



Implementation of the 2019-2020 Programme of Work of the GREEN Action Task Force AS OF OCT 2020

Highlights



FOUR WORK PROGRAMME AREAS

- 1. National Green Economy Dialogues and Strategies**
- 2. Green Finance and Investment**
- 3. Integrating Environmental, Economic and Sectoral Policies for Green Growth**
- 4. Strengthening Water Management**



WORK PROGRAMME AREA 1: NATIONAL GREEN ECONOMY DIALOGUES AND STRATEGIES





1. National Green Economy Dialogues and Strategies

- Policy Dialogue on Green Economy, Sustainable Infrastructure and Water-Food-Energy Nexus in **Kazakhstan** (April 2019, Nur-Sultan)
- **Central Asia** Climate Change Conference (April 2019, Tashkent)
- Input to the **EaP** Panel on Environment and Climate Change (May 2019, Vienna)
- OECD/Task Force Panel at the **Astana Economic Forum** (May 2019, Astana)
- **Improving Access to Green Finance for SMEs in Georgia** (July 2019, Tbilisi)
- Green Growth Forum/International Seminar on **Greening the Financial System in Central and South Asia** (September 2019, Astana)
- Six EU4Environment launch meetings in April-June 2019 and six EU4Environment country consultations (May-July 2020)
- Regional Assembly meetings of the European Union for Environment (**EU4Environment**) Programme (June 2019 and September 2020)
- **Two GREEN Action Task Force meetings** September 2019 (Paris) and October 2020 (virtual)



WORK PROGRAMME AREA 2: GREEN FINANCE AND INVESTMENT



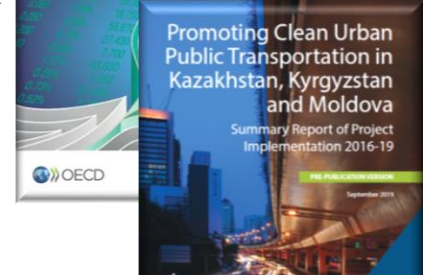
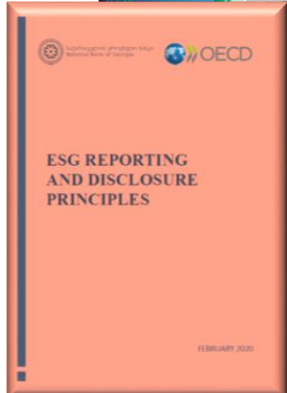
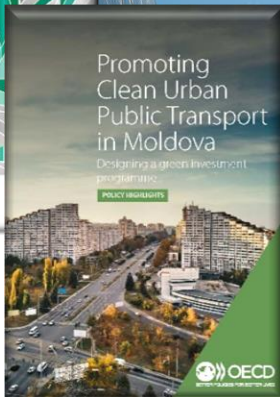
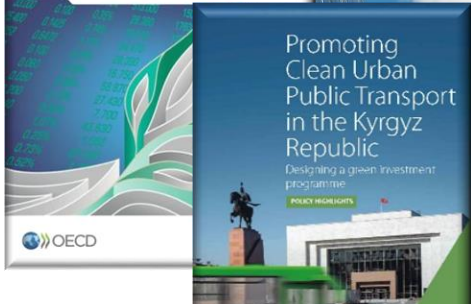


2. Green Finance and Investment: Meeting and Events

- Meeting on tracking green finance in Kazakhstan (Nur-Sultan, January 2019)
- Panel on ESG Risks and Transparency at 2nd Sustainable Finance Conference (Tbilisi, October 2019)
- Meetings with the management of the Development Bank of Kazakhstan and with key government partners (Nur-Sultan, January 2020)
- Workshop on depth-for-environmental swap in Kyrgyzstan (virtual May 2020)
- Several meetings with the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment of Moldova to develop support to the National Ecological Fund and feed in best international practice (virtual May-June-October 2020)
- Several meetings with the Ministry of Environment of Armenia to fine-tune investment needs assessment for climate action (virtual January-June 2020)
- Meeting to launch a project on increasing capacities of public authorities in Moldova to implement green public investment programmes (virtual, October 2020)
- Sustainable Infrastructure Programme's consultations with Uzbekistan (SCEEP, May 2020; MIET, July 2020), Tajikistan (MEDT, May 2020) Mongolia (several ministries, June 2020), Kazakhstan (MIID, August 2020)
- Participation in webinar Green Talks: Post-crisis investment opportunities in green technologies, organised by the International Green Technologies and Investment Projects Centre of Kazakhstan (virtual, July 2020)

