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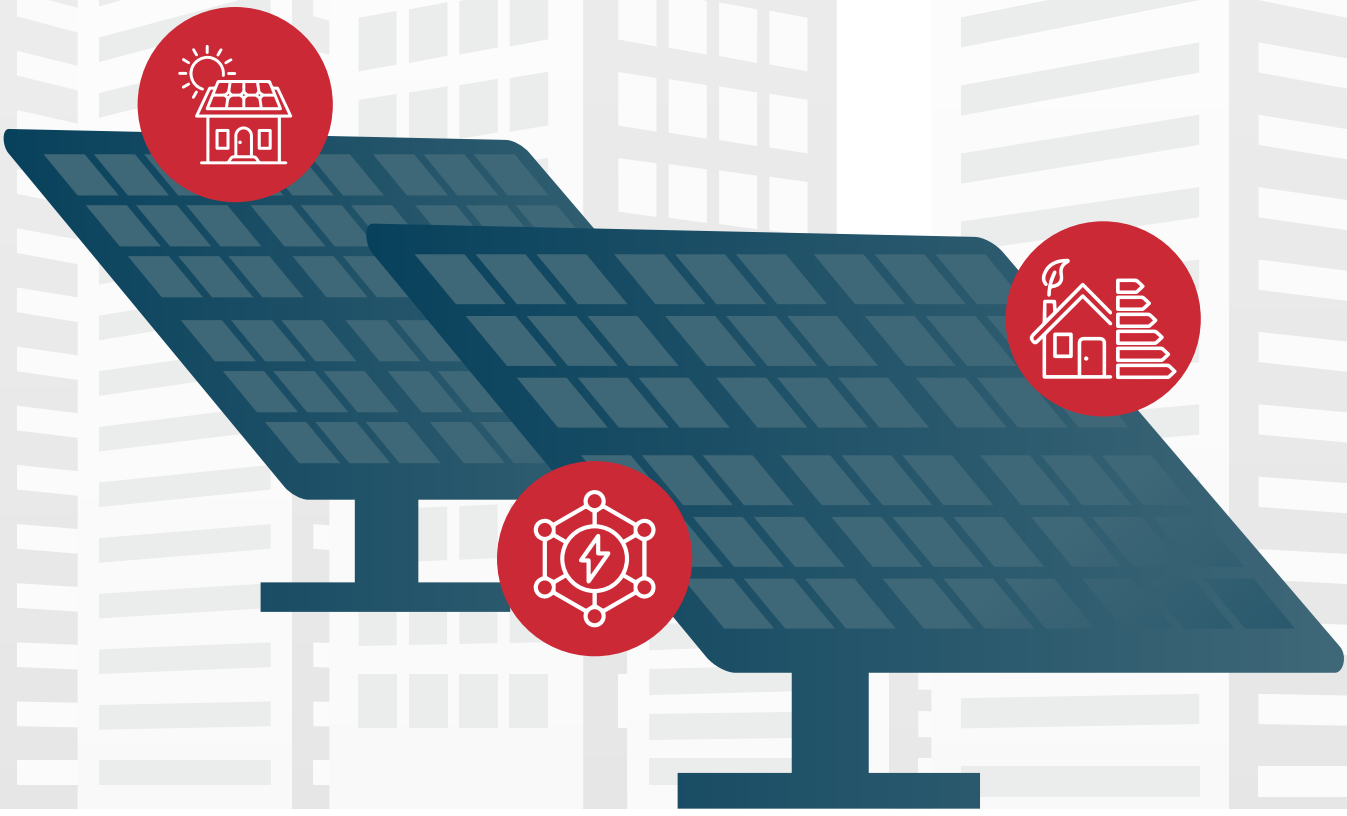
GESRP Quarterly Newsletter

