



# National Workshop

with representatives/decision-makers from the forestry related government agencies

## (Georgia)

**Introduction to Climate Change Impacts on Forests and of Transformation Strategies and the Objectives, Expected results, and Activities of the EU financed Project on Increasing the Resilience of Forest Ecosystems against Climate Change in the Southern Caucasus through Forest Transformation**

**(21 June, 2011 – Tbilisi, Georgia)**

## *Workshop Report*

The workshop documents are the sole responsibility of the Project on Increasing the Resilience of Forest Ecosystems against Climate Change in the Southern Caucasus through Forest Transformation and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union

*14 June, 2011, Tbilisi*



This project is funded by the EU

This project is co-financed and implemented by the WWF Germany in collaboration with the South Caucasus partner organizations

**Project head office in Germany:**  
WWF Germany  
Reinhardtstr. 14  
10117 Berlin, Germany  
Tel.: +49 (0)30-311777-274  
Fax: +49 (0)69-79144 4166  
[info@wwf.de](mailto:info@wwf.de)  
[www.wwf.de](http://www.wwf.de)

**Project regional office in the South Caucasus:**  
WWF Caucasus Programme Office (WWF Caucasus)  
Merab Aleksidze St. 11  
0193 Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel.: + (995 32) 2-237-500  
Fax: + (995 32) 2-237-501  
[office@wwfcaucasus.ge](mailto:office@wwfcaucasus.ge)  
[www.panda.org/caucasus](http://www.panda.org/caucasus)

**INCREASING THE RESILIENCE OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE SOUTHERN  
CAUCASUS THROUGH FOREST TRANSFORMATION**

**National Workshop  
with representatives/decision-makers from the forestry related government agencies  
(Georgia)**

**Introduction to Climate Change Impacts on Forests and of Transformation Strategies and the Objectives,  
Expected Results, and Activities of the EU financed Project on Increasing the Resilience of Forest  
Ecosystems against Climate Change in the Southern Caucasus through Forest Transformation**

**21 June, 2011 - Tbilisi, Georgia**

**WWF Caucasus Conference Hall**

---

***Programme***

**1. Summary**

This workshop is being organized within the framework of recently started (March, 2011) EU supported Project on Increasing the resilience of forest ecosystems against climate change in the South Caucasus Countries (Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan) through forest transformation.

The overall objective of the project is to increase the resilience of forest ecosystems in the Southern Caucasus against climate change impacts and to improve biodiversity and livelihoods of local populations. The overall objective addresses the overarching threat of climate change to biodiversity and to forest ecosystem services which support the livelihoods of rural communities. Those services include protection of soils and water supply and quality, and timber and non-timber forest products. Objectively Verifiable Indicator (OVI) for the overall objective is that: by 2015 (two years after the proposed actions completion), the governments of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan will have adopted and started to implement policies that will make forests and the services they provide highly resilient to climate change.

The specific objective of the project contributes to the overall objective by establishing the necessary conditions for the forest administrations in the target countries to develop and implement strategies for transforming monoculture forest stands into highly resilient, “close to nature” forest stands. It is proposed to do this through awareness raising about climate change impacts on forests, demonstrating practical measures to make forests more resilient, and providing forest administration staff and local community members, local NGOs, and CBOs who use or manage forests with the necessary knowledge and skills to transfer the development and implementation of transformation measures to other forest stands.

To achieve the specific objective, the following OVIs are proposed by the end of the project:  
- forest stand structure has been transformed in such a way that they will be highly resilient to climate change on pilot sites;



This project is funded by the EU

This project is co-financed and implemented by the WWF Germany in collaboration with the South Caucasus partner organizations

**Project head office in Germany:**  
WWF Germany  
Reinhardtstr. 14  
10117 Berlin, Germany  
Tel.: +49 (0)30-311777-274  
Fax: +49 (0)69-79144 4166  
info@wwf.de  
[www.wwf.de](http://www.wwf.de)

