



Workshop on Renewable Energy in Transport

Tbilisi, Georgia

Venue: Public Service Hall, 3rd Floor, Conference Hall “Bichvinta”

21 November 2023 - in person and online

UNECE is a custodian of wide range of transport-related legal instruments, regulations and recommendations which will, if implemented efficiently, assist Member States in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For many years, legal instruments developed under the UNECE auspices have assisted UN Member States in developing safe and environmentally friendly transport system; reducing the risk during the transport of dangerous goods; and ensuring that only safe and well-maintained vehicles can participate in traffic, thus limiting their environmental impact. Recently, UNECE was mandated to work on development agendas for electric vehicles (EV), issues surrounding the electrification of various transportation modes (public, private, and commercial vehicles), vehicle, charging, and battery technologies, policy harmonization, power systems to support the EV transition, and the role of EVs in integrating renewable electricity sources.

Georgia's 2030 Climate Change Strategy and 2021-2023 Action Plan accompanies the updated Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) to identify measures to meet unconditional and conditional commitments and mitigation targets in the transport, buildings, energy generation and transmission, agriculture, industry, waste management and forestry sectors. NDCs need to be updated every five years, and countries are expected to set more ambitious goals and targets each time. In the energy sector, Georgia has implemented and is implementing several important reforms, and its current legislation is largely aligned with EU legislation and directives. Georgia is strengthening the capacities of renewable energy integration in its transmission network. The share of renewable energy in Georgia's energy supply in 2020 was 19.5%, of which 15% was electricity produced by hydroelectric plants and 5% was biomass-based (i.e., firewood and agricultural waste used for heating).

As Georgia lacks significant fossil fuel reserves, it relies primarily on renewable energy (mainly hydropower) for energy security. As of 2021, the share of renewable energy in electricity production was 81%, provided by hydropower and one wind farm.

Georgia has set ambitious renewable energy targets within its updated NDC in 2021 as part of the country's commitment to the Paris Agreement. In this context, the objective is to increase the share of renewable energy (wind, solar, hydro) in Georgia's electricity production by up to 87% by 2030.

There has been a notable trend of growing renewables globally, primarily driven by policies and strategies aimed at transitioning to a low carbon and sustainable energy system. This has led to increased investments in renewable technologies like wind, solar, and biomass, as well as supportive policies, such as Contract for Difference (CfD), auctions, and Guarantees of Origin (GO) from renewable energy, which have incentivized renewable energy deployment. Promotion of renewable energy is one of the key priorities for the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia (MoESD). In order to meet international obligations stipulated by NDC and Paris Agreement and the Energy Community Treaty, Georgia should increase share of renewable energy in all economy sectors, especially in transport sector. In June 2023, having in mind previous fruitful cooperation in transport and energy topics, MoESD asked UNECE to provide information session on use of renewable energy in transport with particular focus on EVs.

The aim of the workshop is to strengthen knowledge of Georgian experts on international legal instruments and best practices on use of renewable energy in transport. Furthermore, this information workshop will gather relevant Georgian stakeholders in transport and energy to share information on recent activities in use of renewable energy in transport and discuss future coordination. The main recommendations from Renewable Energy hard-talk series will be presented alongside with renewable energy development in Georgia with particular focus to the implications for the transport sector. The workshop will build capacity on transposition of EU Directive 2018/2001 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources in EU Member State (Austria) and give recommendations for Georgia.

The workshop will be held in English.

Webex link:

<https://moesd.webex.com/moesd/j.php?MTID=m9ef38d93a930085fb60a61be733f2068>

AGENDA

Tuesday, 21 November 2023

08.30 - 09.00 Registration

09.00 – 09.20 Welcome/ Opening speech

Mr. Guram Guramishvili, Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development, Georgia

Mr. Nenad Nikolic, Regional Adviser, UNECE

Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski, Regional Adviser, UNECE

09.20 – 09.50 Session I. What UNECE is doing in renewable energy

Mr. Nenad Nikolic, Regional Adviser, UNECE:

UNECE activities related to use of renewable energy in transport (15 min)

Mr. Gianluca Sambucini, Secretary of the Group of Experts on Renewable Energy

Mr. Oleg Dzioubinski, Regional Adviser, UNECE:

UNECE activities related to renewable energy (15 min)

09.50 – 11.00 Session II. Renewable energy in Georgia in transport

Keynote speaker: Ms. Margalita Arabidze, MoESD Georgia: *MoESD activities in promotion of use of renewable energy (20 min)*

Tour de Table: Brief information on your current or future activities related the renewables and transport sector.

11.00 – 11.20 Coffee break

11.20 – 11.40 Session II. Renewable energy in Georgia in transport

Ms. Anna Sikharulidze, Sustainable Development Centre Remissia & Ms. Maia Kacharava, TBC Bank: *Georgia E-Mobility - Green Climate Fund concept (20 min)*

Q&A and discussion

11.40 – 12.00 Session II. Renewable energy in Georgia in transport (cont.)

Mr. Gianluca Sambucini, UNECE: *Recommendations from the Renewable Energy Hard Talk in Georgia and possible follow-up*

12.00 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30 – 14.30 Session III. Let's talk about electric vehicles

Mr. Walter Nissler, UNECE: *UN legal Instruments and vehicle regulations on electric vehicles (EVs)* (20 min)

Mr. Roel Jansens, UNECE: *Electrification of mobility – current trends and latest developments* (20 min)

Q&A and discussion (10 min)

14.30 – 15.00 Coffee break

15.00 – 15.20 Session III. Let's talk about electric vehicles

Ms. Aleksandra Suladze, MoESD - *Overview of the transport policy of Georgia* (20 min)

Q&A and discussion

15.20 – 15.45 Session IV. Updated RED for 2030

Mr. Matija Vajdic, Energy Institute Hrvoje Pozar, Croatia: *Overview of the European Green Deal and relevant EU directives, in particular the updated RED for 2030* (20 min)

Q&A and discussion

15.45 – 16.15 Session V. Case study Croatia

Mr. Matija Vajdic, Energy Institute Hrvoje Pozar, Croatia: *Transport sector decarbonisation measures from the newly developed Update of the Integrated national energy and climate plan (NECP) for Croatia* (25 min)

Q&A and discussion

16.15 – 16.50 Session V. Case study North Macedonia

Mr. Aleksandar Dukovski, Senior Energy and Climate Expert, North Macedonia: *Renewable Energy Directive: transposition and challenges in the transport sector in North Macedonia* (25 min)

Q&A and discussion

16.50 – 17:00 Closing remarks (UNECE/MoESD GE)