

Sorted collection of plastic waste in Kutaisi

The main project components was introduction of waste sorted collection in Kutaisi (Georgia).



In Kutaisi, sorted collection of plastic waste was successfully introduced and has been implemented. For this purpose, the relevant conditions have been created in Kutaisi. In particular, 100 containers have been purchased, with a volume of 1,1 m³.

In May 2015, 100 containers were placed on 20 streets and squares of Kutaisi, near the waste generation sources. The population was given the opportunity to dispose of the separated plastic waste in these containers. It should be noted that these containers are transparent, are subject to mechanical emptying, and have wheels that make them movable.

During the project implementation process, for the period of five months, eight tons of plastic waste were collected, for disposal in a territory provided by Kutaisi City Hall. It should be noted that containers for plastic waste are serviced by "Special Services" company, which is responsible for the collection and disposal of municipal waste within the territory of Kutaisi. The company provided the special sanitation truck for emptying of containers and transportation to storage facilities.

Within the project, the Baling press was purchased for briquetting of collected waste, and was installed at a waste storage site.

It is necessary to note that the population of Kutaisi actively started to sort plastic waste and place them into containers. The first result exceeded expectations. The containers were being filled up rapidly, and 90-95% of them were the plastic waste.

It should be also note that separated collection of waste was implemented for the first time in Georgia. Especially impressive are the scales and results of this process.

The mentioned activities were independently covered by Georgian mass media (radio "Old City," "Rioni-TV" and "Mega-TV").

<https://www.facebook.com/rionitv?fref=ts>

To foster sorted collection of plastic waste and raise public awareness, the following activities have been carried out:

- Made a video clip aimed at the promotion of plastic waste collection in Kutaisi. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=97IVljBJh2g>
- Posters were prepared and printed aimed at raising public awareness about the implementation of separated collection of plastic waste in the city.
- Flyers were prepared and printed which contain brief information about the possible negative environmental impacts of plastic waste, and which types of plastic can be disposed to the containers placed on the city's territory.



Results:

- Separated collection of plastic waste was introduced. For the first time in Georgia, source separation of plastic waste is being implemented at a municipal level. Collected 8 tons of separated plastic waste.
- The population is actively involved in sorted collection of plastic waste.
- Plastic waste separation experience will contribute to successful introduction of sorted collection of waste in other cities of Georgia that, according to local legislation in force, must be implemented by 2019.