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**EU4Environment**  
Green Economy in Eastern Partner Countries

## Guidelines for Managing Forest Habitats on Georgia's Emerald Sites

### Stakeholder Workshop

#### AGENDA

**30 April 2024**

**The National Forestry Agency**

(N1 Vladimir Tsitlanadze 1<sup>st</sup> Lane, Tbilisi 0114, GEORGIA  
Meeting room on second floor)

Action implemented by:



## Stakeholder Workshop

30 April 2024, 11am  
National Forestry Agency  
Tbilisi, GEORGIA

### Background

Emerald Network is a pan-European ecological network with the goal to preserve the biodiversity of Europe. It is one of the main tools for the implementation of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern, 1979), also known as the Bern Convention. In addition to being an obligation under the Bern Convention, the development of the Emerald Network in Georgia is also required by the EU-Georgia Association Agreement.

Each Emerald Network site should have a management plan tailored to conserving and enhancing the protected species and habitats within the forested areas of the site. Thus, it is crucial for Georgia to initiate the development of management plans for designated sites situated beyond the national system of Protected Areas.

### Meeting objectives, expected outputs and outcomes

- The aim of the meeting is to obtain stakeholder input on forest management issues within the Emerald Network and finetune the drafted Recommendations based on the received feedback.
- Guidelines would offer clear and comprehensive solutions to the various challenges posed by the requirements of the Bern Convention, as well as to the challenges the forestry sector may inevitably encounter in harmonizing their activities on Emerald sites with the Network's standards. Hence, the primary focus of this document revolves around forest management issues in Emerald sites situated outside the national system of protected areas.

### Participants

The meeting will gather around 30 participants representing Biodiversity and Forestry Department of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, the National Forestry Agency, the Agency of Protected Areas, research institutions, and civil society.

### About EU4Environment

The European Union for Environment (EU4Environment – Green Economy) helps the Eastern Partnership countries 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.

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## AGENDA

<b>Time</b>	<b>Item</b>	
<b>11:00 – 11:10</b>	<b>Welcome and Introduction</b>	<b>Natia Iordanishvili, Deputy Head, National Forestry Agency</b>
<b>11:10 – 11:20</b>	<b>EU4Environment Programme, its Result Area 4, and Support to Emerald Network in Beneficiary Countries</b>	<b>Nino Inasaridze, National Coordinator, EU4Environment Programme, World Bank</b>
<b>11:20 – 11:40</b>	<b>Overview of the Emerald Network, its Purpose, and Significance for Conservation</b>	<b>Irakli Shavgulidze, Director, NACRES</b>
<b>11:40 – 12:30</b>	<b>Presentation of Draft Recommendations on Guidelines for Managing Forest Habitats</b>	<b>Kakha Artsivadze, Natural Resource Management Program Coordinator, NACRES</b>
<b>12:30 – 12:45</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
<b>12:45 – 13:45</b>	<b>Stakeholder Discussion and Feedback</b>	<b>Moderated by Kakha Artsivadze, Natural Resource Management Program Coordinator, NACRES</b>
<b>13:45 – 14:00</b>	<b>Closing</b>	<b>Irakli Shavgulidze, Director, NACRES</b>