

AARHUS CONVENTION IN GEORGIA

Challenges and good practices in relation to public participation
in decision-making related to sustainable development

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The Aarhus Convention was signed by Georgia on 25 June 1998

On February 11, 2000, the Parliament of Georgia ratified the
AARHUS convention

The Convention entered into force on October 30, 2001

The AARHUS Convention Implementation

CASEs OF GEORGIA

1

Key Challenges: of AARHUS Implementation in Georgia

- No mechanisms to monitor implementation of the international agreements;
- Public participation in the decision-making on plans, strategies or policies related to sustainable development is limited;
- Public access to environmental information needs improvement;
- Georgian Government has not made significant steps towards introduction of the PRTR;
- Work has to be done in the direction of public education on environmental issues.

2

Key findings: structures and procedures of the EIA in Georgia

NEGATIVE POINT

The public participation is not a part of the EIA decision-making

POSITIVE POINT

The Government already has developed the draft new EIA Law

3

Personal case: compliance by Georgia with its obligations under the Aarhus convention

Discussion of the issues related to the auction announced by the Ministry of Economic Development of Georgia for the purpose of issuance of a special license on timber harvesting for long-term forest use.

Implementation of the AARHUS Convention

Tools & Opportunities

Tools for the Implementation of the AARHUS Convention

- Improvement of the EIA Law
- **Social Impact Assessment**
- PRTR implementation
- Awareness raising campaigns

New draft EIA law for Georgia

- New draft EIA law is prepared and will be presented to the Government of Georgia in December 2016;
- Formalization of screening and scoping procedures;
- Strategic environmental assessment is included;
- The draft is prepared in accordance with the standards identified by the EU-Georgia Association Agreement.

Strengthening the Aarhus Convention Implementation in Georgia

CENN's ROLE

Who **we** are:



We operate in **3** countries
Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia



50 employees around
South Caucasus



Up to **10** youth
Green Camps per year



More than **130**
implemented projects



More than **100** partner
organizations around the world



16 Rural Women Councils (RWC)
in the Caucasus
9 in Georgia, 4 in Armenia, 3 in Azerbaijan



25,000 online subscribers



Member of **79** professional
networks and platforms



More than **50** eco-clubs

This website has been designed to make news and information about the development of the Georgian PRTR strategy accessible to the public

PRTR.CENN.ORG



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Tomorrow's leaders need to be ready for tomorrow's challenges. We aim to adequately prepare ourselves and the next generations for the future they will inherit. This requires a commitment to providing environmental education that helps communities become stronger and here is a place where we provide such education

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Climate Change & DRR

Rural Development & Climate
Smart Agriculture

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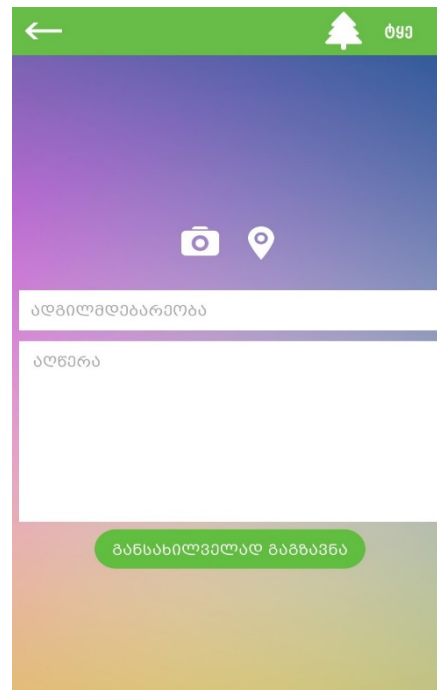
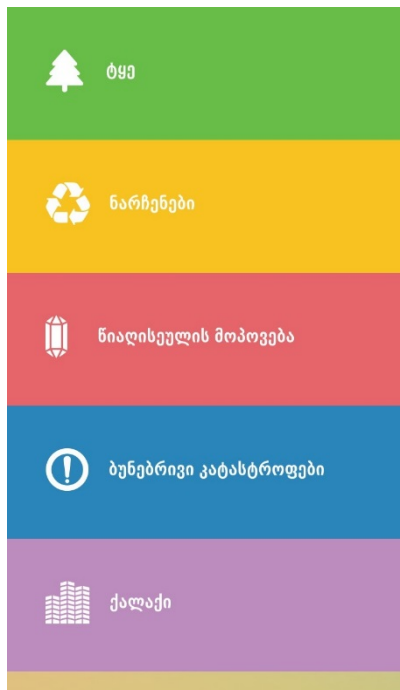
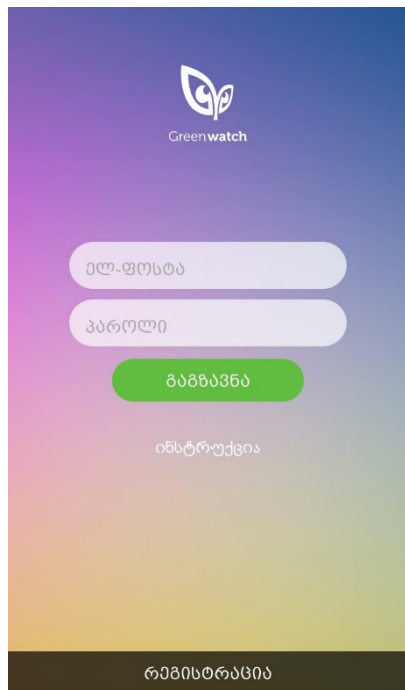
The GreenWatch APP