**Project regional office in the South Caucasus:**  
WWF Caucasus Programme Office (WWF Caucasus)  
Merab Aleksidze St. 11  
0193 Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel.: + (995 32) 2-237-500  
Fax: + (995 32) 2-237-501  
office@wwfcaucasus.ge  
[www.panda.org/caucasus](http://www.panda.org/caucasus)

- forest stand potential to enhance the livelihoods of neighbouring communities will have increased on 6 pilot sites (two in each of the three target countries and about 75 hectares each) in 3 countries; and
- the chief executives and heads of the policy and planning departments of forest administrations and heads of relevant departments in the forest administrations show a demonstrable increase in their awareness of climate change impacts on forests and motivation to develop strategies for making forests more resilient.

Expected results of the project are: Result 1 - Selected forest stands vulnerable to climate change have been transformed into highly resilient "close to nature" forest stands; Result 2 - Silvicultural guidelines for the transformation of monoculture stands into more resilient stands are elaborated, published in three languages and made available for relevant officials and experts; Result 3 - The capacities of forest administration experts to develop silvicultural strategies to transform monoculture stands into stable, site-adapted forests are increased; Result 4 - The awareness of local communities about the importance of forest rehabilitation with regard to mitigating negative biotic and abiotic impacts<sup>2</sup> of climate change is improved.

The workshop will be arranged and facilitated by WWF Caucasus Programme Office (WWF Caucasus) which is a partner organization of the project leading organization - WWF-Germany. WWF Caucasus plays a role of the project regional office (for the South Caucasus) and the project Georgian country office.

## 2. Objectives of the workshop

The main objective of the workshop with representatives/decision-makers from the forestry related government agencies is introduction to Climate Change Impacts on Forests and of Transformation Strategies and the Objectives, Expected Results, and Activities of the EU financed Project on Increasing the Resilience of Forest Ecosystems against Climate Change in the Southern Caucasus through Forest Transformation.

The workshop will be used as a forum for discussing the selection criteria for selecting the sites at which transformation measures will be piloted in Georgia.

## 3. Outputs

The workshop will strengthen participant's knowledge about climate change impacts on forests and of transformation strategies. Through participating in this action, they will be able to develop policies that increase the resilience of forests in Georgia and to lobby for support of these policies from ministers and the parliaments.

The selection criteria for selecting the sites at which transformation measures will be piloted in Georgia will be discussed and agreed.

Consensus on possible location of two pilot sites in Georgia will be reached by reviewing the potential areas using the criteria developed under the project.

Actionable plan for finalization of site selection process in upcoming one month and recommendations on how the WWF can be more effective in providing mutual support on technical issues and



This project is funded by the EU

This project is co-financed and implemented by the WWF Germany in collaboration with the South Caucasus partner organizations

**Project head office in Germany:**  
 WWF Germany  
 Reinhardtstr. 14  
 10117 Berlin, Germany  
 Tel.: +49 (0)30-311777-274  
 Fax: +49 (0)69-79144 4166  
[info@wwf.de](mailto:info@wwf.de)  
[www.wwf.de](http://www.wwf.de)

**Project regional office in the South Caucasus:**  
 WWF Caucasus Programme Office (WWF Caucasus)  
 Merab Aleksidze St. 11  
 0193 Tbilisi, Georgia  
 Tel.: + (995 32) 2-237-500  
 Fax: + (995 32) 2-237-501  
[office@wwfcaucasus.ge](mailto:office@wwfcaucasus.ge)  
[www.panda.org/caucasus](http://www.panda.org/caucasus)

promoting learning, including identification of key areas where additional technical support is needed will be produced.

#### 4. Participants

The workshop action will target policy makers in the environment ministries and forestry administrations of Georgia (see tentative list of participants).

The targeted institutions are:

- Standing Committee on Environment Protection and Natural Resources of the Parliament;
- the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources and the ministry's Natural Resources Agency/Forest Management Department;
- the Ministry of Environment Protection;
- Tbilisi Municipality.

