

Article/Paragraph of the Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Type of the Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Implementation Report
Implementation Report of the DCFTA Implementation National Action Plan for 2017						
Trade in Goods						
EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 1, National Treatment and Market Access for Goods	Processing of data on external merchandise trade statistics by modes of transports	Other activities	External merchandise trade data is Processed by mode of transports	Statistical data by modes of transports	National Statistics Office of Georgia	Since February 2017, statistical data on external merchandise trade of Georgia are processed and disseminated by the modes of transport. Respective data for 2016 were also processed.
EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV	Implement relevant activities in frames of existing cooperation with Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)	International Cooperation	Support to the establishment of new business ties between the representatives of Georgian SMEs and EU member countries	Number of new business ties	Entrepreneurship Development Agency	<p>Enterprise Georgia (EG) and Georgian Innovation and Technology Agency (GITA) are supported by GIZ within the EU4business component on capacity building and development towards provision of EEN services in Georgia. Accordingly, two employees have completed one-week staff exchange program in Germany.</p> <p>On 18th of May 2017, with the support of GIZ, the EEN info day event was organised in Georgia, participating up to 60 entrepreneurs. The goal of this event was to raise awareness on EEN and respective opportunities.</p> <p>On 19th of May 2017, Enterprise Georgia organized 1 day training on capacity building of EEN Georgia staff by trainer/mentor from Germany. She shared experience and knowledge how to improve EEN services in Georgia.</p> <p>Enterprise Georgia has facilitated two partnership agreements between Georgian and ENN member companies on Laurel leaf export and medical apparel import,</p> <p>During 2017, Enterprise Georgia has submitted 4 business proposals from Georgian companies to entrepreneur network intranet.</p> <p>In October 2017, two Georgian companies participated in pre-Anuga (Tour d'Europe Cologne) B2B international matchmaking event, held in Cologne, Germany in October 2017.</p> <p>Also, Georgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry joined EEN Georgia consortium in October 2017.</p>
	Promote the Georgian exporter companies' participation at the international trade fairs and missions	International Cooperation	Popularization of Georgian products as well as establishment of new business ties to diversify the market	Number of exporter companies, participating in trade fairs and missions	Entrepreneurship Development Agency	Enterprise Georgia actively continues its support to Georgian companies to facilitate their presence at international trade fairs. In 2017, EG supported 94 Georgian exporter companies to participate in trade fairs in Dubai (Gulf food), Tokyo (Foodex), Hong Kong (Hofex), Italy (LineaPelle), Trade mission in Germany, China (CIFIT (China International Fair for Investment & Trade)) and Germany (Anuga).

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	Implement the projects related to access to financial resources in the frames of State Program “Produce in Georgia”	Other activities	Support to new enterprise establishment along with upgrade/expansion of existing ones, in the scope of “Produce in Georgia” access to finance component	Number of agreements signed between Enterprise Georgia and its beneficiaries	Entrepreneurship Development Agency	In 2017, within the state program “Produce in Georgia”, Enterprise Georgia has co-financed an interest rate of 86 projects that created new 2900 jobs. The total volume of loans amounted to GEL 115.7 Mln., while the total volume of investments amounted to GEL 256.7 Mln.
	Entrepreneurship Development Agency Business Service Center development in order to increase awareness of the beneficiaries and other stakeholders on DCFTA related issues and other activities of Enterprise Development Agency	Other activities	Increased number of entrepreneurs informed about DCFTA obligations/requirements and planned activities, with the support of Business Service Center	Number of beneficiaries, that were consulted on DCFTA related issues, is increased by 30% compared to previous year	Entrepreneurship Development Agency	At the beginning of 2017 the Agency set the target to consult 280 – 300 Georgian entrepreneurs on DCFTA related topics. At the end of 2017, 305 beneficiaries of the Agency were consulted on DCFTA related matters, among them: -195 beneficiaries were consulted within round table meetings and trainings; -50 beneficiaries were consulted within the meetings organized together with the Policy Study Center in Gori, Kutaisi, Rustavi and Zugdidi; -60 beneficiaries were consulted within the EEN related information day held in May 2017.
	Training Needs Assessment – TNA for SMEs	Other activities	TNA project implementation in priority sectors	Number of conducted studies	Entrepreneurship Development Agency	During 2017, EG, with the support of European Training Foundation (ETF), conducted analysis of Training Needs Assessment in 2 sectors: hospitality and paper/ packaging sectors. In September, EG and ETF expert started implementation of a further project based on TNA in Hospitality sector. The project will facilitate linkage of representatives of hospitality industry and VETs to bridge gaps between these two sectors.
	Develop SME sectoral value-chain studies	Other activities	stimulated production of the Studies revealed products	At least 2 SME sectoral value-chain studies are developed	Entrepreneurship Development Agency	In 2017, in cooperation with GIZ, EG developed two SME sectoral value chain studies - Georgian ICT Cluster Potential and Georgian Furniture Potential in the EU Market.
Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures						

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EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 55	Continuing approximation of Georgian SPS legislation with the relevant legislative acts of the EU in accordance with SPS Approximation List	Legal Framework	updated or newly adopted legislation	Number of adopted legal documents in accordance with SPS Approximation List	Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia	<p>In accordance with SPS approximation list, during 2017 the Georgian national legislation was approximated with 17 EU legal acts and were adopted the following Governmental resolutions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decree of the Government of Georgia №195 of April 13th, 2017, on the Methods of Analysis and Examination of Heat-Treated Milk Intended for Direct Human Consumption; 2. Decree of the Government of Georgia №303 of June 26th, 2017 on “Amending Decree of the Government of Georgia № 508 of November 17th, 2016, on the Approval of Technical Regulation on the Addition of Vitamins, Minerals and Certain Other Substances in Food”; 3. Decree of the Government of Georgia №567 of December 23rd, 2016, on the Approval of Border Control Rules for Safety of Food/Feed of Non-Animal Origin; 4. Decree of the Government of Georgia N354 of July 21st, 2017 on “amending the Decree of the Government N429 of December 31 2010 on approval of the rule of the phytosanitary border quarantine control and veterinary border quarantine control”; 5. Decree of the Government of Georgia N370 of July 27th, 2017 – Technical regulation on food intended for infants and young children, food for special medical purposes, and total diet replacement for weight control; 6. Decree of the Government of Georgia N323 of July 5th, 2017 on approval of the rule on the monitoring of zoonosis and zoonotic agents; 7. Decree of the Government of Georgia N456 of October 6th, 2017 on indications or marks identifying the lot to which a foodstuff belongs; 8. Decree of the Government of Georgia N594 of December 28, 2017 on animal health requirements for aquaculture animals and products thereof and on prevention and control of certain diseases in aquatic animals; 9. Decree of the Government of Georgia N605 of December 29, 2017 “Technical regulation – health rules as regards to animal by-products and derived products not intended for human consumption (including animal waste) and on approval of business operators related to this activity”; 10. Decree of the Government of Georgia N597 of December 29, 2017 on conditions and certification requirements for the placing on the market and import of aquaculture animals and products thereof and laying down a list of vector species; 11. Decree of the Government of Georgia N595 of December 28, 2017 on laying down animal health and public health requirements of trade and import of goods subject to the special requirements;

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						<p>12. Decree of the Government of Georgia N584 of December 28, 2017 “Technical regulation – animal health effects on trade into the country of bovine animals and swine;</p> <p>13. Decree of the Government of Georgia N602 of December 29, 2017 “Technical regulation – Control procedures of <i>Ralstonia solanacearum</i> (Smith) Yabuuchi et al.”;</p> <p>14. Decree of the Government of Georgia N556 of December 15, 2017 “Technical Regulation – on identity and plant health checks of plant products or other phytosanitary regulated objects which may be carried out at a place other than the border control point specifying the conditions related to these checks”;</p> <p>15. Decree of the Government of Georgia N553 of December 15, 2017 “Technical Regulation – Procedure of control of potato ring rot”.</p> <p>Upon comparison it was identified that existing Legislation of Georgia (food/feed safety, veterinary and plant protection code) is already approximated to the Commission regulation N645/2000. Furthermore, based on discussions with the EU commission it was decided that 2 EU legal acts are not applicable for Georgia, therefore, Georgia is not intending to approximate its legislation to the mentioned 2 legal acts. According to SPS sub-committee decision the SPS approximation list will be amended accordingly.</p>
<p>Further assistance to Georgia in adoption and implementation of legislation, including trainings for staff, capacity building of competent authorities and in development of laboratory capacities in line with the EU requirements.</p> <p>EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 4, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures</p>	<p>Accreditation of the methods of diagnosis of Plant's diseases</p>	<p>Other activities</p>	<p>Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia is accredited according to the relevant international standards</p>	<p>Certificate of Accreditation in relevant field</p>	<p>Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia</p>	<p>During 2017, the following tests were elaborated and implemented at the Plant Pest Diagnostic Department:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. research of five species of potato viruses (PVX, PVY, PVM, PMTV, APLV) by ELISA method; 2. research of two species of tomato viruses (ToMV, TSWV) by ELISA method; 3. Morphological Identification of Mediterranean fruit fly (<i>Ceratitis Capitata</i>); 4. Morphological identification of pine wood nematode (<i>Bursaphelenchus xylophilus</i>); 5. Detection and identification of <i>Phytophthora</i> spp. from plant material and soil; 6. Development and implementation of morphological-biochemical method of identification of bacterial spot pathogen - <i>Xanthomonas</i> spp. (<i>X. vesicatoria</i>, <i>X. euvesicatoria</i>, <i>X. gardneri</i>, <i>X. perforans</i>); 7. Morphological and biological research of Carolina horsetnettle (<i>Solanum carolinense</i> L.); 8. research of <i>Clavibacter michiganensis</i> subs. <i>Sepedonicus</i> causing potato ring rot by ELISA method;

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						<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Detection and identification of <i>Xylophilus ampelinus</i> by PCR method; 10. Detection and morphological-biochemical identification of <i>Xylophilus ampelinus</i>, the Causal Agent of bacterial necrosis of vine; 11. research of VG GLRaV-1 and GLRaV-3 viruses by PCR method; 12. Peanut content detection in food (RT PCR method); 13. research of Fire blight – <i>Erwinia amylovora</i> by ELISA method; 14. Detection and identification of <i>Xanthomonas</i> spp. (<i>X. vesicatoria</i>, <i>X. euvesicatoria</i>, <i>X. gardneri</i>, <i>X. Perforans</i>) by PCR method; 15. Morphological identification of Western flower thrips (<i>Frankliniella occidentalis</i>); 16. Morphological and biological research of perennial ragweed (<i>Ambrosia psilostachya</i> D.C.); 17. research of Apple Mosaic Virus - ApMV by ELISA method; 18. research of <i>Prunus</i> necrotic ringspot virus - PNRSV by ELISA method; 19. Morphological Identification of Western corn rootworm (<i>Diabrotica virgifera</i>); 20. Morphological identification of the Nut gall mite (<i>Phytoptus avellanae</i>); 21. Detection and identification of <i>Guignardia citricarpa</i>; 22. Detection and identification of quarantine organism <i>Tilletia (Neovissia) indica</i>; 23. Detection and morphological-biochemical identification of <i>Pseudomonas syringae</i> pv. <i>Actinidiae</i>, the Causal Agent of Bacterial Canker of Kiwifruit; 24. Morphological and biochemical identification of bacteria in soil samples; 25. Detection and identification of <i>Pseudomonas syringae</i> pv. <i>actinidiae</i> by PCR method; 26. Morphological and biological research of the "devil's thorn" (<i>Emex spinosa</i> L.); 27. Morphological and biological research of green poinsettia (<i>Euphorbia dentata</i> Mich.); 28. Morphological Identification of Brown marmorated stink bug (<i>Halyomorpha halys</i> Stal); 29. Isolation of nucleic acid from GLRaV-1 and GLRaV-3 viruses.
	Introduction of the new methods in food analysis for analytical chemistry direction	Other activities	Food testing according to the EU requirements	Implemented new method	Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia	<p>During 2017, the following methods were introduced in Food Testing Department:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Determination of heavy metals in Hazelnut (copper, zinc, lead, cadmium);

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						<p>2. Determination of aflatoxins in Hazelnut (B1,B1+B2,G1+G2) (reference method);</p> <p>3. Atomic emission method of heavy metals determination in Fruit and vegetables – (copper, zinc);</p> <p>4. Gas chromatography method of determination of organophosphorous pesticides in Honey;</p> <p>5. Ion chromatography method of determination of anions in water (nitrates, nitrites, sulphates, phosphates, flourine, bromine, chlorine);</p> <p>6. Method of detection of meat novelty;</p> <p>7. Detection of staphylococcus aureus in food/feed;</p> <p>8. Serotyping method of Detection of Salmonella in poultry meat.</p> <p>screening methods (biochips method (Randox Evidence Investigator):</p> <p>9.– determination of antibiotics (group of tetracyclines, quinolones, tiamphenicole, streptomycin and tylosin (Antimicrobial array II (AM II)) in Honey and Meat</p> <p>10. Determination of chloramphenicoles and nitromedazoles (Antimicrobial array V (AM V)) in Honey</p> <p>11.Determination of nitrofurans (AOZ, AMOZ, AHD, SEM) (Antimicrobial array III (AM III)) in Honey, sea products and Meat:</p> <p>Cereals and cereal based animal food:</p> <p>12. Determination of micotoxins (ochratoxin A , aflatoxin G1 , deoxynivalenol, aflatoxin B1, zearalenone,) ((Myco V (Myco 5));</p> <p>13. determination of micotoxins (fumonis,ochratoxin A, deoxynivalenol, aflatoxin G1, zearalenone, T2 toxin, aflatoxin B1) ((Myco VII (Myco 7))</p> <p>14. determination of micotoxins (paxilline, fumonis, ochratoxin A , ergot alkaloids, diacetoxyscirpenol, deoxynivalenol, aflatoxin G1, zearalenone, T2-toxin, aflatoxin B1) ((Myco X (Myco10)) 13 Professional testing were held.</p> <p>Laboratory staff has participated in various training courses to upgrade professional skills.</p>
	Introduction of the laboratory components in the food safety according to the regulations of legislative approximation programme	Other activities	laboratory component, according to the regulations of legislative approximation programme, is implemented in accordance	Certificate of Accreditation in relevant field	Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia	<p>In 2017 the Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture gained re-accreditation according to international standard ISO 17025 (ANAB) – accreditation were granted to Tbilisi, Akhaltsikhe, Kutaisi, Batumi, Dusheti, Marneuli, Zugdidi, Gori and Gurjaani labs in following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diagnostic test of veterinary disease; - Chemical test for food safety and water quality; - Test for checking microbiological contamination of food and water; - Radiological test for food safety and water quality

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			with EU requirements			<p>Following Laboratories (Tbilisi, Akhaltsikhe, Kutaisi and Batumi labs) of the Ministry of Agriculture also gained national accreditation according to international standard ISO 17025 in May 2017 in the following spheres:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diagnostic test of veterinary disease; - Chemical test for food safety and water quality; - Test for checking microbiological contamination of food and water; - Radiological test for food safety and water quality <p>Quality management system according to International Standard ISO 9001:2015 is implemented at the abovementioned labs.</p>
	Training of the staff of relevant competent authority in drafting and implementing the legislation, in direction of capacity building programme of competent authority and development laboratory capacities	Institutional Framework	Conducted trainings for employees of the competent authority	Number of conducted trainings and other activities	Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia	<p>From May 29th till June 2nd, 2017, the representatives of the Ministry of agriculture and National Food Agency of Georgia participated in the activities of Phase 2 of the project - "Presentation of Bulgarian experience in developing and implementing of risk assessment and risk management policies and procedures" as a part of the official project - "Strengthening the capacity of the National Food Agency of Georgia for risk assessment and risk management," organized in Sofia, Bulgaria, with the support of Bulgarian Food Safety Agency and Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry of Republic of Bulgaria;</p> <p>During 4-8 September 2017, the representatives of National Food Agency of Bulgaria held a training seminar - "Strengthening the capacity of the National Food Agency of Georgia for risk assessment and risk management," in the frame of Phase 2 of the project - "Presentation of Bulgarian experience in developing and implementing of risk management policies and procedures". The meeting was held at NFA office;</p> <p>From October 30th till November 6th, 2017, the representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia and the National Food Agency participated in training in frame of Phase 5 – "Training in the field of Animal Health and their Trade in line with the European Standards of Risk Analysis and Risk Management; Principles and Requirements – protocols, risk management methods in line with the European Standards" of Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point system (HACCP)," as a part of the project - "Strengthening the capacity of the National Food Agency for risk assessment and risk management," organized in Sofia, Bulgaria, with the support of Bulgarian Food Safety Agency and Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry of the Republic of Bulgaria;</p> <p>In the frame of the support to the legislative approximation activity, in 2017 Comprehensive Institution Building (CIB) Programme has organized following:</p>

