

# PROJECT BULLETIN



## Project Title

**Strengthening the Local Intervention Capacities for  
Climate Change in the Black Sea Region - LAP BLACK**

**BSB00353 LAP BLACK**

**Interreg**



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# climate change, Global Challenges and Georgia

## General Information

Global climate change, now recognized as a serious challenge of the century, is an ongoing process that requires timely, effective, and consistent adaptation and mitigation measures from world leaders. It is worth noting that in the history of mankind, different periods of global climate change have been distinguished, and the current climate change is directly linked to human production activities and industrialization, which became especially evident from the second half of the 20th century, when a sharp increase in the average annual temperature in the world became noticeable, various types of natural disasters became more frequent, etc.

## A Brief History

Climate change was recognized as a serious problem facing the world community as early as 1979 at the first World Climate Conference. Since then, a number of declarations have been issued calling on the governments of the world to take into account and prevent the expected climate change. A number of intergovernmental meetings have been held that especially concerned to the processes of climate change that existed at that time. In 1990, the Panel of Experts on Climate Change issued its first assessment report. In 1992, the Framework Convention on Climate Change was adopted, which entered into force in 1994 and was signed by 154 countries at that time. According to the convention, a stabilization level of the concentration of "greenhouse gases" in the atmosphere was to be achieved, which would not cause dangerous anthropogenic impacts. The supreme body of the Framework Convention on Climate Change is the Conference of the Parties (COP- Conference) of Parties), which represents all signatory countries to the Convention.

Georgia ratified the Convention in 1994 and submitted its first national communication to the Conference of the Parties in 1999. Since then, the country's government has prepared four (a total of five) national communications. The Conference of the Parties (COP) is held annually and is attended by world governments, non-governmental organizations, and various groups.

nce 1992, numerous documents have been developed at the global level regarding climate change issues, and numerous agreements have been adopted, by which the signatory countries undertake their respective obligations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere.

In the process of climate change mitigation and adaptation, one of the most important recent agreements is the Paris Agreement, which was adopted on December 12, 2015 in Paris, at the 21st Conference of the Parties to the Climate Change Convention (COP-21). By signing it, 195 countries for the first time committed to, in parallel with economic development:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change through low-emission development;
- Maintain the goal of limiting the increase in global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels;
- Increase the ability to adapt to the negative impacts of climate change and promote climate resilience and low -carbon development in a way that does not jeopardize food production;

The Paris Agreement allows large and small, developed and developing countries to work together to promote a healthy environment, energy security, competitive production, and sustainable development of the world through the use of modern energy-saving technologies.

The Paris Agreement is one of the most important agreements in the processes related to climate change. By joining it, Georgia set the goal of promoting the introduction of modern climate-smart technologies in the energy, industry, agriculture and waste management sectors, implementing coastal protection measures in riverbeds and along the Black Sea coast, reducing the risk of floods and mudslides in high-mountainous regions, combating desertification in the regions of eastern Georgia, and protecting the population at high risk.

The Paris Agreement commits each Party to ensure that it prepares, communicates and maintains a coherent Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) that it intends to achieve. Parties will implement domestic mitigation measures to achieve the goals of such contributions.

Georgia officially joined the Paris Agreement on May 8, 2017, and it entered into force on June 7 of the same year.

The effects of current global climate change will continue to cause harm for a long time if it is not stopped, which requires a huge effort on a global scale. Solving the current problem requires the involvement and efforts of every person.

## About the project

Kobuleti Municipality City Hall is implementing the EU and Interreg NEXT Black Sea Basin Countries grant project LAP-BLACK BSB00353 "Strengthening the local intervention capacities for climate change in the Black Sea Region".

The aim of the project LAP-BLACK BSB00353 is to strengthen the capacity of local authorities to intervene in the Black Sea region to mitigate the effects of climate change; it emphasizes the importance of transnational cooperation and stakeholder engagement, including local communities, governments, non-governmental organizations and relevant institutions. This joint approach will promote knowledge sharing, exchange of best practices and policy alignment among the participating countries of the region, which will strengthen regional cooperation for sustainable development. It will also study/analyze the current situation in the Black Sea region as a result of climate change, develop a climate change adaptation plan (including for the Kobuleti municipality), raise awareness of the local and interested public (educational activities), and arrange green spaces of modern standards.