2. Green Finance and Investment: Publications and reports

- **Energy Affordability** and Environmental Impacts of Reforming Major Energy Subsidy Schemes in Moldova
- Improving access to **green finance** for **SMEs in Georgia**
- Role of **National Environmental Funds** in Promoting Green Investments
- Reports on **green investment programmes in public transport in Moldova and Kyrgyzstan** and a summary report on three country projects (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Moldova)
- **Sustainable Infrastructure for Low-Carbon Development** in Central Asia and the Caucasus: Hotspot Analysis and Needs
- **Rapid assessment of sustainable infrastructure planning** in Armenia, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine,
- **Measuring green finance flows** in Kazakhstan
- **SME Policy Index: Eastern Partner Countries 2020**
- **Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting and Disclosure Principles** (by the National Bank of Georgia)
- **Fossil-Fuel Subsidies** in the EU's Eastern Partnership Countries: Estimates and Recent Policy Developments (forthcoming)
- **Banking for a green economy** in the Kyrgyz Republic: A household survey on access to and use of finance for green investment (forthcoming)
- Assessment of **Investment Needs for Climate Action** in Armenia (forthcoming)





2. Green Finance and Investment: Progress and Impact

- Strengthening collection of information on environmentally-related revenue and expenditure by the statistical system in **Kazakhstan**
- Approval of the ESG Disclosure Principles for commercial banks by the National Bank of **Georgia** (will become mandatory in 2021)
- Update of the OECD database of fossil fuel subsidies with information from the **EaP countries**
- Practical support to strengthening the National Ecological Fund in **Moldova** and accelerating efforts towards its institutional reform
- Closed evidence gap on household access to and use of green finance in **Kyrgyzstan**; helps develop main directions of i) banking and ii) non-banking system, iii) implementation of National Strategy 2018-2040
- Mobilising efforts for capital raising for climate action and green economy planning up to 2030 in **Armenia**
- Support in implementing environmental public expenditure programmes in **Moldova** with focus on clean urban transport
- Support to setting up debt-for-environment swap in **Kyrgyzstan**



PROGRAMME AREA 3:

**INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENTAL,
ECONOMIC AND SECTORAL POLICIES
FOR GREEN GROWTH**





3. Environment-Economy Integration: Meetings and Events

- workshop on the development to of the Green Growth Indicators report in Kazakhstan (Nur-Sultan, February 2019)
- workshop on the Polluter Pays Principle and changes to the Environmental Code (Nur-Sultan, February 2019)
- workshop on the sustainability and innovation in the mining sector in EECCA (Paris, April 2019)
- technical working group meeting on the update of the Environmental Code of Kazakhstan (Nur-Sultan, April 2019)
- Study visit from the Committee on Statistics of Kazakhstan on Green Growth Indicators (Paris, June 2019)
- workshop on reforming regulatory regimes towards Best Available Techniques (BAT)-based permit conditions in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (Seoul, October 2019)
- presentation of Kazakhstan's Green Growth Indicators report (Nur-Sultan, November 2019)
- meetings with the Georgian Ministry of Nature Protection and the Irish Clean Technology Centre to discuss development of General Binding Rules (virtual, April-May, 2020)
- meetings with the Moldova's SME Development Agency (ODIMM) and the Irish Clean Technology Centre to discuss development of self-assessment tool for SMEs (virtual, April-May, 2020)
- meetings with the Ministry of Environment and the SME Development Agency of Azerbaijan and the Irish Clean Technology Centre on support tools for greening SMEs (virtual, May-June 2020)



3. Environment-Economy Integration: Publications and Reports

- Addressing **Industrial Air Pollution** in Kazakhstan
- National report based on the OECD **green growth indicators** in Kazakhstan
- **Green growth in Moldova** using green growth indicators
- Review of **Extended Producer Responsibility Scheme** in Kazakhstan
- **Mining and green growth** in EECCA
- Contribution to the **UNECE Environmental Policy Review** of Kazakhstan





3. Environment-Economy Integration: Progress and Impacts

- strengthening collection information for green growth indicators in **Kazakhstan** and their incorporation into the statistical system
- development of the first ever report on green growth based on the OECD set of green growth indicators in **Moldova**
- initiation of, and contribution to, the reform of the Environmental Code of **Kazakhstan**
- development of General Binding Rules for regulating environmental performance of the poultry sector in **Georgia**
- development of self-assessment tool for greening SMEs in **Moldova**
- contribution to the **Moldovan** Greening SMEs National Program
- incorporation of green considerations into the operations the SME Development Agency of **Azerbaijan**
- **EECCA** specific contribution to the report on the implementation of the UNEA Resolution on sustainable mining



