



Funded by  
the European Union

# EU4Environment

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

## STRENGTHENING PUBLIC FINANCE CAPACITY FOR GREEN INVESTMENTS IN THE EASTERN PARTNER COUNTRIES

Webinar

### Designing and implementing green public investment programmes – experience on utilising agricultural residues for energy

Draft agenda

Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021

11:00–13:00 (Paris time) / 14:00–16:00 (Tbilisi time)

To join the webinar, please register [here](#)

Action implemented by:



## Background

The EU4Environment Programme supports Eastern Partner (EaP) countries of the European Union to improve national governance and regulatory mechanisms that support the transition to a greener and more sustainable development path. Public expenditure forms an essential part in efforts to create a level playing field for environmental and climate-related objectives.

Under Activity Area 3.3 EU4Environment provides technical assistance and capacity development to help increase the capacity of government authorities to better manage public environmental expenditure.

The main objective of this work is to design green public investment programmes with the aim of obtaining adequate resources from the public budget and leverage international co-financing for its implementation. The activities also include conducting trainings to equip the government officials and experts with the know-how and practical skills on designing a public environmental expenditure programme.

### Box: Selected examples of green public investment programmes

Since 2012, the OECD has provided technical assistance and capacity building to public authorities from Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) in designing and costing green public investment programmes, as well as in supporting complementary activities and requirements that need to be in place for the programmes' actual implementation. The green public investment programmes were prepared for energy efficiency of the housing sector ([Kazakhstan](#)), as well as clean urban public transport ([Kazakhstan](#), [Kyrgyzstan](#), and [Moldova](#)). Beyond the primary technical assistance, also capacity development activities on the programmes' implementation are being currently conducted under the EU4Environment Action ([Moldova](#)). The programmes have been designed in line with international good practices and can serve as a model for preparing other low-carbon public investment programmes within national medium-term expenditure frameworks (MTEFs).

In 2021, the OECD and the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia agreed to work on designing a public environmental expenditure programme that focuses on utilising agricultural residues from farms, as well a green waste and bio-waste from households and food and beverage producers.

Besides the use of biodegradable waste or bio-waste for energy generation (biomass, biogas) or composting, the project aims to tackle two main environmental problems:

1. Field burning of agricultural residues (causes GHG emissions without any accompanying energy benefit)
2. Landfilling and illegal dumping of bio-waste, which result in landfill gas emissions (mainly methane and carbon dioxide) and leachate to the soil and groundwater

The development of public environmental expenditure programme aims to develop project pipelines that include investments to generate heat energy (locally in the same farm or to produce biomass fuel), as well as small-scale aerobic composting facilities for farmers and

households in rural areas (green waste and bio-waste) as well as anaerobic digestion facilities for food and beverage producers (bio-waste).

### **Objectives of the Webinar**

In the course of the implementation of this work, the Georgian authorities requested sharing information about the experience with management of biodegradable waste in the OECD and the EU countries. This webinar aims to respond to this demand with the following objectives:

- to facilitate knowledge transfer and experience-sharing between the EU and EaP countries concerning approaches on utilising agricultural residues for energy in the context of greening public expenditure
- to support Georgia and other EaP countries in leveraging private (non-state) investments into equipment and technologies that divert environmental and climate-related problems connected with the treatment of agricultural residues, green waste and bio-waste

### **Participants – Speakers and Target Audience**

Speakers at this webinar will come from the agricultural and bioenergy sectors. National public authorities from the selected EU countries will be represented (Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies of Italy), as well as intergovernmental organisations (International Energy Agency), NGOs (Bioenergy Europe) and the private sector (Food & Bio Cluster Denmark).

The OECD is supported in organising this webinar by Kommunalkredit Public Consulting from Austria.

The webinar is targeted at national public authorities in EaP (EECCA) countries dealing with environment, agriculture and energy issues. Representatives of beneficiaries of the proposed public support will equally be invited (e.g. farmers' associations).

### **Practical Information**

English-Russian interpretation will be provided during the meeting.

### **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](mailto:EU4Environment@oecd.org)

Project website: <https://www.eu4environment.org>

## DRAFT AGENDA

<b>Session 1</b>	<b>Welcoming remarks</b>
11:00 – 11:10 (10 min)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Objectives of the webinar, background of the project and introduction of presenters</li> </ul> <p><b>Krzysztof Michalak</b> OECD Environment Directorate</p>
<b>Session 2</b>	<b>Setting up the scene</b>
11:10 – 11:20 (10 min)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General overview of the green public investment programme in Georgia</li> </ul> <p><b>David Simek</b> OECD Environment Directorate</p>
11:20-11:35 (15 min)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustainable Bioenergy for Georgia: A Roadmap</li> </ul> <p><b>Talya Vatman</b> Russia, Caspian and Black Sea Programme Manager, IEA</p>
<b>Session 3</b>	<b>Review of specific approaches to utilise agriculture residues for energy in Europe</b>
11:35 – 11:55 (20 min)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Energy from agriculture in Italy</li> </ul> <p><b>Attilio Tonolo</b> Italian Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies</p>
11:55 – 12:15 (20 min)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Straw to energy technologies in Denmark</li> </ul> <p><b>Jørgen Hinge</b> Senior Innovation Manager, Food &amp; Bio Cluster Denmark</p>
12:15 – 12:35 (20 min)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>European bioenergy. technology and policy</li> </ul> <p><b>Irene di Padua</b> Policy Officer, Bioenergy Europe</p>
<b>Session 4</b>	<b>Questions and answers, discussion</b>
12:35 – 12:55 (20 min)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Questions and answers, discussion</li> </ul> <p><b>David Simek</b> (facilitator), OECD Environment Directorate <b>Rafal Stanek</b> (facilitator), Kommunalkredit Public Consulting</p>

---

<b>Session 5</b>	<b>Closing remarks</b>
12:55 – 13:00 (5 min)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wrap up of the event and key takeaways</li></ul> <p><b>Krzysztof Michalak</b> OECD Environment Directorate</p>
	<i>Related documents:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentations (English)</li></ul>