

# Policy dialogue with the civil society in addressing mercury risks

Implemented by  
**Armenian Women for Health and Healthy  
Environment NGO**

## Project Objective

Promotion of civic engagement in national policy dialogue on the global mercury treaty



## Activities

1. Creation of enabling environment for participation of Armenian NGOs in the dialogue on mercury.

- Establishment of a working group on mercury in the Public Environmental Alliance of NGOs and organization of three information exchange meetings
- Development of a letter or appeal



## Activities (cont'd)

2. Enhancing awareness of relevant stakeholders in assessing, managing and reducing the risks to human health and the environment posed by mercury and mercury containing waste.
  - A round table discussion for decision-makers, international organizations, NGOs, mining business sector; journalists on national priorities on mercury-related issues
  - Dissemination of the round table results, i.e. press release for local mass media and international NGO networks and a press conference)

3. Extending the role of Yerevan Aarhus Centre in assisting the CSOs in assessing, managing and reducing mercury risks round hotspots of Nubarashen city dumpsite and Yerevan-based Makur Yerkat smelting plan.
  - Organization of a workshop on using the potential of Yerevan Aarhus Centre in assessing the risks for the environment and human health in hotspots, i.e. Nubarashen dumpsite, Makur Yerkat smelting plant, etc.
  - Preparation and dissemination of the fact sheet and the booklet through Public Environmental Alliance, Armenian environmental journalist networks (e.g. Ecolur), etc.

## Outcomes

1. A local NGO takes part in the intergovernmental negotiating committee for UN Minamata Convention on Mercury.
2. Draft convention text is available in Armenian to facilitate local and national review and discussions
3. Civic engagement in support of the Convention
4. A coalition and a network of governmental agencies and NGOs in place to address this issue.
5. Public awareness generated on mercury and its implications on health and environment.



# Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment NGO

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# *Prevention of a man-made disaster*

Implemented by

**“Varvogh Astgh“ (Burning Star) NGO**



## Project Objective

Providing irrefutable evidence on a man-made disaster in city of Hrazdan based on a scientific research



## Project Activities

1. Research are conducted in 6 areas and corresponding seminars are organized
2. Information on Hrazdan Iron Mine as a man-made disaster was distributed through news releases and Aarhus information channels
3. Outcomes of research are compiled into a booklet and distributed to educational institutions, environmental departments, other government offices and all news outlets
4. An eco-education curriculum about the environment for the upper classes in Hrazdan regional schools, colleges and university are developed
5. An Environmental Demonstration Plot is developed, trees and plants are planted

## Project Outcomes

- In 13 schools, 61 teachers taught about the outcomes of the research to 1039 students
- 8 environmental experts presented seminars for the project staff, project consultants, environmental officials of Kotayk Marz and Hrazdan City, members of the Healthy Hrazdan group and Hrazdan Television
- The booklet summarizing the results of the research was distributed among the citizens of Hrazdan town
- Awareness-raising campaigns (including on TV and radio and other activities led to postponing of the launch of operation of the iron mine in Hrazdan

## “Varvogh Astgh“ (Burning Star) NGO

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Increasing Energy Efficiency in the  
kindergarten “Ani Partez” using low-carbon  
technologies

Implemented by

**“Ferti Charitable Center” NGO**



## Project Objective

Installation of a hot water supply system at “Ani Partez” Kindergarten in Gyumri using low-carbon technologies.



## Activities

1. Designing and adjusting technical parameters of the installed system.
2. Installation and testing of the system
3. Launching of the system and monitoring of implemented works



4. Trainings for the staff that will maintain the system
5. Development of the content for seminars and trainings.
6. Seminars and trainings for the staff of the kindergarten, students, NGO representatives and other interested participants, with a purpose of exchanging experience





## Outcomes

1. A solar water heating system in the kindergarten is installed.
2. The system is fully granted and operated by the kindergarten
3. Staff of the kindergarten, students NGO representatives and other interested parties are informed and trained on utilization of solar water heating systems

## **Results in figures**

### **Daily Consumption:**

- Electricity - 5 KWH per day
- Natural gas - 20 m<sup>3</sup> per day

### **Monthly financial saving for water heating:**

- 60,000-80,000 AMD (approximately 140 EURO)

