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“Better Environmental Inspections for Stronger Environmental Resilience”

5-6 December 2022, Brussels

Progress on advancement of approximation of the EU IED:

The cases of Georgia and Moldova

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IED The Main Targets and Pillars

The IED main targets are

- High level of **protection of human health and the environment**
- **Reduction of harmful industrial emissions** across the EU through improved better application of **Best Available Techniques (BAT)**.
- Around 50,000 installations undertaking the industrial activities listed in Annex I of the IED are required to operate in accordance with a permit (granted by the authorities in the Member States). Permit should contain conditions set in accordance with the principles and provisions of the IED.

The IED pillars

1. **Integrated approach** (permits must take into account the whole environmental performance of the plant, covering e.g. emissions to air, water and land, generation of waste, use of raw materials, energy efficiency, noise, prevention of accidents, and restoration of the site upon closure.
2. Use of best available techniques, (the permit conditions including emission limit values must be based on the **Best Available Techniques (BAT)**).
3. **Defining the BAT and the BAT-associated environmental performance at EU level**, the Commission organises an exchange of information with experts from Member States, industry and environmental organisations. **The IED requires that these BAT conclusions are the reference for setting permit conditions.**

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The IED main targets and pillars

- For certain activities, i.e. [large combustion plants](#), waste incineration and co-incineration plants, solvent using activities and titanium dioxide production, the IED also sets EU wide emission limit values for selected pollutants.
4. **Flexibility:** The IED allows competent authorities some **flexibility** to set less strict emission limit values. This is possible only in specific cases where an assessment shows that achieving the emission levels associated with BAT described in the BAT conclusions would lead to disproportionately higher costs compared to the environmental benefits due to the geographical location or the local environmental conditions or the technical characteristics of the installation. **The competent authority shall always document its justification for granting such derogations.** Chapter III of the IED on large combustion plants includes certain flexibility instruments (Transitional National Plan, limited lifetime derogation, etc.).
5. **Mandatory environmental inspections:** The IED contains mandatory requirements on **environmental inspections**. Member States shall set up a system of environmental inspections and draw up inspection plans accordingly. The IED requires a site visit to take place at least every 1 to 3 years, using risk-based criteria.
6. **Public participation:** The IED ensures that the **public has a right to participate in the decision-making** process, and to be informed of its consequences, by having access to permit applications, permits and the results of the monitoring of releases.

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Amendment of EU Industrial emissions directive in April 2022

Background and incentives for revision of EU IED

- Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions ('the IED') regulates the environmental impacts of around 52 000 of Europe's large-scale, high-pollution-risk industrial installations and livestock farms ('agro-industrial installations') in an integrated manner, on a sector-by-sector basis.
- The directive covers all relevant pollutants potentially emitted by agro-industrial installations that affect human health and the environment. Installations regulated by the IED account for about 20% of the EU's overall pollutant emissions by mass into the air, around 20% of pollutant emissions into water and approximately 40% of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- Activities regulated by the IED include power plants, refineries, waste treatment and incineration, production of metals, cement, glass, chemicals, pulp and paper, food and drink, and the intensive rearing of pigs and poultry. An installation regulated by the IED may carry out several IED activities, e.g. cement production and waste co-incineration.

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IED Evaluation

- The 2020 evaluation states that **IED** was **effective in preventing and controlling pollution into air, water and soil from industrial activities, and in promoting the use of best available techniques (BAT)**.

Results of IED:

- Substantial reduction of emissions of pollutants into the air and, to a lesser degree, water emissions.
- Reduction of emissions into the soil from IED installations.
- Although its impacts on resource efficiency, the circular economy and innovation are harder to assess, the Directive appears to have made a positive contribution, albeit of limited magnitude.
- It has also made a limited contribution to decarbonisation, within the constraints currently placed on the IED. Other aspects, such as public access to information and access to justice, have improved compared to the earlier legislation that the IED replaced. (Commission Staff Working Document Evaluation of the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED); SWD(2020) 181 final)