The local climate change adaptation team established within the project will develop a climate change adaptation action plan, which will assist the municipal government in both preventing and effectively solving problems caused by climate change.

Adaptation Plan (LAP) and the implementation of adaptation actions aim to mitigate the impacts of climate change on various sectors, including infrastructure, agriculture, water management, and public health.

The project involves representatives of local government and non-governmental organizations, as well as highly qualified experts in the field, which will facilitate cooperation and strengthen coordination with local authorities in the region, in order to develop joint solutions. It will also make it possible for the Black Sea region to become more resilient to climate change in the future and prevent the risks expected as a result of climate change.

The project is planned to achieve specific objectives at the initial stage. Among them, the involvement of experts to guide LAPs (Local Adaptation Plans) (methodologies, stakeholder identification, climate change risk analysis, prioritization/development of LAPs, monitoring and evaluation, reports); creation of digital newsletters (3 issues) on the progress of activities and their dissemination to the wider public.

At the current stage of the project, stakeholders have already been identified, a 25-member Local Adaptation to Climate Change (LAP) team has been formed, and the preparation of the LAP plan against the impacts of climate change has begun; Two meetings were held with the participation of the Local Adaptation to Climate Change LAP team and scientific experts, to familiarize themselves with the activities to be implemented or planned to fulfill the overall objectives of the project

;Identification of the potential impacts of climate change in the region; Conducting an assessment of climate change threats, vulnerabilities and risks; Planning climate change adaptation and mitigation measures; Supervision will be carried out at the next meetings to monitor the development of the LAP; Creation of data collection techniques and a data analysis system based on the activities performed; Preparation of necessary and needed recommendations to improve the effectiveness of the sustainable park.



The infrastructural part of the project is located in Kobuleti, in a densely populated area, at the address: Kaikatsishvili Street, Gelauri Settlement, 6200, Kobuleti, registration number SK 20 42 10 260, area - 1238.00 sq.m. Arrangement of a recreational green space - "Gelauri Green Park".

There are many abandoned, suspended enterprises in the Gelauri settlement, which, if put into operation, could potentially worsen the sustainability of the surrounding areas. This part of the city, far from the sea, is one of the hot spots of the city. The construction of a new park will improve the recreational conditions of the local population; on the other hand, the installation of climate change mitigation demonstration technologies will raise awareness among schoolchildren and the general population about achieving climate change mitigation goals.



**Kobuleti Protected Area**

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## As a result of effective project management

**Under the guidance of the LAP group and experts, a LAP (climate change) local adaptation plan will be developed, within the framework of which:**

- Climate change risks and prevention measures will be studied;
- A report and a local action plan for climate change adaptation will be developed;
- Vulnerable groups (locals directly affected by climate change) will be identified;
- The impacts and risks of climate change on the Black Sea region will be assessed;
- An adaptation action plan and strategy tailored to the Black Sea region will be developed;
- A new recreational green space will be created - a sustainable park;
- Monitoring of the local adaptation plan based on modern practices and innovations will be carried out;
- Collected data for Kobuleti municipality also conducted researches and analyses results, that will be reflected in the LAP plan, may become as a guide for other municipality, in order to lead the decision acceptance process correctly and effectively under the conditions of climate change influence.
- A digital bulletin will be published and made available to the general public, detailing the research and findings conducted within the project;
- Local government will implement LAP plan for the purpose of sustainable development of Municipality and for effective management of local natural cataclysms prevention and risks.

# Climate Change and Georgia

## General Situation

An essential idea of climate change trends in Georgia and its individual regions is provided by the analysis of several national climate change reports of Georgia (2015, 2020, 2024); meteorological and hydrometeorological observation materials; dozens of scientific or popular science publications and reports prepared by various organizations; analysis of hydrometeorological station data; studies and conclusions of qualified experts related to the sustainable development of Georgia (agriculture, tourism, geodynamic (natural) processes, forests and biodiversity, economy, human health, the Black Sea coastline, etc.).

The existing reports provide climate change trends and assess both the past period (since the 1960s) and the expected scenarios for the development of current processes, mainly by the middle of the 21st century and the end of the same century. Climate change and its possible development trends are adequately presented by the analysis of air temperature and precipitation, as well as the analysis of wind speed and relative humidity (synoptic).

