

Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Supporting Institution	Implementation Report
<b>Report on the Implementation of the DCFTA Implementation National Action Plan for 2018</b>						
<b>Trade in Goods</b>						
<b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade-Related Matters:</b> Further improvements in the area of trade statistics	Processing external merchandise trade data by economic activities on section level based on NACE Rev.2	Statistical data on external merchandise trade of Georgia are available by economic activities on section level based on NACE Rev.2	Statistical data on External merchandise trade with breakdown by activities of companies involved in external trade of Georgia, based on NACE Rev.2	LEPL - National Statistics Office of Georgia		The process of linking external merchandise trade statistics to business register databases is completed. External Merchandise Trade Statistics based on sections of the new classification of economic activities (NACE Rev.2) is been published since October 2018.  Geostat fully implemented its 2018 action plan.
<b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade-related Matters:</b> Support Georgia to increase the diversification of Georgia's export structure, including export of new products to the EU market;	Assistance to entrepreneurs for efficient participation in EEN	New business ties between the representatives of Georgian and EU SMEs	Number of organized informative meetings to facilitate participation of Georgian enterprises in EEN;  Increased number of Georgian companies, registered on EEN platform	LEPL – Enterprise Georgia	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia  Innovations and Technology Agency of Georgia	In 2018, Georgian companies published 11 new business proposals to the EEN Platform. Additionally, 1 business proposal is placed on hold by an external reviewer.  Furthermore, two Georgian companies were matched with European counterparts. At this stage, there is an ongoing negotiation process.
	Promote the Georgian exporter companies' participation in international trade fairs and missions	Popularization of Georgian products on international markets;  new business ties and export diversification	Number of exporter companies participating in trade fairs and missions in EU member states	LEPL - Enterprise Georgia	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia  Ministry of Environmental protection and Agriculture of Georgia	In 2018, 79 Georgian companies participated in trade missions and exhibitions in EU countries: - Leather and leather products “LineaPelle” (Milan, Italy) – 3 companies; - “Moredash Showroom” – accompanying event of “Paris Fashion Week” (Paris, France) – 8 companies; - International exhibition for toy producers “Spielwarenmesse” (Nuremberg, Germany) – 3 companies. The value of the signed commercial contract – \$20,000;

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					LEPL - Georgian National Wine Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Messe Frankfurt Exhibition GmbH (Frankfurt, Germany) – 1 company;</li> <li>- Jewellery products “JVF” (Vicenza, Italy) – 3 companies;</li> <li>- Accompanying events of “Paris Fashion Week” (Paris, France) – 7 companies;</li> <li>- London Startup Gring - ICT conference (London, UK) – 7 companies;</li> <li>- Accompanying events of Paris Fashion Week (Paris, France) – 12 companies;</li> <li>- Bijorcha – exhibition of Jewelry products in Paris, France – 8 companies;</li> <li>- Lisbon Web Summit 2018 – Information and communication Conference, Lisbon, Portugal, 11 companies;</li> <li>- Sial Paris – On of the largest food and beverages exhibition, Paris, France - 16 companies. 5 million Euro contracts.</li> </ul> <p>The total value of commercial contracts for all three Paris Fashion Weeks is 0.8 million Euros.</p>
	Support SME in access to finance and provide technical assistance to SMEs	Newly established enterprises and/or expanded enterprises	Number of newly established and/or expanded enterprises	LEPL - Enterprise Georgia	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	In 2018, within the program “Produce in Georgia,” 102 business projects (65 industrial enterprises and 37 hotels) were supported by providing technical assistance and access to finance. The total investment volume amounted to more than 219 million Euros, which created 3,200 additional jobs.
	Training Needs Assessment – TNA for SMEs	Implementing a further project based on TNA in Hospitality sector	Number of executed projects based on TNA	LEPL - Enterprise Georgia	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	With the support of the European Educational Foundation (ETF), the three-staged study regarding the improvement of cooperation between hospitality industry and educational establishments, which was carried out based on training needs assessment, was concluded. The study also included concrete recommendations to improve the mentioned cooperation. The main challenges in cooperation between the two

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						sectors were revealed in the following directions: customer orientation, communication skills, knowledge of foreign languages and computer skills.
	Increase Awareness of beneficiaries and other stakeholders on DCFTA related issues	Increased number of entrepreneurs and other stakeholders informed about DCFTA related issues	Number of beneficiaries and other stakeholders, that were consulted on DCFTA related issues	LEPL - Enterprise Georgia	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	In 2018, 140 beneficiaries and stakeholders were consulted on DCFTA related issues, among them: 20 toy producing enterprises; 50 apparel companies in Kutaisi; 30 companies operating in architecture and design sector; 20 beneficiaries of the state programme “produce in Georgia” and 20 other entrepreneurs.
<b>Technical Barriers to Trade, Standardization, Metrology, Accreditation and Conformity Assessment (TBT)</b>						
<b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade-related Matters:</b> Developing legislation which Georgia committed to implement on the basis of the Association Agreement as provided in its Technical Barriers to Trade Strategy (TBT);	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	Approximation of Georgian legislation with the EU legislation	Adopted legal documents	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	The draft Government Decree on “technical regulation related to equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres” was prepared. Comments received by relevant agencies were reviewed. The regulation will be approved next year by a decree from the Government of Georgia in accordance with the Decision of the Association Committee in Trade Configuration amending Annex III-A of the DCFTA.
	Directive 2014/53/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on radio equipment and telecommunication terminal equipment and mutual recognition of their conformity	Approximation of Georgian legislation with the EU legislation	Adopted legal documents	Georgian National Communications Commission	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Within the Twinning project, a draft Government Decree on “technical regulation on radio equipment” was prepared in cooperation with European Experts. The regulation will be approved next year by a decree from the Government of Georgia in accordance with the Decision of the Association Committee in Trade Configuration amending Annex III-A of the DCFTA.
	Adopt the International and European Standards as a Georgian Standards; Including	Increased access to the International and European standards	Number of international and European standards adopted as Georgian ones	LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)	Ministry of Economic And Sustainable Development of Georgia	In 2018, Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology has registered 1946 standards in total as Georgian standards (GES). Among them:

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	Standards harmonized with Directives 2014/53EC and 2014/34/EU					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ GES ISO (International Standard) - 124;</li> <li>➤ GES EN (European Standard) – 1778;</li> <li>➤ GES IEC (International Electrotechnical Standard) - 4;</li> <li>➤ GES ETSI (European Telecommunications Standards) - 40;</li> </ul> <p>Among them, 10 GES EN and 20 GES ISO in Georgian. GEOSTM and ETSI signed a memorandum that allowed GEOSTM to become an official representative of ETSI in Georgia.</p>
	To start preparatory procedures for approximation process in the field of metrology with directives MID 2014/32/EU (Measuring Instruments Directive) and NAWI 2014/31/EU (Non-automatic weighing instruments)	The skills of Metrology Institute staff improved in the fields defined by the directives	Draft internal procedure is developed for 1 (one) selected measuring instrument considering the requirements of MID or NAWI The number of trainings conducted by European experts with an objective to provide information/introduce the requirements of directives	LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)	Ministry of Economic and Sustainable Development of Georgia	<p>On 22-26 January 2018, within the framework of the ongoing twinning project, “Support to Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology for further implementation of the EU Georgia DCFTA requirements,” European experts visited the agency in order to conduct seminars for the staff of the Metrology Institute on the requirements of MID or NAWI directives. Information and European experience was shared with the staff of Metrology Institute.</p> <p>The European standard EN 45501, which is harmonized with the NAWI directive, was translated into Georgian.</p>
	Implement Quality Management System (QMS) in Standards Department of GEOSTM according to ISO 9001:2015	Further improvement of the quality and efficiency of the services provided to the interested parties	The recommendations of European experts for QMS implementation	LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)	Ministry of Economic And Sustainable Development of Georgia	Taking into consideration the recommendations of experts invited within the framework of the twinning project, necessary steps were taken in order to identify the necessary process for the implementation of a quality management system and the development of a respective documentation.

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	Integration of Revised ISO/IEC 17025 requirements into GAC rules and procedures	Rules and procedures of GAC are updated in accordance of ISO/IEC 17025 requirements	Prepared the first draft of amendments into GAC's rules and procedures	LEPL - The Unified National Body of Accreditation - Accreditation Center (GAC)	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	GAC Technical Advisory Committee elaborated terms of the transition to a new ISO/IEC 17025:2017/2018, which were uploaded on the official webpage of the Georgian Accreditation Center. In addition, a new Georgian version of the standard was translated. A new standard ISO/IEC 17025:2017 was implemented within GAC rules and procedurs. GAC has already started accreditation process of a new version of the standard.
	Integration of Revised ISO/IEC 17011:2017 requirements into GAC rules and procedures	Rules and procedures of GAC are updated in accordance of ISO/IEC 17011:2017 requirements	Prepared the first draft of amendments into GAC's rules and procedures	LEPL - The Unified National Body of Accreditation - Accreditation Center (GAC)	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	GAC implemented a new standard ISO/IEC 17011:2017 within GAC rules and procedures and started operating according to the mentioned standard.
	Conducting relevant procedures in order to maintain EA recognition	GAC is providing internationally recognized service	Internationally recognized scopes are maintained	LEPL - The Unified National Body of Accreditation - Accreditation Center (GAC)	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	GAC representatives took part in the EA technical committee meetings. GAC implemented a new ISO/IEC 17011:2017/2018 standard and EA requirements within GAC rules and procedures. The implementation of the new standard was checked during the EA re-evaluation. The evaluation team confirmed that GAC fully operates according to the new version of the standard.
	Submit application to EA to extend recognition scope (ISO 15189)	Application is submitted to EA and Peer Evaluation was conducted	Application is submitted to EA in order to extend recognition scope (ISO 15189)	LEPL - The Unified National Body of Accreditation - Accreditation Center (GAC)	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	The Georgian Accreditation Center has applied to the EA to extend the recognition scope in the ISO 15189 standard medical laboratory and received a positive feedback from the EA secretariat. In November 2018, EA conducted the reevaluation and recognition of the new field intended to evaluate medical laboratories. EA will conduct the reevaluation and recognition of the field of medical laboratory in January 2019.

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<b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade Related Matters, Technical Regulations, Standardisation and Related Infrastructure:</b> Developing infrastructure related to administration of standards, technical regulations, metrology, market surveillance, accreditation and conformity assessment procedures, including through EU support.	To continue the process of upgrading the equipment base of laboratories in priority fields in order to provide improved services	Availability on increased number of metrological services for interested entrepreneurs	Procurement of additional new equipment for reference divisions/labs. in 2 (two) fields of measurements	LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)	Ministry of Economic And Sustainable Development of Georgia	The process of equipping reference laboratories continues. In 2018, the equipment for Electrical laboratory was procured, which allows the laboratory to replace the existing old equipment and upgrade its base. Additionally, within the framework of the Twinning project, GEOSTM purchased some equipment for the Temperature and Humidity Division. Devices for monitoring environmental conditions (temperature, humidity, and pressure) were purchased for laboratories of the Metrology Institute. Furthermore, analytical balances were procured for radiation reference and Physical-chemical reference divisions of the Metrology Institute. A device for calibrating concrete test hammers has been procured in the third quarter of 2018 for the Mechanical reference division. The process of procurement will continue based on the results and recommendations received from international peer evaluations. The preparatory process for procurement has been started – technical specifications based on the recommendations of a peer review are being agreed and developed.
	In the field of metrology implement activities needed for maintaining/achieving international recognition of priority reference laboratories	Increase access to the metrological services for enterprises, laboratories, interested parties	To submit application in Regional Metrology Organization COOMET regarding the fields/scope for international recognition; and COOMET peer review conducted	LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)	Ministry of Economic And Sustainable Development of Georgia	In accordance to 2018 plan, several activities were conducted to ensure the traceability of measurement standards of the Metrology Institute. The calibration of measurement standards abroad are being conducted by respective National Metrology Institutes – PTB, Germany – Mass; CMI, Czech Republic – Electricity; Pressure, Temperature; UkrMetrTestStandards, Ukraine – Radio-physics, Optics, Acoustics; NPL, UK – Humidity; BelGIM, Belarus – Length.

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						<p>In the priority directions, where achievement of international recognition is planned, there are ongoing works to compare international etalons: small volume with Portuguese Metrology Institute; Length with Ukraine, Kharkov; GEOSTM has started procedures necessary for achieving international recognition from Regional Metrology Organization COOMET. GEOSTM successfully presented its Quality Management System at the COOMET Technical Committee Forum in January 2018, which is the first stage of the recognition process. An international evaluation of the Metrology Institution was conducted by experts from members of the Euro-Asian Cooperation of National Metrological Institutions (COOMET)</p> <p>The Metrology Institute of the National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM) achieved international recognition in additional fields: mass and related quantities, ionizing radiation, electricity and magnetism, length and thermometry. The peer evaluation of the Metrology Institution was conducted on October 1-3, 2018.</p>
	Development of information management system for GEOSTM Standards Department and Metrology Institute	Improved electronic services	Demo/Pilot version of the systems is developed and tested	LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)	Ministry of Economic And Sustainable Development of Georgia	Within the framework of the Comprehensive Institutional Building program CIB, the project “Support to the Georgian Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM) on Information Management System” is being implemented. Within the framework of the project, the main processes for Information Management Systems were identified. Currently, in accordance with the recommendations of GEOSTM, the detailed scheme of the processes are mostly developed and the test version of the program is under development. Furthermore, the program will be

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						synchronized with ISO/IEC, CEN, CENELEC, ETSI databases in accordance with recommendations and remarks submitted by the agency.
<p><b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade Related Matters, Technical Regulations, Standardisation and Related Infrastructure:</b> Facilitating the preparation and adaptation of stakeholders, including economic operators, for the implementation of approximated legislation.</p>	<p>Conduct the seminars/meetings for interested parties, including small and medium enterprises</p>	<p>Increased awareness on Standards and Metrology among interested parties and civil society</p>	<p>Number of conducted meetings and entrepreneurs participating therein</p>	<p>LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)</p>	<p>Ministry of Economic And Sustainable Development of Georgia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On 7th and 8th of February 2018, employees of the Mass Reference Division of GEOSTM Metrology Institute conducted 2 theoretical and practical seminars on “Application of scales/balances and weights in laboratories – General principles, services and quality assurance” for the representatives of calibration and testing laboratories, enterprises, scientific-research organizations, etc.</li> <li>Within the framework of the Twinning project, a roundtable meeting was conducted for the representatives of the following standardization technical Committees: “Food and food product”, “Construction and Hazardous Objects” and “Management and Conformity Assessment”;</li> <li>On 22-23 of February, with the support of Georgia's Innovation and Technology Agency, a training on “ISO 5001 – Energy Management Systems” was organized by GEOSTM and UNIDO;</li> <li>On March 14, a public lecture on “International Standardization Systems” was conducted for students of the Agricultural University of Georgian and the Georgian Technical University.</li> <li>Within the framework of the ongoing Twinning project, the awareness raising seminars were organized in Telavi municipality on 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2018 and in Zugdidi on 19<sup>th</sup> of July. Representatives from local business sector e.g. food industry</li> </ul>



