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# EU4Climate

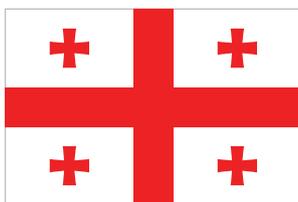
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine



Photo credit:  
UNDP in Georgia

# GEORGIA

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## Climate policy development and advancing cooperation with the EU in Georgia



- With a population of around 3.73 million (2018), Georgia contributes 0.03% to the total global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and has a per capita footprint of 2.37t CO<sub>2</sub>e. Georgia's GHG emissions decreased by 72% (nearly 13 Mio t CO<sub>2</sub>eq) between 1990 and 1995. The lowest value has been reported for 2001 with 9,6 Mio t CO<sub>2</sub>eq, since then emissions have increased to 17,8 Mio t CO<sub>2</sub>eq. in 2017. This is also caused by a strong increase of GDP (+56% between 2010 and 2017), dominated by the service sector. The increased economic activity in connection to a decrease in population by 16%, the GDP per capita shows a remarkable increase of 86%, while GHG per GDP dropped by 39%.

**The energy sector has the highest emissions (excluding LULUCF) followed by agriculture, production and industry, and waste<sup>1</sup>:**



- In 2020, Georgia updated its NDC with an increased ambition compared to the INDC 2015. According to the updated NDC, Georgia unconditionally commits to reduce its GHG emissions by 35% below the reference year of 1990. Furthermore, subject to international support and international effort on a 2 or 1.5-de- green pathway, Georgia conditionally commits to reduce its GHG emissions by 50-57% below the reference year of 1990.

The NC4 reports increase in the mean annual ground air temperature in 1986-2015, compared to 1956-1985, – in the range of 0.25-0.580C. The average increase in the territory of Georgia is 0.470C. During the same period, the annual precipitation in western Georgia has mainly increased, while it decreased in some eastern regions.

Average temperatures in Georgia have increased steadily since the 1960s and are projected to rise by more than the global average by the end of the 21st century. By the 2090s, the average temperature in Georgia is projected to increase between 1.4°C to 4.9°C above the 1986-2005 baseline, for emissions pathways RCP2.6 and RCP8.5, respectively.

The frequency of heat waves is projected to increase significantly by the 2090s under higher emissions pathways, representing major risks to human health, livelihoods, and biodiversity.

- Georgia is considered highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, facing threats that include increased frequency and severity of **droughts** (1), **flooding** (2), **landslides** (3).



**These are expected to have serious implications for agriculture in particular, which is central to the Georgian economy.**

- A changing climate will also significantly impact the coastal zone. **The most vulnerable sectors are agriculture, forestry, tourism, health and cultural heritage.**



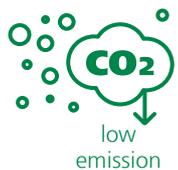
In addition to an updated NDC, Georgia has developed a 2030 Climate Change Strategy and 2021-2023 Action Plan (CSAP). CSAP serves as an underlying strategy and short-term action plan for implementing the updated NDC. In addition, Georgia is finalizing its Long-term Low Emission Development Strategy to be open for public consultations in 2022. In 2021 Georgia developed documents on climate mainstreaming in the energy, agriculture and health sectors.

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia is responsible for the development and implementation of national climate change policy, as well as the co-ordination of international climate change negotiations. The EU and Georgia's close relationship is based on the EU – Georgia Association Agreement (AA) including a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), which entered into force in July 2016 and strives for political association and economic integration. Georgia is progressing in the legal approximation process for the environment and climate action under the AA.

- 2014**
  - Association Agreement with the EU
  - Socio-economic Development Strategy of Georgia
- 2015**
  - INDC 2016-2030
  - COP21 Paris Agreement
  - Pledge to Sustainable Development Agenda 2030
  - Third National Communication to UNFCCC
- 2016**
  - First Voluntary National Review
  - Annual Governmental Work Plan (AGWP)
  - EU-Georgia AA entered into force
  - Biennial Update Report 1 (BUR)
- 2017**
  - Ratification of Paris Agreement
  - Full membership of the European Energy Community
- 2018**
  - Georgia Climate Change Conference
- 2019**
  - EU4Climate launched
  - BUR2
  - National Renewable Energy Action Plan (NREAP) (2018-2030)
  - National Energy Efficiency Action Plan (NEEAP) (2018-2030)
- 2020**
  - National Energy and Climate Plan initiated (2021-2030)
  - Long Term Low Emission Strategy of Georgia (LT-LEDS) - initiated
- 2021**
  - Climate Change Strategy (2030) and Action Plan (2021-2023)
  - Updated NDC (2021-2030)
- 2022**
  - National Energy and Climate Plan (2021-2030) - *under development*
  - Long Term Low Emission Strategy of Georgia (LT-LEDS) - *under development*

