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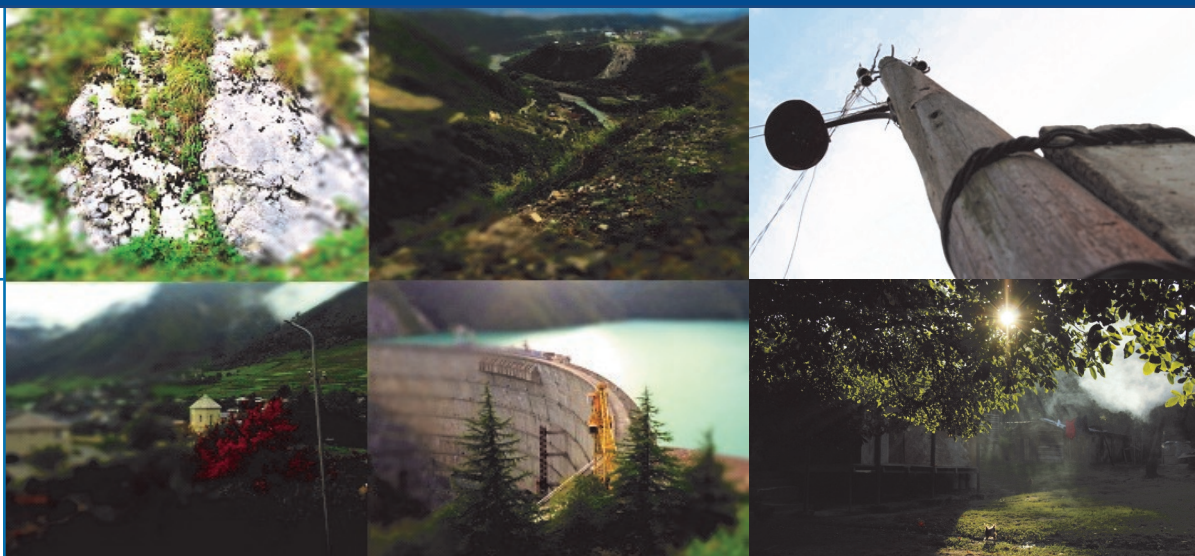
Enhancing Capacity for Low Emission Development Strategies EC-LEDS Clean Energy Program

Overall Project Goals

During the five years of the program, EC-LEDS Clean Energy is expected to reduce GHG emissions in Georgia by at least 236,372.9 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent, facilitate up to \$14 million in private sector investments in clean energy, and lead to energy savings of up to 315 GWh (the equivalent of approximately \$22 million).

Cross-Cutting Issues

The EC-LEDS Clean Energy Program will address concerns and opportunities with respect to youth, gender and people with disabilities (PWD) to incorporate them in each component of EC-LEDS.



Exploring Low Emission Development Opportunities

Georgia's Second National Communication (SNC) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) forecasts that emissions from Georgia's energy sector will increase by 275% between 2006 and 2025 to meet the growing energy demands of the expanding industry, transport, and residential sectors.

The projected accelerated growth of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in parallel with Georgia's economic growth, the lack of an energy conservation culture, and the absence of institutional capacity and policies that promote energy efficiency and conservation, are all factors contributing to the expected increase in emissions.

Enhancing Capacity for Low Emission Development Strategies (EC-LEDS) is a United States Government (USG) initiative to support developing countries' efforts to pursue long-term, transformative development and accelerate sustainable economic growth while slowing the growth of GHG emissions.

The initiative does this by building capacity in partner countries and providing targeted technical assistance on LEDS. EC-LEDS is a key component of the President's Global Climate Change Initiative, and is the focus of State and USAID's joint OMB High Priority Performance Goal (HPPG) on Climate Change.

On December 17, 2012, USAID and the Ministry of Environment Protection of Georgia signed a memorandum of understanding that supports LEDS and provides the framework for bilateral cooperation in Georgia. Areas for cooperation may include activities that increase and encourage the use of clean and energy efficient resources; support the development of a national GHG inventory system; improve the policy environment in low emission economic growth; expand economy-wide and technical modeling efforts; and improve governance of Georgia's natural resources.

EC-LEDS is supported by US Agency for International Development/USAID and managed by Winrock International/Georgia.

Georgia's Efforts to Increase Climate Change Mitigation Through Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy will Improve its Ability to Compete in International Markets and Support Economic Growth.

'One of the components of this project is elaboration of the strategy and support of the Georgian Government.' - **Khatuna Gogaladze**, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources.

'This project is aimed at environmental changes. We support new technologies that will help to implement this project.' – **Stephen Haykin**, USAID Mission Director.



Purpose, Goals, Objectives

The purpose of the **EC-LEDs Clean Energy Program** is to support Georgia's efforts to increase climate change mitigation through energy efficiency and clean energy. The broader goal is to enable more responsible management and development of Georgia's natural endowments.



(from left) **Mariam Valishvili**/Deputy Minister of Energy, **Khatuna Gogaladze**/Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, **Stephen Haykin**/USAID/Caucasus Mission Director and **Dana Kenney**/EC-LEDs Clean Energy Program COP at the EC-LEDs Project Launch

The objectives of the program are to:

- Support Georgian municipalities in institutionalizing and implementing climate change mitigation measures;
- Promote and facilitate private-sector investments in energy efficiency and green buildings, and
- Build the capacity of the Government of Georgia (GOG) to develop and implement a national Low Emissions Development Strategy in support of the USG EC-LEDs initiative.

The **EC-LEDs Clean Energy Program** will support at least 10 municipalities in quantifying and reducing GHG emissions, and institutionalizing climate change mitigation; introduce a voluntary system for rating and certifying green buildings in Georgia and build market demand for certified buildings; and provide advisory assistance to the Government of Georgia to articulate concrete actions, policies, programs and implementation plans under the bilateral EC-LEDs initiative.