

CONCEPT

**ON THE STRATEGY OF THE REALIZATION
OF THE UN SUMMIT “RIO +20”
RECOMMENDATIONS
IN THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
IN THE CONTEXT OF THE WORLD PROGRAM
“TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD:
THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT”
(AS OF 30 APRIL 2016)**

CONCISE VERSION



YEREVAN – 2016



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

The Concept was developed by the Interdepartmental Commission, created by the Decision of the RA Prime Minister on 12.09.2013, № 1147-A (As amended by the Decision of the RA Prime Minister on 05.10.2015, № 899-A).

This concise version of the Concept was prepared by the Vice-Chairman of the Interdepartmental Commission Karine Danielyan

The participation of non-governmental organizations (NGO) and experts in the activities of the Interdepartmental Commission and the publication of both full and concise versions of the Concept were implemented by financial support of the European Union (EU), the Global Environmental Fund(GEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the framework of the project on "Enabling dialogue between governmental structures and non-governmental sector within the framework of the "PostRio+20 " process in Armenia" of the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP).

Project Executor – the Association "For Sustainable Human Development»/UNEPNatCom expresses gratitude to the sponsors for the provided support.

English Translation: Armine Nazaretyan



CONTENTS

PREFACE	4
INTRODUCTION	6
I. USE OF MINERAL RESOURCES AND PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH	8
II. DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE (RENEWABLE) ENERGY AND ENERGY SAVING	11
III. SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT	14
IV. SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT	18
V. DEVELOPMENT OF ORGANIC FARMING	20
VI. DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM	22
VII. SUSTAINABLE (SMART) CITIES/ DEVELOPMENT OF GREEN ARCHITECTURE	24
VIII. SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT, BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION	29
IX. EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	33
X. THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. THE INDICATORS AND THE INDEX OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	37
XI. PROMOTING LEGAL AND ECONOMIC TOOLS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GREEN ECONOMY IN ORDER TO ERADICATE POVERTY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	40
CONCLUSION	46

PREFACE

Since the UN founding Earth Summit in 1992, the Republic of Armenia has been effectively participating in the global process of reorientation towards Sustainable Development. The society of Armenia highly appreciates the efforts of the modern civilization, aimed at the maximum harmonization of economic, environmental and social priorities of public life and at the transition to a Green Economy for Sustainable Development, and recognizes the importance of the RA's participation in this sphere.

Taking an active part in the work of the UN Summit "Rio+20", our country has continued its cooperation with the international community within the framework of the worldwide process "PostRio+20" in an effort to implement the recommendations of the Summit, taking into account the problems and challenges the Republic faces.

An Interdepartmental Commission was established on December 9, 2013 with the initiative of the Association "For Sustainable Human Development", the proposal of the National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD) and the decision of the Prime Minister. The Commission involves NGO representatives with full participation rights, as well as representatives of the expert community. The participation of NGOs and experts and the organizations of numerous events in the framework of the project «Enabling dialogue between governmental structures and non-governmental sector within the framework of the "PostRio+20"»

process in Armenia» (such as the 24 round tables, organized in Yerevan and the regions) were supported by the EU/GEF, UNDP in the framework of the Small Grants Program.

The "Post Rio+ 20" process developed into the global dialogue of "Post-2015 Development Agenda" and was crowned with the adoption of the world program "Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". Its basic components are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals with 169 targets, the Strategy Concept developed by the Commission taking into account the principles and approaches of this program and, in particular, its goals and objectives. Therefore, developed as a result of a thorough expert work and broad public discussion, and approved by the NCSD on 05 May 2016, this Concept will serve as a basis for the multilateral process of implementation and realization of Sustainable Development Goals in Armenia.

*KARINE DANIELYAN,
Doctor in Geography, Professor, the RA NCSD Secretary,
Vice-President of Interdepartmental Commission,
Chairperson of Association "For SHD"/UNEPNatCom,
Chairperson of Chair on Ecology and Sustainable Development of ASPU*

INTRODUCTION

In the preparation of the Concept, on the base of the main recommendations of the outcome document “The future we want” of the UN Summit “Rio+20”, and the priority issues presented by the National Assessment Report “Rio+20”, the following 11 areas of the activities were selected:

- Use of the mineral resources and protection of the environment and public health.
- Development of the alternative (renewable) energy and energy efficiency.
- Sustainable management of the water resources.
- Sustainable waste management.
- Development of the organic agriculture.
- Development of the sustainable tourism.
- Sustainable cities/development of the green architecture.
- Sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation.
- Education for sustainable development.
- Transformation from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals. Sustainable development indicators and index.
- Cooperation in promoting of legal and economic tools for the development of the green economy with the aim of poverty eradication and sustainable development.

The Commission organized numerous round table-discussions in Yerevan and regions, in the social networks with the participation of all sectors of society, and also studied international and national positive experience in the sphere of formation of green economy and

promoting sustainable development. As a result, we identified the most pressing challenges and issues in the framework of the above-mentioned areas and developed recommendations and proposals for the resolution of the problems and the improvement of the situation. Along with this, the Concept is designed to facilitate the implementation of strategic programs ongoing in the Republic of Armenia, as well as to serve as a basis for the implementation of the global program "Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" in the country, especially, of the Goals of Sustainable Development.

