



Sustainable Development Centre REMISSIA

**Annual Report
2014**

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANIZATION

The mission of Sustainable Development Centre Remissia is to support the Government of Georgia in achieving sustainable development and smooth decentralization through participation in elaboration as well as implementation of policies, strategies and action plans for different sectors and regions of Georgia; introduction of state-of-the-art knowledge, new analytical methods and models as well as modern technologies; application of local know-how and knowledge; building capacity of local and national stakeholders.

The main approach of Remissia while performing this mission is the focus and concentration of its efforts on those sectors, ecosystems and regions that are particularly vulnerable or contribute to the ongoing climate change process.

Supporting inclusive participation in decision-making and implementation process, human rights protection and integration of gender issues are core principles of Remissia's activity.

Sustainable Development Centre Remissia recognizes the priority of sustainable development principles in economic development of Georgia and therefore conducts its activities in the following areas:

A) Supporting the implementation of activities of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol, Covenant of Mayors and other supporting conventions and agreements for sustainable development in the following areas:

- Compiling inventory of greenhouse gases;
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions;
- Promotion of environmental friendly technologies transfer;
- Climate Change vulnerability assessment and preparation of adaptation measures for different economic sectors and ecosystems;
- Monitoring the effects of climate change;
- Any other activities related to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol's implementation.

B) Development, fund raising and implementation of sustainable development projects;

C) Supporting the international and regional cooperation in promoting sustainable development and climate change issues;

C) Training of national experts for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol and other activities for sustainable development;

D) Increasing awareness of the above-mentioned processes;

E) Providing consulting activities to governmental agencies, the private sector and the scientific - research institutions.

The organization is authorized to perform any activity not prohibited by law and related to the implementation of the above objectives.

DESCRIPTION OF ONGOING AND NEWLY LAUNCHED PROJECTS

Project Name: Enhancing Capacity for Low Emission Development Strategies (EC-LEDS) Clean Energy Program

Donor: Winrock/USAID

Dates: 2013-2015

Project Background and Description

In 2013 Remissia started to implement USAID's Enhancing Capacity for Low Emission Development Strategies (EC-LEDS) Clean Energy Program together with several local and international partners. The program supports increased climate change mitigation by building municipal capacity for at least 10 municipalities in analyzing, planning and implementing climate change mitigation measures (Component 1); increasing private sector investment in energy efficiency (EE) and green buildings (Component 2); and strengthening Government of Georgia (GOG) capacity to develop and implement a national Low Emission Development (LED) strategy (Component 3). The Sustainable Development Center Remissia leads Component 1) Georgian Municipal Energy Efficiency (GeMunee), and actively participates in Component 3) assistance to National EC-LEDS Steering Committee SC support.

Under Component 1 Remissia leads the development and implementation of municipal Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs) and development of analytical tool to be used for selecting mitigation options and programs. Under Component 3 Remissia works with international partners to provide technical support to the LEDS Steering Committee and Working Groups to develop a low emission development strategy and implementation plan(s).

Project Results for 2014

Main results/outcomes achieved by Remissia under EC-LEDS project in 2014 are listed below:

- Three **Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs)** were developed. SEAPs were developed for Kutaisi and Zugdidi and Batumi SEAP has been updated. The SEAPs cover the sectors of transport, buildings, public lighting, greening and waste and include the emission inventory for 2012, Business As Usual (BAU) projection and comprehensive set of mitigation measures within each sector. The awareness raising activities and monitoring and reporting plans are also part of SEAPs.
- The first version of **municipal Emission Inventory, Projection and Mitigation Planning (muni-EIPMP)** tool has been distributed. The muni-EIPMP is a simple excel based tool that helps municipalities to do the emission calculations for their SEAPs. The current version includes modules enabling to estimate activity data, compile emission inventory and develop BAU projections for emissions for transport, buildings and public lighting sectors. During next year the simple module for evaluating the mitigation potential and costs of mitigation measures will be added to it.