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						<p>(honey, hazelnut and wine producers) and other interested parties took part in the seminar.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On August 20-24, 2018, within the project “Development and Maintenance of the Eurocode's Design System in Georgia,” funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia, members of the working group “EUROCODES” of the Standardisation Technical Committee of GEOSTM visited Latvia in order to gain more information about local practices. The project was developed by GEOSTM and the Latvian national standardisation body, Latvian Standard (LVS).</li> <li>With the joint efforts from GEOSTM and the Twinning project, a conference was organized on 24th of October 2018 on the following issue - “the experience of EU member states in the field of Metrology and Standardization.” The objective was to share the European experience regarding developments of trade and industry and to provide consultations and recommendations to the Georgian side.</li> <li>On November 7, 2018, within the framework of project, „development and maintenance of the Eurocode's design system in Georgia,” GEOSTM and Latvian Standards Institute (LVS) jointly organize a conference on “Implementation of Eurocodes in Georgia” for various interested parties that are involved in this field.</li> </ul>
<b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade-related Matters:</b> Further staff training	Capacity building of the staff in the field of standardisation and metrology	Raised qualification of GEOSTM staff	Number of conducted seminars/trainings for GEOSTM staff	LEPL - Georgian National Agency for Standards	Ministry of Economic And Sustainable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within the framework of the ongoing Twinning project, “Support to Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology for further implementation of</li> </ul>

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for the administration of responsible government bodies and agencies				and Metrology (GEOSTM)	Development of Georgia	<p>the EU Georgia DCFTA requirements,” the qualification raising activities for the employees of GEOSTM are conducted in the field of Standardization and Metrology, as well as in the field of PR, communication and marketing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In reference laboratories of the Metrology Institute of GEOSTM, European experts conducted seminars and trainings in the following fields of measurements: Humidity, Small Volume, Phys-Chemistry, Acoustics, Length, Temperature, and Ionizing Radiation - Dosimetry. Furthermore, seminars were held to review the new version of the standard ISO/IEC 17025:2017.</li> <li>• Study visits/internships are being conducted in leading European Metrology Institutes for the employees of the metrology Institute. The following information lists all institutes where study visits/internships were conducted: small volume- Portuguese NMI; Humidity – an accredited laboratory of Germany; Length – Latvian Metrology Center; Training/study visit on new version f ISO/IEC 17025 – Turkey; Thermometry and Humidity – Polish Metrology Institute; Electricity – Metrology Institute of Germany; Dosimetry – Metrology Institute of Italy.</li> <li>• Within the framework of the abovementioned twinning project, a seminar on marketing and quality management systems in Standardization field was conducted for the employees of the Standards Department.</li> </ul>

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						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The representatives from the Reference Division of Mass and related quantities of GEOSTM Metrology Institute took part in the training on “Small Volume” working group of COOMET Technical Committee TC 1.6 “Mass and related quantities,” which was conducted by German experts on 6-9 March. During the training, the comparison in the field of small volume was initiated and GEOSTM was chosen as a pilot laboratory.</li> <li>• Within the framework of the twinning project, representatives of the GEOSTM were visiting UK for the purpose of sharing the experience of relevant institutions involved in the field of quality infrastructure. The study visit was performed on 19-23 of March 2018.</li> <li>• On August 27-30, 2018, members of the department of mass and related measurements of GEOSTM took part in a technical committee meeting of COOMET in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.</li> <li>• On September 11-12, 2018, a meeting of the technical committee TK1.10 of COOMET was held in Georgia and was attended by experts from metrology institutes of COOMET member states.</li> <li>• On 4-5 October 2018, a meeting of COOMET Technical Committee on Quality was held in Tbilisi, where representatives of COOMET member states’ National Metrology Institutes participated. During the meeting, GEOSTM received an international recognition certificate QSF-R58.</li> </ul>

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						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Within the frame of the Twinning project, on October 8-12, 2018, a training was held for employees of GEOSTM and members of the Standardization Technical Committee on standards adoption, translation, ISO Guide 21-1, and the role of the committee.</li> </ul>
	Capacity building of the TCSA's staff regarding to market surveillance	Increased Competence of the f TCSA's staff regarding to market surveillance	Number of conducted trainings and trained staff	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)		<p>During the first quarter of the current year, within the Twinning project, trainings were conducted on child-resistant lighters and on products which appear to be other than they are. The representatives of importing companies of lighters in Georgia and the Revenue Service of the Ministry of Finance also attended the aforementioned trainings.</p> <p>During the second and third quarter of the year, trainings were conducted on construction materials, in particular on cement, electric cables, steel reinforcement, and plastic pipes. Furthermore, a training was conducted regarding the equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres.</p> <p>During the fourth quarter of the year, a training was conducted regarding electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits, as well as on toy safety and their risk assessment methodology.</p> <p>Furthermore, so-called Training of Trainers (TOT) was conducted for the employees of the agency, where principles, methods and techniques of conducting trainings were discussed.</p>
	Conducting joint trainings with participation of customs organization and	Improved market surveillance process	Number of conducted trainings and trained staff	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency	LEPL Revenue Service	During the first quarter of the year, within the Twinning project, the representatives of the Revenue Service of the Ministry of Finance attended the training on products that appear to be other than they are. The meeting was also

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	TCSA for effective and better coordinate of their activities			(TCSA)		held between EU experts and the representatives of the Revenue Service to determine the direction of trainings in the framework of the project.  Experts from the United Kingdom and Lithuania, along with the representatives from the agency, visited the Revenue Service of the Ministry of Finance, where they held a presentation regarding the work process of their respective customs authorities and their cooperation with governmental agencies responsible for market surveillance.
<b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade-related Matters:</b> Continuation of market surveillance strategy	Carry out Pilot Study of the market of selected sectors for the purpose of market surveillance	Market of Selected sectors has been studied and the staff of TCSA has the relevant skills	Carried out Pilot Study	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)		Within the framework of the current Twinning project, a pilot study was carried out with the purpose of determining the conformity of the construction products (cement and plastic pipes) with the requirements of the technical regulation.
<b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade-related Matters:</b> In the Market Surveillance field, strengthening administrative capacities of relevant Georgian state institutions and market surveillance bodies	Preparation of guidelines/ operating work instructions and risk assessment procedures in order to carry out market surveillance on the products covered by the directives subject to the competence of TCSA	Risk assessment is conducted in accordance the EU best practice	Prepared guidelines/ operating work instructions and risk assessment procedures	LEPL - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA)		Based on the Decree N539 of the Government of Georgia, regulation on market surveillance and product suspension, recall, withdrawal and destruction was adopted on November 14, 2018. Furthermore, based on the Decree N540 of the Government of Georgia, regulation on risk assessment methods and define hazard levels of products placed on the market was adopted on November 14, 2018.
<b>Sanitary and Phitosanitary Measures (SPS)</b>						
<b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade Related Matters:</b> The Parties will cooperate in	Approximation of Georgian legislation with the relevant legislative acts of the EU in accordance	Approximated Georgian SPS legislation with the relevant legislative acts	Number of adopted normative acts	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of	LEPL National Food Agency	From legal acts to be approximated in 2018 in accordance with the SPS approximation list, according to Operational Conclusions of the EU-Georgia Association Committee in Trade

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<p>preparing for the approximation of Georgia's sanitary and phytosanitary legislation for food and feed, plant health as well as animal health and welfare and practice to that of the EU, as set out in the relevant Annexes to the Association Agreement</p>	<p>with annex XI-B to the Association Agreement</p>	<p>of the EU in Sanitary and phytosanitary fields</p>		<p>Georgia of Georgia</p>		<p>Configuration, five acts were deemed irrelevant for Georgia.</p> <p>The following Governmental Decrees were adopted in order to approximate Georgian legislation with the remaining EU acts:</p> <p><b>Food Safety:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Decree N317 of the Government of Georgia of June 5, 2018 – “Requirement on materials and articles intended to come into contact with food;”</li> <li>2. Decree N548 of the government of Georgia of November 16, 2018 – “Technical regulation – concerning traceability and labelling of genetically modified organisms and the traceability of food and feed products produced from genetically modified organisms;”</li> <li>3. Decree N549 of the government of Georgia of November 16, 2018 – “Requirements for genetically modified food and feed;”</li> </ol> <p><b>Veterinary:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Decree N398 of the Government of Georgia of August 3, 2018 – “Specific provisions for the control and eradication of bluetongue;”</li> <li>5. Decree N551 of the Government of Georgia of November 16, 2018 – “Rule of non-commercial movement of pet animals on Georgia’s customs border;”</li> <li>6. Decree N587 of the Government of Georgia of December 13, 2018 – “Laying down the animal health rules governing the production, processing, distribution and import of products of animal origin for human consumption;”</li> </ol>

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						<p>7. Draft decree of the Government of Georgia on “Registration, production, authorization and control rules for veterinary medicinal products;”</p> <p><b>Plant Protection:</b></p> <p>8. Decree N516 of the Government of Georgia of October 31, 2018 – “Technical Regulation – methods of sampling for the official control of pesticide residues in and on products of plant and animal origin;”</p> <p>9. Decree N553 of the Government of Georgia of November 16, 2018 - “Technical Regulation – On procedures of marketing of vegetable propagating and planting material (other than seed);”</p> <p>10. Decree N556 of the Government of Georgia of 15 December 2017 - “Technical Regulation on control procedures and terms of identity and plant health checks of plants, plant products or other phytosanitary regulated objects, which may be carried out at a place other than inspection post;”</p> <p>11. Decree N588 of the Government of Georgia of December 13, 2018 – “Technical regulation on the marketing of material for the vegetative propagation of the vine;”</p> <p>12. Decree of the Government of Georgia N591 of December 13, 2018 – “Technical regulation – protected zone and plant passport;”</p> <p>13. Decree N661 of the Government of Georgia of December 28, 2018 on “Approval of the rule of implementing phytosanitary border-quarantine and veterinary border-quarantine control” amending the decree</p>

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						<p>N429 of the Government of Georgia of December 31, 2010;</p> <p>14. Draft decree of the Government of Georgia on “Approval of registration exams, expertise and registration regulations of pesticides and agrochemicals in Georgia” amending the Decree N443 of the Government of Georgia of December 31, 2013.</p>
<p><b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade Related Matters:</b> Organizing 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>Conduct informative meetings with relevant businesses and NGOs representatives on requirements for accessing the EU market for products produced in Georgia..</p>	<p>Increased awareness of businesses and NGOs representatives</p>	<p>Number of conducted meetings</p>	<p>Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</p>	<p>LEPL National Food Agency</p>	<p>1. Representatives of LEPL - National Food Agency, within the framework of the project of the Institute of Czech Republic for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture, which aims at strengthening the Capacity of Plant Protection Department, held presentations in Shida Kartli and Mtskheta-Mtianeti regions regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration of business operators who are producing, processing and/or distributing plant, plant products and other phytosanitary regulated objects;</li> <li>• Phytosanitary Certificate;</li> <li>• Pesticides and fertilizers;</li> <li>• Detection of plant pests;</li> <li>• Main international trading requirements.</li> </ul> <p>The meeting was attended by the staff of the Regional Division of the NFA, employees of the information-consulting centers of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, business operators and farmers;</p> <p>2. On June 12, 2018, within the frames of the project, “Georgia on European Way,” a working meeting of the DCFTA Central Advisory Council was held at Information Center on NATO and EU. This project was</p>



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						<p>intended to establish structured communication between small and medium enterprises (SMEs), civil society organizations and local administrations in order to communicate directly with the decision maker all the requirements, recommendations and problems that SMEs in the regions have in the process of implementing DCFTA.</p> <p>3. On June 22, 2018, representative of MEPA participated in an informational meeting organized by public movements “Multinational Georgia” and “National Endowment for Democracy” (NED) to raise awareness about the DCFTA within the ethnic minority of Samtskhe-Javakheti and kvemo kartli.</p> <p>4. On February 13, importers of meat, meat products and fish were introduced to the amendments of the Decree №426 of the Government of Georgia, adopted on December 31, 2010 - “the Approval of Rules and Conditions for Issuing Permits and Forms Thereof by Legal Entity of Public Law – Revenue Service and Legal Entity of Public Law – National Food Agency by the representatives of Food Safety department of NFA.”</p> <p>5. On June 8, 2018, producers of poultry meat and members of the Poultry Association were introduced to the amendments of the Decree №90 of the Government of Georgia, adopted on March 7, 2012 on Approval of Specific Hygiene Rules on Food of Animal Origin by the representatives of Food safety Department of NFA.</p>

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<b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade Related Matters:</b> Enhancing adaptation capacity of Georgian business for the implementation of approximated legislation	Facilitating the adaptation of Georgian businesses for the implementation of approximated legislation	conducted supportive activities	Number of conducted activities or beneficiaries	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	LEPL National Food Agency	Within the framework of the project of the Institute of Czech Republic for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture, which aims at strengthening the capacity of the Plant Protection department, Representatives of LEPL National Food Agency held presentations in Shida Kartli and Mtskheta-Mtianeti. Informative meetings were held regarding registering businesses that produce, process, and/or distribute plants, plant products and other phytosanitary-regulated objects. Furthermore, issues related to the use of pesticides and fertilizers were discussed.
<b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade Related Matters:</b> Providing further EU technical advice and support to Georgia in drafting and implementing the legislation, including training the relevant staff, providing capacity-building to the competent authority and supporting the improvement of the laboratory capacity, in line with the EU requirements;	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	Employees of the relevant competent authorities involved in sanitary and phytosanitary activities	Number of trainings and other activities	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	LEPL National Food Agency  LEPL Revenue Service  LEPL Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia	<b>1. By organizing a Comprehensive Institution Building Programme (CIB):</b>  - An expert from Food and Veterinary Service of Latvia conducted 3 trainings for the inspectors of NFA Food Safety Department, on following topics: - “Food products of non-animal origin” – training conducted on January 8-13, 2018, in Tbilisi and Kobuleti. 28 inspectors participated in this event. - “Providing Information to Consumers about Food” - in line with EU Regulation 1169/2011. Trainings were held in Tbilisi and Kutaisi on March 13 and March 15, respectively. 41 inspectors took part in the training. - “On Microbiological Criteria for Foodstuffs” – in accordance with EU Regulation 2073/2005. The training took place on March 21 and March 22, in Tbilisi and Kutaisi, respectively. 41 inspectors have participated in this training.