### **Emissions per month:**

- CO<sup>2</sup> and greenhouse gases: 1.8 t

### **Energy consumption annually:**

- Natural gas - 5,800 m<sup>3</sup>
- Electricity - 1500 KWH

# **"Ferti Charitable Center" NGO**

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## Land Conservation through Local Production of Bio-humus in Gorayk



Implemented by Human Dignity and Peace (HDP) Foundation

## Project objectives and expected results

### Objectives

- Establishment of biohumus production (particularly, in 5 households) in Gorayk community, using new technologies
- Support growth of income for households that will contribute in improved economic/ life conditions
- Promotion of sustainable soil management and prevention of soil degradation



### Expected results

- ▶ Production of 12,000 kg of biohumus
- ▶ Capacity building for 50 families on biohumus production using new technologies

## Establishment of biohumus production September – October 2013

- ▶ A meeting with 40 took place in community, where project activities were presented
- ▶ An announcement was placed in the community. 8 applications for pilot households were received and 5 were selected
- ▶ All necessary materials for biohumus production were purchased



## Establishment of biohumus production September – October 2013 (cont'd)

- 8-meter long and 4-meter wide areas were outlined, a straw was laid down, covered by 8 tones of manure mixed with Californian worms
- In the winter, the area was covered by polyethylene cover to secure the humidity needed



# Final outcomes

- 4 trainings with corresponding materials are developed
- Trainings are organized for 50 beneficiaries
- The project banner, the brochure, fliers, a booklet on biohumus production were developed, printed and distributed
- The project was illuminated in the Agrolratu (Agronews) newspaper







# HDP Foundation

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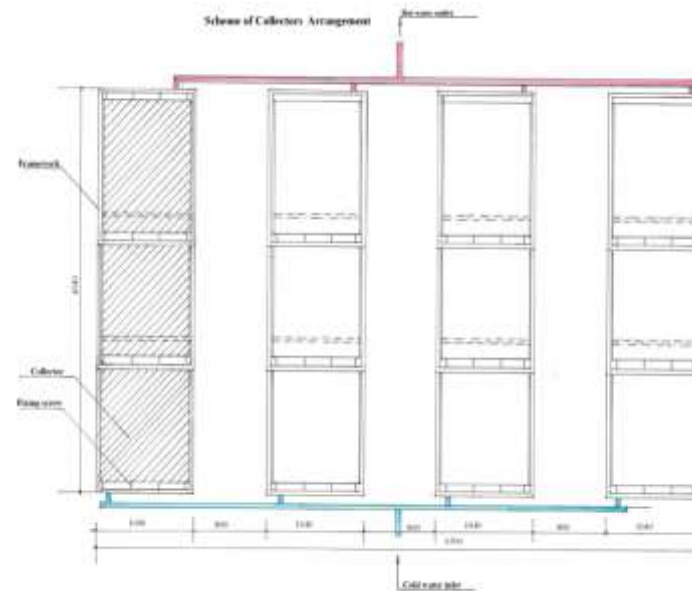
# “Installation of Solar Water Heating System in Village of Kanachut”

Implemented by  
**"Khazer" Ecological and Cultural NGO**



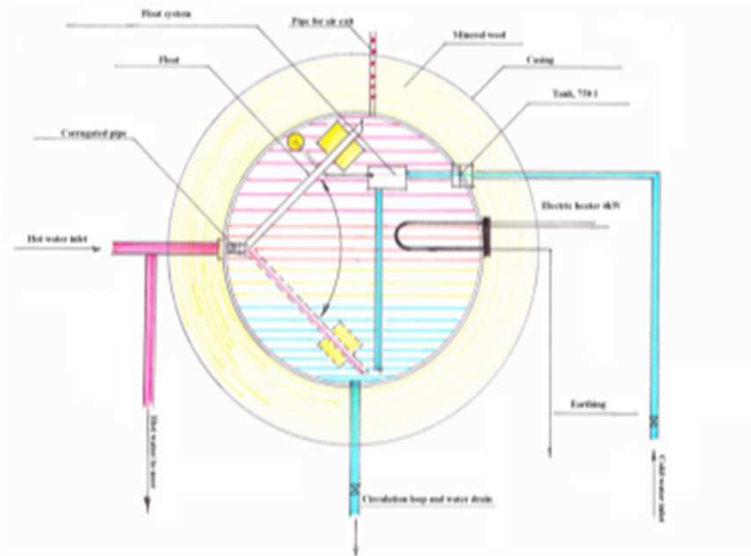
## Project Objective

Demonstrating effectiveness and efficiency as well as feasibility of the use of solar energy as an alternative energy source through the practical construction and utilization of Solar water heating system



