

STRATEGIC ISSUES

Missing strategy on water sector data management

Insufficient interinstitutional cooperation

Lack of technical and human resources

AGREEMENTS

- Development of a framework document for water sector data management, which will specify the powers and obligations of all interested bodies.
- Revision of the decision of the Government of the Republic of Armenia on the management of the state water cadastre, based on the information needs of all interested departments.
- Continuous monitoring of the implementation of Armenia's international obligations related to water monitoring and data management.
- Institutionalization of Armenian Ecoportal and introduction of encouraging mechanisms for data exchange, identification of mutually beneficial cooperation.

AGREEMENTS

- Improving educational programs, making them attractive to young people.
- Involvement of the potential of scientific organizations in policy making and decision making processes.
- Development of joint postgraduate programs between Armenian and foreign universities.
- Implementation of projects encouraging Citizen Science.
- Promotion of public-private sector cooperation in the field of education.
- Joint use of available resources.
- Provision of environmental information services to the private sector (commercialization).

IMPLEMENTED MEASURES

- The Lake Sevan section of the Ecoportal was developed, which was placed on the MoEnv server located in EKENG.
- "In cooperation with the EU4Environment Water Resources and Data project, a draft framework document for water sector data management in RA was developed.
- With a participatory approach, the comprehensive concept of monitoring of the Lake Sevan basin was developed, which will contribute to the justified planning of the development of environmental monitoring in the Lake Sevan basin. It supported the adoption of the RA government's decision to allocate 60 million AMD per year from the state budget to cover operational costs of monitoring (for 2024-2026).
- The technical (mobile SUV-based laboratory, monitoring equipment) and human (data analysis training) capacities of Armhydromet have been strengthened to ensure uninterrupted monitoring of important environmental indicators.

IMPLEMENTED MEASURES

- Maps of the land cover and anthropogenic pressures of the Lake Sevan basin have been developed, which are currently used by local governments to provide reliable data for knowledge-based decision-making. These maps are also available on Ecoportal.
- The Hydrological Modeling Group of UFZ, together with Armhydromet specialists, has developed a water balance model for the Lake Sevan basin, which will also support the assessment of climate change impacts and future monitoring needs.
- Groundwater monitoring capacities in the Lake Sevan basin has been strengthened through joint field research and sampling, equipment and knowledge transfer. This will improve water resource management through a better understanding of surface and groundwater interactions, which have so far been poorly studied.