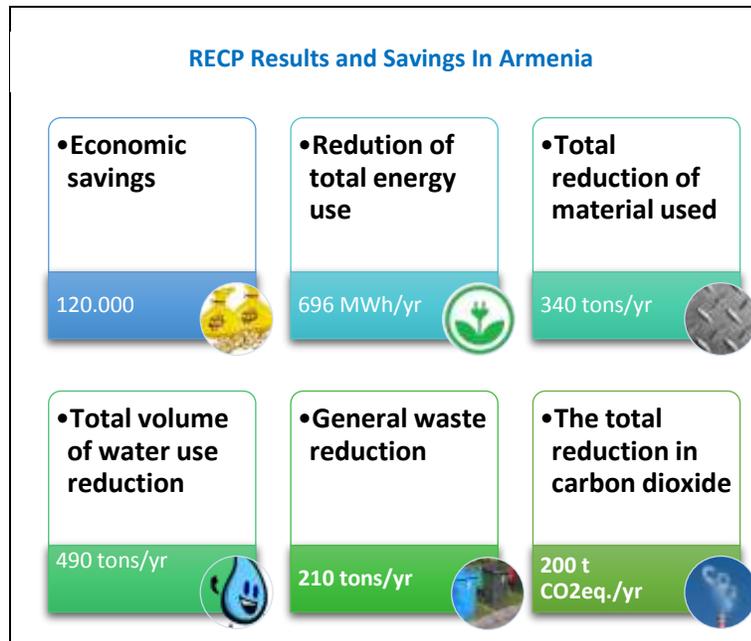


“Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighborhood” EaP Green “Resource efficiency and clean production” Demonstration project (RECP) in Armenia

Project summary and achievements



EU funded “Greening Economies in the Eastern Neighborhood” EaP Green “Resource efficiency and clean production” Demonstration project (RECP) was implemented in Armenia since 2014. For industrial development projects implementation RECP uses tested preventive environmental approaches: improved efficiency of resources (reduced production costs and materials, energy and water consumption), reduced environmental impact (less waste products and pollution), improved professional and social health and protection.

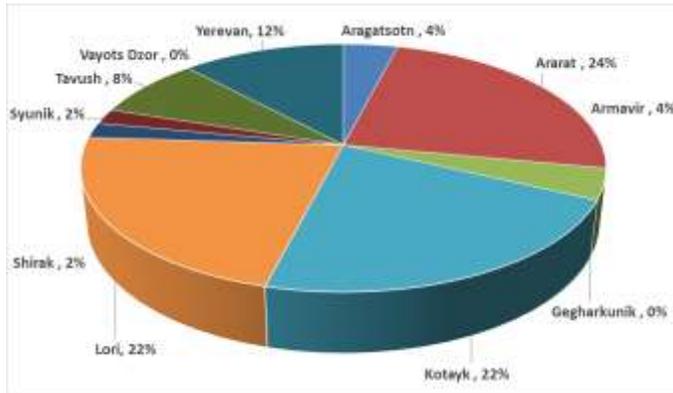
The main objective of RECP pilot project was to improve resource efficiency and cleaner production among business companies and SMEs working in particular in agricultural/food, chemical and construction materials production. RECP aims to improve SMEs' environmental performance and resource efficiency, thereby contributing to sustainable industrial development, employment and income growth. Current cycle of RECP in Armenia is actively working with 55 SMEs in the regions through advancing RECP methodology and practices through provision of free RECP services and audits, conducting RECP audits and elaborating tailor-made solutions' packages for each SME or business company.

Armenian Ministries of Nature Protection, Economy, Energy and Natural Resources, Urban development, Agriculture are supporting idea of green economic development for SMEs and support RECP strategies and activities through Steering committee meetings and events, providing advice and feedback on products and strategic directions for future Green business development in Armenia.

Some dry fruit production, electric battery producers, construction, food, chemical, tourism development companies received and employed RECP recommendations from RECP team, and are currently improving and increasing their production, decreasing their energy costs, using renewable energy sources and cleaner production methods and techniques, and as a result have a chance to

suggest more clean and competitive produce to the market and customers as a result of assistance of RECP team.