Empowering Change in Georgia's Energy Landscape



GOPA Tech

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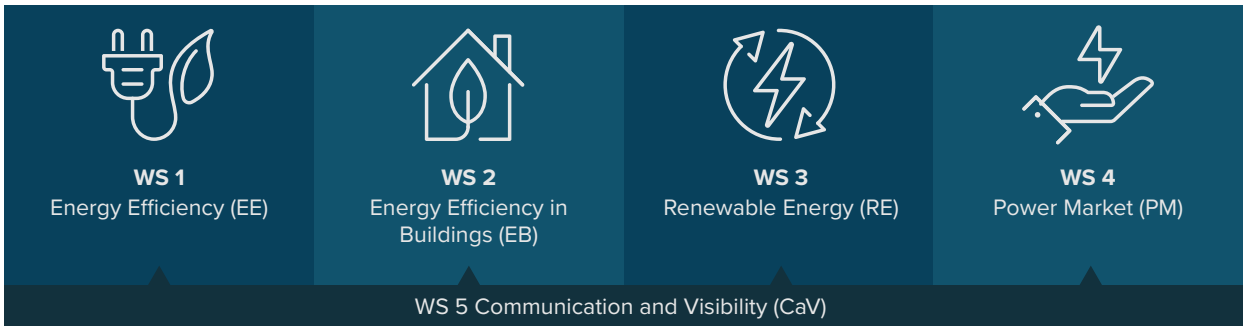
Welcome to the next edition of the Georgian Energy Sector Reform Program (GESRP) Quarterly Update! In this newsletter, we are thrilled to share the latest developments, achievements, and in-sights driven by the transposition of and alignment with EU energy directives and legislation.

This newsletter serves as a dedicated space to keep our stake-holders, partners, and the community at large informed about the impactful strides being made through GESRP. It's more than just updates; it's a platform for collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and collective celebration of our progress.

About *the* Project

GESRP (known as the Georgian Energy Sector Reform Program) is dedicated to assisting Georgia in aligning with the EU's trajectory toward a more liberalized, secure, and climate-friendly energy sector. With a comprehensive vision, the project encompasses 5 key workstreams (WS), including:



Dedicated to cross-cutting activities, the WS 5 emphasizes communications and visibility, which extends its reach across the other four workstreams, ensuring cohesive and effective project coverage. These workstreams collectively shape a strategic, institutional, and financial framework designed to propel Georgia towards a more sustainable and efficient energy landscape

As a member of the Energy Community since 2017, Georgia is harmonizing its energy legislation with EU directives. Spanning over four years with a budget exceeding Euro 8 million, the project aims to:

✓ **establish the legal, institutional, and financial vision and framework for energy efficiency in Georgia, especially in the Building Sector;**

✓ **and promote energy efficiency through supporting the establishment of a competitive price formation in Georgia which establishes a true economic valuation of scarce resource, electricity, and thus encourages energy conservation.**

GESRP is financed and supported by the EU and KfW, being implemented by an international consortium led by **GOPA Tech**.

Embark on a journey through our newsletter as we spotlight one project workstream in each edition. This upcoming issue shines a light on WS 2 - Energy Efficiency in Buildings. Your support, engagement, and feedback remain crucial to the success of GESRP.

→ EU Spotlight on Energy Efficiency in Buildings



In this edition, we delve into the profound implications of the European Union's robust policy framework for energy efficiency in Buildings, shedding light on the project team's collaboration with the Government of Georgia to support and implement initiatives aligned with Georgia's vision for energy efficiency in buildings legislation and a sustainable future.

The EU takes a forefront position in advancing energy efficiency in buildings, recognizing its critical role in both addressing climate change and bolstering a resilient energy framework. Key directives such as the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive and the Energy Efficiency Directive, alongside regulations like the Governance Regulation, establish a clear pathway for member states to enhance energy efficiency standards within their building stock and to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy sources in the building sector.

→ EU directives, regulations and strategies include:

Energy Performance of Buildings Directive aims to enhance the energy efficiency of buildings within the EU. Introduced to promote sustainability in the building sector, the directive outlines measures for member states to improve the energy performance of both new and existing buildings.

Governance Regulation establishes the legislative foundation for effective and transparent governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action, aiming to achieve the 2030 and long-term objectives in line with the 2015 Paris Agreement.

Energy Security contributes to a more secure and resilient energy supply. By optimizing energy use, the EU mitigates risks associated with energy dependence and fosters a more self-sufficient and secure energy landscape.

