

# Waste management and circular economy issues in Georgia

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# EU-Georgia Association Agreement

- ▶ Under the agreement, Georgia undertakes a commitment to carry out necessary reforms and ensure harmonization of its legislation with a number of the EU Directives, including in the sphere of environmental protection and sustainable development.
- ▶ The Association Agreement requires a variety of approximation efforts to harmonize legislation and as a consequence administrative practices, including efforts in the area of waste management.

# Law of Georgia - WASTE MANAGEMENT CODE

**The purpose of this Law** is to provide for the legal conditions for implementation of measures aiming at prevention of generation of waste and increased re-use, environmentally-sound treatment of waste (including recycling and extraction of secondary raw materials, energy recovery from waste, as well as safe disposal).

**The objective of this Law** is to protect the environment and human health:  
by preventing and reducing the adverse impacts of the generation of waste;  
by introducing effective mechanisms of management of waste;  
by reducing damage caused by resource use and improving the efficiency of such use.

**Waste management Hierarchy** - Waste management policy and waste management legislation is based on the following priority order:

**1. prevention; 2. preparation for re-use; 3. recycling; 4. other recovery, including energy recovery; 5. disposal.**

# Waste Management Regulations (by-laws according to the WMC)

- ▶ On the Incineration and Co-incineration of Waste;
- ▶ On the special requirements for Hazardous waste collection and treatment;
- ▶ On the waste transportation rules;
- ▶ On the rules and conditions of registration for waste collection, transportation, temporary storage and treatment;
- ▶ On the rules of municipal waste collection and treatment;
- ▶ On the List of Waste and Classification of Waste According to its Types and Characteristics according to Article 2(3) of this Code;
- ▶ On the construction, operation, closure and after-care of Landfills;
- ▶ On the Form and Content of the Waste Record Keeping and Reporting;
- ▶ On the Healthcare Waste Management;
- ▶ On National Waste Management Strategy (2016-2030) and national waste management plan (2015-2020)
- ▶ On business operator recognition rules for non-food products of animal origin (including animal waste) and second-hand products not intended for human consumption, on health and relating to these activities;
- ▶ On the List of Wastes Allowed for Import, Export and Transit on the Territory of Georgia;
- ▶ Technical regulation on the use of plastic bags and biodegradable plastic bags (comply with Standard EN13432:2000);
- ▶ New edition of the Law on "Import, export and transit of wastes" is developed to meet the requirements of the Basel Convention and will be submitted to the parliament for approval in the nearest future
- ▶ Biodegradable waste management strategy have been drafted and will be approved
- ▶ For the implementation of **Extended Producer Responsibility** 6 bylaws - for each waste stream -,
  - **WEEE, ELV, Used Oils, Tires, Batteries and Accumulators;**
  - Packaging waste; ELV (These bylaws are submitted to the government for approval);

# Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)

- ▶ Key elements of effective EPR implementation should bring the achievement of two main environmentally-related goals:
- ▶ **1) Design improvements of products** – the EPR system should provide incentives for manufacturers to improve products and systems surrounding the life cycle of products.
- ▶ **2) High use of product and material quality through effective collection and re-use or recycling** – this goal can be sub-divided into three sub-goals, which are
  - ▶ a) effective collection,
  - ▶ b) environmentally-sound treatment of collected products and
  - ▶ c) high use of products and materials in the form of re-use and recycling.
- ▶ Development of the National Circular Economy Strategy

# EPR waste streams recycling/recovery targets

waste stream	recycling/recovery	2022	2027	2031
Waste oils	Recovery	15%	35%	50%
	Energy recovery	7%	17%	25%
	Regeneration	8%	18%	25%
Tires	Recovery	20%	45%	65%
	Energy recovery	10%	23%	32%
	Recycling / Protector Recovery	10%	22%	33%
Batteries and accumulators (recycling)	Lead acid batteries and accumulators waste	50%	65%	65%
	Nickel and cadmium batteries and accumulators waste	60%	75%	75%
	Waste from other batteries and accumulators	50%	50%	50%
Batteries and Accumulators (collection)	Portable battery, portable accumulator (from the quantity placed on the market)	5%	30%	50%
	Motor battery (generated from waste)	80%	95%	99%
	An industrial battery or industrial accumulators (generated from waste)	80%	95%	99%