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						<p>1. On 18th January 2017, CIB international expert advised NFA inspectors on observed contradictions during inspections of a large Georgian meat processing and retail companies;</p> <p>2. On 20th February 2017, CIB International experts provided practical examples of the EU requirements for developing the Georgian residue monitoring plan for the NFA veterinary and inspection staff;</p> <p>3. In March 2017, CIB International expert gave recommendations for NFA veterinary department on planning for monitoring of chemical residues and microbial contamination of products of animal origin and brief summary for the NFA food and veterinary departments on legal requirements for importing hides and skins and queen bees and non-food apiculture products from third countries to the EU;</p> <p>4. On April 19-21, 2017, CIB supported a three day training for Food Safety Department Inspectors in Tbilisi. The topic of the training was the FSSC 22000 Food Safety System Certification. The scheme is an advanced approach to food safety management systems and consists of ISO 22000:2005 and ISO/TS 22002-1:2009. Training session was attended by 15 food safety experts and inspectors representing NFA HQ and regional offices. Training was delivered by international expert of International Finance Corporation (IFC);</p> <p>5. Veterinary Working Group held a meeting in the framework of the approximation of Georgian legislation with the relevant EU legislation which was organized on the 21st of April 2017. Working Group Members have reviewed and discussed Council Directive 2006/88/EC, as of 24 October 2006, “Animal health requirements for aquaculture animals and products thereof, and on the prevention and control of certain diseases in aquatic animals”;</p> <p>6. In the frame of legislation approximation activity, CIB Programme organized Inception meeting of the food safety group on April 28, 2017 at the NFA premises. The Group discussed Regulation (EU) No 609/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 June 2013 on food intended for infants and young children, food for special medical purposes, and total diet replacement for weight control and repealing Council Directive 92/52/EEC, Commission Directives 96/8/EC, 1999/21/EC, 2006/125/EC and 2006/141/EC, Directive 2009/39/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Commission Regulations (EC) No 41/2009 and (EC) No 953/2009. During meeting CIB experts and the members of the working group discussed main issues of above-mentioned directives what they will take into account while working on relevant Georgian legislation.</p> <p>7. During 1-5 May, 2017 CIB supported study tour of the MoA/ NFA Veterinary Working Group (VWG) members in Estonia to gain hands on experience in practical matters while developing EU equivalent (EU Regulations 1069/2009, 1774/2002 and 142/2011) Georgian legislation on</p>

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						<p>animal by products not intended for human consumption, especially on the aspects of implementation of legislative requirements.</p> <p>8. In the frame of the support to the legislative approximation activity, Comprehensive Institution Building (CIB) Programme organized the inception meeting of the food safety legislative approximation working (WG) group on May 23, 2017, at the National Food Agency. The WG members – representatives of Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Affairs, National Food Agency, discussed Regulation (EC) No 1935/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 October 2004 on materials and articles intended to come into contact with food and repealing Directives 80/590/EEC and 89/109/EEC. Discussed topics included, key elements of the regulation, general purpose, special provisions for materials intended to come into contact with food, authorization procedures, labeling, compliance and traceability, protection and execution provisions and experience in execution.</p> <p>9. Comprehensive institutional building program (CIB) international expert conducted inception training on regulation 1251/2008, implementing Council Directive 2006/88/EC as regards conditions and certification requirements for the placing on the market and the import into the Community of aquaculture animals and products thereof and laying down a list of vector species;</p> <p>10. During 14-16 June 2017, In the frame of the support to the legislative approximation activity, Comprehensive Institution Building (CIB) Programme organized veterinary working group meeting with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection in Kachreti. Discussed were EU Regulations 1069/2009, 1774/2002 and 142/2011. The meeting was attended by 15 members of working group and Comprehensive Institution Building Program international advisors;</p> <p>11. CIB organised awareness campaign regarding swine diseases and its prevention, legislative side and artificial insemination in Telavi, Kakheti region (6-7 July 2017) and Adjara and Guria regions (12-14 July 2017). The meeting were attended by 130 participants: farmers, NFA regional staff and other stakeholders;</p> <p>12. With the support of CIB, in Tbilisi (10-12 July 2017) and Kutaisi (13-15 July 2017), trainings were conducted for the staff on National Food Agency of Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia on international certification scheme FSSC 22000. Training was attended by 42 representatives of the regional offices of NFA. The training was conducted by the international expert of International Finance Corporation;</p> <p>13. On August 1-4, 2017, CIB facilitated roundtable with the participation of the representatives of the Food Safety Department of the NFA and Customs Administration of the Revenue Service. This meeting was follow up of</p>

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						<p>previous one, which was held on 29-30 June 2017. Within the Roundtable the discussion continued on proposal of amendments to the current veterinary monitoring plan at the BIPs and other topics, which included (i) Sampling Methodology for Laboratory Testing of Animal Origin Food, (ii) appropriateness of withholding certain category of food products at the BIPs until laboratory analysis results are available, (iii) Requirements of Governmental Decree # 567 from December 23, 2017 on “Border control regulation of non-animal origin food/feed.”</p> <p>14. On September 18-20 of 2017, Georgia hosted 1st West Eurasia FMD Epidemiology and Laboratory Network Meeting on GF-TADs (global framework for the progressive control of transboundary animal diseases). The meeting was funded by OIE, FAO and co-funded and organized by CIB;</p> <p>15. On September 21st of 2017, CIB international expert Hendrik Kuusk conducted training for feed union of veterinary department regarding – Commission Regulation (EC) NO 152/2009 of 27 January 2009 laying down the methods of sampling and analysis for the official control of food and Regulation (EC) NO 1831/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 September 2003 on additives for use in animal nutrition;</p> <p>16. With the support of CIB programme the Capacity building study tour for the representatives of National Food Agency on Fish and Fishery products’ official control and regulations in EU was conducted in Latvia, on 25-28.09.2017;</p> <p>17. During October 16 – 25 of 2017, CIB supported NFA to organize trainings for food inspectors about Meat and Meat Products Production Technology. Trainings topics consisted of meat and meat products production technology, and biological, chemical and physical hazards; Indra Urbonavičiūtė, Senior Veterinary Inspector at SFVS delivered the Training. Trainings were held in Tbilisi, Kutaisi and Batumi; there were attending 40 specialists and inspectors from NFA, from Tbilisi and regional offices.</p> <p>18. From October 26 through November 4, CIB supported NFA to organize trainings for food inspectors on Milk and Dairy Production Technology. Training was attended by 40 specialists and inspectors from NFA, Tbilisi office and regional divisions.</p> <p>19. During November 6-15, CIB supported NFA to organize trainings for NFA inspectors in inspection of food service enterprises. Trainings were held in Tbilisi, Kutaisi, and Batumi. Trainings was attended by 40 specialists and inspectors from NFA, Tbilisi office and regional divisions.</p> <p>20. On November 9, CIB international expert Hendrik Kuusk and a veterinary expert Marika Bokuchava carried out training of the NFA Veterinary Department on feed regulations (152/2009 and 1831/2003).</p>

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<p>Organising information campaigns with relevant agencies, businesses and NGOs on the requirements for accessing the EU market, as well as with civil society on the relevant consumer aspects of food and feed safety</p> <p>EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 4, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures</p>	<p>Organising informative meetings with relative businesses and NGOs representatives on the requirements for accessing the EU market</p>	<p>Awareness Raising</p>	<p>Conducted meetings, events and accordingly increased awareness</p>	<p>Number of conducted meetings, events</p>	<p>Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. During 2017 The First Deputy Minister and representative of The Ministry participated in the round table meetings organized by the EU funded project in Gori, Mtskheta, Zugdidi and Ozurgeti. During the meeting participants were provided with the information regarding obligations, carried out reforms and benefits streaming from the DCFTA Agreement. 2. On 4th of July 2017 the representative of the Ministry of Agriculture participated in the meeting organized by the agricultural-cooperatives association held in Marneuli municipality. During the meeting the presentation was made concerning the existing cooperation, obligations and reforms carried out in agricultural field in terms of Association Agreement. 3. On 7th of June 2017 the representative of the Ministry of Agriculture participated in the round table organized in the NATO liaison office, where the representatives of ethnic minorities were provided with the information with regards to the existing cooperation, obligations and reforms carried out in agricultural field in terms of Association Agreement. 4. On 29th of June 2017 the representative of the Ministry of Agriculture participated in the meeting organized by the State Ministers Office on for reconciliation and civic equality in Marneuli. During the meeting participants were provided with the sufficient information concerning DCFTA Agreement. 5. Representative of National Food Agency gave a presentation on June 20 in town Gori about the export of Georgian agricultural products to the EU according DCFTA and about the obligations arising from the agreement, in frame of ENPARD “Capacity building to the Agriculture Cooperatives Development Agency (ACDA)” project (EuropeAid/136454/ DH/ SER/GE), on regional forum of agricultural cooperatives; 6. On February 16th, 2017, the representatives of the National Food Agency (NFA) of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia (MOA) have discussed the issues related to the sale of means of plant protection with the local authorities in the Shida Kartli Region. During the meeting special attention was given to falsification of medicinal products and raising awareness and informing population of the usage of agrochemicals and pesticides. The meeting was held in the administrative building of Gori municipality. The meeting was attended by large pesticide and agrochemical sellers and farmers; 7. On February 7th, 2017, the representatives of NFA have met with heads of Tbilisi Agricultural Market and acquainted them with requirements set by legislation. The session was focused on the issues of fulfillment of new regulatory provisions and organization of food labelling by the business operators; 8. On February 4th, 2017, the representatives of the NFA together with representatives of Kakheti region local authorities have deliberated upon

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						<p>selling plant protection means. Within the framework of this meeting, special attention was paid to falsification of medicinal products and raising the awareness among population on agrochemicals and pesticides. The session itself was held in Gurjaani municipality. The meeting was attended by large pesticide and agrochemical sellers and farmers;</p> <p>9. On February 24th, 2017, National Food Agency has organized, with the support of Comprehensive Institution Building (CIB) project, 9th Civil Hall meeting in Hotel “Beaumonde Garden”. Agency and representatives of nongovernmental sector have discussed contemporary relevant topics in an updated format. The Civil Hall convocation was divided in thee thematic groups, in which debated topics included current situation in food safety, veterinary and plant protection, new legislation, approximation with EU law and plans for 2017. Such NFA-related “Civil Hall” meetings are held quarterly. The Hall comprises scientists, experts and representatives of nongovernmental sector.</p> <p>10. On June 24th, 2017, National Food Agency informed milk and dairy producers of new amendments to the “Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy Products”, effective of July 1st, 2017. In accordance with the changes in Decree №152 of the Government of Georgia, the designation “cheese” (k’veli) may be used only on the product manufactured from milk and thus it is prohibited to label the produce made from milk powder as such. Amendments also addressed the definition of “reduced fat butter”;</p> <p>11. A meeting was held on June 19, 2017, between business operators and laboratory representatives on the determination of trans fat levels in foodstuffs and amendments in Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy Products.</p> <p>12. With the participation of specialists of Particularly Dangerous Infectious Animal Disease Division of Veterinary Department of NFA has been arranged following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stage by stage, with the representatives of Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia, working sessions was held with farmers and persons employed in the pig keeping throughout the regions of Georgia, with the aim of raising awareness on “Infectious Swine Diseases, New Regulations in Pig Farming and Measures against [Pig] Diseases”. ▪ An expert, hired by the Veterinary Department, has counseled beekeeping farmers and representatives of beekeeping cooperatives regarding bee diseases and prophylactic and medical treatment methods therefor, veterinary-sanitary measures in beehives (apiaries), and means of protecting bees while applying measures against brown marmorated stink bugs (BMSBs), official (state) control mechanisms in beekeeping

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						<p>field and list of veterinary drugs (medications) allowed in European Union.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Other expert hired by Veterinary Department provided advice to farmers in the fishery sector regarding the issues of fish breeding and prophylactic and treatment measures against fish diseases. <p>13. The FAO expert has organized a training for the employees of NFA Veterinary Department and of Samtskhe-Javakheti Regional Division on epidemiology issues of Peste des Petits Ruminants (in Tbilisi and Samtskhe-Javakheti). Additional information meetings were also held with Samtskhe-Javakheti population on abovementioned topic;</p> <p>14. UN FAO, along with National Food Agency, has held information meetings (19.07.2017) on the National Animal Identification and Traceability System in Kakheti region. During the session, farmers, slaughterhouse owners and veterinaries have been presented with a new, enhanced action plan for animal identification and registration. The latter envisages the continuation of large and small ruminant identification with ear tagging;</p> <p>15. The employees of Food Safety Department of NFA have conducted an information meeting with milk- and dairy-producing business operators in Kakheti region and authorized persons of the same regional division on the amendments in Decree № 152 of the Government of Georgia, of April 3rd, 2015, on the “Approval of Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy Products” and on the Decree № 262 of the Government of Georgia, of June 13th, 2016, on “Determining Quantities of Trans Fats in Food”(effective from August 1st);</p> <p>16. The employees of Food Safety Department of NFA have organized an information meeting and training for the authorized personnel of regional divisions on the Decree № 22 of the Government of Georgia, of January, 18th, 2016, on the “Approval of Rules on Monitoring of Certain Substances and Their Residues in Live Animals and Food of Animal Origin” and on the Decree № 639 of the Government of Georgia, of December 18th, 2015, on the “Approval of Technical Regulation on Pharmacologically Active Substances, Classification and Maximum Residue Limits Thereof in Food of Animal Origin”;</p> <p>17. On December 14, 2017, with the support of CIB program, the tenth session of NFA-affiliated “Civil Hall” was conducted. The head of National Food has concentrated on the importance of civil engagement and Agency work priorities. The session was attended by deputy heads of the Agency as well as by representatives of civil sector, scientific circles, respective associations and consumer protection organizations. The issues postulated by “Civil Hall” members were further discussed within the work format by thematic subgroups in food safety, veterinary and plant protection fields. The Agency representatives have presented information on the progress of</p>

