

# Article 1

## Opportunities for Introduction of Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production in Georgian Enterprises

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### **Abstract**

Various studies report about inefficiency of resource use in various industrial sectors in Georgia. RECP approach was developed in 1990s to help industrial companies and other organizations to increase resource use efficiency, protect environment and avoid adverse impact on people's health. Many successful examples of RECP implementation are reported worldwide. In the frames of EaP Green Program, UNIDO is implementing 4-years Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) Demonstration Project in Georgia to address this issue and improve resource efficiency among small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

18 Georgian SMEs were assessed under the UNIDO project to identify opportunities for RECP implementation. Causes of inefficient resource use were identified by the project experts together with SMEs management teams and RECP measures set to address these challenges. Potential to save about 12 GWh electric power and 275,000 m<sup>3</sup> natural gas was identified in all 18 enterprises together. Total around 700,000 Euros investments are required for this purpose, what will enable these companies to save about 750,000 Euros annually. Payback period of specific energy saving measures varies from several months to 3 years.

In general, the RECP assessments undertaken in the demonstration companies revealed that there is a high potential in Georgian SMEs for increasing resources use efficiency and economic productivity, reducing environmental pollution and risks to human health. The benefits can be achieved by systematic application of RECP methodologies and practices. RECP is a way to move towards greener industrial and sustainable economic developing in Georgia.

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### **Key Words**

UNIDO, RECP, Georgia, enterprises, resources, assessment, measures, efficient use, saving, benefits