

# Modernization of Environment Protection Studies Programmes for Armenia and Georgia (MENVIPRO)



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DEB Department  
**Project website:** [www.menvipro.org](http://www.menvipro.org)

## Project short description

The system of postgraduate studies is an important element of HE system of any country as it lays a foundation to innovative economy and competitive science system. Moreover, it also ensures the re-production of the HE system itself. Extending the Bologna principles to this area of education corresponds fully to the trends and needs of European and global economies and lays in the area of priorities for education reforms in Armenia and Georgia. So far, the attention paid to this sector, especially in the field of Environmental Protection (EP), was not sufficient. For instance, in Armenia, the country running a nuclear power station, the postgraduate curriculum in the field of Environmental radiation protection is not available! All specialists in this field have to study abroad. In Georgia, the country the economy of which fully depends on tourism and agriculture (e.g. wine production), there are no postgraduate courses in the field of Food safety.

At the same time, the thematic area of EP represents a lasting and important priority both in Europe and in the target countries. In fact, capacities in EP is a core prerequisite for ensuring quality of life and competitiveness of economy, especially for such small countries as Armenia and Georgia, the countries with very clear Smart Specialization Strategies. That is why, the ERASMUS+ programme continuously announces this field as a priority area for cooperation with the target countries.

**The overall objective** of the project is to significantly improve the quality of postgraduate studies in the field of Environment Protection in Armenia and Georgia on the basis of complex modernization of postgraduate studies in line with the Bologna principles, Salzburg principles of EAU and best European practice.

## Operational objectives:

- to study the best practices in postgraduate studies organization existing in Europe and partner countries (specific focus on education-research integration). To identify the possible directions and existing limitations for curricula reforms on the basis of national educational standards, Bologna and Salzburg principles, best practice;
- to develop and prepare for accreditation new and improved MSc curricula (including core and transferable segments). To implement modernization of relevant MSc curricula in all participating Partner countries Universities;
- to develop and establish innovative teaching/learning environments (International Postgraduate Summer School, shared Education and Research Laboratory for Environment Protection);
- to evaluate the new curricula and teaching/learning environment through pilot implementation (curricula delivery + evaluation of learning effectiveness and learner satisfaction, training of teachers/supervisors, master classes). To ensure the sustainability of the project results;
- to ensure high quality of project outcomes;
- to inform the academic communities in the partner countries and Europe of the project results and ensure the broadest possible impact on the respective postdoctoral studies systems. To prepare and promote the Innovative Master Degree Introduction toolkit for other Universities.

The overall project plan consists of 4 content-specific WPs implemented in sequence with certain overlaps allowing inter-project transfer of results between activities (conveyor-like structure). Additionally, the Quality (WP5), Dissemination (WP6) and Management (WP7) activities will run throughout the project lifetime ensuring continuous visibility of the project, exposure of the target groups to the project results, as well as coordination and management soundness of the project implementation.



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Key Action 2: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices

Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education

Call 2018 EAC/A05/2017

Start Date: November 15th 2018

End Date: November 14th 2022