Article/Paragraph of the Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Type of the Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Implementation Report
						current and planned activities against invasive species of Brown marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB), food safety standards and official controls, animal health, vaccination and identification-registration programs. Attention was given to the issues of approximation with EU legislation and new regulations.
Support to the businesses sector in adaptation to the requirements of approximated legislation. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 4, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures	Facilitating the adaptation of Georgian businesses for the implementation of approximated legislation	Policy Framework	Supportive activities in order to adapt business to new requirements	Number of conducted activities or beneficiaries	Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia	<p>1. Trainings with the purpose of familiarizing 110 business operators with the Decree № 118 of the Government of Georgia, of March 9th, 2016, on the “Approval of Technical Regulation on Beef and Beef Product Labelling Rules” were organized by Quality Management Department of National Food Agency in various regions of Georgia, namely in – Imereti (16.02.2017), Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti (16.02.2017), Adjara (17.02.2017), Shida Kartli (20.02.2017), Mtskheta-Mtianieti (21.02.2017) and Samtskhe-Javakheti (23.02.2017);</p> <p>2. Overall, 77 business operators underwent training set up by the Quality Management Department of National Food Agency in different parts of Georgia, specifically, Mtskheta-Mtianieti, Imereti, Samtskhe-Javakheti, Shida Kartli, Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti and Adjara, with the view of apprising them of approval of Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy Products and Decree № 441 of the Government of Georgia, of December 31, 2013, on the Approval of Technical Regulation on Additional Food Labelling Requirements;</p> <p>3. 80 business operators have been trained during the sessions on the Technical Regulation on Additional Food Labelling Requirements organized by Quality Management Department of National Food Agency all around Georgia, encompassing regions of Mtskheta-Mtianieti(21.02.2017), Imereti(16.02.2017), Samtskhe-Javakheti(23.02.2017), Shida Kartli (20.02.2017) and Adjara (17.02.2017);</p> <p>4. Also, Quality Management Department of National Food Agency has set up trainings for a total of 41 business operators in Kakheti(21.02.201) and Guria (17.02.2017) regions in order to acquaint them with Technical Regulation on Additional Food Labelling Requirements, Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy Products and Technical Regulation on Beef and Beef Product Labelling Rules;</p> <p>5. The Quality Management Department of NFA has held a training on Technical Regulation on Additional Food Labelling Requirements for 18 business operators in Kakheti region (21.02.201) and Tbilisi(23.02.2017) regions;</p>

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						<p>6. On June 28, 2017, a training was organized in Gurjaani by the members of Plant Protection and Agrochemical Registration and Control Division with the support of GIZ and EU on regulating and controlling pesticides and agrochemicals. The discussed topics also included marking, packaging, transportation, storing, selling and sampling of pesticides and agrochemicals as well as expected amendments in current legislation.</p> <p>7. On May 30, 2017, a training was organized in Gurjaani by the members of Plant Protection and Agrochemical Registration and Control Division with the support of GIZ and EU on regulating and controlling pesticides and agrochemicals.</p> <p>8. Training was organized in Gurjaani (28 July 2017) and in Gori (27 July 2017), by the members of Plant Protection and Agrochemical Registration and Control Division with the support of GIZ and EU on regulating and controlling pesticides and agrochemicals. The discussed topics also included marking, packaging, transportation, storing, selling and sampling of pesticides and agrochemicals as well as expected amendments in current legislation;</p> <p>9. On November 28-29, 2017, at NFA central office, a session was held with business operators and laboratory representatives on cheese labelling and on the content of recombined milk and veterinary drugs in cheese with the intention of informing the attendees on the relevant legislative amendments;</p> <p>10. On June 19, 2017, a meeting with business operators and representatives of the laboratory was organized on determination of trans-fat quantities (norms) in food and amendments in the technical regulation on milk and dairy products.</p>
Customs and Trade Facilitation						
Institutional development of the The competent authority related to veterinary, phytosanitary and food safety checks at BIPs.	Tranings, workshops and study visits for the staff of BIPs on the veterinary, sanitary and phytosanitary border control	Human Resources	trained staff, who will train other inspectors	Number of trained staff	Revenue Service	<p>On 4-8 September 2017, training of trainers on control procedures of products of non-animal origin was held, where 7 staff members were trained. They will train the other staff members afterwards.</p> <p>On 9-13 October 2017, training of trainers on SPS border control procedures was held; 7 staff members were trained.</p>

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EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 5, Customs and Trade Facilitation						<p>Trained of Trainers conducted training on "Border Control Procedures for Non-Animal Products" for veterinary and phytosanitary specialists on 13-14 November, in Tbilisi; on 16-17 November, in Batumi and on 20-21 November in Akhaltsikhe. Totally 42 staff members were trained. Other 60 staff members will be trained in 2018. Border control of non-animal origin products started from December 1, 2017.</p> <p>On 18-19 December 2017, joint training was held in Baku, Azerbaijan, on SPS data exchange and electronic systems. 5 Revenue Service staff members took part in the event.</p> <p>On September 26-30, 2017, a study visit was conducted in Latvia, intending sharing local experience on border control of animal and non-animal origin food (Riga Sea Port and Riga Airport). 6 employees took part in this study study.</p>
	Elaborating of manuals for products of animal (incl. live animals), non-animal origin and products subject to phytosanitary control	Legal Framework	Inspectors will provide control according to adopted guidelines	Number of adopted guidelines	Revenue Service	<p>Working on Manuals: From January 1 till September 30 of 2017, following meetings were conducted with the EU experts, with the purpose to elaborate the manuals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Veterinary Part – taking samples for further laboratory purposes-the draft of the manuals concerning the control and sample taking procedures for specific products were elaborated. 2. Three meetings, aiming at the elaboration of the manual concerning the border control procedures of food/feed of non-animal origin (30 April-4 may; 17-19 May; 15-18 September). The drafts were elaborated. 3. Manual concerning the control procedures of products subject to phytosanitary control; the working process with the EU experts was in elaborated in 2016. In 2017, the above-mentioned manual was processed by the staff of the Revenue Service. <p>In December 2017, following Manuals were adopted by the order of the Minister of Finance of Georgia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manual concerning the border control procedures of products subject to veterinary control were adopted. Order 36170/29 December, 2017 • Manual concerning the border control procedures of products subject to SPS control; Order 36169/29 December, 2017 • Manual concerning the border control procedures of food/feed of non-animal origin; Order 35631/27 December, 2017
	Adoption of regulations for border control of food of	Legal Framework	Regulation of border control of food of non-	Adopted regulation and	Revenue Service	On 23 December 2016 Governmental Resolution N 567 – regarding border control of food/feed of non-animal origin was adopted. This regulation entered into force on 1 st December 2017.

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	non-animal origin and implementation of procedures		animal origin is adopted and procedures are implemented	implemented procedures		
Facilitating the preparation and adaptation of Georgian businesses for the implementation of approximated SPS legislation and Development of SPS infrastructure EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 63 Import checks and inspection fees. Annex IX Import Checks and Inspection Fees.	Completion of construction of Border Inspection Post "Red Bridge" and equipping of this buildings	Infrastructure	Buildings for sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary control at the Border Inspection Post "Red Bridge" are constructed and equipped	Border Inspection Post comply with EU standards	Revenue Service	The first phase of construction of the necessary building for sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary control of the Border Inspection Post "Red Bridge" was completed. The tender was announced for the second stage, the winner was revealed and the second stage has started. Part of the relevant SPS equipment was purchased I frames of CIB project.
Parties will cooperate in preparing for the approximation of Georgia's legislation to the EU legislation as envisaged by relevant Annex to the AA and international standards EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 5, Customs and Trade Facilitation Annex XIII – Approximation of Customs Legislation	Drafting of new Customs Code	Legal Framework	Approximation of Georgian legislation to the appropriate EU regulations	Drafted Customs Code	Revenue Service	Draft version of the Customs Code has been elaborated. The draft has been provided to the European commission for review and further work is underway with the provided recommendations in mind. According to the existing Annex XIII of the Association agreement, the approximation should be in line with the Community Customs Code, which has been replaced currently by the Union Customs Code. According to the last Customs-Sub Committee under the AA taking place on the 17 th of May 2017 Georgia will approximate its customs legislation to the Union Customs Code. Consequently, the existing draft project should be rewritten in accordance with the provisions restructured in the Union Customs Code. EU will propose competent experts in the restructuring process of the existing draft project.
	Adoption of secondary legislation	Legal Framework	Approximation of Georgian legislation to the appropriate EU regulations	Adoption of secondary, customs legislation	Revenue Service	After adoption of the new Customs Code, the secondary legislative acts will be elaborated
	Capacity building for the staff of the Revenue Service	Human Resources	Increased awareness of Customs staff	Number of trainings	Revenue Service	Based on the new draft project the relevant activities will be conducted.

Article/Paragraph of the Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Type of the Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Implementation Report
			of the Revenue Service concerning the implementation of the provisions of new customs legislation			
Approximating Georgia's Authorized Economic Operator system to that of the EU EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 5, Customs and Trade Facilitation	Drafting and adoption of new regulations using EU best practice	Legal Framework	Development of legislation regulating the Authorized Economic Operator programme	Adopted legislation regulating the Authorized Economic Operator programme	Revenue Service	Georgia has adopted legislative changes introducing Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) institute in Georgia. Work continues on further elaboration and revision of the legislation. On 20-23 of June 2017, World Bank IFC program hosted a working group meeting for GRS and USAID G4G project where feedback provided by DG TAXUD regarding the draft legislation was reviewed. Updated draft was provided to the European Commission on July 26 2017. On September 1, 2017, amendments to the Order N290 of the Minister of Finance entered into force regulating some of the matters of the AEO institution in Georgia.
	Capacity building for the staff of the Revenue Service	Human Resources	Increased awareness of Customs staff of the Revenue Service concerning the implementation of the provisions of Authorized Economic Operator programme	Number organized trainings	Revenue Service	With the support of USAID G4G project, on 7-11 August 2017, a working meeting was held on AEO related matters between the representatives of the Revenue Service and a Polish expert. On October 24, a meeting was held between the representatives of the Revenue Service, USAID G4G and Deloitte where matters related to IT Audit of AEO applicants and of already authorized persons were discussed.
Co-operating on risk-based customs control and sharing of relevant information that contributes to improved risk management and	Enactment of the Advanced Passenger Information/Passenger Name Record (API/PNR) regulations	Legal Framework	Customs risk profiles are developed integrating the data provided through the	Activation of the Advanced Passenger Information/Passenger Name Record	Revenue Service	Legislative amendments were introduced to Article 214 (1) of the Tax Code of Georgia according to which person carrying out air transport is obliged to provide tax authority with advanced information of means of transport, goods and/or passengers traveling by said means of transport, in a manner prescribed by the Order of the Minister of Finance.

Article/Paragraph of the Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Type of the Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Implementation Report
security of the supply chains, facilitation of legitimate trade and safety and security of goods imported, exported or in transit. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 5, Customs and Trade Facilitation			Advanced Passenger Information/Passenger Name Record (API/PNR) systems	(API/PNR) systems in Georgia		A working group was set up within the Revenue Service to elaborate a draft of an order by the Minister of Finance for the purposes of Article 214 (1), aiming to elaborate the rules applicable to notification of advanced information lodged by the persons carrying out international transport and concerning the means of transport, goods and/or passengers being transported by such means of transport.
Support to Georgia in the Process of Accession to the Pan-Euro-Med Convention on Rules of Origin and in implementation of thus resulting obligations. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 5, Customs and Trade Facilitation	Training of Customs officers on the matters related to verification and certification of preferential origin	Human Resources	Customs officers of the revenue service trained in certification and verification of preferential origin	Number of organized trainings and trained staff	Revenue Service	On May 16-17 2017 representative from the GRS participated in the PEM working group meeting. Trainings and workshops are planned with the updated rules correlating with the Pan-Euro-Med Convention, which will be implemented in 2018.
	Accession of Georgia to the Pan-Euro-Med Convention on Rules of Origin	International Cooperation	Application of Pan-Euro-Med Rules of Preferential Origin with relevant countries	Georgia's accession to the Convention	Revenue Service	The Parliament of Georgia has adopted the Resolution on April 21, 2017 "on Accession of Georgia to the Regional Convention on Pan-Euro-Mediterranean Preferential Rules of Origin", and on July 1, 2017, Georgia became a party to the convention. Currently processes are underway to substitute the relevant provisions of the Protocol I of the Association agreement as to enable cumulation between EU and Georgia as foreseen under the convention.
Support to Georgia in accession to the Convention on Common transit procedure. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 67	Preparation of legislative project and IT infrastructure for the Accession to the Convention and implementation of NCTS systems	Legal Framework	Simplified transit procedures with member countries	Respective draft legislative amendments	Revenue Service	An internal working group set-up within the Revenue Service is working to identify necessary amendments required for the implementation of the system as well as researching the technical requirements of the system. On May 17 – 18, July 19 – 20 and September 27 – 28 of 2017, three consecutive workshops on Common Transit Convention and New Computerised Transit System were held in Tbilisi. During the seminar, invited experts introduced to the representatives of Georgia Revenue Service legal, practical and IT aspects of accession process and drafted relevant recommendations. On December 18, 2017 meeting was held at the EU delegation office in Georgia for selecting the EU member partner customs administration for twinning.

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						The project is expected to start in first quarter of 2018.
	Training of Customs staff in order to implement the provisions of the Convention	Human Resources	Customs officers possess the appropriate knowledge and information in order to implement provisions of the Convention	Number of trained customs staff	Revenue Service	Currently, the process is underway to identify the topics and appropriate areas for the trainings.
Approximating Georgia's legislation on customs enforcement of IPR to EU acquis EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 75, Annex XXIII - Approximation of Customs Legislation	Elaboration and adoption of the legislative amendments concerning customs enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights	Legal Framework	Protection of Intellectual Property Rights at the Georgian border in accordance with EU standards	Georgian legislation is amended in accordance with EU regulations	Revenue Service	On December 13, 2017, the legislative amendments concerning customs enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights were adopted by the Parliament of Georgia.
	Elaboration of operational procedures concerning Customs protection of IPR	Legal Framework	Improved quality of Intellectual Property Rights protection at the border	Operational procedures are elaborated in accordance with EU standards	Revenue Service	Draft operational procedures on customs enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights at the border has been developed. There are internal discussion procedures ongoing that will be finalized in the nearest future.
	Training of Revenue Service employees on measures related to Customs protection of IPR	Human Resources	Customs officers possess the appropriate skills and knowledge to protect IPR at the border in accordance	Number Trained staff	Revenue Service	Trainings in the field of IPR protection at the border will be held in 2018, based on the amendments implemented in the law of Georgia on border measures related to intellectual property were adopted at the end of 2017.

