



## Fact Box GEORGIA



### UNFCCC ratification status and date

Date of signature: -  
Date of ratification: 29 July 1994  
Date of entry into force: 27 October 1994

### Kyoto Protocol ratification status and date

Date of ratification: 16 June 1999  
Entry into force: 16 Feb 2005

### Country status under UNFCCC

Non-Annex I Country

### Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Total emissions,  
without LULUCF 16,094 Gg CO<sub>2</sub> eq (2011) (Third NC and GHG NIR, 2015)

### Latest reporting year to UNFCCC

2015 (The Third National Communication to UNFCCC and NIR) - reflects 2011 data

[http://unfccc.int/national\\_reports/non-annex\\_i\\_natcom/submitted\\_natcom/items/653.php](http://unfccc.int/national_reports/non-annex_i_natcom/submitted_natcom/items/653.php) - not yet reflected in the site

1<sup>st</sup> Biennial Update Report (BUR) under UNFCCC process – ongoing (to be finalized in 2016).

### Importance as an emitter

According to UN Millennium Development Goal Indicator: 7.2 Carbon dioxide emissions, total, per capita and per \$1 GDP (PPP) Georgia in 2011 (est.) was 7931.7, 1.8133 and 0.2798 Gg CO<sub>2</sub>e respectively (CDIAC).  
(source: <http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/SeriesDetail.aspx?srid=749&crid>)

### 2020 pledge

N/A

### INDC

**Reduction goal: - 15% unconditionally) and 25% - conditionally (in case of financial and technical support) from BAU scenario (base year 2013) for the year 2030, coverage: economy wide (energy, industrial processes, agriculture and waste sectors)**

Georgia plans to unconditionally reduce its GHG emissions by 15% below the Business as usual scenario (BAU) for the year 2030. This is equal to reduction in emission intensity per unit of GDP by approximately 34% from 2013 to 2030. The 15% reduction target will be increased up to 25% in a conditional



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manner, subject to a global agreement addressing the importance of technical cooperation, access to low-cost financial resources and technology transfer. This is equal to reduction of emission intensity per unit of GDP by approximately 43% from 2013 to 2030. The 25% reduction below BAU scenario would also ensure that Georgian GHG emissions by 2030 will stay by 40% below the 1990 level.

**A decision on whether to include land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) will be made at a later stage.**

Information on GHG emissions reduction targets for the forestry sector of Georgia, given in Annex 1 to the INDC, states that the commitment in LULUCF sector comprises:

Unconditionally:

- Increase of carbon stock in about 80,000 ha by strengthening law enforcement and introducing SFM practices. It is estimated that this measure will lead to an overall carbon sequestration of about 3 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> over a period 2020-2030;
- Afforestation of 1,500 ha of degraded non-treed land by 2030;
- Assistance to natural regeneration of forests through fencing of 7,500 ha by 2030 in order to restore natural forest cover.
- Conditionally (in case of financial and technical support):
- afforestation/reforestation of up to 35,000 hectares until 2030;
- Expansion of protected area cover from 0.52 million ha to 1.3 million, comprising at least 1 million ha of forests.

#### Other international obligations

Georgia submitted Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) to UNFCCC under the Copenhagen Accord after Copenhagen Meeting of the Parties (2010)

Beside UN Framework Convention on Climate Change ([www.unfccc.int](http://www.unfccc.int)) ratified by Georgia in 1994 and the Kyoto Protocol in 1999 Georgian is a party of the following environmental conventions:

- UN Convention on Biological Diversity ([www.biodiv.org](http://www.biodiv.org))
- UN Convention to Combat Desertification ([www.unccd.int](http://www.unccd.int))
- The Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (<http://ozone.unep.org>)
- UNECE Convention on Long-Range Trans-boundary Air Pollution (<http://www.unece.org/env/lrtap/welcome.html>)

For a full list visit: <http://moe.gov.ge/>

#### Flagship Legislation on Climate Change

Georgia at this moment has no flagship legal acts on climate change. Climate change mitigation and adaptation is dealt though different sectoral laws and policy documents.

#### List of other climate change relevant legislation /legal acts:

– The Law on Electricity and Natural Gas (1997) №816; 27/06/1997

The objectives of this Law are:

- Regulation of existing non-competitive market, provide establishment of the water supply, electricity and natural gas markets and tariff systems in efficient and competitive way;
- Provide the legal basis for reliable electricity, natural gas and water supply



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(updated in 21  
Aug 2013)

for all the categories of consumers;

- Encourage domestic and foreign investment
- Encourage the use of indigenous hydro energy, other renewable, alternative and natural gas resources first place.

