

2024 Q1 Implementation of the EU-Georgia Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area Agreement (DCFTA)

Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
<b>Goal 1.</b>	Further improvement in the field of trade statistics				
<b>Objective 1.1</b>	Calculation of Foreign Trade Indices (Export-Import Unit Value Indices)				
1.1.1. Recalculation of the value of imported goods from CIF - free-frontier prices of the importing country to FOB - free-frontier prices of the exporting country.	Development of calculation methodology from CIF - free-frontier prices of the importing country to FOB - free-frontier prices of the exporting country	Statistical data about FOB-type value of imported goods are presented on the website: www.geostat.ge	National Statistics Office of Georgia	National Bank of Georgia	Research is currently underway to explore the international methodology and practices of assessing the value of imported goods based on FOB (Free on Board) prices.
<b>Goal 2.</b>	Promoting exports to the EU				
<b>Objective 2.1.</b>	Diversification of export products within the EU				
2.1.1 Promoting the participation of Georgian companies in international events, exhibitions and trade missions in EU countries	Number of exporting companies participating in international events, exhibitions and trade missions in EU countries  Number of international events, exhibitions and trade missions in EU countries	Annual Report of LEPL Enterprise Georgia Enterprisegeorgia.gov.ge	LEPL-Enterprise Georgia		In the three months of 2024, with the support of agency, Georgian small and medium businesses participated in 6 international exhibitions and 1 showroom during the fashion week, in Germany, Italy, Spain and France. In total, during the first three months of 2024 the agency co-financed 52 cases of Georgian companies' participation in the above-mentioned events.
<b>Objective 2.2.</b>	Improving access to finance for small and medium-sized businesses				
2.2.1. Support of small and medium enterprises within the framework of loan/leasing interest co-financing program	Number of co-financed enterprises	Annual Report of LEPL Enterprise Georgia enterprisegeorgia.gov.ge	LEPL- Enterprise Georgia		In the first quarter of 2024, 142 loans/leases were approved for 133 enterprises within the universal program, with the total amount of GEL 97 mln. The projects entail investments of GEL 258 mln and plan to create more than 1,200 jobs.
<b>Objective 2.3.</b>	Development of small and medium business export opportunities				
2.3.1. Training of export managers of small and medium businesses	Number of certified export managers	Annual Report of LEPL Enterprise Georgia enterprisegeorgia.gov.ge	LEPL- Enterprise Georgia	Selected higher educational institution	The training program for the export managers is set to begin in the II-IV quarters of 2024.
2.3.2. Promoting the platform "Trade with Georgia" and increasing its usage	Number of companies registered on the platform	Annual Report of LEPL-Enterprise Georgia enterprisegeorgia.gov.ge	LEPL- Enterprise Georgia		As the first quarter of 2024, up to 30 companies registered on Tradewithgeorgia platform
2.3.3. Implementation of technical assistance program for export promotion.	Number of supported export-oriented companies	Annual Report of LEPL Enterprise Georgia Enterprisegeorgia.gov.ge	LEPL- Enterprise Georgia		In the first quarter of 2024, 18 applications were received within the framework of the technical assistance component, out of which 7 beneficiaries have signed contracts as of reporting period.
<b>Goal 3.</b>	Legislative and institutional approximation with relevant EU legislation and best practice in the field of technical barriers to trade				
<b>Objective 3.1.</b>	Elaboration of legislation that Georgia has undertaken to approximate in accordance with Annex III-A to the Association Agreement				
3.1.1. Adoption of international and European standards, including	The number of European and/or International	Decrees of the General Director of the Agency	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and		As of first quarter 2024 year, the Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM) has adopted 1,942 standards as Georgian standards (GES), among them:

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harmonized standards of sectoral directives specified in Annex III-A of DCFTA, as Georgian standards	Standards adopted as Georgian standard	regarding adoption of standards;  Georgian standards electronic platform: <a href="http://www.sst.geostm.gov.ge">www.sst.geostm.gov.ge</a>	Metrology (GEOSTM)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GES ISO (International Standard) - 209;</li> <li>GES EN (European Standard) - 1 733.</li> </ul> <p>The work for further harmonization with European standards is underway.</p>
3.1.2. Elaboration of a technical regulations for approximation of legislation with the MID (Measuring Instruments Directive) and NAWI (Non-automatic weighing instruments) Directives.  Implementation of changes to the Code of Product Safety and Free Circulation to ensure compliance with Regulation 2012/1025 of the European Parliament and of the Council	Adopted technical regulations;  Amendment to the law	Legislative Herald of Georgia <a href="http://matsne.gov.ge">matsne.gov.ge</a>	Ministry of Economics and Sustainable Development of Georgia	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)	<p>Draft legislative amendments necessary for the approximation with the Directives on non-automatic weighing instruments (NAWI) and on measuring instruments (MID) are prepared.</p> <p>Based on active consultation with the experts of the "Twinning" project to further align with European regulations in the field of standardization (EU Reg. No. 1025), GEOSTM has prepared a draft of amendments to the Georgian law, specifically the "Code of Product Safety and Free Movement".</p>
3.1.3 Amendment of Decree N476 of the Government of Georgia of October 1st, 2018 "Adopting the Technical Regulation on Construction Products"	Amendment of the Decree of the Government of Georgia	Legislative Herald of Georgia <a href="http://Matsne.gov.ge">Matsne.gov.ge</a>	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	LEPL-Market Surveillance Agency	According to the Resolution N106 of the Government of Georgia of March 28, 2024, an amendment was made to the "Technical Regulations on Construction Products" and 101 new construction products were covered.
3.1.4 Implementation of the amendments regarding product's safety and free circulation code to ensure compliance with European Parliament and EC regulations 2019/1020 and 2023/988	Amendment of Product's safety and free circulation code	Legislative Herald of Georgia <a href="http://Matsne.gov.ge">Matsne.gov.ge</a>	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	LEPL-Market Surveillance Agency	within the Twinning Project 'Advancing the Capacities of the Market Surveillance Agency of Georgia, Work is underway on the draft law amending the Code of Product Safety and Free movement, in order to ensure compliance with the European Parliament and Council Regulations 2019/1020 and 2023/988.
3.1.5 Implementation of the amendments regarding product's safety and free circulation code to ensure compliance with European Parliament and EC regulations 765/2008	Amendment of Product's safety and free circulation code	Legislative Herald of Georgia <a href="http://Matsne.gov.ge">Matsne.gov.ge</a>	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	LEPL- Unified National Accreditation Body-accreditation center	A draft with the relevant changes has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia for further procedures.
3.1.6 Preparation of technical regulations according to the Directive 2014/30/EU of the European Parliament and Council of 26 February 2014 on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States on electromagnetic compatibility	Adopted technical regulations	Legislative Herald of Georgia <a href="http://Matsne.gov.ge">Matsne.gov.ge</a>	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	LEPL-Market Surveillance Agency	<p>Work is underway on Directive 2014/30/EU of the European Parliament and Council of February 26, 2014, according to which the initial draft of the Georgian government's resolution "On Approval of Technical Regulations on Electromagnetic Compatibility" was prepared.</p> <p>Draft resolution of the Government of Georgia "On Approval of Technical Regulations on Electromagnetic Compatibility" has been prepared. After the consultations with relevant agencies, the draft regulation will be submitted to the Government of Georgia for approval.</p>

