

Regulatory Framework for Nitrogen Management in Georgia

TFRN-14: Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the Task Force on Reactive Nitrogen

2 October 2019
Brussels

Georgia-EU Association Agreement and DCFTA



2014:

- ▶ Georgia-EU Association Agreement (AA) and
- ▶ Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area Agreement (DCFTA) were signed

Moving towards Green Economy and Circular Economy



- Facilitation of trade in commodities covered by sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS measures) between the Parties
- Protection of human, animal or plant life and health

2015:

Strategy for Agricultural Development in Georgia was approved

Strategy aims to implement the obligations into framework of this agreement, which ensures maximum approximation with the international standards and norms and improvement of the quality of products



STRATEGY FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN GEORGIA 2015-2020

Maintaining good agricultural practices, Development of biodiversity and environmental sustainability programs, which aims

- Providing secure and safe agricultural production
- Ensure efficient and sustainable agricultural production
- Maintain and improve soil quality and reduce degradation



Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia



STRATEGY FOR AGRICULTURAL
DEVELOPMENT IN GEORGIA 2015-2020



STRATEGY FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN GEORGIA 2015-2020

- Improvement of farmer knowledge and information;
- Supporting the development of cooperation in agriculture, which ensures introduction of modern management systems (Global GAP, Geo-GAP) in primary production;
- Upgrade of system for registration of pesticides and chemical substances allowed for use in the country;
- Creation of a program for re-assessment of the existing assortment of pesticides, for selection of less harmful pesticides for humans and environment in accordance with the EU standards



Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia



STRATEGY FOR AGRICULTURAL
DEVELOPMENT IN GEORGIA 2015-2020



GAP - Standards

GAP Standards are not legally binding yet, but are important tools to ensure the safety of primary production

Among the international GAP Standards, into the framework of USAID Project the Geo-GAP Standard were developed, which is completely relevant to domestic conditions and legislation

Schemes for Geo-GAP certification are being developed and implemented



The code for food/animal feed, veterinary and plant protection

In terms of agrochemicals the code regulates:

- Requirements for traceability
- Requirements for export and import;
- Requirements for labelling,
- Placing on the market;
- Registration

Adopted in 2012, the Code was developed in line with the Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety



Regulation of Animal by-products and Animal Wastes

Order of Government (#605; 29.12.2017) On health and activity registration rules as regards animal by-products (including animal waste) and derived products not intended for human consumption – were developed in line with EC regulations No 1069/2009 and No 142/2011



Nitrogen in Foodstuffs

Order of Government on maximum allowable levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs (#567; 09.11.2015) - regulates maximum levels for nitrates in foodstuffs

Was developed in line with EC Regulation No 1881/2006 setting maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs



Regulatory framework of activities related to nitrogen emissions

Environmental Assessment Code came into force from 1st January 2018, which established the regulatory scope for following activities:

Subject to EIA - Poultry farms (with more than 85 000 places for broilers and/or more than 60 000 places for hens) and/or pig farms (with more than 10 000 places for piglets (under 30 kg) and/or more than 6000 places for pigs (over 30 kg))

Subject to Screening procedure:

- Use of 10 hectares or more of uncultivated land for agricultural purposes;
 - Construction and operation of melioration systems;
 - Construction of stalls for 500 and more heads of livestock;
 - Arrangement of fish farms with a capacity of more than 40 tonnes per year;
 - Production of more than 20 tonnes of dairy products or more than 100 tonnes of beer and malt or more than 3 tonnes of confectionery or 25 tonnes or more of sugar per day;
 - Construction and operation of installations for the slaughter of animals where 30 or more animals are slaughtered per day;
 - Processing of more than 5 000 tonnes of fish per year etc.
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Regulatory framework of activities related to nitrogen emissions

All other activities related to environmental impact shall comply with the requirements established by the environmental technical regulations and environmental standards applicable in Georgia

- ▶ Law on Environment Protection (December 10, 1996)
- ▶ Government Order on Approval of the Environmental Technical Regulations approves technical regulation for activities not subject to EIA
- ▶ Order of the Minister of Labor, Health and Social Protection on Environment Quality Standards - covers the list of MAC norms, averaging periods and meanings
- ▶ Etc.



Ambient Air Protection

Law on Ambient Air Protection (1999, amended in 2007-2017) and related by-laws:

- ▶ Regulate emissions into ambient air from stationary and non-point sources (when non-point sources are operated together with point sources)
 - ▶ Set Ambient Air Quality Standards in line with EU Norms (Order No 383; 28.07.2018)
 - ▶ Provide mandatory documentation list and rules of self-monitoring and reporting of annual emissions
 - ▶ Approve guideline for instrumental measurement and accounting of emissions (includes EF from EMEP/EEA Guidebook 2013)
 - ▶ Define operational rules for gas and dust trapping devices
 - ▶ Etc.
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Water

The Law On Water (1997, amended in 2009-2014)

Article 18 lays down:

When locating, designing, constructing and commissioning a new or reconstructed enterprise, structure and other facility, as well as in introducing new technological process that affect the state of water, the rational water use shall be secured with due regard for population's health care requirements and the first-priority satisfaction of drinking and household water needs.

