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Advancing resource efficient and cleaner production in Azerbaijan

The RECP methodology

Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production (RECP) is the integrated and continuous application of preventive environmental strategies to **processes, products, and services** to increase efficiency and reduce risks to humans and the environment. RECP is all about producing with fewer resources while minimizing environmental impacts and increasing overall productivity. For **Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)**, the RECP methodology is an effective means to lower production costs whilst improving the SMEs' competitive advantage and applying environmentally friendly practices. RECP is also an effective tool to introduce and promote Circular Economy principles among SMEs.

BAKU TEXTILE FACTORY (BTF) LLC - TEXTILE PRODUCTION



Company Overview

Location: Baku

Key products: uniforms, socks, workwear clothes

No. of employees: 147

Main markets: Azerbaijan

Founding year: 2010

“**Baku Textile Factory**” or “**BTF**” LLC is one of the leading producers and suppliers of high-standard clothing in the country. The company uses high-quality raw materials and technologies from Europe and Turkey and employs foreign experts. Currently, it produces over 5,000 different types of textiles, with its goods being distributed to both government and private sector representatives. Its products include school uniforms, medical outerwear, sportswear, underwear, and socks, among others. Motivated to address production costs and waste, the company participated in the RECP Demonstration Project under EU4Environment (2019-2024). This publication details the company's experience reported after the assessment exercise conducted in 2024.

BENEFITS



Action implemented by:

The project's approach

The RECP team examined the production site and identified several options, out of which the following four were prioritized by the company:

RECP Option 1. Replacing the conventional lamps with LED ones: Some of the lamps inside the production building are outdated. Hence, replacing them with LED lamps would significantly reduce electricity consumption. Moreover, LED lamps have a longer lifespan, reducing this way the need for keeping a large stock of replacement lamps.

RECP Option 2: Investing in training: A recommendation is to conduct energy management trainings and introduce an energy management system for the company staff.

RECP Option 3: Improving insulation: Adding heat insulation to one of the external sides of the building would significantly reduce energy consumption for heating in the winter and cooling in the summer. Additionally, installing heat recuperators on the 2nd to 5th floors would further improve energy efficiency.

RECP Option 4: Improving the cutting process of fabrics: The transition to computerized software would provide more precise control, reduce human errors, increase the speed of operations, and overall save on raw materials.

SAVING ACHIEVEMENTS

RECP measures

OPTION 1	Replacing the conventional lamps with LED ones
OPTION 2	Investing in training
OPTION 3	Improving insulation
OPTION 4	Improving the cutting process of fabrics

Economic key figures

RECP OPTIONS	INVESTMENT (EUR)	SAVINGS (EUR/YR)	PAYBACK PERIOD (YR)
Total:	41,230	12,025	3.87

Resource savings

RECP OPTIONS	ELECTRICITY (KWH/YR)
Total:	184,009

Total pollution reduction

RECP OPTIONS	CO ₂ -EQ (T/YR)
Total:	41

“ Our motivation for participating in this project was to improve our understanding of the continuous application of preventive environmental strategies to our processes and products, to increase efficiency and reduce risks. This approach also proved to be economically viable by saving resources and improving our overall production. Hence, the RECP project has had a significant, positive impact. Looking ahead, we are seeking opportunities for technical and financial support to continue improving our business processes with an emphasis on environmental considerations, exploring new methodologies for energy saving and resource conservation. Additionally, we plan to promote initiatives for resource saving and energy efficiency among peer businesses. This way, we aim to create a working group to jointly discuss and improve our efforts in this field, said Ms. Sevda Huseynova, Project Manager at BTF LLC. ”

The introduction of RECP has been part of the EU-funded EU4Environment Action and executed by UNIDO. In this context, **BTF** joined the RECP Demonstration Project to be monitored under EU4Environment. Follow-up visits have also been conducted to check on the implementation of the recommended RECP options. EU4Environment helps the EU's 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. For more details, visit:

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