



# **AVOID RISKS POSED BY CLIMATE CHANGE - TURN YOUR AGRICULTURAL VENTURE INTO A RESPONSIBLE AND PROFITABLE BUSINESS**



**If you operate in the agriculture industry and are looking for ways to make your business more sustainable and profitable, consider GEFF financing to upgrade to the technologies you need.**

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In a country where agriculture is one of the key economic sectors, employing 42% of the population, having well-developed agricultural practices and infrastructure are important for developing the industry to its full potential. These practices have become even more crucial in light of the growing risks posed by climate change.

Rising temperatures and unpredictable seasonal rains, reduced river flows and landslides have been occurring far more frequently than expected. The acceleration and the severity of these changes depend on our lifestyle choices and economic activities.








### Why should an agricultural business take climate adaptation into account?

- **Farming is the biggest water consumer worldwide.** Traditional irrigation systems use excess water that may result in increased costs in the short run and soil erosion and desalination in the long run.
- **Extreme droughts and excess rainfall can damage crops, resulting in irreversible losses.** Seed and harvest storage units and green houses can be effective ways to plan for an unpredictable future.
- **High levels of fertiliser and pesticide use can lead to water pollution.** With recent changes in regulations, businesses that use polluting agents will be held responsible for the damage they cause. Technologies that efficiently deliver chemicals to the fields can help businesses use less fertiliser and pesticides and avoid unnecessary costs.

## How can an agricultural business combat these risks?

The events that can threaten the livelihood of any agricultural venture are hard to predict; however, being prepared for them decreases the risk of irreversible damage to the business. Optimising operations to better use water, soil and other available resources can significantly improve the business's ability to adapt to abnormal and atypical weather conditions.

There are various technologies available on the Georgian market that can help the agriculture sector become more sustainable and profitable. Every business in the agriculture sector can start with purchasing the technologies that are most essential to their activities:

	<b>Drip irrigation systems</b>	90% efficiency compared to 45% with traditional irrigation systems
	<b>Greenhouses</b>	Reduced water evaporation and soil erosion, increased yields
	<b>Rainwater harvesting tanks</b>	Reduced water evaporation and soil erosion, increased yields
	<b>Land preparation and seeding equipment</b>	Reduced soil erosion
	<b>Sub-soilers and no-tillage seeders</b>	6-25% increase in yields, soil erosion reduced by 28-90%

Browse the [Green Technology Selector](#) for more available technologies.

## What are other measures that can help businesses adapt to climate change?

- **Adopting renewable energy sources** - solar energy is the cleanest source of energy and can reduce air and climate pollution, as well as offer reduced utility costs.
- **Practising crop diversity and rotation** - introducing nitrogen-producing plants such as peas and beans can enrich the soil with great amounts of this essential nutrient.
- **Using alternative sources of fuel** - biomass, which is derived from plants and animal waste, can be transformed into energy and other value-added products.

## How can the GEFF help the agriculture sector?

**The Green Economy Financing Facility** or GEFF is a product of the EBRD that helps businesses become more competitive and sustainable by enabling them to **invest in green technologies and projects**.

Offered through our [Partner Financial Institutions](#), the GEFF credit can be used to:

- a) Purchase best-in-class high-performing technologies mentioned above;
- b) Invest in green projects, such as installing a solar power station on your farm.

## GEFF has two approaches to financing your investments:

**Pre-approved investments.** If you already know what technology you want to invest in, you can browse our [Green Technology Selector](#). This online database contains green and high-performing technologies under US\$ 300,000 (or equivalent in other currencies) that have already been approved for GEFF financing.

**Assessed investments.** If the investment that you are looking to make is complex and requires a customised solution, as a potential sub-borrower of one of our Partner Financial Institutions, you can apply for our **FREE** technical assistance. GEFF consultants will provide expert advice to ensure that you find the most appropriate green technologies and services that are eligible for GEFF financing.

## See how GEFF financing worked for an agribusiness in georgia:

Investment details	Drip irrigation system
Sub-borrower	Agro Grain LLC
Type of business	Corn farming
Description	Reduced water and electricity use and savings of US\$ 10,000 in energy costs per year
Investment size	US\$ 365,000
Energy savings	106.17 MWh per year
Water savings	151,666 m <sup>3</sup> per year

## How to make GEFF work for you:

- I. Choose high-performing technologies that best suit the needs of your business by either using the [Green Technology Selector](#) or by approaching vendors directly
- II. Summarise the technical and financial requirements of your proposed investment
- III. Approach the Partner Financial Institution (PFI) to apply for financing: [ebrdgeff.com/georgia/financing](http://ebrdgeff.com/georgia/financing)
- IV. If necessary, apply for a free consultation and project assessment from an experienced team of GEFF experts
- V. Secure financing through a loan or leasing agreement.
- VI. Have the technology installed
- VII. Benefit from long-term energy savings, and in some cases financial gain



We look forward to hearing from you and answering your questions.

GEFF in Georgia

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