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3.1.7 Approximation of European Parliament and European Council of 5 April of 2017 Regulation 2017/745/EU regarding medical devices and European Parliament and Council Regulation 2017/746/EU of 5 April 2017 on in vitro diagnostic medical devices.	Implemented legislative acts after compliance	Legislative Herald of Georgia Matsne.gov.ge	Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Protection of IDPs from the occupied territories of Georgia		In order to approximate the aforementioned regulations 2017/745/EU and 2017/746/EU, the draft law of Georgia "On medical devices" has been prepared by the Ministry of IDPs from the occupied territories of Georgia, Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Protection.
<b>Objective 3.2.</b>	Institutional and infrastructural development necessary for technical regulation, standardization, metrology, accreditation, conformity assessment and market surveillance administration				
3.2.1. Continuation of the process of modernising the equipment of reference laboratories in order to provide improved services in priority areas	Increased number and range of services offered (Procurement of additional new equipment for reference divisions/labs in one direction)	Calibration certificates issued by the Agency Annual Report of the agency	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)		In the first quarter of the current year the following measuring instruments were purchased/delivered: a breathalyzer for the physic-chemical reference laboratory and a digital temperature calibrator for the temperature and humidity reference laboratory.
3.2.2. Taking necessary measures to maintain and / or expand the international recognition of priority reference laboratories in metrology field	The number of agency recognised CMC entries calibration and measuring capabilities	BIPM database www.bipm.org	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)		<p>The number of internationally recognized calibration and measurement capability (CMC) records of the Agency is maintained at 65 records.</p> <p>In order to maintain international recognition, as well as to ensure the traceability of measurements, the metrology institute of the Agency has prepared calibration programs for standards and measuring instruments for 2024.</p> <p>Participation in EURAMET regional key comparisons in the field of temperature measurements began.</p> <p>During March 11-16, the representatives of the reference laboratory of temperature and humidity participated in the key comparison (Subsequent comparison) CCT-K9.3X-comparison (the instrument participating in the measurements SPRT). They also attended the process of the first measurements of the thermometer at the Spanish Metrology Center and reviewed the details of the comparison.</p>
3.2.3. Implementation of Quality Management System (QMS) in Standards Department of GEOSTM according to ISO 9001:2015.	GEOSTM's standards department implemented QMS in accordance to ISO 9001:2015	Pre-audit in report for ISO 9001:2015 quality management system certification in Standards Department by European experts and/or certification body  A certificate of conformity has been issued by an authorized accredited person	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)		Preliminary assessment audit ("Pre-audit") was conducted certification body selected in framework "Twinning Project", during which auditors assessed on-site documents, procedures, and existing practices developed by the Standards Department, considering the requirements of the ISO 9001:2015. In framework of pre-audit results, the progress achieved by the department was emphasized, and recommendations were made for further system improvement.

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3.2.4. Continuation of preparatory works for introducing the new services in the field of metrology in accordance with ISO 17034: 2016 reference materials	Documents and procedures required for the implementation of the Quality Management System in accordance with the international standard ISO 17034: 2016 are prepared	Annual report of LEPL GEOSTM	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)		On January 21st-26th and March 4th-7th of this year, within the framework of the TWINNING project, trainings were held for the representatives of the physico-chemical laboratory of the Institute of Metrology in accordance with the requirements of the ISO 17034:2016 standard "Preparation and stabilization of standard samples on homogeneity".
3.2.5. Continuation of activities to obtain GEOSTM's full membership in European Regional Metrology Organization EURAMET	GEOSTM is a member of the EURAMET;  The selected priority laboratories of the Agency have passed the peer review by EURAMET experts	Information on EURAMET web-page	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)		In order to maintain/expand international recognition, on March 12th-14th, 2024, in the framework of the TWINNING project EURAMET experts conducted a so-called peer review in accordance with the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard in the following areas of measurements: length, pressure, dosimetry. The assessment was successful. Accordingly, the number of recognized records of the Institute of Metrology of the Agency is 65 CMC records.  The representatives of the reference departments of the Metrology Institute of the Agency are actively involved and participate in the activities of the technical committees of EURAMET.  On March 14, the representative of the electrical reference department participated in online training organized by EURAMET "Uncertainty of Measurements: Best Practices in Training and New Tools - Digital, Software, Mathematical, Ideas and News for Future Development".  On March 19-22, the Quality Manager of the Metrology Institute of the Agency attended in the working meeting of the EURAMET Quality Committee (Delft, the Netherlands).
3.2.6. Update/improve the existing status of Georgian National Agency For Standards And Metrology (GEOSTM) in European Standardization Organizations CEN/CENELEC and implementation of respective activities	Further increase the rate of harmonization with European standards to at least 80%	CEN/CENELEC report	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)		According to the first quarter of 2024, the harmonization rate of Georgian standards with European standards (EN) is 70.79%. This indicator, based on European standards organizations, is presented in the following form: CEN - 60.28%, CENELEC - 94.79%.
3.2.7 Implementation of the system of notification of accredited conformity assessment bodies	Prepared/approved action plan for accredited conformity assessment bodies	annual report of the accreditation center; <a href="http://www.gac.gov.ge">www.gac.gov.ge</a>	LEPL - Georgian National accreditation body – Accreditation Centre	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	In order to establish the notification system, informational and working meetings are planned. The first information meeting will take place in June this year.
3.2.8 Placing the combined symbol confirming international and European recognition on documents issued by accredited conformity assessment bodies in Georgia	Placed combined symbols on documents or certificates issued by accredited conformity assessment	annual report of the accreditation center; <a href="http://www.gac.gov.ge">www.gac.gov.ge</a>	LEPL - Georgian National accreditation body – Accreditation Centre		Based on the granted full membership status of the international accreditation organizations (ILAC and IAF ), Georgian Accreditation Center has developed a Policy Document on the Use of the Accreditation Center's Logo, Combined Logo, Accreditation Symbol, Combined Symbol and Text Reference to Accreditation Status (PL-09). The Centre has also amended and updated the rules and procedures of the accreditation center (1.1.2020 and 1.9.2020).  Accredited organizations have been notified about the changes through meetings. They are currently in the process of updating their quality documentation to comply with the new requirements. Once the updates are complete, they will be authorized to use the new combined symbol on their documents. The process is expected to be finished by the end of this year.

