



The Project is funded
by the European Union



Covenant of Mayors
for Climate & Energy
CoM East

CoM East Newsletter 3rd issue

December 2016 – August 2017

ARMENIA IN FOCUS

COVENANT OF MAYORS GOING ARMENIA

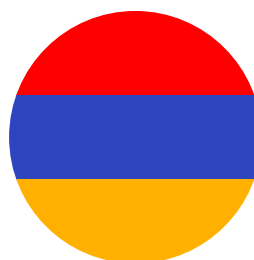
COM EAST EVENTS IN ARMENIA

COVENANT OF MAYORS – DEMONSTRATION
PROJECT IN ARMENIA

COM EAST CAPACITY
BUILDING ACTIVITIES

CENTRAL AND NATIONAL
HELPDESKS

PROMOTING NEW
COVENANT



NUMBER OF
SIGNATORIES **21**

ACTIVE
SIGNATORIES **17**

SEAP
SUBMITTED **8**

”



Republic of Armenia has always been one of the countries in focus of the European Neighbourhood Policy and of the EU Eastern Partnership Initiative. As a landlocked country with limited energy resources and high dependency on imported fuels, Armenia has been listing energy independence and sustainability as one of its top priorities. No wonder, that **High-level International Conference “Fostering sustainable development in Eastern Partnership countries”** gathered representatives from all Eastern Partnership countries in Yerevan on October 26, 2016 announcing a launch of the second phase of the EU funded project Covenant of Mayors East (CoM East) in the Eastern Partnership countries. CoM East in Armenia aims to support local authorities in implementing sustainable energy policies, reducing their dependency on fossil fuels, improving the security of energy supply, and facilitates their contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Up to now 17 Armenian municipalities have become active members of the Covenant of Mayors, receiving a dedicated support from the European Union and international donors. Concrete steps and measures have been already taken by the Armenian Covenant Signatories to outline municipal sustainable energy strategies aimed to assess actual energy consumption and CO₂ emission in key sectors, identify energy saving potential and propose activities to improve energy efficiency and facilitate utilization of renewables on local level. Implementation of municipal strategies called Sustainable Energy (Climate) Action Plans (SE(C)APs) will help local communities benefit from better energy services, lower municipal energy bills, attract more energy efficiency investments, create new jobs and additional income to municipal budget. With the support of CoM East project and its partners, eight Armenian Signatories have already developed their SEAPs committing to achieve annual energy saving of 578.000 MWh and associated CO₂ reduction of 261.000 t by 2020.

Covenant actors in Armenia share common objective: to ensure an ecologically safe, socially and financially stable condition to their citizens and assist in saving the world from environmental disasters and slowing climate change.

*Anush Begloian,
CoM East Communication Expert in Armenia*

“





The Project is funded
by the European Union

December 2016 – August 2017

COVENANT OF MAYORS GOING ARMENIA

Energy Week 2017



On January 25–27, 2017, Yerevan hosted a series of conferences, round-tables and an exhibition of energy efficient equipment to demonstrate the progress of the Republic of Armenia in energy saving and renewable energy sources at the Energy Week 2017. The event was organised by Armenia Renewable Resources and Energy Efficiency Fund. The representative of the Covenant Supporter in Armenia and the Foundation to Save Energy, Ms Astghine Pasoyan, presented key information on the implementation of CoM initiative in the country and stressed the role of local governments in fostering energy conservation and increasing national energy security.

Extended session of Interdepartmental Council of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change



High-level discussion on the opportunities, as well as social and economic challenges associated with the implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement in Armenia, took place in Yerevan on January 31, 2017. The event was supported by the EU Delegation to the Republic of Armenia, the Ministry of Nature Protection of RA, the United Nations Development Programme and the EU project "Clima East". Mr Artem Kharazyan, CoM East National Expert in Armenia, was invited to deliver a presentation about the fundamental development stages of CoM initiative since 2008, as well as to outline the main objectives and expected results of the "Covenant of Mayors East" project. Particular attention was paid to the role of the CoM Signatory cities in the process of fulfilling Armenia's obligations under the Paris Agreement.

