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EU4Climate

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



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UNDP in Azerbaijan

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Climate policy development and advancing cooperation with the EU in Azerbaijan



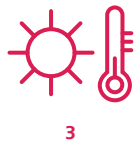
- > With a population of around 10 million people (2020), Azerbaijan contributes only 0.15% of total global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, with 6.2 t CO₂e per capita (2016) without land use and forestry (LULUCF) activities, and 5.6 t CO₂e per capita with LULUCF¹.

Energy and agriculture are two sectors with the largest GHG emission shares.



Azerbaijan submitted a commitment in its first **Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)** to achieve a quantitative target of a **35% GHG emissions' reduction by 2030 compared to 1990**.

- > The physical and geographical characteristics of Azerbaijan make it a highly sensitive country to the adverse effects of climate change. Extreme weather events, such as **flooding (1), drought (2), heat stress (3)** are expected to increase in frequency.



- > A changing climate will also significantly impact the coastal zone. **The most vulnerable sectors are agriculture, human health, water resources, forestry and tourism.**



The "Azerbaijan 2020: Look Into the Future" Concept of Development² highlights the possible impacts of climate change on the country's society and economy, and the importance of preparing necessary policy measures. It also states that the amounts of energy and CO₂e used to produce one unit of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) will need to be in line with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) indicators. Whilst no policy or legal document has been put in place specifically for adaptation, the first NDC stated that Azerbaijan considers developing relevant adaptation measures for decreasing or minimizing potential losses caused by climate change at national, local and community levels by sector. The designated national authority in the climate change area is the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources.

The European Union's (EU) relations with Azerbaijan are based on the EU-Azerbaijan Partnership and Cooperation Agreement in force since 1999. Azerbaijan is also part of the EU's European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) and the Eastern Partnership initiative, and a member of the Organisation of Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC). A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on a Strategic Partnership between Azerbaijan and the EU in the energy field was signed in 2006. The MoU identified four priority areas for bilateral cooperation: harmonisation of legislation, enhancing the security of supply and transit systems, development of the Renewable Energy Sources (RES) and increased technical cooperation. In 2019, Azerbaijan joined the Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership (E5P), with further EU support in the energy sector. Cooperation on the environment and climate goals has been strengthened. Also, transport dialogue and cooperation are very high on the EU and Azerbaijan agenda. Azerbaijan is moving forward on its sustainable energy pathway, with strong support from the EU, including through the EU4Energy Initiative, and from international financing institutions.



2014

- 3rd National Communication
- National Adaptation Strategy until 2020
- Biennial Update Report 1 (BUR1)



2015

- INDC 2016-2030
- COP21 Paris Agreement
- Pledge to Sustainable Development Agenda 2030



2016

- Strategic Road Map on National Economic Perspectives until 2025



2017

- New EU Framework agreement
- Ratification of Paris Agreement



2018

- EU-Azerbaijan yearly high level security dialogue launched
- Biennial Update Report (BUR2)



2019

- EU4Climate launched



2020

- Update of the LEDS 2050 initiated



2021

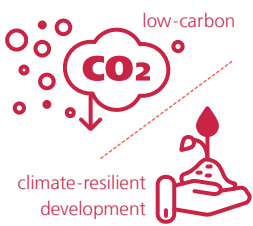
- Fourth National Communication submitted
- Updated NDC 2021-2030 - *under development*
- LEDS 2050 - *under development*

¹ Fourth National Communication of Azerbaijan to UNFCCC

² https://president.az/files/future_en.pdf

EU4Climate key policy interventions and expected impact

EU4Climate Azerbaijan: key results achieved in 2020



Azerbaijan has already set several policies to pursue low-carbon, climate-resilient development. **However, as a developing country, Azerbaijan needs further international financial, technological and capacity-building support.**



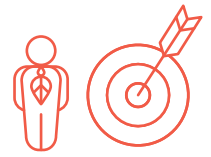
The EU4Climate Programme, funded by the European Union, aims to support the development and implementation of climate-related policies by the Eastern Partnership countries. EU4Climate aims to support Azerbaijan in its commitment to update and enhance the country's NDC, to build national capacities to integrate low-emission and climate-resilient actions into the national development plan as well as align climate change legislation with the EU standards. A robust domestic Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system will be established to inform the government and the international community of the progress of its NDC implementation. The programme will establish concrete industry-specific guidelines for the implementation of the Paris Agreement across various sectors of the economy, in particular agriculture and energy.

Result areas and timeframe in Azerbaijan

RESULT AREAS	2019		2020				2021				2022			
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
NDC														
Long-term LEDS														
MRV System														
EU Climate Acquis														
Climate mainstreaming														
Climate investments														
Adaptation planning														



Implementation of EU4Climate activities started in Azerbaijan in the second half of 2019, and laid the foundation for systematic implementation of the requirements of the Paris Agreement and the commitments of Azerbaijan under it.



