



SEAP Workshops at Georgia Technical University

Winrock Georgia and Remissia held two training workshops at Georgian Technical University in November 2014 and February 2015. The first workshop taught how to carry out an Inventory of GHGs, to develop the Business as Usual (BAU) scenarios and to analyze mitigation measures in sectors such as transport, outdoor lighting and buildings. The second workshop focused on the greening and waste sectors. Municipal representatives from Tbilisi, Mtskheta, Khashuri, Tianeti, Telavi, Zugdidi, Batumi, Ozurgeti, Akhaltsikhe, Rustavi and Poti received training in best practices in statistical data collection, development and application.

The workshops are part of the EC-LEDS project, which aims to reduce GHG emissions and advance mitigation practices into national and local planning processes. by supporting setting up Low Emission Development Strategy (LEDS) at national level and Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs) at local level.

The purpose of these workshops was to discuss data requirements, inventory compilation and mitigation measures in greening and waste sectors. In addition, the workshops presented the updates and new features of municipal Emission Inventory Projection and Mitigation Planning (muni-EIPMP) tool and provide training for its use.



Energy Efficiency Is A Smart Choice

EC-LEDS launched its Facebook Page. Follow us on:
www.facebook.com/pages/ენერგოეფექტურობა-გონივრული-არჩევანი



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Enhancing Capacity For Low Emission Development Strategies

EC-LEDS

Clean Energy Program

EMPOWERED YOUTH FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Seventy-five students from Kutaisi, Zugdidi and Batumi schools took part in a Youth Energy Efficiency Event in December 2014. Youth who had been trained in energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies gathered for a seminar organized by the EC-LEDS Clean Energy Program. The main objective was to involve them in energy efficiency efforts to mitigate climate change. The young people learned about the importance of energy efficiency, how to carry out an energy audit, to identify energy efficient technologies and save energy at home. They were introduced to projects that encourage energy efficient/renewable energy and climate change. There was also a contest—they participated in the “Energy Efficiency is a Smart Choice” quiz, by answering simple energy efficiency questions covering the workshop topics--the top three winners received medals and everyone was awarded a certificate of participation.



Dean of Energy and Telecommunications Faculty at GTU, Professor Gia Arabidze at the seminar “How To Save Energy” in Zugdidi.



“During the seminar I learned how to save energy, and now I think every family should do this; it's directly connected to savings for our government and developing other fields,” said Maia Avaliani, a 10th grade student from the Grigolishi Public School, in a village near Zugdidi.

In mid-January 2015, students who had participated in the December training, from Kulishkari, Grigolishi and Jikhashkari schools in the Zugdidi Municipality, conducted follow-up seminars at their schools on “How to Save Energy”. They introduced students and teachers, a total of 60 participants, to the importance of energy efficiency, how to conduct an energy audit, energy efficient technologies and simple tips to save energy at home.



Tina Khimshiashvili, Green Architect, President of the Georgian Association of Landscape Architects, author and host of the program:

“This is a first step towards raising awareness about green buildings and related issues. I was amazed to hear it was 14- to 18-year-olds who were most interested in our program! The results have exceeded my expectations!”

Khatuna Sithinava, the Director of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Union:

Waste management, energy efficiency, renewable energy, and consumer behavior such as turning off lights and other ways of protecting the environment, all require behavioral changes that can be learned through education programs.”



GREEN ARCHITECTURE — A Youth TV Program Launched

As part of the EC-LEDS Green Building public awareness campaign, a Youth TV program focusing on Green Architecture was aired for two months, beginning January 22, 2015 and ending February 26, 2015. The TV Channel Ertulovneba offered the 30-minute programs each Thursday at 21:30. They focused on green buildings and their impact on energy efficiency, green materials, climate change and green building certification systems.

The creator of the Program, Professor Tina Khimshiashvili, hosted guests from academia, the Tbilisi Municipality, students from the Georgian Technical University, Tbilisi State Academy of Arts and Ilia State University discussed the issues with guest speakers. The programs were produced in cooperation with the Green Building Council Georgia.

GREEN BUILDING OF THE YEAR AWARD

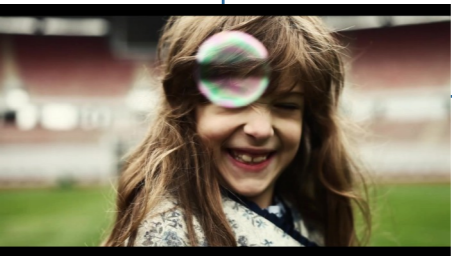
In Spring 2015, EC-LEDS will announce a competition for the Best Green Building (GB) - of -the-Year Award for existing buildings. The Award Program will honor companies and professionals that demonstrate clear implementation of sustainable design, construction and/or operation of buildings and structures. The ultimate goal of the competition is to establish a good model for environmental practices in the built environment sector.

The Award will identify, recognize and highlight organizations for their innovative and outstanding sustainable building principles and practices. This is designed to create a better understanding of the contributions to sustainable development by the construction sector. It should lead to an exchange of ideas and good practices all over Georgia. The winning designs for two buildings will be certified by EC-LEDS using the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Methodology (BREEAM) rating system.

Energy Efficiency

Public Service Announcement

EC-LEDS produced a 70-second Public Service Announcement (PSA) with five well-known Georgians from different backgrounds within the context of their occupations. They highlighted key energy efficiency messages.



Workshop on Building Energy Performance Requirements

EC-LEDS and the Sustainable Development and Policy Center (SDAP) held a Workshop on the “Comparison of the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)” and the “International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)” building energy performance requirements. The event permitted a comparison of the energy performance requirements for various types of buildings set by the EU groundbreaking law - the EPBD Directive 2002/91/EC and approach for its transposition - and the International Energy Conservation Code-2015 (IECC-2015).

The meeting was attended by representatives from the Georgian Technical University and CFS Legal; Ministries of Environment and Natural Resources, Energy and Economy; Tbilisi’s Architecture Service; NGOs including the Center of New Technologies, GBC Georgia, and the Energy Efficiency Center; and donor representatives GIZ and the UNDP Biomass Project.

Low Emission Development Strategy (LEDS) Process

EC-LEDS actively worked with the Government of Georgia by providing expert assistance and building their capacity. Several important meetings held with the sectoral working groups included the Ministry of Energy-one of the main stakeholders of EC-LEDS. Winrock helped the Ministry’s Analytical Department finalize Business As Usual (BAU) projections using the MARKAL-Georgia program and the most recent Energy Balance of Georgia, completed in 2013 by Geostat.

The LEDS advisor worked closely with the Climate Change office of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resource Protection of Georgia, to assist with projections on baseline emissions. As a result, the Climate Change Office prepared Business As Usual (BAU) scenarios that were presented at a high level meeting of the LEDS Steering Committee in February.

The Steering Committee is chaired by the Minister of Environment, and includes the First Deputy Minister of Environment and Natural Resources Protection, Mr. Teimuraz Murghulia, and Deputy Ministers from the participating Ministries. These include Energy; Agriculture; Regional Development and Infrastructure; Education and Science; Finance; as well as Economy and Sustainable Development. First Deputy Murghulia praised the efforts of Winrock Georgia, as well as those of other stakeholders and experts, for their support of the LEDS process. He provided his assurance that all their efforts would ultimately turn into Low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS) which are so important for Georgia. Winrock Georgia’s role was considered crucial to achieving this goal.