Workshop-training on the basics of energy management, modern lighting system design and "green" procurement opportunities for Armenian communities



The event was organised by UNDP Armenia on July 6–7, 2017, within the framework of the "Green Urban Lighting" and "De-risking and Scaling-up Investment in Energy Efficient Retrofits" UNDP-GCF projects in cooperation with the Union of Communities of Armenia. Introduction of theoretical and practical principles of urban energy management and presentation of the experience of different countries in the field of energy management were in the focus of the workshop. Within the scope of informal cooperation between UNDP Armenia and the CoM East project, the new Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy initiative was presented at the introductory session.



The Project is funded
by the European Union

December 2016 – August 2017

COM EAST EVENTS IN ARMENIA

■ Workshop on strengthening the potential of CoM East Signatories



On May 22–23, 2017, Yerevan hosted an awareness raising and capacity building workshop tailored for technical experts and energy managers of nine CoM East Signatory cities. It was organised by the “Covenant of Mayors East” project to provide comprehensive information on the structure, content and methodical requirements for the development of the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP). The goals and procedures of the new Covenant, as well as the advanced climate change mitigation and adaptation practices were also in focus.

■ EU Sustainable Energy Days 2017 in Armenia



On July 3–7, 2017, a series of awareness raising seminars on municipal energy efficiency and climate change adaptation measures were addressed to the CoM Signatories in Armenia.

The events were organised by the EU-funded “Covenant of Mayors East” project with the support of the EU Delegation to the Republic of Armenia in cooperation with Union of Communities of Armenia as part of the EU4Energy Programme. Four on-site seminars held in Hrazdan, Vanadzor, Gyumri and Masis were aimed at raising awareness of municipal stakeholders on new targets of the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, introducing various aspects of municipal energy management, presenting best practices for energy efficiency in buildings and lighting, discussing climate change

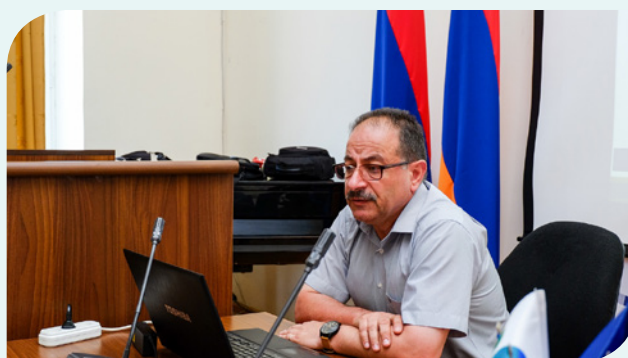
risks and consequences for Armenia and analysing advanced local and international practice of adaptation measures. The events provided a platform for direct communication on sustainable energy and climate-related matters among the project experts and local stakeholders. Mr Artem Kharazyan, CoM East National Expert in Armenia, presented key aspects, requirements and procedures within the new Covenant.





The Project is funded
by the European Union

December 2016 – August 2017



Learn more about thematic events in the framework of the EU
Sustainable Energy Week 2017 in other EaP countries!

<http://www.soglasheniemerov.eu>





The Project is funded
by the European Union

December 2016 – August 2017



COVENANT OF MAYORS – DEMONSTRATION PROJECT IN ARMENIA

Vayk and Spitak foster the usage of secure, clean and renewable energy



“Access to Renewable and Efficient Energy in Municipalities Vayk and Spitak” project is implemented in the towns of Vayk and Spitak, Armenia. The project is implemented by Habitat for Humanity Armenia Foundation. It is funded by the European Union and co-funded by the municipalities of Vayk and Spitak under the EU Programme “Covenant of Mayors – Demonstration Projects” (CoM-DeP). The project aims to develop and test replicable financial model by implementing energy efficiency measures in 45 multi-apartment (27 in Spitak; 18 in Vayk) and two public buildings, by applying renewable energy sources and strengthening the capacities of municipalities to implement their Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAP).

