

Template to facilitate the submission of examples/good practices of strategies, policies and measures employed to implement obligations under any of the Protocols to the Convention

Country: Georgia	Sector: Transport and Environment
Type of strategy, policy or measure: Regulatory (legislation)	Level: National
What is the main objective of the strategy, policy or measure? When has it been implemented/or will be implemented? <p>For the purpose to decrease emissions from road transport, changes and amendments were made into the Government Orders of Georgia on quality norms of petrol and diesel fuel. Based on these changes in 2015 sulphur content in petrol was decreased 3 times. From 2016, further reduction of content of benzene and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in petrol and sulphur content in diesel is prescribed as well. From 2017, with final reduction of sulphur content, national standard for petrol quality will meet Euro 5 standard. This measure will ensure a significant emission reduction of above mentioned pollutants.</p>	
Background and driving forces: <p>Transport sector is one of the fastest growing sectors of the economy of Georgia, especially road transport that has significantly increased emissions. Road transport is the main source of the air pollution in Georgia. This sector is responsible for about 65% in country's total emissions. The share of emissions from road transport is even higher in big and busy cities, especially in the capital city. Tbilisi is a home for almost 1/3 of Georgian population, where about 400 000 vehicles are driving daily. In the capital city 95% of air pollution comes from road transport sector. Transport emissions represent an important threat to the environment and health of local populations. Reduction of emissions from road transport is one of the goals of National Environmental Action Plan.</p>	
Description of the strategy, policy or measure: <p>Improvement of national standards for petrol and diesel for the first time was scheduled in 2004 and 2005 respectively, by Government Orders. Since then sulphur content was gradually reduced, in petrol from 500 mg/kg (milligram per kilogram) to 150 mg/kg and in diesel from 500 mg/kg to 200 mg/kg.</p> <p>During the last two years an important changes were made in above mentioned legislative acts. According to them further improvements of petrol and diesel fuel were approved. In particular, from 2015 sulphur reduced from 150 to 50 mg/kg, from 2016 content of benzene and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons will reach the modern EU standard (1% and 35%). To reach EU 5 standard for petrol, final reduction is prescribed in 2017 (sulphur -10 mg/kg). From 2016 sulphur content in diesel fuel will be reduced by 50 mg/kg and reach 150 mg/kg.</p> <p>To ensure that consumed fuel is in line with national standards from 2016 Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection is planning to establish state control on fuel quality. Appropriate legislative changes were already developed and submitted to the Government for approval. The results of inspections will be provided to the public. Moreover, the Ministry intends to establish eco-labeling system for petrol stations to promote use of ecologically cleaner petrol and diesel.</p>	

Costs, Funding and Revenue allocation:

Approximate budget of state control on fuel quality is 100 000 Euros per annum. Fund will be allocated from national budget.

Effect and impacts on air pollution abatement:

Decreasing content of above mentioned polluting substances in petrol and diesel leads to reduction of corresponding emissions, such as SO_x, PAHs and benzene. The most significant result in this regard is achieved in reduction of SO_x emissions and corresponding environmental and health risks. Results of city background automatic monitoring station in Tbilisi and passive sampling campaigns in 2014 and 2015 within the country's biggest cities shows that concentrations of SO₂ in the ambient air is much lower than national and European air quality standard.

References/Further information:

N124 Order of the Government on Quality Norms of Petrol (December 31, 2004)

N238 Order of the Government of Georgia on Norms of Diesel and Methods Analyses (December 28, 2005)

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Additional comments: *Please include any additional information you may wish to provide here.*