The concept was developed in accordance with the following scheme: analysis of the current situation, taking into account the institutional regulatory mechanisms, - proposals and recommendations to address the most pressing objectives in order to optimize the situation.

From the tables, presented in the text, the relationship between the developed recommendations and the goals/objectives of sustainable development set out in "The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" becomes obvious.

I. USE OF MINERAL RESOURCES AND PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Brief analysis of the situation

There are detected and investigated more than 670 ore, including 30 – metal, deposits in the Republic of Armenia. More than 400 of them, including 22 metals, are exploited. The greatest danger to the environment and, respectively, the health of the population bring the tailing dumps, formed in the last decades (total-21).

The development of mining and its concentration is accompanied by contamination of the environment with toxic chemicals and heavy metals. Special Studies (Center for Ecological-Noosphere Studies of NAS RA, Health Research and Development Center of the American University of Armenia, Yerevan State University, and others) found objects of high environmental risks and population health risks, primarily related to the migration of the heavy metals (Mo, Cu, Pb, As, Zn, Cd, Hg) in the system of air-water-soil-agricultural products in the areas of mining industry

Exceeding the MPC (maximum permissible concentrations) of the number of the above-mentioned heavy metals was detected in the components of the environment and grown and consumed agricultural products in the areas of the cities of Kajaran, Kapan, Alaverdi, Akhtala, as well as a number of villages of Syunik region.

The activity of the mining industry is regulated by a number of laws/codes and by-laws, which are not enough environmentally oriented and need to be improved, according to the experts opinion.

As a positive note - the RA Law on 23.06.2015 on the investment program for processing the contents of a number of tailing dumps, which would allow solving a number of environmental and economic problems.

Currently, the Natural Resource Management Strategy is in developing stage, and is called to resolve the backlog in the area of institutional and other objectives and challenges.

<p align="center">Goals/objectives of Sustainable Development, presented in the UN programme “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”</p>	<p align="center">Recommendations, implemented by the Interdepartmental Commission and presented in the Concept</p>
<p>Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages</p> <p>3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination</p> <p>Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</p> <p>6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally</p> <p>Goal 11. Make cities and human</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amendments to the Code on mineral resources with the view of inculcation of the following conceptual principles and approaches: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Insurance of environmental risks in the subsoil usage, - Ensuring financial transparency of the activities of the mining industry enterprises, - Establishment of clear sanitary protection zones around the mines, - Comprehensive utilization of crude ore and other materials. • In developing the by-laws to the "RA Law on the assessment of the impact on the environment and expertise" to take into account the need to assess the possible risks of disasters associated with the wastes generation.

<p>settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</p> <p>Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</p> <p>12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources</p> <p>12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment</p> <p>12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse</p> <p>Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</p> <p>15.4 By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In developing the national strategy on natural resource management it is advisable to clearly define the national policy on the use of mineral resources. <p>In particular it is necessary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Determine the undevelopable type of mines, and prohibited for use technologies; - Carry out certification of all the various tailing dumps with a statement of contained elements and their compounds, indicating the count and class of danger, the possible technologies for their use as an anthropogenic materials; - Establish economic benefits for enterprises using waste mining production as recyclable materials; - Carry out the development of the Monitoring System on Environmental Pollution by the mining industry objects and the impact on public health; - Implement comprehensive recultivation of polluted and degraded areas, realizing constant monitoring of the situation; - To organize national database and system of electronic maps, reflecting the issues under consideration.
---	---

II. DEVELOPMENT OF THE ALTERNATIVE (RENEWABLE) ENERGY AND ENERGY SAVING

Brief analysis of the situation

By the support of the Global Environmental Fund and the World Bank in Armenia a Reference program on the Development of the Renewable Energy is implemented.

The RA Government, through the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources, in cooperation with the international financial institutions and other interested parties, based on the available natural, technological and financial resources, determined 3 scopes of deployments for the development of the country's energy.

The allocated funds will be directed to the following scale of the renewable energy and energy efficiency.

1) Using the subsoil heat (geothermal) energy. It is planned to conduct research drilling in the area of Karkar and preparation of the relevant documentation for investors.

2) The construction of photovoltaic solar plants. It is planned the construction of solar power plants of 30-50 MW capacity with the involvement of the private sector on a competitive basis. The implementation of the first projects will allow to calculate and to assign an adequate price for the produced energy.

3) Expansion of the use of heat pumps and solar water heaters.

In order to encourage investments in renewable energy, the "Concept of Energy Security of Armenia" and the corresponding action plan, aimed at the development of renewable energy and as well as energy efficiency and energy saving are developed, approved by the President of the Republic of Armenia on 23 October 2013.

Intensive development of the system of small hydropower plants (HP) on the territory of the Republic of Armenia is also seen as a positive step in the context of renewable energy development in the country, but the research practices revealed substantial damage to water and coastal ecosystems. As a result, established standards and requirements for the SHP (small hydropower plants) projects, presenting in the process of examination of the environmental impact are being reviewed currently.