## Activities

1. Preparing the design of solar hot water system.
2. Technical works on installation of solar system.
3. Registering solar system performance
4. Preparation of educational materials and reports



## Outcomes

1. Solar hot water system is installed in the village school
2. Solar hot water system is monitored. Educational materials and reports are prepared and disseminated. Trainings and meetings are organized and implemented
3. As a result, 600l of hot water (60-70 °C) is produced every day, 50kWh of electricity is saved and release of 22 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> is reduced



# "Khazer" Ecological and Cultural NGO



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# Sustainable Agricultural Development in Kapan Marz

Implemented by  
**Kapan Small Farmers' Association NGO**



## Overall Objective

Sustainable agricultural development of the region by introducing advanced methods of soil management and environmentally-friendly production practices



## **Project Objectives**

1. Establishment of 2 demonstrative/ pilot farms based on advanced production methods in 2 target communities
2. Training of 40 farmers (50 % women) from 2 communities aimed at obtaining practical knowledge on sustainable agricultural and cattle breeding methods
3. Dissemination of knowledge gained and lessons learned in other communities.

## Activities

- Sevakar and Tchakaten communities were selected as a result of the meetings/ consultations with community and farmers
- 2-day training courses were organized for 45 farmers(25 women)
  - Organic Animal Husbandry, 22-23 April 2013.
  - Sustainable Agriculture, 25-26 April 2013.



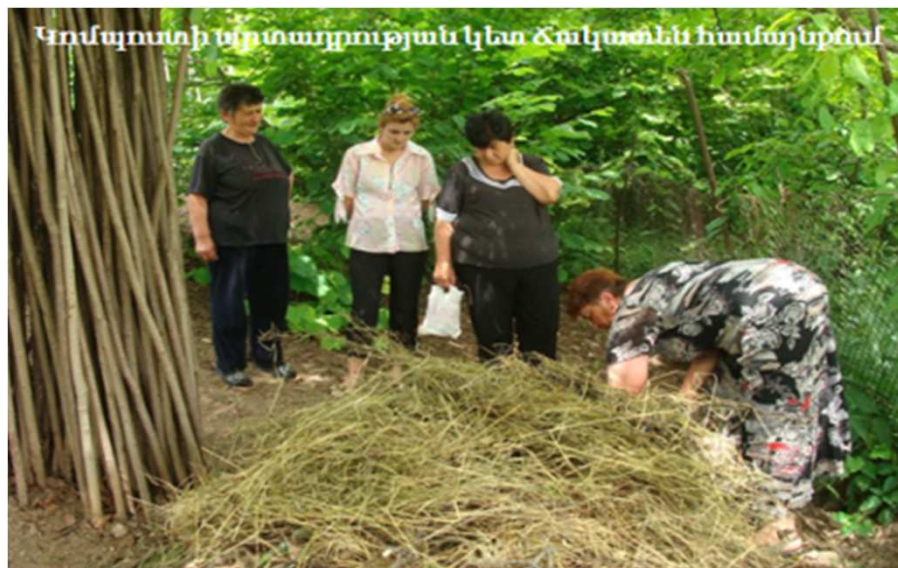
## Activities (cont'd)

1. Two bio humus and compost production units were established with a capacity of 10 tons per year
2. Two drip irrigation systems were installed
3. 2 farm field days were organized with the participation of the other farmers.
4. Project activities were covered by local TV channels, a film was prepared and shown to communities.



## Project Outcomes

1. 45 farmers from 2 beneficiary communities gained and/or improved their knowledge and skills on sustainable agricultural and cattle breeding methods.



2. Establishment of two units for bio humus and compost production with a capacity of 70 tons overall

# Results (cont'd)

**3.** Environmentally-friendly production in 2 farms. Improved livelihood of farmers of two farming households.

**4.** Improved environmental situation in target communities. Rational use of water resources



# **Kapan Small Farmers' Association NGO**

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Revitalizing and Flourishing Meghri  
Implemented by  
**Meghri Women's Resource Center**



## Project Objective

Supporting improvement of the environmental situation of the town of Meghri and villages of Lichk and Vardanidzor through active involvement of local organizations, members of the communities and representatives of local government





## Activities

1. Project presentation at the MWRC NGO office to interested community members from the town of Meghri, Lichk village and Vardanidzor village is organized
2. Environmental actions by the initiative of young citizens are implemented
3. A discussion meeting with the population of the communities regarding the creation of green zones is organized.



