



ევროკავშირი  
საქართველოსთვის

Project funded by the European Union

**EU4Environment**  
Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries



## Training Session on Promoting the Effective Implementation of Sustainable Public Procurement in Georgia

### AGENDA

Monday – May 30, 2022

Start: 10:30 (Tbilisi time, GMT+4)

End: 13:30 (Tbilisi time, GMT+4)

For additional information, please contact: [info@eiec.gov.ge](mailto:info@eiec.gov.ge)

Action implemented by:



## 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, as well as to raise awareness on the SPP benefits. In the framework of the EU4Environment project, a training session for the business sector, including Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and business associations is envisaged in order to build capacity of business to respond to public tenders.

## Objectives of the training session

- Raise awareness of the Georgian business associations, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) on SPP approach;
- Introduce benefits of SPP to Georgian business associations, SMEs (including producers, distributors, suppliers etc.);
- Present SPP criteria, elaborated for selected products (such as imaging equipments, printers, plotters, cleaning products);
- Present examples of SPP practices in the EU countries;
- Discuss with the SMEs' representatives on the key challenges and possibilities to respond to the public tenders with inclusive sustainability criteria.

## Participants

The representatives of the Georgian business associations, including from the European Business Association Georgia (EBA), Infrastructure Construction Companies Association/ICCA, Georgian Manufacturers Association, Georgian Employers Association, Office of the Business Ombudsman of Georgia will be invited to the training session. The representatives of SMEs will be invited through these business associations.

### Practical Information

The training session will be held in a hybrid format (in person and online via the Zoom platform).

**In person**, training session will be held in the conference room of the Environmental Information and Education Centre of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia (**6 Marshal Gelovani Ave, 0159, Tbilisi, Georgia**).

The **online training** session can be accessed at the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83706616390?pwd=TWpDQUI5TUZhVlp1NmxDdktZMzIzQT09>

**Meeting ID:** 837 0661 6390

**Passcode:** 065813

All registered participants will receive connection details to access the platform.

English and Georgian are the languages of the training session. 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](mailto:EU4Environment@oecd.org).

For more information please visit our website: [www.eu4environment.org](http://www.eu4environment.org).

## AGENDA

Time	Item
<b>10:30-11:00</b>	<b>Welcome coffee and registration</b>
<b>11:00- 11:10</b>	<p><b>Moderation:</b> <i>Ms. Tamar Aladashvili, Director, Environmental Information and Education Centre (EIEC) of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</i></p> <p><b>Opening Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mr. Solomon Pavliashvili, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</li> <li>● Ms. Maia Bitadze, Chairperson of the Committee of the Environmental Protection and Natural Resources, Parliament of Georgia</li> <li>● Mr. Kakha Demetrashvili, Deputy Chairperson, State Procurement Agency of Georgia</li> <li>● Ms. Rie Tsutsumi, Regional Coordinator on Climate Change and Resource Efficiency, United Nations Environment Programme</li> </ul>
<b>11:10-11:20</b>	<b>Icebreaker: Self-introduction of the participants of the training session</b>
<b>11:20-11:40</b>	<p><b>SPP and Regulatory Reforms in Georgia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mr. Eriks Mezalis, International Legal Expert, EU4Environment project team</li> </ul>
<b>11:40-12:00</b>	<p><b>SPP legal provisions and regulations in the draft secondary legislation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ms. Nato Beridze, National Legal Expert, EU4Environment project team, Environmental Information and Education Centre (EIEC) of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</li> </ul>
<b>12:00-12:20</b>	<p><b>Examples of SPP practices in the EU</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mr. Eriks Mezalis, International Legal Expert, EU4Environment project team</li> </ul>
<b>12:20-12:40</b>	<p><b>Policy Priorities, Guidelines and SPP criteria in Georgia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ms. Nato Beridze, National Legal Expert, EU4Environment project team, Environmental Information and Education Centre (EIEC) of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</li> </ul>

12:40-12:55	<p><b>Thematic Group Discussions on SPP cases</b></p> <p>Participants will be divided into groups to discuss and will be given the practical cases where contracting authorities' introduce SPP requirements for the economic operators during the public tenders. The products (imaging equipment, printers, plotters, and cleaning products) that were initially prioritised for SPP pilot tenders in Georgia will be used for this exercise. Taking into consideration newly developed draft SPP regulations, SPP criteria elaborated for selected products (such as imaging equipments, printers, plotters, cleaning products) and international best practice examples, trainees will be assigned to foresee and practice SPP criteria at different stages of the procurement process. The cases will focus on discussing how economic operators can address contracting authorities' requirements in order to participate in SPP tenders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Group 1</b> (participants attending the training session virtually, via Zoom platform are welcomed to join this particular group; English-Georgian translation will be ensured)</li> </ul> <p><i><b>Moderation:</b> Mr. Eriks Mezalis, International Legal Expert, EU4Environment project team</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Group 2</b> (participants attending the SPP training in person)</li> </ul> <p><i><b>Moderation:</b> Ms. Nato Beridze, National Legal Expert, EU4Environment project team, Environmental Information and Education Centre (EIEC) of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</i></p>
12:55-13:05	<p><b>Feedback by the participants on the Group Exercise</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Group 1</b> (5 minutes)</li> <li>● <b>Group 2</b> (5 minutes)</li> </ul>
13:05-13:25	<p><b>Q&amp;A session and joint discussion</b></p> <p><i><b>Moderation:</b> Ms. Tamar Aladashvili, Director, Environmental Information and Education Centre (EIEC), Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</i></p>
13:20-13:30	<p><b>Final remarks and closure of the training session</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ms. Lesya Nikolayeva, EU4Environment project team</li> </ul>