<p align="center">Goals/objectives of Sustainable Development, presented in the UN programme “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”</p>	<p align="center">Recommendations, implemented by the Interdepartmental Commission and presented in the Concept</p>
<p>Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all</p> <p>7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services</p> <p>7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix</p> <p>7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency</p> <p>7.a By 2030, enhance international cooperation to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the expanded introduction of energy saving, energy-efficient technologies, carrying out scientific and technological research in this field, as well as in the field of renewable, in particular, solar energy. • Revise building norms to accomplish the implementation of energy-saving standards. • Demonstrate the economic benefits of the introduction of energy saving measures in buildings. • Organize the production of bio-ethanol and /or bio-butanol from local agricultural raw materials for transportation use. • Enlarge the introduction of state and private funds in the field of energy

<p>facilitate access to clean energy research and technology, including renewable energy, energy efficiency and advanced and cleaner fossil-fuel technology, and promote investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology</p> <p>7.bBy 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing states and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programmes of support</p> <p>Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts</p>	<p>efficiency, reduce energy loss, and include energy efficiency and energy saving in the state program for the development of other sectors of the economy as integral norms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the implementation of use of solar energy (photovoltaic and water heating systems, including systems for the concentration of the sun's rays), as well as biomass and thermal energy of the subsoil (geothermal energy). • Explore the positive experience existing in the country for the development of renewable energy and energy efficiency, as well as the possible ways to spread this experience in the country. • Realize the monitoring of existing and under construction small hydropower plants in the country, assessing the current and potential environmental risks and to develop and implement a system of risk measuring and reducing. • To achieve at least 20% of energy consumption in the country, and 10% of energy consumption in transportation facilities would be derived from the renewable sources (solar and wind energy, biomass energy and heat the Earth's interior) this year and every subsequent years by 2020.
---	---

III. SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT

Brief analysis of the situation

The main problems in this area include: poor management of water resources, ecological disbalance of Lake Sevan, the depletion of Ararat artesian basin/violation of ecosystems and desertification risks, disturbance of water and coastal river ecosystems as a result of the intensive use of water with numerous small hydroelectric power stations, water pollution, conflicts of interests between water users (drinking water, water for irrigation, for fish farming, water for hydropower).

Incidentally, the following factors are important: the lack of implementation of the action plan to restore the ecosystem of Lake Sevan, the lack of the necessary hydrogeological studies on Ararat artesian basin and uncontrolled use of these waters, the absence of security zones around aquatic ecosystems and the deficiency of protective measures for these ecosystems.

However, it should be noted, that in spite of the lack of the clean shores with their preparation for flooding, pollution of the lake by the untreated sewage, as well as above-standard periodic releases of water from the lake, raising the level of the lake waters for the 2002-2015 period at about 4 meters had a favorable impact on the quality of water in the lake. It is seen in the improvement of integrated indicators: water transparency and oxygen content.

Surface water and groundwater are polluted mainly by municipal and industrial wastewater, mining industry, return water from agricultural production, as well as municipal and industrial solid waste.

Prior to the 1990s, 20 sewage treatment plants and more than 4,200 km of sewers were built and operated. Most of the cities and villages of Armenia have been connected to this network. Between the start of the energy crisis in the beginning of 90s, almost all the sewage treatment plants became out of order, and now most of them cannot be restored.

Currently the new stations are constructed, but so far they implement only mechanical treatment, only the sewage treatment plant of the Parakar village carries biologically treated wastewater. As a result, significant multifaceted problems are accumulated in the hydrosphere of RA, fraught with qualitative depletion of this important resource. Running the Project on restoration of Yerevan aeration station, certain measures to restore Ararat artesian basin were implemented, but the problem is so deep, that requires very long-term, comprehensive measures.

<p align="center">Goals/objectives of Sustainable Development, presented in the UN programme “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”</p>	<p align="center">Recommendations, implemented by the Interdepartmental Commission and presented in the Concept</p>
<p>Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</p> <p>6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop strategies on removal and purification of municipal and industrial waste water, development of appropriate systems. • Economic promotion of the

<p>affordable drinking water for all</p> <p>6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations</p> <p>6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally</p> <p>6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity</p> <p>6.5 By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate</p> <p>6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes</p> <p>6.a By 2030, expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related acti-</p>	<p>construction of sewage treatment plants with modern technologies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of appropriate standards for the reuse of treated wastewater and the treated sludge. • Introduction of new irrigation technologies such as drip irrigation, application of management snowmelt techniques in the mountainous areas. • Increased monitoring of the conditions of water use permits. Further development of the basin management system of water resources in the country. Saving inviolable part of water resources. • Creating stations to maintain water balance. To investigate the current situation and the ratio of available and usable water resources. • Formation of prevention, control and neutralize system for the negative effects of floods, floods and droughts. • Implementation of complex preservation and accumulation of measures, adequate distribution, loss reduction, the efficient use of water resources. • Development of infrastructure, necessary for the round-the-clock ensure the quality drinking water
---	---

<p>vities and programs, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies</p> <p>6.b Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management</p> <p>14.4 By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics</p> <p>Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</p> <p>15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements</p>	<p>to the population of the country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable management of aquatic ecosystems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revision of the methodology of calculation of environmental flows to ensure the necessary amount of water for the normal functioning of hydroecosystems in the rivers. - Development and application of ways of protection of biodiversity of aquatic ecosystems. • Implementation of public awareness and education programs in the field of water-saving technologies and careful attitude to water resources. • Full-scale implementation of programs to restore the ecological balance of Lake Sevan. • Provision of new permits for the use of underground water resources in Ararat valley just after the positive opinion of the National Council of the Republic of Armenia on water resources. • Introduction of licensing of drilling processes (for the purpose of usage of underground water). It will lead to increased control over such activities.
---	---

IV. SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT

Brief analysis of the situation

Waste management problem is one of the sharpest in the RA from both an environmental, and a social point of view. The most important of these problems is environmental pollution by tailings. This question is considered in detail in the first chapter. The country has not yet fully resolved the issues of waste recycling and minimization of their formation and safe collection, recycling and neutralization. The system for separate collection of municipal and industrial waste is not established, available landfills don't correspond to the modern standards, near some settlements unauthorized waste dumps are located. The landfill of toxic waste in the suburbs of Yerevan is a highly acute problem as well.