# WEEE recycling/recovery targets

waste stream	recycling/recovery	2022	2027	2031	
<b>WEEE</b> <b>(separate collection)</b>	Heat exchange equipment	20%	53%	60%	
	Screens, monitors and equipment containing screens with an area of more than 100 cm <sup>2</sup>	5%	10%	20%	
	Lamps	20%	45%	80%	
	Large appliances (external size more than 50 cm)	25%	70%	85%	
	Small equipment (external size less than 50 cm)	5%	10%	20%	
	Small information and telecommunication equipment (external size less than 50 cm)	5%	10%	19%	
<b>WEEE</b> <b>(preparation, recovery and recycling)</b>	Heat exchange equipment	Recovery	51%	76%	85%
		Reuse and Recycling	50%	72%	80%
	Screens, monitors and more than 100 cm <sup>2</sup> in area having screens containing equipment	Recovery	12%	45%	80%
		Reuse and Recycling	10%	40%	70%
	Lamps	Recovery	80%	80%	80%
		Reuse and Recycling	80%	80%	80%
	Large equipment (external size more than 50 cm)	Recovery	55%	78%	85%
		Reuse and Recycling	55%	74%	80%
	Small equipment (external size less than 50 cm)	Recovery	15%	40%	75%
		Reuse and Recycling	10%	35%	55%
	Small information and telecommunication equipment (external size less than 50 cm)	Recovery	15%	40%	75%
		Reuse and Recycling	10%	35%	55%

# Waste Management Strategy (2016-2030) and Waste Management Action Plan (2016-2020)

Vision	“Georgia to become a preventing and recycling society”
	Objectives
0.1	Waste Management legislation in harmony with EU requirements and International Conventions transposed, implemented and enforced
0.2	Waste Management Planning system established and implemented nationally and locally
0.3	An effective waste collection and transportation system developed and implemented
0.4	Waste disposed in a safe manner for the human health and environment
0.5	Waste prevented, reused, recycled and/or recovered
0.6	Waste Management Costs fully covered in accordance with the Polluter Pays Principle
0.7	Extended Producers Responsibility promoted and implemented
0.8	Waste Data and Information Management system developed and implemented
0.9	Capacities strengthened for the national and local public sector; Capacity building of private companies promoted and awareness of general public raised



# Waste collection and transportation

- ▶ **Objective 3.** An effective waste collection and transportation developed and implemented by 2020
- ▶ Target 3.1. Modalities of cooperation between private and public sector in waste management defined by 2020
- ▶ Target 3.2. Waste collection and transportation operators competent to meet legal requirements
- ▶ Target 3.3. National targets for the following waste to be collected:

	2020	2025	2030
Municipal waste	90%	100%	100%
Hazardous waste	50%	75%	100%

- ▶ Target 3.4 Establishment of a National Hazardous Waste Management system by 2025
- ▶ Target 3.5 National initiatives taken for specific waste streams by 2025

# Waste prevented, reused, recycled and/or recovered

**Target 5.1.** Source separation for paper, glass, metal and plastic, established by 2025

**Target 5.2.** National minimum targets for separated waste to be recycled:

	2020	2025	2030
Paper	30%	50 %	80%
Glass	20%	50%	80%
Metal	70%	80%	90%
Plastic	30%	50%	80%

**Target 5.3.** Waste prevention promoted and implemented by companies by 2020

**Target 5.4.** Waste not reused or recycled to be recovered to the extent possible by 2025

**Target 5.5.** Waste recycling and energy recovery facilities established by 2025

# Cost recovery

- ▶ **Objective 6.** Waste Management Costs covered in accordance with the Polluter Pays Principle
- ▶ Target 6.1. A full cost recovery system for citizens in each municipality developed and gradually implemented 2020-2030
- ▶ Target 6.2. A full cost recovery system for companies developed and implemented 2020-2025

# Waste Management Data

- ▶ **Objective 8.** Waste Data and Information Management system developed and implemented
- ▶ Target 8.1 Waste Data Management system (data collection, reporting and database) developed and implemented in 2016
- ▶ Target 8.2 Waste Information System with public access developed and implemented by 2020

# Management Capacities

- ▶ **Objective 9.** Capacities strengthened for the national and local public sector; Capacity building of private companies promoted and awareness of general public raised
- ▶ Target 9.1 Capacities of the MEPA and other relevant national institutions strengthened by 2020
- ▶ Target 9.2 Capacities of the Municipalities strengthened by 2020
- ▶ Target 9.3 Capacities of the Private sector strengthened by 2020
- ▶ Target 9.4 Awareness of general public on Waste Management raised 2030

# Circular economy issues

- ▶ The intergovernmental working group established
- ▶ Start of the work - for the development of the strategy of circular economy
- ▶ Identification of the main topics of the circularity at national level

# Challenges

- ▶ EPR Implementation
- ▶ Waste Management Data
- ▶ Environmentally sound Management Technology for Recycling
- ▶ Municipal waste separation at source (recyclable and biodegradable) and tariff policy for municipal waste management (based on the polluter pays principle)
- ▶ Awareness raising
- ▶ Incentives for waste management

Thank you

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