



Funded by the European Union



## 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.

### NORM OJSC - CEMENT PRODUCTION



#### Company Overview

Location: Qaradağ, Baku

No. of employees: 300

Key products: clinker and cement

Main markets: Azerbaijan

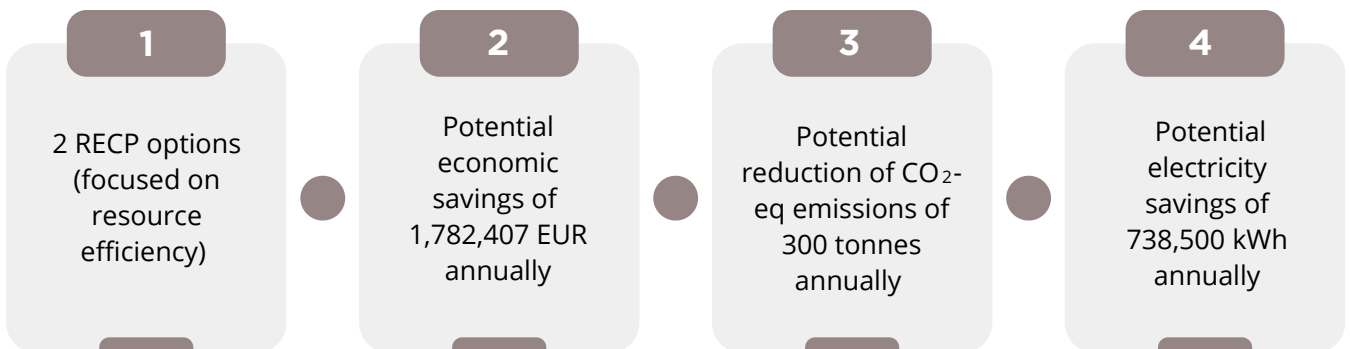
Founding year: 2006

Certifications: ISO 14001



"Norm" OJSC is a leading cement producer in the South Caucasus region, located in Baku. The plant has a significant production capacity, generating up to 5,300 tonnes of clinker daily, and 2.1 million tonnes of cement, annually. With a full-scale, energy-intensive production process, reducing emissions is a key environmental objective for the enterprise, reason for which it adopted the RECP methodology as one of the main tools to achieve this goal. Motivated to address production costs, 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 approach

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

**RECP Option 1. Replacing 10% of natural gas consumption by incinerating obsolete tires:** The company uses large quantities of natural gas to power the cement kiln. By burning obsolete tires in the kiln, natural gas consumption could be reduced by at least 10%, leading to significant economic savings.

**RECP Option 2. Replacing 10% of natural gas consumption with oil sludge:** The RECP team recommended using oil sludge as an alternative fuel in the cement kilns. This would reduce natural gas consumption by 10%, resulting in economic savings of 632,568 EUR.

## SAVING ACHIEVEMENTS

### RECP measures

OPTION 1

Replacing 10% of natural gas consumption by incinerating obsolete tires

OPTION 2

Replacing 10% of natural gas consumption with oil sludge

### Economic key figures

RECP OPTIONS	INVESTMENT (EUR)	SAVINGS (EUR/YR)	PAYBACK PERIOD (YR)
Total:	-	1,782,407	-

### Resource savings

RECP OPTIONS	ELECTRICITY ( KWH/YR)
Total:	738,500

### Total pollution reduction

RECP OPTIONS	CO <sub>2</sub> -EQ (T/YR)
Total:	300

The introduction of RECP has been part of the EU-funded EU4Environment Action and executed by UNIDO. In this context, **NORM OJSC** 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: [www.eu4environment.org](http://www.eu4environment.org)

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