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EU4Environment in Eastern Partner Countries:
Water Resources and Environmental Data (ENI/2021/425-550)

WORKSHOP REPORT

EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY IN WASTE MANAGEMENT

GEORGIA

Date:
Jan 21-25, 2024

Mission Lead:
Maria Krasteva
Main partner:
MEPA Waste
Management Dept

Output n°:
2.3

Author(s)

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Implementing partners



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1. Objective and scope of the mission

In follow-up to previous support and co-operation, MEPA Waste Management Department had requested urgent exchange and capacity-building on implementation issues related to Extended Producer Responsibility in Waste Management (see listed themes in mission request of 19 Dec 2023, annex 1).

For those waste streams for which Extended Producer Responsibility regulations are already in force (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment, Batteries, Tires and waste oils) the capacity-building focused on implementation issues including reporting and data management procedures, while the current regulatory discussions concern packaging and End-of-Life Vehicles for which the regulations are still in preparation.

Since Georgia is now a EU candidate country, also the relevant EC Decisions on reporting for specific waste streams are also relevant to be introduced.

Three days of discussions and capacity-building with the team of the Waste Management Department at MEPA.

2. Experts

EU4WD Project Experts

<i>Name</i>	<i>Function / Position</i>	<i>Arrival</i>	<i>Departure</i>
Maria Krasteva	Thematic Lead Expert Waste Management	21/1	25/1
Mihail Asenov	Senior Waste Management Expert	21/1	25/1

National Institutions and Experts - Georgia

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Function / Position</i>
MEPA	Alverd Chankseliani	Head of the Waste and Chemicals Department
MEPA	Kristine Vardanashvili	Head of the Waste Management Division
MEPA	Lasha Kajaia	Head of the EPR Division
MEPA	Daria Bendeliani	Specialist, EPR Division
MEPA	Ushba Gezdeliani	Expert, Waste Management Division
MEPA	Maia Javakishvili	EU4Env W&D Component 2 National Focal Point

Other persons joining the missions (external experts, local Programme staff)

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Function / Position</i>
EU4Env W&D	Tamar Loladze	International expert Caucasus Countries

3. Time Table

<i>Time</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Comments</i>
	Sunday 21/01/2024	
21:05	Arrival Maria Krasteva	Georgian Airways from VIE
16:45	Arrival Mihail Asenov	From SOF with TK via IST
	Monday 22/01/2024	
10:00	Morning session	Packaging – nationwide system in Georgia, regulatory and technical requirements, basic collection infrastructure in municipalities
14:00	Afternoon session	End of Live Vehicles – financial and economic aspects of EPR introduction; responsibilities of different authorities regarding collection of abandoned ELVs
	Tuesday 23/01/2024	
10:00	Morning session	Waste information system on packaging and other waste – update on developments and open issues, incl. circular economy indicators
14:00	Afternoon session	Role of Coordination Office for Packaging – Austrian experience and options for Georgia
	Wednesday 24/01/2024	
10:00	Morning session	EC reporting decisions on waste streams – logic, structure and implementation, interlinkage with Waste Statistics Regulation
14:00	Afternoon session	Methodology for calculation of annual amounts of packaging and packaging waste, as basis for recycling targets; circular economy indicators
	Thursday 25/01/2024	
13:00	Departure Maria Krasteva	Georgian Airways to VIE
11:55	Departure Mihail Asenov	to SOF with TK via IST

4. Main results of the mission

On basis of presentations by the international experts, the level of understanding of MEPA staff was increased on the following issues:

4.1. Packaging and Packaging Waste

Key requirements for implementing Extended Producers Responsibility for Packaging and Packaging Waste were presented and discussed - nationwide system in Georgia, regulatory and technical requirements, basic collection infrastructure in municipalities

4.2. End of Life Vehicles

Regarding End of Live Vehicles, financial and economic aspects of EPR introduction were discussed, as well as responsibilities of different authorities regarding collection of abandoned ELVs.

4.3. Waste Information System

MEPA updated on developments and open issues regarding the waste information system on packaging and other waste

4.4. Co-ordination Office for Packaging

The role of a Coordination Office for Packaging was explained according Austrian experience, and the relevant options for Georgia were discussed.

4.5. EC Reporting Decisions on Waste Streams

The international experts explained the EC reporting decisions on waste streams which will become mandatory for Georgia upon EU accession – their logic, structure and implementation, interlinkage with Waste Statistics Regulation.