Article/Paragraph of the Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Type of the Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Implementation Report
			with EU standards			
Public Procurement						
Implementation of the measures as defined in Article 143 (2), Articles 144 and 145; EU-Georgia Association Agreement.,	Prepare draft legislative amendments in state procurement field	Legal Framework	First draft of legislative amendments id elaborated	Draft legislative amendments are elaborated	LEPL – the State Procurement Agency	<p>On April 6th of the 2017 the Parliament of Georgia adopted amendments to the Law of Georgia on State Procurement which is in line with international obligations in the field of : a) general principles; b) specifications; c) time limits;</p> <p>New changes to the Law has reflected the principle of proportionality and equal treatment, it has been defined that, during ascertaining tender requirements advantage must be granted to the performance criteria and functional specifications. Amendment determined reasonable time limits for tender announcement and acquisitions of tender terms. It should be mentioned that obligation with regard to the time limits is envisaged from 2019.</p> <p>According to the amendments, appeal procedures have been changed as well. More precisely, announced tender might be appealed by any interested party free of charge, as for selection-evaluation stage – appeal can be accepted only from the bidder participating in tender and whose right has been violated. To this end, he/she pays tender submission fee, which in any case will be returned to him/her after dispute resolution is finalized, except the case when his/her appeal is not satisfied. In such case, the tender submission fee is to be transferred to the state budget. The amendment entered into force since 19th of July 2017.</p>
	Elaboration of relevant bylaws	Legal Framework	Elaborated bylaws	The basic EU requirements are reflected in the draft law	LEPL – the State Procurement Agency	<p>In order to reflect new amendments and for the enforcement of Law requirements, State Procurement Agency issued 19 normative acts, from which two normative acts have to be underlined: New Rule of Conducting Electronic Tender (the Order#12 dated by 14th of June, 2017) which not only enforces the legislative requirement but also distinctly, in a detailed manner and chronologically reflects each concrete step of tender procedures and the Amendment to the Rules of Conducting Activities of the Dispute Resolution Board (Order #22 dated by 15th of June, 2017). These amendments clearly defines the rule for the appeal submission in compliance with the new legislative amendments. The remaining 17 normative acts also meets legislative requirements.</p> <p>In parallel with mentioned amendments, State Procurement Agency elaborated methodological instructions and recommendations for more</p>

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						effective enforcement of the new Law and normative acts. The mentioned amendments are available at the Agency's web page.
	preparing proposals for institutional framework of the dispute resolution body in the public procurement sphere	Institutional Framework	Elaborated institutional restructuring plan of the Public Procurement Board	Institutional restructuring plan of the dispute review board in public procurement sphere	LEPL – the State Procurement Agency	The draft law on institutional framework of the dispute resolution body in the public procurement sphere was submitted to the Government of Georgia, which approved the draft law on September 13, 2017 and sent it to the Parliament of Georgia on the same day as the legislative initiative. On December 23, 2017, the Parliament of Georgia adopted the draft law with the third hearing.
Cooperation through exchange of information on best practices and on regulatory frameworks. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 149	Carry out training sessions for the relevant employees of the State Procurement Agency	Human Resources	Capacity building for the relevant employees of State Procurement Agency	Number of trained staff	LEPL – the State Procurement Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On February 21-22, 2017, by the initiative of the State Procurement Agency and with support of TAIEX program, seminar on Directive 2016/24/EU was held in Tbilisi. Representatives of State Procurement Agency and other procuring entities attended the seminar; ▪ On March 7-9, 2017, seminar on EU Directives on utility sector and concessions were held in Tbilisi. The seminar was attended by the representatives from: State Procurement Agency, Government Administration, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Justice and other interested authorities. At the event, experts from SIGMA shared knowledge and EU best practice on EU regulations and procedures of utility sector and concessions; ▪ On 2nd June 2017, within the scope of EU financed project and with the support of the Competition Agency of Georgia, seminar was held on “Competition Law in EU and Georgia”. Three representatives of State Procurement Agency attended the seminar; ▪ On 6nd June 2017, international seminar on “Methods for Mitigation Bid Rigging Risks” was held with EU support program. The event was attended by the representatives from State Procurement and Competition Agencies, Government administration, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Justice and representatives other interested entities; ▪ From 20th of June until 1st of July of 2017 two representatives of State Procurement Agency attended training concerning state procurement in Netherlands (Leiden and Hague). The training was conducted by the organizational support of Government of Netherlands; ▪ On 19-22 September 2017, World Trade Organization (WTO) and European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and State Procurement Agency organized annual forum “Regional forum on state procurement”. 71 delegates from different countries attended the forum Georgia;

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						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On 2-4 October 2017, Asian Development Bank and State Procurement Agency of Georgia organized annual forum “Asia Pacific Public Electronic Procurement Network 3rd e-Government Procurement Conference” in Tbilisi. Forum was attended by 120 delegates from Asia Pacific countries. Procurement experts and activists of civil society participated in the forum. Delegates discussed possibilities for further development of e-Procurement systems; ▪ On 5-11 November 2017, study visit of Georgian delegation was organized in Stockholm (Sweden) and Hague (the Netherlands). The study visit was held within the scope of EU funded project “supporting the development of private and administrative legislative system in Georgia,” which is implemented with the support of GIZ program: legal approximation with EU standards in South Caucasus. The representatives of State Procurement Agency and Government Administration participated in the study visit. ▪ On 12-17 December 2017, representatives of the State Procurement Agency participated in the SIGMA Ministerial Conference in Paris on “public governance – delivering for citizens and business.”
	Training for procuring organizations, economic operators and other interested parties	Human Resources	Capacity building for the employees of LEPL - State Procurement Agency and for other agencies' employees involved in procurement on EU public procurement Directives and on the relevant best practices	Number of trained staff from procuring organizations and economic operators	LEPL – the State Procurement Agency	In 2017, training Center of the State Procurement Agency, organised capacity building training sessions for representatives of state authorities and local self-government representatives, as well as, for the specialists employed at public schools. Total number of participants in organized 15 training courses reached 964. Training courses focused on general principles of public procurement, public procurement regulatory legislation, general overview of procuring methods, procedures of simplified procurement, consolidated tender, black and white Lists, practical aspects of conducting designed contests, as well as, the functioning of the Dispute Resolution Board. Besides this, three informative-consultative meetings were organised for procurement specialists, which were attended by 38 specialist in total.
	Elaboration and electronic publication of instructions, manuals	Other activities	Relevant instructions, manuals and guidelines are published	Published instructions, manuals and guidelines	LEPL – the State Procurement Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - With the support of GIZ three new editions were published: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) FAQ 300 about State Procurement; b) E-Procurement users guide; c) new versions of user's guide for electronic systems.

Article/Paragraph of the Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Type of the Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Implementation Report
	and guidelines					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual e-newsletter has been published which sums up SPA activities in 2016; - SPA annual report for 2016 has been published; - SPA methodological recommendations, elaborated in scope of the Law on State Procurement, has been published on April 6, 2017. The mentioned methodological recommendations are available at SPA web-page.
<p>Ensure efficient dissemination of information on tenders by parties.</p> <p>EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 148</p>	Unified Electronic System upgrade	Other activities	The exchange of information is carried out through Unified Electronic System	Upgraded Unified Electronic System	LEPL – the State Procurement Agency	<p>First phase of works for ensuring the implementation of Open Contracting Data Standards, has been completed, that implies systemic publishing of aggregated info as well as info on individual procurement in machine-readable format (JSON) at the newly created website http://opendata.spa.ge/. At present data for 2015 and 2016 is completed, SPA is working for publishing data of previous years. Public info and data for electronic tenders in Georgia in JSON format will be gradually published on the website by the utilization of relevant visualization tools.</p> <p>Electronic form of tender documentation in the form of questionnaire has been drafted, tested and launched in the system.</p> <p>New systemic of notification was created, which, in case of changes in tender documentation, sends notifications to the suppliers.</p> <p>New survey forms was created in the management system of consolidate tender. Control mechanism for sending informative SMS has also been launched.</p> <p>In order to enforce amendments made in the Law on State Procurement dated by April 6, 2017, through the Unified Electronic System of State Procurement relevant modification has been carried out. New electronic services were added. SPA has created, tested and launched new public procurement procedure e-Tender without prequalification.</p>
Technical Barriers to Trade, Standardization, Metrology, Accreditation and Conformity Assessment						
<p>Facilitation of infrastructure development for Standards, technical regulations, metrology, market surveillance, accreditation and conformity assessment.</p> <p>EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 3 - Technical</p>	Upgrade of the measurement standards base, renovation of Metrological Labs with the new and modern equipment	Infrastructure	Access to the new and/or enhanced services for interested entrepreneurs, laboratories, regulatory bodies	Number of metrological labs equipped with new instruments	LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)	<p>In the framework of II phase of the CIB program, the process of equipping reference laboratories with measuring instruments is completed. At present, delivery, installation of equipment and first introductory trainings were conducted for following laboratories: radiation metrology, small volumes, force, pressure, acoustic measurements, temperature, electricity, humidity, radio-physical measurements, time and frequency, dimensional measurements, optics, mass, especially big masses (mass pieces and scales), as well as the so-called mobile laboratory - specially equipped vehicle, which allows to calibrate big mass pieces in the laboratory, and big scales on-site of their installation.</p>

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Barriers to Trade, Standardization, Metrology, Accreditation and Conformity Assessment						<p>To ensure co-financing of CIB II phase, GEOSTM has purchased the equipment for the following divisions/laboratories: radio-physics, optics and acoustics reference division; the Procurement procedures for the phys-chemical reference division are underway. This process will continue in 2018.</p> <p>As a result of upgrading measurement standards base, the services offered to all interested parties by GEOSTM Metrology Institute laboratories, increased significantly, new fields of measurement were introduced as well as the range of the existing ones has been widened.</p>
	In the field of Metrology preparation for international recognition of the renewed and equipped priority reference laboratories	Institutional Framework	Increase access to the internationally recognised services in the field of Metrology for interested parties	The gradual increase of the number of internationally recognized laboratories, CMC entries (calibration and measurement capabilities)	LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)	<p>In May 2017, the third phase of CIB Program was launched, The Twinning Project “Support to Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology for further implementation of the EU Georgia DCFTA requirements” envisages the activities for achieving international recognition of the Metrology Institute's reference laboratories.</p> <p>GEOSTM has started procedures necessary for achievement of international recognition form Regional Metrology Organization COOMET. First stage envisages presentation of Quality Management System of GEOSTM MI on the COOMET Technical Committee for Quality, which is planned for January 2018. On the second stage, the on-site peer evaluation from COOMET experts of selected GEOSTM Metrology Institute laboratories will be conducted. Presently together with experts of the twining project GEOSTM is identifying the field and laboratories to be submitted for peer evaluation and respectively for international recognition.</p>
	Further development of Accreditation System according to EU best practices	Other activities	EU CIB project “Further development of Accreditation System according to EU best practices” completed	Final report of the project	LEPL - The Unified National Body of Accreditation - Accreditation Center (GAC)	<p>Within the framework of the EU CIB Project, “Further development of Accreditation System according to EU best practices” the following seminars were conducted on international standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -ISO/IEC 17020 -ISO/IEC 17043 -ISO/IEC 17021 -ISO/IEC 17024 <p>Conducted were also, the trainings on the issues related to the uncertainty of measurement, Flexible scope and taking samples in the food safety spheres. The evaluators of the Accreditation Center, the representatives of accredited bodies and other interested administrative officials were participated in the training.</p> <p>In addition 2 qualification testings were conducted:</p>

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						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Qualification exam in testing building materials; - Qualification testing in determining the underground water contour.
	Further integration of The Unified National Body of Accreditation in the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA)	International Cooperation	Recognition of the accreditation results issued by the Unified National Body of Accreditation	EA BLA (bilateral agreement) signed between Georgian accreditation center and European co-operation for Accreditation (EA)	LEPL - The Unified National Body of Accreditation - Accreditation Center (GAC)	<p>On 23 May 2017 at the EA General Assembly in Slovenia, the bilateral agreement was signed between Georgian accreditation center and European co-operation for Accreditation on Recognition of the accreditation results issued by the Unified National Body of Accreditation recognition covers the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exams and calibration (ISO / IEC 17025); - Product Certification (ISO / IEC 17065); - Certification of personnel (ISO / IEC 17024); - Inspection (ISO / IEC 17020); <p>In Georgia, the entrepreneur can already receive a certificate, which is recognized in the European Union: fruits, vegetables, fruits and vegetables preserves and other food products, mineral and potable water, non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverages, color and precious metals, oil and petroleum products, chemical industry products, furniture, calibration of measuring equipment and etc.</p>
Continue the legal approximation process as foreseen by Chapter 3. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 3 - Technical Barriers to Trade, Standardization, Metrology, Accreditation and Conformity Assessment	Start the process of approximation with the Directive 2014/34/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council relating to equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres	Legal Framework	Approximation of Georgian legislation with the EU legislation	Prepared draft technical regulation	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)	The draft Technical Regulation on equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres has been prepared and discussions are ongoing within the relevant ministries.

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	Start the process of approximation with the Directive 1999/5/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on radio equipment and telecommunication terminal equipment and mutual recognition of their conformity	Legal Framework	Approximation of Georgian legislation with the EU legislation	Prepared draft technical regulation	Georgian National Communications Commission	The draft Technical Regulation on radio equipment and telecommunication terminal equipment and mutual recognition of their conformity has been prepared and discussions are ongoing within the relevant ministries
	Adopt the International and European Standards as a Georgian Standards; Including Standards harmonized with Directives 1999/5/EC and 2014/34/EU	Legal Framework	Increased access to the International and European standards	Number of international and European standards adopted as a Georgian ones	LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)	In 2017 year 20157 standards were registered as Georgian standards, among them: SST ISO/IEC (International Standard) -48; SST EN (European Standard) - 2105; SST (Georgian Standard) - 4; According to the Georgian Standards Program, standards harmonized with Directives 1999/5/EC and 2014/34/EU were adopted as a Georgian Standards.
	Approximation to the basic principles of the Regulation 1025/2012/EU EC of the European Parliament and of the Council in the field of Standardization	Legal Framework	Approximation to the EU <i>aquis</i>	Prepared procedures and internal normative acts	LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)	In the framework of the Twinning Project “Support to Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology for further implementation of the EU Georgia DCFTA requirements” the activities are planned for the approximation with EU regulation 1025/2012 /EU. These activities include the consultations and seminars by European experts, as well the gaining of the practical experience for the implementation of above regulation through the study visit in EU member state national standards body.
	Implement the principles of ISO/IEC 9001:2015 in the Standards Department of the GEOSTM	Institutional Framework	Further improvement of the quality and efficiency of the services provided to the interested parties	Relevant documents are prepared	LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)	<p>The Standards Department’s staff have undergone the trainings according to the standard ISO/IEC 9001 on quality management systems and internal auditors. The Employees were awarded the International Certificates of Lloyd’s Register;</p> <p>In support of implementation quality Management System following documents were developed: Standards Registry Maintains Rules; Rules and requirement for standards structure, content and forms.</p> <p>The process of development of other relevant documents is ongoing. The documents are being developed based on recommendation of twinning experts.</p>

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						On 11-12 th of October 2017 the training - "Elaboration of the quality management system documents (a quality manual, relevant procedures, instruction, forms etc.)", for Standards Department staff of GEOSTM was conducted.
Support the preparation and adaptation of interested parties, including economical operators to ensure the implementation of approximated legislation. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 3 - Technical Barriers to Trade, Standardization, Metrology, Accreditation and Conformity Assessment	Conduct the seminars and trainings for small and medium businesses	Awareness Raising	Awareness Raising on Standards and Metrology as foreseen in AA/DCFTA	Number of conducted seminars/trainings	LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)	In the framework of CIB II phase Technical Assistance project "Further support for developing infrastructure related to standardization and metrology to meet EU best practices" following awareness raising seminars were conducted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 2 February 2017, in Tbilisi and on 20 April 2017 in Batumi the awareness raising seminars in the field of standardization and metrology were held for entrepreneurs and other interested parties. Seminars were attended by invited European experts as well as representatives of Standards Departments and Metrology Institute of GEOST. On 25 April of 2017, in Tbilisi the seminar on "EU-Georgia Connecting Community: The Role of Standardization" was conducted jointly by GEOSTM and CEN-GENELEC Management Centre (CCMC) for business sectors representatives and other interested parties; On 26th of September 2017, the kick off conference of the Twinning Project "Support to Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology for further implementation of the EU Georgia DCFTA requirements" was conducted. The purpose of this event was to provide information to all interested parties regarding the activities planned for the implementation of DCFTA requirements, as well as regarding the importance of the standardization and metrology fields and plans of GEOSTM. On 21st and 22nd of December 2017 for the staff of calibration and testing laboratories 2 similar seminars "Application of scales/balances and weights in laboratories – General principles, services and quality assurance" were conducted by the staff of Mass and related quantities reference division of GEOSTM Metrology Institute. About 30 representatives of laboratories, business sector, governmental organizations etc. have already participated in mentioned seminars. Due to the significant interest and demand, GEOSTM plans to conduct two additional seminars in January 2018.
Further training of the staff for relevant governmental bodies and agencies.	Capacity building of the staff in standardization and metrology fields	Human Resources	Capacity building of the staff involved in AA/DCFTA	Number of conducted seminars/trainings	LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards	In 2017, the following seminars were conducted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 9-12 January of 2017, "Preparing for ISO 9001: 2015 Quality Management System Course";

