







Training on the use of sustainable procurement criteria for the prioritized products in Public Procurement

AGENDA

Thursday – July 29, 2021

Start: 11:00 (Tbilisi time, GMT+4)

End: 14:00 (Tbilisi time, GMT+4)

Zoom platform











For additional information, please contact: info@eiec.gov.ge

Background

In 2014, Georgia signed an Association Agreement with the European Union (EU). One of the articles of the Association Agreement refers to a need for introducing Sustainable Public Procurement (hereinafter - SPP) principles. SPP is considered the process by which public authorities seek to achieve the appropriate balance between three pillars of sustainable development - economic, social, and environmental - when procuring goods, services, or works at all stages of the project. Since the SPP concept is a completely new approach to Georgian legislation, there was a need for a full roll-out of the SPP approach, including policy development, capacity building and SPP implementation, in Georgia for the uptake of SPP by the government.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is one of the five partner agencies implementing a newly launched EU-funded EU4 Environment (2019-2022) Action. This regional programme supports 6 countries, including Georgia, in making policy planning and investment greener, stimulating the uptake of innovative products and technologies, and raising awareness about the benefits of environmental action. More specifically, within EU4Environment's component on "circular economy and new growth opportunities", UNEP supports Georgia to promote activities related to SPP issues and its complementary tools.

UNEP in close cooperation with the Environmental Information and Education Centre (EIEC) and the State Procurement Agency of Georgia (SPA) implements a set of activities on promotion and application of SPP, including improving the legislation to introduce the SPP provisions. In the framework of the UNEP-EIEC contract on implementation of the EU4Environment project in Georgia, activity 2.4 envisages organizing a training on the use of sustainable procurement criteria for the prioritized products in Public Procurement. The purpose of the training is to present SPP concept, its benefits as well as SPP related articles and provisions to the draft legislation and international best practice examples of SPP.

Training objectives and expected outputs

- Present and discuss SPP concept and its benefits;
- Present SPP related articles and provisions to the new draft law "On Public Procurement", as well as the draft by-law on SPP;
- Present and discuss the approach and the relevant guidelines for further implementation of SPP concept on selected procurement objects (goods);
- Present and discuss Georgia SPP criteria;
- Present and discuss various examples of SPP implementation, including examples of SPP practices in the EU.

Participants

The training will gather officials and participants from Georgian contracting authorities, in particular from the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, Environmental Information and

Education Centre (EIEC), State Procurement Agency as well as other ministries and public authorities.

Practical Information

The training will take place virtually via the Zoom platform, please follow the link:

Meeting ID:

Passcode:

All registered participants will receive connection details to access the platform. English and Georgian are the main languages of the training. English-Georgian simultaneous interpretation will be provided during the training.

About EU4Environment

The "European Union for Environment" (**EU4Environment**) aims to help the six partner countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine 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 Action is funded by the European Union and implemented by five Partner organisations: OECD, UNECE, UNEP, UNIDO and the World Bank based on a budget of some EUR 20 million. The Action implementation period is 2019-2022.

For further information contact: EU4Environment@oecd.org

AGENDA

Time	Item
11:00-11:10	<i>Moderation:</i> Ms. Tamar Aladashvili, Director, Environmental Information and Education Centre (EIEC), Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia.
	 Opening remarks Mr. Farid Yaker, Programme Officer, Economy Division, Resources & Markets Branch, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); Mr. Kakha Demetrashvili, Deputy Chairperson, State Procurement Agency of Georgia (SPA).
11:10-11:25	Icebreaker: Self-introduction of the training participants
11:25-12:00	 SPP Legal Provisions and Regulations in the Draft Legislation. Links between SPP and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Mr. Eriks Mezalis, International Legal Expert, EU4Environment project team; Ms. Nato Beridze, National Legal Expert, EU4Environment project team.
12:00-12:05	Break
12:05-12:30	 Georgia SPP Criteria, policy priorities, guidelines and implementation tools Ms. Nato Beridze, National Legal Expert, EU4Environment project team.
12:30 – 12:50	International Best Practice Examples • Mr. Eriks Mezalis, International Legal Expert, EU4Environment project team.
12:50 -13:20	Breakout sessions: Thematic Group Discussions on SPP cases Groups will be given practical cases where contracting authorities' necessities will be identified. Taking into consideration draft SPP regulations, SPP criteria and international best practice examples, participants will be assigned to foresee and practice SPP criteria at different stages of procurement process in order to prepare and announce the virtual pilot tenders.

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	 Group1 (English-speaking participants are welcomed to join this particular group; Eng-Geo translation will be ensured) Moderation: Mr. Eriks Mezalis, International Legal Expert, EU4Environment project team;
	 Group2 (Georgian-speaking participants are welcomed to join this particular group) Moderation: Ms. Nato Beridze, National Legal Expert, EU4Environment project team.
13:20-13:40	Feedback by the participants on the Group Exercise
	Group 1 (10 minutes)
	• Group 2 (10 minutes)
	Moderation: Ms. Tamar Aladashvili, Director, Environmental Information and Education Centre (EIEC), Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia.
13:40-13:55	Q&A session and joint discussion
	Moderation: Ms. Tamar Aladashvili, Director, Environmental Information and Education Centre (EIEC), Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia.
13:55-14:00	Final remarks and closure of the webinar
	Ms. Lesya Nikolayeva, EU4Environment project team
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