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						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In mid-February 2018, a first roundtable meeting was held regarding the development of a risk analysis system. Representatives from NFA, SRCA, LMA as well as from the Customs Department took part in the meeting.</li> <li>- At the end of March 2018, during the second roundtable meeting on the development of risk analysis system, in the framework of which CIB food safety expert gave presentation on the current state of risk analysis in Georgia with an emphasis on existing gaps. CIB Programme Advisor presented to the audience approaches employed by EU member countries for hazard exposure assessment.</li> <li>- On February 13, 2018, CIB Programme experts trained 10 representatives of the MEPA and NFA on Council Directive 2002/99/EC, shared EU experience in implementing this Directive and provided guidance on import requirements and EU rules on food hygiene as well as official food controls.</li> <li>- On May 1, 2018, representatives of MEPA and NFA participated in a Flexibility Workshop organized by the World Bank Group, where the flexibility of EU food legislation as well as various examples of EU countries and HACCP systems were discussed.</li> <li>- On February 20, 2018, CIB Programme advisor, along with a veterinary expert, chaired the meeting, which was organized within the framework of the National Animal Health Programme (NAHP) on the veterinary system assessment tool –</li> </ul>

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						<p>“Effectiveness of Veterinary Services (PVS) in Georgia”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On February 26-27 and March 1-2, 2018, NFA Veterinary Department organized simulation exercises on African Swine Fever (ASF) in Kakheti (Kvareli) and Racha-Lechkhumi (Ambrolauri) Regions. Two-day events at each location consisted of a theoretical component and field trainings. In total, 30 veterinarians participated in these trainings;</li> <li>- On April 28, 2018, EU-funded CIB programme supported NFA to celebrate World Veterinary Day. A report was presented on the activities performed by the Veterinary Department and a veterinary dictionary along with an information brochure, jointly developed by the employees of the Agency and veterinary scientists, were presented and handed out to participants. The meeting was attended by various veterinary and animal husbandry associations, scientists, students and other interested parties;</li> <li>- In June 2018, the EU-funded CIB Phase III Programme facilitated a working group meeting on legislative approximation with regards to the Regulation (EU) N576/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 June 2013 on noncommercial movement of pet animals and Regulation (EU) N1152/2011 of July 2011 on Prevention Health Measures for the Control of Echinococcus Multilocularis Infection in Dogs. 13 specialists representing NFA, RS and SRCA have participated in the discussion.</li> </ul>

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						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On April 26-28 of 2018, a working group meeting on the “Development of Institutional Committees of Animal Use and Care System in Georgia: Facts and challenges” was organized in Borjomi by the US Disease Control and Prevention Center. Animal welfare issues within the context of laboratory animals were discussed. Employees of the Veterinary Department took part in the mentioned meeting.</li> <li>- On April 16-20 of 2018, with the initiative of the International Atomic Energy Agency and involvement of the National Food Agency, a regional working group meeting was held on the diagnostics for vector-borne diseases and development strategies for strengthening differentiation. This meeting was attended by the representatives of NFA and SRCA, as well as experts and participants from countries of Central and Eastern Europe and West Asia (32 participants in total). At the meeting, the distribution of vectors, the methods for their typological identification, diseases borne from them, their spread, required control measures and diagnostics methods were discussed.</li> <li>- From May 28 to June 1 of 2018, BTSF held a regional working group meeting on Avian Influenza in Tbilisi. Meeting was attended by the representatives from Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia. Experts invited by BTSF headed the meeting. Participants discussed the global state of Avian Influenza, biosafety principles, farm biosafety and principles for surveillance of Avian Influenza in domestic and wild birds,</li> </ul>

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						<p>effective control measures, vaccination and strategic planning. Group meetings were held on biosafety, surveillance of domestic and wild animals, control mechanisms and raising awareness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In May 2018, within the framework of EU-funded CIB Phase III Programme, a training was held jointly with the FAO Locust Project, for NFA Plant Protection Department specialists on following topics: locust monitoring, locust development stages, control measures, application of GIS to track locust movement and mapping.</li> <li>- At the end of May 2018, within the framework of the EU-funded CIB Phase III Programme, a Plant Protection Legal Approximation Working Group (PPWG) meeting was organized to discuss a draft legislation on the procedures for marketing materials for vegetable propagation (other than seeds) and planting. The participants included representatives from MEPA, NFA, LMA, SRCA, CIB, and the private sector (nurseries).</li> <li>- In May, within the framework of EU-funded CIB Phase III Programme, NFA Plant Protection Department specialists conducted a simulation exercise directed against the locust in the regions for new employees, concerning, in particular, the application of the GIS and use of pick-up truck mounted spraying equipment. 18 specialists participated in this exercise, including 16 men and 2 women.</li> <li>- On 6-7 August, a training was held by Latvian experts for the employees of the NFA Food Safety Department and Tbilisi</li> </ul>

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						<p>City Service in Tbilisi and on 9-10 August in Kutaisi – for the employees of NFA Regional Division, on HACCP for food of animal origin. 38 inspectors took part in the training, including 27 women and 11 men.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On 17-19 September, a training was held in Anaklia by an Italian expert, for the employees of the Food Safety Department, Tbilisi City Service and Regional Divisions of LEPL National Food Agency on EU requirements, HACCP system and audit in the hazelnut sector. 20 inspectors, including 12 women and 8 men, attended the training.</li> <li>- On 24-27 September, an Italian expert in Tbilisi held a training for the employees of the Food Safety Department, Tbilisi City Service and Regional Divisions of LEPL National Food Agency on EU requirements, HACCP system and audit in the mineral water sector. 21 inspectors, including 10 women and 11 men, attended the training.</li> <li>- On 25-26 September, the CIB Programme supported the EU-funded animal by-product management and control project in order to launch its activities and organize a workshop for regional veterinarians in accordance with the EU legislation on the regulation, management and control of animal byproducts.</li> <li>- On 7-9 August 2018, NFA was assisted in the organization of a working meeting concerning the draft GoG Decree on the Approval of Rules on Registration, Production, Authorization and Control of Veterinary Medicinal Products. The CIB programme presented main requirements of the EU Directives 2001/82, N2004/28 and</li> </ul>

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						<p>Regulation N470/2009 as well as their implementation in practice by sharing EU experience. In total, 13 specialists attended the workshop, including 10 women and 3 men.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- From October 22 to November 6, NFA Food Safety Department organized the second round of trainings in West Georgia for food inspectors on wine, mineral and drinking water producing enterprises. Trainings held in Kutaisi and Kobuleti by an Italian expert included the following topics: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Water supply system and constituent elements, water treatment, water safety plan, and EU legislation on drinking water.</li> <li>2. Prerequisite programmes, Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) system application at mineral water enterprises and EU legislation on mineral water.</li> <li>3. Prerequisite programmes, Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) system application at wine enterprises, EU legislation on wine and inspectors' role today.</li> </ol> </li> <li>- On November 15-16, NFA Veterinary Department organized two-day workshop on the registration of veterinary pharmaceutical (medicinal) preparations. CIB III experts clarified to the representatives of the Veterinary Department legislative requirements in the equivalent EU legislation, including registration of pharmaceutical preparations, approval of products, and control</li> </ul>



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						<p>procedures. The experts also highlighted gaps in current legislation, provided recommendations to address the issue, and suggested timeframe for revision.</p> <p>On December 3-7, a Swedish veterinary expert visited Georgia in order to support NFA Veterinary Department in the development of a contingency plan. The second mission is planned for the end of January 2019. The first mission was mostly dedicated to the understanding of the needs of the Veterinary Department, selecting structure of the contingency plan, general understanding of existed regulations and structure of contingency plans in Georgia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On December 12-14, CIB III Expert held a training in Kakheti for veterinarians on HACPP audit at establishments of food of animal origin and feed. 18 veterinarians participated in the event.</li> <li>- On December 16-22, CIB III supported visit of an international expert from Estonian Institute of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Sciences to support MEPA/ NFA in the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Professional competence of veterinarians and veterinary technicians,</li> <li>2. Rules and requirements for holding state certification exams for veterinarians and veterinary technicians,</li> <li>3. Requirements for continuing professional development.</li> </ol> </li> <li>- On October 22-26, CIB III supported NFA Veterinary Department to conduct a simulation exercise on Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease. A simulation exercise</li> </ul>

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						<p>was held in Kakheti and Imereti regions led by an Italian veterinary expert. Simulation exercises were conducted in Kakheti and Imereti Regions. In total 30 veterinarians took part in the event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On October 9-11, CIB III supported NFA Plant Protection Department to organize training on the following topics: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Regulation (EC) N1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market and repealing Council Directives 79/117/EEC and 91/414/EEC</li> <li>2. Regulation (EC) N283/2013 setting out data requirements for plant protection products, in accordance with Regulation (EC) N1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market</li> </ol> </li> </ul> <p><b>2. <i>The following methods were introduced in the plant pest diagnostic field:</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On June 26-29, the Czech Central Institute for Supervising and Testing in Agriculture organized trainings for specialists of the Plant Pest Diagnostic Department of the LMA on the following topics: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Monitoring and morphological identification of species <i>Monochamus</i> sp.;</li> <li>2. Isolation of Pine Wood Nematode - <i>Bursaphelenchus xylophilus</i> from the beetles of <i>Monochamus</i> sp. and their</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

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						<p>morphological-morphometric identification;</p> <p>3. Identification of Pine Wood Nematode - <i>Bursaphelenchus xylophilus</i> and other species of genus <i>Bursaphelenchus</i> by molecular method.</p> <p><b>3. Food Safety Department of LEPL National Food Agency conducted trainings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On 17 - 20 April of 2018 for 12 authorized personnel of the Imereti regional division of the LEPL National Food Agency on the following topics: Organic (Biological) Production; Food Fortification; Official Control on Food of Animal Origin; Monitoring of Certain substances and their Residues in Live Animals and Food of Animal Origin; Pharmacologically Active Substances, Classification and Maximum Residue Limits Thereof in Food of Animal Origin; Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy products; Labelling Genetically Modified Organisms and Genetically Modified Products Produced Therefrom Intended for Food/Feed; Sanitary and Hygiene Standards for Food-Related Tares.</li> <li>- From May 30<sup>th</sup> to June 4<sup>th</sup> of 2018, for 7 authorized personnel of the Imereti regional division of the LEPL National Food Agency on the following topics: Microbiological Indicators in Food; Technical Regulation on Hazelnuts; Traceability Principles and Requirements in Food/Feed Safety, Veterinary and Plant Protection Fields; Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Spring Water; Organic (Biological) Production;</li> </ul>

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						<p>Food Fortification; Maximum Residue Limits For Certain Contaminants in Food; Technical Regulation on Wheat Flour; Technical Regulation on Honey; Monitoring of Certain substances and their Residues in Live Animals and Food of Animal Origin; Pharmacologically Active Substances, Classification and Maximum Residue Limits Thereof in Food of Animal Origin; Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy products; Labelling Genetically Modified Organisms and Genetically Modified Products Produced Therefrom Intended for Food/Feed; Sanitary and Hygiene Standards for Food-Related Tares.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On May 17 -18 of 2018 for 5 authorized personnel of the Guria regional division of the LEPL National Food Agency on the following topics: Technical Regulation on Hazelnuts; Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Spring Water; Food Fortification; Technical Regulation on Wheat Flour; Technical Regulation on Honey; Monitoring of Certain substances and their Residues in Live Animals and Food of Animal Origin; Pharmacologically Active Substances, Classification and Maximum Residue Limits Thereof in Food of Animal Origin; Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy products; Labelling Genetically Modified Organisms and Genetically Modified Products Produced Therefrom Intended for Food/Feed.</li> <li>- On May 22-23, 2018, for 10 authorized personnel of the Adjara Regional Division of the LEPL National Food Agency on the following topics: Technical Regulation on</li> </ul>

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						<p>Hazelnuts; Technical Regulation on Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Spring Water; Organic (Biological) Production; Food Fortification; Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy Products; Microbiological Indicators in Food; General Traceability Principles and Requirements in Food/Feed Safety, Veterinary and Plant Protection Fields.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- From May 29 to June 1, for 6 authorized personnel of the Mtskheta – Mtianeti regional division of the LEPL National Food Agency on the following topics: Technical Regulation on Hazelnuts; General Traceability Principles and Requirements in Food/Feed Safety, Veterinary and Plant Protection Fields; Technical Regulation on Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Spring Water; Organic (Biological) Production; Food Fortification; Technical Regulation on Wheat Flour; Technical Regulation on Honey; Rules on Labelling of Genetically Modified Organisms and Genetically Modified Products Produced Therefrom Intended for Food/Feed.</li> <li>- On June 7, 2018 for 7 authorized personnel of the Kakheti regional division of the LEPL National Food Agency on the following topics: Technical Regulation on Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Spring Water; Technical Regulation on Honey.</li> <li>- On June 20-21 of 2018 for 7 authorized personnel of the Kvemo – Kartli regional division of the LEPL National Food Agency on the following topics: Organic (Biological) Production; Food Fortification; Technical Regulation on Honey; Rules on Labelling of</li> </ul>

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						<p>Genetically Modified Organisms and Genetically Modified Products Produced Therefrom Intended for Food/Feed; Technical Regulation on Hazelnuts; Technical Regulation on Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Spring Water; General Traceability Principles and Requirements in Food/Feed Safety, Veterinary and Plant Protection Fields; Technical Regulation on Wheat Flour.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On July 8, 2018, for 6 authorized personnel of the Samtskhe-Javakheti regional division of the LEPL National Food Agency on the following topics: Technical Regulation on Hazelnuts; Technical Regulation on Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Spring Water.</li> <li>- On July 25-27 of 2018 for 6 authorized personnel of the Shida Kartli regional division of the LEPL National Food Agency on the following topics: Technical Regulation on Hazelnuts; General Traceability Principles and Requirements in Food/Feed Safety, Veterinary and Plant Protection Fields; Technical Regulation on Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Spring Water; Technical Regulation on Wheat Flour; Technical Regulation on Honey; Labelling Genetically Modified Organisms and Genetically Modified Products Produced Therefrom Intended for Food/Feed; Technical Regulation on Beef and Beef Product Labelling Rules; Standard Operating Procedures and Instructions.</li> <li>- On December 3-5, 2018 for 4 authorized personnel of the Imereti Regional Division of the Food Safety Department of the LEPL</li> </ul>

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						<p>National Food Agency on the following topics: Technical Regulation on Honey; Labelling Genetically Modified Organisms and Genetically Modified Products Produced Therefrom; Rules on Labelling Beef and Beef Products; Technical Regulation on Wheat Flour; Technical Regulation on Hazelnuts; Technical Regulation on Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Spring Water; Biological(Organic) Production; Food Fortification; Hygienic Norms on Food-related Tares; Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy Products; Pharmacologically Active Substances; Monitoring Certain Substances and Their Residues in Live Animals and Food of Animal Origin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On December 8, 2018, for 4 authorized persons of the Racha-Lechkhumi-Kvemo Svaneti Regional Division of the Food Safety Department of the LEPL National Food Agency on the following topics: Biological (Organic) Production; Food Fortification.</li> <li>- On December 17, 2018 in the Regional Division of Guria and on December 26, in the Regional Division of Mtskheta-Mtianeti for 13 authorized personnel of the Food Safety Department of the LEPL National Food Agency on the following topics: Rules on Labelling Beef and Beef Products; Performing Official Controls on Food of Animal Origin;</li> <li>- On December 5-14, 2018 for 16 authorized personnel of Tbilisi City Service of the Food Safety Department of the LEPL National Food Agency on the following topics:</li> </ul>

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						<p>Technical Regulation on Hazelnuts; Biological (Organic) Production; Food Fortification; Beef Labelling; Special Rules on Official Controls on Food of Animal Origin; Pharmacologically Active Substances; Monitoring Certain Substances and Their Residues in Live Animals and Food of Animal Origin; Labelling Genetically Modified Organisms and Genetically Modified Products Produced Therefrom; Technical Regulation on Honey; Technical Regulation on Wheat Flour; Technical Regulation on Packaged Natural Mineral Water and Spring Water; Technical Regulation on Milk and Dairy Products.</p> <p><b>LELP - Laboratory of Ministry of Agriculture:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participated in the study of phytosanitary condition of hazelnut plots and homestead lands in the Guria region;</li> <li>2. Within the scope of the project funded by the Rustaveli Foundation, conducted studies for detection of Quarantine Pests - Potato Cyst Nematodes in Svaneti and southern Georgia (August-September, 2018);</li> <li>3. Participated in a workshop: Georgia-Canada Bacteriophage Annotation (16-20.07.2018);</li> <li>4. Participated in TV interactions which included the following topics: "The Importance of Laboratory Diagnosis" (09.06.2018); "Phytosanitary condition of hazelnut plots and homestead lands in the Guria region", "Fungal Diseases spread in hazelnut plots and homestead lands in the Guria region" (26.08.2010; 05.09.2018);</li> </ol>