The most important tasks in this field are: the improvement of the legal framework, a gradual transition to low-waste and non-waste technologies, and development of socio-economic mechanisms that initiate the minimization and reuse of waste, construction of modern landfills.

With the assistance of international organizations programs of resolving the urgent problems were developed, pilot projects for separate waste collection, recycling of paper, plastic and others were designed and are operating currently. However, in general it is clear that the problem requires a much more careful and efficient attention. In addition, the identified deficiencies in the institutional sphere - several ministries are involved in certain aspects of the problem: however, the coordinating body responsible for the solution of this problem as a whole is not defined yet.

<p>Goals/objectives of Sustainable Development, presented in the UN programme “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”</p>	<p>Recommendations, implemented by the Interdepartmental Commission and presented in the Concept</p>
<p>Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</p> <p>12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources</p> <p>12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment</p> <p>12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work out and realize science-based principles of more optimal combination of socio-economic and environmental priorities of social evolution for sustainable development. • Ensure socio-economic and legal mechanisms of minimization of wastes generation and maximal waste recycling, application of modern nature-friendly technologies. • Take action in the places of wastes generation for cutting the class of waste danger. • To implement the complex use of natural raw materials, especially in the sphere of mining industry. • Enhance waste producers’ responsibility for waste disposal, involvement of waste into economic usage and activities. • Introduce the positive international experience in the country and enlarge gained national positive experience in the field of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Separate gathering, recycling and reuse of solid domestic waste, - Promotion of creating “industrial ecosystems”, when the companies are merged for the purposes of joint complex utilization and usage of raw materials, as well as involvement of waste materials of each other into economic usage. • Specify the field of responsibility and competence of the institutions acting in the given field. Particularly, defining the coordinating body and its competence and responsibilities.

V. DEVELOPMENT OF ORGANIC FARMING

Brief analysis of the situation

In the framework of the worldwide process "Post Rio+20" Armenia is recognized as a model country for the development of organic farming.

The first experience of organic farming was implemented in Armenia in Dmitrovo village of the Ararat valley with the assistance of German experts since 1991. But a systematic approach to this sphere started in 2002 only. In recent years, 19,000 hectares are under the organic agricultural production in the country, the number of organic bee families is about 530, with a capacity of about 16000kg of honey.

The legal basis for organic farming was established in 2009 and operates up to date. A local certification body - the organization of "Ecoglobe" is also operating, having international recognition and assisting the local producers to enter the foreign markets.

However, the possibility of providing advisory services to the rural population is still very limited and demands expansion. It is advisable to organize trainings and to realize pilot projects for interested local communities in a wide format: both to develop clean technologies in agriculture and sustainable collection and processing of wild medicinal and edible plants, use of by-timber, etc.

<p align="center">Goals/objectives of Sustainable Development, presented in the UN programme “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”</p>	<p align="center">Recommendations, implemented by the Interdepartmental Commission and presented in the Concept</p>
<p>Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</p> <p>2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconciliation of laws and by-laws in the field of organic farming with the principles of international law. • Organization of trainings for farmers on organic agricultural production, certification and exportation of the goods on the foreign markets. • Organization of special seminars/discussions for professionals from the regional centers of the Ministry of Agriculture. • Facilitating the representation of local organic products at international fairs. • To take action against illegal "bio", "eco" of agricultural products in the local market. • Taking action on development of unused land under organic farming. • Establishment of the pilot demonstration farms for organic agricultural production.

VI. DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

Brief analysis of the situation

The development of tourism is declared a priority area in the country in consideration of high potential of natural and cultural heritage in the Republic of Armenia. The goal of the state policy in the sphere of tourism is to increase the contribution of tourism to GDP and even territorial development of the country, improving living standards, etc.

Since a number of laws and by-laws, as well as strategic programs promoting tourism development were adopted since 2003, appropriate structures in the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Nature Protection were created. In 11 high schools and 2 public colleges specialists for the sphere of tourism are being prepared, broad international cooperation in this field is developed.

However, despite the significant positive progress, in terms of sustainable tourism development a number of significant problems and challenges can be stated that need to be resolved.

For example:

- The roads (especially, of regional and local importance) need improvement,
- A higher level of cleanliness and hygiene of territories involved in the tourist routes should be ensured,
- Apparent lack of more affordable hotels,

- The need to diversify the tourism product, as well as certification in the field of sustainable tourism,
- The lack of qualified tour operators and law of awareness of population to participate in the development of tourism industry.

