



ENERGY EFFICIENCY FESTIVAL

An International Energy Saving Day was celebrated in Tbilisi on November 11th. NGO “EcoVision,” under the international school project “SPARE” organized an Energy Efficiency Festival on the pedestrian part of the renewed Aghmashenebeli Avenue. During the event, EC-LEDs Outreach Team and other participating organizations introduced their activities to the guests of the festival, arranged workshops and quizzes, and presented energy efficient devices, inventions and promotional materials. The aim of the festival was to raise public awareness on climate change and to introduce the principles of energy saving, energy efficiency and sustainable use of natural resources.



GREEN RECREATION ZONE IN TELAVI

In January, USAID/Georgia Mission Director Douglas Ball and Telavi Mayor Platon Kalmakhelidze opened an Energy Central in the center of Telavi city. EC-LEDS held a presentation of a demonstration project entitled Green Recreation Zone in the City of Telavi. The event demonstrated the operation of an integrated management system of renewable energy sources, the “Energy Central”, which operates on a number of renewable energy sources providing electricity and heating for the municipal building.

“In 2015, Georgia joined EU Covenant of Mayors and committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20 % by 2020. This is a wonderful example for others. I hope, other municipalities will replicate this model.” - Douglas Ball, USAID/Georgia Mission Director.

LOW EMISSION DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (LEDS) PROCESS

EC-LEDS started Year Four with new activities for providing support to the Government of Georgia in developing a complete LEDS document covering both energy and non-energy related emissions, thus adding development of four new chapters on Industry, Land-use Change and Forestry (LULUCF), Waste and Agriculture to the existing scope, as well as, cross-cutting sub-chapters for the development of the full LEDS document, including the legislative and institutional framework for Georgian LEDS. Attracting financing for the implementation of LEDS, knowledge and expertise, capacity building, communication and awareness raising, technology transfer and development, and a strategy for setting up a Monitoring, Reporting and Verification Framework for monitoring of LEDS implementation were also added to the scope.

EC-LEDS hired international experts in the fields of industry, waste, agriculture, land-use change and forestry, and international finances, and engaged an international Low Emissions Adviser to coordinate the development of the LEDS document. During their visits in Fall 2016 and Winter 2017, the EC-LEDS international experts participated in meetings with the Climate Change Office of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection dedicated to the planning of work and general sector overviews, discussion and analysis of the major emission sources of Georgia’s industry sector like the cement plants, ammonium nitrate production, steel and ferrous alloys, as well as the tiers of emission factors, issues covered under LEDS LULUCF, waste, industry and agriculture chapters and details of the LEDS finance sub-chapter. In addition, the work on the LEDS Communications and Capacity Building Strategy



sub-chapter is in progress. The EC-LEDS Outreach Team developed the LEDS Capacity Building Gap Analysis Survey to identify capacity gaps of the Government of Georgia. The survey includes the questions on the Georgia LEDS process, climate change public awareness and communications, public participation and access to the climate change related information, and financial issues.

The EC-LEDS International Low Emissions Adviser developed a Report on International Best Practices in the Process of Preparing a Low Emission Development Strategy with a goal to provide guidance for the respective chapters and sections in the Georgian LEDS document. In addition, the EC-LEDS International Finance expert worked out a report on Overview of Climate Change Related International Financial Resources, which provides an overview of the international Climate Finance architecture with a focus on the most relevant entities for the implementation of the Georgian LEDS.

In February, **EC-LEDS** presented the Low Emission Development Strategy (LEDS) Process and Findings at the LEDS Steering Committee Meeting in the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia. The Steering Committee discussed the key aspects for the development of the National Low Emission Development Strategy and climate change challenges.

"It is important to develop a long-term strategy in order to meet the obligations undertaken as a signatory to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. The Strategy is being developed by Winrock with the support of the United States Government. We have discussed initial results, and the final document will be presented in September."- said Gigla Agulashvili, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia.

Each year, projects from over 170 countries take part in the Energy Globe Awards. Participation is open to projects with a focus on resource conservation, improving air and water quality, energy efficiency and renewable energies, and projects focused on the creation of awareness in these areas.

EC-LEDS submitted the project “Warm Elderly – Energy Efficiency Measures for Tbilisi Elders Boarding House” to the Energy Globe Award. The objective of the Award is to present innovative projects and smart technologies from around the world to a global audience. The EC-LEDS project is submitted in the category “Earth”, which includes the projects

relating to building materials, insulation, solar energy and overall energy efficient construction. The best projects will be honored as part of a ceremony that will be broadcast worldwide as well as featured by the international media. Back in 2011, the project “Energy Efficiency Program for Georgian Communities - Energy Bus Project” was awarded the National Energy Globe Award. The Energy Bus Project was a joint effort of British Petroleum (BP) and USAID/Winrock NATEL project implemented by the Georgian NGO Energy Efficiency Centre (EEC).



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