



გარემოს დაცვისა და სოფლის
მეურნეობის სამინისტრო



SUPPORTING THE GOVERNMENT OF GEORGIA IN ENHANCING GOVERNANCE & POLICIES FOR A TRANSITION TO A CIRCULAR ECONOMY

GEORGIAN SOCIETY OF NATURE EXPLORERS “ORCHIS”

Press Release

National Wine Agency, Conference Room

28th June 2024, 10:00 – 14:35

On 28th June 2024, Georgian Society of Nature Explorers “Orchis” (GSNE “Orchis”) will organize a thematic seminar on Green Public Procurement (GPP) in Tbilisi City. The target group for the Seminar includes representatives of the governmental agencies of Georgia playing key role in the transition to a circular economy and green growth.

The GPP Seminar will be arranged in close cooperation with the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia (MEPA), in the frames of the “Supporting the Government of Georgia in Enhancing Governance and Policies for a Transition to a Circular Economy” Sub-Project of the UNDP’s Governance Reform Fund (GRF) Project financed by the Government of Sweden. The GSNE “Orchis” represents an implementing agency for the Sub-Project, whereas the MEPA has a coordinating role.

The theme of the GPP seminar is Green Public Procurement and Circular Economy. The seminar will provide information on GPP concept and GPP process, EU GPP policy and regulatory framework, linkage between GPP and circular economy. Importantly, practical examples of GPP implementation in different countries will be demonstrated.

The Seminar will be led by International Expert in Circular Economy, ESG and Sustainable Finance Areas, Team Leader of GSNE “Orchis” Dr. Dariusz Prasek - Doctor in Environmental Engineering, former Director of Operations in Environmental and Sustainability Department of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, member of the United Nations Advisory Board on Circular Economy, and Independent Expert on Development Financing at IDB Invest.

The GPP seminar is the fourth of the five thematic seminars planned in the frames of the Sub-Project in the areas of circular economy, environmental, social & governance (ESG) and green public procurement (GPP) with the objective to build capacity of the relevant governmental agencies to facilitate their informed participation in the development and implementation of the Circular Economy Roadmap, and to promote ESG standards and GPP on a policy level in Georgia.

Supporting the Government of Georgia in Enhancing Governance and Policies for a Transition to a Circular Economy Sub-Project has been implemented in the frames of the UNDP’s Governance Reform Fund (GRF) Project funded by the Government of Sweden. Together with the thematic capacity building seminars, the Sub-Project envisages the preparation of the National Roadmap to a Circular Economy for Georgia. The Sub-Project is being implemented by GSNE “Orchis” under the leadership of the Deputy Minister of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, Chairperson of the Inter-Ministerial Coordination Board of the GoG Acad. Solomon Pavliashvili and International Expert in the Circular Economy, ESG and Sustainable Finance, Team Leader of GSNE “Orchis” Dr. Dariusz Prasek.

They are supported by the experts' team of GSNE "Orchis" having sound knowledge of the Georgian economy, sustainable development and environmental, social and governance issues.

- Green procurement stems from pollution prevention principles and activities. The EC defines the GPP as "a process whereby public authorities seek to procure goods, services and works with a reduced environmental impact throughout their life cycle when compared to goods, services and works with the same primary function that would otherwise be procured.
- GPP can play a key role in making economy more resource-efficient and climate friendly. It can help stimulate a critical mass of demand for more sustainable goods and services which otherwise would be difficult to get onto the market because some "green" products or services may have a greater upfront expense, while they may save money over the life of the product or service.
- Usually, the public sector is a major consumer, and by using their purchasing power to choose environmentally friendly goods, services and works, they can make an important contribution to sustainable consumption and production.
- GPP may provide financial savings for public authorities, especially if consider the full life-cycle costs of a contract and not just the purchase price. Authorities who implement GPP will be better equipped to meet evolving environmental challenges, for example to reduce greenhouse gas emissions or move towards a more circular economy.

The GPP Seminar is organized by GSNE "Orchis" in close cooperation with the MEPA in the frames of the "Supporting the Government of Georgia in Enhancing Governance and Policies for a Transition to a Circular Economy" Sub-Project of the UNDP's Governance Reform Fund (GRF) Project funded by the Government of Sweden. The Sub-Project is being implemented by the GSNE "Orchis", whereas the MEPA has a coordinating role.

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