- 1 Implementation and update of NDCs
- 2 Development of mid-century long-term LEDS
- 3 Introduction, when necessary, of robust domestic emissions MRV frameworks and strengthening of the existing ones
- 4 Alignment with EU Acquis included in bilateral agreements and Energy Community Treaty on Climate Action
- 5 Mainstreaming climate into other sectors, interinstitutional awareness (on policy and technical level)
- 6 Climate investments
- 7 Adaptation planning
- 8 Communication and visibility actions

- A series of regional and national events were dedicated to discussing the priorities of the country on climate change and plans on revising its NDC.
- Development of the LEDS has started.
- The Environment Agency Austria (EAA) is supporting the creation of a robust national MRV system.
- In depth analysis of the national legislation and policies, was undertaken for preparing a roadmap to assist aligning legislation with the EU.
- Guidelines on mainstreaming of climate change into the priority sectors of energy and agriculture were developed by analysing the national circumstances in line with strategic documents/roadmaps of the country.
- The current state budget tagging systems and the state financial institutions were analysed for contributions to capacity building for climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- A regional workshop enhanced capacities for national adaptation planning.
- A series of awareness raising meetings and national workshops were held with the participation of the younger generation. The LEDS concept was discussed across the ministries to increase the capacity to develop and implement the strategic climate policies.



Future Activities

- > Developing an updated NDC aligned with national priorities
- > Developing the national LEDS of Azerbaijan



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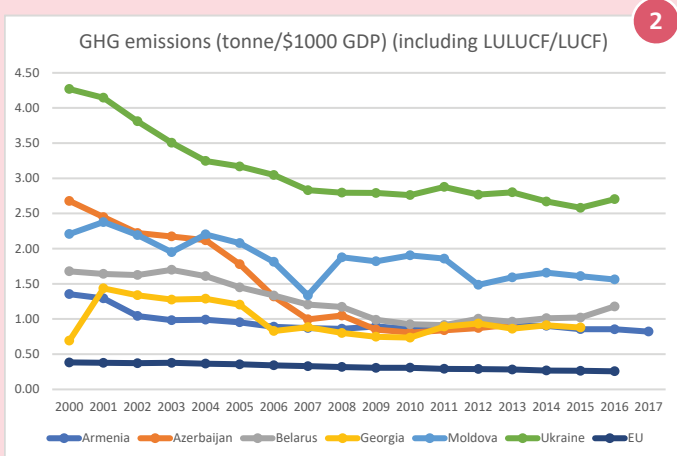
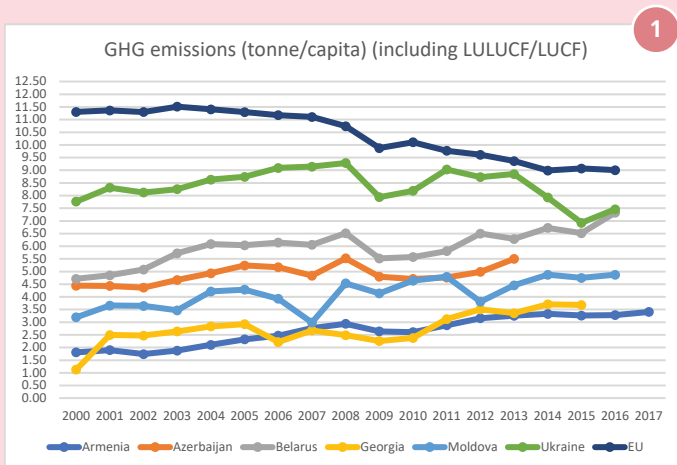


> The **EU4Climate Programme** helps governments in the six EU Eastern Partner countries to take action against climate change. It supports countries in implementing the Paris Climate Agreement and improving climate policies and legislation.

EU4Climate assists the EaP countries to integrate the low-emissions and climate resilience objectives into development policies and plans, to improve and consolidate climate policies and legislative alignment. Its ambition is to limit climate change impact on citizens' lives and make them more resilient to it.

The Programme builds on important achievements of past cooperation programmes, such as the EU's ClimaEast Programme, which supported Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in Neighbourhood East and was completed in 2017. EU4Climate takes into account the enhanced cooperation endorsed as part of "20 Deliverables for 2020" at the EU Eastern Partnership Summit in November 2017.

The scope of the Programme was defined in cooperation with all partner countries. The Initiative is implemented by the United Nations Development Programme. The European Commission provides the overall direction.



Partner Countries:
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

Duration:
2019-2022

Budget:
EUR 8.8 million
(EU contribution: EUR 8 million)

Implementing Partner:
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Overall direction:
European Commission

- eu4climate.eu
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- youtube.com/UNDPEurasia

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