

Political Administrative Region (marz): Lori

Location: RA Lori marz is situated in the North of the republic and is the third largest marz by its territory in the republic and the second by its population number (after Yerevan city). It borders with Georgia in the North, in the South –RA Kotayk and Aragatsotn marzes, in the West – RA Shirak marz and in the East – Tavush marz of RA.

Total Area: 3789 sq km. (12.7% of the total share of the country).

Demographics: Population number as of January 1, 2008 comprises 282.0 ths. persons (8.7% of the whole population), of which 165.6 ths. urban and 116.4 rural population. There are 8 towns and 105 rural communities in Lori.

Climate

The climate of Lori is relatively humid. Annual precipitation is 500-800mm. In the mountain slopes the winter is short and mild, summer is long and hot. With the altitude the winters become snowy, summers are sunny.

Water Resources

The main river in Lori is Debed with its Dzoraget, Pambak, Martsaget tributaries. On Pambak there is a Trchkan waterfall. The marz is rich in mineral springs.

Specially Protected Areas

Gyulagarak State Reservation

The reservation was established in 1958 and occupies 2586ha. Main object of protection is relict pine forest.

Margahovit

The reservation was established in 1971 and occupies 5000ha. Main objects of protection are forest animals.

Rhododendron

The Reservation was established in 1959 and occupies 10000 ha. Northern Armenia is the southern limit where Caucasian rhododendron (*Rhododendron caucasicum Pall.*) occurs. Having survived since the Tertiary Period rhododendron grows in Armenia on the moist foggy slopes of the Javakhk, Bazum and Pambak mountain ranges at the altitude of 1900-2200 m. Rhododendron is a rare species of Armenian flora. Its evergreen beautiful 20-25 cm high shrubs are covered with hard glossy leather-like leaves and big white or cream colored flowers.

According to botanists, in the not so remote past, in the 1950-60s dense homogenous shrubs of rhododendron used to bloom abundantly reminding flourishing shrubs of the Great Caucasus. However, at present rhododendron area is covered by small shrubs with scarce flowers. The main reason of the reduction of rhododendron in Armenia is the change of ecological conditions, especially the change of climate, particularly decrease in humidity.

Fauna

Notable fauna include sylvan wildcat, reed wildcat, lynx, fox, royal stag, deer, caucasian squirrel, porcupine, bear, wild bore, marten.

Flora

Flora of Lori can be compared to that of Tavush marz. Forests include Dry and Arax Oak, Eastern beech, Caucasian pine, yew, elm, Georgian oak, other evergreen and deciduous trees. Marshlands and forests teem with wildflowers.

Mountain flora includes *iris furcata*, *anemone fasciculata*, *A. ramunculoides*, *Caltha popypetala*, *Veratium lobelianum*, *Palsatilla armena*, *Corydalis persica*, *Fritilaria caucasica*, *Betonica grandiflora*, *Prunus spinosa*, *Sedum pilosum*, *Sempervivum transcaucasicum*, *Malus orientalis*, *Pyrus causicus*.

River gorges flora include *Iris lineolata*, *I. Paradoxa*, *I. Caucasica*, *Allium stamineum*, *Bellevialia paradoxa*, *B. longystila*, *Muscari atropatana*, *M. sosnovskyi*, *Tulipa Sosnovskyi*, *Punica granatum*, *Vinca Vitis sylvestris*, *Ficus carica* (wild).

Economy

In 2007 the share of economy main branches of RA Lori marz in total volume of correspondent branches of the republic comprised

industry	6.0 %,
agriculture	10.1 %,
construction	1.1 %,
retail trade	2.1 %,
services	1.5 %

The leading branches of economy of the marz are agriculture and industry, particularly production of grain, potato, vegetable and animal husbandry product.

Environmental data in figures (as of 2007)

	In Lori	Total in Armenia
Emissions from stationary sources (t)	25292.7	34239.1
Emissions (per inhabitant, kg)	89.6	
per square km, kg	66753.3	
t per organization	351.3	
Dust emissions (t)	196.8	2916.5
Total water consumption mln. cubic metre	65.3	2145.2
Losses during transit displacement mln. cubic metre	6.5	866.9
Waste water discharge	20.6	294.5
Quantitative indicators of formed wastes (per inhabitant, kg)	193.6	4136.4
per square km, kg	10197.5	468567.6
per organization, t	460.0	16537.8
Payments for environmental protection and use of natural resources (payment, mln. drams)	216.2	4117.2

payment per inhabitant, dram/person	765.8	1272.6
per organization, ths. drams	1024.6	1384.3
Current expenditures for environmental protection (mln. drams)	9.4	2945.8

Areas of Environmental Concerns

Main area of environment issues include industrial pollution or water, air, soils, flora and fauna conservation, illegal logging and others.

Environmental Organizations

Vanadzor city

“Environment protection”

Vanadzor, Qimiagortsneri 2 str., 43 app.

(0322) 4 28 90 ; (093) 74 83 81

arman107@yandex.ru

Co-directors: Leyla and Vladimir Minasyan

Lori Development center

Vanadzor, Nzhdehi 7/34,

decelo@yandex.ru

(0322)25268

Hrant Ayvazyan

“Pure Lori”/ “Anaghart Lori”

Vanadzor, Hayqi square 1

agro_lori@yahoo.com

(0322) 4 30 99

Volodya Buniatyan

Stepanavan city

Lore eco-club NGO

Stepanavan, 62 Kamo Street

(093)315108; (0256) 2 24 77

lore@freenet.am

Manya Meliqjanyan

Media

TV Companies

Ankyun+3

Director: Sos Siradeghian

City/Region: Alaverdi/Lori
Tel./Fax: (374 253) 2 30 56; 3 30 56; 3 18 64
E-mail: ankyunplus3@rambler.ru

Fortuna

Director: Karen Arshakian
City/Region: Stepanavan/Lori
Tel./Fax: (374 256) 2 24 55; 2 25 26
E-mail: fortunatvr@mail.ru
Web Site: <http://www.fortuna.am>

Lori

Director: Narine Avetisian
City/Region: Vanadzor/Lori
Tel./Fax: (374 322) 2 05 24; 4 08 81
E-mail: avenar@yandex.ru

M-5

Director: Ripsimeh Lorian
City/Region: Vanadzor/Lori
Tel./Fax: (374 322) 4 31 54; 4 11 69

MIG

Director: Samvel Haroutiunian
City/Region: Vanadzor/Lori
Tel./Fax: (374 322) 3 05 55; 3 00 56
E-mail: lorumig@mail.ru
Web Site: <http://www.interkap.am>

Spitak TV

Director: Alik Sargsian
City/Region: Spitak/Lori
Tel./Fax: (374 255 0) 36 06; 23 38

Tashirk

Director: Samvel Sukiasian
City/Region: Tashir/Lori
Tel./Fax: (374 254) 2 14 81; 2 14 82

Print Media

CIVIL INITIATIVE

Chief Editor: Artur Sakunts

City/Region: Vanadzor/Lori
Tel./Fax: (374 322) 4 02 29; 4 22 68
E-mail: hcav@hcav.am
Web Site <http://www.hcav.am>

Loru Marz

Chief Editor: Manvel Mikoyan
City/Region: Vanadzor/Lori
Tel./Fax: (374 322) 2 03 20

Radio

MIG

Director: Samvel Haroutiunian
City/Region: Vanadzor/Lori
Tel./Fax: (374 322) 3 00 56; 3 05 55
E-mail: lorumig@mail.ru
Web Site: <http://www.interkap.am>