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<b>Objective 3.3.</b>	Facilitate the training and adaptation of stakeholders, including economic operators for the implementation of related legislation				
3.3.1. Organize meetings / seminars for interested parties, including small and medium entrepreneurs	Meetings held / Number of seminars;	DCFTA Implementation Report  www.DCFTA.gov.ge	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM); LEPL - Georgian National Accreditation Centre; LEPL-Market Surveillance Agency	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On February 2nd, 2024, within the framework of the project "Quality standards for increased trade in Eastern Partnership countries" funded by PTB, a seminar was held in the agency: determination of the demand of interested parties in the field of metrology in Georgia and ways to meet this demand. The mentioned meeting was conducted by an expert of PTB, representatives of reference laboratories of the Metrology Institute of the Agency and also representatives from various accredited laboratories took part.</li> <li>from 19th – to 23th of February - within the framework of the Twinning project, a training was held for the representatives of the Institute of Metrology of the Agency and interested parties on "European Directive 2014/32/EU measuring instruments" and discussed the issues on emission analyzers and OIML recommendation R99:2008 recommendations for measuring vehicle emissions.</li> <li>On 28th of February, 2024, the Georgian National Agency of Standards and Metrology, together with the "Twinning Project" expert, held a working meeting "Quality infrastructure as the best tool in public procurement in accordance with the best practices of the European Union" in the State Procurement Agency, the meeting was attended by up to 30 participants from various organizations involved in state procurement.</li> <li>The representative of the Standards Department of the Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology participated in the "Strengthening of Quality Infrastructure Services for Added Value, Productivity and Innovation" conference held by the German Institute of Metrology (PTB) at the Ginger Hotel on March 7th.</li> <li>from January 25th and to 30th, the Standards Department of the Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology, in coordination with the Construction Department of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, held a meeting of the members of the "Eurocodes" working group of the Technical Committee of Standardization (TC 5) with experts invited by the Joint Research Center (JRC) of the European Commission. The meeting focused on discussing the procedures for developing seismic and climatic maps.</li> <li>On 29th of March, the awareness raising meeting with stakeholders on the European Directive (NAWI) on Non-Automatic Weighing Instruments was organized in the Agency.</li> </ul>
3.3.2. Organize trainings for accredited conformity assessment bodies in the fields of standards related to their activities.	Meetings held / Number of seminars;	Annual Report of Accreditation Centre  www.gac.gov.ge	LEPL - Georgian National accreditation body – Accreditation Centre	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	<p>The following trainings were held in the first quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ISO/IEC 17025:2017/2018 - General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories</li> <li>ISO 15189:2012/2015 - Medical laboratories -Requirements for quality and competence.</li> </ul> <p>A total of 33 participants attended the mentioned trainings.</p>
3.3.3. Raising awareness about accreditation rules, procedures and accreditation system among representatives of the executive, legislative and judicial bodies	Number of organized trainings and number of attended representatives of the executive, legislative and judicial bodies on trainings.	Annual Report of Accreditation Centre  www.gac.gov.ge	LEPL - Georgian National accreditation body – Accreditation Centre	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	The implementation of the action is planned until the end of the fourth quarter, at this stage working process is ongoing with donors to organize events.
3.3.4 Informative meetings to familiarize economic	Number of organized trainings and number of	DCFTA Implementation Report	LEPL Market Surveillance agency		This activity is planned to be implemented in the II quarter

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operators with the requirements of the RED directive	representatives of executive, legislative and judicial bodies	www.DCFTA.gov.ge			
3.3.5 Informative meetings to familiarize economic operators with the requirements of the technical regulations on Energy labelling	Meetings held / Number of seminars	DCFTA Implementation Report www.DCFTA.gov.ge	LEPL Market Surveillance agency		The mentioned activity is planned to be implemented after the approval of the relevant technical regulations by the Government of Georgia
3.3.6 informative meetings to familiarize economic operators with the requirements of the technical regulation on construction products	Meetings held / Number of seminars	DCFTA Implementation Report www.DCFTA.gov.ge	LEPL Market Surveillance agency		This activity is planned to be implemented in the II quarter
<b>Objective 3.4.</b>	Capacity building of the relevant state institutions				
3.4.1. Raising qualifications of the staff in the field of standardization and metrology and raising awareness for the representatives of public sector in the field of standardisation and metrology.	Number of seminars/ trainings conducted	Annual report of the agency; www.geostm.ge	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)		<p>During the first quarter of 2024 within the framework of the "twinning project", the following trainings/seminars were held for the employees of the Standards Department and the Metrology Institute.</p> <p>Standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>February 17, March 5-6, development and implementation of quality management documents (EN ISO 9001:2015);</li> <li>February 27-28, general principles and methods of database related to terminology;</li> <li>March 25-27, internal audit of the quality management system (EN ISO 9001:2015).</li> </ul> <p>Metrology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On 29th of January, a training session was held at the Georgian National Accreditation body – Accreditation Centre on ISO/IEC 17025:2017 general requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories, the representative of the electrical reference laboratory of the Institute of Metrology participated.</li> <li>from 22th to 26th January, within the framework of the project funded by PTB of the German side- PTB. Representatives of the Institute of Metrology of the Agency, the reference laboratory of temperature and humidity were given theoretical and practical training on the calibration of SPRT (in the mercury-gallium reference point sub-range).</li> <li>05-09 February training in small volume. The mentioned training was supported by the German side- PTB. Representatives of metrology institutes of Azerbaijan, Moldova, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan took part in the training together with the representatives of the agency.</li> <li>February 27-29 representatives of Metrology Institute participated in the workshop on the adoption and further development of digital calibration certificates (DCC).</li> <li>March 19-21 for the representatives of the reference laboratory of radiophysics, optics and acoustics of the Metrology Institute, within the framework of the Twinning project, training was carried out on issues related to the calibration of noise meters in accordance with the requirements of the ISO 61672-3 and ISO 61672-1 standards.</li> </ul>

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					<p>Opportunities to participate in international comparisons were discussed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>March 25-28 for representatives of the pressure laboratory of the Agency within the framework of the Twinning project a training was held on the development of the updated calibration procedure for the pressure balance.</li> </ul>
3.4.2 Raising qualifications of the staff in the field of euro regulations and directives, also in terms of best practice of EU countries	Number of seminars/trainings conducted; The number of trained inspectors; The number of conducted study visits and pilot studies	DCFTA Implementation Report www.DCFTA.gov.ge	LEPL Market Surveillance agency		<p>Within the Twinning Project 'Advancing the Capacities of the Market Surveillance Agency of Georgia, 3 (three) trainings were conducted for the employees of the agency, namely: 1 (one) training was conducted on planning and risk assessment, and 2 (two) trainings were conducted regarding the technical regulations on radio devices.</p>
3.4.3. Improving the qualification of accreditation center employees	The number of trainings conducted with the participation of accreditation center employees, the number of retrained employees	Annual Report of the agency;  www.gac.gov.ge	LEPL - Georgian National accreditation body – Accreditation Center		<p>In the first quarter of this year, the employees of the accreditation center participated in the following trainings and workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training for trainers on the updated standard ISO/IEC 17043:2023 Conformity assessment - general requirements for the competence of proficiency testing providers, organized by European Accreditation Cooperation (EA)</li> <li>Training organized by the European Laboratory Association (Eurachem) on determination of uncertainty and metrological traceability in the testing and medical field.</li> <li>ISO 15189:2022 Medical Laboratories - Requirements for Quality and Competence organized by the German national Metrology Agency (PTB);</li> <li>Training organized by the German national Metrology Agency (PTB) on the rules and regulatory framework for the production of organic products.</li> </ul>
<b>Objective 3.5.</b>	<b>Enforcement of the market surveillance in accordance with DCFTA obligations</b>				
3.5.1. Conducting the market surveillance in the supervisory areas of agency based on risk analysis by the LEPL Market Surveillance Agency	The number of conducted checks (documentary and Technical ones)	DCFTA Implementation Report www.DCFTA.gov.ge	LEPL Market Surveillance agency		<p>In the first quarter 2024, the following market surveillance procedures has been carried out by the MSA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>105 construction products placed on the market were inspected;</li> <li>Recommendation was made for 24 electric appliances placed on the market.</li> <li>Recommendation was made for 13 radio equipment placed on the market.</li> <li>59 toys placed on the market were inspected;</li> <li>19 appliances burning gaseous fuel placed on the market were inspected;</li> <li>12 personal protective equipment placed on the market were inspected;</li> <li>33 Ordinances issued on the restrictive measures were verified.</li> <li>Samples of 17 construction products were sent to the appropriate accredited laboratory.</li> <li>Samples of 49 toys were sent to the appropriate accredited laboratory.</li> </ul> <p>In the first quarter 2024, the following prior notices of import has been checked by the MSA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prior notices of import of 3491 construction products;</li> <li>Prior notices of import of 766 Machinery;</li> <li>Prior notices of import of 559 toys;</li> <li>Prior notices of import of 335 personal protective equipment;</li> <li>Prior notices of import of 484 appliances burning gaseous fuel.</li> </ul>

