4Climate Ukraine; (vii) Develop and disseminate by the end of the year at least 5 press releases on the events implemented within EU4Climate Ukraine																				(i) Report on Europe Day (21 May) in Ukraine awareness campaign (ii) UN Environmental Day activities report (iii) EU Green Week activities report (iv) EU Sustainable Mobility Week activities report (v) EU Day in Ukraine activities report (vi) Media monitoring report	UNDP Ukraine
EU4Climate website updated regularly	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	(i) EU4Climate website is updated periodically	UNDP IRH, UNDP COs
(I) EU4Climate detailed communication and visibility plan and branding guidelines developed and updated periodically	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	(i) EU4Climate communication/branding package updated periodically	UNDP IRH, UNDP COs
<b>9. Project Management</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>		
Final workshop and Steering Committee meeting														X	X						UNDP IRH, UNDP COs

<b>10. To address the immediate war-related needs of the Ukrainian central and local authorities, and reduce the impact of the war on the distressed population of Ukraine</b>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
<b>10.1. Medical procurement to address the immediate needs of the Ukrainian population.</b>																			
<b>Ukraine:</b> Procure negative pressure wound therapy (NPWT) systems for the hospitals of the country. UNDP Ukraine will perform the selection and procurement of NPWT systems according to the UNDP rules and procedures (POPP)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							Medical equipment for the hospitals of Ukraine procured and delivered	UNDP IRH, UNDP Ukraine, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health
<b>10.2. Support to internally displaced people (IDP) in Ukraine</b>																			
<b>Ukraine:</b> (i) Provide support with supplies covering primary needs, such as e.g. sleeping bags, mattresses, and food will be provided to internally displaced people (IDPs) staying in the national parks and protected areas of Ukraine.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							(i) Equipment and supplies delivered to IDPs hosted in the national parks of Ukraine	UNDP IRH, UNDP Ukraine, Ministry of Environment
<b>10.3. Support to vulnerable municipalities in Ukraine with gasoline and diesel generators</b>																			
<b>Ukraine:</b> (i) Provide support to the municipalities of Ukraine to address the immediate need for restoring the electricity supply.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							(i) Gasoline and diesel generators will delivered to the municipalities of Ukraine	UNDP IRH, UNDP Ukraine, Ministry of Environment



## Annex. Cooperation with other partners and projects

To fulfil the Description of the Action (DoA) requirements, coordination and synergies with other relevant ongoing initiatives were ensured during the Inception and Mobilisation phase. EU4Climate is building on the achievements of the ClimaEast Programme.

Cooperation has been established with the UNFCCC, specifically on the Enhanced Transparency Framework under the Paris Agreement.

Contacts channels for exchange of information were established with EU regional and bilateral projects (such as EU4Energy, Covenant of Mayors East (COM East), EU4Environment, Green for Growth Fund (GGF), European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD), EU policy initiatives (such as the High-level Energy Efficiency Initiative and the Eastern Partnership architecture) and other donors/initiatives in the region on climate change (Climate Promise, Global NDC Partnership Initiative).

The project has concluded cooperation agreements with the Energy Community Secretariat and the Environment Agency Austria (EAA). Both organizations have been supporting countries with implementing EU climate regulations (EU *acquis*). The EAA provided further support to four EaP countries with emissions accounting (MRV).

The table below shows the synergies between the EU4Climate activities and other existing organisations and initiatives.

### Mapping of cooperation between EU4Climate activities and other organisations and initiatives

Organisations and Initiatives	Leading organisation	Links to EU4Climate
<b>EU4Energy Programme</b>	Energy Community Secretariat (ECS); Council of European Energy Regulators (CEER)	Coordination with Component 3 – “Legislative and Regulatory Environment and Key Energy Infrastructure” implemented by the Energy Community Secretariat (ECS) and the Energy Charter Secretariat, as well as the International Energy Agency responsible for Components 1 and 2 (energy data and policy recommendations). EU4Climate has established a partnership with the ECS, being one of the EU4Energy implementing organizations. Representatives of ECS and participated in the EU4Climate Regional workshop on mainstreaming of climate policies (April 2023)
<b>Covenant of Mayors East (CoM East)</b>		Provides specific assistance to local and regional authorities from the EaP region in developing Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs) and helping to implement them. 431 municipalities in the EaP countries are signatories. 49 % of the signatories are committed to the proposed 2030 target of a 30 % reduction in CO2 emissions. A growing number of signatories are committing to adaptation. EU4Climate continuously coordinates the national activities with COM East; representatives of COM East participated in the EU4Climate's regional webinar on implementation of Low Emissions Development Strategies and NDCs at local & regional level (June 2023)
<b>High-level energy efficiency initiative and other EU-funded programmes</b>	EU and International Financing Institutions (IFIs) – EIB, EBRD, WB, IFC, IMF	EU and IFIs collaborate actively to bring energy efficiency reforms and investments to scale in selected pilot countries (Ukraine, Georgia and Armenia included), focusing on buildings, both public and the residential sector. Major bilateral programmes for energy efficiency in buildings have been developed. In Ukraine a National Energy Efficiency Fund was established

		(AAP 2017) and managed by IFC with channelled funding from the EU. Representatives of IFIs (EBRD, EIB, KfW, WB) have presented their views on the future of climate finance in the region during the Climate Finance Forum (2021)
<b>UNFCCC</b>		UNFCCC representatives participated in the three regional workshops conducted by the project in 2020, focusing on the implementation status of the Paris Agreement. EU4Climate organized a side event dedicated to LEDS development in the EaP countries during the UNFCCC COP27 in November 2022. UNFCCC representatives contributed to the EU4Climate Regional workshop on mainstreaming of climate policies (April 2023)
<b>Green for Growth Fund (GGF)</b>	GGF and EU	Provides financing and technical assistance for energy efficiency and renewable energy. It was extended in 2012 to cover EaP countries. There is also a contribution from the EU to the Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership (E5P), aimed at promoting energy efficiency and environment investments in EaP countries.
<b>EU4Environment Programme</b>	OECD, UNECE, UNEP, UNIDO, WB	Aims to help partner countries preserve their natural capital and increase people's environmental well-being. Action is implemented under direct management through grants and under indirect management with the OECD, UNECE, UN Environment, UNIDO and the World Bank. EU4Climate coordinates the regional and national activities with EU4Environment, and representatives of OECD participated in the project's regional events during 2019-2023.
<b>EU4Environment – Water and Data Programme</b>	EEA, ADA, International Office for Water (OIEau, France), OECD, UNECE	The EU4Environment - Water and Data programme is part of the EU4Environment umbrella programme. It is also part of the Team Europe Initiative on Water and Zero Pollution, which aims at moving towards a toxic-free environment for all citizens.
<b>European Environmental Agency (EEA)</b>		The EEA is an EU agency tasked with providing sound, independent information on the environment. It operates as a major information source for those involved in developing, adopting, implementing and evaluating environmental policy. Representatives of EEA participated in the the EU4Climate Regional workshop on mainstreaming of climate policies (April 2023)

**EU4Climate Communications and Visibility Plan**

**(see in a separate file)**

**Country fiches (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine)**  
**(see in a separate file)**