## Activities (cont'd)

4. A competition entitled “Clean and green yard” is conducted
5. “Plant and protect your tree” tree-planting event is implemented.
6. Environmental committee (attached to the Local Government) is formed.
7. A competition called “Clean and green yard” is organized.
8. An environmental project proposal for the community and submit it to the City Council is developed.



## Project Outcomes

- Youth activists groups are formed in Meghri, Vardanidzor and Litch communities
- 35 young citizens improved their knowledge in the environmental protection field at the training
- Increased participation of community members in creation and maintenance of green zones
- Flash mobs, cleaning activities, discussions and signature campaign were organized
- Posters and booklets are printed and distributed



## Project outcomes (cont'd)

- 380 decorative trees are planted
- Video clips, articles and photos were placed at <http://meghrinews.com/>, <http://www.syunikwrc.net> websites, to inform the local communities and the country's citizens on environmental issues, as well as to create joint efforts among local governments
- A Facebook focusing on environmental issues of Meghri was established





# Meghri Women's Resource Center NGO



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*The Regional Environmental Organization for the Caucasus  
Armenian branch office*

## Development of Local Environmental Action Plan (LEAP) For the town of Charentsavan

Implemented by REC Caucasus Armenia



*2014*



# Project Main Objective

- ❖ LEAP is an integrated system of environmental planning and action, which implies cooperation between all segments of the society including, authorities, business and civil sectors for the purposes of identifying and addressing the environmental challenges faced by the community.
- ❖ The **aim** of this project is development of a Local Environmental Action Plan for the town of Charentsavan targeting improvement of environmental management and practical application of environmental planning at local level by means of public participation in environmental decision-making process and cross-sectoral cooperation.



## Detailed project objectives:

- To improve environmental conditions in the community by implementing concrete, cost-effective action strategies;
  - To promote public awareness of and responsibility for environmental issues, and to increase public support for action strategies and investments;
- To strengthen the capacity of both local government and NGOs to manage and implement environmental projects, including their ability to obtain financing from national and international institutions and sponsors;
- To promote partnerships between citizens, local government officials, NGO representatives, scientists, and business people, and to learn to work together in solving community problem;
- To identify, assess, and set environmental priorities for action based on community values and scientific data.





## Project activities

- ❖ Activity 1. Inception City Conference and selection of Stakeholders Committee
- ❖ Activity 2. Development of Environmental Status Report (ESR)
- ❖ Activity 3. Final meeting and dissemination of the documents



## Project outcomes:

- ❖ Local self-government is armed with LEAP, identifying specific actions for solving problems and promoting the vision of the community
- ❖ Citizens of Charentsavan have better understanding of environmental situation in the city and their impact on it
- ❖ LEAP serves as a guide for governmental and non-governmental organizations in designing their environmental projects
- ❖ Representatives of different sectors cooperate in LEAP development process and follow-up activities
- ❖ Status Environment Report for Charentsavan is produced and disseminated



REC Caucasus Armenia

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# Development of solar water heating system using recycled materials

Implemented by

**"Spitak-Farmer" Association Supporting the  
Agriculture NGO**

## Project Objective

Promotion of use of solar energy for hot water generation and its utilization for agricultural production.



## Project Activities

1. Development of solar water heating system using recycled materials and increasing public awareness on benefits of renewable energy among local farmers
2. Organization trainings for all participating farmers.
3. Development and dissemination of brochures and technical training guidelines
4. Establishment of a demonstrative farm
5. Broadcasting activities through community radio programmes



## Project Outcomes

1. Solar water heating systems are installed
2. Reduced conventional energy consumption, production costs and fuel combustion emissions (40-50% and 8-10 percent respectively).
3. Awareness of local farmers on benefits of using renewable energy is increased





"Spitak-Farmer" Association Supporting the Agriculture NGO

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## **Sustainable energy: Experience and Use of Air to Water Heat Pump System in Greenhouses of Basen Mommunity of Shirak Marz**