Energy Communities enable collective and citizen-driven energy actions to support the clean energy transition. Under EU law, energy communities can take the form of any legal entity including an association, a cooperative, a partnership, a non-profit organisation or a limited liability company.

As an integral component of GESRP, efforts are intrinsically aligned with and directed towards fulfilling the EU's energy efficiency in buildings objectives. The core essence of the technical assistance project is purposefully designed to directly support Georgia in achieving these overarching goals outlined by EU directives and regulations.

Spotlight on WS2 - Energy Efficiency in Buildings

→ Energy Efficiency in Buildings Bylaws in Focus



GESRP leading the charge in advancing energy efficiency in buildings sector in Georgia. Collaborating closely with wide range of stakeholders, notably the MoESD, the project has technically developed and legally drafted 12 Energy Efficiency in Buildings bylaws, with some already approved and others in the pipeline. These bylaws are game-changers: they establish methodologies for energy performance calculations, rules for using energy performance software, guidelines for energy efficiency certificate registration, and standards for heating and cooling system inspections. Beyond the bylaws, GESRP is spearheading training initiatives aimed at empowering architects, designers, and installers to comply with energy efficiency regulations in buildings. These sessions are not limited to Tbilisi; we're extending them to crucial municipalities responsible for granting building permits. Furthermore, we're gearing up to train individuals for emerging professions outlined in the bylaws, such as energy assessors, energy auditors, and inspectors for technical heating and cooling systems.

→ Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan (INECP) of Georgia in Focus

The draft Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan (INECP) of Georgia, which was prepared by the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia and the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, defines the preconditions for the energy transition of the country towards the energy neutrality up to 2050. Moreover, the INECP specifies the national targets, which must be achieved in 2030

regarding the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, the further penetration of renewables, the promotion of energy efficiency promotion and the reinforcement of the power system interconnectivity according

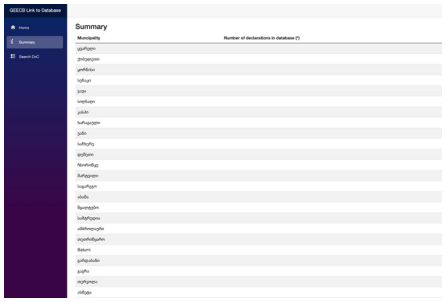


to the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 as incorporated and adapted by the Ministerial Council Decision 2021/14/MC-EnC of 30 November 2021 and Amended by the Ministerial Council Decision 2022/02/MC-EnC of 15 December 2022. Emphasis has been given to the building sector due to the low energy efficiency of the building stock and its connection with the phenomenon of energy poverty. Nine policies and measures are foreseen in order to contribute meaningfully to the achievement of the energy efficiency target (15% reduction of the primary energy consumption savings compared to the baseline scenario 2030).

→ Introducing the Georgian Energy Efficiency Certification Buildings (GEECB) Software Tool

Georgian Energy Efficiency Certification Buildings (GEECB) software tool, introduced within GESRP, marks a significant stride toward enhancing energy efficiency in Georgia's construction sector. Architects regularly use the GEECB software module for declaring conformance. Currently in pilot mode, this tool has already generated 10,646 declarations.

The GEECB software, tailored for producing Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs), is actively utilized



in pilot exercises. We've provided comprehensive support for enforcing Minimum Energy Performance Requirements (MEPRs) in the building construction sector. This support includes the creation of a website, instructional videos, training sessions on software usage, detailed guidelines, technical training on external insulation, a dedicated help desk at MoESD, and an FAQ section. Additionally, the GEECB tool will soon facilitate comparisons between actual energy consumption and calculated energy performance in building energy audits, aligning with EPBD 2018 requirements. We're also implementing separate training programs to assist the construction industry in entering the energy efficiency market and to help other stakeholders develop and execute trading strategies in the emerging power market.

Progress *and* Achievements

In this section, we unveil the latest insights into our project's impactful campaigns. Dive into the details to explore the milestones achieved, campaigns initiated, and the remarkable progress made in shaping a sustainable energy landscape.