As of today, energy efficiency measures (thermal insulation of the attic floor, replacement of stairway windows and old doors at the building entrances with new PVC windows and doors) have been completed in 9 apartment buildings (4 buildings in Spitak; 5 buildings in Vayk). Implementation is in progress in 14 apartment buildings (9 buildings in Spitak; 5 buildings in Vayk). Designing and installation of solar photo-voltaic systems on the roof-tops of four public buildings for a total of eight public consumers (municipalities of Vayk and Spitak, three kindergartens, one House of Culture, one library, Children’s Art School) is in preparation. After the completion of the energy efficiency measures in the above-mentioned 23 apartment buildings and installing the PV systems a total of 1,075 MWt/h energy will be saved annually in both towns. This will result in reducing up to 311 tons of CO₂ emission.



Photos are kindly provided by the EU CoM DeP Programme



The Project is funded
by the European Union

December 2016 – August 2017

COM EAST CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Capacity building is a range of activities aimed at strengthening the expertise of the Covenant Signatories, Supporters and Coordinators in the field of energy and climate policies via delivery of a variety of thematic seminars, webinars and workshops, study tours, staff exchanges, individual consultations, etc.

In the period from December 2016 to August 2017, a number of country-specific trainings were conducted for over **162** participants representing **75** Covenant Signatories. In overall, the trainings contributed to improving participants' knowledge on Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plans (SECAPs) and Baseline Emission Inventory (BEI) development, collection of baseline data and financial aspects of SE(C)AP implementation, as well as on the risks and consequences of climate change. As part of the CoM East Training Programme, the information and recommendations about expected savings, benefits and cost of renewable energy measures needed for the implementation of sustainable municipal projects envisaged in SE(C)APs were also provided to the participants.

■ "SECAP development and implementation"



Polotsk, Belarus | 15–16 December 2016



Lviv, Ukraine | 11–12 May 2017



Tbilisi, Georgia | 4–5 May 2017



Yerevan, Armenia | 22–23 May 2017



The Project is funded
by the European Union

December 2016 – August 2017

“Monitoring SEAPs/SECAPs”



Kyiv, Ukraine | 8 June 2017



Lviv, Ukraine | 14 June 2017

“Financial aspects of SEAPs/SECAPs implementation”



Tbilisi, Georgia | 22–23 December 2016



Kyiv, Ukraine | 23–24 May 2017



Kyiv, Ukraine | 6–7 June 2017



Vileika, Belarus | 9–10 June 2017



Chisinau, Moldova | 15–16 June 2017



The Project is funded
by the European Union

December 2016 – August 2017

CENTRAL AND NATIONAL HELPDESKS

Helpdesk is a contact point providing an administrative and technical support to the current and potential Covenant Signatories and other stakeholders.

Country Helpdesks provide support in the following areas:

- Daily assistance and management of the Signatories;
- Response to all information requests from interested cities, regions and other stakeholders;
- Provision of technical support: brief methodological overview, guidelines, best practices, SEAP templates;
- Consultations on the adhesion procedure/signing the CNC, CTC and CS agreements;
- Advise to the CTC on plan of activities development;
- Support in events organised by CNC/CTC/CS.

Central Helpdesk is responsible for the following tasks:

- Development and update of the Covenant methodological materials and guidelines;
- Response to the technical requests received from Country Experts;
- Response to the questions and technical requests received from Signatories, CSs and CNCs;
- Serving as a contact point for Joint Research Centre for technical issues or requests in close cooperation with Central Helpdesk Coordinator.
- Participation in technical workshops as a trainer.

Country Helpdesks are operated by the Country Experts together with technical experts and are based in the CoM East offices in Yerevan, Armenia; Minsk, Belarus; Tbilisi, Georgia (for Georgian and Azerbaijani Signatories); Chisinau, Moldova; as well as in Kyiv and Lviv, Ukraine.