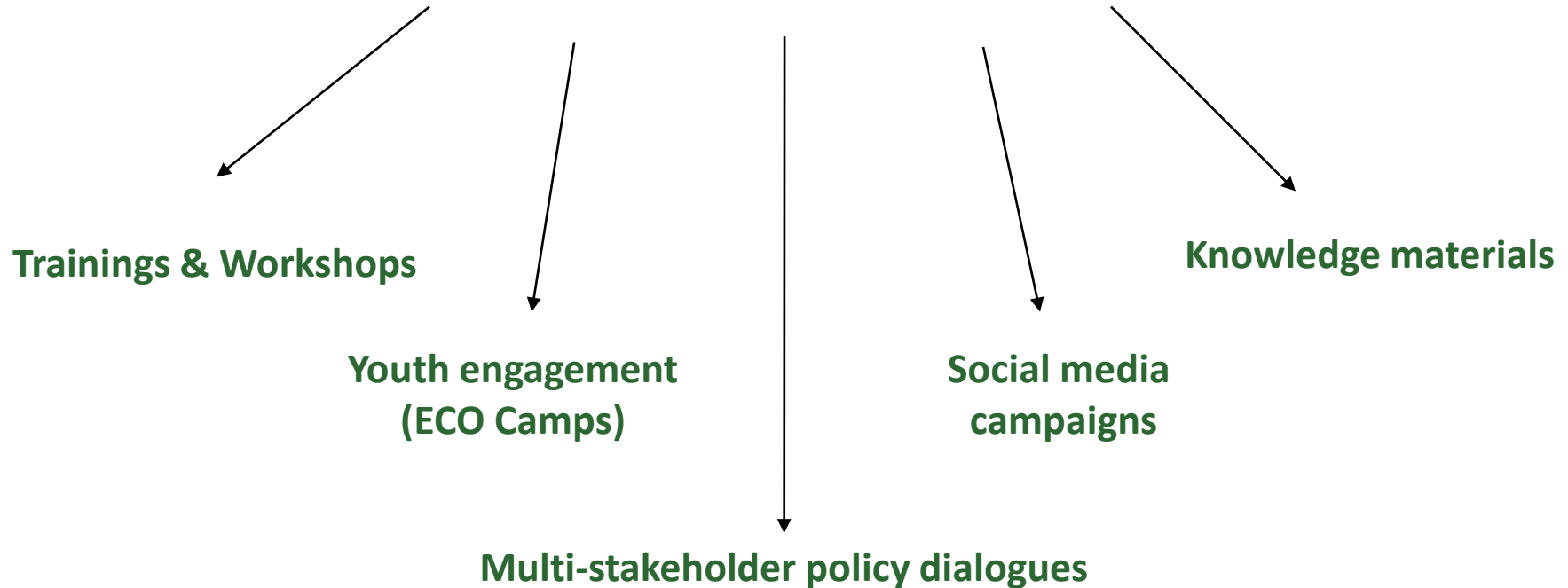
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Public Awareness and Stakeholder Engagement Raising





CENN

Agent of Green Economy
in the Caucasus

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