→ A Spotlight on Gym Energy Efficiency Campaign



GERSP launched an initiative inviting sports venues throughout Georgia to join an energy efficiency campaign. This campaign aimed to introduce European energy-saving practices and foster energy efficiency. 8 participating sports facilities engaged in a range of activities, including training on energy efficiency and renewable energy, building audits to optimize energy and water usage, the development and dissemination of energy-saving

guides and awareness materials, and promotional campaigns highlighting exemplary energy and water resource management initiatives.

Following the training, participant venues prepared display posters showcasing their energy-saving efforts. The campaign reached approximately 22,000 people online. Read more

→ Media Mentorship Program on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in Review



On April 19-21, GESRP concluded its three-day Media Mentorship program on Energy Efficiency (EE) and Renewable Energy (RE) in Kakheti, Georgia. 14 journalists and media professionals enhanced their skills through workshops and thematic group sessions, creating outlines of their media products on EE in buildings, energy policy, and other energy-related topics.

Participants engaged in interactive workshops covering dissemination strategies, visual storytelling, legislative updates, and integrating energy with economic sustainability. Thematic group Q&A sessions, led by experts, provided valuable insights tailored to journalistic standards.

Media representatives will have a month following the program to complete their media products. These products will be covered by central and local media outlets, aiming to raise public awareness on energy-related topics. The top three outstanding products will receive rewards as recognition for their excellence and contribution to informed public discourse. Read more

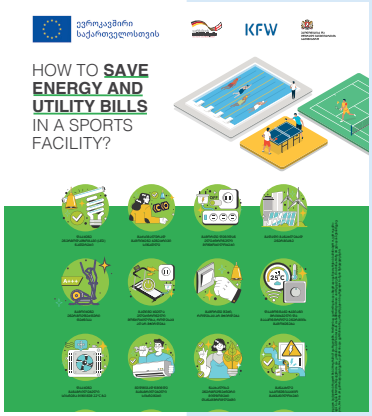
Upcoming Events *and* Initiatives

GESRP project is gearing up for a series of impactful initiatives in the coming months.

- **Directive Bylaws Approval:** Anticipate the approval of five Energy Performance of Buildings Directive bylaws, marking a significant stride towards elevating energy performance standards across Georgia.
- **Arts Campaign:** Aiming to create artworks on climate change and energy efficiency. Through captivating artworks, we aim to elevate public awareness of the crucial role that energy efficiency and renewable energy play in combating climate change.

As these initiatives unfold soon, stay tuned for updates on upcoming events.

Interactive Section



→ **How to Save Energy and Utility Bills in a Sports Facility**

Discover the power of implementing easy-to-follow energy-saving strategies to slash utility bills and enhance efficiency in your sports facility. Embrace the journey towards sustainable practices by delving into simple yet impactful tips that can revolutionize your energy consumption habits. By making these small adjustments, not only will you witness substantial savings, but you'll also play a pivotal role in fostering a greener and more environmentally conscious future. Join us in championing sustainability while optimizing your facility's operations for a brighter tomorrow.



→ **A Guide to Energy-Saving Measures**

Dive into our comprehensive Building Inspection Checklist to discover how simple assessments can lead to significant reductions in energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, while also fortifying our energy security. By prioritizing smart technologies and best practices, buildings can provide optimal living and working environments, enhancing comfort and productivity for residents.

Closing Remarks

As we conclude this edition of GESRP Quarterly Digest, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to the incredible network of stakeholders, partners, and the vibrant community that continues to stand alongside us in this transformative journey.

We express our sincere appreciation to each stakeholder whose commitment and collaboration have been instrumental in driving the success of GESRP. Your dedication is the driving force behind the positive changes we are witnessing in Georgia's energy landscape.

→ Stay Connected

Follow us on and subscribe to our updates for the latest news and developments. Your continued engagement is vital as we navigate the path towards a sustainable, efficient, and resilient energy future.

In closing, we look forward to the ongoing collaboration, innovations, and achievements that lie ahead. GESRP journey is a collective one, and with your unwavering support, we are confident in the positive impact we can achieve together.

Thank you for being an integral part of this transformative movement.



This newsletter has been produced with the assistance of the European Union and KFW, as part of the “Georgia Energy Sector Reform Program”. Its contents are the sole responsibility of GOPA Tech and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union and the project’s partner organisations.

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