4.6. Calculation Methodology for Packaging Waste

The methodology for calculation of annual amounts of packaging and packaging waste was introduced, and their function as basis for defining and assessing recycling targets explained.

5. Next steps / to do's

STEP/TASK	RESPONSIBILITY	DEADLINE	FOLLOW UP
Follow-up mission requested by MEPA with focus on the draft regulations on packaging waste and End-of-Life-Vehicles	Maria Krasteva	March 2024	Done 11-13 March
Co-ordination with EU Delegation Tbilisi and Waste Management Technical Assistant Project (Team Leader Doug Hickman) – inviting them to follow-up mission in March 2024	Johannes Mayer Maria Krasteva	asap	Done in Teams Meeting 13 Feb

6. Annexes

6.1. Material, Documents

Introductory text for website:

Extended Producer Responsibility in Waste Management – Capacity-Building for EU Accession

In European Union countries, Extended Producer Responsibility has been introduced in the management of specific waste streams to assure higher collection and recycling rates according to the requirements of the Waste Framework Directive and in view of developing a more circular economy.

Extended Producer Responsibility is also a tool to promote the overall transition towards a more sustainable and circular economic model.

For new EU candidate countries the development of adequate legislation and effective implementation rules and procedures for Extended Producer Responsibility is a major challenge which requires international support and sharing of successful EU country experience. Since the beginning of the programme, the EU4ENV W&D expert team provides advice to the waste department of the Environment Ministry in **Georgia** on implementation of already adopted Extended Producer Responsibility regulations on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment, Batteries, Waste Oils and Tires.

Focus on work with the Georgian colleagues is on those waste streams for which Extended Producer Responsibility regulations are still in development:





- Packaging – nationwide system in Georgia, regulatory and technical requirements, basic collection infrastructure in municipalities, role of Coordination Office for Packaging (Austrian experience and options for Georgia)
- End of Live Vehicles – financial and economic aspects of EPR introduction; responsibilities of different authorities regarding collection of abandoned ELVs
- Waste information system on packaging and other waste – update on developments and open issues, incl. circular economy indicators
- EC reporting decisions on waste streams – logic, structure and implementation, interlinkage with Waste Statistics Regulation
- Methodology for calculation of annual amounts of packaging and packaging waste, as basis for recycling targets; circular economy indicators

From side of the international expert team, one specific focus will be the requirement for nation-wide coverage of EPR systems, following the successful Austrian practice and not yet fully adopted by Georgia.

Since Georgia is now a EU candidate country, also the relevant EC Decisions on reporting for specific waste streams must be introduced.

Presentations used during the mission


aterData > Intern > 7_Missions > 3_ImplementingPhase > 2024 > 02_GE_Waste_Mgt_21_25Jan2024

Name	Änderungsdatum	Typ	Größe
 EU4ENV_EPR_PCO_Tbilisi_22_01_2024_pdf	08.04.2024 12:21	Adobe Acrobat Docu...	2.677 KB
 EU4ENV_EPR_PCO_Tbilisi_22_01_2024	08.04.2024 12:19	Microsoft PowerPoint...	573 KB
 EU4ENV_EPR_Tbilisi_22_02_24_Data_Packaging_inspection	18.03.2024 12:51	Microsoft PowerPoint...	1.775 KB
 EU4ENV_EPR_Tbilisi_EoLVS_22_01_2024_pdf	18.03.2024 12:41	Adobe Acrobat Docu...	2.735 KB
 EU4ENV_EPR_Tbilisi_EoLVS_22_01_2024	18.03.2024 12:39	Microsoft PowerPoint...	2.575 KB
 EU4ENV_EPR_AT_Tbilisi_22_01_24_pdf	18.03.2024 12:23	Adobe Acrobat Docu...	2.619 KB
 EU4ENV_EPR_AT_Tbilisi_22_01_24	18.03.2024 12:21	Microsoft PowerPoint...	1.219 KB

Presentations versions in pdf for publication at the project website with introductory text

 Waste_Management_EPR_GE_2024	08.04.2024 13:08	Microsoft Word-Dok...	16 KB
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6.2. List of Participants

 EU4Env_Georgia_Waste_Mgt_Participants_22_24_Jan_24	23.01.2024 21:12	Microsoft Word-Dok...	173 KB
 EU4Env_Georgia_Waste_Mgt_Participants_22_24_Jan_24_signed	08.04.2024 12:59	JPG-Datei	3.900 KB

6.3. Pictures

 Photos_Mon_22_Jan_24	17.03.2024 20:58	Microsoft Word-Dok...	662 KB
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