

## About LEPL Environmental Information and Education Centre

Legal Entity of Public Law - Environmental Information and Education Centre under the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia was established on May 14, 2013. The main priority of EIEC is to achieve the following goals:

- Promote environmental and agricultural education among Georgian society and raise public awareness
- Organizing public hearings and support public participation in decision-making process
- Ensure access to the environmental and agricultural information
- Introduce and implement integrated information technology policy of MEPA

Activities carried out by EIEC are based on: The principles of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on “Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters” (Aarhus Convention) and the visions and directions of UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development.

EIEC promotes sustainable development through encouraging education related to environmental components and by accessing comprehensive information.

The "VET Excellence Award" has been awarded to the Environmental Information and Education Centre! (EIEC) The winning program, "Environmental and Agricultural Education at School," was identified as a result of public voting within the "European Vocational Skills Week 2022," organized by the European Commission.

### Basic competencies of the Environmental Information Service:

- Production of a unified database of environmental information in cooperation with relevant government agencies;
- Finding and creating information bases on current and implemented projects in the field of environment and agriculture in cooperation with international organizations, as well as with non-governmental, scientific and private sectors;
- Facilitation the planning and implementing of public information dissemination, access, and awareness-raising activities;
- Designing and administering databases on environmental and agricultural related agencies, international organizations accredited in Georgia, scientific and non-governmental sector and experts;
- Preparing and administering information on public institutions that generate and possess information about agriculture and environment;
- Providing public consultation on environmental information and participation in the decision-making process within the scope of its competence;
- Participation in international programs within the competence;
- Facilitating the collection of environmental and agricultural literature, providing the creation of the library and photo/video/audio fund;
- Preparation and facilitation of activities related to raising public awareness and information dissemination, promoting the information dissemination;
- Coordinating the implementation of projects related to eco-labeling systems and eco-standards in order to raise awareness;
- Ensuring the formation of a unified information system development strategy and the implementation of specific components;
- Coordinating the preparation of analytical products.

### **Basic competencies of the Education Projects Service are:**

- Developing a strategy to promote the principle - "Environmental Education for Sustainable Development", determine the teaching directions, prepare curricula, topics and programs;
- Developing the methodological guidelines and educational literature within the scope of competences;
- Organizing seminars in environmental and agricultural fields, preparing and conducting trainings and qualification upgrade courses;
- Facilitating the seminars, trainings and qualification upgrade courses, preparing the relevant specialists, implementation of scientific consulting services and participation in these events/activities on behalf of EIEC;
- Promoting the inclusion of environmental and agricultural components in various educational and certification programs;
- Promoting the introduction of new vocational courses in the field of environment and agriculture;
- Cooperation with local, professional and international educational institutions and the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia;
- Participation in international relations within the scope of competence;
- Coordinating the projects to support "Green Economy" and "Green Business" within the scope of competence;
- Coordinating awareness raising on environmental and agricultural components of sustainable development;
- Ensuring certification in the field of environmental protection in accordance with the legislation of Georgia;
- Ensuring the raising of public awareness in the agricultural and environmental fields. Training, retraining, qualification upgrading and promotion of relevant specialists.

### **The main competencies of the public participation service in the environmental decision-making process:**

- ensures public or interested public participation in the decision-making process mandated by the Environmental Assessment Code, the availability of pertinent information, and the holding of public hearings for this purpose, in accordance with the procedure established by Georgian law;
- takes part in the discussion on the strategic document's drafting and the environmental assessment report;
- publishes the results or documents of the further analysis of the activity by the activity implementer in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of Georgia;
- Posts information about the public hearing on the executive body and/or representative body of the relevant municipality's information board, along with the activity implementer's application and any supporting documents, and, upon request, ensures that their printed or electronic versions are available in accordance with Georgian law;
- controls the management of the environmental information portal and makes it possible for the released data required by the Environmental Assessment Code to be posted on this portal;
- provides technical assistance and facilitates communication with representatives from relevant municipalities to conduct public hearings;
- establishes protocols for public hearings;
- Produces statistical data on the conducted public discussions.



გარემოს დაცვისა და სოფლის  
მეურნეობის სამინისტრო



სსიპ გარემოსდაცვითი  
ინფორმაცია და  
მანათლებლის ცენტრი

### **Basic competencies of the Administrative Service:**

- Ensuring the organization and control of the EIEC case management;
- Accounting of the EIEC staff;
- Order preparation on appointments and dismissals, business trips, vacations, disciplinary responsibilities and incentives within the EIEC authority;
- Compiling personal files of the EIEC staff;
- Developing the internal regulations of the EIEC and controlling its implementation;
- Developing the budget and costing of EIEC projects;
- Management of the financial economic activities and accounting reports of the EIEC;
- Providing the essential material-technical base for EIEC;
- Providing legal services to the EIEC and representation in judicial bodies.