<sup>1</sup> Fourth National Communication of Georgia under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

# EU4Climate key policy interventions and expected impact



low emission



climate resilient practices

Georgia has already committed to low-emission development and one of the main objectives of the government is to improve the country's preparedness and adaptive capacity by developing climate-resilient practices that reduce the vulnerability of highly exposed communities. The government regularly highlights this as a main priority. **Georgia, as a developing country, with limited capacity, needs additional support to its national efforts through international financial, technological and capacity building support.**



The EU4Climate Programme, funded by the European Union, aims to support the development and implementation of climate-related policies by the Eastern Partnership countries. The EU4Climate initiative supports Georgia in elaborating its long-term low emission development strategy and mainstreaming climate in the sectoral strategies. A robust domestic emissions monitoring, reporting and verification system will be established, to inform the government and the international community on the progress of its NDC implementation. Throughout the programme, the best international and EU practices will be applied.

## Result areas and timeframe in Georgia

RESULT AREAS	2019		2020		2021		2022	
	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
NDC	[Progress bar from Q3 2019 to Q2 2022]							
Long-term LEDS	[Progress bar from Q3 2019 to Q4 2021]							
MRV System	[Progress bar from Q3 2019 to Q2 2022]							
EU Climate Acquis	[Progress bar from Q3 2019 to Q2 2022]							
Climate Mainstreaming	[Progress bar from Q3 2019 to Q2 2022]							
Climate Investments	[Progress bar from Q3 2019 to Q2 2022]							
Adaptation Planning	[Progress bar from Q3 2019 to Q2 2022]							



The implementation of EU4Climate activities started in Georgia in the second half of 2019 and laid the footing for systematic implementation of the requirements of the Paris Agreement and the commitments of Georgia under it.

# EU4Climate Georgia: key results achieved in 2021



- 1 **Implementation and update of NDCs**
  - 2 **Development of mid-century long-term LEDS**
  - 3 **Introduction of robust emissions Measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) framework**
  - 4 **Alignment with EU Acquis included in bilateral agreements and Energy Community Treaty on Climate Action**
  - 5 **Mainstreaming climate in economic sectors**
  - 6 **Enhancement of capacities to manage and leverage climate investments**
  - 7 **Adaptation planning**
- **Public consultations for updated NDC** was supported and National Survey on Climate Change Knowledge, Attitude and Behaviour was conducted.
  - **Development of LT-LEDS of Georgia** was finalized and TIMES Energy Modeling Tool was procured and transferred to national ministries.
  - **Cooperation and partnerships were established with the EU institutions** and programmes in support of the robust national MRV system (Environment Agency Austria).
  - **EU Climate Acquis Strategic Roadmap** was prepared with technical support from ECS and sublegal act on F-gases was drafted.
  - **Development of the NDC Financing Strategy and Investment Plan & Climate Budget Tagging** was launched.
  - **Two regional workshops** increased capacity of sixty practitioners **Climate Mainstreaming in energy, agriculture and health Sectors** was launched.
  - **A regional workshop** enhanced capacities for national adaptation planning.



