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EU4Environment
Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

Georgia

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture

Natia Iordanishvili



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Georgia Context and Relevance EU4Environment Programme for the Country Needs

- National Forest Concept (2013) and Law of Georgia on the Forest Code of Georgia (2020)
- National Forest Inventory (2019-2023)
- NDC 2021: retention and increase of forests role in carbon sequestration; CAP 2024-2026
- 30x30 target under Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, CBD, COP15 (2022)
- Law on Biodiversity (submitted to Parliament in 2023)
- 66 approved Emerald Sites comprising over 1.3 million ha land = over 18% of Georgia territory
- National Forest Programme reviewed in 2023 – national platform for stakeholder discussion on forest sector

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Progress in Four Result Areas

4.1 Protecting Biodiversity and Natural Ecosystems

- Advice on forest management guidelines for Emerald Sites:

Analysis of Emerald Sites management undertaken, recommendations on forest management in progress

- Regional Collaboration in Protecting Biodiversity & Ecosystems in Eastern Partnership Countries:

TOR agreed, awaiting contract award

4.2 Enhancing strategic financing to forest and NRM system

- Community engagement in sustainable NRM:

Contract awarded, meeting with client planned end-February

4.3 Promoting legal trade in wood products

- Supporting Legal and Deforestation-free Trade and Preventing illegal trade of wood products in Armenia, Georgia, and Moldova:

Contract awarded, meeting with client held on November 28, 2023, Inception report due

4.4. Enhancing strategic financing to forest and NRM sectors

- Identifying country investment and financing opportunities for forest and NRM:

TOR agreed, awaiting contract award

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Priorities for EU4Environment Programme Support in Future

- **Assistance in municipal forests management:**
 - Assign forest status to selected stands meeting definition of a “forest”
 - Create precedent of municipal forest
 - Train beneficiary municipalities in forest management
- **Study tour for acquaintance with management challenges and success stories of Natura 2000 sites:**
 - Learning from example of Natura 2000 – institutional and legal frames, technical tools of management, engagement with communities, challenges encountered and overcome

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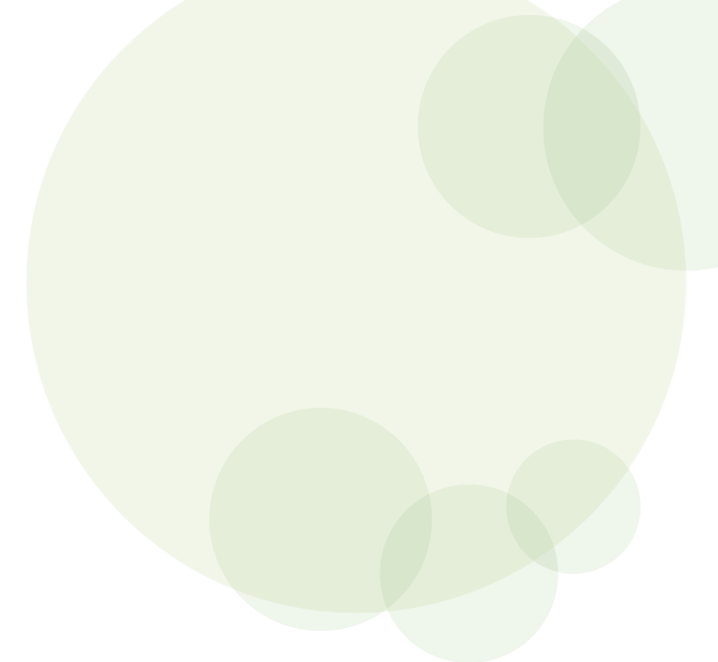
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Thank you!

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