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<b>Goal 4.</b>	Promoting trade in products subject to sanitary and phytosanitary measures and protecting the life or health of humans, animals and plants				
<b>Objective 4.1.</b>	Improvement of sanitary and phytosanitary, animal welfare and other legislative measures				
4.1.1. Approximation of Georgia's legislation to the relevant EU legal acts in accordance with Annex XI-B of the Association Agreement	Georgia's legislation is approximated to 15 EU legal acts, referred to in Annex XI-B;	Annual report on the implementation of the action plan for the implementation of the DCFTA; dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	LEPL National Food Agency	Following draft Government Decrees were elaborated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On amendments to the Decree №587 of the Government of Georgia of 23 December of 2022 „On the approval of the procedure for conducting tests on the distinctiveness, uniformity and stability of a new breed of animal and/or plant“;</li> <li>„On traceability requirements for sprouts and seeds intended for the production of sprouts“;</li> <li>On “technical regulation – Exceptions to the rules regarding the sea transport of liquid oils and fats“.</li> </ul>
<b>Objective 4.2.</b>	Raising awareness of consumers and rights holders in business circles and civil society				
4.2.1. Increasing the awareness of the interested parties about the Georgian legislation approximated to the EU legislation, and supporting entrepreneurs in adapting to the new requirements.	Number of conducted trainings, informational meetings and other events	Annual report on the implementation of the action plan for the implementation of the DCFTA; dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	LEPL National Food Agency	In the first quarter of 2024: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>27.02.2024 - Kutaisi - an informational meeting was held with business operators, the resolution of the Government of Georgia No. 581 of November 10, 2015 "On the approval of the technical regulation on microbiological indicators of food" (9 business operators attended).</li> <li>29.02.2024 - Tbilisi - an informational meeting was held with business operators, the resolution No. 581 of the Government of Georgia of November 10, 2015 "On the approval of the technical regulation on microbiological indicators of food" (11 business operators attended).</li> <li>01.03.2024 - Tbilisi - informational meeting with business operators, Resolution No. 581 of the Government of Georgia of November 10, 2015 "On the approval of the technical regulation on microbiological indicators of food" (7 business operators attended).</li> <li>29.03.2024 - Meetings were held with 25 business operators producing nuts in connection with the implementation of the recommendations issued by the EU audit.</li> <li>Three meetings were held: with 27 business operators of poultry slaughterhouses and veterinarians of poultry slaughterhouses in all regions of the country, about the need to carry out research on the microbiological indicator - Campylobacter;</li> </ul>
<b>Objective 4.3.</b>	Strengthen the capacity and skills of the competent bodies				
4.3.1. Training of sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary border control specialists;	Number of conducted trainings and Participating specialists;	Annual Report of the Revenue Service www.rs.ge	Revenue Service	LEPL National Food Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>26 March - online meeting with representative from FDA (Food and Drug Administration, USA), regarding Predictive Risk-based Evaluation for Dynamic Import Compliance Targeting. 40 participants</li> <li>Planning of trainings in frame of ENPARD IV program “support to the Food Safety and Sanitary and Phytosanitary System (SPS) in Georgia”</li> </ul>
Development of the manual on a specific procedural issue	Adopted procedural manual				
4.3.2. Training of employees of the relevant competent authority in legal drafting and implementation	Number of conducted trainings and other events	Annual report on the implementation of the DCFTA National Action Plan dcfta.gov.ge	The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture	LEPL National Food Agency; LEPL – State Laboratory of Agriculture;  LEPL- Revenue Service	<p>Specialists of LEPL – State Laboratory of Agriculture attended the following trainings: “Interpretation and familiarization of ISO 17025:2017/2018 standard, review of general principles.“</p> <p>Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) conducted a training on the following diseases: Mycoplasma agalactiae and Mycoplasma capricolum.</p>



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					<p>Training on Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) was conducted - to use a new non-commercial ELISA diagnostic kit to detect the antibodies against the disease.</p> <p>In the LEPL National Food Agency in the first quarter of 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 internal trainings were held on the topic - "State control mechanism - risk analysis and audit of critical control points (history, standard operating procedure, review of the audit act (attended by 47 authorized persons).</li> <li>• 2 external training sessions were held on the topic - "Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points Audit Implementation Techniques for Raw Milk Thermal Processing Enterprises" (25 authorized persons attended).</li> <li>• 3 internal information meetings were held, the resolution No. 581 of the Government of Georgia dated November 10, 2015 "On the approval of the technical regulation on microbiological indicators of food" (attended by 33 veterinarians and 69 authorized persons hired at the slaughterhouse).</li> <li>• Three meetings were held: with 33 veterinarians of poultry slaughterhouses, about the need to carry out research on the microbiological indicator - Campylobacter; 69 with the inspector of the region on the control of the fulfillment of the obligation of campylobacter research by the business operator of the poultry slaughterhouse.</li> <li>• On March 29, 2024, taking into account the recommendations issued by the EU audit, inspectors of the regions were trained regarding the inspection of the hazelnut factory, the filling of the new form of the conformity assessment act during the inspection, and the filling of the sampling act.</li> <li>• A meeting was held at the National Accreditation Center with the laboratories where export hazelnut research is conducted and information was provided on the obligation to observe the mandatory research methods and sampling rules for the control of mycotoxins defined by the EU Regulation 401/2006 (Decree of the Government of Georgia N567).</li> </ul>
<p>4.3.3 Establishment and/or expanding the field of accreditation of new laboratory diagnostics methods in sanitary and phytosanitary direction</p>	<p>Number of established and/or accredited testing methods which will be added to the list of laboratory services</p>	<p>Annual report on the implementation of the DCFTA National Action Plan dcfta.gov.ge</p>	<p>Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</p>	<p>LEPL – State Laboratory of Agriculture</p>	<p>2 methods were established in Animal disease diagnostic department: Detection and morphological identification of Neofabraea alba causative of apple peel cancer and Neofabraea malicorticis causative of apple anthracnose; Morphological identification of Datura stramonium.</p> <p>In the Animal Disease Diagnostic Department following 2 methods were established in the molecular biology: Avian Mycoplasmosis (M/S, M/G) and Small ruminant mycoplasmosis.</p> <p>In the Food Safety Department 2 methods were established: Determination of Sudan I, Sudan II, Sudan III, Sudan IV, dye residues in food products using high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC); Determination of pesticide residues in milk and milk products by QuEChers method using GC/MS/MS and LC/MS/MS.</p>
<p><b>Objective 4.4.</b></p>	<p>Implementation of sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary border control</p>				

