



ევროკავშირი
საქართველოსთვის
Project funded by the European Union

EU4Environment
Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

**EU4Environment information workshop:
“I-GO Assistant” application in Georgia**

AGENDA

Date: 24 March 2023

Start: 14:00 (GET)

End: 15:30 (GET)

MEETING LINK

Format: online event (via Zoom)

Language: English and Georgian (with simultaneous interpretation)

Action implemented by:



MEETING DETAILS

Connection link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84147501775?pwd=WnhKcHhOeXZwQnBjYzNxQm13ZW9TZz09>

Meeting ID: 841 4750 1775

Passcode: 170277

AGENDA

Moderator: Mr George Abulashvili, Director, Energy Efficiency Centre

Time	Item
14:00-14:15	<p>Welcoming remarks:</p> <p>David Advadze, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Department, Head of Division of Sustainable Development Promotion, EU4Environment TFP</p> <p>Ms. Angela Bularga, Programme Manager, DG NEAR, European Commission</p> <p>Tatiana Chernyavskaya, EU4Environment Project Manager, Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency Unit, UNIDO</p> <p>George Abulashvili, National Coordinator, UNIDO Demonstration Project on Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) among Small and Medium-sized Enterprises</p>
14:15-14:25	<p>Tracy El Achkar - Regional Engagement Coordinator, Green Industry Platform, Green Industry Platform</p> <p>Introduction to Resource Efficiency</p>
14:25-14:35	<p>George Abulashvili – Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production projects in Georgia 2014-2023: Results and Expectations</p>
14:35-14:55	<p>Hannes Mac Nulty - Manager, Green Industry Platform</p> <p>Tracy El Achkar - Regional Engagement Coordinator, Green Industry Platform, Green Industry Platform</p> <p>Introduction to I-GO Initiative and I-GO Assistant for SMEs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background explanation of I-GO initiative and overview of I-GO pilot project outcomes in the region • Detailed explanation of the self-assessment and navigation process using the tool in real-time • Understanding the type of customized recommendations and tailored list of support services that I-GO Assistant delivers
14:55-15:10	<p>Experience sharing among participants</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing a success story of resource efficiency and cleaner production implementation
15:10-15:20	<p>George Abulashvili, Hannes Mac Nulty</p> <p>Questions & Answers session</p> <p><i>Open discussion</i></p>
15:20-15:30	<p>George Abulashvili, Hannes Mac Nulty</p> <p>Wrap up and next steps</p>

**EU4Environment Information workshop:
“I-GO Assistant” application in Georgia**

March 24, 2023, 14:00-15:30, online

Training objectives, expected outputs, and outcomes

This workshop aims to build an understanding on of the I-GO Assistant tool amongst Small and Medium – sized Enterprises in order to get feedback on how to best improve I-GO assistant to fit their needs. The workshop will include an introduction session on resource efficiency, followed by a live demonstration of the I-GO Assistant tool and a case study on the implementation of resource efficiency. A key outcome of the workshop will be also to better understand the specific needs of companies and (SMEs) supporting organizations in Georgia and other EaP countries.

In particular, it aims to:

- Familiarize participants with I-GO Assistant tool;
- Live demonstration of the I-GO Assistant tool;
- Introduce case studies on implementation of resource efficiency measures;
- Better understand the specific needs of SME and supporting organizations in Georgia;
- Provide ideas to identify appropriate sustainability measures for enterprises.

Participants

The meeting will gather about 50 participants from the RECP Clubs’ member and demonstration companies from EU4Environment (2019-2024) and EaP GREEN (2013-2017) programs implemented in the Eastern Partnership region with the EU support, RECP Experts, representatives from the businesses and SMEs interested in the application of RECP methodology at their enterprises, government, academia, and technical/educational institutions. Representatives from other EaP countries are welcome to join the discussion.

Practical Information

The event will take place on 24 March 2023, from 14:00 to 15:30 (GET).

The event will be organized online using the Zoom platform, in English and Georgian (with simultaneous interpretation).

Connection

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84147501775?pwd=WnhKcHhOeXZwQnBjYzNxQm13ZW9TZz09>

link:

Meeting ID: 841 4750 1775

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Registration link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAsc-6trjotHdEvykeeLqPNWqflkBxtsQ8Z>

Background

Within the EU-funded EU4Environment Action, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is implementing activities related to “Circular Economy and New Growth Opportunities” with the support of the Energy Efficiency Centre Georgia (as a National Implementing Partner). The objective of this endeavour is to promote a more efficient use of resources (energy, materials, and water) within Georgian manufacturing enterprises, and to reduce risks to the environment and human health.

Some of the key activities implemented by UNIDO in the country are:

- RECP Networking and Institutionalization
- RECP Clubs & Industry Demonstrations
- Circular Economy & Waste Management
- RECP Awareness, Knowledge Management and Capacity Building
- Introducing the EU Single Market for Green Products (SMGP): the Product Environmental Footprint (PEF) methodology

Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) is used as an umbrella term for the application of preventive environmental strategies to products, processes, and services. UNIDO has developed the RECP methodology to help identify sources of losses for all types of resources used by an enterprise, identify the root causes of such losses, and develop and assess the feasibility of activities aimed at reducing or completely eliminating the identified losses.

Another main component of the RECP Demonstration Project is the establishment of RECP Clubs consisting of manufacturing enterprises in different regions of Georgia. The RECP Clubs bring together Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) and take them jointly through an intensive training and coaching programme, leading to a customized RECP action plan upon the completion of the Clubs' activities.

About I-GO:

The [I-GO initiative](#) has been developed by the [Green Industry Platform](#) to help upscale regional and national Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) efforts. I-GO provides a support structure that aligns the most relevant existing RECP knowledge, training and financing solutions with the everyday operational needs of individual SMEs. The I-GO support structure is based on a unique combination of interactive tools and country and regional level collaboration networks.

A key tool especially designed for SMEs is the [I-GO Assistant](#), a rapid online SME self-assessment and navigation tool. The I-GO Assistant matches an SME to the most relevant RECP knowledge and support services that can help them implement customized recommendations, considering the SME's RECP status, geographical location, and sector of activity. [The I-GO Network](#) has been developed to improve

the transfer of expertise and overall collaboration between SME supporting organizations on a national, regional and global level. The I-GO Network also aims to improve access to targeted funding for SME supporting organisations well positioned to address key gaps in SME resource efficiency knowledge and support services, and build the business case for resource efficiency.

With the support of the Global Opportunities for Sustainable Development Goals ([GO4SDGs](#)), I-GO has been recently launched in three regions, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Eastern Europe, Caucasus, and Central Asia (EECCA). This current initial I-GO deployment phase is focusing on promoting the I-GO Assistant to SMEs and building up the I-GO Network on a regional and country level. Learnings from the first six months of the I-GO deployment phase will be used to further improve the I-GO Assistant functions and roll-out the long term I-GO Network engagement activities.

About EU4Environment

The meeting is organized within the framework of the EU-funded regional programme, “European Union for Environment” (EU4Environment – Green Economy) Action, which helps the EU’s Eastern Partnership countries preserve their natural capital and increase people’s environmental well-being by supporting environment-related action, demonstrating and unlocking opportunities for greener growth, and setting mechanisms to better manage environmental risks and impacts.

The EU4Environment Action is implemented by five partner organisations: OECD, UNECE, UNEP, UNIDO and the World Bank over the 2019-2024 period, with a budget of EUR 20 million.

For further information, visit: www.eu4environment.org

For more information about RECP in Georgia, visit: www.recp.ge.