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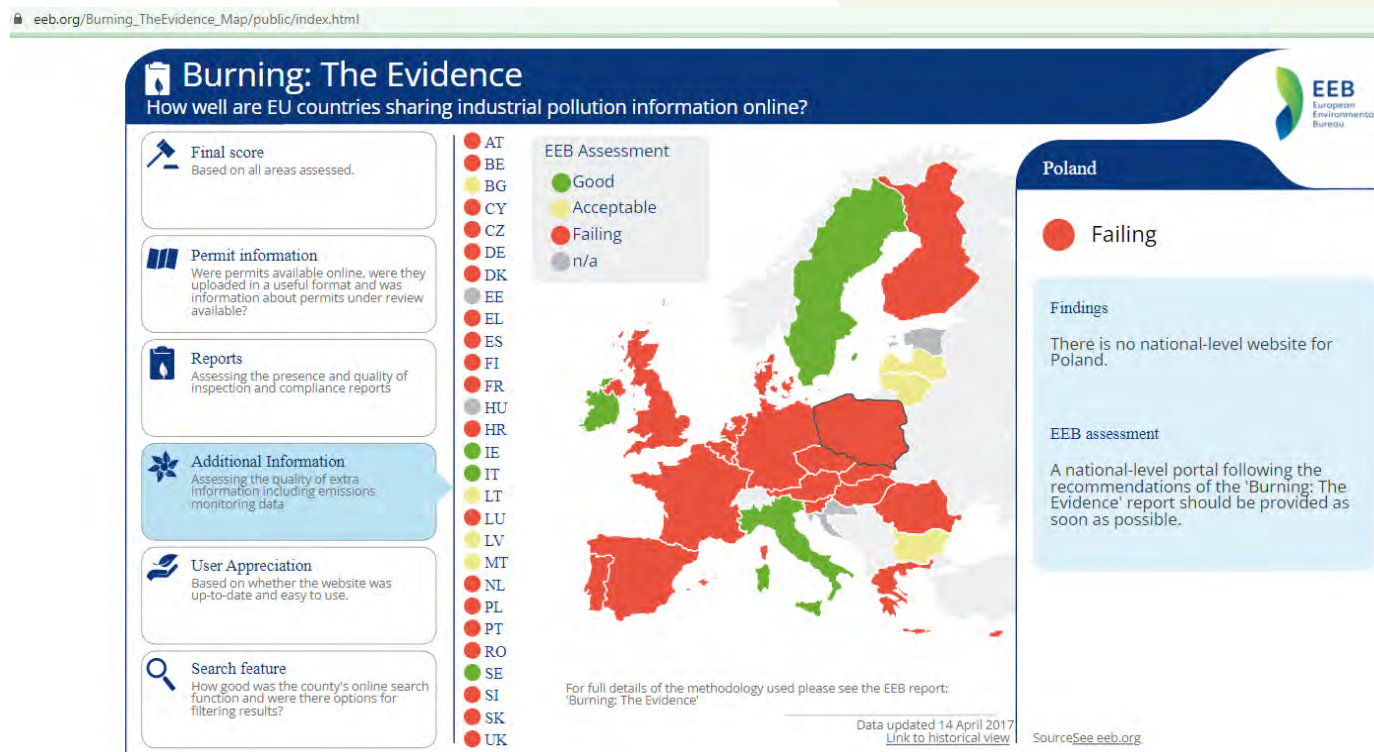
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The EEB's Industrial Plant Data Viewer

“Buring the evidence” Map, by EEB

EEB's Industrial Plant Data Viewer aims to:

- **Increase accessibility to publicly available quantitative information**, bringing together plant-level data on emissions, fuel and water use, production, efficiency, and other environmental impacts all in one place
- Allow easy assessment of compliance of Emission Limit Values (ELVs) with Best Available Techniques (BAT), Associated Emission Levels (BAT-AELs), and trends in compliance over time, in a few clicks



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The EEB's Industrial Plant Data Viewer

- **Allow comparison of plants performance**, and of the level of ambition in national permitting
- **Increase transparency and accountability** by providing a platform which brings together a variety of key permitting documents, including permits, compliance reports, monitoring results, environmental inspection reports and derogations applications, and overcoming language barriers (e.g. through the 'compare plants' function)
- **Provide a mechanism for operators and competent authorities to provide additional data and documents, or to correct erroneous information** in the public domain