## Future Activities

- > Finalising the LT-LEDS of Georgia - **November, 2022**
- > Mainstreaming climate in energy, agriculture and health sectors - **September, 2022**
- > Developing a NDC Financing Strategy and Investment Plan - **June, 2022**
- > Developing a Conceptual Design for a LULUCF MRV system - **September, 2022**
- > Piloting Climate Budget Tagging - **June, 2022**
- > Finalising a NECP - **December, 2022**
- > Climate Communication Strategy and Awareness Raising Action Plan - **December, 2022**



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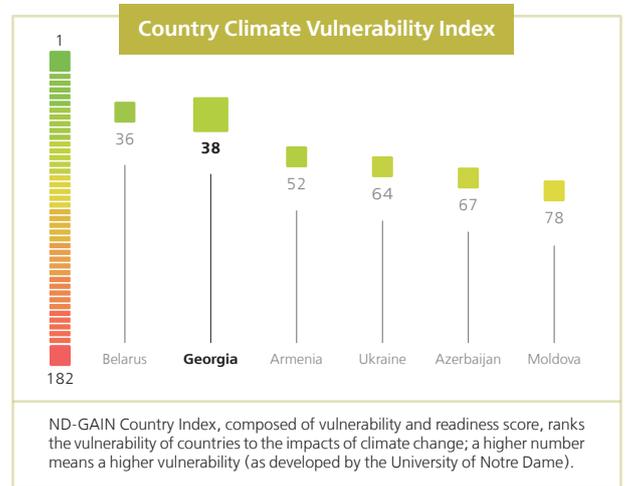
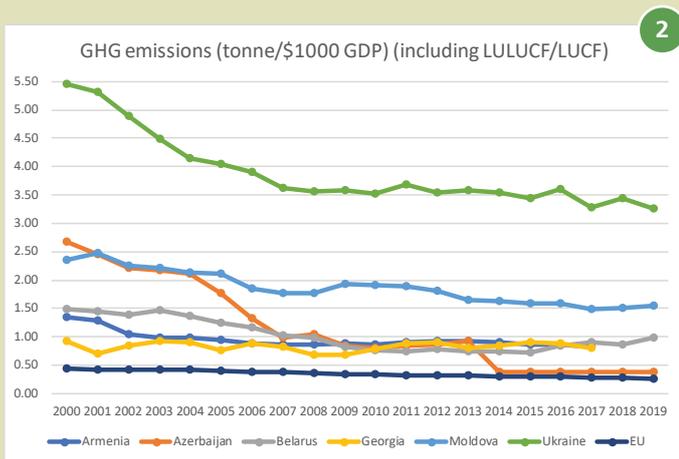
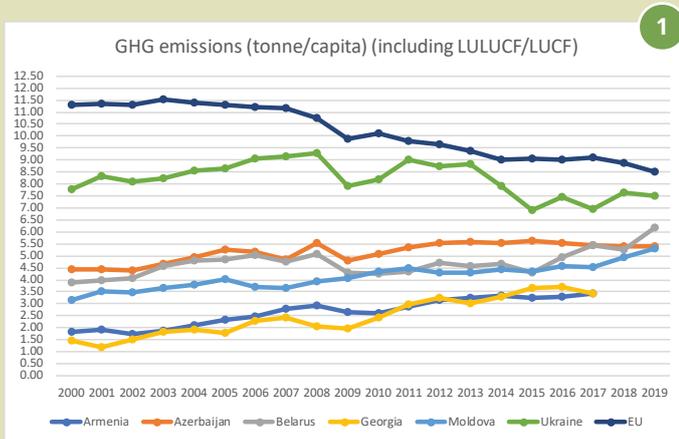


➤ The **EU4Climate Programme** helps governments in the six EU Eastern Partner countries to take action against climate change. It supports countries in implementing the Paris Agreement and improving climate policies and legislation.

EU4Climate assists the EaP countries to integrate the low-emissions and climate resilience objectives into development policies and plans, to improve and consolidate climate policies and legislative alignment. Its ambition is to limit climate change impact on citizens' lives and make them more resilient to it.

The Programme builds on important achievements of past cooperation programmes, such as the EU's ClimaEast Programme, which supported Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in Neighbourhood East and was completed in 2017. EU4Climate directly contributes to the targets of the Joint Staff Working Document "Recovery, resilience and reform: post 2020 Eastern Partnership priorities", adopted in July 2021.

The scope of the Programme was defined in cooperation with all partner countries. The Initiative is implemented by the United Nations Development Programme. The European Commission provides the overall direction.



**Partner Countries:**  
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

**Duration:**  
2019-2022

**Budget:**  
EUR 8.8 million  
(EU contribution: EUR 8 million)

**Implementing Partner:**  
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

**Overall direction:**  
European Commission

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