

oead

appear

#277



Ecosystem services assessment through a participatory approach for sustainable water resources management in Armenia (EcoServ)

A partnership between Austria and Armenia

PROJECT COORDINATOR:

Ass.Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Verena Radinger-Peer

COORDINATING INSTITUTION:

University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU)

PARTNER INSTITUTIONS:

Yerevan State University (YSU); Scientific Center of Zoology and Hydroecology (SCZHE) of National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia

PARTNER COUNTRY:

Armenia

PROJECT DURATION:

1 March 2023 – 28 February 2027
(48 months)

CONTACT:

verena.radinger-peer@boku.ac.at

WEBSITE:

appear.at/ecoserv

The project is funded by the Austrian Partnership Programme in Higher Education and Research for Development – APPEAR. APPEAR is a programme of the Austrian Development Cooperation and is implemented by the OeAD.

Armenian aquatic ecosystems have a high level of vulnerability due in part to high density of population, lack of water treatment plants and global climate change. Armenia is experiencing high baseline water stress which impacts on local communities as the agriculture is highly dependent on irrigation. Furthermore, Armenia faces the challenge of a lack of legislation and education in the management of ecosystem services (ES).

To address and overcome these issues in a sustainable way,**EcoServ project partners apply a participatory approach and aims to:**

- 1 develop the capacities of partner institutions in Armenia for the assessment of ES,
- 2 develop an Ecosystem services management module for Bachelor's and Master's degree students at the department of Management and Business of YSU,
- 3 develop an ES assessment framework for Armenian wetlands.

EcoServ contributes to the following UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):
SDG 4 Quality education
SDG 6 Clean water and sanitation
SDG 15 Life on land.