#### 5. Contacts:

PROJECT REGIONAL OFFICE IN THE SOUTH CAUCASUS : WWF CAUCASUS

Giorgi Sanadiradze – Director

WWF Caucasus

Merab Aleksidze Str.11, 0193 Tbilisi, Georgia

Tel.: + (995 32) 2-237- 500 ext.121 Fax: + (995 32) 2-237-501

Email : [gsanadiradze@wwfcaucasus.ge](mailto:gsanadiradze@wwfcaucasus.ge)

<http://www.panda.org/caucasus>

Malkhaz Dzne ladze - Regional Coordinator of the Project

WWF Caucasus

Merab Aleksidze Str.11, 0193 Tbilisi, Georgia

Tel.: + (995 32) 2-237- 500 ext.118 Fax: + (995 32) 2-237-501

Mob.: + (995 99) 108 958

Email : [mdzneladze@wwfcaucasus.ge](mailto:mdzneladze@wwfcaucasus.ge)

<http://www.panda.org/caucasus>



This project is funded by the EU

This project is co-financed and implemented by the WWF Germany in collaboration with the South Caucasus partner organizations

**Project head office in Germany:**

WWF Germany  
Reinhardtstr. 14  
101 17 Berlin, Germany  
Tel.: +49 (0)30-311777-274  
Fax: +49 (0)69-79144 4166  
[info@wwf.de](mailto:info@wwf.de)  
[www.wwf.de](http://www.wwf.de)

**Project regional office in the South Caucasus:**  
WWF Caucasus Programme Office (WWF Caucasus)  
Merab Aleksidze St. 11  
0193 Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel.: + (995 32) 2-237-500  
Fax: + (995 32) 2-237-501  
[office@wwfcaucasus.ge](mailto:office@wwfcaucasus.ge)  
[www.panda.org/caucasus](http://www.panda.org/caucasus)

INCREASING THE RESILIENCE OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE SOUTHERN  
CAUCASUS THROUGH FOREST TRANSFORMATION

**National Workshop**

**with representatives/decision-makers from the forestry related government agencies  
(Georgia)**

**Introduction to Climate Change Impacts on Forests and of Transformation Strategies and the Objectives,  
Expected Results, and Activities of the EU financed Project on Increasing the Resilience of Forest  
Ecosystems against Climate Change in the Southern Caucasus through Forest Transformation**

21 June, 2011 - Tbilisi, Georgia

WWF Caucasus Conference Hall

---

**Workshop Agenda**

**June 21, 2011**

**I. Decision-makers part**

10:00 – 10:05	Opening	
10:05 – 10:15	Welcoming and introductory speeches	Michal Nekvasil – EC Delegation to Georgia, Deputy Head of Operations  Zaza Gamtsebidze – First Deputy Chairman of the Environment Protection and Natural Resources Committee of the Parliament of Georgia  Giorgi Sanaditadze – WWF Caucasus, Director
10:15 – 10:20	Description of main objectives of the Workshop and adoption of the agenda	Malkhaz Dzneladze – WWF Caucasus, the Project Regional Coordinator
10:20 – 10:40	Objectives, Expected Results, and Activities of the EU financed Project	Malkhaz Dzneladze – WWF Caucasus, the Project Regional Coordinator
10:40 – 11:10	Discussion	Workshop participants
11:10 – 11:20	Coffee break	
11:20 – 11:45	Introduction to Climate Change Impacts on Forests, Transformation Strategies, and of Site Selection Criteria for Transformation	Hannes Neuner – WWF Caucasus, Senior Forest Officer / the Project Regional Advisor



This project is funded by the EU

This project is co-financed and implemented by the WWF Germany in collaboration with the South Caucasus partner organizations

**Project head office in Germany:**

WWF Germany  
Reinhardtstr. 14  
10117 Berlin, Germany  
Tel.: +49 (0)30-311777-274  
Fax: +49 (0)69-79144 4166  
info@wwf.de  
[www.wwf.de](http://www.wwf.de)

**Project regional office in the South Caucasus:**  
WWF Caucasus Programme Office (WWF Caucasus)  
Merab Aleksidze St. 11  
0193 Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel.: + (995 32) 2-237-500  
Fax: + (995 32) 2-237-501  
office@wwfcaucasus.ge  
[www.panda.org/caucasus](http://www.panda.org/caucasus)

11:45 – 12:00	Discussion	Workshop participants
12:00 – 12:20	Presentation on potential sites in Georgia  (review and general analyses)	Hannes Neuner – WWF Caucasus, Senior Forest Officer / the Project Regional Advisor  Malkhaz Dzneladze – WWF Caucasus, the Project Regional Coordinator
12:20 – 12:40	Discussion	Workshop participants
12:40 – 12:55	Recommendations for finalization of site selection process in Georgia (June-July)	Hannes Neuner – WWF Caucasus, Senior Forest Officer / the Project Regional Advisor  Malkhaz Dzneladze – WWF Caucasus, the Project Regional Coordinator
12:55 – 13:00	Next steps and closure of decision-makers part of the workshop	Malkhaz Dzneladze – WWF Caucasus, the Project Regional Coordinator
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	

## II. Technical part

14:00 – 17:30	Continuation of technical work (analyses of forestry and socio-economic information and GIS mapping) in joint working group of specialists	WWF project team and representatives of the forest related agencies
17:30 – 17:45	Adoption of the technical ways on finalization of work for site selection	Workshop participants
17:45 – 17:55	Evaluation of the technical part of the Workshop and next steps	Malkhaz Dzneladze – WWF Caucasus, the Project Regional Coordinator
17:55 – 18:00	Closure	



This project is funded by the EU

This project is co-financed and implemented by the WWF Germany in collaboration with the South Caucasus partner organizations

**Project head office in Germany:**  
 WWF Germany  
 Reinhardtstr. 14  
 101 17 Berlin, Germany  
 Tel.: +49 (0)30-311777-274  
 Fax: +49 (0)69-79144 4166  
[info@wwf.de](mailto:info@wwf.de)  
[www.wwf.de](http://www.wwf.de)

**Project regional office in the South Caucasus:**  
 WWF Caucasus Programme Office (WWF Caucasus)  
 Merab Aleksidze St. 11  
 0193 Tbilisi, Georgia  
 Tel.: + (995 32) 2-237-500  
 Fax: + (995 32) 2-237-501  
[office@wwfcaucasus.ge](mailto:office@wwfcaucasus.ge)  
[www.panda.org/g/caucasus](http://www.panda.org/g/caucasus)

INCREASING THE RESILIENCE OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE SOUTHERN  
CAUCASUS THROUGH FOREST TRANSFORMATION

**National Workshop**  
with representatives/decision-makers from the forestry related government agencies  
(Georgia)

Introduction to Climate Change Impacts on Forests and of Transformation Strategies and the Objectives,  
Expected Results, and Activities of the EU financed Project on Increasing the Resilience of Forest  
Ecosystems against Climate Change in the Southern Caucasus through Forest Transformation

21 June, 2011 - Tbilisi, Georgia

WWF Caucasus Conference Hall

---

## List of Participants

	NAME	ORGANIZATION	POSITION	ADDRESS	PHONE/ FAX, E-MAIL
1.	Mr. Michal NEKVASIL	EC Delegation to Georgia	Second Secretary, Deputy Head of Operations	38 Nino Chkheidze St., 0102 Tbilisi, Georgia	Tel.: +995 32 943 763 Fax: +995 32 943 768 <a href="mailto:michalnekvasil@ec.europa.eu">michalnekvasil@ec.europa.eu</a>
2.	Mr. Zaza GAMTSEMLIDZE	Environment Protection and Natural Resources Committee, Parliament of Georgia	First Deputy Chairman	Rustaveli ave 18	Tel.: +995 32 2284205 <a href="mailto:zazagamsemlidze@parliament.ge">zazagamsemlidze@parliament.ge</a>
3.	Mr. Giorgi SANADIRADZE	WWF Caucasus	Director	Aleksidze Str. 11 0193 Tbilisi Georgia	<a href="mailto:gsanadiradze@wwfcaucasus.org">gsanadiradze@wwfcaucasus.org</a>
4.	Mr. Giorgi KORKASHVILI	Environmental and Green Areas (incl. Forests) Service of the City of Tbilisi	Head	Kostava Str. I turn 33 0179 Tbilisi	Tel.: +995 32) 2-37-82-38 Fax : +(995 32)2-37-82-21
5.	Mr. Vasil CHALADZE	Environmental and Green Areas (incl. Forests) Service of the City of Tbilisi	Deputy Head	Kostava Str. I turn 33 0179 Tbilisi	Tel.: +995 32) 2-37-82-38 Fax : +(995 32)2-37-82-21 <a href="mailto:v.chaladze@tbilisi.gov.ge">v.chaladze@tbilisi.gov.ge</a>
6.	Mr. Josef KARTSIVADZE	Ministry of Environment Protection	Head of Biodiversity Service	Gulia Str. 6, 0114 Tbilisi, Georgia	-
7.	Ms. Nona KHELAIYA	Ministry of Environment Protection	Biodiversity Service	Gulia Str. 6, 0114 Tbilisi, Georgia	-
8.	Ms. Tea SIPRASHVILI	Natural Resources Agency of the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources	Head of Int. Relations	Gulia Str. 6, 0114 Tbilisi, Georgia	-
9.	Mr. Giorgi KIKNAVELIDZE	Forest Management Department, Natural Resources Agency, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources	Head	Gulia Str. 6, 0114 Tbilisi, Georgia	-



This project is funded by the EU

This project is co-financed and implemented by the WWF Germany in collaboration with the South  
Caucasus partner organizations

**Project head office in Germany:**

WWF Germany  
Reinhardtstr. 14  
10117 Berlin, Germany  
Tel.: +49 (0)30-311777-274  
Fax: +49 (0)69-79144 4166  
[info@wwf.de](mailto:info@wwf.de)  
[www.wwf.de](http://www.wwf.de)

**Project regional office in the South Caucasus:**

WWF Caucasus Programme Office (WWF Caucasus)  
Merab Aleksidze St. 11  
0193 Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel.: + (995 32) 2-237-500  
Fax: + (995 32) 2-237-501  
[office@wwfcaucasus.org](mailto:office@wwfcaucasus.org)  
[www.panda.org/ge/caucasus](http://www.panda.org/ge/caucasus)

10.	Natia IORDANISHVILI	Forest Management Department, Natural Resources Agency, Ministry of Energy and - Natural Resources	Head of Unit	Gulia Str. 6, 0114 Tbilisi, Georgia	-
11.	Nana SUJASHVILI	Forest Management Department, Natural Resources Agency, Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources	Sen.Specialist	Gulia Str. 6, 0114 Tbilisi, Georgia	
12.	Mr. Hannes NEUNER	WWF Caucasus	Senior Forest Officer	Aleksidze Str.11 0193 Tbilisi Georgia	<a href="mailto:hnaner@wwfcaucasus.ge">hnaner@wwfcaucasus.ge</a>
13.	Mr. Malkhaz DZNELADZE	WWF Caucasus	Project regional coordinator	Aleksidze Str.11 0193 Tbilisi Georgia	<a href="mailto:mdzneladze@wwfcaucasus.ge">mdzneladze@wwfcaucasus.ge</a>
14.	Mr. Zviad GOT SIRIDZE	WWF Caucasus	Project national coordinator for Georgia	Aleksidze Str.11 0193 Tbilisi Georgia	<a href="mailto:zgotsiridze@wwfcaucasus.ge">zgotsiridze@wwfcaucasus.ge</a>
15.	Mr. Ilia OSEPAHVILI	WWF Caucasus	Forest Officer	Aleksidze Str.11 0193 Tbilisi Georgia	<a href="mailto:iospashvili@wwfcaucasus.ge">iospashvili@wwfcaucasus.ge</a>

#### Workshop Support Group

16.	Ms. Sophiko MGELADZE	WWF Caucasus	Project assisstant	Aleksidze Str.11 0193 Tbilisi Georgia	<a href="mailto:smgeladze@wwfcaucasus.ge">smgeladze@wwfcaucasus.ge</a>
17.	Mr. Giorgi BERUCHASHVILI	WWF Caucasus	GIS spesialist	Aleksidze Str.11 0193 Tbilisi Georgia	<a href="mailto:gberuchashvili@wwfcaucasus.ge">gberuchashvili@wwfcaucasus.ge</a>
18.	Mr. Tamaz GAMKRELIDZE	WWF Caucasus	Communication officer	Aleksidze Str.11 0193 Tbilisi Georgia	<a href="mailto:tgamkrelidze@wwfcaucasus.ge">tgamkrelidze@wwfcaucasus.ge</a>



This project is funded by the EU

This project is co-financed and implemented by the WWF Germany in collaboration with the South Caucasus partner organizations

**Project head office in Germany:**  
WWF Germany  
Reinhardtstr. 14  
10117 Berlin, Germany  
Tel.: +49 (0)30-311777-274  
Fax: +49 (0)69-79144 4166  
[info@wwf.de](mailto:info@wwf.de)  
[www.wwf.de](http://www.wwf.de)

**Project regional office in the South Caucasus:**  
WWF Caucasus Programme Office (WWF Caucasus)  
Merab Aleksidze St. 11  
0193 Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel.: + (995 32) 2-237-500  
Fax: + (995 32) 2-237-501  
[office@wwfcaucasus.ge](mailto:office@wwfcaucasus.ge)  
[www.panda.org/caucasus](http://www.panda.org/caucasus)