The Law defines role of key actors in the sector: the Ministry of Energy, the Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission, the Wholesale Electricity Trade System Commercial Operator, etc.). According to the Law, promotion, encouragement and policy formulation on renewables use is explicitly role of the Ministry of Energy. The Law regulates electricity trade by Small Hydro Power Plants. The Law provides legal framework for establishment of tariffs for retail trade for electricity and gas, regulates electricity and gas market, as well as international trade; it also establishes procedures for licensing. The Law makes certain stress on energy security of the country.

[www.esco.ge](http://www.esco.ge)

- The Resolution of the Parliament of Georgia on “Main Directions of State Policy in the Power Sector of Georgia” (2015) №3758 -II; 24/06/2015  
The Resolution of the Parliament of Georgia on “Main Directions of State Policy in the Power Sector of Georgia” can be considered as supporting document for promotion of climate change mitigation as is focused of enhancement of renewable energy sources, and in particular of hydro-power energy sector as well as wind energy development and establishes specific targets and describes its potential. The Resolution aims further development of Georgia’s renewable energy resources to increase energy security by reducing the country’s dependence on imported fuel, and implicitly reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.
- National Strategy for Energy Efficiency  
To be finalized in 2015
- National Strategy and Action Plan for Renewable Energy  
Under elaboration
- EU Energy Charter  
Process of joining to EU Energy Charter launched (till 1 September 2015)  
[www.energy.gov.ge](http://www.energy.gov.ge)

#### **Relevant climate change policy documents:**

- The Strategy for Regional Development for 2010-2020 (2010) Resolution of the Government №172, 25.06.2010  
The Strategy is approved under the Resolution of the Government of Georgia and signed by Prime-Minister in 2010. The Strategy is the first cross-sectoral national policy document, which considers importance of climate change adaptation and sustainable development. The Strategy also promotes renewable energy resources utilisation, but without mentioning of its link with climate change mitigation.  
[www.mrdi.gov.ge](http://www.mrdi.gov.ge)
- Strategy for Agriculture Development for 2015-2020  
The new strategy document contains main strategic directions of development of the agriculture in Georgia. 7 main directions include ‘climate, environment and biodiversity protection’ that implies, among others, support to implementation of climate-smart agricultural practice in Georgia.
- The Second National Environmental Action Programme  
The Minister of Environment of Georgia approved NEAP-2 in 2011. The NEAP-2 is a new generation environmental strategic action programme. The approved programme covers both environmental (land, bio-resources, water, air, underground resources, hazardous waste and substances) and



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(NEAP-2) of Georgia (2009)	cross-cutting issues (environmental impact assessment and permitting, enforcement, environmental education and public awareness, monitoring, the scientific basis for decision-making and the need for geographic information, disasters prevention measures, etc.). NEAP-2 concludes with an explanation of the importance of policy coordination within the national government and between the national and the municipal levels. The National Action Plan chapter on climate change is putting stress on the security of the Georgian population by developing and implementing measures to respond to climate change and to reduce Green House Gases (GHG). Special stress is made on adaptation policy and especially adaptation needs in different sectors. <a href="http://moe.gov.ge/">http://moe.gov.ge/</a>
– Low Emission development concept adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers -(June, 2011)	Working on the LED Strategy began late in 2012 and is to be finalized by the autumn of 2016. The project is based on the Memorandum of Understanding between the Governments of USA and Georgia on cooperation in LED area under the USA EC LEDC program (Enhancing Capacity in LED Strategy).

#### **Governmental bodies carrying responsibility on areas of climate change policy:**

- Governmental Coordination Committee on Low Emissions Development Strategy (LEDS) (2013) Was established by the Decision of the Georgian Government to support decision- making on LEDS. The commission comprises of high-level representatives (deputy Ministers) of climate-relevant national ministries and agencies. The sectoral working groups, which functions under the Governmental Coordination Committee, includes 2 representatives (mid-level management) of responsible ministries and governmental agencies (in total 10 governmental bodies), as well as representatives of key international institutions including USAID.
- The Governmental Commission Climate Change (1997) The Governmental Commission Climate Change was established in 1997. The Chairman of the Commission was the President Eduard Shevardnadze. Since 2004 the Commission is not functioning. In same 1997 under the Presidential Decree Georgia's National Climate Change Program was adopted. The Program was closed in 2006.
- The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia The Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia is a national body of executive authority, which elaborates and implements the policies of the Georgian Government in the areas of sustainable development, climate change, protection environmental protection and sustainable use of natural resources. By the Decree of the Government of Georgia dated 20 January 2005 the Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia was appointed as a CDM DNA. [www.moe.gov.ge](http://www.moe.gov.ge)
- The Coordination Council for implementation of CDM In September 2005 by Decree of the Government (#172) Council on Implementation of Clean Development Mechanism was established. The Minister of Environment and Natural Resources Protection was nominated as a Chair of the Council. The Council includes high-level representatives of the three key responsible ministries: the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection, Ministry of Energy and Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development.
- The National Environmental Agency The National Environmental Agency is a legal entity of public law in the system of the Ministry of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia. It was established as a legal entity of public law on 29<sup>th</sup> August.

