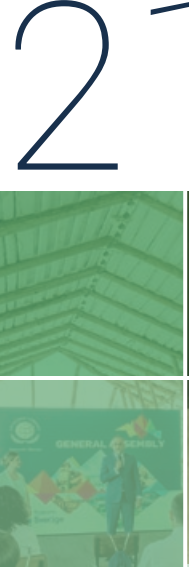
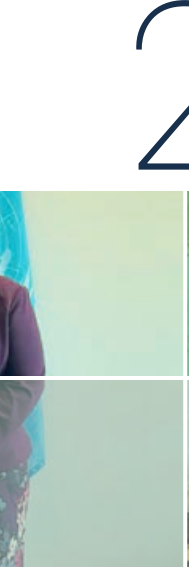


PROGRESS REPORT 2021



CORPORATE RESP
BUSINESS for SDG

DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH
ENSURES LABOR TO
PRODUCE WGS

SAID

The Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact



HUMAN RIGHTS

- 1 Business should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights and
- 2 make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.



LABOUR

- 3 Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;
- 4 the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labor;
- 5 the effective abolition of child labour; and
- 6 the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.



ENVIRONMENT

- 7 Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;
- 8 undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and
- 9 encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.



ANTI-CORRUPTION

- 10 Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms including extortion and bribery





WHO ARE WE?

WHAT DO WE OFFER?

WHAT DO WE DO?



We are proud that more than 20,000 participants of the UN Global Compact drive the sustainability agenda of the global economy. It is their operations which contribute to the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, Agenda 2030.

The social and economic challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted business operations throughout the world. In 2022 these disruptions were escalated due to the war in Ukraine, a full-scale military invasion of Ukrainian territory by the Russian Federation. These challenges showcase the importance of social welfare for a healthy market economy. Taking responsibility for your employees, society, environment and other stakeholders are all necessary preconditions for success.

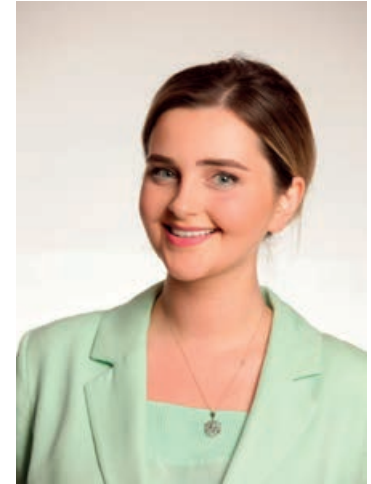
Last year, we actively cooperated with Georgian partners from the private sector, civil society, state institutions, the media and academia. We facilitated multi-sectoral cooperation locally and internationally, and we have much more room to grow.

In 2021, we grew the number of Global Compact Network Participants to 116, launched a Certificate Course for businesses at our Corporate Sustainability Academy, published four issues of the very first magazine on corporate sustainability in Georgia, "Sustainability Spotlight", and held numerous international events in Georgia and abroad in which platform members were actively involved. Additionally, the Georgian Network became Chair of The UN Global Compact Regional Network Council for Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

We continuously strive to offer our participants advantageous, exciting and innovative engagement opportunities, including the first ever international SDG Fair in Georgia held in virtual reality.

We wish to reiterate that without the support of our participants, partners and the donor community, achieving the above-mentioned accomplishments would not be possible. Once again, we express our gratitude to them and hope to continue fruitful cooperation for many years to come.

Together we can achieve so much to strengthen business community in Georgia, the region and globally!



Salome Zurabishvili

Executive Director

Global Compact Network Georgia

WHO ARE WE?



The UN Global Compact is the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative which promotes a sustainable and inclusive global economy for marketplaces, people and society.

In order to achieve this, the UN Global Compact calls on businesses to:

- (1) Carry out their activities in accordance with the Ten Principles on Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-corruption.
- (2) Take strategic actions to advance and broaden societal benchmarks, such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals (with an emphasis on collaboration and innovation).

The UN Global Compact unites more than 15,000 companies and 4,000 non-profit organizations across 165 countries.

The Global Compact Network Georgia (GCNG) is a local branch of the UN Global Compact platform.

The Global Compact Network Georgia aims to create a progressive future by involving businesses in the stimulation of sustainable approaches to promoting the UN Global Compact's Ten Principles and by contributing to the implementation of the UN's sustainable development goals.

BOARD



Levan Akhvediani

Board Chairman
GCNG



Rusudan Medzmariashvili

CSR Manager
BP Georgia



Tinatin Stambolishvili

Director of Corporate
Communications
GPI Holding



Salome Zurabishvili

Executive Director
Global Compact Network
Georgia



Givi Beridze

Founder
Edison Tech Solutions



Ekaterine Zhvania

Executive Director
Gepra



Maya Kobalia

Head of the Environmental and
Social (E&S) Division
MFO Crystal



George Welton

Executive Director
American Chamber of
Commerce in Georgia



Maia Shishniashvili

CEO
Innova

TEAM



Salome Zurabishvili

Executive Director



Bakur Kvaratskhelia

Senior Manager,
Projects and
Fundraising



Nino Kvantrishvili

Senior Manager,
Sustainability and
Partnerships



Lana Chkhartishvili

Senior Manager,
Government Relations
and Educational
Programs



Rati Zautashvili

Senior Manager,
Business Relations



Sopho Khuchua

Business Relations
Manager,
Labour Rights
Consultant



**Temur
Tkeshelashvili**

Senior Manager,
Finances



Ana Dgebuadze

Administrative
Manager



Nugzar Guruli

Accountant



**Salome
Khachiauri-Soltau**

Senior Manager,
Eco-innovation and
Sustainability



**Konstantine
Shubitidze**

Senior Communications
Manager & Corporate
Responsibility Academy
Coordinator



**Ketevan Botchor-
ishvili**

Global Impact
Initiatives Coordinator



Tamta Lomtadze

Manager,
Analytics and
Partnership Projects



Tsotne Vanishvili

Digital Communications
Manager



Nino Liparteliani

Intern

SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT

August 2021
ECONOMY: Crystal - a
of Change in Green Finance
SOCIETY: Toots Green
Taking Care of the Environment
Employees: 200
ENVIRONMENT: Dual
Societal Benefits of Carbon
Transitioning Towards a
Economy: 102

ECO-INNOVATION

THE FUTURE IS GREEN AND INCLUSIVE

WHAT DO WE OFFER?



The Global Compact Network Georgia is a local platform of the UN Global Compact, and the 10 Principles are ethical and practical framework of corporate responsibility for the companies, notwithstanding the size, form and filed of activity of a company.