<p style="text-align: center;">Goals/objectives of Sustainable Development, presented in the UN programme “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Recommendations, implemented by the Interdepartmental Commission and presented in the Concept</p>
<p>Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all</p> <p>8.9 By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products</p> <p>Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</p> <p>12.b Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of measures to improve the beautification of regional and community roads, providing the necessary sanitation areas intended for tourism, optimization of solid waste collection and disposal system. • Development and modernization of infrastructure for tourism, including the formation of an affordable hotel chain. • Diversification of the tourism product. • Decentralization of tourism from the regional standpoint. • Expansion and improvement of the tour-operators training system. • Supplement the following provisions governing the scope of the legislation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formation of a unified register of tour operators operating in the field of domestic tourism, - Presence of associations of tour operators operating in the field of foreign tourism, - Clarify the relationships and commitments related to ensuring the safety of tourists.

VII. SUSTAINABLE (SMART) CITIES/ DEVELOPMENT OF GREEN ARCHITECTURE

Brief analysis of the situation

For the development of green architecture a significant institutional capacity is created in the Republic of Armenia. Appropriate changes to laws and by-laws were made, programs focused on "greening" of various spheres of urban development and functioning of cities were developed:

- Sustainable spatial planning,
- Sustainable transport,
- Energy-efficient lighting of buildings and streets,
- Quality management of urban air basin,
- Reducing the risks of natural and anthropogenic disasters,
- Ensuring the safe use of water (water supply and sanitation),
- Sustainable waste management,
- Preservation of sustainable landscapes and green areas, and others.

With the support of the GEF and UNDP, a pilot project in the framework of the "Green Urban Lighting" was fulfilled in Yerevan. A pilot project to improve energy efficiency energy saving and heat supply of apartment buildings was implemented in Avan administrative district. The Regional Environmental Center, in collaboration with local authorities and with the support of several

international organizations, developed local environmental programs for 8 cities, which can serve as a basis for future integrated programs for sustainable development of these cities. With the assistance of a number of UN agencies a pilot project for the implementation of programs for sustainable/smart city of Goris was launched. It can be extended to other cities of the country in the future. Besides, 9 cities of the RA, including Yerevan, joined the "Covenant of Mayors on Climate."

However, it should be noted that, unfortunately, urban planning practice, carried out during the years of independence, especially in Yerevan, was very far from the declared principles. The last Master Plan of Yerevan, approved in 1971, was supposed to be valid until 2002, but in the beginning of 90's, in the new market environment, the Master Plan was ignored and began the stage of "point" construction. It inflicted significant damage to the city in environmentally aspect, and in the context of a significant loss of architectural and cultural heritage of Yerevan.

During the recent years, attempts to correct errors were made, but, unfortunately, in some cases, especially in the city center, the point of no return passed. Master plan developed and approved for 2006-2020 is largely consistent with the principles of the European Landscape Convention, and of Habitat also and, therefore, the requirements of green architecture. The draft "Law on the building of the small center of Yerevan" is developed to improve the situation in the city center as much as possible, approved by the RA Government

and presented to the Parliament. Finally, "Yerevanproject" CJSC developed "Main directions of the development of Yerevan until 2025 in the framework of "Sustainable Cities" process", which fully corresponds to the requirements of the "smart cities".

<p align="center">Goals/objectives of Sustainable Development, presented in the UN programme “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”</p>	<p align="center">Recommendations, implemented by the Interdepartmental Commission and presented in the Concept</p>
<p>Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages</p> <p>3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination</p> <p>Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</p> <p>11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage</p> <p>11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a policy of containment of widening of metropolis and the promotion of small and medium-sized cities. - Development of rules and standards building/restructuring of settlements/wards corresponding to green architecture; - Development of measures to restore the natural, architectural and cultural heritage cities, to develop institutional and management capacity of historic cities; - Implementation of a set of measures in the field of education, public awareness and participation in the development of sustainable cities, green architecture; - Implementation of the methodology and evaluation system of indicators for sustainable cities. • Implement architectural and artistic features of the landscape and the formation of urban environment, in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The integration of landscape planning process;

<p>losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations</p> <p>11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management</p> <p>11.7 By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities</p> <p>11.a Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning</p> <p>11.b By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The creation, preservation and improvement of green spaces for public use, which are designed to protect the city from difficult environments and to contribute to improving the quality of life; - Creation of green areas in the territories of closed landfills and former industrial zones; - Realization of horizontal and vertical greening of buildings and other structures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To carry out urban development measures for adaptation to climate change, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To reduce the risk of "heat waves", the creation of buildings in favorable temperature conditions in order to protect public health; - To improve environmental capacity of the urban environment, combating natural disasters, etc. • To develop the most environmentally friendly modes of transport and to optimize the road network. • Develop appropriate modern infrastructure for collection, treatment, recycling and disposal of waste. • Implement sustainable water management. • To ensure the availability of places of public importance for populations with reduced mobility. • To ensure unity/coherence planning,
--	---

<p>adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels</p> <p>Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.*</p> <p>13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.</p> <p>* Acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change</p>	<p>development and operation of structures of city and public values.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize district and citywide competition on the themes: a green building/construction, green balcony, green street, green yard, green institution/company. • In order to share the best positive experience, in collaboration with the UN Economic Commission for Europe and other international organizations, to take part in developing the program "Intelligent solutions for cities of countries in transition and developing countries."
---	---

VIII. SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT, BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

Brief analysis of the situation

According to the aerospace filming made by GIZ (German Agency for International Cooperation), forested area RA is 332.333 ha or 11.17% of the territory of country (note that these data are disputed by NGOs and some experts, believing that recovering from losses during the energy crisis of the early 90s, the secondary timber cannot be considered complete).

