



## Promotion of Biomass Production and Utilization in Georgia

For more information:

[www.ge.undp.org](http://www.ge.undp.org)

[www.biomass.ge](http://www.biomass.ge)

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Global Environment Facility (GEF) have been supporting the production of biomass in Georgia since 2013, in close cooperation with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia.



# 10 REASONS TO USE UPGRADED BIOMASS

## BIOMASS IS:

### 1. RENEWABLE SOURCE OF ENERGY

Biomass energy derives from the organic matter, such as wood, crop residues or organic wastes.

### 2. LOW CARBON FUEL

Using biomass instead of fossil fuels can reduce your carbon footprint. Biomass is considered a low carbon emission fuel, as it recycles waste and absorbs CO<sub>2</sub> during the plant life cycle.

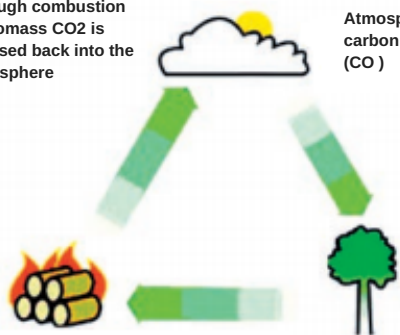
### 3. MORE EFFICIENT THAN OTHER FUELS

Biomass briquettes have 1.5-2 times higher combustion temperature than wood, as it has a low moisture content and high density. Unlike firewood, biomass briquettes do not require drying as they are produced at a water content of around 10%, compared to around 50% water for freshly felled trees.

Through combustion of biomass CO<sub>2</sub> is released back into the atmosphere

Atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)

Plants absorb CO<sub>2</sub> and convert it into new biomass



## BIOMASS CAN:

### 4. IMPROVE LOCAL ECONOMY

Producing and using biomass creates more jobs than any other form of fossil or renewable energy. Using biomass reduces the energy costs while the money spent on production stays within the local economy.

### 5. INCREASE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Biomass can enhance rural growth and competitiveness, promote investment in jobs and entrepreneurship. Currently, agriculture and hunting/forestry represent 9.2% of Georgia's GDP. Biomass can help promote this sector and increase its share in the national economy.

### 6. HELP PREVENT CLIMATE CHANGE DISASTERS

Illegal logging destroys our forests, causes land degradation, landslides and flooding. The use of sustainable biomass can prevent this harmful process, ease pressure on forests and consequently lessen negative impacts of climate change.

### 7. HELP CONSERVE BIODIVERSITY

Firewood remains a primary source of energy used for heating and cooking in the rural areas of Georgia. Using sustainable biomass can change that and save forests, plants and animals for our children.

### 8. REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Georgia has an ambitious plan to unconditionally reduce its Greenhouse Gas emissions by 15% below the Business as Usual scenario (BAU) by 2030. Biomass can play a vital role in achieving this target.

### 9. REDUCE WASTE

Biomass is composed of organic materials, such as wood waste, vine pruning and agricultural crops. Using biomass reduces waste and landfill disposal.

### 10. HELP TO ACHIEVE ENERGY SECURITY

Georgia still depends on imports for its heat, power and transport fuels. Imported natural gas and oil currently account for 73% of our total primary energy supply, 41% of which is natural gas, 26% is oil products, and 2% is coal. Shifting for renewable energy sources, such as biomass, can gradually transform the energy sector in Georgia, making it greener, stronger and more secure.