Through membership of Global Compact Network Georgia, companies have the opportunity to not only establish themselves as responsible, sustainable and ethical business, but also to gain access to local networks, create opportunities for partnerships with foreign representatives of multiple industries, and, to achieve specific benchmarks to bring their operations and strategies in compliance with the UN Global Compact 10 Principles.

Currently, Global Compact networks operate in 165 countries and consists of more than 15,000 businesses. As part of such a network, local businesses can be introduced to international sustainability standards, participate in the sharing of resources and experience, and receive assistance in implementing initiatives which are beneficial for businesses and society.

In 2021, the Global Compact Network Georgia updated its membership value propositions, through which any company, notwithstanding its size or income, has an opportunity to become a Global Compact Network member and receive tailored resources and individual consultations related to corporate sustainability.

There are two membership opportunities for companies in Georgia. A company may become a signatory as a Basic or Corporate partner. Non-profit organizations also have opportunity to become GCNG members.

GUIDING YOU THROUGH YOUR SUSTAINABILITY JOURNEY

BASIC

CORPORATE

1. EDUCATION AND AWARENESS RAISING

Practical guidance and tools	Access to the UN Global Compact Library of world-class sustainability guidance.	✓	✓
	More than 86 000 reports prepared by member companies from around the world.	✓	✓
	International tools for self-assessment in various thematic areas of corporate sustainability.	✓	✓
Capacity building	Extensive digital resource library.	✓	✓
	Opportunity to attend international events.	✓	✓
	Opportunity to attend a thematic master class by an invited international expert.		✓
	Trainings on various thematic issues of the UN Global Compact Ten Principles.	✓	✓
Exclusive offers By GCNG	Annual free subscription to corporate sustainability magazine Sustainability Spotlight.		✓
	Discount on full course in Corporate Sustainability Academy by Global Compact Network Georgia.	20% off	30% off

2. WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT ENTITIES AND INVOLVEMENT IN THE POLICY MAKING PROCESS

Government Policy making	Regular information on corporate and policy level updates on corporate sustainability.	✓	✓
Thematic working groups	Participating in issue specific working groups of government policy making process.	✓	✓
Public and private partnership	Collaborate with government agencies on sustainable projects.	✓	✓
	Opportunity to represent your projects in state reports prepared for international organizations.	✓	✓

3. PARTNERSHIP PROMOTION

Multisectoral Partnerships	Acquire new contacts with companies in various industries and sectors from around the world.	✓	✓
	Participation in programme ideaLab by UN Global Compact .	✓	✓
	Opportunity to share experiences with local and international partners.	✓	✓
	Individual support for the development and implementation of partnership projects.		✓
Action Platforms	Ability to join UN Global Compact Action Platforms.	✓	✓
	Opportunity to get involved in local events or platforms.	✓	✓

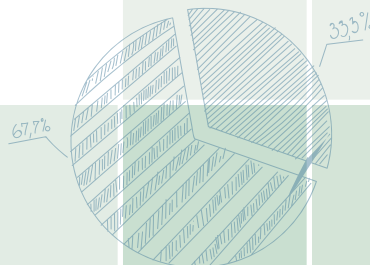


4. CONSULTING AND INDIVIDUAL TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Support	Dedicated local engagement Manager.		✓
	Individual mentoring on implementation of corporate sustainability standards and mechanisms.		✓
	Individual consulting on preparation of COP annual report.		✓
	Facilitation process with Global Compact local networks in 69 countries and their member organizations.		✓

5. LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION

Media Support	Media Toolkit to communicate your engagement in the UN Global Compact.		✓
	Presenting the company's successful sustainable projects in the media.	✓	✓
	Ability to present the organization in Sustainability Spotlight magazine and thematic podcasts.		✓
Corporate Responsibility Award	Participate in the annual Corporate Responsibility Award "Business for Sustainable Development".	✓	✓
Company and employee Recognition	Opportunity to participate in SDG Pineer Programme and receive global recognition of your employee.	✓	✓
	Opportunity for the organization's young innovator employees to receive global recognition.	✓	✓
International Recognition	The most authoritative body in the world - the signatory of the UN Global Initiative and a member of the network.	✓	✓
	Presents your company in the local and international market as an organisation operating by globally recognized standards.	✓	✓
	Access to UN Global Compact endorser logo.	✓	✓





WHAT

DO WE DO?



14

OUR MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2021

- The number of GCNG members was increased to 116;
- Our Corporate Sustainability Academy was launched;
- The very first magazine on corporate sustainability – Sustainability Spotlight was issued;
- The Corporate Award 2021 ceremony was held and attracted extensive interest and focus from the private sector and media. It is noteworthy that we doubled the number of applications submitted by companies compared to the previous year;
- With the support of the Swedish Government and in cooperation with Georgian Alliance of Regional Radio Broadcasters, GCNG prepared a podcasts series called, SDG Talks. Within the framework of the SDG Roadshow, five episodes were prepared with involvement of civil society and business;
- GCNG started facilitation of a public-private dialogue (PPD) in the Parliament of Georgia;
- Executive Director of GCNG Salome Zurabishvili was elected as the Chair of the UN Global Compact Regional Network Council for Eastern Europe and Central Asia;
- In 2021 the team of GCNG grew – four new member joined who work, respectively, in the fields of Eco-Innovations, Analytics and Partnership Projects, Corporate Sustainability Academy and Global Compact Initiatives;
- The first virtual exhibition of the SDG Fair was held;
- Cooperation with private sector, diplomatic corps, international organizations and other partner organizations was strengthened;

- A Memorandum of Cooperation was signed with the Business and Technology University. Within the framework of the memorandum, academic course on Corporate Sustainability will be integrated in the academic program of the university;
- GCNG joined the initiative, “Ring the Bell for Gender equality” in cooperation with the International Finance Corporation (IFC);
- GCNG implemented the global initiatives: SDG Ambition and Target Gender Equality, an eight months program for platform member companies and non-profit organizations;
- GCNG virtually hosted an international conference on Making Global Goals Local Business (MGGLB);
- The Global Compact Network Georgia became a member of the US organization “Concordia”.

The organization developed and published numerous documents including: Business and Human Rights, Guidelines for State – Owned Enterprises; Sustainable Farming Standards; and Qualitative and Quantitative Research – Impact of COVID -19 on Corporate Responsibility in Georgia.



THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THEMATIC WORKSHOPS OF THE NETWORK



ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2021

The Global Compact Network Georgia actively cooperates and regularly communicates with member companies and organizations. On July 18, the annual General Assembly of GCNG was held. During the meeting, the 2020 progress was presented, and future plans, as well as the new members of the platform were introduced. Two major pieces of research carried out by the Global Compact Network Georgia were presented: "The Influence of COVID-19 on Corporate Responsibility on the Business Sector in Georgia" and "Private Sector Contribution to Georgia's 2020 Voluntary National Review on Sustainable Development Goals". The General Assembly is held twice a year and is attended by all members of the network.

THEMATIC WORKSHOPS OF WORKING GROUPS

Within the reporting period, the GCNG organized important thematic workshops and meetings for three working group platforms: the Working Group on Labour Rights, the Working Group Business for Equality, and the Working Group on Environment. In 2021, around 20 important meetings were held with more than 300 attendees. Thematic discussions were held about: the integration of sustainable development goals in company strategies, self-discipline and motivation of employees, rules and forms for the reporting of working hours, the advantages of mediation within the context of labour disputes, a review of the Labour Code and occupational safety regulations, personal data protection, and meeting about COP reports.



PARTICIPATION IN GLOBAL COMPACT INITIATIVES

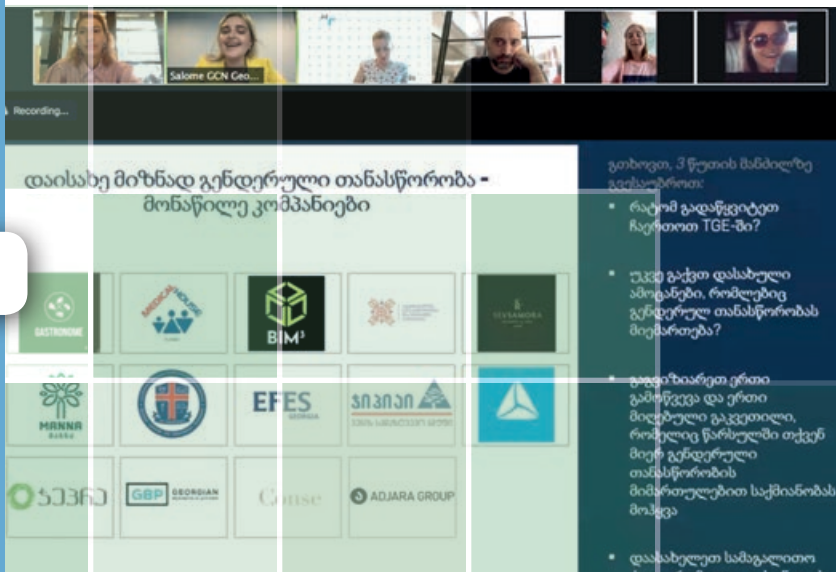
TARGET GENDER EQUALITY

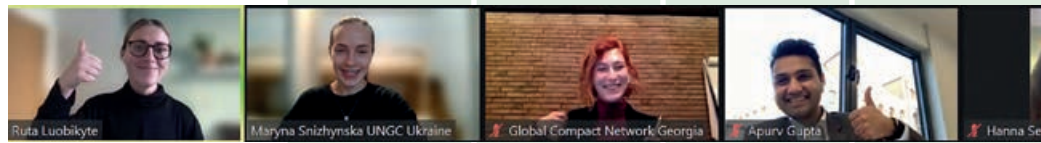
Target Gender equality is an accelerator program for Global Compact member companies and aims to support companies to enhance their implementation of the Women Empowerment Principles and contribution to achieve SDG 5.5, which requires achieving full participation of women and equal opportunities for leadership by 2030.

With the support of the program, companies define their benchmarks to increase women participation and leadership, develop action plans and analyze information about the current state of play in terms of gender equality. At the same time, they have opportunity to grow their networks and introduce women leaders from their respective organizations.

The program lasts for nine months, and in 2021-2022, 13 GCNG member companies and 26 individual participants participated in the programs.

5 GENDER EQUALITY





SDG AMBITION

The program, SDG Ambition is a UN Global Compact Initiative that is being implemented by the GCNG together with the Global Compact Network Ukraine for the second consecutive year. The program is a new system of achieving sustainable development goals and aims to provide business with detailed information about SDGs and Global Compact 10 principles,

With the support of the program, companies will be able to integrate sustainable development goals into their activities to promote the implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030.

During the 2021-2022 round of the SDG Ambition program, companies from more than 50 countries were involved in the program. The accelerator lasts for six months, and in 2021-2022, 36 individuals from 18 GCNG member companies participated in the program.

SDG PIONEER

Each year the United Nations Global Compact celebrates a group of SDG Pioneers – business leaders who are doing an exceptional job to advance the Global Goals through the implementation of our Ten Principles on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. On a global level, SDG Pioneer has been conducted since 2016, while Georgia began participating in 2019. Until now, local SDG Pioneer of the Global Compact Network Georgia was conducted two times and the winners are: SDG Pioneer 2019 – Maya Kobalia, and SDG Pioneer 2020 - Valeri Chekheria. In December 2021, calls for SDG Pioneer 2021 was announced.





COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

The Global Compact Network Georgia actively cooperates with public institutions in order to promote corporate responsibility. Some major achievements in the country as a result of GCNG advocacy efforts include:

1) Recommendations on the Business and Human Rights objectives provided to the Government for the National Human Rights Strategy 2022-2030.

Active cooperation with Government of Georgia on the inclusion of the Business and Human Rights Chapters in the 2016-2018 and 2018-2020 National Human Rights Action Plans started in 2015, which was followed by GCNG's recommendations in 2021 to further include the Business and Human Rights objectives in the National Human Rights Strategy 2022-2030. In February 2021, GCNG provided a recommendation package to the Human Rights Secretariat of the Government of Georgia, proposing the wording of objectives on Business and Human Rights to be added to the National Human Rights Strategy document. GCNG intends to continue its assistance in adoption of the Business and Human Rights Action Plan and in implementation of the activities inscribed therein. This will support the process of implementation of international commitments undertaken by the Government, including EU-Georgia association agreement, Business and Human Rights framework documents, Sustainable Development Agenda. The Human Rights Council of Government of Georgia plans to adopt the National Human Rights Strategy in 2022.

