



REC Caucasus
Armenian National Office



UNIDO RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND CLEANER PRODUCTION (RECP) PROJECT OF THE EaP GREEN PROGRAMME OF THE EU

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- UNIDO RECP has launched the first round of Green Clubs in the regions of Armenia, helping SMEs to reduce costs, improve efficiency, and come up with innovative ideas and save money
- 11 Rapid Assessments in Green Club member SMEs
- Ministries of Nature Protection, Natural Resources and Energy, Economy, Agriculture and Urban Development joined the efforts of RECP and collaborated within Stakeholder Forums of UNIDO RECP (November/December 2015)

RECP demonstration project is implemented in Eastern Neighborhood countries, including Armenia, and is targeted to improve resource efficiency and environmental performance of SMEs, thus contributing to the sustainable development, increase of employment opportunities and income, particularly within the sectors of agriculture, food, chemical and construction materials. We are pleased to present in this newsletter tangible results achieved during last 2 years since the launch of project activities.

The **following results** have been expected to achieve in case of taking RECP investment options and recommendations in the frames of the first round of UNIDO RECP project in the selected ten demonstration organizations.

Total amount of economic savings* (in USD) - 372,758 USD
Total reduction in energy use* (MJ/yr.) - 398,000 kW / yr.
Total reduction in materials use* – (t/yr.) - 340 ton / yr.
Total reduction in water use* (ton/yr.) - 426,000 ton / yr.
Total reduction in waste* (ton /yr.) - 210 ton / yr.

First RECP Stakeholder forum on Material Efficiency within the context of RECP application for Small and Medium Businesses in Armenia



UNIDO Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) Demonstration project has organized the **First RECP Stakeholder forum on Energy Efficiency within the context of RECP application for Small and Medium Businesses in Armenia**. The forum took place on 30th of October, in the House of Culture of Ararat City Ararat Marz, Republic of Armenia. The forum was aimed at implementation of the “Engage and learn” as well as “Engage and Refine” steps in RECP domestication process. Aim of the Forum was to develop a domesticated argument for enterprises, governments, and civil society to consider and implement RECP, as well as demonstrate newly developed **RECP introductory document “Primer”**, and explain in what manner SMEs could benefit from RECP application etc. The aim was also enriching RECP by sharing experiences and perspectives, from enterprises, as well as ministries, leading civil society organizations, experts attended RECP forum, to instill trust and facilitate understanding between stakeholder groupings, allowing momentum and partnerships for adopting RECP to naturally develop and mature.

aims and objectives of the effective and clean business directory, the role of the energy efficiency for the business. Key activities leading to green business development and green economy promotion by mainstreaming RECP in business sector were presented, including RECP techniques, methods and tools. Additional information was provided by the representatives of the SMEs, ministries mentioning that financial tools were currently entering the market Stakeholders have mentioned that there is a lack of new technologies and innovations in majority of organizations because of poor financial investments in this sector and research. RECP assessments, Green clubs in the regions, fruitful discussions held within series of RECP Stakeholder forums within the frames of RECP Primer, RECP audits and rapid assessments have already contributed to the change of thinking within SMEs in support to resource efficiency and cleaner production. RECP helps combining improved environmental compliance and practical application of efficient and innovative green development strategies for SMEs.



UNIDO RECP National Coordinator Ms. Nune Harutyunyan presented the

The second Stakeholder Forum in the frames of the UNIDO "Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production" demonstration component project took place on 22 of December, 2015, in the Conference Hall of "Hyatt Place", Yerevan, Armenia. The forum was attended by the Deputy Ministers of Nature Protection Mr. Khachik Hakobyan, Agriculture Mr. Armen Harutyunyan, Urban Development Ms. Ruzan Alaverdyan, SME representatives involved in RECP assessment, and other organizations.



Second Stakeholder Forum. 22 of December. 2015

The second "RECP" project stakeholder forum was organized to domesticate and support SMEs and other stakeholders in the investment of RECP expertise, methods and tools in Armenia by the help of the **Primer for "RECP for SMEs"** in their operations. The next article will provide detailed information about the Primer. Visit www.recp.am to find more information about the Primer and to download the online version in English or in Armenian.