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						<p>5. Employees of the Food Safety Department of LMA took part in a training held in University of Skopje, Macedonia. The Training was conducted within the framework of the EU support project - Confidence Restoration and Early Response Mechanism of Spanish International Organization "Action against Hunger" (the project is being implemented in the region of Abkhazia and aims to restore confidence and dialogue promotion). The training was about PCR, Electrophoresis, ELISA method, chromatography and the basis of other diagnostic methods. (7.07. -22.07 2018 )</p> <p>6. One employee from LMA participated in a working meeting – "Risk Assessment of lead in Food" held in the LEPL Scientific-Research Center of Agriculture. 14.09.2018</p> <p>7. Training – "TC Meeting on General Requirements for Competence of Food Safety Testing Laboratories," was held in Bogor, Indonesia with the funding of International Atomic Energy Agency - IAEA. Specialist from Instrumental Research laboratory took part in the mentioned training. (22.09-30.09 2018)</p> <p>8. With the financial support from the DTRA, a Biosecurity/Biosafety annual refresher training was held from 10 August until 20 September, where chief specialists of regional and zonal laboratories participated.</p> <p>9. Refresher trainings were held in order to foster the professional development of chief specialists of the LMA laboratory network and to improve disease-testing methods. The main aim of the study, which was organised by specialists from the LMA Tbilisi</p>

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						<p>Laboratory Office and was financed by the DTRA, is to provide information about the current diagnostic processes in the network and on modern methods of disease research, also, to get an updated information about diagnosis of specific diseases each year, to conduct quick and reliable diagnosis.</p> <p>10. The Workshop was held in National Reference Laboratories for Avian Influenza and Newcastle Disease, in London, UK. The representative of the department of animal disease diagnostics of the LMA laboratory who attended the meeting made a brief overview on the epidemiological and laboratory supervision of Bird flu and Newcastle disease in Georgia. The purpose of the meeting was to promote the dissemination of information on the spread of the variations of Bird flu viruses in the EU and other neighboring countries, risk assessment and analysis, as well as establishment of uniform and regional approaches to combating disease. The event was financed by the TAIEX. (10-12 July.)</p>
	Introduction of new methods of diagnostics in food safety, veterinary and plant protection field and/or expansion of accreditation sphere.	new methods of diagnostics are added and/or accreditation sphere is expanded	Number of introduced new methods and/or issued relevant accreditation certificates	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	LEPL Laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia	<p><u>The following methods were introduced in the food safety field:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Method of determining Sulfite-reducing bacteria (The method passed the accreditation field);</li> <li>2. Method of determination of residues of heavy metals (Sn, Cr) on atomic emission spectrometer.</li> <li>3. Method determination of heavy metals (Lead and cadmium) on atomic absorption spectrometer.</li> </ol>

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						<p>4. Determination of Organophosphoric pesticides residuals (Azinfos-methyl, Chlorfenvinfos, Diazinone, Dichlorvos, Dimethoate, Ethion, Fenamiphos, Fenamiphos sulfoxide, Fenamiphos sulfone, Fenthion, Malaoxon, Malathion, Metamidophos, Omethoate, Phosmet, Pirimiphos-methyl, Triazophos, Carbofuran, Formethanate, Propamocarb, Aldicarb sulfoxide, Aldicarb sulfone, Aldicarb, Oxamyl, Methomyl, Thiodicarb, Carbosulfan, Pirimicarb, Carbaryl, Iprovalicarb, Fenoxicarb – by gas chromatography; Paraoxon methyl, Parathion, Isocarbophos, EPN– by liquid chromatography) in food.</p> <p>5. Determination of Organochlorine pesticides residuals (Aldrin, Chlorpyrifos, Heptachlor epoxide, Endosulfan, Endosulfan sulfate, Dieldrin, Metoxychlor, Lambda-cyhalothrin, Permethrin, Cypermethrin, Tau-fluvalinate) in food.</p> <p>6. Determination of Nitroimidazoles (2-OH-methyl-methyl nitroimidazole (HMMNI), Methyl-2-OH-isopropyl-nitroimidazole (IPZ-OH), Metronidazole (MNZ), 2-OH-ethyl-2-OH-methyl-nitroimidazole (MNZ-OH), Ronidazole (RNZ)) in honey.</p> <p>7. Determination of Sugars (Fructose, Glucose, Sucrose) in honey.</p> <p>8. Determination of Hydroxymethylfurfural (HMF) in honey.</p> <p>9. Method of determining enterobacteria (ISO21-2-2004)</p> <p>10. Method of determining pollen in honey,</p> <p>11. Microbiology of the food chain -- Horizontal method for the detection,</p>

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						<p>enumeration and serotyping of Salmonella -  - Part 1: Detection of Salmonella spp –ISO 6579-1:2017</p> <p>12. Microbiology of the food chain -- Horizontal method for the detection and enumeration of Listeria monocytogenes and of Listeria spp. -- Part 1: Detection method –ISO 11290-1:2017</p> <p>13. Microbiology of the food chain -- Horizontal method for the enumeration of microorganisms -- Part 1: Colony count at 30 degrees C by the pour plate technique – ISO 4833-1:2013/2015</p> <p>14. Microbiology of the food chain -- Horizontal method for the enumeration of microorganisms -- Part 2: Colony count at 30 degrees C by the surface plating technique ISO 4833-2:2013/2015,</p> <p>15. Determination of Non-Dioxin –Like Polychlorinated Biphenyl in fish and Fish products using Gas-Chromatography coupled to Tandem Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS/MS)</p> <p>16. Determination of Nitrofurans in Honey using Liquid Chromatography coupled to Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LC/MS/MS)</p> <p>17. Determination of moisture in food using Radwag MA 50.</p> <p><u>The following methods were introduced in the veterinary field:</u></p> <p>1. An Indirect Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay test (ELISA) identifying anti-leishmaniosis antibodies;</p> <p>2. Diagnostic tests for Bacteriology and Serology: Tuberculosis, Mastitis, Leishmaniosis, Q-fever,</p>

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						<p>Necro bacteria, Enterotoxaemia, staphylococcus, bacteriological test of air, bacteriological test of instruments.</p> <p>3. Bacteriology tests of fish – Aeromonas, Hemorrhagic septicemia. Parasitology tests for fish, bee and other animals:</p> <p>4. Helminths, protozoa's, Arachnoids.</p> <p>5. Histology tests: Paratuberculosis, tuberculosis, Leucosis, encephalomyelitis of horses, pox viruses, bronchitis of bird, diseases of Marek, viral gastroenteric, different kind of tumors, Leptospirosis, Actinomycosis.</p> <p>6. Enzyme immunoassay for the qualitative determination of antibodies against Leptospira in veterinary mammalian serum (ELISA)</p> <p>7. The Canine Distemper Virus (CDV) Ab vet ELISA for qualitative determination of antibodies against Canine Distemper Virus in veterinary serum.</p> <p><u>The following methods were introduced in the plant protection field:</u></p> <p>1. Detection and identification of quarantine harmful organism Tilletia (Neovissia) indica;</p> <p>2. Detection and morphological-biochemical identification of Pseudomonas syringae pv. Actinidiae, the causal agent of Bacterial cancer of Kiwifruit;</p> <p>3. Morphological-biological determination of Emex australis Stein;</p> <p>4. Morphological-morphometrical characterization and identification of Columbia root-knot nematode, Meloidogyne chitwoodi and Meloidogyne fallax;</p>

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						<p>5. Morphological-morphometrical characterization and identification of eastern fruit fly, <i>Bactrocera dorsalis</i>;</p> <p>6. Detection and morphological-biochemical identification of pathogen - <i>Xanthomonas arboricola</i> pv. <i>corylina</i>, responsible for bacterial wilting of nut;</p> <p>7. <i>Xyllela fastidiosa</i> detection with polymerase chain reaction;</p> <p>8. Detection and morphological-biochemical identification of Bacterial Blight of Hazelnut <i>Xanthomonas arboricola</i> pv. <i>Corylina</i>;</p> <p>9. Morphological - morphometric characterization and identification of Soybean Cyst Nematode <i>Heterodera glycines</i>.</p> <p>10. Detection and morphological-biochemical identification of causal agent of nut bacterial cancer <i>Pseudomonas syringae</i> pv. <i>Avellanae</i>;</p> <p>11. Detection of Cherry Leaf Roll Virus (CLRV-ch) by DAS-ELISA method;</p> <p>12. Morphological-biological determination of <i>Sida spinosa</i> L.;</p> <p>13. Morphological and morphometric characterization and identification of American dagger nematode -<i>Xiphinema americanum sensu lato</i>;</p> <p>14. Morphological and morphometric characterization and identification of box tree moth -<i>Cyrtolima perspectalis</i>;</p> <p>15. Morphological and morphometric characterization and identification of Asian longhorned beetle -<i>Anoplophora glabripennis</i>;</p> <p>16. Morphological and morphometric characterization and identification of silverleaf whitefly -<i>Bemisia tabati</i>;</p>

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						<p>17. Morphological and morphometric characterization and identification of <i>Metcalfa pruinosa</i>;</p> <p>18. Detection and identification of <i>Verticillium</i> spp. from plant material and soil;</p> <p>19. Detection and identification of the pathogenic fungi <i>Phomopsis vaccinii</i> causing twig blight of blueberry;</p> <p>20. Detection and morphological-biochemical identification of <i>Xanthomonas arboricola</i> pv. <i>juglandis</i>;</p> <p>21. Morphological and biological identification of Cutleaf nightshade (<i>Solanum triflorum</i> nutt.);</p> <p>22. Morphological and biological identification of Silverleaf nightshade (<i>Solanum triflorum</i> nutt.);</p> <p>23. Detection and identification of Phytoplasmas by "Nest" and real-time PCR methods;</p> <p>24. DNA extraction of the Mediterranean fruit fly <i>Ceratitis capitata</i>;</p> <p>25. Detection and identification of <i>Pseudomonas syringae</i> pv. <i>actinidiae</i> by PCR method;</p> <p>26. Identification of pine nematode <i>Bursaphelenchus xylophilus</i> by PCR method;</p> <p>27. Identification of Bacterial blight of hazelnut <i>Xanthomonas arboricola</i> pv. <i>Corylina</i> by PCR method;</p> <p>28. Identification of Mediterranean fruit fly <i>Ceratitis capitata</i> by "RELF" and conventional PCR methods;</p> <p>29. Identification of Stem nematode <i>Ditylenchus dipsaci</i> by PCR method;</p> <p>30. Identification of Meat Species by using the enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) (chicken meat, beef, pork).</p>

Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Supporting Institution	Implementation Report
<p><b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade-related Matters:</b> Supporting Georgia to strengthen the risk analysis in the SPS field; ensuring veterinary phytosanitary and food safety checks at the border inspection posts</p>	<p>Trainings, workshops and seminars for the staff of BIPs on the veterinary, sanitary and phytosanitary border control</p>	<p>Improved quality of SPS control on the BIPs</p>	<p>Number of trained staff</p>	<p>LEPL - Revenue Service</p>		<p>Within the frame of the project “Support to the development of Red Bridge Border crossing point between Azerbaijan and Georgia:”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From January 29 until February 2, 2018 Training of Trainer (TOT) “on border control procedures for products of animal origin” was held in Batumi. The mentioned training was provided by experts from Poland. 7 employees of the Revenue Service (RS) participated in this training.</li> <li>• Trainers were instructed during the TOT provided sessions in veterinary border control procedures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On 25-28 June, 2018 - 10 veterinarians participated.</li> <li>- On 11-14 July, 2018 - 7 veterinarians participated.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• In 2017, trainers were instructed during the TOT provided sessions in phytosanitary border control procedures. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- On 25-28 June, 2018 - 13 phytosanitarians participated.</li> <li>- On 11-14 July, 2018 - 9 phytosanitarians participated.</li> <li>- On 13-14 December, 2018 - 6 veterinarians participated.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• On 27-28 March 2018, a bilateral training, “International Food standards, codex alimentarius,” was held in Tbilisi with colleagues from Azerbaijan. The mentioned training was provided by an expert from Latvia. 8 employees from the Revenue Service participated in this training.</li> <li>• On 15-17 May, a document for the assessment mission, “Evaluation of GMO Border Control Procedures in Georgia” was</li> </ul>



Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Supporting Institution	Implementation Report
						<p>elaborated by experts from relevant agencies of Lithuania.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On 24-25 July, a bilateral training “Land and Water veterinary code (OIE)” was held in Batumi with colleagues from Azerbaijan. Training was provided by an expert from Latvia. 9 employees from the Revenue Service participated in this training.</li> <li>On 11-13 August, a workshop on creating training curriculums and E-Learning system for training courses on border control procedures for veterinary, phytosanitary and food and feed of non-animal origin was held in Kachreti. Accordingly, a project of e-learning system was elaborated. 5 employees from the Revenue Service participated in the abovementioned workshop.</li> <li>On 27-28 August, a bilateral training “phytosanitary border control procedures” was held in Tovuz region in Azerbaijan. The training was provided by an expert from Latvia. 6 employees of the Revenue Service participated in this training.</li> <li>On 29-31 August, experts from Lithuania provided a workshop on “Manuals and legislation on GMO Border Control Procedures in Georgia”. Accordingly, a project of a manual for GMO border control procedures was elaborated. 6 employees from the Revenue Service participated in this workshop.</li> </ul>
	Training of all inspectors in border control procedures of food of non-animal origin	Veterinary and phytosanitary officers from Revenue Service on the Border have relevant	Number of trained staff	LEPL - Revenue Service		In 2017, trainers were instructed during the TOT provided sessions for 101 staff members of Border Inspection Posts (BIPs) on border control procedures for food/feed of non-animal origin. Trainings were provided in 4 stages. All

Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Supporting Institution	Implementation Report
		knowledge and skills to provide control of food of non- animal origin.				inspectors providing border control procedures for food of non-animal origin were trained.
	Finalizing construction and equipment process of BIP “Red Bridge” for SPS control	Border Inspection Post is in compliance with the EU standards	Construction and equipment of BIP on the “Red Bridge” is finished	LEPL - Revenue Service		An infrastructural project for sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary border control at Red Bridge has been completed. The Border inspection Post officially opened on 14 <sup>th</sup> of September, 2018.
	Finalizing of the first stage of construction of Buildings for SPS border control of BIP “Sadakhlo”.	Border Inspection Post is in compliance with the EU standards	The first stage of Buildings for SPS border control of Border Inspection Post “Sadakhlo” is finished	LEPL - Revenue Service		Construction works for an infrastructural project for sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary border control at the BIP “Sadakhlo” started in the first quarter of 2018.  The first stage of the construction was finished in 2018.