PROGRAMME AREA 4: STRENGTHENING WATER MANAGEMENT





4. Strengthening Water Management: Meetings and Events

Multi-stakeholder dialogues on water policy:

- EUWI+: policy dialogue meetings in 2019-20: **Azerbaijan** (July 2019), **Armenia** (October 2019), **Moldova** (October 2019), **Ukraine** (November 2019), **Belarus** (December 2019) and **Georgia** (March 2020)
- EUWI+ Week – including Annual Regional Steering Committee (November 2019)

Capacity building:

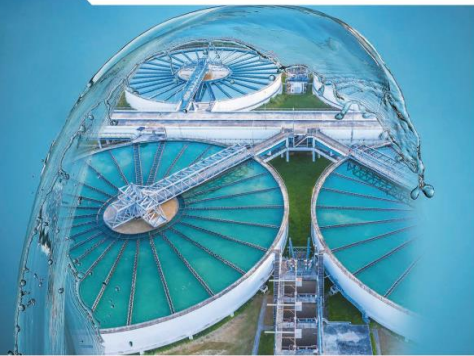
- Workshop on Economic Instruments for Strengthening Water Management with 6 **EaP countries** and selected **Central Asian** experience (November 2019)
- **EaP Regional** workshop on equitable and sustainable water allocation in transboundary basins (October 2020)

Expert meetings:

- Upper Dnieper Basin Council meeting in **Belarus** - presentation of results of pilot actions to support implementation of the National Water Strategy and RBMPs (December 2019)
- Expert meeting on sludge treatment in **Moldova** (July 2020)
- Expert meeting on Economic Instruments for managing water resources and infrastructure in **Moldova** (August 2020)

4. Strengthening Water Management: Publications and Reports

- Enhancing the Economic Regulatory System for **Moldova's** Water Supply and Sanitation (in Eng and Rus) (December 2019)
- Policy Perspectives for irrigation sector reform in **Tajikistan** (May 2020)
- Support to UNECE 3rd EPR of **Uzbekistan**, chapter on Water Management (November 2019)
- Water Policy Outlooks for **Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine** – *forthcoming*
- Summary report on water security in **Belarus** – *forthcoming*
- OECD Environment working paper on water security indicators in **Kazakhstan** – *forthcoming*
- Project reports (2019-2020):
 - Guidelines to Achieve Greater Levels of Water Security (pilot tested in **Kyrgyzstan**);
 - Analysis of harmful subsidies to the irrigation sector of **Armenia**;
 - Recommendations on revising water use and wastewater discharge norms in **Belarus**
 - Developing water standards for the Lake Sevan to support WWTP investment planning (**Armenia**);
 - Recommendations on developing potable water supply systems in rural settlements of Kopyl rayon of Minsk oblast in **Belarus**
 - On developing methodologies for monitoring “nationalised” SDG 6.3-6.5 indicators in **Belarus**
 - On improving the use of economic instruments for water management in **Moldova**
 - Draft training materials on economic instruments for water management (**Belarus, Moldova**)





4. Strengthening Water Management: Progress and Impact

Improving strategic planning (2019-20)

- Draft Water Strategy till 2030 passed public hearings in **Belarus** and passed to the UNECE-led SEA stage (2019)
- Roundtables on conceptualising **Ukraine's** water strategy (Lviv, July & September 2019)
- Inter-ministerial consultation on new national water strategy in **Georgia** (2019)
- Cross-sector consultation on draft water strategy and its action plan for implementation in **Azerbaijan** ahead of approval (2019-20)



4. Strengthening Water Management: Progress and Impact

Increasing water security

- New norms for water use and wastewater discharges developed and introduced by water-intensive enterprises in **Belarus** (November 2019)
- Approval of methodologies for monitoring “nationalised” SDG 6.3-6.5 indicators in **Belarus** (November 2019). The methodologies were elaborated with support from EUWI+.
- Approval of a new State Programme on Water Supply and Sanitation in **Kyrgyzstan** (June 2020). The programme was elaborated in line with recommendations developed with support of the GREEN Action Task Force through the recent FinWaterWEI-II programme.
- Adoption of an updated national Water Supply and Sanitation Strategy to 2030 and associated mid-term Action Plan in **Moldova** (July 2020). Its implementation will help ensure access to safe drinking water and proper sanitation in line with SDG 6 and improve living standards and health and contribute to the country’s green economic development.
- Adoption of the Code of Practice establishing new norms for design and construction of small-scale water supply systems in **Moldova** (September 2020). The packages in **Moldova** were elaborated with support of the GREEN Action Task Force through EUWI+.