Georgia Air Quality Policies

This document is based on research that UNEP conducted in 2015, in response to Resolution 7 of the UNEA 1. It describes country-level policies that impact air quality. Triple question marks (**???**) indicate that information for the section couldn't be found. Please review the information, and provide feedback. A Word version of the template can be provided upon request. Corrections and comments can be emailed to Vered.Ehsani@unep.org and George.Mwaniki@unep.org.

Georgia Air Quality Policy Matrix		
Goals	**Status**	**Current Policies & Programmes**
GENERAL OVERVIEW	**Overall situation with respect to air quality in the country, including key air quality challenges**: ● Through improvement of automotive fuel standard, particularly significant decrease of sulphur content in petrol and diesel fuel, in recent years substantial reduction of SOx emissions has been achieved. ● Concentrations of particulate matter and nitrogen oxides exceed current limit values **Air quality monitoring system**: Air quality is monitored in the main cities of the country ● WHO estimates that outdoor air pollution causes 1300 premature deaths annually[1]	**National Ambient air quality standards**: • MACs (maximum allowable concentrations) are set for very high number of pollutants (more than six hundred). MACs are obviously defined in terms of daily means and the highest values. Limit values for $PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10} are missing. Development of new national ambient air quality standards, based on European norms, has been already started. **National Air Quality Policy**: • The Georgian air quality policy has a long term goal of achieving, maintaining and improving levels of ambient air quality that are safe for human health and environment. **Air Quality legislation / programmes**: • Framework law on "Protection of the environment" 1996 • Law on "Ambient air protection" 1999 • Subordinate regulations adopted according to the provisions of the law on "Ambient air protection" **Other**: • Significant steps have been taken towards the improvement of air quality monitoring and assessment system; • Legal base was developed for reintroduction of state fuel quality control.

REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM INDUSTRIES	**Industries that have the potential to impact air quality**: ● Air pollution from industrial installations emanates from the following: cement, metals, mining (coal, manganese, copper, gold), chemicals, food among others **GDP of country**: USD 15.95B in 2013 **Industries' share of GDP**: 21.6% **Electricity sources**: ● 37.2% of the installed electricity generating capacity (23.25 million KW in 2010) is generated from fossil fuel, the rest 62.8% is generated from hydroelectric plants[2] ● The energy sector is the second most important emission source of air pollutants after motor transport **Others** ● Industrial sector is one of the leading source of air pollutants. ● Energy intensity of Georgian economy is high and the amount of specific energy needed to produce goods and services in Georgia is 2–2.5 times higher than in Western countries. ● It is estimated that energy efficiency measures can provide up to 20% of energy saving in the country.	**Emission regulations for industries**: ● All industrial emissions are regulated under the atmospheric emission rules which set emission limit value for different installations **Small installation's emissions regulated**: *(Yes/No)* ● The emission norms of the small enterprises are established by relevant technical regulations. **Renewable energy investment promoted**: ● Georgia currently has no special legislative acts to regulate the use of renewable energy sources. ● The Tax Code enacted in 2005 does not provide any tax benefits for the production and use, import and putting equipment into operation for the production of renewable energy or power saving equipment. ● Goals for renewables have been developed, however. **Energy efficiency incentives:** *(ex: Subsidies, labelling, rebates etc)* **???** **Incentives for clean production and installation of pollution prevention technologies**:**???** **Actions to ensure compliance with regulations:** *(monitoring, enforcement, fines etc)* **???** **Other actions at national, sub-national and / or local level to reduce industrial emissions**: *(can include incentives to move industries to less populated areas here)* ● Cement factories and metallurgical facilities have been fitted with dust abatement systems, which have reduced PM emission by 70%. ● The existing law on electricity and gas does not include renewable energy sources explicitly.
REDUCE EMISSIONS	**Key transport-related air quality challenges**:	**Vehicle emission limit**: *(Euro rating)* **???**

FROM TRANSPORT	*(ex: vehicle growth, old fleet, dirty fuel, poor public transport etc)* ● Transport in Georgia relies heavily on roads, with use of private cars being the most dominant mode of transport. ● Vehicle exhaust emissions are the biggest contributor to the air emissions in the Georgia ● Public transport is not fully developed and as such, private car use is high. As a result, the number of private vehicles has grown rapidly over the past decade and has almost doubled in the last five year period. ● Most of the cars purchased in Georgia are imported as second hand cars and as such the average age of the fleet in Georgia is 10-15 years. ● Diesel engine cars are very popular	**Fuel Sulphur content**: *(in ppm):* ● Georgia adopted a sulphur limit of 50 ppm in petrol from January 2015 through amendments made by decree N731 on December 26, 2014 and N124 of December 31, 2004. From January 2017 it will be reduced until 10 ppm. **Fuel Lead content:** All vehicles use lead free gasoline **Restriction on used car importation**: ● Cars imported into Georgia are subject to two types of taxation, which are not directly linked to fuel economy but do vary according to the engine volume and age of the vehicle. ● Imported vehicles are subject to an excise tax, according to vehicle age. ● In addition, cars are subject to an import tax of 0.05 GEL per engine cm3, as well as an additional 5% of this initial amount per year of use of the imported car. **Actions to expand, improve and promote public transport and mass transit**: ● Several measures to encourage the use of public transport have been initiated, with the best example being the purchase of approximately1000 buses by the Tbilisi city and the discount system introduced to attract people to the public transport **Actions to promote non-motorized transport**: *(ex: include sidewalks and bike lanes in new road projects, car-free areas etc)* Electric vehicles are exempt from excise and import taxes. **Other transport-related actions**: ● Inspection of passenger cars is voluntary prior to 1 January 2018
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM OPEN BURNING: OUTDOOR	**Outdoor, open burning**: *(ex: is it commonly done? burning what kinds of wastes? etc*) ● In Georgia, wastes are disposed at landfills where waste is compacted and covered by soil, or some other inert material. ● Disposed wastes are not regularly and timely compressed, covered and spilled with moisture to avoid self-ignition of wastes. As a result, smouldering combustion of wastes occurs, resulting in emissions of hazardous air pollutants	**Legal framework**: *(ex: is burning banned?)* **???** **Actions to prevent open burning of municipal waste and / or agricultural waste**: ● The existing legislation, the Law of Georgia on the "Environment Protection" requires that preference be given to the use of recyclable materials and technologies for minimization of waste, when undertaking any kind of activities. ● The treatment, use, and disposal of wastes must be conducted in accordance with the environmental, sanitarian-hygienic and epidemiologic standards and rules. ● For the treatment, neutralization, and disposal of waste in Georgia, an Environmental Impact Permit is required.
REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM	**Dominant fuels used for cooking and space heating**:	**Indoor air pollution regulated**: *(Yes / No)* **???** **Promotion of non-grid / grid electrification**: **???**

OPEN BURNING : INDOOR	● Due to the cessation of district heating systems in major cities and settlements across Georgia in the 1990's, most people now use individual heating systems which use fuels such as natural gas and fire wood. ● The risk for increased indoor air pollution in Georgia arises from the use of different fuels for space heating. ● **Impact**: Indoor air pollution causes an estimated 200 premature deaths every year	**Promotion of cleaner cooking fuels and clean cook stoves**: **???** **Other actions to reduce indoor biomass burning, or to reduce its emissions**: **???**