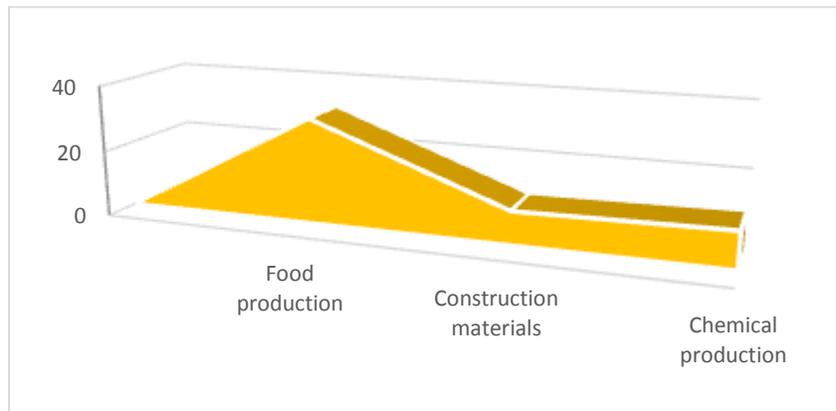
We worked in Yerevan and 8 regions



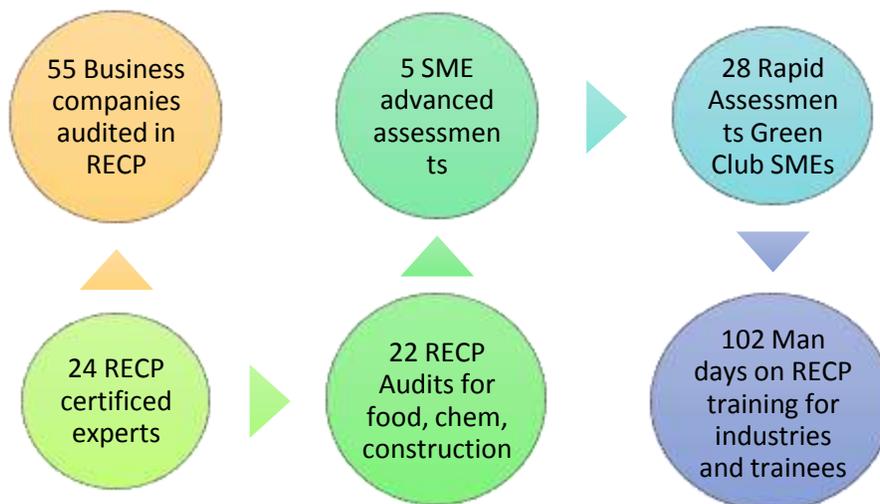
RECP enables SMEs with an easy to read guidance for using resource efficient and clean methodologies and practices in business sector, where each producer can benefit from reduction of production costs and finding innovative technological solutions; increase in labor productivity, improvement in product quality; reduction of costs associated with waste production and pollution; improvement of production conditions, reduction of energy and material

losses, better housekeeping and management practices improving environmental compliance of the business sector.

Key figures. Chart 1. RECP Industries



Key figures: Chart 2. Results



Project's Leverage

50,000 Euro private sector investments portfolio for cleaner technology

Project involvement

Number of women/men reached 55% / 45%.

Number of companies which took part in the project through assessments, clubs, events:

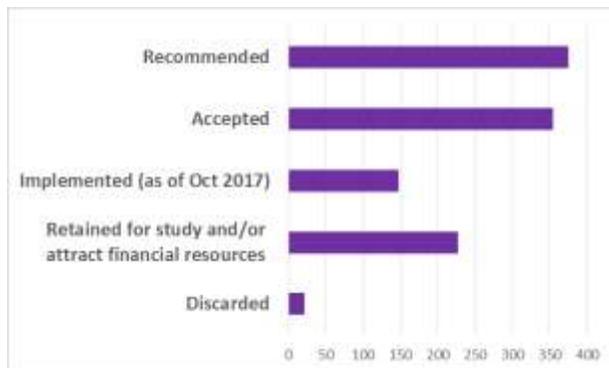
- 12 SMEs involved in First National Conference (48 participants),
- 33 SMEs involved in 4 Green Clubs,
- 28 SMEs provided with RECP Rapid Audits,
- 24 Experts RECP, 22 SMEs Audits/Assessments,
- 37 SMEs from 3 regions involved in 6 Forums, (240 participants),
- 14 SMEs involved in Final RECP National Conference (50 participants).