It has been established that from the middle of the last century to the present, the average annual temperature throughout Georgia has shown only an increasing trend (an increase of +0.6-0.8 degrees) and its maximum increase in Eastern Georgia was +0.7 °C (in Dedoplistskaro), and in Western Georgia +0.6 °C (in Poti). According to the future forecast, by 2050, the coastal strip and mountainous regions of Adjara will warm up the most (1.6-1.7 °C), and by 2100 the largest increase in temperature (+4.2 °C) is expected in Batumi.

Annual precipitation totals increased the most in the low - mountain zone of Svaneti and the middle mountains of Adjara (+14%). In general, precipitation increased in most regions of Western Georgia, while in the East it decreased by 6-8%. According to the forecast, until 2050, sustainable trends of precipitation increase are expected in Western Georgia, after which their decrease will begin throughout the country, which will amount to 10-20% by 2100.

relative air humidity increased by approximately 2% over the entire territory of Georgia during the period 1961-2010, although this trend is expected to reverse in a downward direction by 2050-2100, with the exception of a few exceptional stations (Mestia, Khaishi, Keda).

The average annual wind speed has decreased significantly across the country, and this decrease is forecast to continue until the end of the century.

In the second half of the past period (1986-2010), the number of frosty days decreased throughout the country, except for the Upper and Lower Svaneti regions.

According to the forecast, with an increase in average temperatures, very hot days, and tropical nights, frosty days will be mainly characteristic of mountainous areas by the end of the century.

Analysis of individual months showed that warming is taking place mainly in June-October, due to an increase in temperatures. The maximum warming is recorded in August, within 1.15 0 C -1.57 0 C. Warming is also observed in January-February (0.27 0 C -0.69 0 C). In November-December, there is cooling in all regions, most of all in Guria (0.46 0 C ) and Adjara (0.45 0C ). The change in average temperatures in April-May is insignificant and relatively unstable.

These changes in precipitation are mainly related to the increase in the number of days with heavy precipitation in January. In Western Georgia: on the Black Sea coast, in the Colchis plain and in the surrounding mountainous areas. In Western Georgia, there is also a prolongation of intermittently rainy periods (maximum 5-6 days).

The average wind speed has been reduced by approximately 1-2 m/s throughout the country, in all seasons of the year. It is worth noting that the observations will be made in all those regions (Mount Sabueti, Poti) that are considered the most promising places for wind energy development in the Wind Atlas.

By comparing two 30-year periods (2041-2070 and 2071-2100) with the 30-year period of 1971–2000, future climate change trends were assessed for 39 stations of the Georgian meteorological network. According to the scenario, the average annual temperature in 2041-2070 compared to 1971–2000 will increase by 1.6 0 C to 3. 0 C over the entire territory of the country. In the period of 2071-2100, the average annual temperature will continue to increase and will increase by another 0.4 0 C -1.7 0 C. As a result, the temperature increase for this period is expected to be within 2.1 0 C to 3.7 0 C compared to the average for the period of 1971-2000.

During the period 2041-2070, the annual precipitation total in Eastern Georgia will decrease by an average of 9%. The largest decrease (12.3%) will be in Pasaunauri, and the smallest decrease will be in Sagarejo (5.3%). During the period 2071-2100, the precipitation total will change insignificantly compared to the period 2041-2070, increasing or decreasing by 1-6%.

The winter is becoming milder due to the warming of minimum temperatures. Absolute minimum temperatures in some regions (Colkhети Lowland, Dedoplistskaro) are 4-5 degrees warmer.

## Conclusion

Based on the above, and based on the conclusions prepared by experts, we can assume that the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Action Plan requires timely and effective development, which to a certain extent determines the reduction of expected risks.

This is precisely the goal of the ongoing project “Strengthening Local Intervention Capacities for Climate Change in the Black Sea Region (LAP BLACK BSB00353)” in Kobuleti Municipality. Within the framework of the project, the current situation and analysis of climate change, a plan for climate change mitigation and adaptation measures developed/studied for the region, awareness of the local and interested public, and the arrangement of green spaces of modern standards will make it possible to minimize the risks that are expected as a result of climate change.

Many important studies and analyses are planned within the framework of the project, about which full information will be provided to the regional government and the local population.

# Publication Information

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