



Funded by  
the European Union



KFW



Federal Ministry  
European and  
International Affairs  
Republic of Austria



# Just Transition Forum 2025

## Putting an End to Energy Poverty

**Venue:** Radisson Blu Iveria Hotel (Tbilisi City Centre), Tbilisi, Georgia

**Date:** 27 November 2025

**Time:** 9:00 – 17:00 (UTC+4) (06:00-14:00 CET)

**Exhibition: "Media, Messages, Momentum: GESRP's Visibility Journey for Just Transition":** 9:00 – 17:00

**Registration: 8:30 – 9:00**

**Online Link:** [https://eu01web.zoom.us/j/63224015653?pwd=9xAjEwXCnWtGfSWdS45VThX1aiTNGb.1\(06:00-14:00 CET\)](https://eu01web.zoom.us/j/63224015653?pwd=9xAjEwXCnWtGfSWdS45VThX1aiTNGb.1(06:00-14:00 CET))

### 1. Welcome and opening session

**Hour: 9:00 – 9:20**

Welcome address

**Paweł Herczyński**, Ambassador of the European Union to Georgia

Keynotes

**Artur Lorkowski**, Energy Community Secretariat

**Robert Gerschner**, Ambassador of Austria to Georgia

### 2. Setting the Scene

**Hour: 9:20 – 09:30**

Setting the Scene: Just Transition in Georgia

**Margalita Arabidze**, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Georgia

### 3. Stakeholder Roundtable on Just Transition

**Hour: 09:30 – 10:55**

This roundtable will bring various stakeholders to explore the different aspects of just transition, the need for it, as well as the challenges and opportunities it presents.

Facilitator: **Monika Figaj**, Energy Community Secretariat

**Denis Žiško**, Aarhus centar u BiH  
**Aleksandra Mirkovic**, Trade Union UGS NEZAVISNOST, Serbia

**Halyna Lytvyn**, GIZ Ukraine  
**Aleksandra Kikovic**, UNDP



MRC Consultants and Transaction Advisers  
a subsidiary of Seureca, a division of the Veolia Group



Funded by  
the European Union



KFW



Federal Ministry  
European and  
International Affairs  
Republic of Austria



|   |  |
|---|--|
|   | <p>Montenegro<br/><b>Nevena Smilevska</b>, Bankwatch<br/><b>Biljana Ramic</b>, Ministry of Mining and Energy, Serbia<br/><b>Emilija Sarafska</b>, Municipality of Bitola, North Macedonia<br/><b>Ivan Mrvaljevic</b>, EPCG, Montenegro<br/><b>Andriy Tabinsky</b>, Coal Communities of Ukraine</p> |
| <p><b>Hour: 10:55– 11:00: JT Spotlight:</b> How green corruption undermines just transition</p> | <p><b>Albert Hani</b>, Director of the Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative (RAI) Secretariat</p>   |

Coffee break: 11:00 – 11:30

#### 4. Presentation and Panel Discussion: Building Our Way Out of Energy Poverty and Empowering People in the Energy Transition

Hour: 11:30 – 12:30

**Scene-Setting Presentation:** Key insights from the Energy Community’s study on implementing the Energy Efficiency First (EE1st) principle in buildings, with a focus on reducing energy poverty.

**Panel Discussion:** Exploring the implementation of the study’s key recommendations to tackle energy poverty by improving building energy efficiency across the Energy Community Contracting Parties.

Presenter: **Borko Raicevic**, Energy Community Secretariat

Moderator: **Branislava Marsenic**, Energy Community Secretariat

**Omar Tsereteli**, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Georgia

**Saida Ismailakhunova**, World Bank  
**Valentina Stardelova**, Ministry of Energy, Mining and Mineral Resources, North Macedonia

**Alexandar Zlatkovic/Biljana Ramic**, Ministry of Mining and Energy, Serbia

**Valeriu Prohnițchi**, Just Energy Transition Portfolio Manager, UNDP

12:30- 13:30 Opening of GESRP’s thematic exhibition and lunch.

#### 5. Fireside chat: Many Shades of Grey – Energy Poverty and Air Pollution

Hour: 13:30 – 14:00

The discussion of local air pollution tends to focus on the most significant sources, such as energy generation and

Moderator: **Peter Vajda**, Energy Community Secretariat



MRC Consultants and Transaction Advisers  
a subsidiary of Seureca, a division of the Veolia Group



Funded by  
the European Union



KFW



Federal Ministry  
European and  
International Affairs  
Republic of Austria



industry. Thousands of small-scale diffuse pollution sources are, however, also contributing, which is often a blind spot in the discussion.

What could different stakeholders (central and local governments, businesses, institutions, and citizens) do to address this?

**Nevena Smilevska**, Bankwatch

## 6. Award Ceremony: Just Transition Young Voices Awards

Hour: 14:00 – 14:30

Winner announcement

Moderator: **Marta Schulte-Fischedick**, Energy Community Secretariat

Story pitches of the three winners of the Just Transition Young Voices Awards 2025

**Ani Gogokhia**, Georgia  
**Tringë Shkodra**, Kosovo\*  
**Kateryna Pereloma**, Ukraine

## 7. Presentation and Panel: Communication and Outreach - Showcasing the EU's transformative impact across Georgia

Hour: 14:30 -15:00

**Introductory Remarks**

**Nicholas Cendrowicz**, Head of Cooperation of the European Union to Georgia

**Anna-Maria Schneider**, Head of German Development Cooperation with Georgia

**GESRP Presentation** on Programme Progress and Future Actions: This presentation will outline the workstreams of the Georgian Energy Sector Reform Programme. It will summarise key achievements to date, including legislative drafts, capacity-building milestones, and related activities. Finally, it will set out planned future actions to scale successful pilots and deepen stakeholder engagement in support of Georgia's just energy transition.

**Adrian Twomey**, PMO, GESRP / EU-Vietnam SETP

**Omar Tsereteli**, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Georgia

**GESRP outreach and local impact:** How the programme reached target groups (youth, women, urban populations and vulnerable communities) and its impact at the local level.



MRC Consultants and Transaction Advisers  
a subsidiary of Seureca, a division of the Veolia Group



Funded by  
the European Union



KFW



Federal Ministry  
European and  
International Affairs  
Republic of Austria



## Hour: 15:00 -16:00 - Panel on Community Power - Driving Energy Efficiency from the Ground Up

**Panel discussion** to spotlight GESRP's Regional Campaign on Energy Efficiency - an EU-funded initiative that empowered nine local civil society and media organisations to deliver tailored, high-impact energy-efficiency actions.

The panel will explore how localised activities - ranging from solar-charger installations and custom board games to youth camps and multilingual radio programmes - sparked behaviour change, fostered community ownership, and laid the groundwork for long-term energy resilience.

Moderator: **Vakhtang Begashvili**,  
*Executive Director, MES, Project  
Coordinator/Local Manager, GESRP*

**Marco Caponigro**, *Executive Director,  
GOPA Tech GmbH*

**Marie Kikvadze**, *Energy and Climate  
Communications Expert, GESRP*

**Chabuki Cheishvili**, *Project Lead,  
Energy Smart Initiative Group*

**Mariam Meparidze**, *Project lead,  
Georgia Red Cross Society*

**Beka Geldiashvili**, *Project Lead, Front  
News Georgia*

## 8. Conclusion

Hour: 16:00 – 16:10

**Adam Cwetsch**,  
Energy Community Secretariat



SEURECA  VEOLIA

MRC Consultants and Transaction Advisers  
a subsidiary of Seureca, a division of the Veolia Group