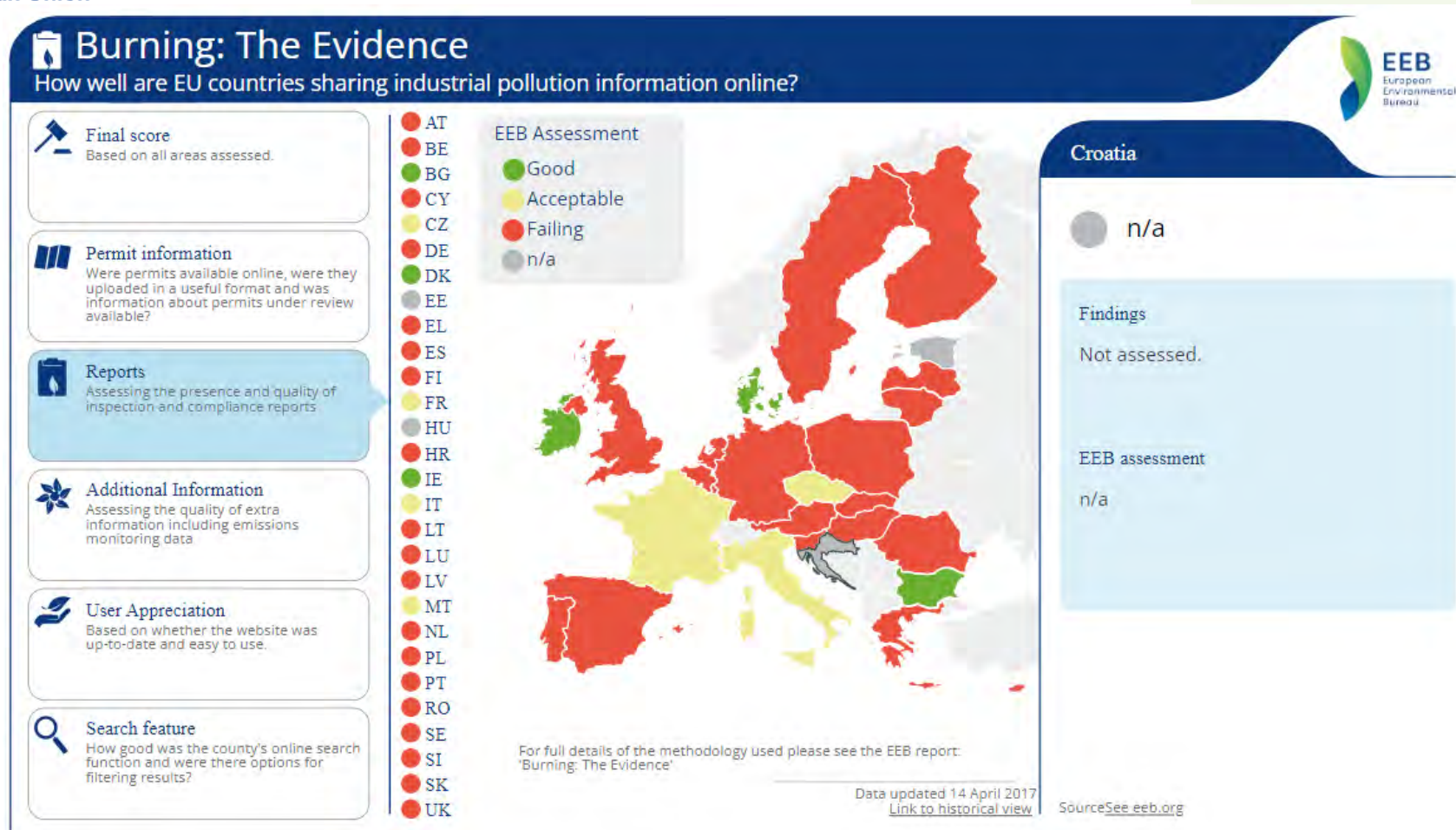
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Recommended steps

- According to EEB member States and European Commission should speed up in implementing the recommendations made in the EEB IPDV background briefing, this includes notably to achieve at EU level:

Recommended steps:

1. **Establish an EU single access database** (improved Industrial Pollution registry). National and regional authorities should be linked to this database.
2. Database should have
 - Useful search filters,
 - Allow for better benchmarking of environmental performance
 - Better use of information for other purposes (e.g. BREF reviews) or compliance assessment against environmental quality standards,
 - Guarantee real time access to important data like flow rates, continuous emissions monitoring results.
 - Member states should provide data on non fee basis for the database.

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Progress in implementing IED Georgia

Georgia's Legal and permitting framework

Georgia's environmental legislative framework in the field of environmental policies is structured based on overarching guiding environmental policy documents, including

- National programme for 2022-2026 and Georgia's 2030 Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan;
- **The Framework Law on Environmental Protection which regulates environmental protection and the use of natural resources, and establishes the main environmental principles and the rights and obligations of citizens in the field of environmental protection;**
- Relevant laws governing environmental protection of specific environmental media and addressing specific issues, such as the **Environmental Assessment Code.**
- **Georgia considered as a strategic priority implementation of the Association Agreement with the European Union (EU), in accordance with which the country has adopted a Law on Environmental Liability and has developed and adopted The Law on industrial emissions.** Recently the European Union recommended that Georgia be granted EU candidate status once several priorities have been addressed, which is likely to encourage additional legal reforms. **There has been progress on developing regulations for integrated permitting and the use of Best Available Techniques (BAT) through the draft law on industrial emissions in 2022.** Georgia has also recently adopted the **Law on Environmental Liability (in 2021)** and the **Law on Environmental Impact Assessment (in 2018).**

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Legal and permitting framework

Georgia's environmental legislative framework is advancing.