### Customs and Trade Facilitation

<b>Association Agenda 2.5 Trade and Trade-Related Matters:</b> The Parties will cooperate in preparing for the approximation of Georgia’s legislation to EU acquis and international standards listed in the relevant Annex to the Association Agreement. Approximation should be based on the Union Customs Code, which is implemented as of	Drafting of Customs legislation approximated with the EU Customs Code	Approximation of Georgian Customs legislation to the appropriate EU regulations	Legislation has been drafted	LEPL - Revenue Service	Ministry of Finance of Georgia	A draft Customs legislation was elaborated and submitted to the Parliament of Georgia, which was presented to the private sector and other interested groups in September 2018 in Poti. Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Union (DG TAXUD) was involved in the elaboration of the mentioned project. Based on the agreement with the European Commission, the code was elaborated in accordance with the “Union Customs Code,” which replaced the so-called “Community Customs Code” defined by the DCFTA.  Supporting activities for the Parliamentary hearings of the Draft Customs Code are currently underway.
	Publishing and stakeholder review of the Customs legislation in	Draft Legislation is made available to the general public; feedback and	Number of Meetings held with the stakeholders and the availability	LEPL - Revenue Service	Ministry of Finance of Georgia	The draft version of the project was shared with DG TAXUD. Once the document is updated based on feedback provided by DG TAXUD, it will become publicly available to the

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May 1st 2016. The relevant AA Annex shall reflect the substitution of the Community Customs Code with the Union Customs Code.	approximation with the EU Customs Code	comments are received from relevant stakeholders	of draft customs legislation			stakeholders in order to organize further discussions. A draft version of the Customs code was published on a legislative herald website of Georgia for stakeholder review.
	Drafting of secondary legislation	Approximation of Georgian legislation to the appropriate EU regulations	Drafted a secondary customs legislation	LEPL - Revenue Service	Ministry of Finance of Georgia	Secondary customs regulations are being developed, which will be implemented according to the date of adoption of the new Customs code.
	Implementing into Georgian legislation of the Council Regulation (EC) No 1186/2009 of 16 November 2009 on setting up a Community system of reliefs from customs duty	Approximation of Georgian legislation to the appropriate EU regulations	Legislative amendments introduced in the Georgian legislation	Ministry of Finance of Georgia		Council Regulation (EC) No 1186/2009 of 16 November 2009 "Setting Up A Community System Of Reliefs From Customs Duty" has been integrated into the draft of the new Customs code, provisions are being reviewed.
<b>Association Agenda 2.5 Trade and Trade-Related Matters:</b> Approximating Georgia's Authorised Economic Operator system to that of the EU;	Capacity building for the staff of the Revenue Service to ensure proper implementation of the AEO program	Increased awareness of Revenue Service's staff aimed at ensuring proper implementation of the provisions regulating the Authorized Economic Operator program	Number of trainings and of trained staff thereof	LEPL - Revenue Service	Ministry of Finance of Georgia	On 5-6 of July, a training was organized on the matters of information security with the assistance from the USAID G4G project. The event was headed by representatives of the Data Exchange Agency and attended by the staff of the Revenue Service (seven employees).  Authorized Economic Operator Working Group of the Revenue Service held meetings on matters related to financial solvency with the representatives from the Service for Accounting, Reporting and Auditing Supervision (seven employees of the Revenue Service participated in the event).  On September 25, during the Transport and Logistics Conference organized by the G4G,

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						representatives from the Revenue Service presented information regarding the upcoming AEO program.
<b>Association Agenda 2.5 Trade and Trade-Related Matters:</b> Co-operating on risk-based customs control and sharing of relevant information that contributes to improved risk management and security of the supply chains, facilitation of legitimate trade and safety and security of goods imported, exported or in transit;	Enactment of rules regulating the Advanced Passenger Information/Passenger Name Record (API/PNR)	Customs risk profiles are developed integrating the data provided through the Advanced Passenger Information/Passenger Name Record (API/PNR) systems	Advanced Passenger Information/Passenger Name Record (API/PNR) regulations are adopted in Georgia	LEPL - Revenue Service	Ministry of Finance of Georgia	<p>The Order N 213 of June 1, 2018 of the Minister of Finance of Georgia was adopted, which amended the Order N 290 of July 26, 2012 of the Minister of Finance of Georgia “on the Approval of Instruction on the Movement and Clearance of Goods on the Customs Territory of Georgia.”</p> <p>On September 19, 2018, with the support from the IOM, a meeting was organized between airlines operating in Georgia and relevant governmental agencies, where participants discussed matters related to implementation and proper functionality of the system.</p> <p>On September 24-27, with the assistance from the IOM, a study visit was organized to the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Representatives of the Revenue Service had an opportunity to familiarize themselves with Dutch experience regarding the matters of implementation of the API/PNR system.</p> <p>On 1-2 November, 2018, representatives of the GRS participated in OSCE National Focal Point Network thematic meeting on matters related to API/PNR organized in Vienna, Austria.</p>
	Training of Georgia Revenue Service employees in border measure related to protection of IPR	Trained staff	Number of trained staff	LEPL - Revenue Service	Ministry of Finance of Georgia	The meeting of the National working group on protection of IPR was conducted on June 5-7, 2018. Twenty customs officers participated in the event. There are ongoing consultations with donor organizations in order to conduct further trainings in this direction.

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<p><b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and trade related matters:</b> Assistance to Georgia in the process of accession to the Common Transit Convention</p>	<p>Preparation for the approximation /accession to the Common Transit Convention and implementation of common transit procedures</p>	<p>Appropriate documentation required for approximation has been prepared</p>	<p>Analysis of the existing legislation for the purpose of harmonization with Common Transit and SAD Conventions provisions</p>	<p>LEPL - Revenue Service</p>	<p>Ministry of Finance of Georgia</p>	<p>Twining project “Supporting the Accession of Georgia to the Conventions on Transit Area and Launching of the New Computerised Transit System” was launched in March 2018. This project consists of three components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of legal framework;</li> <li>- Analysis and upgrade of IT system;</li> <li>- Strengthening institutional and human capacities and awareness raising.</li> </ul> <p>From June 2018, the implementation of planned activities within the the EU - Georgia Twinning project - “Supporting the Accession of Georgia to the Conventions on Transit Area and Launching of the New Computerised Transit System (NCTS)” was initiated. In particular, experts began studying the current situation in all three components of the project: legal framework development, upgrade of IT system and strengthening institutional and human capacity of the GRS. Meetings were held with representatives of Customs, Legal, Information Technology, Human Resources Management and Development Departments of the Revenue Service of Georgia. Experts held presentations on Common Transit Convention (CTC), New Computerised Transit System (NCTS) and on relevant IT infrastructure. EU experts, together with the representatives of the GRS, discussed necessary changes that are required to be implemented in order to ensure proper functionality of the system.</p> <p>A second Steering Committee meeting of the EU - Georgia Twinning project, “Supporting the Accession of Georgia to the Conventions on Transit Area and Launching of the New Computerised Transit System (NCTS)” was held</p>

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						<p>in Tbilisi, on September 20, 2018. Representatives of Finish, Polish and Latvian customs administrations, the Revenue Service of Georgia (as a beneficiary country), EU Delegation to Georgia, EU Integration Coordination Division/PAO of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia and Resident Twinning Advisor's office participated in the committee session. Issues concerning the implementation of the first six-month work plan were discussed during the meeting. Resident Twinning Adviser (RTA) made a presentation regarding achieved results and ongoing challenges. The committee adopted a six-month work plan.</p>
	<p>Training of Customs employees for the purpose of effective implementation of provisions of the Common Transit Convention</p>	<p>Customs employees have appropriate knowledge and information for the implementation of Common Transit Convention provisions</p>	<p>Number of trainings and trained customs employees</p>	<p>LEPL - Revenue Service</p>	<p>Ministry of Finance of Georgia</p>	<p>The Twinning Project foresees the development of human and institutional capacities and awareness raising components of the Revenue Service.</p> <p>In 2018, within the mentioned project, regular working meetings and seminars were held with the employees of the Customs Department as well as with the representatives of other departments involved in the project.</p>
	<p>Private sector awareness rising for the purpose of facilitation of implementation of Common Transit Convention requirements</p>	<p>Appropriate knowledge and information for the implementation of Common Transit Convention has been distributed</p>	<p>Number of meetings and other activities for private sector</p>	<p>LEPL - Revenue Service</p>	<p>Ministry of Finance of Georgia</p>	<p>The Twinning Project foresees the development of human and institutional capacities and awareness raising components of the Revenue Service.</p> <p>On October 4, 2018, within the frames of the EU Twinning project, "Supporting the Accession of Georgia to the Conventions on Transit Area and Launching of the New Computerized Transit System (NCTS)," meetings were held with the representatives of the private sector (Georgian</p>

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						International Road Carriers Association, Georgian Railway, Business Association of Georgia, Association of Banks of Georgia, Georgian Insurance Association, Georgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Association of Freight Forwarders of Georgia). A so-called contact group was established and a document defining its activities was elaborated.
<b>Trade in Services</b>						
<b>Association Agreement; Title IV, Article 129:</b> provide the measures for intermediary service providers as laid down in the Association Agreement	Elaboration and adoption of the final version draft Law on eCommerce	Legal basis for eCommerce corresponding to European regulations	Adopted Georgia's Law on eCommerce	Ministry of Economy and sustainable Development of Georgia		Presentation of the law on e-Commerce was held in the Parliament of Georgia for public and private sectors. The draft legislation is planned to be submitted to the Parliament of Georgia.
<b>Association Agreement, Title IV, Article 103; Annex XV-C, Rules Applicable to Postal and Courier Services:</b> Gradual approximation of Georgian legislation with the relevant EU legislation for the purpose further liberalization of trade in services	Elaboration and adoption of postal legislation	Georgia's legal framework of Postal Sector is in compliance with EU regulations	Adopted Georgia's Law on Postal Services	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		The draft Postal Law was updated according to the recommendations submitted by the European Commission.  The draft law and its secondary Laws are planned to be submitted to the Parliament of Georgia in 2019.
<b>Association Agreement, Title IV, Chapter XV-B; Rules Applicable to Telecommunication</b>	Adoption of draft amendments, elaborated based on the gap analyses between the	Georgian Legislation is approximated to the relevant EU legislation	Adopted draft amendments	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Georgian National Communications Commission	The elaborated draft amendments to the Law of Georgia on Electronic Communications were shared with the European Commission. The Georgian side sent its replies to the European Commission's remarks. In addition, the draft law

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<b>Services:</b> Approximation of Georgian legislation with the relevant EU acquis as foreseen in AA	Georgian legislation and the Directive on privacy and electronic communications (2002/58/EC), Authorization Directive (2002/20/EC), Access Directive (2002/19/EC) and Framework Directive (2002/21/EC)					was shared with the private sector for comments.
	Elaboration of the Action Plan corresponding the gap analyses between the Georgian legislation and the Universal Services' Directive	Concrete steps are determined in order to approximate Georgian legislation to the relevant European legislation	Elaborated Action Plan	Georgian National Communications Commission	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	The draft of the Action Plan for elimination of gaps between the Directive on Universal Service and the relevant legislation of Georgia has been elaborated.
<b>Public Procurement</b>						
<b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and trade related matters:</b> Providing precise and timely information on planned legislative work affecting procurement policy and its implementation, both for the legal approximation and the set-up of	Preparation of legislative amendments on public procurement in compliance with the Annexes XVI-C and XVI-D of the Association Agreement	Georgian Public Procurement Legislation is approximated with EU acquis	Elaborated Legislative Acts	LEPL – State Procurement Agency		The working group, which was created within the State Procurement Agency, has finalized the revision of the remarks elaborated by international organizations and international financial institutions regarding the new draft law on state procurement. The renewed draft law will be submitted to the Government of Georgia and to large-scale procuring entities for further discussions in the nearest future. With the support of the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the new concept of institutional arrangement for the Public Procurement Review Body was prepared,



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<p>institutions in the field of public procurement. A comprehensive roadmap has already been adopted by the Government of Georgia on 31 March 2016, covering five phases of actions to be implemented during the period from 2016 to 2022. The Parties will further discuss implementation of the roadmap, also in view of ensuring the approximation of the Georgian public procurement legislation with the EU public procurement acquis as foreseen in the Association Agreement</p>	<p>Developing new electronic services and procedures of Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement</p>	<p>modernization of the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement has been implemented</p>	<p>Implemented additional services are introduced in the Unified Electronic System of Public Procurement</p>	<p>LEPL – State Procurement Agency</p>		<p>which will ensures high level of its independency and impartiality.</p> <p>In 2018, relevant changes were made within the electronic system of state procurement (e-Procurement) regarding the institutional arrangement of the Dispute Resolution Board in compliance with the requirements of the legislative amendments that entered into force on 23rd of December 2017. More precisely, the new procedure for tender disputes above EU thresholds was implemented. The mentioned dispute resolution sessions are held by the Dispute Resolution Board with renewed composition. New electronic services have been introduced in order to support proper functioning of the Dispute Resolution Board with a renewed composition and to further simplify business processes. The amendments are also reflected within the dispute resolution calendar in which tenders above EU thresholds are marked by different color and assigned by a different unique code.</p> <p>The State Procurement Agency, with the support of the World Bank Group and the project of DFID on Improvement of effectiveness and transparency in public procurement, actively works on introduction of the Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS). In this regard, a special website was launched by the SPA in 2018 – <a href="http://www.opendata.spa.ge">www.opendata.spa.ge</a> through which e-tender related public information and data are gradually published in JSON-format in aggregated and separate forms.</p> <p>In 2018, the new procedure of consolidated tender without reverse auction was added to the e-Procurement system. The electronic questionnaire on tender documentation was also</p>

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	<p>Conducting training session for the employees of State Procurement Agency</p>	<p>Capacity building of the employees of State Procurement Agency</p>	<p>Number of trained employees of State procurement Agency</p>	<p>LEPL – State Procurement Agency</p>		<p>introduced to the system and the new component of regional categorization was added to the profile of procuring entities within the electronic system of state procurement (e-Procurement).</p> <p>On 13–14 March 2018, the representatives of the State Procurement Agency participated in an international regional forum “Assessing corruption risk in public procurement”. The forum was held by the European Council and the EU;</p> <p>On 19- 20 March 2018, the State Procurement Agency, with the support of CLDP, organized a seminar on “Private Partnerships, commercial Law Development Program”. The representatives of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, the Ministry of Justice, Tbilisi City Hall and other stakeholders attended the seminar;</p> <p>On 25 – 27 April 2018, the representatives of the State Procurement Agency participated in the international seminar “Public and Electronic Procurement 2018,” which was held in Seoul, South Korea. The seminar aimed at facilitating public procurement market access on a global level.</p> <p>On 8 – 10 May 2018, the representatives of the State Procurement Agency participated in the international forum PRIMO – 14th Procurement, Integrity, Management and Openness Forum), which was held in Bucharest, Romania. The organizers of the forum were the World Bank Group, ADB, EBRD and other international financial institutions.</p>

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						<p>On 29 – 30 May 2018, the representatives of the State Procurement Agency participated in the regional conference on public procurement organized by joint program of EU and OECD (SIGMA), which was held in Kyiv, Ukraine.</p> <p>On 25-29 June 2018, the representatives of the State Procurement Agency made an official visit to Austria in order to share their experience, approaches and the best practice within public procurement with Austrian colleagues and to get acquainted with the practice related to legislative harmonization with EU directives. Meetings were held with the Federal Agency of Public Procurement of Austria, the Ministry of Finances, the Federal Agency of Economic Cooperation and Development, the Regional Authority of Bundesland and Graz municipality;</p> <p>On 10-12 September 2018, representatives of the State Procurement Agency participated in the workshop on Combatting Bid Rigging in Public Procurement which was organized by the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Competition Agency of Georgia;</p> <p>On 10-14 September 2018, a representative of the State Procurement Agency attended the Advanced Global Workshop on Government Procurement within the World Trade Organization, which was dedicated to discuss important issues of the GPA;</p> <p>On 17-21 September 2018, senior representatives of the State Procurement</p>