CENTRAL HELPDESK

CBC Coordinator
Iryna Horodyska

Technical Helpdesk
Artem Kharazyan

COUNTRY TECHNICAL HELPDESK



George Abulashvili
Country Expert for Azerbaijan



Jahangir Efendiyev
Technical Helpdesk in Azerbaijan



Artem Kharazyan
Country Expert in Armenia



Ruben Muradyan
Technical Helpdesk in Armenia



George Abulashvili
Country Expert in Georgia



Elene Gvilava
Technical Helpdesk in Georgia



Ivan Shchadranok
Country Expert in Belarus



Anastasia Adamovich
Technical Helpdesk in Belarus



Tanya Lujanskaya
Country Expert in Moldova



Irina Plis | Gregory Retish
Technical Helpdesk in Moldova



Oksana Kysil
Country Expert in Ukraine



Oleksandr Dei
Technical Helpdesk in Ukraine



The Project is funded
by the European Union

December 2016 – August 2017

PROMOTING NEW COVENANT

Communication activities envisage the promotion of the new Covenant, its targets and benefits, as well as the CoM East results and achievements by conducting various awareness raising campaigns at the national and international level, organising and participating in thematic events.

In the period from December 2016 to August 2017, CoM East project experts participated in a variety of seminars, conferences and thematic activities communicating the CoM East ambitious targets, goals and objectives to all interested stakeholders, including potential Signatories, media representatives and the general public.

On 11–14 June 2017, Mr George Abulashvili, CoM East National Expert for Azerbaijan and Georgia promoted the EU Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy initiative and the CoM East project at the 8th International Forum on Energy for Sustainable Development organised by UN Regional Commissions in Astana, Kazakhstan. At the workshops “Towards Smart Sustainable Cities – Integrated Approaches”, Mr Abulashvili delivered two presentations entitled “CoM for Climate and Energy tool for Sustainable Municipal Development” and “Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy supporting the Eastern Partnership Flagship Initiative on Sustainable Municipal Development”.



AZERBAIJAN

23 August 2017

The fourth largest city in Azerbaijan with a population of 120,000 people has recently joined the European initiative of Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy. On this occasion, Mr George Abulashvili, CoM East National Expert in Georgia and for Azerbaijan, together with Jahangir Efendiye, technical expert in Azerbaijan met with the representatives of Mingachevir Municipality on August 23, 2017. During the meeting he provided key information and recommendations on the SECAP and Baseline Emission Inventory (BEI) development and implementation, presented the benefits and shared the expected results of improving energy efficiency and climate change mitigation in Azerbaijan.



BELARUS

6–7 February 2017

CoM East National Expert in Belarus – Mr Ivan Shchadranok – participated as a speaker in the seminar on sustainable urban development tools and their implementation in Belarusian cities, where he presented the CoM East project to over 60 participants. Mr Shchadranok also provided a number of thematic consultations to current and potential CoM Signatories.



19–22 February 2017

Mr Ivan Shchadranok promoted the CoM initiative and the CoM East project at the VI International Economic Forum in Orsha explaining how the participation in the Covenant of Mayors could contribute to sustainable development of Belarusian cities.



The Project is funded
by the European Union

December 2016 – August 2017

8 June 2017

On June 8, 2017, Vileika hosted the First National Conference on Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy. Participants gathered to discuss different activities implemented in Belarusian cities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change. Key speakers analysed the development of the EU initiative in Belarus and paid particular attention to the financial instruments that cities could use to implement energy efficiency and adaptation measures. Mr Ivan Shchadranok presented the Municipal Development Coordination Platform (MDCP) to be established in Belarus as part of the Covenant of Mayors East initiative. The platform will facilitate communication and exchange of experience between project experts and interested stakeholders.



GEORGIA

17–21 June 2017

On June 17, 2017, a four-day seminar on preparation and certification of energy auditors and awareness raising campaigns on energy efficiency in buildings tailored for the Covenant of Mayors Signatories was held in Tbilisi. Mr George Abulashvili, CoM East National Expert for Azerbaijan and Georgia, actively contributed to by bringing the participants' attention to the importance of identifying and implementing energy efficient measures in buildings, which might lead to a reduction in energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by 2030.