2) Training of Civil Servants on Corporate Sustainability

In 2021, GCNG conducted numerous trainings and workshops on corporate sustainability and subsequent thematic areas. Representatives of the following agencies participated in the events:



- **22-24 April** – Human Rights Secretariat, the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture, the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, State Procurement Agency, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs and Ombudsman's Office. Trainings covered the topics, such as, business and human rights, ethics and ethical decisions in business sector, among others.
- **9-11 June** – Enterprise Georgia and Innovations and Technology Agency
- **1-2 July** – Government entities that are members of Sustainable Development Council
- **3-5 December** – Enterprise Georgia

Overall, 95 representatives participated in trainings

3) Responsible Business Conduct (RBC) Clauses included in the National SME Development Strategy and Action Plans for 2021-2025

In 2020-2021 GCNG, as a member of the Working Group on SME Development Strategy, participated in a number of meetings to support drafting of Georgia's new SME Development Strategy for 2021-2025. The following objectives were included in the SME Strategy and Action Plan related to Responsible Business Conduct:

2.6. Promoting awareness on Responsible Business Conduct among SMEs

6.1 Popularization of Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs)

7.2 Popularisation of eco-innovative approach among SMEs

GCNG is listed as a partner organization of the responsible government agency for the implementation of the above-mentioned three strategic directions and relevant activities as inscribed in the Action Plan.

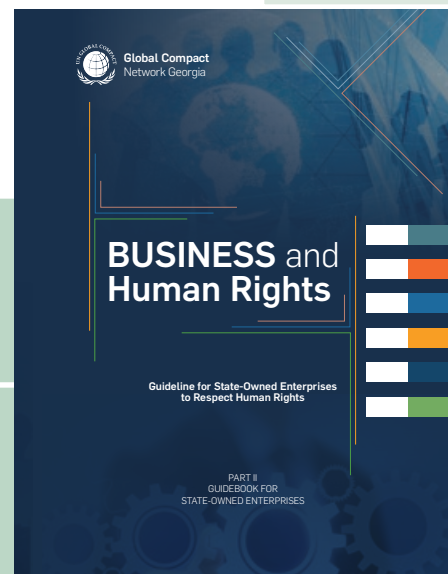


4) New strategic partnerships established with MEPA and the Georgian Hazelnut Growers Association

In 2021 GCNG in partnership with Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia (MEPA) developed sustainable farming standards (SFS) for the Georgian Hazelnut Growers Association. Based on international standards and local practices international and local experts developed guidelines for farmers on sustainable and responsible farming standards in Georgia. More than 21,000 hazelnut growers from the 5 different regions of Georgia (Samegrelo, Guria, Imereti, Adjara, Kakheti) will adopt the standard in the upcoming years.

BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS – GUIDELINES FOR STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES

In 2021, the Global Compact Network Georgia, in cooperation with the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia and the Administration of the Government of Georgia, developed guidelines for business and human rights for state-owned enterprises. The first part of the guideline presents an overview of the current legislative framework and existing practices, while the second part of presents specific steps and activities to implement in practice.





Global Compact
Network Georgia



Guideline for Hazelnut Growers in Georgia

SUSTAINABLE FARMING STANDARDS



Guideline for Hazelnut
Growers in Georgia



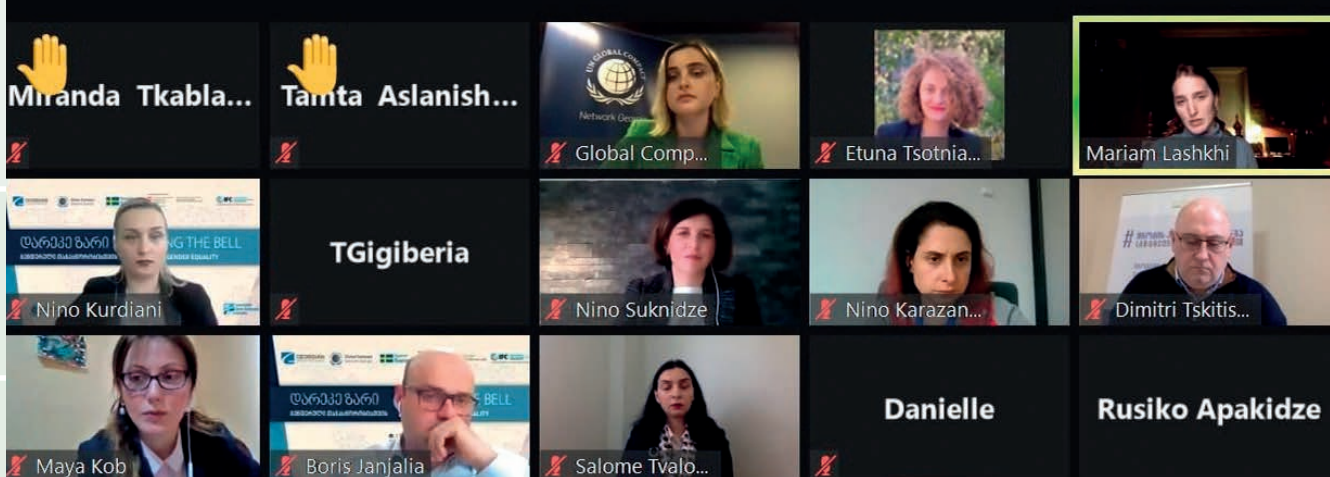
PART I



COOPERATION BETWEEN GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK GEORGIA AND THE GEORGIAN HAZELNUT GROWERS ASSOCIATION

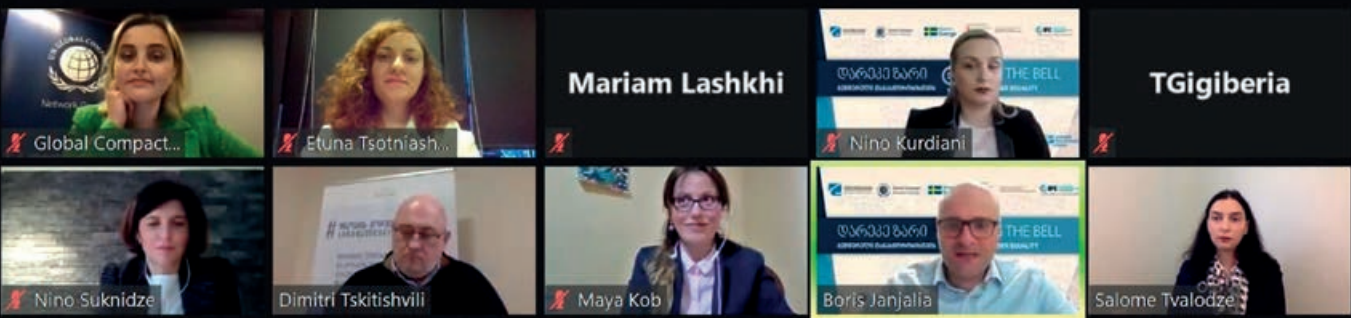
In 2020, Global Compact Network Georgia and the Georgian Hazelnut Growers Association began multi-dimensional cooperation aimed at the promotion of sustainable hazelnut growing and the implementation of sustainable farming principles in the hazelnut production value chain. This cooperation further aims to strengthen the capacity of the Georgian Hazelnut Growers Association through the implementation of sustainable farming standards among target groups and relevant stakeholders.

Within the framework of cooperation, and with the support of the GCNG in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, guidelines for, "Sustainable Farming Standards" were published. The document reviews sustainable farming standards in the context of hazelnut production and aims to assist farmers in the implementation of human rights, environment and governance standards, as well as responsible practices in their business activities. Implementation of these principles and standards is important and supports the export of local products to the European market.



COOPERATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION

In 2020, an Agreement of Cooperation between the Global Compact Network Georgia and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) was signed. The cooperation incorporated several important directives, such as, the launch of the Corporate Sustainability Academy, specialized trainings for the staff of the IFC and GCNG, translation of materials about environmental, social and governance directives into the Georgian language and ensuring access to those resources for member companies, organization of the event, "Ring the Bell for Gender Equality" in Georgia, hosting the international conference, "Making Global Goals Local Business (MGGLB)" in Georgia, workshops about non-financial reporting, and, individual consultations for companies.



“RING THE BELL FOR GENDER EQUALITY” ANNUAL EVENT

To mark International Women's Day, on 11 March 2021, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) in cooperation with the GCNG hosted the 7th annual event “Ring the Bell for Gender Equality”. The event was held online with the thematic focus: the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on women's economic participation. Participants of the event discussed the ways business and civil society, assisted by legislative mechanisms, can foster economic recovery and overcome social crisis. Further, women's empowerment in the labour market, workplace and society were discussed. More than 100 guests attended the event.



MEMORANDUM WITH THE NATIONAL BANK OF GEORGIA AND SERVICE FOR ACCOUNTING, REPORTING AND AUDITING SUPERVISION

In 2021, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Service for Accounting, Reporting and Auditing Supervision, the National Bank of Georgia, the Sustainable Development Institute and the Global Compact Network Georgia.

RESEARCH ON, "THE INFLUENCE OF COVID-19 ON CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY IN THE BUSINESS SECTOR IN GEORGIA"

The Global Compact Network Georgia in cooperation with the company "Innova" conducted qualitative and quantitative research which studied the approaches and activities conducted by companies in terms of corporate responsibility.

The study aimed to examine the impact of COVID-19 on companies' activities in social, environmental and governance directions. The study showcased how companies perceived corporate responsibility in light of the crises caused by pandemic, as well as how their priority areas and approaches in terms of social, economic, environmental and governance had changed.

Further, the research reviewed the companies short and long-term visions regarding corporate sustainability, the opportunities and challenges currently in place to promote responsible business conduct and what specific steps were taken in this regard.





THE CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY ACADEMY

OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY ACADEMY

On 25 October, the GCNG hosted the launch event of the Corporate Sustainability Academy. The event was attended by representatives of private and public sectors, embassies and international organizations. The Corporate Sustainability Academy aims to promote responsible business practices in the country through certification courses and other educational activities. Each and every course at the Academy is in full compliance with UN Global Compact 10 Principles and other internationally acclaimed guidelines and standards.

The Corporate Sustainability Academy was founded with the support of the Swedish government. The partners of the academy are the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO).





COURSES AT THE CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY ACADEMY

Throughout 2021, more than 130 participants completed certification courses at the Corporate Sustainability Academy. Among the participants, there were 16 representatives from the media, 25 students and 92 participants representing public institutions. It is noteworthy to mention, except for the above mentioned courses which were funded by the Swedish Government, by the end of 2021 the first paid course (course with a fee) was launched for the private sector. Since the official launch of the Academy, a certificate course for PR and marketing managers of Goodwill, Carrefour, Magniti, Spar, Zgapari and Daily supermarkets commenced. The group was joined by the representatives of relevant departments of the Bank of Georgia and Adjarabet. .

A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY

Global Compact Network Georgia and Business and Technology University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Within the framework of cooperation, Global Compact Network Georgia will develop a Corporate Sustainability course, which will be incorporated into BA and MA academic programs at the university for the Spring 2022 semester. In addition to the course, several joint events will be planned and conducted throughout the next year.



COOPERATION WITH MEDIATORS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGIA

A year ago, the Global Compact Network Georgia began an active partnership with the Mediators' Association of Georgia, under which the association held informational meetings for business representatives about alternative dispute resolution mechanism-mediation. The Association team held a working meeting with the support of the Global Compact Network Georgia, where they received information on key aspects of corporate sustainability, including current developments at the legislative level.

On 14 April, the GCNG and the Mediators Association held a workshop and discussion related to mechanisms of dispute settlement in business sectors. Within the framework of the meeting, mediators presented forms of mediation, important aspects of dispute resolution and the services provided by the Mediators Association were introduced to participants. The workshop was held with the support of Swedish Government.



BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS FORUM

On 14 December, 2021, the Global Compact Network Georgia and the Mediators Association of Georgia organized the first-ever Business and Human Rights Forum. The event was held with support from the Swedish Government and it was attended by more than 60 representatives from the public and private sectors. The participants discussed the results achieved by the state in accomplishing the first and third pillars of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

The presentations and discussions were focused on the mechanisms applied at a policy level by the Georgian government that support the implementation of the Guiding Principles within the business sector; as well as the effectiveness of alternative mechanisms of dispute resolutions which stem from the third pillar of the Guiding Principles. Among other participants of the event were the representatives of the Parliament of Georgia, the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable, the Office of the Public Defender, the Government Administration, local and international organizations and business associations. It is noteworthy to mention, The Day of Mediators is celebrated on December 14 in Georgia. It has been two years since the founding of the Mediators Association of Georgia.



CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY WEEK

On 25-29 October, the GCNG held corporate sustainability week. Within the framework of the Week, various important events were scheduled and held. The Week was opened with the official launch of the Corporate Sustainability Academy, the first virtual exhibition SDG Fair, and 2021 Corporate Award ceremony.

THE VIRTUAL BUSINESS EXHIBITION SDG DIGITAL FAIR 2021

The Global Compact Network Georgia, hosted the first virtual business exhibition SDG Fair. The exhibition, presented in virtual reality, aimed to promote and introduce corporate sustainability projects of participant companies, both local and international, as well as strengthening cooperation among participants and attendees and overall, promotion of the achievement of sustainable development goals in the private sector.

Participant companies had opportunity to create branded stands, while each participant could create a personalized avatar, virtually attend SDG Talk format discussions by leading international experts, and network across virtual space and communicate with other avatars through 3D sound systems. Overall, 15 companies / organizations from Georgia, Sweden and Ukraine participated in the exhibitions which was attended by more than 100 attendees from various countries.



CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY AWARD 2021

On 28 October, 2021 the Global Compact Network Georgia hosted the 2021 Corporate Sustainability Awards ceremony. Within the framework of the contest, more than 120 applications were submitted by 50 companies, while winners for each category were identified by juries consisting of leading international and local experts. The award winners are as follows:

- **SDG 4: Quality Education** – Bank of Georgia;
- **SDG 5: Gender Equality** – Adjara Group;
- **SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth** – Bank of Georgia;
- **SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities** – APM Terminals Poti;
- **SDG 12: Sustainable Consumption and Production** – LTD Leader;
- **SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals** – EFES Georgia.

At the same time, in the category of Media for Responsible Business in Georgia, journalists Nino Vartapetiani and Dedika Kalatozi became winners.

The Award Ceremony was attended by participant companies, representatives of international organizations and embassies. EU Ambassador to Georgia Karl Hartzell addressed the audience, while Ambassadors of the United Kingdom and Japan presented awards. The event was widely covered on TV and in other media outlets, with numerous videos and articles published. This was the 4th presentation of the Award Ceremony in Georgia, with interest from companies towards the award growing each year.





AWARENESS RAISING

MAGAZINE "SUSTAINABILITY SPOTLIGHT"

Since 2021, based on the initiative of the GCNG, the magazine Sustainability Spotlight is being published. The magazine aims to highlight the best examples of responsible business practices. The Magazine further covers views, activities and initiatives of the government, diplomatic corps and international organizations, as well as developments in terms of corporate sustainability worldwide. The Magazine is issued through support from the Swedish Government. Three issues of the magazine have been published to date while the fourth issue is currently being prepared and will be dedicated to the Corporate Sustainability Awards.



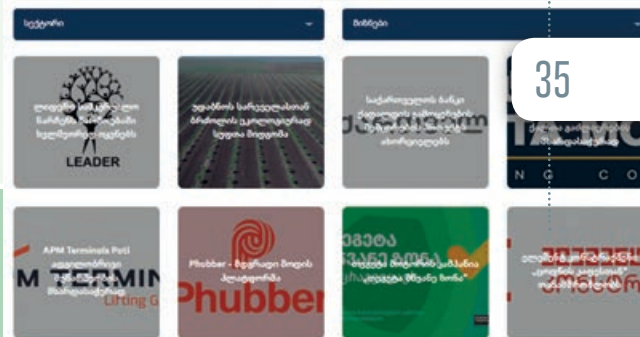
THE SDG COMPASS

SDG Compass integrated in GCNG website was launched. SDG Compass acquaints companies with the activities to conduct their business operation in line with sustainable development goals and presents outstanding cases of companies in this regard.

SDG Compass comprises specific ways and strategies, tools and indicators to implement SDGs in business sector. Further, SDG Compass provides the companies with the information about the role of private sector in SDG implementation. SDG Compass is regularly updated and encompasses the projects, activities and best practices corresponding to each SDG.

PODCAST SERIES – THE SDG ROADSHOW

With the support of Swedish Government and the Association of Regional Media Broadcasters, the GCNG prepared a podcast series the SDG Roadshow. The Podcast (five episodes) were prepared with the involvement of local businesses and civil society organizations in five cities of the country: Gori, Lagodekhi, Zugdidi, Kutaisi and Batumi. Episodes were dedicated to various sustainable development goals: Gender equality (SDG 5), Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8), Sustainable Consumption and Production (SDG 12), Climate Action (SDG 13), Life Below Water (SDG 14) and Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (SDG 16). Podcasts are available on the online platform Soundcloud.



A WORKING VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES



On 20-28 October, Executive Director, Salome Zurabishvili and Senior Manager, Lana Chkhartishvili conducted a working visit to the New York, USA. The representatives of the GCNG held meetings at the Global Compact Office and introduced successful projects and achievements of the GCNG in recent years. As mentioned during the meetings, Georgian practice in terms of mobilization of business, advocacy on the state level or promotion of corporate sustainability throughout the country is exemplary. The parties further discussed the Global Compact 2021-2023 strategy, and further steps to its implementation on national and international levels.

Additionally, the GCNG representatives held meetings with leading American Universities, such as Harvard, MIT and Lehigh University. The meetings aimed to increase engagement with international experts and implement partnership projects under the auspices of the Corporate Sustainable Academy. Professors from the above mentioned universities who expressed their willingness to cooperate further were identified.



MEETING WITH SANDA OJIAMBO AND THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GEORGIA TO UN



On September 28, 2021, the meeting between the CEO and Executive Director of the United Nations Global Compact, Ms. Sanda Ojiambo, and the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the UN, Ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, Mr. Kaha Imnadze, was held. The plans for future fruitful cooperation on the international level between the UN Global Compact and the Permanent Mission of Georgia to the UN was discussed. The successful cooperation of the local network with the Government of Georgia, and efforts to ensure the involvement of the private sector in achieving the agenda 2030 were highlighted. The Ambassador further emphasized the importance of growth and the strengthening of the local network in Georgia.



THE GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK GEORGIA BECAME A MEMBER OF "CONCORDIA"

In September 2021, The GCNG became a member of Concordia. Concordia is American non-governmental organization which aims to promote, develop and support partnership cooperation. For the first time, the GCNG participated in the Concordia Annual Summit. Within the framework of the platform, representatives

of various sectors participate in an open discussion about outstanding issues, to promote cooperation, and to create solid foundations for a common sustainable future. The event had 1957 participants, 272 speakers, 14 sponsors, 16 partners, 8 public partners, 9 media partners and 27 honorable members.

STRENGTHENING COOPERATION WITH EMBASSIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Throughout 2021, the Global Compact Network Georgia actively cooperated with the Swedish and US embassies. Additionally, numerous introductory and working meetings were held with The British, Israeli and Japanese Embassies. Within the framework of these meetings, cooperation opportunities were discussed and identified.

WORKSHOPS AND TRAININGS

STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING

Throughout 2021, the GCNG team actively worked towards the organizational development and strengthening of the GCNG. On 19-21 April, a working meeting was held to evaluate the implementation of the strategy, planned/scheduled and ongoing activities of the projects, as well as topics of organizational development and team building.

On 16-18 November, a team of the GCNG attended a strategic planning meeting. The team discussed the achievements and results of 2021. During two days of meetings, the team identified and scheduled the 2022 action plan, including ongoing projects, as well as future plans and new initiatives. The meeting was conducted with the support of Swedish Government.





