

**Template for the submission of
examples of good practices with regard to air pollution
related policies, strategies and measures**

Background

1. The Executive Body, at its thirty-sixth session, adopted decision 2016/3 on Improving the effectiveness of reporting on strategies, policies and other measures to implement obligations under the Convention and its Protocols. This decision stipulates that *“the period for reporting the information referred to in article 5, paragraph 1 (a), of the 1994 Protocol on Further Reductions of Sulphur Emissions, article 7, paragraph 1 (a), of the Protocol on Heavy Metals, article 9, paragraph 1 (a), of the Protocol on Persistent Organic Pollutants and article 7, paragraph 1 (a), of the Protocol to Abate Acidification, Eutrophication and Ground-level Ozone (Gothenburg Protocol) is **at least once every four years**”*. As per this decision, the Executive Body also *“invites States and organizations referred to in article 14, paragraph 1, of the Convention that are not Parties to these four Protocols to provide information on strategies, policies and measures to abate air pollution at the sessions of the Working Group on Strategies and Review.”*

2. The enclosed template has been developed to facilitate the submission by Parties of examples of and good practices with regard to different regulatory, voluntary, economic and other measures relating to air pollution in advance of WGSR’s sixty-first session. The templates with information filled in should be sent to the secretariat at air_meetings@un.org by **1 August 2023**.

3. Delegations are invited to submit to the secretariat case studies/examples which could be of interest to other countries. A summary of submitted information will be made at the Working Group’s session. Parties that had not shared such information during the recent years are particularly invited to do so. An overview of the previous reporting at WGSR sessions since 2013 is available on the Convention website:

<https://unece.org/strategies-and-policies-abatement-air-pollution>

4. Examples could comprise, among others, economic measures such as financial incentives or disincentives (such as taxes, subsidies, set prices or caps/ceilings, payments, rebates), voluntary measures (such as voluntary agreements, programmes or contracts), regulatory or legislative measures or other measures (such as educational or informational measures). They can include policies, strategies and measures emanating from different sectors with positive effects on air pollution abatement (such as acts/laws on sustainable transport, sustainable agriculture/farming, energy, green building, biodiversity conservation and enhancement). A more detailed description of the implementation of your chosen policy, strategy or measure and related challenges and problems as well as solutions would be more useful than the presentation of many different examples. Furthermore, your examples could also be useful to other Parties even if they have not been successful by indicating why this was the case. You are thus also invited to submit experiences that cover such items as:

- a) A measure that was less effective than you anticipated and why;
- b) A measure that was actually more effective than you predicted;
- c) A measure that had particular implementation challenges – what were they and how did you address them;
- d) A measure that was either less expensive or more expensive than you had estimated. What caused the increased or decreased costs?
- e) Goals that were set and were met by innovative strategies.

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 on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution

Country: Georgia	Pollutant(s): TSP, SO ₂ , NO ₂ , CO
Protocol(s): Gothenburg Protocol	Sector: industry
Type of strategy, policy or measure and the level of implementation: Legislation at the national level	Method used for the current analysis: Ambient air quality monitoring data from industrial city of Rustavi, directly reported data on emissions from industrial plants and information from the inspections conducted by Environmental Supervision Department have been used in the ex-ante and ex post analysis.
<p>What is the main objective of the strategy, policy or measure? When has it been implemented/or will be implemented? <i>In order to reduce air pollution from industrial sector in the country a legislative amendments package was adopted in March, 2021 that tightened liability of industrial plants for exceedance of emission limit values and absence of abatement equipment. The new legislative requirements fully entered into force on June 1, 2021.</i></p> <p><i>Please describe briefly what the measure attempts to achieve or what has been the result of its implementation. Please also describe since when it is being employed or for when its implementation is foreseen. Please explain whether implementation is/was immediate or gradual. [150 words max]</i></p>	
<p>Background and driving forces: <i>The elaboration of the package for legislative changes was a response to the high levels of PM pollution observed by ambient air monitoring station in the city of Rustavi, which was mainly caused by the industrial activities in the industrial zone of Rustavi. This had a negative impact not only on the city of Rustavi, but also on the surrounding settlements. The following factors were decisive causing pollution: non-compliance with air protection requirements by industrial facilities; imperfect air protection legislation and low sanctions, which did not have a deterrent effect for the prevention of air pollution; outdated system of self-monitoring of emission of harmful substances; Improper state supervision and control system.</i></p> <p><i>In order to tackle local pollution including high levels of emissions from industrial sector ambient air quality management plan for the city of Rustavi 2020-2022 was developed and approved that identified adoption of the package for legislative changes, which would address above mentioned challenges, as priority action.</i></p> <p><i>Please explain briefly why this strategy, policy or measure was implemented; mention the driving forces for its introduction e.g. policy development, legislation (EU, national), action plans, voluntary, incentive, or other [150 words max]</i></p>	
<p>Description of the strategy, policy or measure: <i>Legislative changes have introduced obligatory conditions for industrial plants having a significant negative impact on the environment (almost all activities covered by Annex I of IED) to install</i></p>	

automatic self-monitoring systems for emissions of TSP, NO_x, SO_x and CO into the air from active stacks and provide relevant data to Environmental Supervision Department (ESD). Around 90 industrial plants from the following sectors were obliged to carry out continuous self-monitoring of emissions: oil refineries, thermal power stations, ferrous and non-ferrous metals producers, chemical industries, producers of clinker, cement, lime, gypsum and glass. Updated legislation also included recommended ISO and EN standards for self-monitoring of emissions. Electronic system was established to which self-monitoring data are transmitted by industrial facilities to the ESD. The system is useful to check compliance of real-time emissions with established emission limit values. Also, in order to monitor implementation of the self-monitoring requirement an interactive plan was elaborated in cooperation with the relevant industrial facilities.