- There has been progress on **developing regulations for integrated permitting and the use of Best Available Techniques (BAT) through the draft law on industrial emissions.**
- Georgia has also recently adopted the **Law on Environmental Liability (in 2021)** and the **Law on Environmental Impact Assessment (in 2018).**
- **Consultations on environmental laws take place through a variety of channels, and electronic sharing of environmental information with the public has improved.**
- **Internal information management for permit processing has improved** at the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture (MEPA), and there are plans to establish an **electronic licensing system** for natural resources.
- **Work in progress:** improve the parts of the national line legislation that is not up-to-date and lack alignment and coherence in wording and definitions.
- **Improve awareness of private sector** on newly adopted legislation and support it through awareness and improved data access.
- **Recommended: Establish database to environmental permits** that is available for all MEPA agencies and departments including the Department of Environmental Supervision (DES).

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Georgia Law on Industrial Emissions:

- Law on Industrial Emissions: Aims to prevent, reduce and control emissions from the polluting industrial activities to air, water and soil, as well as prevention of waste generation;
 1. The purpose of this law is to prevent emissions into atmospheric air, water and land as a result of industrial activities or, where it is practically impossible, to reduce and control emissions, as well as to prevent the generation of waste.
 2. The law **determines the procedure, conditions for issuing integrated permits for industrial activities causing pollution, and the control of the fulfillment of these conditions, as well as the rights and duties of state bodies and natural/legal entities.**
 3. The validity of this law applies to **industrial activities causing pollution, combustion facilities and waste incineration and co-incineration enterprises** provided for in Annex I of this law.
 4. This law does not apply to:
 - a) on scientific-research activities;
 - b) on the testing of new products and processes, except for the case provided for in paragraph 6 of Article 7 of this Law
- The **Law encompasses issuance of Integrated Permit for the activities that fall under Annex I (including, energy production, mining, chemical industry, waste management, etc.), as well as combustion and waste incineration/co-incineration plants;**
- For activities that need Integrated Permit - The draft law sets specific requirements and the emission limit values on the basis of the BAT; The competent authority – Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

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Integrated permit. Georgia

The activities subject to the integrated permit must be carried out in accordance with the following principles:

- a) taking all appropriate preventive measures against pollution;
- b) using the best available techniques;
- c) avoiding causing significant pollution;
- d) waste management in accordance with the waste management hierarchy defined by legislation;
- e) efficient use of energy;
- f) taking necessary measures to prevent further spread of accidents and to prevent other possible incidents/accidents;
- g) In case of final termination of the activity, taking necessary measures to prevent any risk of pollution and restoration of the place of activity in accordance with Article 20 of this law.

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Georgia

- According to the Law on Industrial emissions, **Georgia is using Best Available Techniques Guide** - a document developed by the European Commission on the basis of information exchange, which is drawn up for a specified activity and describes the techniques used, the existing emission and consumption levels, the methods considered for the determination of the Best Available Techniques, as well as conclusions on the Best Available Techniques and any new techniques, in accordance with this law taking into account the criteria listed in Annex III;
- Georgian government has approved the **Conclusions on the best available techniques** - a which includes those parts of the **best available techniques guidance document**, where the conclusions regarding the **best available techniques are defined, their description, possibility of use, corresponding emission levels of the best available techniques, corresponding consumption levels, monitoring and if necessary, measures for appropriate remediation of the activity area**; The draft law on Industrial Emissions and relevant draft by-laws have been prepared in line with the provisions of the **IED 2010/75/EU in the scope of EU funded Twinning project**
 - On special provisions for combustion plants
 - On special provisions for waste incineration and co-incineration plants
 - On Conditions for installations producing titanium dioxide
 - On Conditions for installations and activities using organic solvents.

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Article 5. Conclusions on Best Available Techniques

- 1. Conclusions about the best available techniques are approved by the normative act of the Government of Georgia, submitted by the Ministry. These conclusions are based on the relevant conclusions approved by the European Commission.**
- 2. Integrated permit conditions shall be determined on the basis of best available techniques.**
3. In cases where the activity or production process and/or all possible impacts of the activity or individual production process on the environment are not considered in the conclusion on the best available techniques, the conditions of the integrated permit are determined on the basis of the best available techniques, taking into account the criteria specified in Annex III of this law, with the activity implementer with prior consultation.
4. When the conditions of the integrated permit are determined based on the BAT, which is not described in the conclusion on the BAT, this technique must be determined taking into account the criteria contained in Annex III. If BAT do not include emission levels, the Ministry must ensure, that the technique meets the level of environmental protection equivalent to the best available techniques described in the conclusions through the integrated permit..

