

**Regional Workshop for Central and
Eastern Europe and Western
Asia on the Clearing-House
Mechanism**

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Overview

- The Republic of Armenia ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1993. A Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for the Republic of Armenia have been developed to meet the country's obligations to the Convention on Biological Diversity, with the financial assistance of UNDP and financial support from GEF.
- In 1999 the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan of the Republic of Armenia (BSAP-1) was developed and submitted to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

BSAP-1 outcomes

- Improvement of legislative framework
- Improvement of institutional framework, especially related to the management of SPNAs
- Establishment of new SPNAs
- Implementation of the works on clarification and mapping of the SPNAs boundaries
- Development of management plans for national parks and reserves
- Revision of the Red Book of plants and animals of Armenia and publication of a new edition (2010)
- Inventory and approval of the list of natural monuments by the Government of Armenia

BSAP-2

Fifth National Report and National Strategy and Action Plan of the Republic of Armenia on Conservation, Protection, Reproduction and Use of Biological Diversity for 2015-2020
BSAP-2 was developed and submitted to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2015. BSAP-2 has 5 strategic directions and 12 targets.

BSAP-2 directions

- Improvement of legislative and institutional frameworks related to biodiversity
- Enhancement of biodiversity and ecosystem conservation and restoration of degraded habitats
- Reduction of the direct pressures on biodiversity and promotion of sustainable use
- Elimination of the main causes of biodiversity loss through regulation of intersectoral relations and public awareness raising
- Enhancement of scientific research, knowledge management and capacity building in the field of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of natural resources

Current status of national CHM

During last decade several steps were made towards the creation of CHM prerequisites, there was done some work, but there was no progress in the following years.

The main reasons were:

- imperfect legislation
- weak institutional coordination between stakeholders related to biodiversity

Current status of national CHM

- weak public interest on biodiversity issues and awareness of the importance and significance of biodiversity
- low level of education and awareness of population on biodiversity.
- insufficient information on biodiversity
- insufficient financial, human and technical resources.

Issues related the National CHM

- Absence of the National coordination center
- Insufficient cooperation between various state structures and local self-governing bodies
- Insufficient development of intersectoral relations and weak integration of biodiversity issues in respective sectoral policies
- Insufficient mechanisms for enforcement of biodiversity legislation
- Insufficient financial, human, technical resources.

Issues related the National CHM

These issues could be resolved through

- Designation of the national focal point for the CHM
- Identification of the national structure to coordinate the development of the CHM with participation of a relevant biodiversity-related organization and stakeholders
- Preparation of the realistic national implementation strategy for the CHM
- Improvement of the technical capacities: capacity building and technical equipping of organizations
- Development of the information exchange mechanism with relevant national sources of biodiversity information.

CHM support to NBSAP

The establishment of the national CHM will support the implementation of the NBSAP, especially directions 4 and 5:

- Elimination of the main causes of biodiversity loss through regulation of intersectoral relations and public awareness raising
- Enhancement of scientific research, knowledge management and capacity building in the field of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

Support for CHM

Country will benefit from the following:


- Development of the knowledge-sharing culture to ensure that information and knowledge from various national sources is effectively provided and published on the national clearing-house mechanism
- Development of the links between the national clearing-house mechanism and existing networks

Support for CHM

- Facilitation of the international collaboration initiatives, including scientific and technical cooperation
- Consultations, case-studies and training of staff
- Capacity building workshops in the field of monitoring, collection, storage, assessment, and reporting of environmental data and other relevant resources.

CBD Secretariat Support

- Provide guidance to the Country on how to develop their national clearing-house mechanisms, taking into account a variety of implementation options
- Organize capacity-building workshops to assist Country in developing national clearing-house mechanisms, including through partner organizations at the national or regional levels, and based on the special capacity-building needs of the country and on the status of the national clearing-house mechanisms.



All valuable information and knowledge needs to be gradually collected and made globally available through the clearing-house mechanism network between the partner organizations. This is expected to benefit all the Partners who implement the Convention.



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