75% of forests are managed by the Ministry of Agriculture (non-profit public organization "ArmForest"), and 25% - to the Ministry of Nature Protection (protected areas).

A major problem for the given sphere is the lack of public forests account - according to the RA Forest Code, such registration must be carried out every 5 years, while the latter account was made in 1993.

During the recent years, according to the official data, the volume of illegal forest cuttings decreased. However, forest fires become frequent and expanded. The territories subjected to forest fires in 2013, compared with 2003, have increased more than 30 times, which is also exacerbated by climate change. A number of activities focused on adaptation to climate changes should be implemented permanently.

An important limiting factor is approximately twice cuts in budget financing activities of the organization "ArmForest". It was

adopted a Government decree on the establishment of an appropriate "forest" fund, to which should be addressed the amounts received from forest resources use: it will assist the industry greatly.

Biological diversity of Armenia has a unique wealth, including endemic and relict species. However, there is an intense anthropogenic landscape change as a result of intensive land use. It can be argued that biodiversity RA affects substantially all the risks listed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN): habitat loss, over-exploitation of biological resources, pollution, alien invasive species, and climate change. The above-mentioned problems are presented in detail in the national reports on the implementation of the Convention on Biodiversity.

The most suitable recommendations to correct the situation (from the aspects of "protection of biodiversity", "sustainable use of biological resources", "the development of protected areas") have been developed and included in the "Strategy for the conservation, use and restoration of biodiversity of Armenia and the State program for 2016-2020", which is at the discussion stage. The envisaged creation of new protected areas and the development of programs for the creation of the National Ecological Network and the formation of the prerequisites for joining the European ecological network in the future are particularly important as well.

<p style="text-align: center;">Goals/objectives of Sustainable Development, presented in the UN programme “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Recommendations, implemented by the Interdepartmental Commission and presented in the Concept</p>
<p>Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</p> <p>15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements</p> <p>15.4 By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To carry out the restoration and strengthening of forest areas. • Develop nursery tree planting, in order to increase the effectiveness of the work on the creation of windbreaks, erosion control planting and other activities on afforested areas. • To carry out state registration and management of forest inventory. • Bring to the completion the work on the development of forest management plans. In particular, make appropriate delineate preserves and the development of management plans. • Perform technical re-equipment of forestry system (uniform, weapons, vehicles). • Organize regional cooperation (including transboundary) in order to jointly control against forest fires and pests. • Increase in taking of extra-budgetary funds into the sector. • Promote public awareness of the forests and their importance. • To carry out training of personnel, especially young employees in the forestry sector.

<p>15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species</p> <p>15.8 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species</p> <p>Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enhance adaptive capacity to climate change and forest productivity, expanding forest areas as a preventive measure in the combat climate change • Create a comprehensive database of forest area and their multilateral characteristics. • To increase the effectiveness of forest monitoring. • Create and implement effective mechanisms for the sustainable management of biodiversity. • Identify and prevent the main risks for biodiversity and ecosystems. • Improve inter-sectoral cooperation in the field of biodiversity management. • Create social and economic benefits for the population through sustainable management of biodiversity. • To raise awareness about the problems in the field of biodiversity conservation. • Adopt a law on biosecurity.
---	---

IX. EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Brief analysis of the situation

Armenia, as the other countries, joined the worldwide process of "Education for Sustainable Development. The requirements and standards consistent with the principles and ideology of education for sustainable development are included in the strategic programs of development of education in the country (2011-2015 and 2016-2025).

Fundamentals of environmental education is integrated in a number of subjects (especially, in the courses on biology and geography) taught in a secondary school, the course "Basics of General Ecology" is taught in all universities in all faculties. The need for the integration of environmental education in all educational institutions in the formal education system, as well as in non-formal education, over the life of learners is a requirement of the current "RA Law on Environmental education and upbringing of the population".

Significant activities in the field of education for Sustainable Development are launched in the universities. Thus, in 1996, with the support of UNDP, the Association "For Sustainable Human Development" jointly with the Yerevan State University prepared and published the textbook "The Concept of Sustainable Human Development: Theory and Practice" in Russian. The presentation took place in Minsk in the framework of the European conference of the United Nations "Rio+5". The second, expanded edition in

Armenian was held in 2008 and has been recognized by the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia as an official textbook for universities. Finally, the textbook "Theory and practice of Sustainable Development: a global process and Armenia", with the inclusion of newest data and the recommendations of the Outcome document of the UN Summit "Rio+20" - "The future we want", as well as the Earth Charter, is published in 2013 and used by a number of universities in the country.

In 2011 the UNESCO Chair of "Education for Sustainable Development" at the Center for Ecological-Noosphere Studies of the NAS RA was established, and in 2012 the General University Department of Ecology and Sustainable Development at the Armenian State Pedagogical University after Kh. Abovyan was formed.

The above-mentioned activities are presented in the UNESCO and the UNECE publications as a positive experience in the European Region.

However, it is obvious that significant problems still appearing in this sphere must be solved. In particular, in secondary schools environmental education is realized only in an integrated form, there is no summarizing subject "Fundamentals of Ecology and Sustainable Development", the universities need to expand the inclusion of the main provisions and principles of Sustainable Development in a teaching course "Fundamentals of General Ecology", it is also advisable to intensify the work in this sphere with the mass-media.