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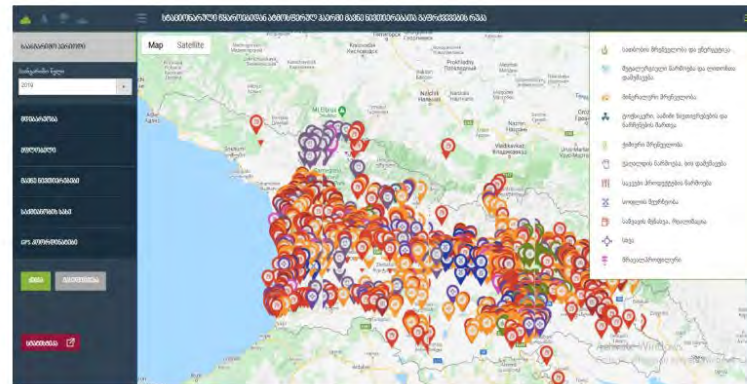
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Digital database - mapping emissions of pollutants

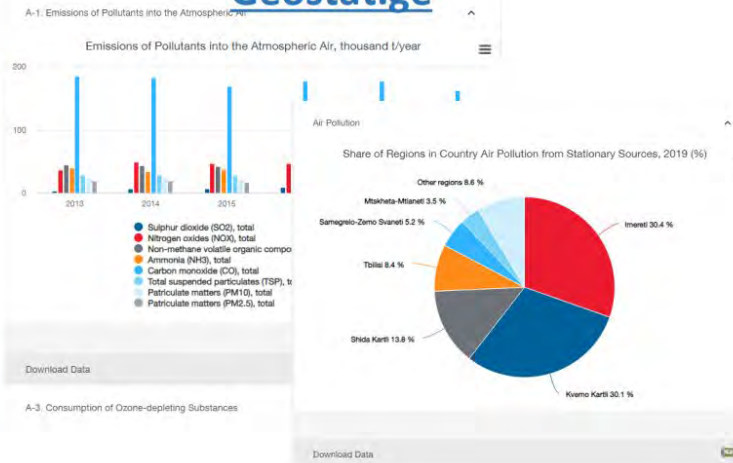
Public Access to Ambient Air Emission Data

Map of emissions of pollutants into the ambient air from stationary sources - Map.emoe.gov.ge



Aggregated data including UNECE
Environmental Indicators

Geostat.ge



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Georgian legal system reform	Progress	EU Industrial emissions directive 2010/75/EU (integrated pollution prevention and control)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Georgia's Environmental assessment code Georgia Draft Law on industrial emissions (2023 pending adoption) Georgia Law on environmental liability is present and acting Online Database on Ambient air emissions data 	<p>Improvement towards integrated permitting procedure and incorporating the BAT</p> <p>Recommended: Raise awareness on permitting procedure,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated permitting procedure BAT enshrined within the national legislation and permitting procedure <p>Article 1. Integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from industrial activities.</p> <p>Article 5 Granting of a permit</p> <p>Article 14 Permit conditions (3. BAT conclusions shall be the reference for setting the permit conditions.)</p> <p>Article 17 General binding rules for activities listed in Annex I</p> <p>Article 13 BAT reference documents and exchange of information</p>

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Georgian legal system reform	Progress	EU Industrial emissions directive 2010/75/EU (integrated pollution prevention and control)
<p>Development of online environmental permitting system (by MEPA)</p> <p>https://geos.epd.georgia.gov/GA/GEOS/Public/GovEnt/Shared/Pages/Main/Login.aspx</p>	<p>Online environmental permitting system (by MEPA) is under development, which provides data on types of emissions: Online platform providing services offer the convenience of obtaining environmental permits and submitting compliance reports online. It supports the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a user account and manage all submissions online, • apply environmental permits, certificates, licenses and other environmental issuances online, • submit environmental reports, monitor processing status of online submittals, receive e-mail notifications on permitting results, • receive e-mail alerts for upcoming reporting obligations, submit requests to revise permits or submit revised reports, track historical versions of all submissions. “Electronic inspection management system” in being developed (since 2022), “Electronic Refrigerant Management System” under development (2022) <p>Action implemented by:</p>	<p>Step to comply with EU IED Article 72 Reporting by Member States (availability of emission related data in electronic format) and Annex 4, Public participation in decision-making</p> <p>Article 65 Access to information, (The general binding rules applicable for installations and the list of installations subject to permitting and registration shall be made available to the public.</p> <p>2. The results of the monitoring of emissions as required under Article 60 and held by the competent authority shall be made available to the public.)</p>



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Georgian legal system reform	Progress	EU Industrial emissions directive 2010/75/EU (integrated pollution prevention and control)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk methodology for planned inspections • Inspection plans • Inspection guidelines • Number of environmental monitoring stations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspection plan on regulatory facilities 2022 approved by DES • Non-planned/ad hoc inspections – follow up mechanisms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk methodology for planned inspections developed • Inspection plans and results published • Inspection guidelines developed • Increased number of env. monitoring stations <p>DES submits cases with high risk of environmental damage to the Prosecutors office, Criminal code has provisions for environmental crime control and liability mechanisms</p> <p>Non-planned/ad hoc inspections – follow up mechanisms (hot line) on complaints of citizens established, fulfillment of obligations on the basis of complaints and previous inspection recommendations</p> <p>Pro- active steps: Checking the compliance of the facilities activity with legislation</p> <p>Action implemented by:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IED, Article 16 Monitoring requirements • (DIRECTIVE 2008/99/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 19 November 2008 on the protection of the environment through criminal law, Article 7 Penalties for legal persons, EU Environmental crime directive) • IED Article 23, Environmental Inspections, 5. Non-routine environmental inspections shall be carried out to investigate serious environmental complaints, serious environmental accidents, incidents and occurrences of non-compliance as soon as possible and, where appropriate, before the granting, reconsideration or update of a permit



