



«ՀՀ բնական կերհանդակների»
արտադրարարի և խոտհարքների
կայուն կառավարմանն ուղղված ծրագրերի
համակարգման հարթակ



Deutsches Zentrum
für Luft- und Raumfahrt
German Aerospace Center

SDA Strategic
Development Agency
Strategies for Development

ICARE
INTERNATIONAL
CENTER FOR
AGRIBUSINESS
RESEARCH AND
EDUCATION



Implemented by
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit GIZ GmbH

“Mapping of Pastures and Grasslands in Armenia” project kick-off meeting

The “Mapping of Pastures and Grasslands in Armenia” project kick-off meeting was held online on February 10, with the participation of the representatives from ministries related to the natural fodder area sphere, local government authorities, as well as scientific institutions, local and international NGOs.

The project is implemented in the framework of GIZ ECOserve Programme. The activities are being carried out by the German Aerospace Center (DLR) and the International Center for Agribusiness Research and Education (ICARE), the pilot is implemented by Strategic Development Agency (SDA), in close collaboration with the Ministry of Economy (MEC) and the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures (MoTAI).

Meeting Agenda

Hour	Topic
14:15	Registration of participants Joining the online platform
14:30	Welcome speech, introducing the agenda and participants
14:40	GIZ Presentation of the “Mapping of Pastures and Grasslands in Armenia” initiative <i>Dr. Astghik Danielyan, Advisor, GIZ ECOserve Environmental Programme</i> Q&A
15:00	ICARE Presentation of the “Mapping the Condition and Biomass of Pastures and Grasslands in Armenia” project <i>Ms. Lusine Tadevosyan, Research Director, ICARE Foundation</i> <i>Dr. Gagik Tovmasyan, Expert, ICARE</i>

	<i>Q&A</i>
15:40	DLR Presentation of the preliminary results of the center and the Grass AM project <i>Dr. Emmanuel Da Ponte, German Aerospace Center (DLR)</i> <i>Dr. Frank Tonfeld, German Aerospace Center (DLR)</i> <i>Q&A</i>
16:20	SDA Presentation of pasture and grassland map testing in Lori and Shirak regions and introduction of expected results <i>Ms. Anna Poghosyan, Component Manager, SDA</i> <i>Q&A</i>

List of Attendees

No	Organization	Name, Surname	Position
1.	Ministry of Economy	Ira Panosyan	Head of the Department of Agricultural Programs Elaboration, Resource Use and Cooperative Development
2.		Harutyun Daveyan	Chief Specialist of the Agricultural Resource Use Division
3.		Amatuni Arshakyan	Chief Specialist of the Agricultural Resource Use Division under the Department of Agricultural Programs Elaboration, Resource Use and Cooperative Development
4.	CARMAC-II Programme under the Agricultural Program Implementation Department of the RA Ministry of Economy	Davit Mejlumyan	CARMAC-II Project Manager
5.		Vache Terteryan	Deputy Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures

6.	Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures	Ashot Giloyan	Head of the Department of Local Self-Government Policy
7.		Hripsime Babayan	Chief Specialist of the Division on Coordination of Local Self-Government Affairs under the Department of Local Self-Government Policy
8.	Ministry of Environment	Voskehat Grigoryan	Acting Head of the Department for Specially Protected Areas of Nature and Biodiversity Policy
9.		Ashot Vardevanyan	Head of the Division of State Cadastres, Maintenance of Registers and Monitoring under the Department of Licenses, Permits and Compliances
10.		Aram Aghasyan	Chief Specialist of the Department for Specially Protected Areas of Nature and Biodiversity Policy
11.	World Bank, Yerevan office	Arusyak Alaverdyan	WB Senior Agriculture Specialist (responsible for CARMAC-II programme)
12.	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in Armenia	Zara Alahverdyan	Head of the Armenian Office of Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
13.	GIZ (ECOserve Programme)	Astghik Danialyan	Advisor
14.		Alla Berberyan	Advisor
15.		Siranush Galstyan	Advisor
16.		Irina Balasyan	Advisor on Environmental Awareness and PR
17.		Aghasi Mnatsyan	Advisor
18.		Tobias Wittmann	Team Leader
19.		Lisa Hoentzsch	Junior Advisor
20.	Good Local Governance South Caucasus Programme (LoGoPro)	Gayane Nalbandyan	Advisor
21.		Armen Keshishyan	Advisor
22.		Karina Harutyunyan	Programme Manager
23.		Vahe Hovhannisyan	Programme Manager