**Implemented by “Third Naturee” NGO**

## Project Objectives

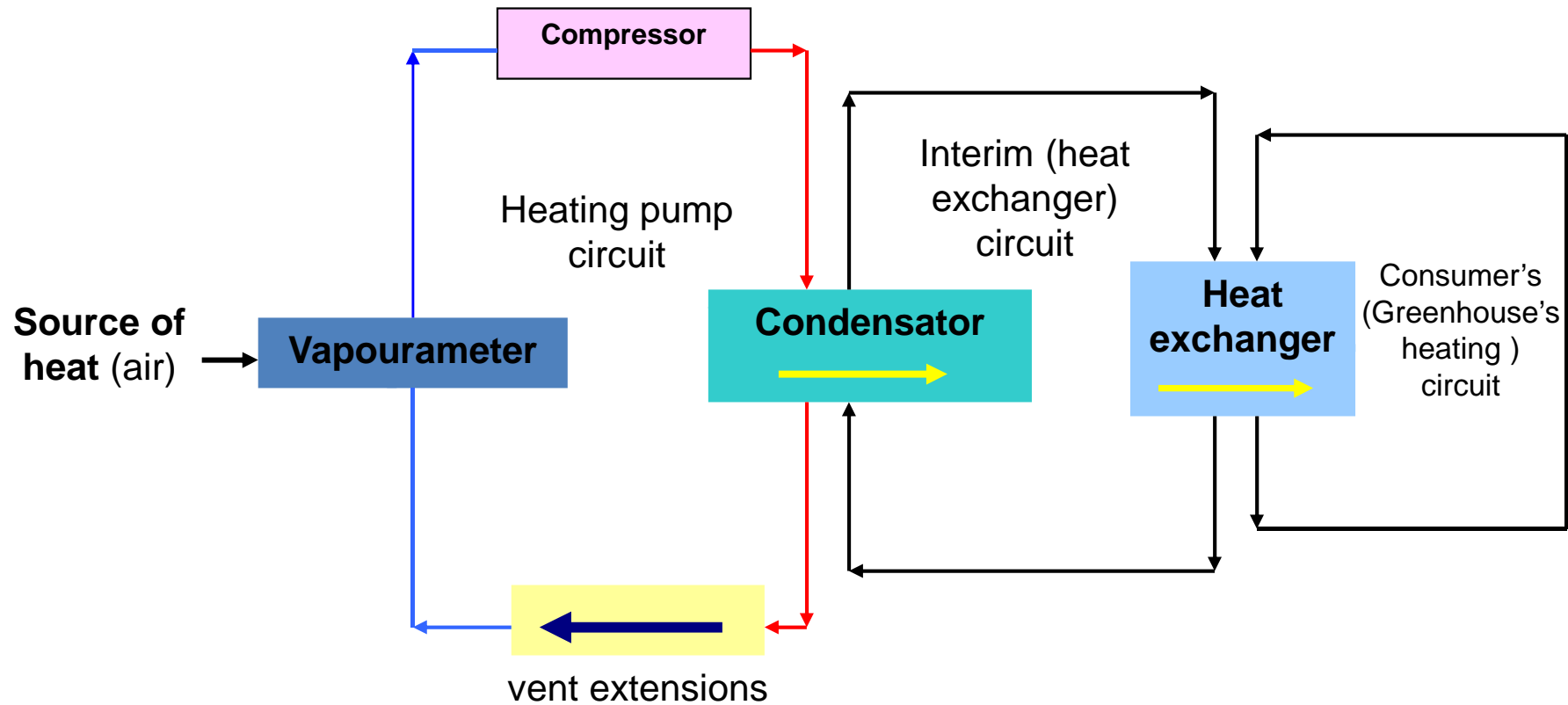
### Long-term objectives:

- Development and Implementation of Sustainable and Eco-friendly Energy
- Raising level of awareness and knowledge in this respect

### Short-term objective:

- Use of Air to Water Heat Pump System in Greenhouses of Basen Community of Shirak Marz