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						<p>Agency participated in “Global Public Procurement Conference and the 4<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Asia Pacific Public Electronic Procurement Network” in Washington D.C. (U.S.). Within the mentioned events, the Georgian delegation shared the experience regarding E-procurement system and participants discussed future plans concerning elaboration of the global strategy on implementing digital technologies in public procurement procedures.</p> <p>On 23 – 25 October 2018, the representatives of the State Procurement Agency participated in the regional workshop on public procurement organized by the EBRD, WTO and UNDP which was held in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova;</p> <p>On 6 – 8 November 2018, the representative of the State Procurement Agency participated in the workshop “Anticorruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific,” which was held in Astana, Kazakhstan. The purpose of the meeting was to share experience on corruption prevention in public procurement;</p> <p>On 13 – 15 November 2018, the representative of the State Procurement Agency participated in the Advanced Workshop on Government Procurement and Governance organized by WTO in Geneva, Swiss Confederation;</p> <p>On 17 – 18 December 2018, senior representatives of the State Procurement Agency participated in a meeting of the Association Committee on Trade Configuration, which was held in Brussels, Kingdom of</p>

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						Belgium). Within the working session, parties reviewed the status of the commitments undertaken by Georgia in public procurement field and set follow up steps for deepening cooperation.
	Conducting training sessions for procuring entities, economic operators and other interested parties	Capacity building of procuring entities, economic operators and other interested parties in the field of public procurement has been increased	Number of trained employees of procuring entities, economic operators and other interested parties in the field of Public Procurement	LEPL – State Procurement Agency		<p>In 2018, seven training sessions on state procurement were held at the Training Center of State Procurement Agency. The training sessions were targeted at state authorities and their subordinated LEPLs and LTDs, municipalities and their established and governed LEPLs, LTDs, etc.</p> <p>One-day seminars on recent challenges of public procurement were held for the specialists employed in the procurement field. The mentioned seminar was targeted to the representatives of municipalities and local self-governing authorities operating in the procurement field.</p> <p>In total, 635 specialists attended training sessions. 352 specialists from state authorities and local self-governing bodies and its owned LEPLs were awarded with certificates after passing exams. 84 attendants were represented from municipalities and 199 attendants, who have already taken the basic course on state procurement, were acquainted with ongoing news and challenges in this field.</p>
	Elaboration and electronic publication of related manuals and methodological instructions of Public Procurement at the State	Raised public awareness in the field of public procurement	Published manuals and methodological instructions at web-site <a href="http://www.spa.ge">www.spa.ge</a>	LEPL – State Procurement Agency		<p>Within the USAID project “Government for Growth” (G4G), with the support of the Georgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the State Procurement Agency of Georgia prepared and printed the following manuals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The manual of unified electronic system of state procurement: CMR, Eplan SMP and electronic modules of ranging;</li> </ul>

Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Supporting Institution	Implementation Report
	Procurement Agency website					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The manual of unified electronic system of state procurement: electronic tenders;</li> <li>- The manual of unified electronic system of state procurement: donor sponsored electronic procurement procedure and grant electronic system;</li> <li>- The manual of unified electronic system of state procurement: users registration and profile management;</li> <li>- Georgian Legislation State Procurement;</li> <li>- Public Procurement: Methodological Directives and the Best Practice</li> </ul>
<b>Intellectual Property Rights</b>						
<b>Association Agenda 2.5 Trade and Trade-Related Matters, Intellectual Property Rights:</b> 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	Providing trainings for representatives of relevant governmental bodies or executive agencies, judges and attorneys on issues related to Intellectual Property Rights	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	Number of trainings organized for relevant governmental bodies or executive agencies, judges and lawyers	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - Sakpatenti	Ministry of Finance of Georgia  LEPL High School of Justice	<p>On May 15, 2018, the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti organized a workshop “Overview of Activity and Practice of the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) Board of Appeals”, aimed at introducing to the interested parties EUIPO’s Board of Appeals practice and experience. During the meeting, a recent trademark and design case-law was discussed, including absolute grounds of refusal, objections to the registration of 3D trademarks, the relationship between well-known and universally recognized trademarks, the relationship between trademarks and designs and other significant issues related with disputes. Members of Sakpatenti Chamber of Appeals, representatives of the private sector, and members of the Bar Association attended the event.</p> <p>On July 21-22, 2018, a Workshop on Adjudication of Civil Intellectual Property Infringement Cases took place with the participation of Georgian judges. The</p>

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						<p>Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the U.S. Department of Commerce along with the United States Embassy in Georgia organized the mentioned workshop. At the meeting, American judges shared with their Georgian counterparts the US judicial practice on disputes related to IP objects. Furthermore, together with the representatives of Sakpatenti, the practice of the Chamber of Appeals of Sakpatenti and courts of Georgia was discussed and the views and recommendations of the American judges were heard.</p> <p>On October 19, 2018, the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti, within the Project “Value of Intellectual Property for SME” – (VIP4SME), funded by the European Union Program for Research and Innovations “Horizon 2020,” organized a meeting with patent attorneys and lawyers working in the intellectual property field. The purpose of the abovementioned project was to assist entrepreneurs in drafting an IP strategy and its management, which in its turn will facilitate increasing the competitiveness and creating economic value, as well as raising awareness in the IP field. During the meeting, participants discussed the practice of the Chamber of Appeals and matters related to the liability of Internet service providers. Furthermore, participants were familiarized with different ways to access intellectual property services.</p>
<b>Association Agenda 2.5 Trade and Trade-Related Matters, Intellectual Property Rights:</b> Supporting functioning of the	Hold trainings and workshops for Sakpatenti staff; Organize bilateral meetings, workshops and seminars with	Strengthen the human and institutional capacity of Sakpatenti that enables it to better	Number of trainings, workshops and seminars organized for Sakpatenti's staff	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - Sakpatenti		On February 28, 2018, a meeting took place between the Chairman of the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti and the WIPO Director of Brands and Designs Sector of Madrid Registry. During the meeting, parties considered several ongoing

Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Supporting Institution	Implementation Report
National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia "Sakpatenti" in order to ensure protection of industrial property rights and copyright; extending cooperation with third country authorities and industry associations	third country authorities and industry associations, in order to share experience and best practice of relevant countries.	perform its core functions (protection of industrial property rights and copyright)				<p>projects, which are mostly linked with integration of Sakpatenti databases into the WIPO registration system. In particular, by means of the WIPO E-filing tool, the Georgian users will be given an opportunity to use the Georgian interface to extend electronically an application filed with Sakpatenti to the member states of the Madrid System. In addition, Sakpatenti will automatically receive the international applications where Georgia will be indicated as a country of extension. The WIPO representative also held a meeting with examiners of Sakpatenti Department of Trademarks, Geographical Indications and Design and received information directly from them concerning the current issues related to receiving an extension of international applications through the Madrid System in Georgia.</p> <p>On March 5-9, 2018, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti organized a Module 4 Training: "Trademarks and Trademark Enforcement" for trainers of the Georgian Intellectual Property (IP) Academy. Foreign and Georgian experts led the module, held within the WIPO Intellectual Property Academy Project.</p> <p>On March 14, 2018, a meeting of the EU-Georgia Sub-Committee on Geographical Indications, envisaged by the Association Agreement with the European Union, took place at the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti in Tbilisi. During the meeting, Decision No1/2018 of the Geographical</p>



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						<p>Indications Sub-Committee modifying Annexes XVII-C and XVII-D to the AA was signed. As a result, four new Georgian geographical indications: “Tqibuli tea”, “Machakhela honey”, “Kutaisi greens” and “Akhalkalaki potato” were granted protection on the territory of the European Union.</p> <p>In March 2018, Georgia joined the Quality Standards Tool of the EUIPN. This decision aims at systemic development of electronic management and implementation of the next stage of integration of offices. Quality standards tool (EUIPN) of the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) is an online search tool, which provides easily accessible information on services and related quality standards offered by each participating intellectual property office.</p> <p>On March 19, 2018, a meeting took place at Sakpatenti Tbilisi Office, where amendments of the Law of Georgia on “Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications of Goods” were discussed, which implies the approximation of the Law with the Geneva Act of Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration. Along with staff members of Sakpatenti, representatives of relevant state agencies, as well as Director of Lisbon Registry, from the Brands and Designs Sector at WIPO, and representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) also participated in the meeting.</p>

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						<p>On May 2-3, 2018, a two-day workshop on e-filing system of international trademark applications was held at Sakpatenti for examiners of the Department of Trademarks, Geographical Indications and Design. The purpose of the workshop was to introduce basic characteristics and recent developments in filing and extension of international applications by the Madrid system. The workshop was led by the Project Manager of Madrid IS, Brands and Designs Sector, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), who introduced to the participants the opportunities of electronic filing, processing and inter-office sending of applications and communication with applicants. It is noteworthy that Georgia will become the third member state of the WIPO to use the e-filing system of international applications.</p> <p>On May 31, 2018, an Agreement on the Mutual Recognition and Protection of Geographical Indications, Appellations of Origin and Indications of Source between Georgia and the Swiss Confederation was signed in Bern. The ceremony took place at the office of the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property. On the basis of the signed Agreement, according to the principle of reciprocity, Georgian geographical indications, appellations of origin and indications of source were protected on the territory of the Swiss Confederation, the procedures related with their use and rights enforcement were also defined.</p>

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						<p>On June 4-8, 2018, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti organized the final, Module 5 Training on copyright and related rights for trainers of the Georgian Intellectual Property (IP) Academy. The training was aimed to teach the preparation of training programs on copyright and related rights and their enforcement, using relevant teaching methodologies. In particular, the development of specific training materials and exercises related to the given IP subject matter, which are intended for government officials, representatives of law enforcement bodies, lawyers, representatives of small and medium enterprises and other target groups, were discussed.</p> <p>On June 13-14, 2018, a workshop was organized by the World Trade Organization and the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia, aiming to draft the text of the Resolution approving the “Rule of Granting a Compulsory License for the Use of a Patented Invention and Utility Model”, on the basis of the amendments in the Patent Law of Georgia on January 11, 2018, and in accordance with the commitments under the Association Agreement between Georgia and the European Union.</p> <p>In July 2018, a full national patent collection of Georgia has become available for the first time in WIPO’s global patent search system Patentscope. The collection includes patents issued by Sakpatenti from its establishment in 1992 until today - altogether around 8850</p>

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						<p>documents. Patentscope is a global patent search system, which includes PCT applications as well as national patent collections from many countries, altogether 70 million documents. The Georgian national patent collection was also updated in Espacenet – patent search system of the European Patent Office (EPO), which includes 100 million patent documents. In both systems, the renewal and update of Georgian patent data will take place automatically once a month. The inclusion of Georgian patents in the abovementioned systems will improve their searchability on a global scale.</p> <p>In July 2018, Sakpatenti joined WIPO CASE - Centralized Access to Search and Examination platform administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). The WIPO CASE system enables patent offices to securely share search and examination documentation related to patent applications in order to facilitate work sharing programs. WIPO CASE will help patent examiners of Sakpatenti to get access to the search and examination documentation and further improve the quality and efficiency of the patent examination.</p> <p>On September 17-19, 2018, the Executive Director of the WIPO Intellectual Property Academy paid a second official visit to Sakpatenti. Within the WIPO professional development program, IP academy director opened the international English-language “Training Course on Geographical Indications”, which was held in Georgia for the second time. Due to rich experience and knowledge of Georgia in the field, the WIPO Academy</p>

Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Supporting Institution	Implementation Report
						<p>selected Georgia, as the first country with a transitional economy, to conduct professional development program.</p> <p>From September 24 to October 2, 2018, Fifty-Eight Series of Meetings at the General Assembly of the Member States of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) took place in Geneva, Switzerland, which was attended by Sakpatenti delegation, headed by its Chairman, Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze. During the General Assembly, Mr. Nikoloz Gogilidze was elected as the Chair of the Special Union for the Protection of Industrial Property (Paris Union). He was nominated for the position by the Central European and Baltic States Group (CEBS). It is noteworthy that a representative of Georgia is also heading the Special Union for the International Registration of Marks (Madrid Union) and the Working Group for the Preparation of Common Regulations under the Lisbon Agreement for the Protection of Appellations of Origin and their International Registration and the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), which is a result of an active involvement of Georgia in the activity of the above-mentioned organization.</p> <p>In November 2018, Sakpatenti joined the WIPO-administered program “e-Filing”, which will allow Georgian users to file their international applications electronically, which will simplify the procedure of extension of trademarks to the member states of the “Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks”.</p>

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						<p>Georgia is the third member state of WIPO, which will use the electronic system of filing international applications. Currently, this system is used only by the Intellectual Property Offices of the Benelux Countries and Australia. The Madrid System is an international tool for trademark protection that allows applicants to file an application in a single language, which can protect a trademark in 118 member states of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).</p>
	<p>Carry out the project with the European Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) regarding the implementation of trademark and design guidelines</p>	<p>Strengthen the human and institutional capacity of Sakpatenti that enables it to better perform its core functions (protection of industrial property rights and copyright)</p>	<p>Implementation of the guidelines on trademarks and designs</p>	<p>LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - Sakpatenti</p>		<p>Sakpatenti successfully obtained funding from the EU. There are ongoing works to start the project.</p>
<p><b>Association Agenda 2.5 Trade and Trade-Related Matters, Intellectual Property Rights:</b> Taking measures to increase public awareness in the field of intellectual and industrial property protection and ensuring effective dialogue with rights holders</p>	<p>Hold seminars and workshops to raise public awareness</p>	<p>Raised public awareness in the field of intellectual property.</p>	<p>Number of meetings held</p>	<p>LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - Sakpatenti</p>		<p>February 27, 2018, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in cooperation with the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia Sakpatenti, organized a seminar “the Effective Use of the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks.” Patent attorneys of Georgia and representatives of private companies that use the Madrid System for the International Registration of Marks, attended the seminar. To ensure better use of the Madrid System in the process of searching, filing, monitoring and managing trademarks abroad, WIPO experts provided recommendations on managing the Madrid</p>

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						<p>Goods and Services database and issues of electronic services.</p> <p>On April 14-16, 2018, within the frames of the ELSA study visits, aimed at cultural and cognitive exchange, the European Law Students Association Tbilisi (ELSA Tbilisi) and the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti delivered a lecture “Intellectual Property Law” for 11 students from Poland at Sakpatenti Mtskheta Office. The purpose of the event was to raise awareness on intellectual property among youth.</p> <p>On May 17, 2018, within the project “Value of Intellectual Property for SME” – (VIP4SME), a meeting was organized between Sakpatenti and small and medium business representatives. During the meeting, topics of IP management, branding strategy, its economic significance and protection mechanisms were discussed. Furthermore, Sakpatenti representatives held individual meetings with interested companies to assess the intellectual property assets of the companies and assist them in drafting an IP portfolio.</p> <p>On June 19, 2018, within the International Project “Intellectual Property for Youth and Teachers”, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti organized “Training on Tutoring and Teaching”. The project is intended for countries wishing to introduce teaching inventiveness and innovation into their educational programs. The project is aiming to lay the foundation for</p>