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
4.4.1 Implementation of sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary border control procedures	Number of implemented sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary border procedures	The results of the implemented procedures are reflected in the control acts - in the corresponding software module	Revenue Service	LEPL- National Food Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Veterinary border control – 4210 consignment</li> <li>Phytosanitary border control – 7161 consignment</li> <li>Border control of food/feed of non-animal origin – 2047 consignment</li> </ul>
<b>Goal 5.</b>	Approximation with the EU legislation and the EU best practice in the field of customs				
<b>Objective 5.1.</b>	Further approximation of the Georgia’s Authorized Economic Operators (AEO) program with that of the EU				
5.1.1. Capacity development of the AEO program	Technical assistance meetings organized for the purposes of the AEO program capacity development	Annual Report of the Revenue Service rs.ge	Revenue Service		Work is underway to identify potential development partner for this activity.
5.1.2. Implementation of additional activities for the purpose of consultations on the part of Georgia in order to sign the memorandum of mutual recognition of AEO	Conducted consultations	Minutes of the meeting of the Customs Subcommittee  <a href="https://trade.ec.europa.eu/">https://trade.ec.europa.eu/</a>	MOF;  Revenue Service	MFA	Draft roadmap for the AEO MRA elaborated by DG TAXUD. Draft currently under review. Potential candidate BCPs identified and proposed for the purposes of the AEO MRA scheme.
<b>Objective 5.2.</b>	Legal and procedural support for accession to the Common Transit Procedures (CTC) and the Single Administration Document (SAD) and the implementation of the New Computerized Transit System (NCTS)				
5.2.1 Accession to Common Transit Procedures (CTC) and Single Administrative Document (SAD) Conventions	The procedure for joining the Convention has been completed on Georgia’s side	annual report/press release; Rs.ge	Ministry of finance of Georgia; LEPL - Revenue Service.		Comments on text sent for internal procedure received from all agencies involved in the process. Meeting was held with representatives of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Justice. Accession procedures provided by the convention was discussed.
5.2.2. Testing of the NCTS Computer Software	Testing of the program implemented in the Revenue Service has been completed	the automated customs data system(ASYCUD)	Ministry of finance of Georgia; LEPL - Revenue Service.		Conformance test Mode 2 of the system is ongoing. Mode 1 completed on February 21, 2024 (started in December 2019). Mode 2 will be completed by the end of April. (In total about 590 different scenarios will be tested).
5.2.3. Training of employees of the Customs Department and private sector representatives to use NCTS software program	Number of participants in trainings.	Annual report / press release; Rs.ge	Ministry of finance of Georgia; LEPL - Revenue Service.		Training of employees involved in the testing process is carried out on a regular basis.
<b>Objective 5.3.</b>	Facilitating the implementation of the new customs code				
5.3.1. Organize meetings/ seminars for the purposes of elaboration of implementing provisions for certain articles of the new Customs Code	Number of organized meetings	<a href="http://www.rs.ge">www.rs.ge</a>	Ministry of finance of Georgia; LEPL - Revenue Service.		Work is underway to identify potential development partner organizations with the view of implementing this activity.
5.3.2. Drafting of implementing provisions for	Draft implementing provisions of certain articles of the Customs Code are	<a href="http://www.matse.gov.ge">www.matse.gov.ge</a> <a href="http://www.rs.ge">www.rs.ge</a>	Ministry of finance of Georgia;		Work is underway to identify potential development partner organizations with a view of assisting the lawmaking process.

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
certain articles of the new Customs Code	elaborated, including of data in declarant records, simplified declaration		LEPL - Revenue Service.		
5.3.3 Development of implementation norms of Book X of the Customs Code of Georgia	Adopted implementation norm	matsne.gov.ge	Ministry of finance of Georgia; LEPL - Revenue Service	Revenue Service	Work is underway to identify potential development partner organizations with a view of assisting the lawmaking process.
<b>Goal 6.</b>	Legislative and institutional approximation in the field of establishment, trade in services and e-commerce with relevant EU legislation				
<b>Objective 6.1.</b>	Develop a legal framework in line with European best practices in telecommunications, e-commerce and postal services and promote the development of the postal market				
6.1.1. Update Annex XV-B and Annex XV-C of the Association Agreement	Updated Annex XV-B and Annex XV-C	matsne.gov.ge dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	National Communication s Commission of Georgia	<p>A draft of amendments to the Law of Georgia "On Electronic Communications" has been prepared in order to bring it closer to the European Parliament and of the Council following directives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2002/58/EC of 12 July 2002 concerning the processing of personal data and the protection of privacy in the electronic communications sector (Directive on privacy and electronic communications);</li> <li>• 2002/20/EC of 7 March 2002 on the authorisation of electronic communications networks and services (Authorisation Directive);</li> <li>• 2002/19/EC of 7 March 2002 on access to, and interconnection of, electronic communications networks and associated facilities (Access Directive);</li> <li>• 2002/21/EC of 7 March 2002 on a common regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services (Framework Directive).</li> </ul> <p>However, following to the negotiations with the European Union it is planned to update Annex XV-B, under which the issues defined by the above Directives will be implemented in accordance with the European Electronic Communications Code (EECC).</p> <p>In order to introduce universal telecommunication services in accordance with the European Electronic Communications Code (EECC) a draft of amendments to the Law of Georgia "On Electronic Communications" has already been prepared.</p> <p>As for Directives: On Authorization (2002/20/EC); On access and interconnection with electronic communication networks and related facilities (2002/19/EC); On the Common Regulatory Framework for Electronic Communications Networks and Services (2002/21/EC) draft amendments will be prepared according to the EECC.</p> <p>In order to approve the drafts of the mentioned changes, it is planned to carry out further procedures.</p>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
6.1.2. Development of an updated version of the draft Postal Law	Adopted law on postal services	matsne.gov.ge dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		In addition to the Directives 97/67/EC amended by Directives 2002/39/EC, 2008/6/EC, is planned updating the Annex XV-C, under which Georgia will take harmonization commitment on cross-border parcel delivery services Regulations ((EU) 2018/644, (EU) 2018/1263). Within the framework of the TA od the Facility for the Implementation of the EU – Georgia Association Agreement, the latter has already been reflected in the draft Postal Law.  Following the completion of discussion procedures the draft Postal Law and its secondary laws are planned to be submitted to the Parliament of Georgia in the current year.
<b>Goal 7.</b>	Legislative and institutional approximation in the field of public procurement with relevant EU legislation and institutional capacitybuilding				
<b>Objective 7.1.</b>	Adopt a new law on public procurement and by-laws and develop guidelines, methodological guidelines and instructions on this topic				
7.1.1. Implementation of legislative changes in the field of governmental procurement in accordance with Annexes, XVI-D, XVI-E, XVI-F, XVI-I, XVI-J, XVI-K to the Association Agreement	Preparation of amendments to the adopted Law "On Public Procurement" in accordance with Annexes XVI-E XVI-F of the Association Agreement.  Preparation of legislative amendments to ensure compliance with the Concessions Directive	matsne.gov.ge; procurement.gov.ge; www.spa.ge	LEPL SPA, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development	Government of Georgia, Ministries, Parliament of Georgia  Public and Private cooperation Agency	According to the obligations under the Association Agreement, the State Procurement Agency has started approximation process with EU Utilities Directive. For this purpose, within the framework of the EU funded, AA Facility Implementation project, international expert prepared a draft law aimed at legal approximation with the EU utility Directive. The first version of the draft law submitted to OECD/SIGMA experts and after reflecting their comments, the draft law sent to the EC relevant DG's for their review.
7.1.2. Development and adoption of "secondary legislation" - subordinate normative acts based on the Law on Public Procurement	Adopted secondary legislation	matsne.gov.ge; procurement.gov.ge; spa.ge	LEPL SPA		The State Procurement Agency is actively working to develop secondary legislation based on the new Law on "Public Procurement". With regard to this, European expert, which was hired under the USAID Economic Governance Program, has drafted 33 sub-legal acts, which have to be adopted by January 1, 2025.
7.1.3. Based on the laws on information on public procurement, developing manuals, methodological guidelines and instructions and publishing them electronically on websites	Published methodological guidelines, manuals and instructions	Annual Report of the State Procurement Agency; E-Newsletter of the State Procurement Agency; procurement.gov.ge; spa.ge	LEPL SPA		Accordance to the new Public Procurement Law, in order to raise awareness on ongoing reforms in the field of public procurement, State Procurement Agency, with support of the international organizations has prepared and published manuals - "Sustainable Public Procurement", "Public Procurement in the European Union - Guide for Georgian Businesses" English and Georgian editions, and "Energy-Efficient Public Procurement" English edition.
<b>Objective 7.2.</b>	Modernization of the unified electronic system of public procurement				
7.2.1. Development of new e-services, procedures and tools of the Unified System of Public Procurement (e-Procurement)	Additional services and opportunities introduced in the Unified System of Public Procurement;	Modernized Unified System of Public Procurement (e-Procurement; Electronic Government procurement system); Annual Report of the State Procurement Agency; E-Newsletter of the State Procurement Agency;	LEPL SPA	LEPL National Agency of Public Registry of the Ministry of Justice; LEPL Financial-Analytical Service of the Ministry of Finance	Consolidated tender management system (CTD) - ctd.spa.ge system has been added option to export procurement plans, filled by the procuring organisations, as well as the possibility of rejecting the current plan, which the organization no longer intends to purchase. These organizations are reflected in a separate list that can be exported to a separate Excel table. In addition, statistics of issued permits and filtering by desired dates have been added. Rewriting of the statistics websites stats.spa.ge and charts.procurement.gov.ge and forming a new single website has started.

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
		procurement.gov.ge; spa.ge			
<b>Objective 7.3.</b>	Human resource development in the field of public procurement				
7.3.1. Conduct trainings for the relevant employees of the State Procurement Agency according to the requirements of the new Law on Public Procurement	Number of trained employees of the State Procurement Agency, 20 employees in total.	Annual Report of the State Procurement Agency; E-Newsletter of the State Procurement Agency; procurement.gov.ge; spa.ge	LEPL SPA		<p>On February 28 of 2024, an international seminar on "Quality infrastructure as the best means in public procurement in accordance with the best practices of the European Union" were held at the State Procurement Agency. Seminar was organised within the framework of the EU Twinning project "Strengthening of the National Agency of Standards and Metrology of Georgia in accordance with the best practices of the European Union".</p> <p>On March 21-22 of 2024, the World Bank has organised international seminar on "Development of Centralized Procurement Systems in the EU countries". Seminar was held in Bucharest, Romania and attended by the representatives of the State Procurement Agency.</p>
7.3.2. Conduct trainings for the procuring organizations, economic operators and other interested parties according to the new Law on Public Procurement	Number of trained staff of procuring authorities, economic operators and interested parties: 15 classes during 2024 academic year, total of 320 participants,	Annual Report of the State Procurement Agency; E-Newsletter of the State Procurement Agency; procurement.gov.ge; spa.ge	LEPL SPA		<p>Since January to March 2024, 4 training courses on the "State Procurement Course" were held at the training center of the State Procurement Agency.</p> <p>Within the scope of above courses, total of 110 specialists were trained, who operate as procurement specialists at various public authorities and its' subordinate LEPL's and LTD's, at local self-government bodies and its' Non-Entrepreneurial Non-Commercial Legal Entities. After completion of the courses based on the written test results, participants were awarded with Certificates of attendance.</p>
<b>Goal 8.</b>	Approximation to the EU standards and best practices in the field of intellectual property				
<b>Objective 8.1</b>	Ensuring access to justice in the field of intellectual property				
8.1.1 Conduct trainings on intellectual property rights for representatives of relevant government or executive agencies, private sector, as well as, for judges and lawyers	Number of organized trainings (At least five trainings/seminars/working meetings.)	www.sakpatenti.gov.ge	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – Sakpatenti	LEPL High School of Justice	It is planned to conduct trainings during the current year
<b>Objective 8.2.</b>	Intellectual property legislation harmonization with EU's standards				
8.2.1 Implementation of amendments to the Law of Georgia "On Trademarks" (adopting the law) in order to bring it into compliance with the EU trademark regulation.	Amendments made on the law of Georgia "On Trademarks"	www.matsne.gov.ge	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – Sakpatenti  Parliament of Georgia		<p>The law was adopted by the Parliament.</p> <p>Amendments to the "Trademark Law" of Georgia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The legislation came into compliance with the Trademark Directive 2015/2436 of the European Parliament and of the Council of December 16, 2015, and the EU Trademark Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council 2017/1001 of June 14, 2017.</li> <li>• The powers of the Chamber of Appeals of Sakpatenti have been increased.</li> <li>• The absolute and relative grounds for refusal of a trademark registration have been changed and written more clearly.</li> <li>• It became possible to divide a trademark.</li> <li>• The concept of trademark was changed and formed in a new way.</li> <li>• the way was paved for registration of new types of marks, in particular, registration of three-dimensional trademarks, holograms, and certification marks.</li> <li>• The list of goods will be checked at the examination stage.</li> </ul>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Norms regulating the relationship between registered conflicting trademarks were added to the Law.</li> <li>• the right of the holder of an exclusive license to bring an action without the consent of the trademark owner, if the trademark owner fails to bring an action within a reasonable time after receiving the official notification, was added.</li> <li>• the obligation of the trademark owner, along with cancellation of the registration, to submit evidence that he/she informed the licensee of the intention to cancel the trademark, If a license agreement is registered for the trademark.</li> </ul> <p><a href="https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/6105085?publication=0">https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/6105085?publication=0</a>  <a href="https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/11482?publication=11">https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/11482?publication=11</a></p>
<b>Objective 8.3.</b>	<b>Institutional strengthening of the LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – Sakpatenti</b>				
8.3.1. Holding trainings and workshops for Sakpatenti employees; Organizing bilateral meetings and seminars with third country governments and industrial associations to share best practices and experience of developed countries	Number of meetings and trainings organized for employees (at least five trainings/working meetings/seminars)	sakpatenti.gov.ge	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – Sakpatenti		In January, a three-day training was held within the framework of the unified program of the state language, which was attended by 14 employees of Sakpatenti. The purpose of the training was to introduce to the staff of the Office the rules of transcription-transliteration of foreign languages developed by the State Language Department and the updated norms of the literary language and to deepen their knowledge in this direction. The training was planned and organized based on the Memorandum of Understanding signed between Sakpatenti and the State Language Department.
8.3.2. Scientific-technical processing of material documents formed in the process of Sakpatenti's activity, digitalization of processed documents;  Creating an electronic catalog	Scientific-technical processing of 100% of the documents created in the Invention and Trademark Departments in 1992-1994 (3 years), including digitization/digitization of at least 80,000 pages;  Electronic Catalog is created and available for internal use (employees of Sakpatenti).	sakpatenti.gov.ge	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – Sakpatenti		Negotiations with the National Archives of Georgia on the contract to be signed for the purchase of archival services are in the final stage and will be signed soon. According to the agreement, scientific and technical processing of documents will start from July 1.  Digitalization Work on the e-catalog and related software has begun and is scheduled to be completed by the end of July.
<b>Objective 8.4.</b>	<b>Raising awareness in the field of intellectual property</b>				
8.4.1. Conduct trainings, information meetings and workshops to raise public awareness	Number of conducted trainings and workshops (at least five trainings/information meetings)	sakpatenti.gov.ge	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – Sakpatenti		On January 24-25, a two-day training was held for the members of the Tushuri Guda Association at Sakpatenti's premises. The participants got acquainted with the basic principles of the association management, internal control structure and external communication strategy. At the training the purpose of target commissions, their composition and powers were also discussed. To promote Georgian farmers, entrepreneurs and associations, trainings were held within the framework of the joint project of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - "Sakpatenti" and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), which envisages strengthening the capacity of producers
8.4.2. Publication of information booklets and flyers	Number of published information materials	Published booklets and flyers	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – Sakpatenti		During the reporting period, 50 informative booklets were prepared and published.