TRAINING IN COOPERATION WITH UNION "SAPARI"

On 15 November, Global Compact Network Georgia and Union Sapari held joint project for the staff of both organizations. Within the framework of cooperation, the organizations shared information and experience about various important topics, namely, elimination of all forms of discrimination, gender equality and gender identity concepts, LGBTQI+ concepts, and cooperation opportunities with business.

SEMINAR FOR JOURNALISTS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA

On 23-25 April, in Bakuriani, a seminar for Journalists and representatives of leading media outlets was held on the topic of corporate sustainability. Within the framework of the seminar, representatives of leading national and regional media outlets acquired information on contemporary standards of corporate sustainability, international and Georgian best practices, further discussions were dedicated to dissemination of information regarding corporate sustainability projects in media. Overall, 17 representatives from the media attended the meeting.





PARTICIPATION IN EUROPEAN SCHOOL WEEK

The GCNG team participated in the event organized by the European School to celebrate the birthday of the famous Swedish writer of children's books Astrid Lindgren, within the programme of Tbilisi – World Book Festival. Within the framework of the meeting, school students acquired information about the importance of sustainable development. Specifically, for the event, the GCNG team prepared a quiz on sustainable development-related topics.

MASTERCLASS ON BUSINESS INTEGRITY AND THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

On December 9, to mark the International Anti-Corruption Day, the Global Compact Network Georgia organized a masterclass for its member companies titled, "Business Integrity and the Fight Against Corruption". The masterclass was led by the Vice-President of COMPLIANCE NORDICS CITI Sophio Tabatadze and was attended by around 15 companies. The participants discussed topics, such as the fight of organizations/companies against financial crime, the implementation of a compliance culture, and the latest trends and policies in addressing ethical dilemmas, as well as the Scandinavian experience.

PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

"MAKING GLOBAL GOALS LOCAL BUSINESS (MGGLB)"

On 25-26 March, the UN Global Compact and the Global Compact Network Georgia organized and hosted the international conference, "Making Global Goals Local Business (MGGLB)" in cooperation with the Global Compact Networks in Belarus, Poland, Turkey and Ukraine.

The event was held online with the central theme, "The Future is Green and Inclusive". Discussions were dedicated to the following topics: the green economy, innovation, green financing, and partnerships for achieving a sustainable development agenda. The conference was launched with opening remarks from Global Compact Executive Director Ms. Sanda Ojiambo and Global Compact Network Georgia Executive Director Salome Zurabishvili.

Additionally, the Ambassador of Sweden to Georgia, representatives from the legislative and executive branches, business sector and international organizations participated in the conference. The event was attended by more than 550 participants online.





CONTEST "PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2021"

On 2 December 2021, Global Compact Network Ukraine organized award ceremony of "Partnership for Sustainable Development 2021". Members of GCNG platform had opportunity to participate in the contest. Among Georgian companies, the jury identified 4 finalists and 1 winner company. The finalists were: 'FINA LLC', 'Tegeta Motors', 'Adjarabet' and 'Edison Tech Solutions', while AE SOLAR became winner.



Nino Masurashvili

Deputy CEO

TBC Bank

15-16 JUNE 2021

#LeadersSummit

REGISTER TODAY

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

On 15-16 June, a “Leaders Summit” organized by UN Global Compact was held online. Within the event the following topics were discussed: the crisis caused by pandemic, climate change, economic inequality and other outstanding common issues. Leaders and representatives from the governments of more than 70 countries, business sector and international organizations participated in the discussions, while more than 20,000 participants attended the event online.

Within the summit, a Georgia – Ukraine joint session was held with the participants of SDG Ambition. Additionally, representatives of the companies “EFES Georgia”, “Orient Logic” and “TBC Bank” delivered speeches during the sessions.



Billy Isiani

Marketing and Public Relations
Manager

Orient Logic



Ketevan Zhvania

PR & Digital Communications
Management

Efes Georgia

PROMOTE CAPACITY BUILDING AND ENHANCE SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PPD PLATFORM IN THE PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA



The USAID Economic Governance Program



Global Compact Network Georgia

Promote Capacity Building and Enhance Sustainability of the PPD Platform in the Parliament of Georgia

OCTOBER 2021 - JANUARY 2024



OVERALL OBJECTIVE:

To develop a sustainable, self-reliant **Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) Platform in the Parliament of Georgia** that will facilitate effective and continuous dialogue between Parliament and the private sector actors on economic reforms and policy issues.



THE PPD PLATFORM IN THE PARLIAMENT WILL...

- Build the capacity of the established PPD through increasing awareness of MPs on ongoing economic policy reforms.
- Use outreach and advocacy to institutionalize public-private dialogue and achieve high-priority business environment reforms.
- Enable an environment for constructive policy exchange by using public-private dialogue to address development challenges.

PROJECT "PUBLIC – PRIVATE DIALOGUE PLATFORM IN THE PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA"

The Global Compact Network Georgia, with the support of the USAID Economic Governance Program, implements grant activity: "Public – Private Dialogue Platform in the Parliament of Georgia". The project facilitates improvement of the dialogue between the Parliament of Georgia and the private sector in terms of economic reforms and establishment of a sustainable platform of public-private dialogue in the Parliament. The platform ensures active and effective involvement of the private sector in the legislative processes.

The project will be implemented for 27 months – from October 2021 to January 2024. The project envisages identification of seven economic reforms, preparation of policy documents and advocacy guidelines, public-private dialogue, conducting workshops and working group meetings related to the mentioned topics. A sustainable model of public-private dialogue and action plan will be elaborated.

მოსახლურ-საპარამუნტარო

7 - მთელი

44

2022 წლის

სამი რეფორმა შეირჩა USAID-მა უკრაინის მართლმადიდებლობის პროგრამის სარეფორმაციო მართლმადიდებლობის ფარგლებში და სხვა ნაშევნებ ბიზნეს ასოციაციასთან კონსულტაციის გზით:

- წესის რეფორმების მართვა
- ელექტრონული კომერცია
- სახელმწიფო შესყიდვების

თიხი ნაშევნებ კომიტეტი წარმოადგენს მართლმადიდებლობის სახელმწიფო რეფორმების კომიტეტის და ეკონომიკური რეფორმების კომიტეტის წევრებს.

- ეკონომიკური რეფორმების კომიტეტი
- ეკონომიკური რეფორმების კომიტეტი
- ეკონომიკური რეფორმების კომიტეტი





UNEP – PROMOTING ECO-INNOVATION IN GEORGIA

In order to reduce adverse effects on social and environmental dimensions caused by the activities of Small and Medium – sized Enterprises (SME), and to support competitiveness of these SMEs and their sustainability to risks, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the European Union support SMEs to implement eco-innovations in various countries.