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						<p>teaching the subject of intellectual property at schools and universities, which will facilitate raising awareness on the significance of intellectual property and stimulate inventive activity among youth. Within the project, interested and motivated schoolteachers from Georgia will be given the opportunity to receive training in IP issues in order to familiarize with methods of teaching inventiveness, which will allow them to teach the given subject to their pupils.</p> <p>On June 20-21, 2018, Sakpatenti, in cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), organized the conference “Intellectual Property (IP) and Education.” During the conference, the importance of intellectual property and teaching the mentioned subject within various educational programs as well as methodologies of teaching innovation at primary, post and graduation levels were discussed.</p> <p>On July 15-22, 2018, the summer school on Intellectual Property Law was held in Georgia for the third time. The event was organized by the European Law Students Association Georgia (ELSA Georgia), National Intellectual Property Centre of Georgia Sakpatenti, Department of Education, Sport and Youth Affairs of the Tbilisi City Hall, the World Project Organization (WPO) and the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the U.S. Department of Commerce. 45 students from Georgian and European universities, representing 17 countries, attended lectures delivered by Sakpatenti senior officials and sectoral specialists</p>



Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Supporting Institution	Implementation Report
						<p>regarding mechanisms of legal protection of intellectual property subject matters and tools of their international registration.</p> <p>On July 20, 2018, a training on intellectual property rights for journalists took place in Batumi. The meeting was organized by the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) of the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Embassy of the United States of America to Georgia. During the training, American and European experts familiarized Georgian journalists with the importance of intellectual property. In addition, representatives of Sakpatenti and the Georgian Copyright Association discussed the current situation concerning the IP rights and their enforcement in Georgia. Organizing similar meetings for journalists has already become a tradition in Georgia and is aimed at raising awareness in this field.</p> <p>In September 2018, registration started for the WIPO Academy Distance Learning General Course (DL101GE) and interested persons are given the opportunity to pass it in Georgian. Sakpatenti, together with the WIPO Intellectual Property Academy, developed the Georgian-language version of the course.</p> <p>On October 13, 2018, Sakpatenti, together with other private and public organizations, participated in the exhibition “Start-In-Georgia” – “Everything for My Start-up”, organized by Start Business Solutions. 35 companies were represented at the most large-scale exhibition for startups. The objective of the event was to</p>

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						<p>facilitate newcomer entrepreneurs in establishing necessary contacts. During the exhibition, Sakpatenti examiners shared information on the importance and role of intellectual property protection for business development and offered an overview of Sakpatenti activities.</p> <p>Sakpatenti participated in up to ten innovation competitions and educational projects, aimed at raising awareness on intellectual property among high school students, young adults and various interested persons.</p> <p>On December 24, 2018, Sakpatenti organized a training for patent attorneys and other interested persons, during which Sakpatenti representatives shared some information concerning the electronic system of processing intellectual property applications and the Madrid e-filing system.</p>
	Publishing informational flyers and booklets	Raised public awareness in the field of intellectual property	Published and disseminated informational materials	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - Sakpatenti		<p>The following list includes prepared and published reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Georgian Copyright Association;</li> <li>➤ Journal “Author©racy”- 80 pages, 200 copies;</li> <li>➤ Book “Intellectual Property – Practice and Analysis” 132 pages, 300 copies;</li> <li>➤ Georgian Copyright Association Report/2017 – 22 pages, 500 copies;</li> <li>➤ Sakpatenti Report/2017 – 64 pages, 500 copies;</li> <li>➤ Children’s book “Washing Machine” A5 (14 pages) 1200C.</li> <li>➤ Children’s Small book “Umbrella” A5 (14 pages) 1200 copies;</li> </ul>

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						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Small children’s book “Compass” A5 (12 pages) 1200 copies;</li> <li>➤ Small children’s book “Doremus-Solasi” A5 (12 pages) 1200 copies;</li> <li>➤ Small children’s book “Star Candles” A5 (12 pages) 1050 copies.</li> </ul> <p>Duplication and bookbinding of WIPO and EPO publication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Guidelines for Examination in the EPO November 2017/A4 (880 pages. Part II), 8 copies;</li> <li>➤ Guidelines for Search and Examination at the EPO as PCT Authority/ A4 (254 pages), 8 copies;</li> <li>➤ EPO Boards of appeal case law 2017/ A4 (104 pages), 8 copies;</li> <li>➤ Regulations under the PCT (July 1, 2018)/ A4 (186 pages), 8 copies;</li> <li>➤ Administrative Instructions under the PCT (July 1, 2017)/ A4 (106 pages), 8 copies;</li> <li>➤ PCT Receiving office guidelines (July 1, 2018) /A4 (104 pages), 8 copies;</li> <li>➤ PCT International search and preliminary Examination Guidelines /A4 (106 pages.), 8 copies;</li> <li>➤ Book of Georgian National Wine Agency “Kvevri and Kakhetian Wine” 17X24 (232 pages), 300 copies;</li> <li>➤ Booklet “Trademark” A5 (16 pages), 500 copies;</li> <li>➤ Booklet “Design” A5 (20 pages), 500 copies;</li> <li>➤ Booklet “Geographical Indications and Appellations of Origin” A5 (16 pages), 300 copies;</li> </ul>

Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Supporting Institution	Implementation Report
						<p>➤ Book by David Gabunia “Geographical Indications Quality and Development 16.5X22.5 (246 pages), 500 copies.</p>
<p><b>Association Agenda 2.5 Trade and Trade-Related Matters, Intellectual Property Rights:</b> Taking effective measures against counterfeiting and piracy, including production of statistical information on those activities to be shared between the Parties</p>	<p>Hold workshops and seminars for stakeholders and right holders of IPR to raise awareness on counterfeiting and piracy</p>	<p>Raised awareness of right holders and Improved efficiency in combating against counterfeiting and piracy</p>	<p>Number of trainings and workshops organized for stakeholders and right holders</p>	<p>LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - Sakpatenti</p>		<p>In February 2018, Sakpatenti joined the new electronic filing system - UPOV PRISMA of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV). UPOV PRISMA is an online application tool for drafting and submitting plant variety application data to participating PVP Offices in a required format. By using the platform, it is now possible to submit new plant variety application data to Sakpatenti. The corresponding PVP application forms were translated by the Sakpatenti and are already available in Georgian.</p> <p>On February 15, 2018, for the purpose of revising and improving production specifications of Georgian geographical indications “Sulguni” and “Tushuri Guda”, sensory analysis took place at Sakpatenti. As a result, the organoleptic characteristics of these geographical indications will be defined more precisely. The meeting was organized within the project “Support to Sustainable Value Chains through the Development of Geographical Indications in the Dairy Sector”, funded by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).</p> <p>On July 12, 2018, the fourth International Conference “Georgia Against Counterfeiting and Piracy,” organized by the Sakpatenti and the Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP)</p>

Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Supporting Institution	Implementation Report
						<p>of the U.S. Department of Commerce, was held in Batumi. The purpose of the conference was to facilitate the effective implementation of intellectual property enforcement mechanisms, deepening a dialogue between private and public sectors, sharing international experience and establishing contacts between stakeholders in the direction of rights enforcement. During the conference, tools and practices for proper enforcement of intellectual property rights, including issues related to using branding strategies were discussed. Furthermore, participants discussed the impact of technology and artificial intelligence on IP enforcement and the sale of counterfeits on the Internet. The focus of the conference was directed at amendments made to the Georgian Law “on Border Measures Related to Intellectual Property” in 2018, in accordance with the DCFTA Agreement, parallel import, international practice concerning securing evidence, calculation of damages and other urgent topics.</p>
	<p>Ensure elaboration of statistical information regarding the measures taken against counterfeiting and piracy activities</p>	<p>Improved efficiency in combating against counterfeiting and piracy;  Raised public awareness;  Statistical data on counterfeiting and piracy is in place</p>	<p>Elaborated statistical data on measures taken against counterfeiting and piracy</p>	<p>LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - Sakpatenti</p>		<p>The statistical data on acts of counterfeiting and piracy have been collected, which will be shared with the European Union in February 2019 based on operational conclusions of EU-Georgia Association Committee in Trade Configuration.</p>

Association Agreement	Planned Activity	Result / Output	Indicators	Responsible Institution	Supporting Institution	Implementation Report
<b>Competition</b>						
<p><b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade-related Matters:</b> The Parties will cooperate on implementation of the Competition Chapter of the Association Agreement and the related reforms. Cooperation will tackle Georgia's institutional framework and relevant administrative capacity to guarantee effective implementation of relevant legislation, as well as enhanced dialogue on legislative enforcement in the competition area and related legislations.</p>	<p>Competition policy advocacy, holding seminars and informative meetings for public and private sector representatives</p>	<p>Increased level of awareness on competition among target groups</p>	<p>Number of seminars and informative meetings held</p>	<p>LEPL – Competition Agency</p>		<p>In 2018, 15 awareness raising events were held. Representatives of business sector, including members of the Business Association of Georgia, Staff members of Sectoral Regulators (Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission, Georgian National Communications Commission and National Bank of Georgia), representatives of State Procurement Agency, other state authorities, specialized associations, members of Georgian Bar Association, Judges and other stakeholders attended these meetings. During the events, European experts shared their experience on different topics of competition enforcement.</p> <p>On September 28-29 of 2018, with the Support of the EU, second International Competition Conference was held on interesting topics of competition policy. Representatives of European competition authorities, representatives from academics, entrepreneurs and other stakeholders attended the conference.</p> <p>On 27<sup>th</sup> of September of 2018, a roundtable discussion involving the representatives of Government and Parliament of Georgia, Business Ombudsman, Regulated Bodies, as well as the EU Delegation in Georgia, OECD, UNCTAD and representatives of competition authorities from EU countries was held on planned legal amendments of the Law on Competition.</p> <p>With the financial support of the U.S. Embassy in Georgia and Commercial Law Development Program of the U.S. Department of Commerce,</p>

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						<p>conference on Combatting Bid Rigging in Public procurement was held on 10-12 September.</p> <p>In 2018, 11 MoUs were signed between GCA and Bulgarian, Greek, Ukrainian, Peruvian and Mongolian Competition Authorities, as well as with Business Ombudsman of Georgia, Bar Association, and Service for Accounting, Reporting and Auditing Supervision, National Statistics Office, National Bank and State Language Department.</p>
	<p>Organizing trainings and study visits for the Competition Agency staff members on various topics of competition policy</p>	<p>Increased level of qualification of the Competition Agency staff members</p>	<p>Number of the trainings and other capacity-building activities held and number of trained staff members</p>	<p>LEPL – Competition Agency</p>		<p>In 2018, 27 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 official visits in Bulgaria, Moldova, Ukraine, Latvia, United States of America, Austria, Switzerland, Czech Republic and Kazakhstan. Within the framework of these visits, outstanding issues in the field of competition were discussed with foreign colleagues and competition policy experts. Prospects of strengthening international cooperation between the Agency and its international partners formed a part of the discussions. In addition, the Agency staff members participated in the Annual Meeting of the International Competition Network (ICN), in seminars organized by the OECD and its Regional Centre for Competition OECD-GVH RCC and in trainings and conferences organized by serbian, lithuenian, checz, ukrainian, and albanian competition authorities</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</p>

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						<p>Agency.” Specifically, following issues were covered within the trainings: Mergers, State Aid Rules, Administrative and Discriminative Barriers for Entry into Market, Case Handling Process with Particular Focus on Cartel Investigations, Market Monitoring and Investigation Process in Pharmaceutical Sector, Reporting, Setting and Calculation of Fines etc. With the Support of the EU, six staff members of the Agency undertook a 2-week-long Intenships at German, Austrian, Portuguese and Romanian Competition Authorities.</p> <p>Within the frame of EU Project study tour in Belgium, Brussels at DG Competition was organized. Representatives of Agency attended trainings and seminars, which were focused on interesting issues about competition enforcement and had opportunity to get acquainted with the activities of DG Competition on the spot. During the study visit, Chairman of Agency conducted official meetings with representatives of DG Competition and DG Near. Representatives of Agency also visited Court of Justice of European Union in Luxembourg. Judges of CJEU shared recent experience in order to discuss competition issues related to court cases.</p> <p>In November 2018, delegation of GCA attended 17th meeting of the OECD Global Forum on Competition in Paris, France.</p>
<b>Trade and Sustainable Development</b>						
<b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade-related Matters:</b> The Parties will continue their dialogue on the issues covered by the	Cooperation with the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), in	Deepen experience on fishery related issues	Number of meetings participated by the delegation of Georgia	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	LEPL - National Environmental Agency	Within the framework of the Letter of Agreement, GFCM has provided two units of electronic signal transmission equipment - "Transponders" to Georgia, free of charge.



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<p>Chapter on Trade and Sustainable Development of the Association Agreement, in particular exchanging information on the development of an appropriate labour inspection system for all international fundamental labour standards, implementation of the Labour Code, implementation of multilateral environmental agreements, which either side is party to, and implementation of their commitments related to sustainable development, as well as discuss and exchange best practices on the future implementation of the commitments under the Chapter with regard to stakeholder involvement and</p>	<p>particular, participation of Georgia in the working meetings as Cooperating Non-Contracting Party</p>				<p>Department of Environmental Supervision</p>	<p>Transponders provided by GFCM were tested on October-December 2018.</p> <p>A preparatory meeting was held where the GFCM representatives introduced to the representatives of the DES and the Ministry of Finance - technical parameters and data of the equipment to be installed on small scale fishing vessels. They also discussed the compatibility of these equipments to the existing electronic monitoring system. Transponders were installed on two vessels (with lengths of 13m and 8.9 m) and were launched in a test mode.</p> <p>In 2018, representatives from the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, LEPL National Environmental Agency and the Department of Environmental Supervision participated in 15 meetings organized by FAO/GFCM related to the issues of development of fisheries and aquaculture.</p> <p>Furthermore, the representatives of the Department of Environmental Supervision participated in the following meetings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On March 13-15, 2018, a meeting of the Black Sea Working Group of GFCM in Trabzon, which was organized in order to develop and implement a strategy for sustainable development of the Mediterranean and Black Sea aquaculture.</li> <li>2. On April 24-27, 2018, GFCM's workshop in Beirut on "Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported fishing (IUU), Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS)" and "Integrated MCS for turbot in the Black Sea.</li> </ol>

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civil society dialogue						<p>3. On June 6, 2018, a high-level international conference on Black Sea fishing and aquaculture issues in Sofia.</p> <p>4. On July 05- 07, 2018, a workshop of the Committee on Compliance of the General Fisheries Committee Mediterranean, Madrid.</p> <p>5. On September 24-26, 2018, GFCM High Level Conference in Malta on "Sustainable Small Scale Fishing in the Black Sea and Mediterranean Sea." In addition, LEPL National Environmental Agency took part in an international expedition organized by FAO/GFCM, for Black Sea fish stocks assessment.</p>
	Cooperation under the framework of the Plants Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)	Strengthening cooperation between the EU and Georgia within the framework of the Convention and establishing common positions on discussion issues	Participation in the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee and the regional meeting of European part of the Committee	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia		<p>The person responsible for the implementation of the CITES convention was constantly involved in working groups established under Plants and Standing committees, including the working group for artificially propagated plants, where the EU is a member. Considering that Georgian companies directly export Galanthus Woronowii to the Kingdom of the Netherlands, cooperation with the EU is especially important.</p> <p>A representative of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, the focal point of CITES, has participated in the 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CITES Plants Committee in July 2018. With the participation of both the EU and Georgian representatives, the Plants Committee has adopted recommendations on the definition of artificial propagation and draft amendments in the Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. COP17) on Regulation of Trade in Plants. Draft amendments were also adopted at the 70<sup>th</sup></p>

