

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

PROJECT DOCUMENT

Support to the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources in Improving the Environmental Planning Framework

PROJECT SUMMARY

Sector:	Environment and Energy for Sustainable Development
Sub-sector:	Strategies and frameworks for sustainable development
Total Budget:	USD 141,700
Budget Requested:	USD 41,700
Duration:	7 months

One of the major obstacles to achieving an environmental sustainability in Georgia is the lack of planning frameworks in the environmental field. This was the conclusion of the UN Country Team (UNCT) in 2004. Since there exists no strategy on environmental protection, and no common understanding of what should be prioritized, an efficient and effective allocation of investments is difficult.

Apart from an absence of a general environmental planning framework, the country lacks environmental media-specific plans and policies in many areas of environmental protection. Among them, waste management is one of the most neglected areas. Today Georgian waste management has no legal-regulatory and planning frameworks, and a very weak institutional set-up.

Having identified above challenges, UN designed its UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and the UNDP Country Program (2006-2010) to address, among others, these issues. The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources (MoE) also considers the need for development of overarching and specific environmental media-specific planning frameworks as one of its immediate priorities. However, it lacks technical and financial resources to achieve these objectives in an efficient manner and within a short period of time. Consequently, the Ministry requested the UNDP Country office in Georgia to assist in developing a National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) and a National Waste Management Plan (NWMP).

In response to the request of the Ministry of Environment, UNDP has developed a project proposal and allocated USD 100,000 core resources for project implementation.

The overall goal of the project is to improve the planning framework in the area of environment. In working towards this goal, the project plans to achieve this through the following objectives:

- To support the development of a National Environmental Action Plan;
- To support the initial phase of development of a National Waste Management Plan

The MoE will be an implementing partner for the project. The project will utilize in-county expertise as much as possible. However, for the areas where such expertise is weak or absent the project will call for international expertise from the Czech republic through Czech Trust Fund. These experts come from a country with a similar past, combined with a solid experience in waste and hotspots management. The Czech expertise will be utilized for provision of methodological and technical guidance to the project as well as for developing capacities of local experts and decision-makers in sustainable environmental management practices. Focus will be on sustainable waste management, but the practices will be of use in other management areas as well.