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Promotional Measures and Recommendations

- Involvement of the DES into the process of issuing permits, consultations
- Implementation of integrated control of technical safety and environmental requirements, high risk enterprises with involvement of other control agencies
- Improvement of methodologies for inspection control.

Recommendations:

- Adopt comprehensive enforcement policy guidance document, update the administrative offences code and the criminal code, update fines for env. And index link them to the inflation, make use of the wider array of penalties, address the lack of criminal enforcements, address divergences of the law of environmental liability with EU ELD.
- Publishing information online
 - Dedicated webpages of MEPA DES and Environmental information and Education Centre.
 - DES hotline and Facebook page.
 - Awareness raising, articles, news from MEPA, DES websites, MEPA initiatives with involvement of civil society

Recommended actions

- Increase the types of awareness raising source and platforms provided by DES
- Increase training and capacity building on compliance assurance and regulations through the EIEC
- Increase awareness on new legislation and undertake pro-active information campaign.

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IED implementation progress in Moldova

- The Association Agreement between Moldova and the European Union was signed on 27 June 2014 and came into force on 1 July 2016. The Agreement provides an important guide for reforming Moldova's regulatory framework and aligning it with the EU Acquis Communautaire.
- **Chapter 16 focuses on the environment** and covers, among other items, governance and horizontal issues such as environmental impact assessment (EIA); education and training; environmental liability; combating environmental crime; transboundary co-operation; access to environmental information; decision-making processes and effective administrative and judicial review procedures; environmental fees and taxes; monitoring and environmental information systems; inspection and enforcement; and approximation of certain legislation to EU laws and international instruments (European Union, 2014[9]).
- Approximation of certain provisions of the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) ranges from three to ten years. Annex B lists the deadlines for the approximation of the IED as stated in the Association Agreement.

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IED implementation progress in Moldova

- As part of the Association Agreement with the EU, the Republic of Moldova has committed to transpose a number of EU directives into national law, including the Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe. As a result, Moldova must now carry out comprehensive air quality monitoring and strive to reach levels below the EU limit values.
- Under the 2014 Law on Environmental Impact Assessment (GoM, 2014b), approximated to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive 2011/92/EU, an EIA is mandatory for projects considered to have significant effects on the environment and listed in Annex 1 of the Law. For projects listed in Annex 2, the national authority must decide whether an EIA is needed, based on criteria in Annex 3. Also, the Law on Strategic Environmental Assessment, approximated to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive, was adopted by the Parliament. The Law requires SEAs for national and local plans and programmes on land use, transportation, energy, waste, agriculture, etc.
- The Government Decision on the Reduction of the Sulphur Content of Certain Liquid Fuels transposes the relevant provisions in the EU *acquis Communautaire* into national law. The State Environmental Inspectorate is in charge of implementing the transposed legislation.

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IED implementation progress in Moldova

- Moldova's law on industrial emissions is an important step in approximating the IED.
- The law aims to establish a regulatory framework for **integrated prevention and control of pollution by industrial and economic activities, promote application of best available techniques and introduce integrated environmental permitting**. The subject of this law are the procedures and rules applied in the process of preventing air, water and soil pollution, waste generation, preventing or reducing the negative impact on the environment and human health as a result of industrial and economic activities.
- Moldova's parliament is planning to adopt related laws such as draft law on atmospheric air quality aims to transpose the EU Ambient Air Quality Directive and the directive relating to arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air.
- These laws aim to set air quality standards, establish a management regime for air pollutant concentration, and set up the Air Quality Monitoring and Management System and a National Air Pollutant Emission Inventory System.

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Moldova legal system reform	Progress	EU Industrial emissions directive 2010/75/EU (integrated pollution prevention and control)
Moldova's law on industrial emissions (adopted in 2022)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulatory framework for integrated prevention and control of pollution by industrial and economic activities established Improvement towards integrated permitting procedure and incorporating the BAT Procedures and rules applied in the process of preventing air, water and soil pollution, waste generation, preventing or reducing the negative impact on the environment and human health as a result of industrial and economic activities. <p>Action implemented by:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated permitting procedure BAT enshrined within the national legislation and permitting procedure <p>Article 1. Integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from industrial activities.</p> <p>Article 5 Granting of a permit</p> <p>Article 14 Permit conditions (3. BAT conclusions shall be the reference for setting the permit conditions.)</p> <p>Article 17 General binding rules for activities listed in Annex I</p> <p>Article 13 BAT reference documents and exchange of information</p>



