

Environmental Projects Addressing Climate Change: The Covenant of Mayors in Georgia

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The Covenant of Mayors (CoM), as the world’s largest local climate and energy initiative, brings together thousands of municipalities committed to implementing the European Union’s climate and energy objectives. Particular attention is given to the EU-funded project “Covenant of Mayors East” (CoM East), which supports municipalities in the Eastern Partnership countries in developing sustainable energy policies, mitigating and adapting to climate change, strengthening energy security, and reducing energy poverty.

The objectives, tasks, target groups, and key activities of CoM East are outlined, along with the presentation of Covenant of Mayors Demonstration Projects (COM-DEP), which showcase successful practices in energy efficiency and renewable energy at the municipal level. The paper discusses the thermal rehabilitation of public buildings, the replacement of outdoor lighting with LED systems, the modernization of heating systems, and the use of solar energy.

Special emphasis is placed on practical examples implemented in Georgian municipalities, including the flood protection project in Senaki, disaster recovery measures in the Oni municipality, the energy-efficient renovation of kindergartens in Telavi and the establishment of a biomass supply chain, as well as the deployment of solar micro-photovoltaic systems in remote mountainous villages without access to electricity. These strategic infrastructure and energy investments significantly enhance the social, economic, and environmental resilience of municipalities while contributing to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.