The legislative changes have strengthened the Environmental Supervision Department's capabilities to suspend activities of companies in case they severely violate legislation and create threat to population and environment. The exact criteria for suspension were defined in the by-law as follows:

- a) the absence or non-use of emission abatement systems;
- b) Exceeding the established emission norms by 5 times or more;
- c) Violation of the technological cycle of the enterprise, which caused unforeseeable emission;
- d) carrying out activities in the territory prohibited by law.

In addition, sanctions were sharply increased for the absence or non-use of emission abatement systems, for exceeding the emission limit values and for non-compliance with the conditions of environmental impact permit / environmental decision.

Implementation of the last two pieces of legislative changes is monitored by Environmental Supervision Department through inspections, which increased in a numbers and scope. Beyond issuing sanctions upon the detection of infringements during the inspection, submitting administrative correspondences and determining specific plans with deadlines for facilities that do not comply with the legislative requirements became a common practise to achieve wider implementation of environmental legislation.

Please explain briefly how the strategy, policy or measure works and why it has been chosen compared to other policies/measures. Please also explain how its implementation is being monitored. [200 words max]

Costs, Funding and Revenue allocation:

The costs of public sector include state funding for the establishment of electronic system for the receipt of self-monitoring data and enhancement of human capacities of Environmental Supervision Department for the proactive enforcement updated legislation. In total, additional 110 000 GEL (40 000 USD) were allocated from the state budget in 2020-2022.

The main investments to implement updated legislation were allocated by industrial sector that includes funds for purchasing and instalment of self-monitoring equipment, improvement of pollution abatement system, bringing production cycle in compliance with environmental decision/permit, etc. Approximately investment equal to 50 000 GEL (20 000 USD) were required per facility to implement the new requirements that amounts to 2 mln GEL (750 000 USD) in total as of today.

State budget benefitted from the revenue received through administrative fines issued for industrial plant not implementing new legislation. For example, only for not performing automatic self-monitoring of emissions active industrial plants were fined by around 600 000 GEL (225 000 USD) in 2021-2022. Fines were also issued for the absence or non-use of emission abatement systems, for exceeding the emission limit values and for non-compliance with the conditions of

environmental impact permit / environmental decision as it was prescribed in the updated legislation.

Please state how much the implementation of the measure costs including its monitoring and how it is funded (national budget, industry, taxes, etc.) If the measure is creating revenue, please also explain how this revenue is being allocated and collected. [200 words max]

Effect and impacts on air pollution abatement:

As a result of legislative changes and proactive inspection and control, many industrial facilities improved their compliance with the environmental requirements, introduced self-monitoring system and decreased their negative impact on air quality. As of today, out of 50 active industrial facilities 25 has fully and additional 15 partially implemented self-monitoring requirement, which is milestone for effective control of industrial activities and pollution prevention.

As a result, the concentration of most problematic pollutant for the industrial city of Rustavi – particulate matters – has decreased by about 15% in just 3 years from 2019 to 2022. PM emissions from industrial sources in the city were decreased by 40% in the same time. Reduction in pollution levels continues to this day not only in Rustavi, but in other industrial areas of Georgia.

Please explain briefly the effect of the policy, strategy or measure and how it has impacted the abatement of air pollution. If impacts are known, please quantify, if possible. Please highlight also other effects of the implementation of the measure e.g. with regard to compliance, the acceptance of the measure or its transposition (e.g. from a voluntary to a regulatory or another type of measure). [150 words max]

References/Further information:

Assessment Report of Rustavi Ambient Air Quality Plan 2020-2022 (2023) – <https://mepa.gov.ge/Ge/Files/ViewFile/53824>

Amendment to the Georgian Law on Ambient Air Protection (2021) – <https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/5109101?publication=0>

Amendment to the Code of Administrative Offences of Georgia (2021) - <https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/5109228?publication=0>

Amendment to the Georgian Law on Environmental Protection (2021) - <https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/5109145?publication=0>

Amendment to the Resolution of the Government of Georgia on the procedure for implementation of state control by the Environmental Supervision Department - the State Sub-Agency institution of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia (2021) - <https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/5253735?publication=0>

Resolution of the Government of Georgia on the approval of the technical regulation for the self-monitoring and reporting of the emission of pollutants from stationary sources of pollution (2014, amended in 2021 and 2022) - <https://matsne.gov.ge/document/view/2188511?publication=4>

Please provide most relevant sources for information such as references for web links, books, other resources.

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