

## Green electricity tbilisi

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) is extending a €16 million sovereign loan to the government of Georgia to benefit the city of Tbilisi and its EBRD-backed Green Cities programme. The loan will enable the Georgian capital to continue modernising its solid waste management and financing infrastructure, converting the gas produced by solid waste into electricity.

The loan will be complemented by a €4 million grant from the Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Partnership (E5P) Fund. Donors to the E5P Fund include Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Sweden, the TaiwanBusiness-EBRD Technical Cooperation Fund, the United States of America and the European Union, the largest donor.

Thanks to this financing, the city of Tbilisi will be able to refurbish existing cells at the Didi Lilo landfill and install a landfill gas collection, flaring and utilisation (landfill gas-to-energy conversion) system. The production of renewable energy from landfill gas is expected to reach almost 30,000 MWh/year.

The implementation of the gas-to-energy facility will improve solid waste services for the city's 1.5 million citizens and cut greenhouse gas emissions by 75 per cent, contributing to climate change mitigation.

Since 2018, the Bank has been working closely with the city of Tbilisi to improve its solid waste management system by financing critical investments in outdated solid waste collection vehicles and machinery, optimising garbage-truck pool management systems, upgrading transfer stations and leachate collection and treatment systems, and building the first waste-treatment facilities in the city.

As part of the investment, the city's waste management company will introduce a staff training programme on preventing and mitigating gender-based violence and harassment risks.

To date, the EBRD has invested more than €5 billion in 293 projects in the financial, corporate, infrastructure and energy sectors in Georgia, with 82 per cent of those investments in the private sector.

Information and Awareness-Raising Campaign on Energy Efficiency in Tbilisi is a part of the "Technical Assistance Project in Support of the Georgian Energy Sector Reform Programme (GESRP)", implemented by the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, with the support of the European Union and KfW development bank and in partnership with the German independent energy consulting company GOPA intec.

The objectives of the campaign are to (1) Enhance awareness of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, (2) Increase awareness and broaden the understanding and knowledge of the public about Energy Efficiency in Georgia and the Georgian Energy Sector reforms, (3) Promote EU Energy Policies, and (4) Advertise project

campaigns, events, and competitions.

The campaign started in March 2023 and aimed at raising awareness and changing behaviour among students and teachers about energy efficiency. As part of the campaign, training on energy efficiency and renewable energy for students and teachers was organised, audits to improve energy and water performance were conducted, and a 3-month campaign was planned to reduce energy and water consumption in schools with local and international experts.

In total, 10 Tbilisi schools were involved in the campaign, covering more than 150 students and 15 teachers. After the end of the campaign, all students and teachers were awarded participation certificates, and 3 schools with the best campaigns cash vouchers from the GESRP project.

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