<p align="center">Goals/objectives of Sustainable Development, presented in the UN programme “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”</p>	<p align="center">Recommendations, implemented by the Interdepartmental Commission and presented in the Concept</p>
<p>Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</p> <p>4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes</p> <p>4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring universal access to education. • Expanding presence of sustainable development ideology in the educational programs, development of environmental education. • Improving the quality of training in the field of sustainable development. • Formation in the schools of the environment, based on the principles of sustainable development. • Development of education in the field of disaster risk reduction. • Formation of the child-care facilities of the environment, necessary for the development, health and growth of children, reducing the risk of development and spread of infectious and non- infectious diseases. • Dissemination of knowledge about the principles and ideology of sustainable development through non-formal education. • Reflection of the approaches and principles of sustainable development in the strategic programs for education. • Enhancement of practical work in the process of training.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Representation of the principles and ideology of sustainable development, international and national positive practice in the mass-media (articles, radio and television programs, etc.).
--	---

X. THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. THE INDICATORS AND THE INDEX OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Brief analysis of the situation

As recommended by the Summit "Rio + 20", UN agencies have organized a wide-ranging discussion on the transformation from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals. As a result, in the framework of the global program "Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development" are presented 17 sustainable development goals with 169 objectives and appropriate assessment indicators.

Yet in 1995 the Association "For Sustainable Human Development" in cooperation with the Yerevan State University and the National Statistics Service, and with the support of UNDP, has been developed and tested a method of calculating the Index for Sustainable Human Development. This methodology has been presented at several international forums and published in the national evaluation reports.

In preparation for the Summit "Rio+20" the methodology has been refined with the assistance of international experts and UNDP, and presented at a side event organized by the delegation of Armenia. At the present time, taking into account the considerable expansion of the sustainable development indicators list, the method requires reconsideration and adaption to new requirements.

Recently, the National Statistics Service has deployed efforts to establish a database on the environment data "Ecoportal", which is essential for forming the most complete picture in this sphere and the adoption of adequate solutions. The presence of such a database would greatly facilitate the process of accurately calculating the environmental pillar of Index of Sustainable Development.

<p style="text-align: center;">Goals/objectives of Sustainable Development, presented in the UN programme “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Recommendations, implemented by the Interdepartmental Commission and presented in the Concept</p>
<p>Sustainable Development Goals</p> <p>Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere</p> <p>Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</p> <p>Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages</p> <p>Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</p> <p>Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</p> <p>Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</p> <p>Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all</p> <p>Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all</p> <p>Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, pro-</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within the implementation of the RA Sustainable Development Goals to take into account the experience gained in the implementation and realization of the Millennium Development Goals, in particular: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen inter-sectoral cooperation at all levels for sustainable development. - Expand the process of raising awareness population and ensure wider public participation in the process of implementation and realization of Sustainable Development the Goals. • Develop a methodology for calculating the Index of Sustainable Development, taking into account the new

<p>mote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation</p> <p>Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries</p> <p>Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</p> <p>Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</p> <p>Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*</p> <p>Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development</p> <p>Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</p> <p>Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels</p> <p>Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development</p> <p>* Acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change</p>	<p>network of indicators of sustainable development and as well as, indicators of disaster risk reduction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Provide activities for the definition of urban environmental rating and other settlements, which will produce "green zoning" of the country. Explore and test for the cities of RA, "Index of sustainable cities", the method for calculating of which was developed by the "Fund of Sustainable Society" and tested for a number of cities in the Netherlands. •Taking into consideration the world's growing interest in the methods of calculation of the various indexes of development, and the proposed method is very in tune with the "Armenian version", it is necessary to step up the process of presenting a technique developed in Armenia in various international professional forums, the use of this technique at the international level.
--	--

XI. PROMOTING LEGAL AND ECONOMIC TOOLS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GREEN ECONOMY IN ORDER TO ERADICATE POVERTY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Brief analysis of the situation

Green Economy is recognized the most important tool for promoting sustainable development.

For the first time certain ideas of Green Economy have been included in the Program of Sustainable Development of the Republic of Armenia, approved by the Government in 2008.

SWOT analysis, gained in the strengths and weaknesses of the country's economic prospects in the context of "greening», revealed the following.

- ***The strengths*** of the country in the considered context are: low-carbon energy, high proportion of gas-fired vehicles, advanced legislation in the field of energy and the economy, active environmental community, the existence of a system of certification of environmentally safe products.

- ***The weaknesses*** are: a strong dependence on imported energy, the lack of the necessary legal and methodological basis, the lack of evaluation of environmental pollution in macro-economic indicators and overexploitation of natural resources, a partial mismatch of environmental legislation to modern requirements, low rates of environmental fees and charges for the use of natural resources (at

that, only 15% of the collected amount is spent on environmental protection measures), poor integration of environmental norms in the use of mineral resources, urban planning and other sectors of the economy, lack of understanding of the need to move towards a green economy, the small amount of research in this area, etc.

Amongst the risks towards the development of green economy are identified: low level of implementation of the existing strategic programs, the vulnerability of the economy, particularly from the factors of climate change and disaster risk, the lack of domestic financial resources for the implementation of programs.

The implementation of green economy policy involves the introduction of a new model of economic growth, changing consumption and production patterns, technologies and infrastructures. And need for the revision of the environmental damage payment system and the use of natural resources, as well as the legislative framework regulating the activities of economic sectors causing the greatest damage to natural capital is obvious.

