



Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment (AWHHE)

Evaluation of the Effectiveness of the Biodiversity Strategy in Armenia

Desk study

Conducted in frame of Sub-Granting for Ecofeminist Policy Action at National, Regional and Global Levels, under Women Power 2030, funded by the European Union



AWHHE

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Introduction

This Desk Study was conducted by the NGO Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment (AWHHE) in the framework of Sub-Granting for Ecofeminist Policy Action at National, Regional and Global Levels, under Women Power 2030, implemented by Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF) and funded by the European Union¹.

The purpose of this sub-granting project is to support activities that advance gender equality within sustainable development and environmental policy processes in Armenia.

Armenia's biodiversity faces severe threats primarily driven by deforestation, mining, environmental pollution, unregulated land use, and unsustainable management of natural resources. These threats are exacerbated by natural factors, including climate change - manifested through rising temperatures and changing precipitation patterns, and natural disasters, which are also significantly influenced by human actions. These combined pressures lead to ecosystem degradation and declining populations of various species. To combat these challenges, Armenia has long prioritized biodiversity conservation, implementing significant legislative and institutional reforms, protecting endangered species, and effectively managing protected areas.

The purpose of this study is to assess the effectiveness of the implementation of the biodiversity strategy in Armenia, identify the achieved results, existing problems and propose possible areas for improving environmental policy.

A distinctive component of this Desk Study is a review of gaps and perspectives in the current Roadmap of Armenia's Protected Areas Strategy through the lens of SDG 5 (gender) and agroecology. It undertakes a comprehensive desk review of the existing policy and strategic framework governing Armenia's system of specially protected nature areas (SPNAs), with a particular focus on the current roadmap under the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP 2025–2030). The analysis applies a dual lens of SDG 5 (gender equality) and agroecology to identify structural gaps, missed opportunities, and entry points for more inclusive and sustainable management approaches.

¹ <https://www.wecf.org/womenpower-2030/> ; <https://awhhe.am/enhancing-the-gender-and-agro-ecology-aspects-of-the-national-biodiversity-strategy-of-armenia/>