24.	Strategic Development Agency (SDA)	Gagik Tovmasyan	Agricultural and Natural Resource Management Expert
25.		Anna Poghosyan	Component Manager for the Capacity Development of Local Self-Government Bodies
26.	GIZ EU4Sevan Programme	Hovik Sayadyan	Advisor on Sustainable Land-Use for EU4Sevan Programme
27.	Armenian National Agrarian University	Hrachya Zakoyan	Vice-Rector for Economic Affairs
28.	Standing Committee on Territorial Administration, Local Self-Government, Agriculture and Environment	Gohar Abrahamyan	Expert
29.		Rima Momchyan	Expert
30.	Urban Development Committee	Nune Petrosyan	Deputy Chairman of the Urban Development Committee
31.	World Wide Fund Armenian Office	Karen Manvelyan	Director
32.	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Naira Harutyunyan	Advisor/Expert on Social and Economic Affairs
33.		Mary Sahakyan	Programme Assistant
34.	Syunik region, Sissian community	Armen Khachatryan	Head of Agriculture Division of Sissian community, Syunik region
35.	Syunik region, Gorayk community	Ashot Aghajanyan	Head of Gorayk community, Syunik region
36.	Lori regional administration	Arus Tumanyan	Lori regional administration, Head of Agriculture and Nature Protection Department
37.		Artak Demirchyan	Head of the Nature Protection Division under Agriculture and Nature Protection Department adjacent to the Lori regional administration staff
38.		Edgar Hakhverdyan	Head of Land Development and Land-Use Division under the Lori regional administration staff
39.	Lori region, Gyulagarak community	Vruyr Ayzvazyan	Advisor to the Head of Gyulagarak community

40.	Lori region, Berd community	Christine Melikjanyan	Leading Specialist on Land Development and Agriculture of Berd community, Lori region
41.	Shirak regional administration	Andranik Nalbandyan	Head of Agriculture Division under the Agriculture and Nature Protection Department
42.	Shirak region, Amasya community	Arthur Manukyan	Deputy Head of Amasya community, Shirak region
43.	Cadastre Committee	Davit Soghomonyan	Deputy Head of the Cadastre Committee
44.		Karen Grigoryan	Head of Information Technology Center
45.		Vahagn Muradyan	Geomatics Center, Cadastre Committee
46.	Ministry of High-Tech Industry	Leonid Arzumanyan	Chief Specialist of Digitization Department
47.		Aram Pahlevanyan	Specialist of EEU and CIS Affairs Division under the International Cooperation Department
48.	AUA Remote Sensing Lab	Gohar Shahinyan	GIS and Remote Sensing Specialist
49.	AUA Acopian Center for the Environment	Aghavni Harutyunyan	GIS Specialist
50.	ICARE	Lusine Tadevosyan	Research Director
51.		Lilit Avdalyan	Senior Scientific Researcher
52.		Arthur Grigoryan	Director
53.		Stepan Khachatryan	GIS Specialist
54.	DLR	Emmanuel De Ponte	Remote Sensing Data Center (DFD)
55.		Frank Tonfeld	Remote Sensing Data Center (DFD)
56.	Translator		

At the beginning of meeting the participants were welcomed by Mr. Ashot Giloyan, the Head of the Department of Local Self-Government Policy of the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures, Ms. Ira Panosyan, the Head of the Department of Agricultural Programs Elaboration, Resource Use and Cooperative Development of the Ministry of Economy, Mr. Tobias Wittmann, the Team Leader of GIZ ECOserve programme and Mr. Arthur Grigoryan, the Director of ICARE Foundation, importance was attached to the ongoing activities. Mr. Vache Terteryan, the Deputy Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures also joined the meeting and highlighted the importance of the kick-off activities, as well as the professional capacities involved

in the framework of those activities. He mentioned that the Ministry is willing to support the implementation of activities through administrative reforms.

Presentations, Questions and Answers

1. Presentation of the “Mapping of Pastures and Grasslands in Armenia” initiative, GIZ

Dr. Astghik Danielyan presented the “Mapping of Pastures and Grasslands in Armenia” initiative. During the presentation Mr. Hovik Sayadyan, the Advisor on Sustainable Land-Use for EU4Sevan Programme, raised the question whether it is envisaged to make adjustments in the existing community cadastre maps during the mapping process and clarified the scale of that mapping. Dr. Astghik Danielyan responded that currently they collaborate with the RA Cadastre Committee to ensure professional guidance during the mapping process. In addition to this discussion, Davit Soghomonyan, the Deputy Head of the Cadastre Committee, mentioned that the RA Cadastre Committee is willing to support the project within its mandate and asked whether mapping and baseline text data were obtained from the Cadastre Committee. He also highlighted the importance of including the maps in national Geoportal.

2. Presentation of the “Mapping the Condition and Biomass of Pastures and Grasslands in Armenia” project, ICARE

Ms. Lusine Tadevosyan, the ICARE Research Director, presented the aims and issues, achieved and expected outcomes of the “Mapping the Condition and Biomass of Pastures and Grasslands in Armenia” project.

Then, Dr. Gagik Tovmasyan, the “Mapping the Condition and Biomass of Pastures and Grasslands in Armenia” Project Expert, presented the methodology of field studies carried out in the framework of the project and current outcomes.

The participants asked questions about the sampling sites for the implementation of field studies and the scale of maps currently under development. Dr. Gagik Tovmasyan provided details on the process of the above-mentioned activities.