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Moldova legal system reform	Progress	EU Industrial emissions directive 2010/75/EU (integrated pollution prevention and control)
<p>Annex B. Excerpt on the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) from the Annex to Chapter 16 on the Environment of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adoption of national legislation and designation of competent authority/authorities Identification of installations that require a permit (Annex I) Establishment of an integrated permit system <p>Implementation of BAT taking into account the BAT conclusions of the BREFs</p> <p>Establishment of an integrated permit system</p>	<p>Article 12 of the Law on Industrial Emissions in the Republic of Moldova. Issuance of an integrated environmental permit and an environmental permit</p> <p>The types of industrial and economic activities provided for in Appendix 1 are carried out on the basis of an integrated environmental permit, and the types of industrial and economic activities provided for in Appendix 2 are carried out on the basis of an environmental permit issued by the Environmental Agency.</p> <p>Part 2 of the Law on Industrial Emissions in the Republic of Moldova. Best Available Techniques and Emission Limit Values</p> <p>Reference documents on BAT published in Romanian in the Official Journal of the European Union are accepted as national reference documents on BAT by order of the Minister of the Environment and published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova. Monitoring development and updating of best available techniques, publishing any new opinions on BAT, informs public. The Environment Agency shall apply BAT opinions when setting permit conditions.</p> <p>Action implemented by:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 5, 2. Measures to guarantee an effective integrated approach by competent authorities IED Articles 4 – 6, 12, 21 and 24 and Annex IV) <p>Implementation of BAT taking into account the BAT conclusions of the BREFs</p> <p>BREFs (IED Articles 14 Permit conditions (3-6) and IED 15 Article Emission limit values, equivalent parameters and technical measures (2-4))</p>



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Moldova legal system reform	Progress	EU Industrial emissions directive 2010/75/EU (integrated pollution prevention and control)
Establishment and implementation of a compliance monitoring mechanism	<p>Article 20 of the Law on Industrial Emissions in the Republic of Moldova. Monitoring Requirements</p> <p>The monitoring requirements in an integrated environmental permit and in an environmental permit under Article 19 paragraph (1) d) are based on the monitoring findings described in the BAT reports. (2) The frequency of periodic monitoring provided for in point g) of paragraph (1) of Article 19 is established by the Environment Agency in the integrated environmental permit and in the environmental permit for each installation.</p> <p>Action implemented by:</p>	<p>IED Article 8, Non-compliance</p> <p>1. Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that the permit conditions are complied with. 2. In the event of a breach of the permit conditions, Member States shall ensure that: (a) the operator immediately informs the competent authority; (b) the operator immediately takes the measures necessary to ensure that compliance is restored within the shortest possible time; (c) the competent authority requires the operator to take any appropriate complementary measures that the competent authority considers necessary to restore compliance.</p> <p>Article 14 Permit conditions (1)(d) and Article 23(1)) Environmental inspections</p>



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IED implementation progress in Moldova

- **Article 12 of the Law on Industrial Emissions in the Republic of Moldova. Issuance of an integrated environmental permit and an environmental permit**
 - The types of industrial and economic activities provided for in Appendix 1 are carried out on the basis of an integrated environmental permit, and the types of industrial and economic activities provided for in Appendix 2 are carried out on the basis of an environmental permit issued by the Environmental Agency.
 - An integrated environmental permit and an environmental permit are issued at the request of the operator:
 - a) when new installations are commissioned;
 - b) for the operation of existing installations.
- (3) Integrated environmental permits and environmental permits are issued in accordance with the provisions of the Law on the regulation of business activities through permit No. 160/2011, for a fee, on the basis of the Regulation on the organization and provision of public services for the issuance of integrated environmental permits and environmental permits and the Methodology for calculating the cost integrated environmental permit and environmental permit approved by the Government.

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IED implementation progress in Moldova

- An integrated environmental permit and an **environmental permit for new or substantially modified industrial and economic activities** are issued if they have been subjected to **an environmental impact assessment procedure** in accordance with the provisions of the Law on Environmental Impact Assessment No. 86/2014.(10)
- When applying for a first integrated environmental permit or a first environmental permit, the operator shall submit a Baseline Report attached to the application.(11)
- When deciding whether to issue an integrated environmental permit or an environmental permit for an existing installation, the Environment Agency should take into account the **requirements of economic feasibility and environmental protection**.
- **Article 16 of the Law on Industrial Emissions in the Republic of Moldova.**
- **Consulting and issuing opinions on the technical dossier:** The Environment Agency, central and local public administration authorities organizes the coordination of the technical dossier using a single window.
- The central and local public administration authorities involved in the consultation and approval process review the technical dossier within 30 days and send their opinion to the Environment Agency in the same way as the application was received. The technical dossier is posted on the official website of the Environment Agency for public consultation. The findings of the central and local public administration authorities and the comments and recommendations of the public concerned are attached to the technical dossier and made public in accordance with Article 33 par. (2) of this Law and the provisions of Law.