Within the framework of the EU-funded “EU4Environment” programme, Global Compact Network Georgia, in cooperation with the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), promotes eco-innovative approaches in small and medium-sized enterprises in Georgia, to develop new strategies and business models taking into consideration Eco-innovation approaches.

Eco-innovation is a business mode that takes into account sustainability and approaches for long-term operation at every stage of the companies' activities and supply chain. Eco-innovation entails new approaches in products and services in terms of operations, approaches to the market and organizational structure. The following companies participate in the project: “GSG”, “Prinveli”, “Teleti”, “Manna”, “Udabno”, “Sevsamora”, “Bioshesha” and “Gvinuka”.

Within the framework of the project, a study titled, “Market Assessment and Policy Analysis of Eco-innovation Landscape in Georgia” was prepared and the eco-innovation potential of various sectors in Georgia was assessed.

EU4Environment is the EU-funded program that combines five key thematic issues and helps Eastern Partnership countries – Azerbaijan, Belarus, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia and Ukraine – in policy planning and creating “greener” investments, promoting innovative products and technologies, and focusing on environmental activities. The programme is implemented jointly by the European Union (EU), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the World Bank.



Georgian
berry
tea

PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

During 2021, the Global Compact Network Georgia continued facilitation of multi-stakeholder partnership projects to achieve common goals with participation from the non-governmental sector, business and other stakeholders. Multi-Stakeholder partnership projects represent a form of cooperation among various stakeholders which aim to address social, economic and environmental problems. They benefit the business and significantly promote corporate responsibility.

Thus, the GCNG supports organizations in various directions:

- Identification of priority target areas, challenges and cooperation opportunities;
- Elaboration of project proposals, schedules, budget and activities.

Upon the initiative of the GCNG, the multi-sectoral partnership project, "Making Roads Safe" was implemented. The project aimed to raise awareness on road safety. Within the framework of the initiative, and with the participation of private, public and non-governmental sectors, trainings and workshops were conducted on road safety-related topics.

Upon the initiative of the GCNG, in partnership with Gori Municipality and the youth organization, "Changes for Equal Rights" training for drivers of public transport were held related to the safe transportation of the persons with disabilities. Within the framework of the project three trainings for 120 drivers were held. The multi-sectoral project aimed to promote sustainable standards of transportation, elaborate certificate course module for drivers, trainings and raising public awareness on road safety.

The GCNG facilitated partnership project, "STEM Generation" which was implemented by the foundation, "Believe" in Poti. Within the framework of this project, a STEM contest was held which aimed to increase the interest of local youth towards STEM fields and critical thinking skill development. The themes of the contest were: support to persons with disabilities, environmental protection, and education. The participating teams should have chosen a

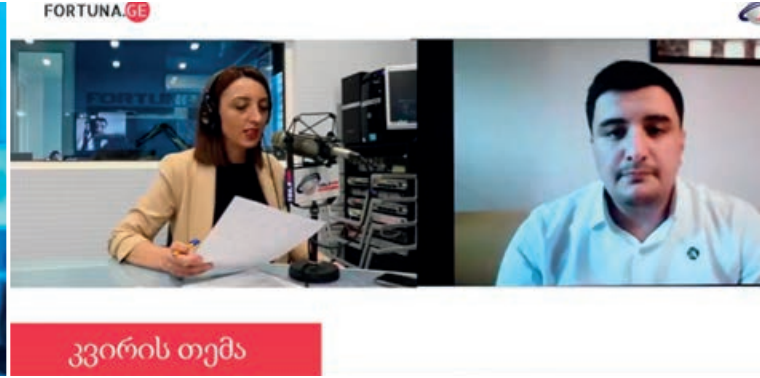
specific problem and the presented practical solutions via STEM. The winner was the idea “Alarm Clock” – an adapted clock that is designed to become an alarm clock for persons with disabilities. In the evaluation process, various business companies and non-governmental organizations focused on innovation were involved. All participants were certified, while the three finalist were Gepra, Miniso, and Edison Tech Solutions.



The GCNG in Media



The Global Compact Network Georgia has actively cooperated with leading Georgian media outlets. A number of videos and articles were prepared to highlight the activities of the organization.





პირველი

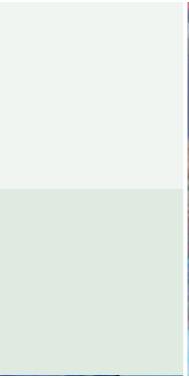


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აგზები დასრულდა სანაღობროს კომპლექსი
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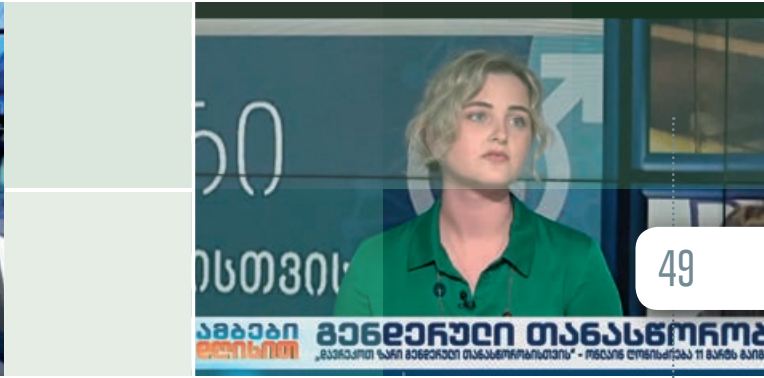
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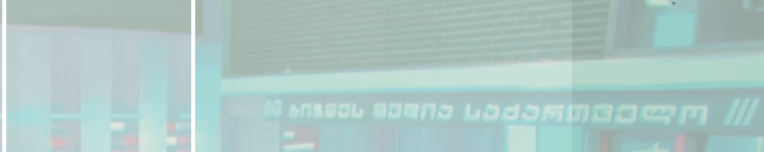


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TV პირველი



10 ბიზნეს ბიზნესი საპროცესო პროცესი



Network Georgia

#GlobalGoalsLocalBusiness

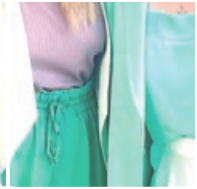
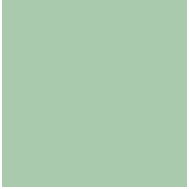




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 ამდგომად
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 Leadership
 Sustainable
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შვედეთი
Sverige

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