3. Presentation of DLR preliminary results and the Grass AM project

Dr. Frank Tonfeld, the representative of German Aerospace Center (DLR), briefly presented the activity of the Center, current programs and scientific and research potential. He also referred to similar programs in other countries and hoped that the activities carried out by DLR would

contribute to the sustainable development of pastures and grasslands in the Republic of Armenia. Dr. Emmanuel Da Ponte, another DLR representative, referred to map structures, quality criteria and grass cover.

The presentation was proceeded by a question raised by Mr. Hovik Sayadyan, the Advisor on Sustainable Land-Use for EU4Sevan Programme, on whether land use surfaces were compared with the existing actual values. In response to this question, it was mentioned that the collected actual field data were provided to the German Aerospace Center, based on which digital maps will be developed.

4. Presentation of pasture and grassland map testing in Lori and Shirak regions and introduction of expected results

Ms. Anna Poghosyan, the representative of Strategic Development Agency (SDA) NGO, briefly presented the “Presentation of pasture and grassland map testing in Lori and Shirak regions and introduction of expected results” pilot project, activities and expected outcomes. Mr. Davit Mejlumyan, the CARMAC-II Project Manager of the Ministry of Economy, added that the communities involved in the pilot are already somewhat familiar with the advantages of sustainable pasture management through the “Livestock Development in Armenia: South-North” project implemented by CARMAC-II and SDA, they have management plans and the use of this new tool will make sustainable pasture management process even more effective and will reduce certain monitoring and operational costs.

Lisa Hoentzsch, a Junior Advisor from GIZ ECOserve Programme, asked state agencies whether the other communities of Armenia have the capacity to use similar maps and, if not, what measures will be taken to develop those capacities and to ensure the use of the maps on the entire territory of Armenia. Ashot Giloyan, the Head of the Department of Local Self-Government Policy of the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures, mentioned that not all communities in Armenia have an experience in pasture management through the use of management plan and maps, but the Ministry takes measures to ensure the capacity development of local self-government bodies in these communities and hoped that international organizations will continue to contribute to the capacity development of local self-government bodies.

Another question was addressed to the representatives of the Ministry of Economy on the continuous updating of map data. In response to the question of Frank Tonfeld, a representative of Remote Sensing Data Center (DFD), Harutyun Daveyan, a Chief Specialist of the Agricultural Resource Use Division of the Ministry of Economy, said that the Ministry will be persistent in updating the maps with the necessary data.

At the end of the workshop, Dr. Astghik Danielyan (GIZ) made a concluding speech and summarized the results of the discussion and the issues raised during the meeting, and thanked everyone for an effective discussion.

The “Mapping of Pastures and Grasslands in Armenia” project kick-off meeting was covered and published on the website of the Ministry of Economy -

<https://www.mineconomy.am/news/2186?fbclid=IwAR0bexoTXAAyhZF5ZX51Y4vTNuOiMGAQN3qEu4Lsb-VU7zudhxQkXXRaDBM>, on the website of the Coordination Platform for Sustainable Management of RA Natural Fodder Areas – Pastures and Grasslands - <http://arot.am/5004/.html>, on the website of SDA - shorturl.at/ILNU2, on the website of ICARE Foundation - https://icare.am/2021/02/19/3295/?fbclid=IwAR2K3zukLNaXj22BBQODNf_8K_117VDgNqY_QMXkzTogMkr5NZYPS_VECX8 and on lurer.am news website - <https://www.lurer.am/hy/2021/02/12/%D4%BF%D5%A1%D5%B5%D5%A1%D6%81%D5%A5%D5%AC-%D5%A7-%C2%AB%D5%80%D5%A1%D5%B5%D5%A1%D5%BD%D5%BF%D5%A1%D5%B6%D5%B8%D6%82%D5%B4-%D5%A1%D6%80%D5%B8%D5%BF%D5%A1%D5%BE%D5%A1%D5%B5%D6%80%D5%A5%D6%80%D5%AB-%D6%87-%D5%AD%D5%B8%D5%BF%D5%B0%D5%A1%D6%80%D6%84%D5%B6%D5%A5%D6%80%D5%AB-%D6%84%D5%A1%D6%80%D5%BF%D5%A5%D5%A6%D5%A1%D5%A3%D6%80%D5%B8%D6%82%D5%B4%C2%BB-%D5%B6%D5%A1%D5%AD%D5%A1%D5%A3%D5%AE%D5%AB-%D5%B4%D5%A5%D5%AF%D5%B6%D5%A1%D6%80%D5%AF%D5%A1%D5%B5%D5%AB%D5%B6-%D5%A1%D5%B7%D5%AD%D5%A1%D5%BF%D5%A1%D5%AA%D5%B8%D5%B2%D5%B8%D5%BE%D5%A8/412870?fbclid=IwAR3bxUFbrNaKdFLQAq4wEbRXfVOcMs8dDQ23ODfJnwFA-cx0PXHN7EemI8o>.