

Roadmap for the establishment of a national Shared Environmental Information System

Georgia

Objective 1: Regularly publish data for all UNECE environmental indicators defined in Georgia.

Priority: (to be determined by country)

Timeframe for fulfilment: (to be determined by country)

Actions required:

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture (MEPA), which is the main state executive authority responsible for the implementation of environmental policy and regulation of relations in environmental protection, should ensure the publication of UNECE environmental indicators related to the authority of the Ministry, and place all received data on an integrated platform on its website. The task must be resolved at the national level. The support of international organizations is not required.

Objective 2: Develop an effective monitoring system for accounting and reporting on waste indicators.

Priority: (to be determined by country):

Timeframe for fulfilment: (to be determined by country)

Actions required:

MEPA should develop and implement monitoring, accounting and reporting systems for the indicators in the waste category based on the principles and practices of SEIS and should ensure the exchange of data. The task must be resolved at the national level. The support of international organizations is not required.

Objective 3: Increase the number of indicators and data sets in UNECE environmental indicators.

Priority: (to be determined by country):

Timeframe for fulfilment: (to be determined by country)

Actions required:

MEPA should ensure the on-line availability and accessibility of at least 67 data sets as specified by the ECE Working Group on Environmental Monitoring and Assessment (WGEMA). The task must be resolved at the national level. The support of international organizations is not required.

Objective 4: Increase the number of UNECE environmental indicators being developed.

Priority: (to be determined by country):

Timeframe for fulfilment: (to be determined by country)

Actions required:

Increase the number of UNECE indicators to at least 23 recommended by the WGEMA. The task must be resolved at the national level. The support of international organizations is not required.

Objective 5: Ensure full compliance with the SEIS indicator quality criteria.

Priority: (to be determined by country)

Timeframe for fulfilment: (to be determined by country)

Actions required:

The currently defined indicators should include visualization tools, metadata, and the possibilities for widespread use, and the three-year time series should be increased. The task must be resolved at the national level. The support of international organizations is not required.

Objective 6: Transition of environmental information to an electronic format.

Priority: (to be determined by country)

Timeframe for fulfilment: (to be determined by country)

Actions required:

In order to use common, up-to-date information and communication technologies distributed via the Internet, the country should introduce into practice the work of environmental organizations in the transfer of environmental information to an electronic format. Methodological assistance in digitizing environmental information can be provided under the UNDA project.

Objective 7: Introduce modern, internationally accepted methods of analysis, calculations and recommendations in environmental monitoring

Priority: (to be determined by country)

Timeframe for fulfilment: (to be determined by country)

Actions required:

The UNDA project provides the organizational framework for offering training to maintain the required level of qualifications in the use of international standards in the implementation of environmental monitoring.

Objective 8: Increase the use of automated data in the generation of environmental indicators.

Priority: (to be determined by country)

Timeframe for fulfilment: (to be determined by country)

Actions required:

The country should include monitoring data obtained from automated stations (on urban air quality, for example) in environmental indicators. The task must be resolved at the national level. The support of international organizations is not required.

Objective 9: increase the use of environmental indicators in the preparation of reports, including state-of-the-environment reports

Priority: (to be determined by country)

Timeframe for fulfilment: (to be determined by country)

Actions required:

The country needs methodological assistance in the preparation of regular reports and publications on the state of the environment based on the use of environmental indicators (including reports on the fulfillment of requirements stipulated by international conventions and agreements to which Georgia is a party).

Objective 10: Provide an English translation of the main environmental publications.

Priority: (to be determined by country)

Timeframe for fulfilment: (to be determined by country)

Actions required:

The task of providing translations of the main environmental documents (the National Report on the State of the Environment and others) into English must be resolved at the national level. The support of international organizations is not required.

Objective 11: Determine the organization responsible for inter-agency coordination of SEIS implementation in the country.

Priority: (to be determined by country)

Timeframe for fulfilment: (to be determined by country)

Actions required:

MEPA should appoint an organization to coordinate the work of ministries and departments on the implementation of SEIS. The task must be resolved at the national level. The support of international organizations is not required.

Objective 12: Develop a programme to further develop and improve the sustainability of SEIS in Georgia

Priority: (to be determined by country)

Timeframe for fulfilment: (to be determined by country)

Actions required:

Methodological assistance on the development of a SEIS development roadmap can be provided in the framework of the UNDA project.

Objective 13: Create a matrix of global and “nationalized” environmental indicators and publish monitoring and reporting data in the matrix.

Priority: (to be determined by country)

Timeframe for fulfilment: (to be determined by country)

Actions required:

The country should develop a mechanism for “nationalizing” the global SDG indicators and a monitoring system for “nationalized” indicators to be used to track the dynamics and trends of the implementation of global environmental SDG indicators at the national level. The UNDA project can provide methodological assistance in developing a matrix, and monitoring and reporting on environmental indicators of the SDGs.

Objective 14: Use the UNECE environmental indicators when developing national SDG indicators.

Priority: (to be determined by country)

Timeframe for fulfilment: (to be determined by country)

Actions required:

The task of developing national SDG indicators based on existing UNECE environmental indicators must be resolved at the national level. The support of international organizations is not required.

DRAFT