

EaPGREEN
Partnership for Environment and Growth



Stakeholder Forum 5

Main topic: Reduction and utilization of waste
Conference hall of Lori Marz Regional Administration
29th of July 2016, Vanadzor, Lori Marz, Armenia

The forum was attended by Deputy Minister of Nature Protection of RA, Mr. **Khachik Hakobyan**, Deputy Minister of Territorial Administration and Development of RA Mr. **Artur Khachatryan**, Deputy Marzpet (Governor) of Lori Marz Regional Administration Mr. **Hovhannes Tadevosyan**, Alaverdi city Mayor Mr. **Karen Paremuzyan**, Asian Development Bank Yerevan Office Project Officer Mr. **Areg Barseghyan**, Head of UNIDO Operations in Armenia, Ms. **Anahit Simonyan**, UNIDO RECP Team Leader, Mr. **Tigran Oganezov**, SME representatives, Regional Government and Municipality Authorities, NGOs, producers, PE, media and International organization representatives, UNIDO RECP national experts and REC Caucasus team members, more than 40 participants were present.



Presentations:

UNIDO RECP Team Leader, Mr. **Tigran Oganezov**. (Presentation theme: General Information on RECP Project in Armenia, Implemented Activity, RECP Tools and Methods). RECP Communication & Advocacy national consultant Mr. **Tigran Sekoyan**. (Presentation theme: RECP PRIMER introduction, RECP definition, the aim of RECP project, Resources, Efficiency, Clean production definitions for RECP, RECP project main Five Business Benefits, RECP Six Objectives and Environmental Profile, RECP Techniques, Eight Methods and Tools for Resource Efficiency and Clean Production, RECP Methodology, Measures proposed and implemented in RA enterprises during RECP pilot program). UNIDO RECP Project National Facilitator Ms. **Dshkhuhi Sahakyan**. (Presentation theme: RECP Green Clubs for reduction and utilization of waste). RECP Expert Mr. **Prech Bojukyan** (Presentation theme: Example of Reduction and treatment of waste in Food

Industry: “Anashart” LLC producer and seller of ready to drink beverages and “RozFrood” LLC producer of conservation and freezing of fruits and vegetables).



Asian Development Bank Yerevan Office Project Officer Mr. **Areg Barseghyan** presented as Project Officer of the “Solid Waste Management Solutions for Remote and Small Communities in Armenia” Program. ADB is engaged in the waste development strategy and RA policy formation and implementation. He mentioned that Solid waste strategy is developed by support of ADB and will be presented/detailed during the forum. Current practice of SWM in Armenia is simple truck and dump technology implemented by local municipalities. The idea is to shift SWM towards modern management of waste flows that should translate into best operational practices, namely a dedicated at-source waste separation, then reuse and recycle, and at the end disposal of the remaining waste at an environmentally sound sanitary landfill. Waste may have certain value after targeted investment.

During the fifth forum, key topics and proposals for the talks are presented below (without commentary):

- *Waste management is currently being dumped with unacceptable technical and environmental standards.*
- *Sustainable waste management is not just a technical issue about improving physical facilities and equipment but also something including regulation, local planning, environmental impact, legal structuring, financial structuring, cost recovery and tariff reform and awareness raising*

- *The idea is to shift SWM towards modern management of waste flows that should translate into best operational practices, namely a dedicated at-source waste separation, then reuse and recycle, and at the end disposal of the remaining waste at an environmentally sound sanitary landfill. Primer and RECP other activities have their certain role*
- *Development of SMEs activities with RECP mentality is of great importance*
- *RECP experts are not teaching the businessperson, they are helping to solve the problems by introduce new technologies and good practice, pointing out the problems, presenting diversified solutions, technical and economic calculations*
- *Creation of RECP technical regulations, legal norms, standards are very important. RECP Center should be responsible for RECP legal background set up*
- *SME legal consultation and advice service should also be the tasks for RECP Center for years of activity*
- *The Rapid assessments that are currently implemented in the frame of the Green clubs (after advises announced during the previous Forums) for Vanadzor and Hrazdan are more comprehensive and may be converted into business plans. Each of those SME have received from 10 to 11 RECP measures proposed for implementation comprising investment, annual savings, annual CO2 reduction, simple payback period and other characteristics*
- *During use, reuse, recycling of any materials always should be considered the environmental impact of those materials*
- *It would be great if we can prepare a stands (desks, racks, etc.) of RECP production and demonstrate those, and at the same time support business activities of SMEs*
- *It would be great if RECP project convert all those Rapid assessments to RECP Audits, Deep Assessments, and implement feasibility study, financial and economic analysis and provide (free) Investment Grade Audits or Business Plans to all those SME engaged in the Program*
- *Support the idea of creating the business plans for SME that have undergone RECP Audits and Assessments. The offer is to continue, proceed and promote RECP Audit process and present some SMEs up to Green loans.*
- *RECP Audit and Business plan creation methodology should be developed*
- *The Primer (some hard copies were distributed to SME representatives) is available, both in Armenian and English languages on www.recp.am (official bilingual website). Suggestion and request was to download and study the newly developed Primary handbook and present comments and recommendations to help RECP team to develop the final version of the Primer.*
- *Creation of real financial tools for crediting RECP is an issue of international organizations and government special authorities*
- *Social advertisements, rising awareness educational programs on Reduction and utilization of waste through newsletters, booklets etc. is also important as down-up approach measure*
- *The need to encourage small-scale waste-recycling initiatives that support urban and rural waste management and provide income-generating opportunities*
- *The concepts, methods and tools that are presented in the Primer should be ASAP domesticated, embedded and strengthened for creation a habit of the resource efficiency and clean production lifestyle in Armenia.*
- *Waste disposal sites currently in use do not correspond to sanitary-hygiene norms and standards, landfills degrade the landscape and occupy useful land, they are significant sources of soil degradation, water contamination, air pollution, and diseases*
- *Lack of awareness of proper SWM has led to slow emergence of fee-based solutions and the low prioritization accorded to SWM. This is leading to acute environmental degradation and threats to public health, in turn constraining the future development of the communities*
- *The main problems in this field of solid waste management are lack of legislative background and a poor management system, lack of appropriate equipment, lack of financial capacities, and a weak relationship with the public in the cities*
- *Waste Management service is much more efficient and transparent when a written contract or agreement exists between customers and service providers. Willingness to pay is connected to and in direct proportion to quality of services*

- *Separation of the two services—sanitary cleaning and SW collection and disposal—may lead to more efficient, client-oriented SW management.*
- *Current inefficient management options lead to the loss of valuable resources*
- *There is a problem of new technologies and innovations in majority of organizations*
- *SMEs need to trust the RECP project. RECP experts should be able to provide them with full assistance by submission individual approach and proper package of tools*
- *Business needs investments with low interest rates to afford them*
- *RECP brings new thinking and new methods that must be used in production to become more competitive*
- *We already have achieved substantial results by RECP project implementation*
- *Stakeholders should contribute for localization and development in Armenia of RECP approach, intellectual way, principles, terminology presented in the Primer.*