- *The Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Framework and Methodology for Monitoring and Reporting* for Tbilisi has been developed. This plan will serve as basis for developing monitoring report for Tbilisi, which describes the results, achieved by Tbilisi after the submission of their SEAPs and which is due in 2015.
- Several **mitigation project proposals** have been developed for assisted municipalities. The project proposals include:
 - Restoration/Reconstruction of Zugdidi botanical garden
 - Expansion of Kutaisi botanical garden and establishment of sidling production
 - Piloting green city idea and establishment of necessary green zones for Kutaisi sustainable development
 - Reducing methane emissions from Zugdidi landfill
 - Reducing methane emissions from Kutaisi landfill
 - Collection and utilization of methane from Patriceti wastewater treatment plant (effective only after rehabilitation of this plant)
 - Raising the Tourism Sector's Awareness to Modern, Energy Efficient Technologies & its Involvement into Sustainable Energy Development Processes
 - Supplying hot water to Kutaisi #27 kindergarten using helio system
 - Production of bio waste briquettes and their utilization for heating of Kutaisi municipal buildings
 - Heating and Cooling of Zugdidi city hall administrative building using heat pump
 - Supplying heat to Internally Displaced People(IDP) settlement using central biowood heating system
 - Heating and Cooling of Batumi city hall administrative building using heat pump
 - Heating of Batumi #8 kindergarten with biowood based central heating system
 - Promotion of Green Municipal Transport in Touristic City of Batumi
- Organized **meetings and capacity building workshops** together with Winrock International supporting organization of workshops. Among them:
 - *Working Meeting Of the 'Covenant of Mayors' Signatory Municipalities and Follow-up Workshop 'Challenges Identified to Data Collection for Preparation and Monitoring of*

Sustainable Energy Action Plans of the Cities', held in Batumi, Georgia on September 17-19, 2014. The purpose of the Working Meeting was to introduce the newly-elected Mayors of the selected municipalities to the SEAP as a key document for the CoM signatories to identify the best fields of action and opportunities for reaching the CO2 reduction target. The purpose of the workshop was to share information about best practices relating to data collection and development and use of this data from a policy-making, analytical and statistical point of view. It created an opportunity to review the progress and discuss the path forward for the development of Sustainable Energy Action Plans (SEAPs) and Monitoring Reports at local level and LEDS and Biannual Reports (BURs) at national level. 63 participants from 10 municipalities, state organizations and NGOs attended the workshop.

- *Workshop on 'Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory, Business as Usual (BAU) Projections and Mitigation Measures for Transport, Buildings and Public Lighting Sectors' was held on November 27, 2014 in Tbilisi, Georgia.* The purpose of the workshop was to provide hands-on training for inventory compilation and development of BAU projections for transport, buildings and public lighting sectors using municipal Emission Inventory Projection and Mitigation Planning (muni-EIPMP) tool. Participants from 12 municipalities attended the workshop.
- *Working meeting for Batumi, Kutaisi and Zugdidi municipalities held on August 1, 2014 in Anaklia, Georgia.* The purpose of the meeting was to share the information and discuss the SEAPs of these municipalities that were under development.
- Supported the work of EC_LEDs steering committee, working group and sub-working group, by:
 - Aiding the development and application of MARKAL-Georgia model for policy support and decision making
 - delivering presentations about SEAP measures and MARKAL-Georgia analysis.

Project Name: Low Carbon Buildings in Georgia

Donor: Ecofys Germany GmbH

Dates: 2014

Project Background and Description

The Mitigation Momentum project is supporting the government of Georgia to develop a proposal for a supported Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) for low carbon buildings, which is a key thematic area with high potential in Georgia for both climate change mitigation and local sustainable development. Support for the proposal development is provided by Ecofys, along with local project partners. Remissia assists Ecofys in development of a NAMA concept and proposal by providing national analysis and insight in key thematic areas.

Project Results for 2014

Main results/outcomes achieved by Remissia under EC-LEDS project in 2014 are listed below:

- developed several **analytical reports** accompanied with recommendations which included:
 - Baseline survey of existing in Georgia loan schemes to describe how they are set up, how they operate and to identify barriers (and success factors if any) of these loans
 - More detailed understanding of the Municipal Development Fund, targets and operation – to identify where EE and SSRE can be added
 - Summary of audit results for the cities for which they are available (Zugdidi, Batumi and Kutaisi)
 - Analysis of the willingness of construction firms to take out loans and risks /barriers they envisage in case of willingness
 - Analysis of barriers identified by the Municipalities in regards to getting the loans from different financial institutions for implementation of EE measures in the buildings
 - Analysis of barriers identified by Government
- Organized the workshop for stakeholders on September 15, 2014 in Tbilisi Georgia. The draft concept of building sector low-emission development was shaped through discussion of various elements (principle directions, implementation plans, funding sources, etc) of the process.

DESCRIPTION OF OTHER ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED:

Remissia's Web Site - Due to increased number of implemented projects, meetings and seminars conducted, strategic and expert papers developed Remissia started revising its web site in order to present all work done and offer its expertise to all possible interested parties. The web site will be easy to search and will contain information in Georgian and English languages.

GEF -CSO - The Sustainable Development Centre Remissia has joined the Non-Governmental Organization Network of Global Environment Facility (GEF-CSO) network.

The mission of GEF-CSO network is to strengthen civil society partnership with GEF by enhancing participation, contributing to policy and stimulating action.