Official functions of National Environmental Agency are: to prepare and spread informational documents, forecasts, warnings regarding to existing and expected hydro-meteorological and geodynamic processes, also environment pollution conditions in order to provide state security, existing and expected hydro meteorological forecasting of rivers, water reserves and the Black Sea territorial waters, to assess conditions of geodynamic processes, engineering and geo-ecological conditions of environment and to prepare and spread information on environmental conditions, to create database of engineering infrastructure of coastal zone, to manage united state fund information on minerals, to establish and manage informational fund in geological, geodesic, cartographic and land resources state fund, to inventor and register industrial and scientific geological activities, to create and renew state balance and cadastre database on mineral deposits and exposures, to create environmental information database, to monitor coastal zone, to provide civil aviation with meteorological information.

<http://meteo.gov.ge>

– National Forestry Agency

National Forestry Agency (NFA) is a subordinate agency of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia. Main tasks of the Agency are to work out and implement state policy in the field of forest fund protection, restoration and renewal of forests and usage of forest resources, to protect forests from fire, illegal cutting, harmful insects and diseases, to work out activities for saving and qualitative improvement of forests having soil-conserving, water retention, climate regulation, sanitary-hygienic, recreation and other functions, to provide system of registering state forest resources, to monitor activities of ongoing state programmes and other activities allowed by law on the territory of state forest fund, to implement supervision of their realization according to a proved law, to participate in international relations on sustainable development of state forest fund within its competence area and to cooperate with scientific and non-governmental organizations. The Agency is responsible for creation and management of informational database on Georgian forest resources.

[www.moe.gov.ge](http://www.moe.gov.ge)

– The Ministry of Energy of Georgia

The Ministry of Energy is a republican body of executive authority, with main functions of increasing capabilities for maximum exploitation of the available energy resources in the country and diversification of energy supply imported from other countries; improving and modernizing electricity supply by enhancing the hydropower capacity of Georgia; renovation of existing and construction of new power stations and natural gas transportation infrastructure; development of alternative energy sources; improvements of infrastructure for making the country a reliable transit point for regional energy projects, etc.

[www.energy.gov.ge](http://www.energy.gov.ge)

– Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development

The Ministry is a national body responsible for development and implementation policy related to provision of incentives for economic growth of the country, among other through economic reforms related to liberalization of entrepreneurial activities, support to strengthening of private sector; facilitation of issuance of licenses and permits and reform of the system of technical regulation; economic deregulation and protection of markets against monopolization; etc. The Ministry key relevant departments are: Department of Economic Analysis and Policy; Transport Policy Department, Department of Communications, IT and Innovations; Spatial Planning and Construction Policy Department; and Department of Sustainable Development.

The main functions of the Department of Sustainable Development:

- Preparation of the Green Growth Strategy and the respective government program;



- Participation in the activities ensuring the readiness of the country to face global challenges; drafting, revision and the analysis of the innovative projects related to the sustainable development; presentation of the proposals to the Government of Georgia on the necessity and reasonableness of implementation of such projects;
- Identification of investment opportunities and resources in the field of sustainable development;
- Preparation of the legislative initiatives supporting sustainable and safe economic development and their presentation to the Government of Georgia in accordance with the applicable rules;
- Active collaboration within the scope of competence with the executive branch, civil society, business sector and international institutions, for reaching the above-stated goals.

[www.economy.ge](http://www.economy.ge)

- The Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia

The Ministry of Agriculture is a national body of executive authority, which is in charge of regulation of economic activity in the agricultural sector of the country with a purpose of increasing the sector's production capacity.

[www.moa.gov.ge](http://www.moa.gov.ge)

**Key non-governmental, international or other organisations:**

- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Georgia

United Nations Development Programme Georgia was established in 1993 and supports the government to reach national development priorities and the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.

[www.ge.undp.org](http://www.ge.undp.org)

- The Regional Environmental Centre for the Caucasus

REC Caucasus is a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) legal person to work for environment and sustainable development in the three countries of the Caucasus region. <http://www.rec-caucasus.org/>

- WWF Caucasus

Is an regional office of WWF International established to protect biodiversity of the Caucasus eco-region and functions in the three countries of the Caucasus. [http://wwf.panda.org/what\\_we\\_do/where\\_we\\_work/black\\_sea\\_basin/caucasus/](http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/where_we_work/black_sea_basin/caucasus/)

- Caucasus Environmental NGOs Network (CENN)

CENN - Caucasus Environmental NGO Network - is a non-governmental, regional organization established in 1998 and specialized in the fields of civil society development and institutional strengthening, environmental research and policy, resources management, compliance management and communication and environment.