# Basen Community Air to Water Heat Pump System

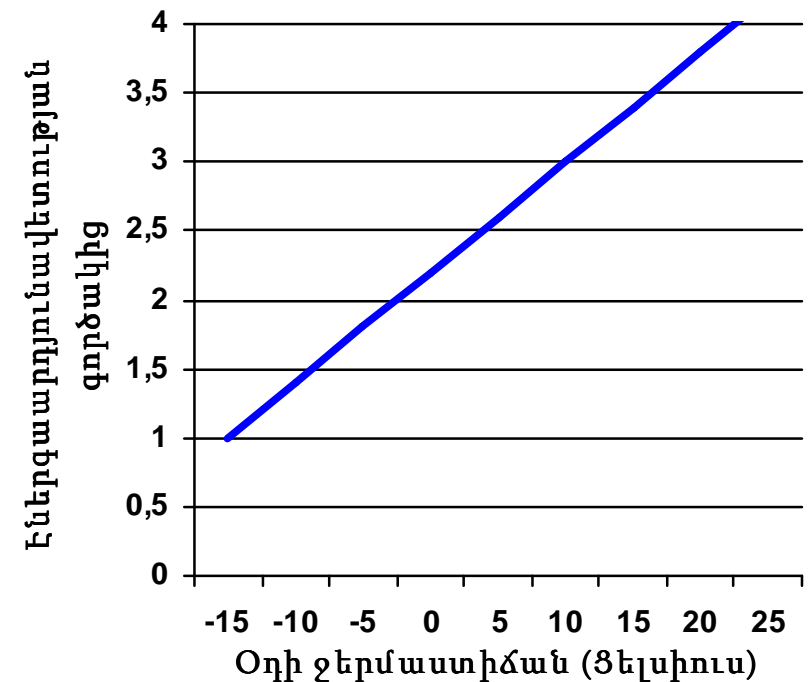


The scheme of Air to Water Heat Pump System

# Greenhouse heat pump system energy efficiency

Depending on the operating and weather conditions

- 1 kWh of electricity used can produce up to 3-4 kWh of thermal energy
- Maximum production capacity - **12 kWh** է,
- Compressor Expenditure Capacity – **3 kW** :
- Energy efficiency ratio range - **2-2,3** →  
1 kWh of electricity - 2-2,3 kWh of thermal energy
- **BUT**
- **-15 ° C Energy efficiency ratio range – 1**



## Project beneficiaries

### Direct beneficiaries:

- Basen Community kindergarden
  - 54 pupil
  - 8 employees
- Local Governmental Body
- Civic society groups
- Village population

### Indirect beneficiaries:

- Armenian society
- NGOs and other stakeholders interested in sustainable and eco-friendly energy sector in Armenia

# Loop Heat Pipe System Testing





# Sustainable energy: Experience and Use of Air to Water Heat Pump System in Greenhouses of Basen Mommunity of Shirak Marz

“Third Nature” NGO

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# **“Healthy Environment” Educational Public Awareness Project**

Implemented by

**“Youth for Achievements” (YFA) Educational NGO**



## Project Objective

Bringing environmental issues to the attention of youth and wider communities of Hrazdan and Sevan towns by actively engaging them in interactive learning and inquisitive practicing processes.



## Project Activities

- Conducting series of trainings on environmental issues for 400 students of 8 secondary schools from Hrazdan and Sevan towns.
- Organization of public marches in target towns.
- Raising the awareness on the issues discussed among the population of Armenia through local media, preparing 15-minute film prepared and aired via 2 TV channels with countrywide coverage to ensure wider coverage and diverse audience.



## Project Outcomes

- Contacts were established with Ministry of Education and Science, local authorities and school administrations.
- Environmental trainings in selected Hrazdan and Sevan schools were provided.
- Environmental marches were organised in Hrazdan and Sevan towns.
- Visibility and awareness raising documentary was produced and aired on 2 national TV channels
- Leaflets and posters were produced and distributed.