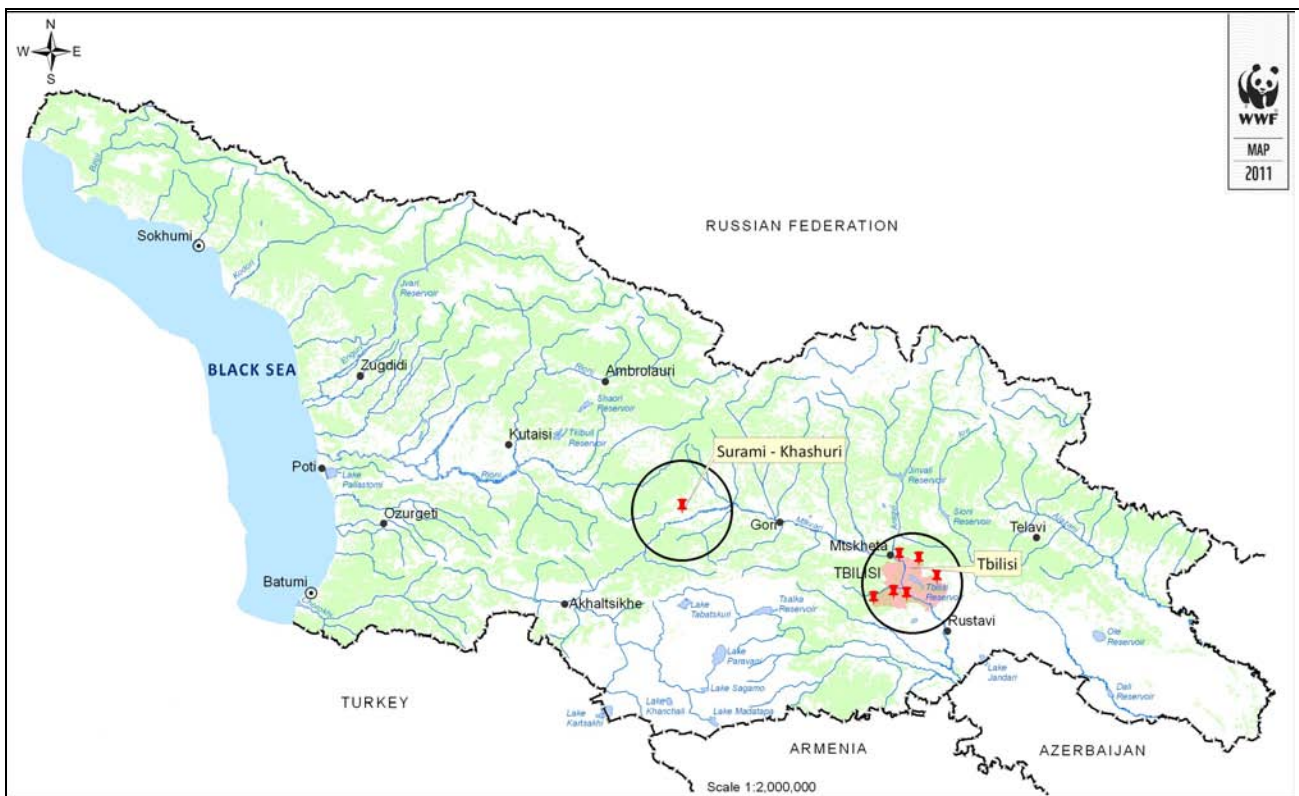


INCREASING THE RESILIENCE OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE SOUTHERN CAUCASUS THROUGH FOREST TRANSFORMATION

**National Workshop**  
with representatives/decision-makers from the forestry related government agencies  
(Georgia)

21 June, 2011 - Tbilisi, Georgia  
WWF Caucasus Conference Hall

**Main Workshop Output:**  
**Principal Locations of the Potential Pilot Site Agreed with Stakeholders**  
*(Municipality of Khashuri and Municipality of Tbilisi)*



This project is funded by the EU

This project is co-financed and implemented by the WWF Germany in collaboration with the South Caucasus partner organizations

**Project head office in Germany:**  
WWF Germany  
Reinhardtstr. 14  
10117 Berlin, Germany  
Tel.: +49 (0)30-311777-274  
Fax: +49 (0)69-79144 4166  
info@wwf.de  
www.wwf.de

**Project regional office in the South Caucasus:**  
WWF Caucasus Programme Office (WWF Caucasus)  
Merab Aleksidze St. 11  
0193 Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel.: + (995 32) 2-237-500  
Fax: + (995 32) 2-237-501  
office@wwfcaucasus.ge  
www.panda.org/caucasus

INCREASING THE RESILIENCE OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE SOUTHERN CAUCASUS THROUGH FOREST TRANSFORMATION

**National Workshop**

with representatives/decision-makers from the forestry related government agencies  
(Georgia)

21 June, 2011 - Tbilisi, Georgia, WWF Caucasus Conference Hall

**Workshop Photos**

© WWF Caucasus PO



© WWF Caucasus PO



© WWF Caucasus PO



© WWF Caucasus PO



© WWF Caucasus PO



© WWF Caucasus PO



This project is funded by the EU

This project is co-financed and implemented by the WWF Germany in collaboration with the South Caucasus partner organizations

**Project head office in Germany:**  
WWF Germany  
Reinhardtstr. 14  
10117 Berlin, Germany  
Tel.: +49 (0)30-311777-274  
Fax: +49 (0)69-79144 4166  
info@wwf.de  
www.wwf.de

**Project regional office in the South Caucasus:**  
WWF Caucasus Programme Office (WWF Caucasus)  
Merab Aleksidze St. 11  
0193 Tbilisi, Georgia  
Tel.: + (995 32) 2-237-500  
Fax: + (995 32) 2-237-501  
office@wwfcaucasus.ge  
www.panda.org/caucasus