[www.cenn.org](http://www.cenn.org)

- Energy Efficiency Centre

Energy Efficiency Centre (EEC) was established in 1998 by European Union within the framework of the EU Tacis Project "Creation of an Energy Efficiency Centre and Development Natural Energy Study in Georgia". The main objectives of EEC are: an improvement of energy efficiency in the country, an improvement the country's energy balance, to reduce the environmental impact, to improve the competitiveness of industry and commerce.

In April 2005, the "The Energy Efficiency and Cleaner Production Centre EECP", which was established at 2003, within the framework of the Georgian - Norwegian Capacity Building Program on Energy Efficiency and Cleaner Production, was integrated into Energy Efficiency Centre Georgia.

[www.eecgeo.org](http://www.eecgeo.org)



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DAI is a project of the DAI Foundation

– Sustainable Development Center “Remissia”

NGO Sustainable Development Center Remissia was founded on 12th January 2011 and specializes on climate change related studies and projects. The most important project concluded by NGO Remissia concerns the development Sustainable Energy Action Plan for Tbilisi City, aimed at the mitigation of GHG emissions at the municipalities level. Other than the founders of NGO, different national experts participated in the project with rich experience in development of GHG inventories, Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects, GHG mitigation measures, etc. Recently together with Winrock International Remissia is implementing EC-LEDS project supported by USAID. Remissia is involved in ENVSEC regional project on climate change and security.  
[www.remissia.ge](http://www.remissia.ge)

**Cooperation with EU**

The EU – Georgia ENP Action Plan was adopted on 14 November 2006. The Action Plan is a political document laying out the strategic objectives of the cooperation between Georgia and the EU.

The National ENP Action Plan/Georgia, under the article 4. GENERAL OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS, the Item 4.6 Cooperation in specific sectors: including transport, energy, environment, telecommunications, research and innovation/ 4.6.3 Environment, in section “Enhance co-operation on environmental issues” states: ‘Implement provisions under the Kyoto Protocol and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change including through the active cooperation under the Clean Development Mechanism’.

From 2007, the EU assistance has also been provided through a set of new instruments: The European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), Twinning, TAIEX (Technical Assistance and Information Exchange), SIGMA (Support for Improvement for Governance and Management), Instrument for Stability (IfS), Thematic Programmes. The ENPI (with its national, regional and interregional programmes) is the main tool for providing assistance to Georgia.

At a Donors Conference (held in Brussels on 22 October 2008) the European Union announced that with the funding of up to € 500 million it will assist Georgia in 2008-2010 to overcome the results of the 2008 August conflict.

In spring 2009, the EU launched the Eastern Partnership (EaP) with the objective of supporting political and socio-economic reforms in Georgia, as well as Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine. The Eastern Partnership foresees stronger political engagement with the EU namely the prospect of a new generation of Association Agreements and far reaching integration into the EU economy with deep free trade agreements. Climate Change is a flagship initiative of EaP.

In 2010 launched the negotiations for EU-Georgia Association Agreement under which climate chapter was negotiated.

EU support to climate change mitigation and adaptation is also extended to Georgia. Currently projects are implemented by World Wildlife Fund, the Regional Environmental Centre for the Caucasus, Mercy Corps and InterNews. These projects all include a number of awareness raising activities on climate change. There are number of other programmes supported by EC in Georgia, such as INOGATE and CIUDAD. For more information visit following link: ([www.climaest.eu](http://www.climaest.eu))

Association Agreement with EU was initialed in 2013; AA was signed on 27 June 2014. AA has been already ratified by all 28 EU Member States. Roadmap for EU Approximation in the environment and climate action fields



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was elaborated and adopted on 10 Jun 2015.

Process of joining the Energy EU Community Treaty – initiated, - to be finalized in 1 September 2016.

EU Delegation to Georgia:

[http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/georgia/index\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/georgia/index_en.htm)

**Cooperation with  
other international  
institutions**

Georgia actively cooperates with other international organisations and partners such as the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ), Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), World Bank (WB), etc. Among them are also:

- UNDP Georgia continuously provides assistance to the government in elaboration of National Communications to UNFCCC.
- In 2013 the Minister of Environment Protection and Natural Resources of Georgia signed MoU with USAID on Low Emissions Development Strategy (LEDS). Georgia is one of 20 countries selected by the U.S. Government to receive LEDS, which is a U.S. Government initiative to support developing countries' efforts to pursue long-term, transformative development and accelerate sustainable, climate-resilient economic growth while slowing the growth of greenhouse gas emissions.
- <http://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1863/GeorgiaCDCS.pdf>