Stakeholders were briefed by UNIDO RECP team and experts on aims and importance of the Primer for the SMEs in reaching economic benefits, cleaner production and resource efficiency, creation of competitive products. Every business company operating in the market needs certain investment of ecologically safe methods, means and tools accepted by the world, and the **Primer for "RECP for SMEs"** will assist to practical implementation of this objective.

Discussions were held among the SME, NGO, representatives, experts and other participating parties with regard to domestication of RECP through political, financial, investment tools. The importance of RECP was mentioned by the parties which must be used by companies for more effective and clean production, for such issues as, the reduction of costs, more effective use of resources, greener environment, cleaner production, higher profits, more demand, etc. National coordinator of RECP has mentioned importance of increased awareness of SMEs and decision-makers on RECP to make it easier for companies to implement RECP using RECP assessments and rapid audits as an efficient tool to spend less and invest in improved management of the company.



Primer on "Resource efficiency and cleaner production " for SME support and green business development in Armenia

Primer on "Resource efficiency and cleaner production " has been elaborated within the framework of cooperation on "Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production Demonstration" project of UNIDO and REC Caucasus Armenia National Office, based on methodology targeting green economy promotion in the business sector.

The **Primer on "RECP for SMEs"** will assist the SMEs for the investment of ecologically safe, methods, means and tools accepted by the world. The Primer creates large opportunities for the implementation of "better, cheaper, quicker" strategic objective within the business sector. By mainstreaming RECP into business and production cycle it will become possible to support and achieve:

- reduction of production and technology costs
- increase of work effectiveness
- possible improvement of the product quality
- reduction of waste and air pollution costs
- possible improvement of production conditions
- improvement of the company`s status in different negotiation processes
- improvement of public opinion about the company.



The Primer for "RECP for SMEs" is currently available in two languages, both Armenian and English and the online version of the Primer can be found on our official website page available with the following link:

<http://recp.am/relevant-materials/>

Primer on "Resource efficiency and cleaner production" for SMEs, Yerevan, 2015

In 2015 the Green Club sessions in the frames of RECP project have been launched in two regions of Armenia. Dilijan and Ararat cities have been selected based on the conducted study results for opportunities to establish RECP Green Clubs and opportunities for integrating 20 SMEs into RECP clubs and assessment cycles. RECP Green Clubs in Armenia are being implemented by the Armenian National Office of the Regional Environmental Centre for Caucasus www.rec-caucasus.am. RECP "Green Clubs" goal is to include local SMEs in different regions of Armenia dealing with food, beverage, construction and chemical production into RECP assessment cycle in support to more efficient use of resources, improved performance and economic benefits, innovative ideas for waste management and recycling, reduction of energy costs.



The principal idea of a RECP Club is to bring together up to a dozen small businesses from the same region and take them jointly through an intensive training and coaching programme.

Before the launching of the RECP Green Clubs meetings were organized with the City Mayor of Ararat City and the City Mayor of Dilijan to achieve agreements for the implementation of RECP Green Clubs in the current cities.

Local SMEs involved in food, beverage production, mineral water, cheese, traditional lavash production, chemicals and construction materials production, etc, were selected as Green Club Members in the two regions. RECP Club meetings covered modules on business environmental profile, energy, water and wastewater, materials and waste, chemicals and chemical waste, and RECP action plan. RECP Green Club modules were carried out by RECP Green Club national facilitator Ms. Dshkhuhi Sahakyan and UNIDO RECP national coordinator Ms. Nune Harutyunyan during which the selected Green Club member SMEs were trained on running smarter, cleaner and resource efficient business by mainstreaming RECP into their production cycle, leading to reduction of production and technology costs, increase of work effectiveness, possible improvement of the product quality, reduction of waste and air pollution costs, possible improvement of production conditions, improvement of the company's

status in different negotiation processes, improvement of public opinion about the company.



