

EaP GREEN
Partnership for Environment and Growth



Better Enterprises – Cleaner Environment - Green Economy

Final National Conference on Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP)

for Manufacturing Sector in Georgia

Tuesday, 27th April, 2017

Background

The "Greening Economies in the European Union's Eastern Neighbourhood" (EaP GREEN) assists six countries of the Eastern Partnership (EaP) in progressing faster towards a green economy framework. This includes in particular decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation which should result in higher productivity and competitiveness, better natural capital management, enhanced environmental quality of life, and more resilient economies.

Programme beneficiary countries include Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. EaP GREEN is being implemented by a consortium of international partner organizations including Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). Financial support of the EaP GREEN is mainly provided by the European Union (EU).

Within the framework of EaP GREEN UNIDO implements a Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) Demonstration project in Georgia. RECP is a globally proven preventive approach aimed at improving productivity and reducing the environmental impact of enterprises, which is good for business, the environment and climate, and economy and society at large.

The objective of the UNIDO-led demonstration project of the EaP GREEN has been to support Georgia in improving the resource productivity and environmental performance of enterprises in order to put the green economy into practice. To achieve this objective the project activities are focused on:

- The creation of human and institutional capacities for RECP;
- Raising awareness on the RECP methodology and the benefits of its application;
- The demonstration, dissemination and replication of RECP in priority sectors (chemicals, food and construction materials);
- Transfer of and investment in RECP technologies.

In the period of the project's implementation in 2013-2017 significant results have been achieved in

promoting resource efficient and environmentally friendly production practices at Georgian enterprises:

- 18 national experts have been trained in RECP methodology and now they are able to provide RECP advice to enterprises;
- RECP assessments undertaken in 18 small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) from the food, chemicals and construction materials production sectors revealed a significant potential for increasing the resource efficiency, improving environmental performance and enhancing workers' safety. Some of these enterprises began to adopt RECP approaches and technologies;
- RECP clubs involving 35 SMEs were established in the Kakheti region and three municipalities of Georgia: Kaspi, Kutaisi and Rustavi. Representatives of the club member SMEs were trained on RECP methodology to support their companies. Methodology of RECP clubs organization was developed and published in Georgian language;
- A series of meetings were organized in Tbilisi and other cities with participation of SMEs, business associations, environmental authorities, local governments, NGOs, academia and media to increase awareness on RECP and the benefits of its application.
- National RECP Primer (the first edition) in Georgian language was developed and published in 2015; it was further discussed at six RECP stakeholders' forums to allow a better adaptation of RECP methodology to national conditions and to feed the second edition of RECP Primer published in 2017.

Objectives of the meeting

The results and experiences of the EaP GREEN RECP Demonstration Project in Georgia will be presented along with perspectives of further work on RECP in Georgia.

Participants

The Conference will gather the key stakeholders engaged in promoting the green economic development in Georgia including the representatives of central and local governments, enterprises, professional organisations, experts, donor organisations, representatives of academic sector and general public.

Expected outcomes

The Conference is expected to further raise awareness about resource efficiency and cleaner production methods, to demonstrate the environmental and economic benefits of RECP implementation in selected Georgian companies, and to provide guidance to SMEs, experts, municipalities, central Government and academia on how to introduce RECP in manufacturing sector of the country.

Provisional Agenda

Tuesday, 27th April, 2017

9:00 – 09:30	Arrival and registration	
09:30 – 10:00	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Delegation in Georgia • Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources • Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development • Georgian Employers Association • United Nations Industrial Development Organization 	
10:00 – 10:30	Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) Status of Achievements in Georgia	Malkhaz ALDEISHVILI, National Project Coordinator
10:30 - 11:00	Results of RECP assessments in Demonstration Companies	2-3 company representatives and RECP experts
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break	
11:30 – 12:00	RECP Clubs in Georgia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RECP Club model: a way to replicate positive RECP experience countrywide • RECP Clubs examples in Georgia Resource package for RECP promotion in SMEs, RECP Club Manual, RECP Club Facilitator Manual	Nick Javshanashvili, RECP Clubs Facilitator Representatives of host municipalities and member companies
12:00 – 12:30	RECP Advocacy in Georgia: publications, events, materials	Liana Garibashvili, Communications and Outreach Expert
12:30-13:00	Presentation of results of the study on Financing Green Investments in Georgia (RECP financing expert)	Ana Chorgolashvili, RECP financing expert
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 14:30	Awarding RECP Certificates to the Demonstration Companies and national experts	UNIDO, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development
14:30– 14:45	Advancing RECP in Georgia: lessons from international experience	Tatiana Chernyavskaya, UNIDO
14:45-14:55	RECP service delivery mechanism: concept of RECP Center	Malkhaz ALDEISHVILI, National Project Coordinator
14:55-15:00	Conclusions and closing remarks	Carolina Gonzalez, UNIDO