Number of workshops/events organized and participants

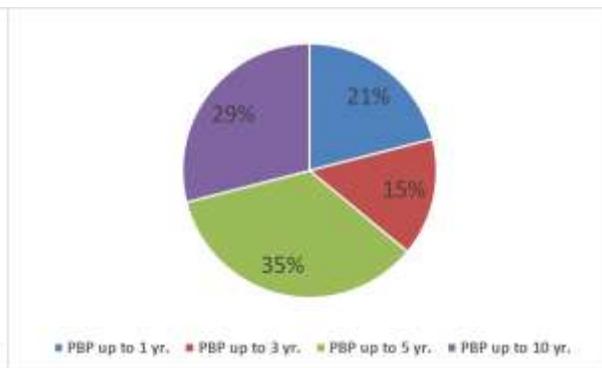
- Green Club modules in 4 city's 47 participants,
- GCAC 50 participants,
- 2 Webinars 30 participants,
- Educational modules 35 participants,
- Awareness Seminar in Ararat 54 participants,
- Awareness Seminar in Dilijan 23 participants,
- Expert's trainings for 24 participants,
- Equipment trainings for 29 participants.

During yy.2015-2017, using the RECP methodologies, 22 pilot SMEs in targeted areas have been consulted by RECP project experts to improve efficiency of SMEs activities and have provided relevant recommendations, elaborating 22 RECP Business cases for Armenian SMEs in food, chemical, construction material production, as well as tourism, jewelry and carpet production, and other industries.

RECP measures recommended



Return on investment in demo SMEs



- SMEs assessed within the frames of Green club component implemented recommendations in 60% the food industry, 18 % in construction, and 25 % in chemical production enterprises.
- Feasibility studies of RECP advanced assessments in five demonstration companies were conducted in close partnership SMEs' management resulting in individual business plans submitted to SMEs for prospective business investment projects.
- Information on current RECP activities, services and products is regularly provided to project stakeholders and assured via monthly briefs of the EaP GREEN focal point, news, updates of the

RECP national website, and social networks (see www.recp.am and www.rec-caucasus.am for details).

- Relevant government, business, civil society actors and local SME representatives took part in events and activities of RECP demonstration component, including RECP Forums, clubs and other national events.
- Detailed set of recommendations from RECP Forums in a format of RECP Primer for Armenia) has been prepared based on the feedback of stakeholders representing industries, decision-makers, experts, CSOs and academic institutions.
- RECP audits could also include energy audits, (observing the material and the efficient use of water) so it can use the existing experience and jointly develop capabilities
- “Green” certificates can be viewed as a motivational tool for SMEs, and should be developed on the basis of standards promoted by RECP, as well as adopted and implemented by the private sector and SMEs specifically.
- Green certification could also be an incentive for promotion of green policies, favourable co-operation mechanisms between private sector and banks which should be supported by the government.
- Develop and demonstrate experimental RECP pilots to duplicate RECP business model for small businesses
- Installing “Green filters” for SMEs as a tool for cleaner production
- Develop and promote Resource efficiency in the field of agriculture and within farmer cooperatives to demonstrate benefits of RECP in food processing, waste management or re-use of existing by-products for innovative product delivery, serving as an additional income for farmers.

Project has suggested relevant solutions for SMEs to reduce emissions and pollution through demonstration of CO2 reduction and RECP:

- Introduction of energy efficiency measures in different SMEs,
- Reducing costs on electricity and improving emission control,
- Reduction of emissions and introduction of environmentally friendly, chemical free solutions in dry fruit production (Lukashin co-operative),
- Introduction of solar energy sources in fruit production,
- Reduction of CO2 in preserve production through steam generation,
- Recycling and reuse of waste water resulting in saving water resources for companies,
- Installation of carbon and/or UV filters which will permit save 90% of water loss and reuse water at least for technical purposes.

Milestones

- **RECP status report and new compilation of business cases** has been prepared by the project in 2017,
- **RECP center strategy and work plan** has been elaborated and consulted with responsible stakeholders and government,
- **Green club Replication Strategy for new regions** has been elaborated to mainstream RECP in new industries and sectors, as well as new locations,
- **Report on Gaps for financing for SMEs to implement RECP measures** has been compiled based on inquiries of business companies,
- **RECP Club Facilitators’ Manual and Workbook for RECP clubs** trialed in 4 regions. Green clubs were implemented with cooperation with Heads of local municipalities.

- **Diary Production, Construction Material and Chemical Pocket guides** were elaborated by UNIDO and with selected Armenian case studies used to demonstrate RECP application in the region, as well as discussed via online webinars.
- **RECP Primer for SMEs** is provided to stakeholders for comments, which were introduced in the second edition of the primer published in 2017 as guidance on RECP methodology adjusted to the local context, using examples of benefits and savings achieved as a result of RECP in practice used by Armenian SMEs.
- **Capacity building, including training on monitoring equipment**, has been conducted for the National RECP team to assist in further audits and enhancement of skills
- More information on RECP demonstration project activities can be found at www.rec.p.am.

For more information please contact

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