

EU Green Agriculture Initiative in Armenia (EU-GAIA)**Period of implementation:** 01.10.2019 - 31.03.2023**EaP countries:**
Armenia**EU contribution:** € 9 700 000**Total budget:** € 13 300 000**Implementing organisation(s):**
Austrian Development Agency**Social media account links:**facebook.com/GAIA-Armenia-109248380512759,**Project website:** www.entwicklung.at**Project description:**

EU Green Initiative in Armenia (EU-GAIA) is the biggest agricultural support project in Armenia funded by the European Union (EU) and co-funded and implemented by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA), and partially implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Impact (Overall Objective):

The overall objective of GAIA is to contribute to the realization of shared and balanced inclusive growth in the Northern regions of Armenia through boosting green agriculture and enhancing local value added.

The project is part of the EU's Annual Action Programme for 2018 – Regional Development.

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Expected results:

To achieve this, four major directions will be pursued with the generous support of the European Union through the EU-GAIA project:

- Improving Policy and Developing Capacities of Stakeholders. The strategy is to make farmers' lives easier and attract them to start Green Agri-business through "Green Deal" policy and a valid legal protection. In the end, 5 policy documents will be developed to turn that potential into reality.

Moreover, 300 people from the government, civil societies, laboratories, research centres, universities and colleges will be trained to implement various green interventions. Precision and sustainable agriculture will be taught to students, where they can use and develop smart-tech solutions.

- Providing Access to Green Technologies and Demo Farms: 120 agribusinesses (30% owned/managed by rural women) are given the access to test and use resource-efficient agri-technologies, infrastructure and good agricultural practices in the modern demonstrative educational farms. Moreover, facilities where harvest is collected and processed will be refurbished and equipped to comply with eco-friendly and safe, non-hazardous and zero-waste standards.

- Providing Support to Green Agribusinesses: 120 farmers, producers and processors will receive resource-efficient technologies and ecologically-friendly inputs to run their green business. In the end, their agricultural production will be increased by 15% and 200 ha of land will be registered under sustainable use. Moreover, by having access to the project