At the same time, the following must be determined as basic principles:

- Introduction of flexible and effective system of incentives and benefits;

- An adequate assessment of the impact on the environment, the strengthening of measures responsibility (fiscal instruments, sanctions and compensation);

- Creation of a system to prevent violations;

- Improvement of legislation in the present context.

It should be noted that some changes have already been made partially in “The law on the assessment of environmental impact” adopted in 2014, and the new method of estimation and compensation is approved by the Decision of the Government on 27.05.2015.

Since 2013 the regional program "Green Economy in the Eastern Partnership countries» (EaP GREEN) by the European Union is implemented in the RA, which also contributes to the UN agencies (UNECE, UNEP, UNIDO) and OECD. The coordinators of the project are the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Nature Protection, the Regional Environmental Center "Caucasus" takes an active part also. Definite institutional tools of formation of green economy are developed in the framework of the project, as well as were realized relevant pilot projects. Thus, were implemented 10 pilot projects for resource efficiency and cleaner production in small and medium enterprises of the country in 2014-2015.

<p>Goals/objectives of Sustainable Development, presented in the UN programme “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”</p>	<p>Recommendations, implemented by the Interdepartmental Commission and presented in the Concept</p>
<p>Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop a legal and methodological basis for the assessment of ecosystem services. • To set quotas of the use of natural resources

<p>Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</p> <p>Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages</p> <p>Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</p> <p>Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</p> <p>Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all</p> <p>Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all</p> <p>Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation</p> <p>Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and</p>	<p>(use of mineral resources, the use of ground-water, etc.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If possible, use tailings as man-made mines, to establish the optimal rate of waste. • To form the legal basis and to find financial resources for the development of renewable energy (especially, solar), electrical and non-motorized (bicycle, pedestrian) modes of transportation. • To assess the current risks and ensure the necessary conditions and components for economic security. • To identify available institutional and other capabilities and resources for the development of green economy, apply positive international experience in the development of mechanisms of their rational use. • To install the responsibility system for the development of green economy. Constant monitoring of the use of strategic resources. • To revise the legislation governing health and safety, workers' safety and health in hazardous conditions, to introduce insurance against accidents and occupational diseases. • To ensure transparency of the process of authorization for the opening of new enterprises, especially in dangerous from an environmental point of view, industries, fix the need of mandatory registration by concerned public opinion, to harmonize the methodology for calculating the environmental damage international/European standards. • To set prerequisite implementation of corporate social responsibility programs for
--	--

<p>among countries</p> <p>Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</p> <p>Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</p> <p>Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*</p> <p>Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development</p> <p>Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</p> <p>Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclu-</p>	<p>large enterprises.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specially encourage the enterprises using waste as a raw material and applying non-waste technology. • To identify the most important environmental issues in the development of green economy. <p>Implementation of the mechanism of the environmental benefits for industrial waste and environmentally unsafe products.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To set the priority sectors of the economy with a broad public coverage (agriculture, water management, tourism, and others.) • To assist reducing uneven territorial development of the country with the help of green economy, development of effective programs to reduce poverty and restore the abandoned settlements. • Currently, the Government of Armenia encourages the economic mechanisms of environment-oriented activities; they must be expanded and improved. In implementing the specific programs, if necessary, it should be contact the Government to obtain additional benefits. • To give preference to the most consonant principles of the green economy projects/ programs within the use of co-financing mechanisms, create green jobs. • To raise public awareness and promote education in the green economy, in particular, include courses on the green economy in the system of education in the universities and vocational institutions. Prepare and publish explanatory leaflets. Intensify training in this
---	--

<p>sive institutions at all levels</p> <p>Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development</p>	<p>area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To import solar panels and create the country's production at their assembly. To use solar energy, in particular, for illumination of streets and parks. • To encourage highly positive experience developed in RA and based on the concentration of solar radiation energy, and dissemination of this experience throughout the country. • To import wind generators and install them in the appropriate areas. • To increase the motivation of enterprises in the field of green economy with special diplomas, advantages in purchasing, certification, etc. • To pay a special attention to those activities/proposals, that are consonant with the provisions of the National Programme on disaster risk reduction.
--	---

CONCLUSION

The concept of the strategy is the result of consensus among the various sectors of society, advisable for the implementation of the recommendations of UN Summit "Rio+20" in the RA, and listed below a number of important programs and as well as address priority issues:

- Implementation and realization at the national level of the Worldwide program "Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" adopted by the UN General Assembly in 27.09.2015, in particular, the goals and objectives of sustainable development.
- Perform "United Nations Programme on Promoting Armenia 2016-2020.
- "Modernization and implementation of the strategic program promising development of RA in the period of 2014-2025.
- Realization of the strategy for disaster risk reduction.
- Solution of environmental problems in the territory of the Republic of Armenia, cooperation in resolving the regional environmental problems.
- Implementation of the climate change prevention and adaptation the programs.
- Development of green economy, rooting the principles of "green agreement", creation of green jobs.
- Development of environmentally-oriented outlook and improving the quality of life of the population of the country.

Print run 700 Copies.

SGevorg - Hrair| LTD



publishing house

*Yerevan, Gr. Lusavorchi 6 str.
Tel. 52-79-74, 52-79-47:*

E-mail. lusakn@rambler.ru