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EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 3 - Technical Barriers to Trade, Standardization, Metrology, Accreditation and Conformity Assessment			implementation		and Metrology (GEOSTM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the framework of the CIB II phase Technical Assistance Project, the staff of the reference divisions of GEOSTM Metrology Institute took part the internships in European metrology institutions in the following directions of measurement: Dimensional measurements, small volumes, force, gas flow measurements, big masses, pressure, acoustics and Time& Frequency. • From February 20 till 2 March 2017, the seminar on "Methodology of developing guidelines for Standardization sphere" was conducted for the staff of standardization department; • On April 26-27, 2017, the staff of Reference Division of Mass and related quantities, together with a German expert have been invited to the Metrology Institute of Armenia regarding the issue of creation a new mass laboratory (calibration of scales), which would be later traceable to GEOSTM Mass laboratory; • On May 24-30, 2017, staff of the standardization department participated in the seminar on "features of the establishment of technical committee in the field of road transport and harmonized standards"; • On 20th of July 2017, training on "Comprehensive analysis of current situation in GEOSTM in approximation of general principles as laid down in the EU regulation 1025/2012 on standardization in line with the better regulation approach" was conducted for the staff of standards department of GEOSTM; • On 11-14 September and 2-3 October, training - "Gap Analysis and the Action plan for Capacity of standardisation department" was conducted for the staff of standards department of GEOSTM; • On 13-16th of November, representative of Standards Department of GEOSTM took part in training „Developing National Standardization Strategies", organized by ISO; • Staff of Standards Department of GEOSTM took part in online trainings (webinars) organized by CEN-CENLEC. <p>In 2017, in the framework of the CIB Technical Assistance Project, European experts conducted seminars and trainings for the staff of the reference divisions of GEOSTM Metrology Institute in the following directions: Dimensional measurements - calibration of gauge blocks; Flow –gas flow measurements; Mass - application of the big mass comparator; Time and frequency - Calibration of Stopwatches, Acoustic measurements; Electricity; Pressure-bilateral comparisons; Force -calibration procedures in the field of force measurements, Humidity - issues related to calibration and to</p>

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						<p>organization of bilateral comparisons; photometry and radiometry - calibration procedures.</p> <p>Representatives of GEOSTM took part in various events organized by International and Regional organizations in the field of Standardization and Metrology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEN/CENELEC European Standardization Organizations - General Assembly, Scotland, Edinburgh; • ISO International Standardization Organization - General Assembly, Germany, Berlin; • Bureau International for Weights and Measures BIPM – General Assembly, France, Paris; • COOMET Technical Committee meeting TC 1.2 “Acoustics, Ultrasound, Vibration” – Lithuania, Vilnius; • Seminars organized by EURAMET (European Association of National Metrology Institutes): Seminar on Quality Management Systems and seminar on possibilities of participation of COOMET member NMIs in EMPR - European Metrology Research Programme.
<p>Continue Implementation of the market surveillance strategy. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 3 - Technical Barriers to Trade, Standardization, Metrology, Accreditation and Conformity Assessment</p>	<p>Review and amend Law of Georgia – Product Safety and Free Movement Code for implementation of market surveillance</p>	<p>Legal Framework</p>	<p>The legislative framework has been developed for market surveillance on Industrial and consumer products</p>	<p>Adopted amendments to the Law of Georgia – Product Safety and Free Movement Code and reflects the recommendations of Institutional Reform Plan (IRP) and Multi-annual Action Plan</p>	<p>LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)</p>	<p>The draft amendments in the Georgian Law - Code on Safety and Free movement of Products was prepared, which determines market surveillance procedures and relevant sanctions in order to upgrade market surveillance system in line with the best EU practice.</p>
	<p>Structural changes of the Technical and Construction Supervision Agency – creation of new unit and recruitment of new staff</p>	<p>Institutional Framework</p>	<p>TCSA’s increased institutional capacity for the market surveillance</p>	<p>Structural changes of the Agency is implemented; The statute of the Agency is</p>	<p>LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency</p>	<p>New structural unit was established in TCSA, which functions determined by the changes in the statute of TCSA. The new division will supervise market surveillance over the products stipulated by the Decree of the Government of Georgia N. 641 of April 30t, 2016, on the approval of the Multiannual Action Plan for Market Surveillance of Industrial and Consumer Products.</p>

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				amended; New staff is recruited	(TCSA)	
	Arrange and equip additional office space for the Agency's new unit	Institutional Framework	Improved working conditions and environment	Additional office space of TCSA's new unit is arranged and equipped	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)	Regarding to this activity, TCSA has determined the necessary equipment and estimated the costs. The office inventory and computers were purchased for the new structural unit.
	Update Technical and Construction Supervision Agency's computer equipment	Institutional Framework	Improved technical capacity of the agency	Updated computer equipment	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)	Regarding to this activity, TCSA has determined the necessary equipment and estimated the costs. The office inventory and computers were purchased for the new structural unit.
	Purchase technical means to carry out sampling and screening tests for inspections in frame of the supervision	Institutional Framework	Improved technical capacity of the agency	Technical means to carry out inspections are purchased	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)	Identification of necessary technical instruments for screening tests and sampling has been done and afterwards purchased by TCSA. As this action is intended for continuous time (2017-2022) purchasing of necessary equipment will be continued in parallel with legislative approximation.
	Elaboration and adoption of the Agency's market surveillance quarterly action plans	Institutional Framework	Improved planning practices of Agency's work	Agency's market surveillance quarterly action plans for this year are approved by the Head of the Agency's the relevant act	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)	Market Surveillance action plans for I and II quarter of 2017 have been elaborated and approved by the head of Agency on 6 th may and 7 th April of 2017 respectively. Also action plan for III quarter was approved on 30 th June and action plan for IV quarter was approved on 2 nd October.
	Preparation of guidelines/ operating work instructions relating to market surveillance of	Institutional Framework	Ensuring compliance of market surveillance process with	Guidelines/ operating instructions are drafted	LEPL - Technical and Construction	The European Experts have developed an implementation plan for short-term assistance project so called TOR, which aims to facilitate the market surveillance in newly approximated areas, including Pressure Equipment, Simple Pressure Vessels and Hot Water Boilers. In October-November of 2017, within the frame of this project meetings have been held, EU expert has

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	Cableways, Lifts, Pressure Equipment, Simple Pressure Vessels and Hot Water Boilers		the EU best practice		Supervision Agency (TCSA)	studied activities of TCSA, procedures and methods of surveillance and as a proper recommendations were issued. Based on those recommendations, the Agency has developed a guideline/operating work instructions for the following spheres: Pressure Equipment, Simple Pressure Vessels and Hot Water Boilers, cableway installations and lifts.
	Development and application of a risk assessment process for market surveillance inspections relating to the 5 approximated NADs	Institutional Framework	Risk assessment is implemented in accordance with EU best practice	The technical regulation on defining risk assessment process is drafted and adopted by the Governmental Decree	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)	Based on EU expert recommendations, which were issued within the frame of the project, implemented in October-November of 2017, technical regulation - rule on determination of hazard and risk assessment of the products placed on the market has been elaborated. This document determines preparation of risk/hazard procedures for already approximated spheres (lifts, Pressure Equipment, Simple Pressure Vessels, cableway installations designed to carry persons and new hot-water boilers fired with liquid or gaseous fuels).
	Carry out market surveillance for following spheres: Pressure Equipment, Simple Pressure Vessels and Hot Water Boilers	Institutional Framework	Increased safety of industrial and consumer products	Inspections are carried out and the relevant reports are drafted	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)	Market surveillance of 85 boilers, 10 simple pressure vessels and 20 pressure equipment placed on the Georgian market was carried out by TCSA. The following types of violation were revealed as a result of market surveillance: Boiler equipment did not have a declaration of conformity or instructions for use or the instruction for use was not in Georgian. The Agency has issued relevant recommendations to eliminate the violations within reasonable terms. The meeting between TCSA and relevant stakeholders has been held, where non-compliances have been discussed and relevant masseurs have been planned for elimination of the violations
	Establish cooperation with Consumer protection organizations and business organizations in order to increase awareness on a market surveillance	Awareness Raising	Improved public perception of the market surveillance process	Conducted meetings (number of meetings) with representatives of the target market and consumer protection organizations	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)	On 27 February 2017, meeting was held by TCSA with consumer rights protection organizations, operating in Georgia. On 30 May 2017, mutual-cooperation memorandum was signed between Center for Strategic Research and Development of Georgia and TCSA. In addition, meetings were held with the holders of selling boilers in order to raise awareness of market surveillance. Meeting was held with the importer companies of lighters in Georgia related to the new regulations and market surveillance issues.
	Creation of joint working group of representatives from customs authorities	Institutional Framework	Improved market surveillance	Number of working meetings	LEPL - Technical and	Joint working group of the representatives from TCSA and Revenue Service of Ministry of Finance has been established by the order of head of TCSA (Nб-76; 24 May, 2017). On 26 September 2017, meeting of working group

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	and TCSA, that will meet regularly to facilitate the market surveillance of imported products into Georgia				Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)	has been held, where current Market surveillance regulations has been discussed and future plans were scheduled.
	Explore possibilities of membership of the relevant International organizations in the field of market surveillance (such as PROSAFE)	Institutional Framework	Information on the International and Regional organizations in the field of market surveillance	analysis for the membership is performed	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)	The membership possibility analysis to the international market surveillance organizations has been implemented. TCSA has determined organizations with whom it is advisable to collaborate, these are ICPHSO and PROSAFE
	Identification of appropriate laboratories to carry out relevant technical tests	Institutional Framework	Improved market surveillance process	The laboratories are identified	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)	13 relevant laboratories were identified, which are located in following cities: Tbilisi, Batumi, Kobuleti, Xashuri and Poti. Laboratories are operating in the following areas: construction products – 11, 1- explosives equipment and 1-personal protection equipment laboratories.

Intellectual Property Rights

Ensuring right holders from both Parties a high level of IPR protection and enforcement. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 9 - Intellectual Property Rights	Approximation of Georgian legislation to the relevant EU legislation in accordance with the commitments made according to the Association Agreement.	Legal Framework	Georgian legislation is approximated to the relevant EU legislation in the field of IPR	Adopted legislative amendments	LEPL - National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - Sakpatenti	Parliament of Georgia adopted a package of relevant legislative amendments on 23th of December 2017 drafted by Sakpatenti, which aims to strengthen intellectual property protection measures and introduce their effective enforcement mechanisms. Namely, amendments are related to the following legislative acts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patent Law of Georgia; • Trademark Law of Georgia; • Law of Georgia On Copyright and Related Rights; • Law of Georgia On Design; • Law of Georgia On Drugs and Pharmaceutical Activity; • Law of Georgia on Pesticides and Agrochemicals; • The Civil Procedure Code of Georgia.
	Raising public awareness about the possibility of collecting evidences	Awareness Raising	General public is informed about the relevant	One media-seminar conducted; 1,000 brochures	LEPL National Bureau of Enforcemen	4000 versions of the triplets about the service of collecting evidences were printed and disseminated to the Public Service Halls and the offices of the National Bureau of Enforcement in Georgian, English and Russian languages.

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	(function of collecting evidences by the National Bureau of Enforcement) for the cases of breaching the intellectual property rights		service/ function	spread in National Bureau of Enforcement and Public Service Halls	t (Ministry of Justice)	<p>On June 22, 2017, information meetings were held with business sector and attorneys about using the service of collecting evidences in their work.</p> <p>On February 24, 2017, Seminar was held with the students of the Law Faculty of different higher education institutions;</p> <p>On May 30, 2017, Information Seminar was held with the students of Innovative Center;</p> <p>On June 19, 2017, Information Seminar was held with TSU students;</p> <p>On June 20, 2017 Information Seminar was held with juvenile participants of the LEPL Crime Prevention Center;</p> <p>On November 7, 2017 Information Seminar was held with students of TSU student self-government;</p> <p>On December 13, 2017, Information Seminar was held with the students of the Law Faculty of various universities;</p> <p>On December 18, 2017, information meeting was held with various media representatives to provide them with required information on service, so that they can inform society about it better and correctly.</p>
<p>Strengthening the enforcement capacity of relevant governmental bodies or executive agencies, as well as ensuring proper functioning of the judicial system to guarantee access to justice for rights holders and implementation of sanctions.</p> <p>EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 9 - Intellectual Property Rights</p>	<p>Providing trainings for relevant governmental bodies or executive agencies representatives, judges and attorneys on issues related to Intellectual Property Rights</p>	<p>Human Resources</p>	<p>Capacity building of relevant governmental bodies or executive agencies representatives, judges and lawyers, in the field of intellectual property and improved functioning of judicial system.</p>	<p>Number of trainings organized</p>	<p>LEPL - National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - Sakpatenti</p>	<p>On April 12, 2017, a meeting was held at Sakpatenti office in frame of the cooperation between Sakpatenti and the Georgian Bar Association. At the meeting Sakpatenti Chairman Nikoloz Gogilidze introduced to the Association members a package of new draft amendments to be made to the “Trademark Law” of Georgia. The new draft amendments are aimed at further harmonization of the trademark legislation of Georgia with the EU legislation and practice. During the meeting discussion was held around the prepared draft amendments.</p> <p>On September 23-25, 2017, “Workshop on Adjudication of Civil Intellectual Property Infringement Cases” was held in Batumi, sponsored by the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of U.S. Department of Commerce and the Embassy of the United States of America to Georgia. At the event, American judges shared with their Georgian colleagues the experience of the courts of the United States of America on disputes related to intellectual property subject matters.</p> <p>On December 12-13, 2017, Workshop on IP Enforcement, organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and Sakpatenti, took place at Sakpatenti Office in Tbilisi. The event was attended by officials of the customs and investigation services as well as judges. During the meeting, specialists invited from Great Britain, Estonia, Moldova and WIPO discussed practical aspects of investigation and criminal prosecution of trademark counterfeiting and copyright piracy and current challenges, as well as other important and topical issues linked with enforcement of intellectual property rights. Specially for the given Workshop, the WIPO manual for law enforcement authorities and prosecutors “Investigating and Prosecuting IP</p>

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						<p>Crime” was translated into the Georgian language and published, which will assist prosecutors and representatives of law enforcement bodies in criminal prosecution of IP crime.</p>
<p>Ensuring proper functioning of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia “Sakpatenti” in order to ensure protection of industrial property rights and copyright; extending cooperation with third country authorities and industry associations.</p> <p>EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 9 - Intellectual Property Rights</p>	<p>Hold trainings and workshops for Sakpatenti staff; Organize bilateral meetings, workshops and seminars with third country authorities and industry associations, in order to share experience and best practice of relevant countries</p>	<p>Human Resources</p>	<p>Strengthened human and institutional capacity of Sakpatenti to enable it to better perform its core functions (protection of industrial property rights and copyright).</p>	<p>Number of organized trainings, workshops and seminars</p>	<p>LEPL - National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - Sakpatenti</p>	<p>On March 15-17, 2017, within the Sakpatent/WIPO joint project, the Training on Customizing and Tutoring the WIPO Academy General Course on IP (DL-101) was held for trainers of Sakpatenti Training Centre. The training was aimed at introducing to Georgian trainers methodologies of customization and teaching DL-101 course. Training on teaching DL-101 course was also offered to Georgian trainers. In case of good academic progress, they will be handed WIPO accredited trainer certificates, which will authorize them to teach this course in Georgia on the WIPO Academy platform.</p> <p>After elaboration of the Georgian version of the WIPO Academy General Course on IP DL-101 this course will be published on WIPO Academy platform and any interested party will be able to pass the course in the Georgian language free of charge.</p> <p>On March 2-4, 2017, an Istanbul International Inventions Fair was held, in which National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti participated, along with 264 organizations from 24 countries. Within the Fair, a bilateral meeting was held between the heads of the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office and Sakpatenti. Two sides discussed the ongoing projects in the framework of the Action Plan and future cooperation plans. Meeting of Georgian and Turkish patent attorneys was held, aimed at familiarizing Georgian and Turkish intellectual property systems and strengthening cooperation.</p> <p>On April 24-25, 2017, patent and trademark examiners from the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office visited Sakpatenti to share experience with Georgian examiners. For the Georgian colleagues they delivered trainings on urgent issues of protection and examination of trademarks and inventions.</p> <p>On April 24-27, 2017, a group of 20 Turkish patent attorneys visited Georgia, who held meetings with various target groups. Within the visit, Turkish patent attorneys familiarized with the intellectual property system of Georgia, which will facilitate increasing the number of applications between two countries.</p> <p>On March 6, 2017, within the program of strengthening cooperation between Moldova and Georgia in the field of intellectual property, meetings was held with representatives of the State Agency on Intellectual Property</p>

