



Action funded by the European Union

EU4Climate

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

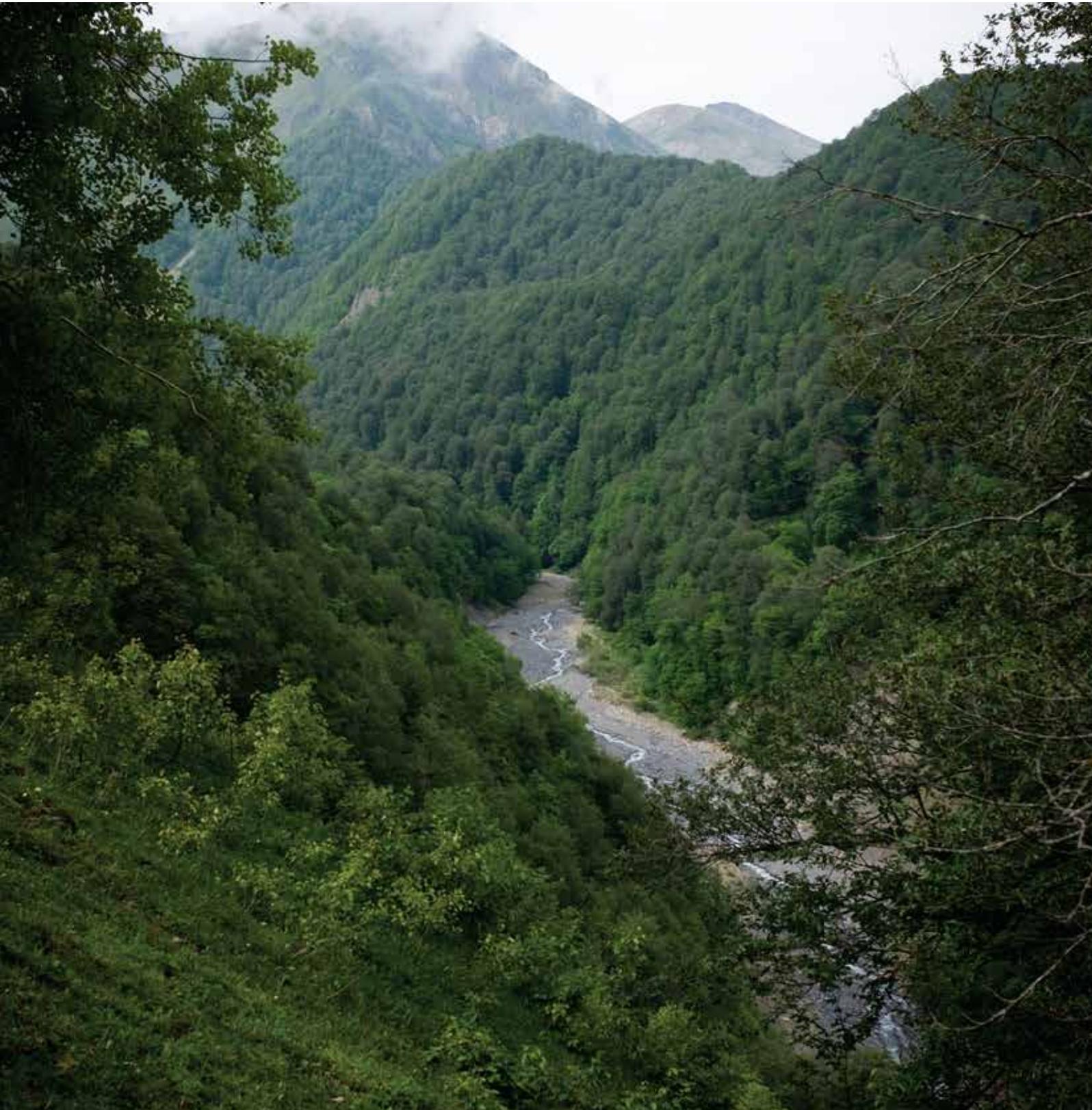


Photo credit:
UNDP in Azerbaijan

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Climate policy development and advancing cooperation with the EU in Azerbaijan

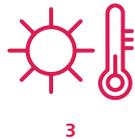
- > With a population of around 10 million people (2020), Azerbaijan contributes only 0.09% of total global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, with 5.7 ton CO₂e per capita (2013).