MOLDOVA

19 July 2017

In Chisinau, 19 July 2017, an informal meeting of local journalists and representatives of the EU Project "Covenant of Mayors East" was held. The press briefing was organised to familiarise the media with the CoM East aims and objectives, as well as the planned project's activities in the field of energy efficiency and climate change adaptation. New EU Programme "EU4Energy" aimed at improving the use of energy data and supporting energy policy in the Eastern Partnership and Central Asia countries was presented at the media breakfast.



UKRAINE

27 February 2017

On February 21, 2017, Oksana Kysil, CoM East National Expert, promoted the new Covenant at the seminar entitled "Energy Efficiency Support in Ukraine: Best Practices from Slovakia". Participants discussed sustainable energy development issues at the municipal level and the development of investment energy projects in the municipal infrastructure of Ukraine.



19 June 2017

On June 19, 2017, 24 Ukrainian cities signed up to the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy initiative at the official opening of EU Sustainable Energy Week that was held in the city of Slavutych, Ukraine.



<http://www.soglasheniemerov.eu>





The Project is funded
by the European Union

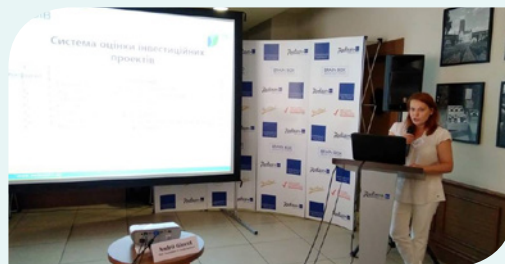
December 2016 – August 2017

22–24 June 2017

On June 22–24, 2017, CoM East National Expert for Ukraine – Ms Oksana Kysil – together with representatives of the EU Delegation to Ukraine paid a visit to the municipalities of Obukhiv and Ukrainka to promote the Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy and the project “Covenant of Mayors East” among the small cities of Ukraine. The visits took place in the framework of the European Sustainable Energy Week 2017 with a view to communicating the benefits of joining the Covenant and invaluable achievements the cities and their residents would earn. In the course of meetings, the experts also visited the city of Myrhorod to consult local residents on climate and energy issues and ways to attract financing to improve energy efficiency in apartment buildings.

10–11 July 2017

On July 10–11, 2017, Ms Oksana Kysil, CoM East National Expert for Ukraine, participated in the seminar and delivered a presentation on the methods and means for planning sustainable energy supply at the municipal level, where she represented the CoM East project. The event was organised in Kyiv by the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) in cooperation with the Institute for Economics and Forecasting at Ukrainian National Academy of Science (IEF).



17 July 2017

On July 17, 2017, a series of informational meetings with the participation of Mr Vassilis Maragos, Head of Unit, DG Near, Mr Johannes Baur, Head of Operations Section 3, EU Delegation to Ukraine, CoM East project experts as well as local and regional authorities were held in Odesa. In the course of the meetings, participants discussed the city's investment opportunities in attracting funding for the implementation of energy efficiency projects under the city's SEAP and prospects for cooperation in the field of sustainable energy development. Mr Gennadiy Trukhanov, Mayor of Odesa, emphasized the importance of implementing large-scale projects in the field of sustainable energy development and climate change mitigation, which on the one hand, improve the city's ecology, and at the same time, leads to energy savings both at the municipal and individual residents' level. Mr. Anatoliy Urbanskyi, Head of Odesa Regional Council, confirmed their readiness to provide assistance to signatory cities in implementing municipal initiatives, in particular by providing co-funding opportunities for energy efficiency projects.



18–20 July 2017

“Covenant of Mayors East” project held a series of informal meetings with journalists in Odesa, July 18, and Kyiv, July 20, in order to raise awareness of the regional media on the main CoM East objectives and planned activities in the field of energy efficiency and climate change in Ukraine. During the media breakfast, CoM East experts shared comprehensive information on the issues related to sustainable energy development and climate change adaptation and presented successful examples of the SEAP/SECAP implementation in Ukraine. New EU Programme “EU4Energy” aimed at improving the use of energy data and supporting energy policy in the Eastern Partnership and Central Asia was also presented at the media event.



The Project is implemented by the Energy Cities-led Consortium:

