

ARMENIA

Political Administrative Region (marz): Vayots Dzor

Location: Vayots Dzor marz is located in Southern part of the Republic. In the South borders with Nakhijevan, in the North with RA Grgharkunik marz, in the East – RA Syunik marz and in the West – RA Ararat marz. Vayots dzor is surrounded by high mountains, water-separating mountain ranges and deep gorges.

Total Area: Vayots Dzor occupies 2308 km². It is the 6th largest marz (7.8% of the territory).

Demographics: Population number as of January 1, 2008 is 55.8 ths. Persons (1.7% of the whole population of the Republic), of which 19.3 urban and 36.5 rural. There are 3 towns and 41 rural communities.

Climate

The climate on the whole is continental with cold or moderate cold winters and hot or warm summers. The highest possible temperature reaches +41C in southern districts, and minimum temperature reaches - 35 C. Precipitations comprise 300-700 mm.

Water resources

The main river of Vayots Dzor is Arpa. On its tributaries there are beautiful waterfalls of Jermuk and Herher. On Arpa, near Jermuk town, there is a Kechut water reservoir, which water is transported to Lake Sevan via Arpa-Sevan channel.

Specially Protected Areas

Yeghegnadzor Reservation

Established in 1972. The main objects of protection are forest animals. Occupies 4200ha.

Herher Reservation

Established in 1958. Main protected species is juniper (*Juniperus L.*), specifically the relict juniper woodland. Occupies 6139ha.

Jermuk Mineral Waters Reservation

Established in 1981. The main object of protection is Jermuk mineral water springs. Occupies 18000ha.

Jermuk Forests Reservation

Established in 1958. Main objects of protection are mountainous oak (*Quircus macranthera*) forest and a number of rare animals. Occupies 3865ha.

Flora

More than half of the all plants growing in Armenia also grow in Vayots Dzor (1650 species). Natural forests comprise 5.7% or 13240.1 ha of territory.

The territory of Vayots Dzor has always been known for their abundance of alpine herbs and officinal plants. The most common used were mentha, rosa canina, Armenian ginseng and many others. There are numerous endemic and endangered plants registered in the national Red Book, such as *Pragnos lophoptera*, *Seseli leptocladium* (endemic), *Cephalorrinhus Kirpicznikovii*, *Hieracium pannosum*,

Steptorhamphus Czerepanovii, Acanthophyllum pungens, Astragalus karakuschensis, Vicia cappadocica, Hipericum formosissimum, Crocus speciosus. Gladiolus atroviolaceus, Iris caucasicus, Iris pseudocaucasica, Juglans regia, Salvia grossheimii, Allium akkaka, Asphodeline dendroides, Secale Vavilovii, Triticum boeoticum.

Fauna

The territory of Vayots Dzor is also known for its fauna, especially birds. The animals and birds are the following: *Ursus arctos syriacus, Capra aegarus aegarus, Accipiter brevipes, Ciraetus gallicus gallicus, Lanius senator niloticus, Silvia hortensis crassirostris, Luscinia svecica accidentalis, Irania gutturalis, Sitta tephronota obscura, Tichodroma muraria, Carposiza brachidactyla, Eumeces schneideri, Mabuya aurata, Vipera raddei.*

Economics

In 2007 the share of economy main branches of RAVayots Dzor marz in total volume of correspondent branches of the republic comprised

industry	0.8 %,
agriculture	4.3 %,
construction	0.9 %,
retail trade	0.5 %,
services	0.3 %.

In total the prevailing economy branch is agriculture. Peasant farms mainly deal with cattle-breeding, the production of which comprised 63.0% of volume of gross agricultural product. The vine-growing, fruit-growing and vegetable-growing have certain share in the volume of gross agriculture produce.

The production of non-alcoholic beverages (in particular, Jermuk mineral water) is mainly developed in the industry field, the share of which in total volume of industrial production of the republic comprised 60.0% in 2007, and the grape wine - 20.0%.

Environmental data in figures (as of 2007)

	In Vayots Dzor	Total in Armenia
Emissions from stationary sources (t)	133.5	34239.1
Emissions (per inhabitant, kg)	2.4	10.6
per square km, kg	57.8	1202.1
t per organization	7.0	40.8
Dust emissions (t)	33.5	2916.5
Total water consumption mln. cubic metre	36.7	2145.2
Losses during transit displacement mln. cubic metre	12.1	866.9
Waste water discharge	5.2	294.5

Quantitative indicators of formed wastes (per inhabitant, kg)	2.7	4136.4
per square km, kg	64.4	468567.6
per organization, t	14.9	16537.8
Payments for environmental protection and use of natural resources (payment, mln. drams)	84.8	4117.2
per organization, ths. drams	610.3	1384.3
Current expenditures for environmental protection (mln. drams)	8.5	2945.8

Main environmental concerns

Main environmental issues of Vayots Dzor include illegal logging, uncontrolled collection of plants, lack of waste management etc.

Media

TV Companies

Arpa

Director: Armen Adamian
City/Region: Eghegnadzor/Vayots Dzor
Tel./Fax: (374 281) 2 34 29

Radio

Eghegn

Director: Svetlana Dovlatian
City/Region: Eghegnadzor/Vayots Dzor
Tel./Fax: (374 281) 2 30 73; (374 1) 28 74 01, 28 18 32

Environmental Organizations

Eghegnadzor town

“Plants cultivation and animal husbandry agricultural systems”

(093)349298; (0291) 23379

Eghegnadzor, Muracan 10

Hamazasp Abrahamyan

“Yeritasard kadrer” NGO

(091)584596; 617672;610602;

hrachya.09@mail.ru

Yerevan address: Avan 1/5-34

Eghegnadzor, Andraniki 13

Hrachya Mkrtchyan

“Shogh” Society development support NGO

A.poghosyan@aregak.am

(091)190401; (0281)23107

Yerevan address: Isahakyan 17

Yeghegnadzor: Eghishe Tadevosyan str.

Ashot Poghosyan

“Consumer rights protection” center

arturlus@rambler.ru

(093)361690; (0281)22616

Arthur Harutyunyan

Yeghegnadzor, Atarbekyan 22

“Armenian red cross” Vayoc Dzor branch

(093)594593;0281-25528;23900

Yeghegnadzor, Shahumyan 1

Emanuel Sargsyan

Vayoc Dzor marz's youth center

(093)538083; (0281)6 00 83

vayots_dzor@armyouthcenter.am

Hasmik Margaryan

“Shushan” NGO

h.narine@list.ru

(093)711612; (0282)25058

Yeghegnadzor, Andraniki 17, apt. 3

Narine Hakhverdyan

Vayq town

Greens' Union of Armenia Vayk branch

vaykshirak@rambler.ru

(093)2893263; (0282)21190

Shahumyan 21 Vayoc Dzor

Yerevan address: Isahakyan 17

Yeghegnadzor: Eghishe Tadevosyan str.

Ashot Poghosyan

Shatin village

“Aroghj @ntaniq” NGO

no e-mail available

(0281) 99-3-09

(093) 57-17-03

Zoya Martirosyan