

Organic Agriculture Development in Georgia

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Sector Policy Support Programme



Since end of 2012 the EU finance Sector Policy Support Programme (Программа поддержки секторальной политики) for Georgian agriculture support has been started. The general objective of the proposed SPSP is to increase food production in Georgia and reduce rural poverty.

- The SPSP will focus on four main Results, all of which integral part of the 2012/2022 Georgian agriculture strategy:
- R1. Strengthen and develop co-operation amongst small farmers;
- R2. Access to capacity building by small farmers improved;
- R.4. Efficiency of the institutions involved in agriculture improved.

Regional reforms



- **Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure working on draft “Law on the Local self-governments” («Закон о местном самоуправлении»).**
- **In the State Strategy on Regional Development for the years of 2010-2017, a chapter is dedicated to the citizens’ participation and ensuring their effective and sustainable participation together with local government in the formation of the local politics. Additional guarantees were considered for including local citizens in the decision-making processes at local level.**

EaP Georgia Platform coalition project



- **“Support to strengthening the efficiency of rural and agricultural policy development, through active policy dialogue on agriculture and rural development, between the civil society groups and central and local authorities” (Повышение эффективности сельской и сельскохозяйственных политик через активный диалог между местной властью и гражданским обществом по вопросам развития села и сельского хозяйства)**
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- **The coalition of 6 non-governmental Georgian organizations, consisting of the members of the Georgian Eastern Partnership National Platform, conducting assessment on impact and success of ongoing agricultural reforms on rural and agricultural development in the Municipalities of Ozurgeti and Akhaltsikhe.**
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Why Organic?



- **During the last 15 years, there have become visible trends for developing organic agriculture. Organic agriculture development was stimulated by low use of chemical fertilizers and herbicides after the Soviet Union collapse. About 98% of farmers in Georgia are smallholders. Considerable part of the smallholders uses no chemical inputs in their farms. For example, some products from the mountainous regions are completely organic.**
- **Ministry of agriculture working on organic farming development state strategy документ, in close cooperation with “Elkana”;**

Transition to green economies..



- **EaP GREEN is a regional programme that is being implemented to assist the European Union's Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries in their transition to green economies..**
- **The partner organisations are responsible for different elements of the programme:**
- **OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) will serve as coordinator of the programm;**
- **UNEP (United Nations Environmental Programme) will help mainstream sustainable production and consumption in national policies through strategic policy setting, as well as help countries implement sustainable public procurement and organic agriculture policies and practices;**

5. Concluding Remarks



- ❑ **Georgia has a high potential to produce organic:**
 - **Nuts and nut products**
 - **Fresh & processed fruits and vegetables**
 - **Tea**
 - **Aromatic & medicinal plants**
 - **Grapes and wine**

- ❑ **Therefore, we strongly believe that Georgian agriculture avails a great potential that can bring forth a real economic effect, provided it is properly & Organically managed!**

5. Concluding Remarks



**Thank You for
Listening!**

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