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



Azerbaijan submitted an ambitious 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 strategy 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. The country also adopted the Strategy of Development of Renewable and Alternative Energy Sources in 2012-2020, and a strategy for renewable energy for 2015-2030. 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 minimising potential losses caused by climate change at national, local and community levels by sector. The National Designated 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
- BUR2



2019

- EU4Climate launched

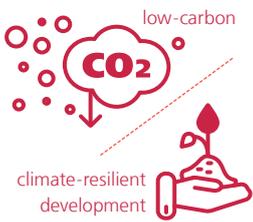


2020

- Updated NDC 2021-2030
- Updated LEDS 2030

EU4Climate key policy interventions and expected impact

EU4Climate Azerbaijan: key results achieved in 2019



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.**



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
NDC	[Active from Q3 2019 to Q2 2022]							
Long-term LEDS	[Active from Q3 2019 to Q4 2021]							
MRV System	[Active from Q3 2019 to Q2 2022]							
EU Climate Acquis	[Active from Q3 2019 to Q2 2022]							
Climate mainstreaming	[Active from Q3 2019 to Q2 2022]							
Climate investments	[Active from Q3 2019 to Q4 2021]							
Adaptation planning	[Active from Q3 2019 to Q2 2022]							

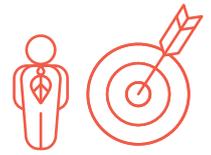


The EU4Climate substantial activities started in Azerbaijan in the second half of 2019, and laid the footing for systematic implementation of the requirements of the Paris Agreement and the commitments of Azerbaijan under it.



Future Activities

- > Updated NDC and alignment with national priorities.
- > Development of the national LEDS of Azerbaijan.



- 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 enhanced **capacities of twenty-eight policy makers from EaP countries to plan and update the NDC.**
- A national workshop to **initiate the process of developing the LEDS roadmap followed the analysis of the baseline situation** addressing opportunities, obstacles and stakeholders.
- Cooperation and the partnership agreement with the Environment Agency Austria **is supporting a robust national MRV system**, via assessment, initial gap-analysis, and recommendations.
- A workshop with twenty seven stakeholders discussed and analysed **the national legislation and policies** identifying gaps and providing recommendations on the legislative alignment with the EU on climate, in consultation with the Environment Agency Austria for preparing a roadmap to assist aligning legislation with the EU.
- A national workshop enhanced capacities of twenty seven government officials and other key stakeholders on **mainstreaming of climate change into priority sectors by analysing the national circumstances in energy and agriculture.** University events raised awareness of one hundred thirty-seven participants on the issue.
- **The current state budget tagging systems and the state financial institutions** were analysed for contribution to capacity building for **climate change mitigation and adaptation.**
- A regional workshop enhanced capacities of sixty-nine EaP government officials **for national adaptation planning**, with special focus on adoption and when necessary development of adaptation plans (national and sectoral).
- A series of awareness raising meetings and national workshops with the participation of **the younger generation** resulted in **increased knowledge on climate change issues. The LEDS concept** discussed across the ministries increasing the capacity to develop and implement the strategic climate policies.



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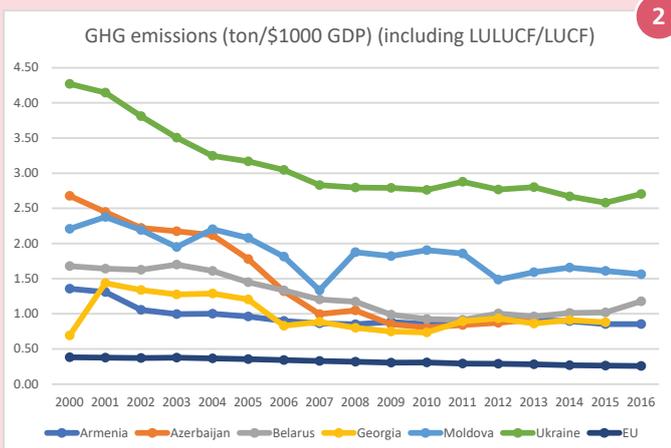
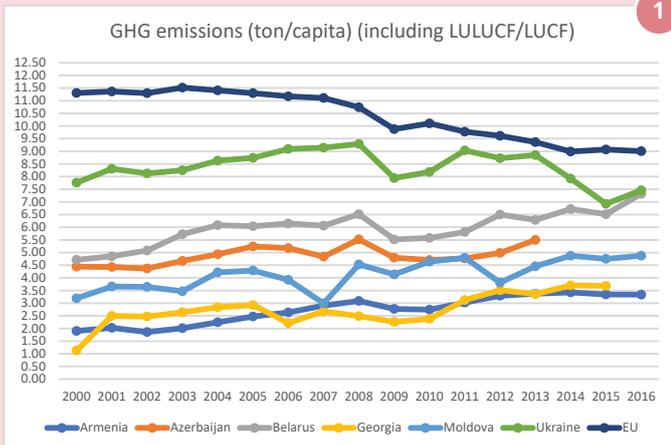
➤ **EU4Climate Programme** helps governments in the six EU Eastern Partner countries to take action against climate change. It supports countries in implementing the Paris Climate Agreement and improving climate policies and legislation.

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 EU 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

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