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						<p>AGEPI. Partnership between Georgia and Moldova is directed towards development of the intellectual property system, defending the interests of the two countries on the international level and approximation of the national legislation to the international standards.</p> <p>Since May 24, 2017, the Global IP Case Law Database Darts ip has become available to Sakpatenti examiners. Sakpatenti and Darts ip (Darts ip is the major company which for commercial purposes collects and publishes on its website various patent offices and courts decisions in the intellectual property field) signed a memorandum for five years within the Annual Meeting of International Trademark Association (INTA), held in Barcelona. According to the memorandum, Sakpatenti and Darts-ip will exchange information on practices in the field of intellectual property rights. Along with this, Darts ip undertakes to conduct trainings for Georgian users and provide the training material on the use of the Darts ip database in the Georgian language.</p> <p>Starting from June 1, 2017, nationals and residents of Georgia have possibility to file international patent applications (PCT applications) at Sakpatenti online using ePCT platform (electronic filing system of the WIPO in which all instances of the PCT system are involved). On June 28-29, 2017, two-day training on the use of ePCT (Patent Cooperation Treaty) platform was held at National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti. The training is delivered by a representative of the World intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).</p> <p>On June 13, 2017, Mr. John Sandage, Deputy Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), paid a two-day official visit to Georgia. During the visit, Mr. Sandage attended and delivered a welcome address at the International Conference on the Use of intellectual Property (IP) for Economic Growth, organized on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of foundation of National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti. In addition, he held a meeting with the Chairman of Sakpatenti and representatives of Sakpatenti. At the meeting the parties discussed the ongoing processes at Sakpatenti, the role of WIPO in the development of innovations and technologies in Sakpatenti activities and future plans.</p> <p>On June 14, 2017, at the end of the International Conference on the Use of intellectual Property (IP) for Economic Growth, the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation was signed between the State Administration for Industry and Commerce of the People's Republic of China (SAIC) and the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti.</p>

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						<p>On July 10, 2017, Sakpatenti delegation visited Alicante (Spain). The visit aimed at transition to the next stage of EUIPO and Sakpatenti electronic management system development and integration. During the visit, the head of the delegation participated in the IP Executive Week.</p> <p>On July 20, 2017, a meeting was held in Batumi between Chairman of Sakpatenti and Deputy Commissioner of the State Intellectual Property Office of the People’s Republic of China (SIPO). At the meeting, the parties discussed mutual cooperation issues, outlined future cooperation plans and perspectives. At the end of the meeting, in framework of the Memorandum of Understanding between two entities, a biennial Action Plan was signed.</p> <p>On September 12-13, 2017, Sub-Regional Symposium on Geographical Indications is held in Trabzon, Turkey, was organized by the World intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti and Turkish Patent and Trademark Office (Turkpatent). Issues of legal protection of origin-based products were considered. During two days, the participants of the Symposium discussed strategies of development of geographical indications and socio-economic impact of GI protection, familiarized with the GI protection systems of Turkey and Georgia and shared the experience of the European Union on control of geographical indications and enforcement of GI protection in the EU.</p> <p>On September 18-22, 2017, an English-language “Training Course on Geographical Indications” was held in Tbilisi, at Sakpatenti Training Centre, organized by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Academy and the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, within the WIPO professional development program. During the course, the participants listened to lectures on geographical indications delivered by Sakpatenti top officials and specialists of relevant fields, familiarized with mechanisms of legal protection, various protection systems for GIs and international practice. Within the course, group discussions took place on a number of issues, including branding strategies and the role of geographical indications in this significant process. The course was intended for officials from intellectual property offices of various countries and relevant ministries. It aimed to enhance the skills of officers of the fields concerned. After the completion of the course, the participants from 12 countries were handed over relevant certificates.</p>

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						<p>On October 2-11, 2017, Fifty-Seventh Series of Meetings at General Assembly of the Member States of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) took place in Geneva, Switzerland, which was attended by Sakpatenti delegation. During the Assembly, an official meeting with Mr. Francis Gurry, Director General of WIPO, took place. At the meeting the activity of the Intellectual Property Training Centre, established at Sakpatenti, and the process of drafting the national IP strategy of Georgia, were evaluated. It was decided that Georgia will be the third country in the world where the Madrid E-filing system will be introduced. Cooperation of Sakpatenti and EUIPO were discussed with Deputy Executive Director of the European Union Intellectual Property (EUIPO). Within the Assembly, a Memorandum of Cooperation between Sakpatenti and Patent and Trademarks Office of the Republic of Azerbaijan was signed. In addition, Sakpatenti Chairman and Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine signed a Memorandum “Regarding the Recognition of the State Enterprise “Ukrainian Intellectual Property Institute” as the Authority Competent for Carrying out an International Search and International Preliminary Examination”.</p> <p>In 2017, negotiations took place with Switzerland on the text of the “Agreement on the mutual recognition and protection of geographical indications, appellations of origin and indications of source between Georgia and the Swiss Confederation”, within which the parties finalized the text of the Draft Agreement. According to the Draft Agreement, Georgian geographical indications and appellations of origin, on the basis of the principle of reciprocity, will be protected on the territory of Switzerland. The Agreement will also be directed at regulation of issues related with the protection and use of geographical indications. In 2017, negotiations were held also with the republic of Moldova to sign a similar type of an Agreement between Georgia and the Republic of Moldova.</p> <p>On November 7, 2017, a meeting took place at Sakpatenti with Director of Central and Eastern European Software Assets Management and Compliance, Microsoft to discuss issues of intellectual property protection and cybersecurity. At the meeting a new initiative of Microsoft was considered which implies offering users a service for protection against cyber threats. The participants of the meeting also discussed the current situation in Georgia regarding the issues of IP protection of licensed computer products and outlined plans for further cooperation in the direction of combatting digital piracy and copyright infringements.</p>

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<p>Taking measures to increase public awareness in the field of intellectual and industrial property protection and ensuring effective dialogue with rightsholders.</p> <p>EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 9 - Intellectual Property Rights</p>	<p>Hold seminars and workshops to raise public awareness</p>	<p>Awareness Raising</p>	<p>Rised public awareness is in the field of intellectual property.</p>	<p>200-300 trained persons</p>	<p>LEPL - National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - Sakpatenti</p>	<p>On May 11, 2017, Sakpatenti top officials held an information meeting with representatives of small and medium enterprises (SMEs). The aim of the meeting was to assist entrepreneurs in drafting an IP strategy and its management, which will facilitate increasing competitiveness of Georgian companies and creating their economic value. The meeting was held within the Project “Value of Intellectual Property for SME” – (VIP4SME), funded by Program for Research and Innovations “Horizon 2020”, in which Sakpatenti engaged in 2016. Representatives of 23 SMEs participated in the meeting.</p> <p>On June 14, 2017, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the foundation of National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti, International Conference on the Use of intellectual Property (IP) for Economic Growth was held in Tbilisi. The conference was organized with the support of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). During the conference, the increasing role of innovations and IP in the modern knowledge-based economy and the necessity of supporting innovation for strengthening economic potential of countries were discussed. The event was attended by members of the Government of Georgia, representatives of WIPO, European Patent Office (EPO), patent offices of various countries and the industrial sector. The conference was attended by 100 participants.</p> <p>Sakpatenti participated in a variety of about ten innovative competitions and educational projects aimed at raising awareness of intellectual property for pupils, youth and various stakeholders.</p> <p>On July 5, 2017, Sakpatenti and European Law Students Association (ELSA) organized the moot court. The event was preceded by summer school training, organized with the financial support of the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The objective of the moot court was to deepen the knowledge of future lawyers in intellectual property law. 30 students participated in this event.</p> <p>On July 7, 2017, Sakpatenti organized a meeting for SMEs. The meeting aimed to assist Georgian entrepreneurs in drafting an intellectual property management portfolio. The meeting was held within the Project “Value of Intellectual Property for SME” – (VIP4SME), funded by European Union Program for Research and Innovations “Horizon 2020”. 27 SMEs representatives attended the meeting.</p> <p>On July 24, 2017, the Summer School on Intellectual Property Law was opened, organized by the European Law Students Association (ELSA) and Sakpatenti, during which 40 students from 14 European Union countries</p>

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						<p>attended a one-week academic study course on “Intellectual property Law.” During the course, students of the European and Georgian universities listened to lectures delivered by Sakpatenti top officials and sectoral specialists on mechanisms of legal protection of intellectual property subject-matters and tools of their international registration. By the invitation of Sakpatenti, an expert from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) also participated in the Summer School.</p> <p>“Science and Innovations Festival 2017,” organized by the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia, took place from September 24 to October 8, 2017, during which the scientific and innovative potential of the country, achievements of Georgian and foreign researchers were presented. In Tbilisi and in the regions of Georgia scientific picnics were offered for pupils, with entertaining lessons about intellectual property. More than 1000 people attended festival.</p> <p>On October 16, 2017, the service of preliminary patent search was launched, which covers patent search using worldwide commercial and public sector patent databases, as well as in non-patent (e.g. scientific) literature databases. The searched documents and reports will assist inventors to familiarize with the state of the art in their fields of technology, to be able to assess patentability of their inventions prior to drafting a patent application and to better plan further steps.</p> <p>On November 18, 2017, Sakpatenti, together with other private and public organizations, participated in the exhibition “Start-In-Georgia” – “Everything for My Start-up”, organized by the Georgian Start-up Association and Start Business Solutions. At the event Sakpatenti examiners informed interested visitors about the activity of the organization, on the importance and role of intellectual property protection for business development. The visitors were handed over information booklets on IP subject-matters.</p> <p>On December 15, 2017, By the recommendation of the World intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), given to its Member States, a hackathon was organized, during which the participants implemented an idea related to the topics of intellectual property rights protection - “Innovation – Improving Lives.” The event aimed to raise awareness among the young generation on the importance of respecting intellectual property and to develop respect for IP rights.</p>

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	Publishing information bulletins and booklets	Awareness Raising	Published information bulletins, booklets and other materials will help raising public awareness in the field of intellectual property	About 15000 items of published information materials	LEPL - National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - Sakpatenti	<p>prepared and published were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Book 1 “International Copyright Law” (312 p.) – number of copies: 505; ➤ Teaching book “Compass” (12 p.) - 2600 copies; ➤ Teaching book “Ambrella” (14 p.) - 600 copies; ➤ Teaching book “Washing Machine” (14 p.) - 600 copies; ➤ Teaching book “Star-candles” (12 p.) - 600 copies; ➤ Teaching book “Doremus solasi” (12 p.) - 600 copies; ➤ Brochure “Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights” (16 p.) - 150 copies; ➤ Brochure “Design” (20 p.) - 850 copies; ➤ Brochure “Trademark” (16 p.) – 880 copies; ➤ Brochure “Invention and Utility Model” (16 p.) – 835 copies; ➤ Brochure “Geographical Indication and Appellation of Origin” (16 p.) - 825 copies; ➤ Brochure “New Plant Variety and Animal Breed“ (12 p.) - 825 copies; ➤ Brochure “Invention and utility Model” (20 p.) – 100 copies; ➤ Brochure “Protection of Your Mark Abroad” (12 p.) – 350 copies; ➤ Brochure “Trademark for Success of Your Business (8 p.) - 550 copies; ➤ Information flyer “Design” (4 p.) – 600 copies; ➤ Information flyer “Trademark” (4 p.) – 600 copies; ➤ Information flyer “Geographical Indication and Appellation of Origin” (4 p.) – 600 copies; ➤ Information flyer “New Plant Variety and Animal Breed“ (4 p.) – 600 copies; ➤ Information flyer “Invention and utility Model” (4 p.) – 600 copies; ➤ “წლიური ანგარიში/2016“ (Annual Report/2016. GE) (60 p.)- 525 copies; ➤ “Annual Report/2016“ (60 p.) – 200 copies; ➤ Map of Georgian Cheese – 100 copies; ➤ Map of Georgian Wine – 150 copies; ➤ Map of Georgian Wine and Cheese (3 types) - 350 copies; ➤ Passports of Georgian Wine and Cheese (22 types) – 1000 copies; ➤ Map of Agricultural Products and Foodstuffs - 100 copies; ➤ Map of Geographical Indication Registered Abroad – 100 copies; ➤ Flair on Registration Procedures 10 types (bilingual) - 1000 copies; ➤ Magazine of Association of Copyright Protection “Megzuri” 3/2017 - (20 p.) 300 copies; ➤ Magazine of Association of Copyright Protection “Megzuri” 4/2017 - (20 p.) 100 copies; ➤ Manual “Investigating and Prosecuting IP Crime” (74 p.) - 30 copies.

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Taking effective measures against counterfeiting and piracy, including production of statistical information on those activities to be shared between the Parties EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 9 - Intellectual Property Rights	Hold workshops and seminars for stakeholders and right holders of IPR to raise awareness; organize bilateral meetings with IPR enforcement interagency coordination body; sharing statistical information among parties regarding the measures taken against counterfeiting and piracy activities	Awareness Raising; Other activities.	improved efficiency to combat against counterfeit and piracy; Raised public awareness; Relevant statistic data	Number of organized meetings, trainings and workshops for stakeholders and right holders of IPR	LEPL - National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - Sakpatenti	On 20-21 July 2017, 3 rd International Conference “Georgia Against Counterfeiting and Piracy” took place in Batumi, aiming to enhance a dialogue against counterfeiting between public and private sector, ensuring effective coordination amongst different agencies towards IPR enforcement mechanism and sharing experience of foreign countries. The National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti and United States Department of Commerce, Commercial Law Development Program, (CLDP) jointly organized the conference. On December 8, 2017, a meeting of the Interagency Coordination Council for Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement took place, during which members of the Council discussed current problematic issues related to intellectual property rights enforcement and outlined future plans.
Competition						
Guarantee effective implementation of relevant legislation by Georgia's institutional framework and relevant administrative capacity, as well as enhance dialogue on legislative enforcement in the competition area and related legislations EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 10 - Competition	Competition policy advocacy, organising informative meetings and seminars for public and private sector representatives	Awareness Raising	Raised awareness of public and private sectors	Number of conducted meetings, workshops, information campaigns	The Competition Agency of Georgia	During 2017, twelve awareness raising meetings were held. International and local experts, Agency staff members, representatives of business sector, journalists, students and other stakeholders attended these meetings. On February 2, 2017, a competition advocacy seminar was held for the business representatives, in the framework of the EBRD project, supported by the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The following issues were discussed: the role of competition and its benefits for business; competition in the process of public procurement and institutional framework of competition enforcement in Georgia. The launch of the 2-year-long European Union project “Support to the Georgian Competition Agency” is also notable. The presentation of the project was held on 24 March 2017 and the representatives of the government, members of parliament, diplomats, representative of business community and civil society, attended. The project has three principal objectives: to increase and strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of legal, economic and technical capacities of the Competition Agency of Georgia to implement and enforce the competition policy, in accordance with the EU best practices and DCFTA provisions (component 1 of the Project); To improve the cooperation between the Competition Agency of Georgia and Sector Regulators (component 2 of the Project); To promote competition culture within the Georgian society (component 3 of the Project). In the framework of the project, the experts from various EU

