

## Article 2

# RECP Forums in Georgia

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### **Abstract**

In the frames of EaP Green Program, UNIDO is implementing 4-years Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) Demonstration Project in Georgia to increase resource efficiency among small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and improve their environmental performance. Among other activities the project envisaged forums to promote RECP approach among stakeholders. In total 6 RECP thematic forums were organized in the country and they were attended by 200 people including representatives of enterprises, governmental and non-governmental organizations, academia, RECP experts, etc.

The forums demonstrated to be an effective instrument for informing stakeholders about RECP and engaging them into a dialog. Main topics discussed on the forums were issues related to resource use efficiency in the country, main causes of inefficiency, opportunities for RECP implementation and main challenges faced by enterprises in the country.

Particular efforts were made to involve representatives of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia in the forums to demonstrate linkages between national legal requirements and RECP in order to promote this approach. Participation of the Ministry has also facilitated to improved communication between governmental and private sectors.

RECP forums also resulted in partnership and cooperation with the Employers Association of Georgia, which can further promote RECP among member enterprises and thus ensure sustainability of the RECP Project outcomes.

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### **Key Words**

UNIDO, RECP, Georgia, forums, resources, efficient use, promotion