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
<b>Objective 8.5.</b>	Implement effective measures against counterfeit and piracy				
8.5.1. Conducting workshops and seminars for owners of intellectual property rights and stakeholders to raise awareness	Number of workshops and trainings for owners and stakeholders (at least 3 trainings/seminars and/or work meetings);	sakpatenti.gov.ge	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – Sakpatenti		It is planned to conduct trainings during the current year.
8.5.2. Detection of counterfeit and pirated products, including at the border and prevention of infringing activities	Number of detected and investigated cases	Annual Report	MOF; LEPL- Revenue Service	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – Sakpatenti	First quarter of 2024 saw 61 new trademarks being registered. 33 Orders on seizure of possible counterfeit goods have been issued by the Customs department during the accounting period in 2024
<b>Goal 9.</b>	Develop competition and trade remedy fields in line with EU best practices				
<b>Objective 9.1.</b>	Raising awareness on competition policy and trade remedies among public and private sector representatives				
9.1.1. Organizing seminars and information meetings on current issues of competition	Number of seminars and information meetings held	Annual report of the agency, www.gcca.gov.ge	LEPL Georgian Competition and Consumer Agency		With the support of the EU-funded TWINNING project, the agency approved the communication and advocacy plan for 2024-2025. According to this plan, seminars and informational meetings with various target groups will be organized in 2024 to address current issues in competition policy.
9.1.2. Organizing seminars and meetings for representatives of the private sector on the use of anti-dumping measures	Number of seminars and meetings held, number of participants	Annual report of the agency, www.gcca.gov.ge	LEPL Georgian Competition and Consumer Agency		With the support of the EU-funded TWINNING project, the agency approved the 2024-2025 communication and advocacy plan. According to this plan, seminars and informational meetings with various target groups will be organized in 2024 to address the application of anti-dumping measures.
<b>Objective 9.2.</b>	Improving the qualification of employees				
9.2.1. Organizing trainings / seminars / study visits on current issues of competition policy	Number of trainings / seminars / study visits conducted	Annual report of the agency, www.gcca.gov.ge	LEPL Georgian Competition and Consumer Agency		In the first quarter of 2024, the agency's employees participated in 7 events related to competition policy and its enforcement.  Specifically, they attended a seminar organized by the Budapest Regional Center of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD-GVH RCC), Deusto University of Bilbao, and the Spanish National Commission for Markets and Competition in Bilbao, Spain. The seminar focused on the three main pillars of competition policy: cartel agreements, abuse of dominant position, and concentration control mechanisms, illustrated with practical examples.  A representative of the agency also took part in an international conference organized by the German Federal Competition Authority (Bundeskartellamt) in Berlin, Germany. This conference addressed the mechanisms and challenges of enforcing competition law across various sectors. Furthermore, the agency's representative participated in a workshop organized by the Budapest Regional Center of the OECD-GVH RCC in Budapest, Hungary. The workshop, aimed at heads of competition agencies, tackled current enforcement issues in competition policy and cooperation among agencies.

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
					As part of the ongoing TWINNING project funded by the European Union, four training sessions were conducted for agency representatives on enforcing competition policy. These sessions covered the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Commitments in antitrust enforcement and concentration control.</li> <li>✓ Ensuring fair competition by public administrative bodies.</li> <li>✓ Enforcement of competition policy in digital markets.</li> <li>✓ Excessive pricing.</li> </ul>
9.2.2. Raising the qualification of the Agency staff in relation to the use of anti-dumping measures	Number of trainings / seminars / study visits conducted	Annual report of the agency, <a href="http://www.gcca.gov.ge">www.gcca.gov.ge</a>	LEPL Georgian Competition and Consumer Agency		With the support of various donor organizations, the agency plans to hold seminars and training sessions for its employees in 2024 on the use of anti-dumping measures.
<b>Goal 10.</b>	Promoting sustainable development				
<b>Objective 10.1.</b>	Sustainable management of natural resources and contribution to the conservation				
10.1.1 Within the framework of close and continuous cooperation between the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture and FAO / GFCM, conducting priority species research in the Black Sea area - Kambala species, Rapana species, as well as regional trainings.	The number of studies carried out within the framework of the BlackSea4Fish project on relevant fish species	Annual implementation of DCFTA action plan report <a href="http://dcfta.gov.ge">dcfta.gov.ge</a>	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	LEPL National Environmental Agency; LEPL Department of Environmental Supervision	Preparatory work is currently in progress for implementing spring-summer 2024 marine research under grant agreement (Letter of Agreement) on “Standardized scientific beam trawl survey for Rapa whelk in Georgian waters”, signed between the LEPL National Environmental Agency and UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on September 29, 2023.  Negotiations are underway with the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) regarding the signing of the 2024 grant agreement with the National Environmental Agency within the ongoing BlackSea4Fish project for collecting different data on selected species in Georgian waters of the Black Sea.
10.1.2. Promotion of trade in timber products produced as a result of sustainable forest management	15 business yards arranged in country	Annual implementation of DCFTA action plan report <a href="http://dcfta.gov.ge">dcfta.gov.ge</a>	LEPL National Forest Agency	The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	In the current year, 15 Business Service Yards (BSY) were fully equipped with necessary inventory. Candidates have also been selected for the same 15 BSYs and will be hired for full operationalization.
10.1.3. Provision of a necessary equipment for forest operations	50 equipment for forestry activities have been purchased	Annual implementation of DCFTA action plan report <a href="http://dcfta.gov.ge">dcfta.gov.ge</a>	LEPL National Forest Agency	The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	3 units of tractors (skidders) and 3 units of plows were purchased. The tender documentation for vehicles to be purchased was prepared. Within the framework of the Agency's own funds, the purchase of following trucks is planned, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-loading truck (6*6) – 9 units</li> <li>• Truck with hydraulic manipulator (6*6) – 2 units</li> <li>• Self-loading truck (4*2) - 4 units</li> <li>• Self-loading truck (8*4) - 3 units</li> <li>• Evacuator – 1 unit.</li> </ul>
<b>Objective 10.2.</b>	Fulfillment of the International Obligations/Agreements related to Climate Change				