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						<p>Member States as well as the high-ranking representatives of the Lithuanian Competition Council will assist the Competition Agency of Georgia as well as other stakeholders (ministries, sector regulators, public and private bodies involved in realization of competition policy) in upgrading the Agency staff capacity and improving the legislative framework in the field of competition. Within the Project “Support on the Georgian Competition Agency” two high-level visit were held. Georgia visited Frederic Jenny, chairman of the OECD Competition Committee, leading expert in competition, ex-judge of French Supreme Court and Teresa Moreira, Head of Competition and Consumer Policies Branch of UNCTAD. Mr. Jenny and Mrs. Moreira hold meetings with the governmental authorities and members of Parliament of Georgia.</p> <p>Within the Project of European Union was held a seminar on topic “Competition in Public Procurement – determining of collusive action within public tenders”, World Competition Day was celebrated with topic “Fair Competition and fair Business as an essential elements of sustainable development of economics”, also was held meeting with representatives of business sector and was discussed following topic “How to defend Business against unfair competition in Georgia and how to make it competitive on European market”.</p> <p>They discusses the situation of competition and consumer protection in Georgia and its perspectives of development. In frameworks of EBRD program “Support and Advocacy for Competition Agency’s development” was held a seminar for over 20 representatives of TV, online, and digital media. In addition, seminar on leniency was held. Foreign experts shared with Georgian colleagues and business representatives history and perspectives of leniency program in the United States and Europe.</p> <p>On 17-18th November 2017, with the assistance of EBRD first scientific-practical conference on theme: “Competition Policy: modern tendencies and challenges”, which was dedicated to 25 years anniversary of Competition Policy in Georgia. More than 200 guests attended conference, among them were representatives of more than 20 European competition bodies. 6 memorandum was signed within the conference between GCA and Belarusian, Estonian, Latvian, Moldavian, Romanian, Czech Competition Authorities.</p>
	Organising trainings and study tours for competition agency staff on different issues of competition policy	Human Resources	Capacity building of competition agency staff	Number of conducted trainings and other capacity building activities and participated staff	The Competition Agency of Georgia	During 2017, 25 capacity building activities were held, providing qualification upgrade for over 30 staff members of the Competition Agency. The Chairman of the Competition Agency of Georgia conducted working visits in Germany, the United States, Portugal, Hungary, Switzerland, Kazakhstan, Turkey and Armenia. In the framework of these visits, outstanding issues in the field of competition were discussed with foreign colleagues and competition policy experts. Prospects of strengthening

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						<p>international cooperation between the Agency and its international partners formed a part of the discussions.</p> <p>In addition, the Agency staff members participated in the Annual Meeting of the International Competition Network (ICN) and in several seminars organized by the OECD and its Regional Centre for Competition OECD-GVH RCC. Staff also participated in the second session of Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Consumer Protection Law and Policy and in the sixteenth session of Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Competition Law and Policy both organized by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Representatives of GCA also took part on 16th meeting of the OECD Global Forum on Competition. Official working visits were held in Romania, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia and Czech Republic.</p> <p>The Agency representatives successfully completed trainings about key issues of competition law and policy, organized by the EU project “Support to the Georgian Competition Agency”. In the framework of the same project, a representatives of the Agency undertook a 2-week-long internship at the Competition Division of the OECD, in the Austrian Federal Competition Authority and in the Competition and Consumer Protection Department of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Within the EU Project study tour in Brussels, Belgium with representatives of Directorate-General for competition was organized with the participation seven employees of GCA. Competition Agency Staff also successfully participated in STATA Training of ISET (International School of Economics at Tbilisi State University).</p>
Trade in Services						
Provide the measures for intermediary service providers as laid down in DCFTA. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 129	Elaboration of draft legislation on Electronic Commerce and cooperation with EU in order to further develop Electronic Commerce	Legal Framework	Legal base for Electronic Commerce is elaborated in compliance with the European regulations	Elaborated draft law on Electronic Commerce	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	The draft Law on e-Commerce was elaborated. With the support of the USAID's project "Governing for Growth (G4G)" an expert was chosen, who will examine comeliness of the draft with the European directives. If necessary, further improvement of the draft will be carried out, after which the draft law will be submitted to the Parliament of Georgia
Approximation of Georgian legislation with the relevant EU legislation for the purpose further liberalization of trade in services	Modification of the Draft law on "Postal Services," drafting the Secondary legislation and submit it to the	Legal Framework	The legal base of the Postal Sector is elaborated In compliance with the European	Draft law on "Postal Services" is submitted to the Parliament of Georgia.	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Within the framework of EBRD Grant Assistance, the project „Georgia: Review of Postal Regulatory Framework“, was completed, according to which he modification of the draft law of Georgia on “Postal Services” has been elaborated.

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EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 103; Annex XV-C, Rules Applicable to Postal and Courier Services	Parliament of Georgia.		regulations; Development of Postal sector.			The draft law has been sent to the European Commission for comments. After that, the draft law and its accompanying bylaws will be sent on the state procedures and will be submitted to the Parliament of Georgia.
Exchange experience and information on the Universal Postal Service and main directions for Postal sector policy in order to raise awareness. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 6 – Establishment, Trade in Services and Electronic Commerce	Public discussion on the universal postal service and sector policy for raising awareness among Government agencies and stakeholders	Awareness Raising	Raised awareness on Postal market	Number of conducted Public discussions and participants	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	On July 17-18, 2017, the presentation of and Public Discussion on the Draft Law of Georgia on “Postal Services” was held with government agencies and the private sector representatives operating in the sphere, which also included raising awareness about the main directions of universal postal services and postal sphere policies.
Approximation of Georgian legislation with the relevant EU <i>acquis</i> as foreseen in AA. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter XV-B; Rules Applicable to Telecommunication Services	Draft the subsequent amendments within the secondary legislation based on gap analyses between the Georgian legislation and the Directive on privacy and electronic communications.	Legal Framework	Georgian legislation is approximated to the relevant EU <i>acquis</i>	Relevant draft amendments	Georgian National Communications Commission	The draft amendments to the Law of Georgia on Electronic Communications were elaborated. The English version of the project was sent to the European Commission.
	Draft the subsequent amendments based on gap analyses between the Georgian legislation and the Authorisation Directive	Legal Framework	Georgian legislation is approximated to the relevant EU <i>acquis</i>	Relevant draft amendments	Georgian National Communications Commission	The draft amendments to the Law of Georgia on Electronic Communications were elaborated. The English version of the project was sent to the European Commission.
	Draft the subsequent amendments based on gap analyses between the Georgian	Legal Framework	Georgian legislation is approximated to the relevant EU <i>acquis</i>	Relevant draft amendments	Georgian National Communications Commission	The draft amendments to the Law of Georgia on Electronic Communications were elaborated. The English version of the project was sent to the European Commission.

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	legislation and the Access Directive .					
	Draft the subsequent amendments based on gap analyses between the Georgian legislation and the Framework Directive	Legal Framework	Georgian legislation is approximated to the relevant EU <i>acquis</i>	Relevant draft amendments	Georgian National Communications Commission	The draft amendments to the Law of Georgia on Electronic Communications were elaborated. The English version of the project was sent to the European Commission.
	Compare Georgian legislation to the Directive No 2002/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 March 2002 on universal service and users' rights relating to electronic communications networks and services (Universal Service Directive) as amended by Directive No 2009/136/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2009	Legal Framework	Review and comparison of existing legislation with the mentioned directive	Report on gap analyses between the legislations	Georgian National Communications Commission	The gap analyses document between the Directive on Universal Service and the relevant legislation of Georgia was prepared. Based on this document, the initial working version of the Action Plan for legislative reforms was elaborated.
Trade-related Energy Provisions						
Designate independent regulatory authorities empowered to regulate the gas and electricity markets. These regulatory authorities shall be legally distinct and functionally independent from any other public or private	Adopt the Uniform System of Accounting (USoA)	Legal Framework	Procedures, terms, principles and standards of network development, management, availability and secure usage by	Uniform System of Accounting (USoA) approved by GNERC	Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC)	On 27th of December, 2016 Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission has adopted Resolution N43 on approving Uniform System of Accounting for Electricity Sector". By this Resolution the following issues have been adopted: 1. Instruction to the Chart of Accounts; 2. Chart of Accounts; 3. Instructions to the Revenues, Costs and Expenses; 4. Instructions to the Contributions and Grants; 5. Instructions to the Accounting of Power Plant and Equipment;

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enterprise, market participant or operator. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 215; Paragraph 1 - Regulatory authorities			electricity system participants and applicants seeking to connect to the transmission network will be determined			6. Instructions to the Reporting Forms; 7. Reporting form for the Electricity Generation Licensee; 8. Reporting form for the Electricity Transmission Licensee; 9. Reporting form for the Electricity Dispatch Licensee; 10. Reporting form for the Electricity Distribution (distribution, network) Licensee; 11. Reporting form for the Electricity Distribution (distribution, supply) Licensee; 12. Reporting Forms for Licensees performing more than one regulated activity.
Access to energy transport facilities and trade promotion. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 217	Prepare the Outline of Monitoring Rules for Energy Markets	Legal Framework	Procedures, terms, principles and standards of network development, management, availability and secure usage by electricity system participants and applicants seeking to connect to the transmission network will be determined	Prepared Outline of Monitoring Rules for Energy Markets	Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC)	First draft version of Outline of Monitoring Rules for Energy Markets has been elaborated.
	Prepare the Outline of Regulatory Audit Rules	Legal Framework	Procedures, terms, principles and standards of network development, management, availability and secure usage by electricity system	Prepared Outline of Regulatory Audit Rules	Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC)	Frist draft Outline of Regulatory Audit Rules has been prepared.

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			participants and applicants seeking to connect to the transmission network will be determined			
	Prepare and adopt the Electricity Supply Reliability Rules	Legal Framework	Procedures, terms, principles and standards of network development, management, availability and secure usage by electricity system participants and applicants seeking to connect to the transmission network will be determined	Electricity Supply Reliability Rules approved by GNERC	Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC)	Draft of Supply Reliability Rules has been prepared and its approval date was defined on 31 December 2017. During the discussions in this document with relevant stakeholders was identified the necessity to merge this document with rules on “commercial service quality”. Therefore, it is needed to prepare unified documents, which will cover rules on “Supply reliability Rules on electricity, natural gas and water and rules on commercial service quality. Base on that the service quality rules have been prepared and at this stage, discussions on this document are ongoing.
	Approval of Standard Conditions for Transmission Network Connection	Legal Framework	Procedures, terms, principles and standards of network development, management, availability and secure usage by electricity system participants and applicants seeking to	Standard Conditions for Transmission Network Connection approved by GNERC	Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC)	Standard Conditions for Transmission Network Connection have been approved by GNERC Decision N17/9 on March 19, 2017.

Article/Paragraph of the Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Type of the Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Implementation Report
			connect to the transmission network will be determined			
Obligations in relation to transit operators. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 214	Support of Emergency Situations' Coordination group's work for development of the emergency measures	Other activities	Coordinated work with transmission network operators in emergency situations	Minimum 2 meetings are conducted	Ministry of Energy	Due to structural change of the Ministry of Energy, this action will be implemented in 2018
Each Party shall ensure on its territory the implementation of a system of third party access to energy transport facilities and Liquefied Natural Gas and storage facilities applicable to all users and applied in a transparent, objective and non-discriminatory manner. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 217	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) upgrade	Other activities	Improved electricity system management/control, which will contribute to access to the network	Upgraded Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA)	Georgian State Electrosystem JSC (GSE)	Contract related to upgrade of SCADA was sent to the WB. Works are in progress about the mentioned Contract. This action will be implemented in 2018
Operation of energy markets with a view to achieving competitive, secure and environmentally sustainable conditions and shall not discriminate between enterprises as regards rights or obligations EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 216; Paragraph 1	The first phase, examine the circumstances which have an impact on the competitive electricity market creation	Other activities	Creation of the competitive electricity market and approximation to the EU legislation and regional energy markets	New market model	Ministry of Energy	During 2017, the study on conditions for competitive electricity market was prepared. Based on that, the works has been started to prepare Georgian Energy law, which aims to approximate Georgian electricity law with EU energy legislation in accordance with Energy Community obligations. Due to structural changes of the Ministry of Energy, this action will be implemented in 2018.

Trade and Sustainable Development

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Promoting trade in forest products derived from sustainably managed forests, harvested in accordance with the domestic legislation of the country of harvest, which could include bilateral or regional agreements to that end. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 233; Paragraph 2, a	Elaboration of final version of Georgian Law "Forest Code"	Legal Framework	Ensuring sustainable management of forest through legal mechanisms and effective separation of responsibilities ; Improved quantitative and qualitative indicators of forests.	Final version of Georgian Law "Forest Code" is elaborated	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia	The draft law on Forest Code was sent to the government organizations. Their comments and recommendations were reflected in the document. Additional consultations were also held with these organizations. In June 2017, a meeting of the Coordinating Commission for the Development of Forest Code was held and made final amendments to the draft document. The Commission decided to conduct a public hearing on the revised version of the draft law in 2018. . Due to the structural changes of the Government, the public hearing of the draft forest code was postponed.
	Development of final drafts of new by-laws of Forest Code: "Forest use procedures", "Forest inventory and monitoring procedures" and "Forest protection, maintenance and restoration procedures"	Legal Framework	Regulation of forest use, forest maintenance, restoration, inventory, planning and monitoring	Elaborated drafts of by-laws	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia	The first drafts of the by-laws on "Forest use procedures", "Forest inventory and monitoring procedures," and "Forest protection, maintenance and restoration procedures" are elaborated. In order to make them in compliance with the draft Forest Code, the revision of the draft by-laws will start after conducting public hearing and elaboration of final version of the draft "Forest Code."
	Development of final drafts of Forest Reform Strategy and Action Plan	Policy Framework	Challenges in forestry sector and subsequent response measures are identified	Final drafts of Forest Reform Strategy and Action Plan is developed	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia	Public discussion of the draft Forest Reform Strategy was held in February 2017. The stakeholders provided their comments and recommendations to the Ministry and s these remarks were reflected in the document.
Exchange information on measures to promote the consumption of timber and timber products from sustainably managed forests and, where relevant, cooperate to	Development of main components for forest monitoring and information system	Infrastructure	forest monitoring and information system is developed and forest related	Forest and land use information support system is operational (Web-portal).	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia	The Forest and Land Use Information and Decision-Making Support System (the web-portal) based on internet-technology (is developed. In order to improve the system and create the geoinformation base, the needs assessment of the sectoral units of the Ministry is in progress. Processing of spatial and attributable data of forest inventory and 10 years management plans of Autonomous Republic of Adjara, Samtskhe-Javakheti region and Kharagauli municipality in GIS system for standardization is finalized. The Forest and

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<p>developing such measures.</p> <p>EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 233; Paragraph 2, b</p>			<p>data is available for public</p>			<p>Land Use Information is publicly available on web page - http://geo.forest-atlas.org/.</p>
<p>Promote the conservation of forest cover and combat illegal logging and related trade, including with respect to third countries.</p> <p>EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 233; Paragraph 2, c</p>	<p>Improving legislative basis of forest sector and enhancing capacity of forest institutions in the framework of European Union approved Twinning project "Strengthening Sustainable Management of Forests in Georgia"</p>	<p>Institutional Framework</p>	<p>Conformity assessment of Forestry sector's legal framework with EU directives is started; Assessment of Forest Reform Strategy and Action Plan is started; Enhancement of capacity of forest institutions through sharing experience and delivering trainings to ensure better control and management in forest sector</p>	<p>Selected experts have started implementation of activities identified under the project</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia</p>	<p>Agreement on Twinning project "Strengthening Sustainable Management of Forests in Georgia" (GE 13 ENI EN 01 16 (GE/26)) between the European Union and the Republic of Lithuania was officially signed on May 8, 2017.</p> <p>The project was officially launched on 1 June 2017 and the kick-off meeting was conducted to present the project objectives. Representatives of government, non-government and international organizations participated in the meeting. Additionally, a coordination workshop was held with the aim to enhance cooperation and coordination between the main stakeholders of the forestry sector in Georgia.</p> <p>In the framework of the project during June-December 39 missions were conducted. European experts evaluated forest sector legislation, institutional framework, task distribution and developed initial recommendations. They also evaluated the competence, skills and capacity building needs of the employees of the Department of Environmental Supervision.</p> <p>On July 24-27, 5 representatives of the Ministry participated in the study visit to Lithuania in order to get acquainted with the institutional structure of the Lithuanian forest sector.</p> <p>On 13 September the first Steering Committee meeting was held and the interim results and needs under the project were discussed.</p> <p>On October 16-24, the employees of Forest Policy Division of the Ministry, National Forestry Agency and Department of Environmental Supervision visited Lithuania, in order to get acquainted with Lithuanian forest sector and EU timber regulation.</p> <p>On 25 October, the EU Delegation to Georgia organized an informational meeting with journalists in order to share the EU experience in forest and forest fire management. The Lithuanian expert participated in the meeting and presented Lithuanian experience of fire management.</p> <p>On November 20-24, 5 employees of Forest Policy Division, National Forestry Agency and Department of Environmental Supervision visited</p>