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Part 2 of the Law on Industrial Emissions in the Republic of Moldova. Best Available Techniques and Emission Limit Values

- **Reference documents on BAT published** in Romanian in the **Official Journal of the European Union** are accepted as **national reference documents on BAT by order of the Minister of the Environment** and published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova.
- The Ministry of the Environment **monitors the development and updating of best available techniques** and, when publishing any new opinions on BAT, brings this information to the attention of the public concerned.
- **The Environment Agency shall apply BAT opinions when setting permit conditions.**
- The Environment Agency establishes more stringent permit conditions than those resulting from the use of the best available techniques provided for in the BAT opinions
- In case if the Environment Agency establishes permit conditions based on one of the best available techniques that is not described in any of the BAT opinions, if the BAT conclusions referred to in paragraph (5) do not include emission levels associated with best available techniques, the Environment Agency shall introduce measures to ensure that the method referred to in paragraph (5) provides a level of environmental protection equivalent to that , which is guaranteed by the best available techniques provided by the BAT reports.

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Article 32 of the Law on Industrial Emissions in the Republic of Moldova. Electronic register of operators

- **Registration in and removal from the Electronic Registry of Operators** shall be carried out in accordance with this law and the provisions of the Guidelines for issuing an integrated environmental permit, an environmental permit and registration of activities, approved by order of the Minister of the Environment.
- **The electronic registry of operators** contains the identification data of operators classified by categories of risk to the environment according to the types of activities specified in annexes 1-3, the legal address of the operator and site, the date of their registration, the number of the integrated environmental permit or environmental permit or letter of registration operators, as well as the period of validity of the permit.

Article 33 of the Law on Industrial Emissions in the Republic of Moldova. Participation of the public concerned in decision-making on the issuance of an integrated environmental permit and an environmental permit, in issuing an integrated environmental permit and an environmental permit for new and existing installations; issuing an integrated environmental permit and an environmental permit for any significant modification to existing installations. The participation of the public concerned in the authorization procedures is carried out in accordance with the requirements provided for in annex 4 to this law and the provisions of the Law on transparency in the decision-making process no. 239/2008.

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Permits: differentiated approach

- Moldova is already making steps towards a multi-media integrated approach to permitting, starting with amending its legislative basis through the draft law on industrial emissions. However, it needs to accelerate this process, which would consider the overall environmental impact of economic activities, at least for more complex installations. Currently, separate permit applications must be made for various environmental media such as air, special use of water, wastewater disposal, waste management, etc.
- **Recommended steps for permits: transitioning to a differentiated approach to permits.**
- Permitting does not consider the size of economic entities or their pollution potential (UNECE, 2014[6]), except for cases of an EIA. A differentiated approach could be based on the **level of environmental risk of economic entities**. In this way, it would require **tailored integrated permits only for the highest risk installations, while generic permits for medium to low-risk installations, and registrations and General 18 | Binding Rules (GBRs) for the lowest risk installations**. Operations with a low or negligible risk to the environment could be exempted from permits. It is good practice to consider the application of GBRs based on simplicity of operations, homogeneity within a sector and minimal risk to the environment. A differentiated approach to permitting should begin with an analysis of sectors and subsectors subject to permitting, as well as their environmental risk and variability

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Positive steps

- The **National Development Strategy 2030** being developed, including the chapter on ensuring human rights to a clean environment.
- Government Decisions outlining institutional responsibilities for environmental compliance assurance, **setting up a government control registry and setting out a methodology for risk-based control by the Inspectorate for Environmental Protection** were adopted.
- **Integrated approach to environmental regulation promoted, permitting and control has started with Law on industrial emissions.**
- Stakeholders are involved in environmental policy making through online consultations and meetings.
- **Transparent and digitized permitting procedure, with a one-stop shop for online applications, clear instructions available on line and issued permits published.**
- The **Public Register of Permissive Acts, which includes environmental permits, is an official source of information on permits issued in Moldova.**
- Several **government programmes promote the adoption of green practices.**

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Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

Positive steps

- Moldova is developing a **National Integrated Air Quality Monitoring and Management System**.
- **Annual self-reporting on pollution by permitted entities is a requirement.**
- Moldova is **establishing a Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR)**.
- There are **various methods for alerting the authorities about environmental transgressions (e.g. hotlines, webpages, Facebook, letters and a recently launched EcoAlert application).**
- The **EcoAlert application for environmental alerts was designed by an NGO (the National Environmental Centre) and is a good example of co-operation between the inspectorate and civil society.**

Thank you !

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