At the same time, due attention shall be given to the measures ensuring accounting of the water abstracted from and returned to water bodies, the protection of water from contamination, pollution and depletion, the avoidance of the unfavourable water impact, the restriction of land flooding up to the minimum necessary level, the protection of land from silting, swamping or drying up, as well as the environmental protection and landscape preservation.

By-laws:

- Order of Government rules of self-monitoring and reporting of annual water consumption and discharges
 - Order of Government on Prevention of Surface Water Pollution, etc.
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Land

The Law on Soil Protection (1994)

Objectives:

- ▶ To ensure the soil integrity, fertility growth and maintenance;
- ▶ Determine the land users, landowners and government responsibility in order to create the conditions for soil conservation and environmentally friendly production;
- ▶ Prevent the negative consequences of the use of soil fertility growth products, which endanger the soil itself, human health, flora and fauna;

Under Article 4 of the law in order to protect the soil it prohibits:

- ▶ Use of fertile soil for non agricultural purposes;
 - ▶ Any non-agricultural activity without removal of topsoil, and its use for anything other than its purpose;
 - ▶ The open method of processing, which does not provide for remediation of disturbed soil;
 - ▶ Any action that may worsen the soil properties;
 - ▶ Soil contamination and pollution of any type
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Waste Management

Waste Management Code was adopted in 2014

Competences and general obligations of the MEPA

- ▶ Development and implementation of a uniform state policy on waste management;
- ▶ Keeping state register for waste and waste data base;
- ▶ Developing a National Waste Management Strategy and a Strategy on municipal biodegradable waste management;
- ▶ Developing, coordinating of and reporting on the implementation of the National Waste Management Action Plan;
- ▶ Issuing permits and registration for waste management activities under this Law;
- ▶ Promotion of waste prevention, separation, pre-treatment, re-use and recycling measures;
- ▶ State control of waste management



National Waste Management Strategy 2016-2030/Action Plan 2016-2020

Vision - Georgia to become a waste preventing and recycling society

- ▶ Waste Management legislation in line with EU requirements and International Conventions
- ▶ Waste Management Planning system established and implemented
- ▶ An effective waste collection and transportation system developed and implemented
- ▶ **Waste disposed of in a safe manner for human health and environment**
- ▶ **Waste prevented, reused, recycled and/or recovered**
- ▶ Waste Management Costs fully covered in accordance with the Polluter Pays Principle
- ▶ **Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) promoted and implemented**
- ▶ Waste Data and Information Management system developed and implemented
- ▶ Capacities strengthened for the national and local public sector; Capacity building of private companies promoted and awareness of general public raised

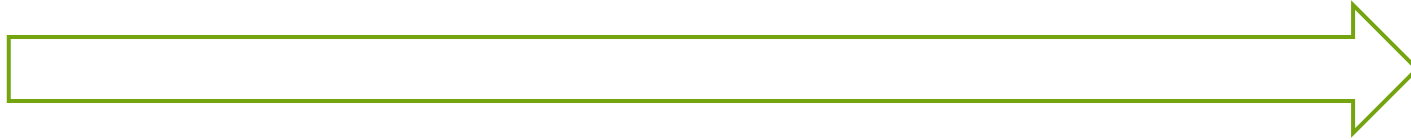


Chemicals Management

- ▶ By-law On Rule of Import and Export of Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides and Implementation of Prior Informed Consent Procedure (01.07.2016)
- ▶ Draft Law on Chemicals Management
- ▶ Draft law / by-law on Classification, Labeling and Packaging of Substances and Mixtures (by 01.09.2020 for substances and by 01.09.2021 for mixtures)



Following Association Agenda



The draft law on Industrial Emissions and relevant draft by-laws have been prepared in line with the provisions of the IED 2010/75/EU in the scope of EU founded Twinning project

- ▶ Integrated permit system implementation – by 01.09.2020
- ▶ BAT implementation – by 01.09.2026

Draft Law on Water resources was developed fully in line with WFD

According to National Action Plan for ratification of CLRTAP protocols and fulfillment of corresponding commitments, the optimal ratification scenario of last three protocols (Gothenburg, Heavy Metals and POPs) would be by the end of 2021





THANK YOU FOR ATTENTION

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