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Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy – Eastern Partnership

The role of civil society in relation to climate change in Georgia on the example of Georgian Climate Change Coalition

€ 10th anniversary of the Covenant of Mayors in the Eastern Partnership Region
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Courtyard by Marriott, Tbilisi (Georgia)

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Brief history of climate change coalition



- Established in 03.2019 under the project “strengthening civil society in the implementation of national climate policy” that is implemented by the Greens Movement of Georgia/Friends of the Earth-Georgia, in cooperation with "Friends of the Earth-Germany (BUND)", Federal Republic of Germany's Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV).
- It started as group of NGOs to discuss NDC update process in Georgia;
- It became coalition that unites more than 300 stakeholders that are interested in climate change.





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Goal and opportunities of Climate Change Coalition (CCC)



- Goal: strengthen civil society participation in national climate policy.
- Opportunities for interested people and civil society representatives:
 - CCC brings together persons interested in climate change working in Georgia;
 - CCC is transparent and open platform;
 - Everyone has the opportunity to participate in different relevant events;
 - Everyone has the means to disseminate relevant information (from local to International);
 - Supports to bring local voices on national and international levels;
 - Supports awareness raising process;
 - Supports CSOs involvement in climate change decision-making processes;





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CCC's Participation and preparation positions for climate related political processes



Preparation of CSOs visions for conferences:

- Address of Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations of Georgia to the Participants of the 27 Meeting of the Parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change;
- Preparation of annual visions of CSOs for National Climate Change conferences;

Preparation of CSOs vision on climate related political documents:

- CSOs vision on Intended National Determined Contributions (INDC);
- CSOs vision on National Determined Contributions (NDC);
- CSOs vision on Climate Strategy and Action Plan (CSAP);
- CSOs vision on National Energy and Climate Plan (NECP);
- CSOs vision on the parliamentary inquiry for decarbonisation under the climate act of Georgia;





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Importance of CSOs participation in Georgia



- On 23 June 2022, the European Council recognised the European Perspective for Georgia after Georgia's membership application. The European Union is ready to grant the status of candidate country to Georgia once the **twelve priorities** specified in the Commission's opinion on Georgia's membership application have been addressed.
- 10 th priority (out of 12): ensure the involvement of civil society in decision-making process at all levels;
- In 2021 study (civic space for participation in climate policies in Georgia) UfU Independent Institute for Environmental Issues with REC Caucasus the existed barriers (fundamental, legal, structural, institutional, process related) for participation are highlighted and recommendations were given on how to strengthen civil society participation (raise political will, create transparency, Implement Articles 7 and 8 of the Aarhus Convention into national legislation, etc.)
- Therefore, climate change coalition has huge role in strengthening civil society participation process.





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Thank you!

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