Dilijan RECP Green Club session, 9 of November, 2015

RECP Rapid Assessments in Green Club member SMEs

During the last Green Club module Green club members were presented the development of Action Plan by elaboration, screening and definition of RECP options on energy, water conservation, reduction of waste volume and/or its pollutant load, input material conservation, waste minimization, chemical efficient and responsible use, hazardous waste minimization, emissions reduction for developing an action plan.



RECP rapid assessments conducted in RECP Green Club member SMEs, December, 2015

In the frames of UNIDO RECP Green Clubs rapid assessments have been conducted by national experts and national project coordinator in Green Club member SMEs working in different industrial sectors, food, beverage production, mineral water, cheese production, production of traditional Lavash (Armenian flat bread), production of chemicals and construction materials, service providers, etc. RECP rapid assessments helped to identify potential improvement opportunities for the SMEs in terms of improved and cleaner production, resource effectiveness, cleaning service, use of electricity, reduction of costs of water and energy, less environmental impact, etc. Recommendations and investment opportunities have been given with the estimated payback period.

To find the list of all Green Club member SMEs you can go through the following links available on the official bilingual webpage of RECP project in Armenia:

<http://recp.am/recp-green-club-in-ararat-armenia/>

<http://recp.am/recp-green-club-in-dilijan-city-armenia/>

From 20-24th of July, the REC Caucasus and UN Industrial Development Organization organized a four-day training for preliminary selected national experts in the framework of the UNIDO Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) demonstration project.



RECP first and second trainings, 20-24th of July and 8-10th of December, 2015

The training was attended by Ministry of Nature protection, Deputy Minister Mr. Khachik Hakobyan, Mr. John Barker International aid/cooperation officer, EU delegation to Armenia, UNIDO Operations manager Ms. Anahit Simonyan. The aim of the introductory training was to present the project objectives and outputs, basic and advanced RECP methods, applications, and supportive/entrepreneurship topics to RECP national experts. The international expert Mr. Nazir Abijanov, UNIDO, introduced the new experts how to deliver RECP assessment, data collection, analysis of received information, and provide advisory services in a coordinated and sustainable manner valuable to enterprises. It is planned to use national capacities and expertise on RECP created within the project for improved greening practices for local business companies in food/agricultural production, chemical and construction material production sectors.

2nd RECP Training took place from 8-10 of December, 2015

The second capacity-building training for local RECP national expert pool within the frames of UNIDO “Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production” (RECP) Program of EAP Green took place from 8-10th December in Yerevan, at REC Caucasus national office. The aim of the second capacity-building exercise was to present and analyze RECP – Resource efficiency and cleaner production assessment methodology, instruments and application for Armenian RECP experts` a national pool of experts who are working on RECP assessments in different SMEs in the field of food, beverage, chemical production, construction materials (deliver value-added RECP services to Armenian enterprises in particular in the priority industry sectors).

The training consisted of two parts: module presentation by international RECP expert Mr. Nazir Abidjanov and national expert presentations covering conducted RECP assessment results and preliminary RECP options identified for the business companies. RECP experts introduced preliminary reports and RECP options introducing review of the overall situation in the companies they work with. One of the main targets of performed assessments/audits was to find out the production processes where the resources were used ineffectively and eliminate those, also finding out the technologies and alternative ways of using those resources more effectively.

Visits to Demonstration companies

Visits to Demo companies were organized within the frames of the project, to the demonstration companies of coffee production “Rio-Grande”, “PEPSI-COLA BOTTLER JERMUK INTERNATIONAL” company - production of Carbonated Beverages and “Thermo Caps” LLC Manufacturer of PVC and poly laminate capsule production, Yerevan. During the demonstration visits experts have been using already studied RECP assessment tools and methodology for identification of material and resource loss, as well as efficient solutions within the production process through inquiries with management and heads of manufacturing/processing departments introducing the process.



Visits to Demo companies within RECP project, 2015