## **“Youth for Achievements” (YFA) Educational NGO**

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***“Raising awareness on pesticides as endocrine disruptors in Armenia”***

Implemented by

**Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment NGO**

# Project Objectives

1. To increase the stakeholders' awareness on the risk to the human health posed by pesticides, such as Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDC);
2. To investigate agricultural plots (soil and grown products) in 5 rural communities for EDC;



# Project Outcomes

1.1 sample soil and water in 5 (five) target communities;

1.2 conduct a survey among farmers on the pesticide related diseases and on practices of application of pesticides (as EDCs);



## Project Outcomes cont'd

2.1 A leaflet is developed on EDCs in the Armenian language and is disseminated in 5 target communities;

2.2 Public education meetings are conducted for 100 farmers on pesticides and EDCs;

2.3 A seminar is organized on EDCs for the key stakeholders (focus: NGOs and journalists);

2.4 A network on EDCs is established, created with the participation of health and environmental NGOs;

2.5 A project page is developed on the AWHHE's website.





# **Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment NGO**

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# ***“Strengthening Stepanavan City Resilience”***

Implemented by

**Lore Rescue Team NGO**

# Project Objectives

- To build a culture of safety and resilience in Stepanavan city through minimizing their exposure to seismic and other risks by enhancing disaster management capacities of local actors, specifically of schools and preschools;

# Project Outcomes

1. The Seismic Risk Assessment for Stepanavan city is conducted based on the City Scenario methodology and the results are integrated into the Stepanavan Development Plan 2014-2017;
2. 6 schools and 3 preschools in Stepanavan are assessed against seismic and other risks; recommendations are developed;

## Project Outcomes cont'd

3. Disaster Risk Reduction Plans for 6 schools and 3 preschools are developed and put into implementation with active participation of school/preschool administration / teachers, parents, community members and students, including children with disabilities and representatives of minorities.



## **Lore Rescue Team NGO**

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***“Raising the awareness of the population in the target communities on the assessed hazards and risks”***

Implemented by

**Environmental Research and GIS Center NGO**

# Project Objectives

- To raise the awareness of the population on the assessed hazards and risks of natural disasters;



# Project Outcomes

1. Natural disaster risks in the target communities are assessed.
2. The awareness of the population on the natural disaster hazards and risks is raised.
3. The disaster prevention and risk reduction measures are outlined and put into implementation.



# **Environmental Research and GIS Center NGO**

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# **One step forward to Green Economy in Armenia**

Implemented by  
Ecology for Peaceful Eco-existence NGO

# Project Objectives

- Enhance and expand efforts to identify and address major knowledge gaps in green growth theory and practice, and to help organizations design and implement policies to move towards a green economy
- Propose a framework that provides a common basis for further developing of green growth and green economy indicators, with a special focus on the economy-environment nexus.

# Project Outcomes

- Identification and registration of the local companies according to the economy sector and individual risk summary using NACE Rev. 2 classification of economic activities and risk evaluation methodology
- Identification and registration of the local companies according to the economy sector and individual risk summary using NACE Rev. 2 classification of economic activities and risk evaluation methodology

## Project Outcomes (cont'd)

- Development of a database for year 2008 - 2014 containing the relevant data: company profile, number of emission sources, atmospheric emissions of harmful substances, quantity of water withdrawal and wastewater, number of harmful substances contained in wastewater, the waste hazard class (according to species, groups, volumes and flow)



# **Ecology for Peaceful Coexistence NGO**

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# **Study and preserve rare and extincting plant species of Armenia**

Implemented by  
**Biodiversity and landscapes  
conservation union NGO**



# Project Objectives

- Increase the interest of society in issues related to eventual reduction of unique biodiversity of Armenia, degradation of natural landscapes and eradication of many valuable plant species through unsustainable usage of resources

## Project Outcomes

- Development of program for 3 routes familiarization tours in the botanical garden based on thematic framework and situated appropriate explants to study plant growing techniques. Organization of up to 6 familiarization tours by Environmental Education specialist, for groups of 15-20 schoolchildren from different regions.
- Development of information materials including information tablets with additional info about the status of plants (in numbers, in comparisons-to make facts more thrilling), color illustrations and practice recommendations.



# **Biodiversity and Landscapes Conservation Union NGO**

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# **Nature for Women**

Implemented by

**Foundation for the preservation of wild  
life and cultural assets**

# Project Objectives

- Improving capacity and knowledge of this specific target group and offer them new income sources for example in organic farming/gardening and marketing of homemade products, in eco-tourism or in the sustainable harvesting of wild crops and the processing of these crops into quality products

# Project Outcomes

- Reduction of poverty and social marginalisation of women in the involved rural communities by offering them new income sources basing on the sustainable use of natural resources
- Mitigation of risks to the livelihoods of the locals such as landslides and desertification
- Improvement of communal environmental governance and increased public participation in decisions about local environmental issues in the involved rural communities.



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