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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
10.2.1. Preparation of the final report on the implementation of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Implementation Action Plan (2021-2023)	Final report of the Climate Action Plan (2021- 2023)	Website of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia  www.mepa.gov.ge	The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia		The final report on the implementation of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Implementation Action Plan (2021-2023) has been prepared and posted on the website of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia.
10.2.2. Start the updating of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).	technical assignment of the developed project;  At least 3 experts selected. At least 2 working groups has been formed.	Annual report on the implementation of the DCFTA National Action dcfta.gov.ge	The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia		Negotiations are underway with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and NDC Partnership to support the update of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) document.  The development of the new NDC is planned to start in the 2nd quarter of 2024.
10.2.3. Preparation of drafts of Georgia's 5th National Communication (FNC) and First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Updated National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Prepared Final Versions of Georgia's 5th National Notification (FNC) and First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR)	Annual report on the implementation of the DCFTA National Action Plan dcfta.gov.ge	The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia		The drafts of Georgia's 5th National Communication (FNC) and First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) are being prepared - draft versions of several chapters of the documents have been developed and presented to stakeholders. At this stage, the received notes/comments are being incorporated in the documents.
<b>Objective 10.3.</b>	Ensuring protection of labour rights in line with international standards				
10.3.1 Awareness raising of employers and employees about Labour Norms	Number of information/working meetings and consultations provided;  Number of prepared thematic materials;	Annual report of the Labour Inspection office - www.lio.moh.gov.ge	LEPL - Labour Inspection Office	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia	In order to raise awareness of public on labour norms, 10 information/working meetings were held, including with the business sector. Meetings were attended by 80 people.  With the support of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the normative acts related to labor legislation were translated and placed on the website of the Labor Inspection Office (see link: <a href="https://lio.moh.gov.ge/low.php?lang=2">https://lio.moh.gov.ge/low.php?lang=2</a> )
10.3.2 Raising the awareness of employers and employees about child labour	Number of information meetings held to raise awareness about child labour, number of printed and distributed booklets	www.moh.gov.ge  www.lio.moh.gov.ge	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia	LEPL - Labour Inspection Office	In order to raise public awareness of labor norms, including child labour, 10 information/working meetings were held.  Information on child labor is being constantly shared with employers and employees at workplaces.  During the reporting period, 1148 activities (primary and subsequent inspectors, prior to the elimination of violations, monitoring) were carried out at 673 facilities.
10.3.3 Institutional strengthening of the LEPL-Labour Inspection Office	Number of measures taken to increase the capacity of labour inspectors	Annual report of the Labour Inspection Office- www.lio.moh.gov.ge	LEPL - Labour Inspection Office	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia	In the reporting period, 12 meetings/trainings on 16 regulations related to OSH were held (24 training hours in total).  In addition, with the support of the United Nations Development Program, with the direct involvement of LIO, work on the guidelines for labor inspectors "Recognition and prevention of racial, ethnic and religious discrimination in the workplace" was completed, according to which a series of training were carried out, including the training of trainers and accompanying trainings with the involvement of employees; In addition, work on a guideline related to the observance of the principles of reasonable accommodation is underway. Based on which a series of training of inspectors is also designed.  Also, within the framework of the EU Gender Equality Project, work on guidelines for labor inspectors "Gender Responsive Labor Inspection" has been completed, according to which a series of training is planned.

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
10.3.4 Functioning of the LEPL-Labour Inspection Office in accordance with the extended mandate defined by the legislation	<p>Number of inspections and facilities/workplaces inspected and instructions issued per year;</p> <p>Number of facilities that fully implemented instructions;</p> <p>Number of employees covered by the inspections</p>	Annual report of the Labour Inspection - <a href="http://www.lio.moh.gov.ge">www.lio.moh.gov.ge</a>	LEPL - Labour Inspection Office	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia	<p>With the support of the UN Women, work has begun on the guidelines for labor inspectors working on OSH on the "Categories of jobs dangerous or/and posing high risk to pregnant workers, workers who have recently given birth or are breastfeeding". Also, work on guidelines for supervision of equal pay principles at workplaces and instructions for labor inspectors is in the process.</p> <p>During the reporting period, 1148 activities (initial and subsequent inspections, prior to the elimination of violations, monitoring) were carried out at 673 facilities within the framework of the Law of Georgia "On Labor Inspection". LIO issued 4104 instructions.</p> <p>As for the specific directions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In accordance with the Organic Law of Georgia "On Occupational Safety", 713 (initial and subsequent, before the elimination of violations) inspections were carried out, as a result of primary inspections 412 facilities were inspected.</li> </ol> <p>LIO issued 3769 references to all facilities. 220 facilities have fully taken into account the given instructions. The conducted inspections affected 24,663 employees.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. In accordance with the Organic Law of Georgia "Labor Code of Georgia" 395 inspections (initial and subsequent, before elimination of violations) were carried out in order to supervise the implementation of the norms, as a result of primary inspections 221 facilities were inspected.</li> </ol> <p>LIO issued 335 references to all facilities. 156 facilities have fully taken into account the given instructions. The conducted inspections affected up to 4670 employed persons.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Within the framework of GoG Resolution N112 "On approval of the rules for implementation of state supervision in order to prevent and respond to forced labor and labor exploitation", based on a complaint inspection was carried out [unplanned] at 1 facility. As a result of the inspection, possible signs of forced labor were revealed in one facility.</li> <li>4. In accordance with the law of Georgia "On Labor Migration" planned inspections of 32 local employers were carried out.</li> </ol> <p>In addition, as part of the supervision of the registration in the register of economic activities and certification of activities related to labor arrangements outside of Georgia by the intermediary company, 7 monitorings were carried out, as a result of which 7 compliance acts were drawn up, 7 of them were fully in compliance.</p>
10.3.5 Ensuring regular meetings of the tripartite social partnership commission and discussion of the issues provided for in the action plan	The number of meetings of the tripartite commission and the working group created within the commission	Minutes of the meeting of the Tripartite Social Partnership Commission	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia	Member Agencies / Organizations of the Tripartite Social Partnership Commission on	In the reporting period, meeting of the TSPC has not been held.
<b>Goal 11.</b>	Ensure effective coordination and communication about the DCFTA implementation				

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
<b>Objective 11.1.</b>	<b>Disseminate information about the benefits, opportunities and benefits of the DCFTA</b>				
11.1.1. Effective functioning of the DCFTA.gov.ge	Number of website visitors;  Number of draft legislative acts published	Dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		According to the data of January-March 2024, dcfta.gov.ge website had 2400 visitors. Apart from Georgia, the website is being visited from the USA, China, Germany, France, Turkey and others.  Draft laws developed in the field of sanitary and phytosanitary and TBT in the legislative approximation process have been published on the website for comments.
11.1.2. Organization of meetings of the DCFTA Advisory Group for the purpose of involvement and awareness of civil society, business representatives and non-governmental organizations in the process of implementation of the DCFTA	The number of conducted meetings	Annual report on the implementation of the DCFTA Action Plan  Dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		Implementation is planned in the following quarters of 2024
11.1.3 Thematic meetings with representatives of business, non-governmental organizations, local authorities, academia and other interested parties to raise awareness about DCFTA	Number of conducted meetings	Annual report on the implementation of the DCFTA Action Plan  Dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		Implementation is planned in the following quarters of 2024
<b>Objective 11.2.</b>	<b>Improving the functioning of a coordination mechanism for timely and successful implementation of the undertaken obligations</b>				
11.2.1. Organizing DCFTA implementation interagency Sub-Commission meetings	Number of conducted meetings	Annual report on Annual report on the implementation of the DCFTA Action Plan  Dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		Implementation is planned in the following quarters of 2024
11.2.2. Development of the 2024-2027 medium-term plan for DCFTA implementation	A medium-term plan for the implementation of the DCFTA has been adopted	Dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		According to the order of the Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia No. 1-1/127 of 2024, the medium-term (2024-2026) action plan for the implementation of the DCFTA was approved. It is planned to start the implementation of activities in the next quarters of 2024.
11.2. Development and publication of quarterly and annual reports on the implementation of the DCFTA	Prepared implementation reports	Dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		A report on the implementation of the DCFTA implementation plan for 2023 was prepared and published on the dcfta.gov.ge website.