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						<p>Hungary, in order to learn the process of forest management planning and implementation of forest activities in Hungary.</p> <p>On December 6, the second Steering Committee meeting was held. The interim results and needs under the project were discussed. In addition to this, European experts shared experience with the Georgian representatives regarding the fight against illegal harvest and trade of forest timber and non-timber products.</p>
<p>Cooperation at the regional and the global levels with the aim of promoting the conservation of forest cover and the sustainable management of all types of forests.</p> <p>EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 233; Paragraph 2, f</p>	<p>Exchange of information between partner countries in the framework of European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI) - Forest Law Enforcement and Governance Programme II (FLEG II)</p>	<p>Policy Framework</p>	<p>Main challenges, objectives and future development plans in forest sector are discussed on the meetings under ENPI/FLEG II</p>	<p>Participation in at least 4 meetings</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia</p>	<p>The ENPI/FLEG II program was officially completed in the beginning of 2017. A meeting summarizing the project was organized on 16-17 February 2017. Within the framework of the program inventory of Chokhatauri Forest District was implemented.</p>
	<p>Participate in regional (RECC), European (FOREST EUROPE) and global (UNFF) initiatives</p>	<p>International Cooperation</p>	<p>Improved sustainable forest management for forest maintenance, reforestation and conservation</p>	<p>Participation in at least 10 meetings</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia</p>	<p>Representatives of the Ministry participated in 8 meetings related to forest issues: the UN Strategic Plan for Forests and Programme of Work within the UN Forum on Forests (UNFF); green jobs in forest sector, and criterias and indicators for sustainable forest management under the Forest Europe format; Workshop organised by the Food and Agriculture Organization and Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) of the United Nations on elaboration of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Forest Management; Green Climate Fund (GCF) meeting on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) programme's results-based payments and future plan.</p> <p>It's worth to mention Forest Europe Expert Group meeting held in Zvolen, Slovakia on 25-26 January, 2017 where the participants discussed the green jobs and a presentation outlining forest sector education and employment opportunities in Georgia was carried out as well.</p> <p>In addition to this, the meeting held in Bratislava, Slovakia in the framework of Forest Europe process on 28-29 November 2017 is important. The aim of the meeting was to evaluate implementation of Forest Europe action plan 2016-2020 and assessment the possibilities of forming legally binding process.</p>

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<p>Taking into account the importance of ensuring responsible management of fish stocks in a sustainable manner as well as promoting good governance in trade, the Parties commit to cooperating with and within relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organisations as widely as possible.</p> <p>EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 234; e;</p>	<p>Cooperate with the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), in particular, participate in the working meetings and share experience as Cooperating non Contracting Party</p>	<p>International Cooperation</p>	<p>Exchanging best practices and experience on fisheries related issues</p>	<p>Participation in at least 4 meetings</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia</p>	<p>Representatives of the Ministry are in active cooperation with GFCM and participated in the following meetings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Intersessional meeting of the GFCM Commission on the Mid-term strategy (2017–2020) towards the sustainability of Mediterranean and Black Sea fisheries held in Rome, Italy on January 26-27, 2017. 2. The tenth session of the GFCM Committee on Aquaculture (CAQ) on sustainable development of aquaculture in Mediterranean and Black Sea region held in Rome, Italy on 27-29 March 2017. 3. Meeting of the Working Group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (WGIUU) on the issues of Vessel Monitoring System (VSM) held in Athens, Greece on 2-5 May 2017. 4. The sixth meeting of the Working Group on the Black Sea (WGBS) on impacts of management measures on selected fisheries in Constanta, Romania on 13-16 June 2017 - The main topics were: national reports of the Black Sea countries, BlackSea4Fish project development medium-term strategy, illegal, unreported and unregulated Fishing (IUU), maintenance of the Black Sea ecosystem, coordination of joint activities of the Black Sea countries, and GFCM assistance for technical issues for countries of the region. "Mediterranean and Black Sea Fishing Conditions (SoMFi) 2018" was drawn out at the meeting as well. 5. Meeting of the Black Sea Working Group (WGBS) held in Constanța, Romania on 26-28 September, 2017 under the aegis of the GFCM and Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) to discuss the development of the aquaculture and the establishment of a demonstration center in the Black Sea region.
	<p>Signing the Letter of Agreement between the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on behalf of the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) regarding the Project "Technical</p>	<p>International Cooperation</p>	<p>Technical assistance received in the preliminary agreed fields of fisheries and aquaculture sectors, including possibility of developing and implementing relevant projects</p>	<p>Signed letter of Agreement on Technical Assistance</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia</p>	<p>During the reporting period, internal procedures were carried out with regard to the Letter of Agreement. Based on the additional recommendations provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, the updated version of the Letter of Agreement was prepared and the full packet of the necessary documents were re-sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia for conducting the relevant internal procedure in accordance with the requirements of Law.</p>

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	Assistance Towards Responsible Fisheries and Sustainable Aquaculture" in the Context of the GFCM Mid-term Strategy (2017-2020) Towards Sustainable Fisheries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea					
Taking into account the importance of ensuring responsible management of fish stocks in a sustainable manner as well as promoting good governance in trade, the Parties commit to taking effective measures to monitor and control fishing activities; EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 234; Paragraph , b	Starting to develop electronic monitoring system of industrial fishing on the Black Sea	Infrastructure	Modules of electronic register of fishing is developed	Developed modules of electronic register of fishing	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	In cooperation of the Department of Environmental Supervision of the Ministry and LEPL Financial Analytical Service of the Ministry of Finance electronic monitoring system was developed and installed on fishing vessels within fishing licenses in the Black Sea. The production of electronic fishing logbooks began from October 1, 2017. The system includes the following modules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Module on the management of fishing quotas; ➤ Module on the management of licenses and license-holders; ➤ Module on the accounting of fishing and transport vessels; ➤ Module on the management of fishing logbooks; ➤ Reporting The technical characteristics and terms of use of the electronic monitoring system were defined in the "Technical Regulation of Fishing and Fish Stock Protection" (Decree # 423, 31.12.2013);
The Parties commit to: adopting measures to promote the conservation of forest cover and combat illegal logging and related trade, including with respect to third countries, as appropriate. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 233; Paragraph 2, c	Strengthen the capacity of the Department of Environmental Supervision in order to ensure better control over illegal activities in the field of forestry	Human Resources	Strengthening the capacity of the Department of Environmental Supervision by conducting trainings for forester-inspectors and employees of other relevant services of the Department	At least 250 employees of Department of Environmental Supervision are trained	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia	A training of trainers (ToT) on environmental, forest supervision and control processes was conducted (Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, 20-28 August, 2016) within the framework of the German International Cooperation (GIZ) program on Integrated Biodiversity Management in South Caucasus. 50 employees of the Department of Environmental Supervision were trained by the trained trainers on 22-27 May 2017. From October 30 to November 12, 2017 trainings were conducted and 190 employees of the Department of Environmental Supervision were trained. In total 240 employees of the Department of Environmental Supervision were trained.
Reaching the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework	Submit to the Parliament of Georgia for the ratification of	Legal Framework	Starting the fulfillment of obligations	Paris Agreement is submitted to	Ministry of Environment and	The Government of Georgia issued a decree N96 on "Approval and Enactment of Paris Agreement" on 21 February 2017. Accordingly, there was

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<p>Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Protocol thereto (Kyoto Protocol). Cooperate on the development of the future international climate change framework under the UNFCCC and its related agreements and decisions. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 230; Paragraph 4</p>	the UNFCCC Paris Agreement		under the UNFCCC Paris Agreement	the Parliament for ratification	Natural Resources Protection of Georgia	no need to submit Paris Agreement to the Parliament for ratification. Paris Agreement entered into force for Georgia on 7 June 2017.
	Elaboration of Road Map for "Climate Action Plan 2021-2030"	Policy Framework	Preparing preconditions for elaboration of Action Plan "Climate 2021-2030" necessary in order to identify necessary measures In the Framework of Paris Agreement of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	Road Map for "Climate 2021-2030" action plan is prepared	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia	Elaboration of the Road Map for "Climate Action Plan 2021-2030" was finalized within the ongoing GIZ supported project "Developing Capacities for Alignment with the EU Climate Targets in the Eastern Partnership Countries."
	Development of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action document on the "Effective use of Biomass for Sustainable Rural Development"	Other activities	Establishment of a practice of efficient use of biomass as a climate change mitigation action	Project "Effective Use of Biomass for Sustainable Rural Development" is submitted to the NAMA Facility	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia	Updating the project on "Effective Use of Biomass for Sustainable Rural Development" was finalized in order to make it in line with the requirements of NAMA Facility. The project document was submitted to the NAMA Facility for funding, but no funds was allocated for the project.
Starting development of National Determined Contribution (NDC)	Policy Framework	Fulfilling the obligations under the UNFCCC Paris Agreement	Draft National Determined Contribution (NDC) is elaborated	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Protection of Georgia	The elaboration of the Nationally Determined Contribution has started. Verifying of the relevant baseline information for 1990 is being processed.	

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Exchanging the information about labour Code implementation related to the sustainable development. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter 13 – Trade and Sustainable Development	Informing employees and employers about occupational health and safety rules at workplaces	Awareness Raising	Engagement of employers and employees in awareness raising campaigns	Printed and distributed booklets; Social advertising on TV	The Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia	Awareness rising campaigns for employees and employers took place in the following companies: 1) 2 days training session on labour conditions and labour legislation/labour rights took place for 20 representatives of “Ferro Alloys Producers and Manganese Miners Association of Georgia” - March 18-19, Katchreti, Hotel Ambassador; 2) Training session on labour conditions and labour legislation/labour rights was held for 15 employees of Bank of Georgia University - April 1, Tbilisi; 3) Training session regarding labour conditions and labour legislation/labour rights was held for 20 representatives of LTD “Black Sea Group” - April 7, Village Gomi of Khashuri Region 4) Training session regarding labour conditions and labour legislation/labour rights was held for 30 employees of Road and Reclamation System Management Department of Adjara Autonomous Republic of Georgia - May 12-14, Batumi. 5) Informational booklets/leaflets have been prepared, printed and are being disseminated during inspections.
	Raising awareness of employees and employers regarding child labour issues	Awareness Raising	Prevention of child labour at enterprises/institutions	Decrease in number of cases of child labour	The Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia	In September 2017, representatives of Labour Conditions Inspecting Department and Social Service Agency conducted joint seminar sessions on child labour exploitation and child trafficking issues. Seminars were held in Adjara and Guria region. Speakers discussed existing legislative framework and practical experiences related to child exploitation and trafficking issues. 115 (including 8 non-scheduled inspections) companies have been inspected in terms of forced labour/labour exploitation during 2017. No cases of child labour have been revealed.
Transparency						
Preparing for the implementation of commitments on transparency in traderelated policy-making and consideration of necessary mechanisms to be put in place in this regard. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV,	Further development of web-portal on DCFTA	Other activities	Increased public awareness on DCFTA	New web-portal on DCFTA	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	On June 19 2017, The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia presented the web page (www.dcfta.gov.ge) on Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA) between Georgia and the European Union in Expo Georgia. The webpage was created with the support of the EU Delegation to Georgia through the German International Cooperation Society (GIZ). The web-page as a platform covers all issues related to DCFTA. It aims at providing practical and legislative information on DCFTA, as well as other necessary information for entrepreneurs and other interested individuals in Georgian and English languages.

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Chaoter 12 - Transparency						<p>It should be noted that webpage allows interested persons to submit their comments or proposals on draft normative acts to be adopted within the frame of DCFTA.</p> <p>The website has a special portal - DCFTA for businesses, where interested persons can find useful information about the EU internal market, about the state services that promote export of Georgian products to the EU market, Export Procedures, Food Safety requirements, Certification, Rules of origin, GEO-EU trade statistics, etc.</p>
	Organising DCFTA Advisory Group meetings	Other activities	Raising participation and awareness of NGOs, business community and civil society in DCFTA implementation process	At least 4 meetings of DCFTA Advisory Group	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	<p>On June 2017, the DCFTA Advisory Group held a regular meeting at the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development. At the meeting, according to the Charter of the Advisory Group, members of the group selected a new chair for the next one year. Participants were informed about the activities carried out within the DCFTA during 2016 and introduced the latest achievements for DCFTA implementation process. Group members were introduced to the new web page on DCFTA and were provided with detailed information about its functions.</p> <p>On November 17, 2017, the fifth meeting of the DCFTA Advisory Group was held at the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development. Within the meeting, the Group members were informed about the DCFTA implementation 2018-2020 Action Plan, discussed was the 9-month report of the DCFTA AP 2017. In addition, the representative of the Georgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry introduced the information about DCFTA Information Centers to the members of the Group.</p>
Conducting seminars and other events for the wider public, aimed at explaining the implementation of the envisaged Association Agreement and the approximation process. EU-Georgia Association Agreement, Title IV, Chaoter 12 – Transparency	Thematic meetings with representatives of business, NGOs, local government, academics and other stakeholders on DCFTA related issues	Other activities	Increased public awareness on DCFTA	Number of meetings	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	<p>According 2017 data, the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia and the European Project "Supporting the Association Agreement" organized six meetings with local entrepreneurs and farmers within the frames of the Private Public Dialogue in cities of Gori (February 21), Mtskheta (April 24), Zugdidi and Ozurgeti (June 23), In Adjara, Shuakhevi municipality (July 12) and Svaneti (2 October). More than 300 entrepreneurs / farmers participated in the meetings. Discussed were commitments undertaken by the DCFTA and related issues. Information related to the development of enterprise management skills for entrepreneurs and active involvement in export-trade relations, which the DCFTA offers to the private sector companies, as an opportunity for growth and encouragement of export potential, was provided.</p> <p>Representatives of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia are actively involved in the meetings organized by the Office of State</p>

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						<p>Minister for Reconciliation and Civic Equality. During the year 2017, three meetings were held with the representatives of national minorities and the population living along the occupied line and were provided with the information on the DCFTA benefits, obligations and its implementation. Meetings were held in Marneuli, Akhalkalaki and Zugdidi.</p> <p>Representatives of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia are also actively involved in the meetings organized by Levan Mikeladze Foundation, which considers meeting with the representatives of religious minorities living in Georgia on European integration issues.</p> <p>On November 18, 2017, representatives of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia took part in a large-scale exhibition - "Start in Georgia", at the exhibition center Expo Georgia. Participants provided information on the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA), the existing preferential trade regime, and about the programs developed by the government and international organizations, which will enable local entrepreneurs to get more out of the DCFTA. About 5000 entrepreneurs took part in the event.</p>
DCFTA Coordination						
Coordination of the DCFTA implementation.	Organize meetings of the DCFTA implementation interagency working groups	Other activities	Improved coordination between DCFTA implementing government authorities and ensure of effective and timely implementation of DCFTA obligations	At least 4 meetings are conducted	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	<p>On October 13-15, 2017, in support of the Facility for the Implementation of the Association Agreement Project, a three-day working meeting of the Inter-governmental Sub-commission on DCFTA Implementation was held in Borjomi. During the meeting, Subcommittee members elaborated the final document of the DCFTA implementation 2018-2020 action plan.</p> <p>On December 5, 2017, meeting of the Inter-governmental Sub-commission on DCFTA Implementation was held at the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia. Discussed was the status of implementation of the 2017 Action Plan and obstacles in the implementation process.</p>