



Recommendations

1. Integrate agroecosystems into the planning of specially protected natural areas.
2. Introduce diversified and environmentally friendly agricultural systems in communities adjacent to specially protected natural areas to reduce pressure on ecosystems and increase food security.
3. Support the introduction and dissemination of agroecological and sustainable agricultural practices in communities adjacent to specially protected natural areas, including diversification of crops and their varieties, conservation and restoration of soil fertility, and integrated pest management (IPM) methods.
4. Promote the marketing of ecologically clean agricultural products of producers operating in communities adjacent to specially protected natural areas, supporting branding and the development of value chains.
5. Ensure that traditional and local agricultural knowledge, including knowledge related to the diversity of seeds and local animal breeds, is documented and incorporated into biodiversity conservation objectives.
6. Expand research and pilot programs to explore the role of agroecological approaches in providing ecosystem services.
7. Gradually reduce the use of highly hazardous pesticides (HHPs), including perfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs), by switching to biological control measures.
8. Support the maintenance and continued use of traditional agricultural systems, including ancient local varieties of cereals, grapes and legumes, traditional horticultural systems and extensive grazing livestock, as an important component of protected landscapes shaped by the interaction of people and nature.

Practical measures:

- community seed banks;
- state support for farmers;
- development of sustainable agriculture;
- training farmers on the rules of good agricultural practices and raising awareness of agrotechnical work;



- certification of products obtained from communities adjacent to specially protected natural areas.

9. Implement conservation of wild relatives of cultivated plants (wild wheat species, grapes, fruit crops, medicinal plants) in communities adjacent to specially protected natural areas.

10. Propose mandatory gender quotas:

- a) in the management councils of specially protected natural areas,
- b) in advisory councils.

11. Introduce gender equality performance indicators linked to the NBSAP implementation stages.

12. Incorporate gender equality principles into environmental and agricultural programs developed at the state and local levels, ensuring equal participation of women and men in decision-making processes.

13. Develop gender-disaggregated data collection systems that will enable the assessment of women's and men's participation and impact in biodiversity conservation processes.

14. Provide gender equality training for staff of specially protected natural areas (e.g., forest rangers, park boards) and local governments to improve inclusive leadership in environmental protection.

15. Organize training for rural women in the areas of sustainable agriculture, agrobiodiversity conservation, natural resource management, and ecotourism.

16. Provide leadership, negotiation and sustainable business planning training to rural women to enhance their role in natural resource management.

17. Support women's entrepreneurial initiatives, local production and environmentally sustainable agricultural activities by providing grants, credit support and access to markets.

18. Recognize and promote the role of rural women in the conservation of traditional seeds, local crop diversity and the transfer of environmental knowledge.



19. Strengthen monitoring, knowledge and community engagement, with a focus on women.
20. Conduct a study of community financing mechanisms (e.g., revolving funds for women's eco-entrepreneurship around protected areas).
21. Expand stakeholder engagement and collaboration platforms.
22. Expand Armenia's collaboration with international organizations and donor agencies to implement joint projects on gender equality and biodiversity conservation.