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						<p>meeting of the Standing Committee on October 2, 2018 and the document will be considered by the 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of Parties in 2019.</p> <p>Georgian representatives will continue their close cooperation with the EU and its member states on several matters for the upcoming conferences of parties.</p>
	Monitoring of selected species to identify their compliance with the criteria for inclusion in the appendices of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)	Decision on preparation of proposals for amendments to the convention or endorsement of the proposals prepared by other countries is made based on the precise information available at the national level	Monitoring report;  Publicly available information on quantities of extracted and exported plants according to specific types	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia		Monitoring of online trade platforms, zoological and botanical shops, as well as hypermarkets trading with timber products was held in 2018. Statistical information was obtained from the Statistics Department of Georgia. Currently, a monitoring report is being produced. Information about exported species and quantities is submitted to the CITES Secretariat through the annual report and will be published on the official webpage of the secretariat.
	Capacity building of the Revenue Service and Department of Environmental Supervision to enhance implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)	Enhanced qualification of employees of the Department of Environmental Supervision and Customs Department of Revenue Service	Number of conducted trainings and trained employees	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia		<p>The training of customs officers from the Revenue Service of Georgia has been initiated with the support of Flora and Fauna International. The training for customs officers from Eastern Georgia was held on 25th of April 2018 and on 23-24 of May for officers from Western Georgia.</p> <p>The US embassy in Georgia has invited Georgian enforcement officers to attend the Wildlife Trafficking Investigators Program organized by the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) held on 10-21 September 2018 in Budapest, Hungary. 9 officers from the Ministry</p>

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						of Environmental Protection and Agriculture and Customs Department participated in the program.
	Adoption of Forest Code of Georgia	Effective regulation of forest protection and forest use in compliance with EU practice	Adopted legislative act	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia		A public hearing of the new forest code has been conducted in the first quarter of 2018. Accordingly, the feedback was reflected in the draft document, which signified the completion of the working process on draft Forest Code. The final draft of the Forest Code has been submitted to the Government for consideration in the second quarter of 2018.
	Ensure compliance of the draft by-laws on „Rule of Forest Use“, „Rule of Forest Inventory and Monitoring“ and „Rule of Forest Protection, Maintenance, and Restoration“ with the draft Forest Code	Developed draft by-laws to ensure sustainable forest management	Preparation of draft by-laws on „Rule of Forest Use“, „Rule of Forest Inventory and Monitoring“ and „Rule of Forest Protection, Maintenance, and Restoration“ according to the legal requirements of the draft Forest Code	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	LEPL - National Forestry Agency	First draft versions of Government decrees on the “Use of forest,“ Forest inventory and Monitoring, on “Forest protection, maintenance and restoration” have been elaborated, and will be revised according to the draft forest code after its adoption by the Parliament of Georgia
	Development of Forest and Land Use Decision Support (FLUIDS) system	Improvement of the FLUIDS system;  Public access to forest-related data	Modified system instruments according to the sectorial needs;  Data of forest inventory and forest management plans added to the system;	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	LEPL - National Forestry Agency	The platform of the "Forest and Land Use Decision Support (FLUIDS) system" has been developed, including the following tools: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forest and Land Use Atlas (<a href="http://www.atlas.mepa.gov.ge">www.atlas.mepa.gov.ge</a>);</li> <li>• Open Data Portal (<a href="http://www.data.mepa.gov.ge">www.data.mepa.gov.ge</a>);</li> <li>• Geographic Information System portal for internal use of the Ministry / Server (<a href="http://www.gis.mepa.gov.ge">www.gis.mepa.gov.ge</a>).</li> </ul> The development of the spatial and attributed data of forest inventory and management plans

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			Developed and implemented spatial data standard of the geographic information system (GIS)			<p>of the Autonomous Republic of Adjara has been finalized for the purpose of improving the web portal and creating geo-information base in the GIS system.</p> <p>The server of the Geographic Information System (Arc GIS) and hardware has been installed in the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia.</p> <p>The training module of the Geographical Information System (ArcGIS Desktop, ArcGIS online / server, Web portal) has been developed for the Staff of the MEPA.</p> <p>Cooperation with local NGOs to create the necessary data:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. non-governmental organization “Green Alternative” prepared maps of protected areas where nature protection zones are outlined;</li> <li>2. In order to support the establishment of Emerald Network in Georgia, non-governmental organization NACRES has mapped the forest habitats according to the European Nature Information System (EUNIS);</li> <li>3. Within the framework of the research, the non-Governmental Organization CENN prepared the Natural hazard-zoning map for forests;</li> <li>4. GISLAB created the map of the forest cover and raster data of the pilot territory (4,500 hectares of Akhaltsikhe forest of Samtskhe-Javakheti region).</li> </ol>
	Implementation of the EU Twinning Project Strengthening	Assessment of the forest sector legislative and institutional	Assessment report on forest sector legislative and institutional	Ministry of Environment Protection and	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	A meeting was held on 24th of January 2018, where Lithuanian and Hungarian experts shared their expertise in the field of training and implementation of the strategic documents of

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	Sustainable Forest Management in Georgia	<p>framework in accordance with EU standards and preparation of relevant recommendations;</p> <p>Capacity building of environmental supervision.</p>	<p>framework;</p> <p>Number of conducted trainings and workshops.</p>	Agriculture of Georgia	<p>Department of Environmental Supervision</p> <p>LEPL - National Forestry Agency</p>	<p>the Forestry sector with the representatives of the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture and the NGO sector.</p> <p>On April 11, 2018, a seminar was conducted on issues related to harmonization of Georgian Forestry Regulatory Legislation with the EU regulation.</p> <p>A meeting was held on April 18, 2018, where European experts introduced to the employees of the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture, Forestry Agency and other interested organizations models of information and monitoring systems of the forest that are operating in Lithuania, Hungary and Slovakia.</p> <p>From April 29 to May 4, as well as, from September 17 to September 21, the representatives of institutions responsible for forest management and supervision visited Hungary in order to get acquainted with the European best practices in implementing the EU Timber Regulation.</p> <p>On June 7 and September 5, 2018 steering committee meetings of the Twinning Project, "Strengthening Sustainable Forest Management in Georgia," were held. Within the scope of the abovementioned events, interim results of the project and the planned actions were presented.</p> <p>A public lecture was held at the Ilia State University on the World Environment Day. In the framework of the meeting, the Twinning experts shared EU experiences with students on</p>

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						<p>sustainable forest management, combatting illegal forest activities, and promoting environmental education.</p> <p>On 17- 23 June, 2018, representatives of LEPL National Forestry Agency, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia and the Department of Environmental Supervision visited Lithuania in order to get acquainted with the forest policy planning, forest management system as well as mechanisms for forest resources monitoring, supervision and control.</p> <p>The final closing event of the project was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> of Novemebr, 2018. The Minister of Environment of Lithuania, as well as representatives of Hungarian and Slovakian forestry sectors participated in the meeting.</p>
	Development of Fishing Electronic Monitoring System	<p>Improvement of Fishing Electronic Monitoring system;</p> <p>Sharing European practice in fishing monitoring</p>	<p>Identification of the location of fishing vessels in real-time;</p> <p>Number of conducted trainings and trained people</p>			<p>The Fishing Electronic Monitoring System is implemented in the Georgian waters of Black Sea and its parameters will be in compliance with European standards based on GFCM technical assistance.</p> <p>On January 18-20, 2018, a meeting was held between the Black Sea countries, regarding the possibility to implement the Pilot Project of Voluntary Supervision and Inspection.</p> <p>On April 11-12, 2018, three employees of the Environmental Supervision Department participated in the training of trainers (TOT) on the joint initiative of the General Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) of the Mediterranean Sea Festival in Constanța, Romania, and the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA).</p>

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						<p>Within the framework of the abovementioned project, on 23-27 April, another meeting was held in Viogo, Spain, where an employee of the Environmental Supervision Department participated in fishing control in waters under the jurisdiction of Romania and Bulgaria, through observing the control process from the EFCA's office coordination center.</p> <p>On May 29, 2018, with the joint initiative of GFCM and EFCA, the evaluation meeting of the pilot project for reinforcing intergrated monitoring and controlling measures in the Black Sea, was held in Burgas.</p> <p>On May 30, 2018, the coordinating meeting of the BlackSea4Fisheries project was held in Burgas.</p> <p>Eight inspectors of the Black Sea Protection Convention Division were trained by the European Fisheries Control Agency. Fisheries control and inspection issues were discussed during the training. Inspectors were acquainted with the specificity of EFCA's work and discussed the procedures of inspection of fishing vessels in Georgia.</p>
	Development of draft Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Fulfillment of obligations related to the NDC under the Paris Agreement of the UNFCCC	Developed draft document of NDC	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia		On 26 <sup>th</sup> of December of 2018, a meeting was organised with the support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) under the framework of the project “Georgia’s Integrated Transparency Framework for Implementation of the Paris Agreement.” Ministry presented the content and structure of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) document at the meeting and suggested the stakeholders to share their opinions on each component of the document by the end of the first quarter of 2019.



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						Within the same meeting, working groups were formed in the energy, construction, agriculture and waste management sectors for identifying mitigation measures.
	Starting the development of the 4th National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Fulfillment of obligations related to the 4th National Communication to the UNFCCC	Draft climate change scenarios;  Developed framework for National Communication	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia		With the support of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Global Environmental Fund (GEF), "Development of Georgia's Fourth National Communication to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change" was launched.  An action plan of the project was prepared, sectoral experts were interviewed and selected for preparing their parts (energy, agriculture, extreme events, etc.) of the national communication.  On 27 <sup>th</sup> of December of 2018, a workshop was conducted under the framework of the project where a working framework for preparation of the National Communication and the climate change scenario analysis were introduced to the attending participants. The working framework for the National Communication was approved at the meeting.
	Development the draft version of the second Biannual Update Report (BUR) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Fulfillment of obligations under the UNFCCC	Developed draft version of Biannual Update Report (BUR)	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia		A draft of the Biennial Update Report was prepared, which contains the following chapters: the greenhouse gas inventories for the 2014-2015 period, national circumstances, mitigation actions and their effects, and the measurement, reporting and verification (MRV).
	Development of the Climate Action Plan 2021-2030 for transport sector	Fulfillment of obligations under the United Nations Framework	Prepare the draft Climate Change Action Plan 2021-2030 for transport sector	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia		"Climate Action Plan 2021-2030" (CAP) is being developed within the framework of the GIZ project "Strengthening Capacity of the Eastern Partnership Countries on Climate Change to ensure their compliance with the EU targets.

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		Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)				<p>The roadmap of the action plan is prepared. Meetings and consultations were held for stakeholders to increase their involvement.</p> <p>From the 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of September of 2018, the Workshop on the climate change policy development was held, where the modalities for the participation of each stakeholder in the preparation of CAP, including the transport chapter have been discussed under the format of multi-stakeholder dialogue.</p> <p>On the 1<sup>st</sup> of November of 2018, the first meeting of the transport working group was held, where the planned mitigation measures were discussed. Based on the received comments from the respective authorities the zero draft of the “Climate Action Plan for the 2021-2030 period” for the transport sector was prepared.</p>
	Informing employees and employers about occupational health and safety rules at workplaces	Increased awareness of employers and employees	Number of informational meetings and consultations	Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia		<p>During the reference period, in the framework of State Program on Labour Conditions Inspecting 2018, 216 companies have been inspected. Informational brochures were disseminated during inspections.</p> <p>Since the Law on Occupational Safety came into force (August 2018) up to 90 companies have been inspected.</p> <p>On February 23, 2018, a training on draft Law on Occupational Safety, construction safety and implementation procedures of EU directives was conducted in Kutaisi for 40 employees/representatives of the LTD Iberia Star Group.</p> <p>On March 15, 2018, a training on occupational safety was conducted in Tbilisi for 15</p>

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						<p>representatives of JSC Georgian Greenhouse Corporation.</p> <p>On May 11, 2018, a training on occupational safety was conducted in Tbilisi for 15 representatives of LTD Element Construction.</p> <p>On June 18-19, 2018, a training on occupational safety was conducted in Tkibuli for 30 representatives of GIG company.</p> <p>On August 14, 2018, an informational meeting on the Law on Occupational Safety was held for 200 representatives of the member companies of Georgian Employers Association (GEA) at its Tbilisi office.</p> <p>On August 25, 2018, an informational meeting on the Law on Occupational Safety was conducted in Gori for 70 representatives of Shida Kartli municipality.</p> <p>On August 27, 2018, an informational meeting on the Law on Occupational Safety was conducted in Tbilisi for 50 representatives of the Georgian Trade Unions Confederation.</p> <p>On September 11, 2018, an informational meeting on the Law on Occupational Safety was conducted in Batumi for 70 representatives of Adjara municipality.</p> <p>On September 14, 2018, an informational meeting on the Law on Occupational Safety was conducted in Kutaisi for 90 representatives of Shida Kartli municipality.</p>

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						<p>On October 17, 2018, an informational meeting on the Law on Occupational Safety was conducted in Tbilisi for 120 representatives of the members of the Infrastructure Construction Companies Association (ICCA).</p> <p>On November 5, December 11 and 21 2018, an informational meeting on the Law on Occupational Safety was conducted in Tbilisi for 50 representatives of the insurance companies, business associations and trade unions.</p> <p>On November 15, with a partnership of State Fund for Protection and Assistance of (Statutory) Victims of Human Trafficking, informational meeting on the Law on Occupational Safety was conducted in Tbilisi for 40 representatives of the European Business Associations.</p>
	Rising Awareness of employees and employers regarding child labour issues	Reducing child labour at enterprises	Number of held awareness rising meetings regarding child labour	Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia		In 2018, within the frames of the Resolution of the Government of Georgia of 7 <sup>th</sup> march 2016 №112, “On Approval of Rule of State Supervision/Labour Inspection of Prevention of and Responding on Forced Labour and Labour Exploitation” Labour Conditions Inspecting Department visited 154 companies in order to conduct awareness rising campaigns on child labour issues.
	Functioning of Tripartite Social Partnership Commission	Strengthened social partnership and social dialogue;	Number of commission meetings.	Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia		With technical and financial support of the International Labour Organization, a strategic planning meeting for the Tripartite Social Partnership Commission (TSPC) was held on February 18, 2018, in Kachreti, Georgia. The event was attended by the representatives of the International Labour Organization, Government of Georgia, Parliament of Georgia

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				Tripartite Social Partnership Commission		<p>and social partners. Review of the 2016-2017 strategic plan of the Tripartite Social Partnership Commission (approved on April 19, 2018 at the TSPC meeting) was presented and forthcoming plans for 2018-2019 were discussed at the meeting. Furthermore, in order to develop social partnership at a regional level, based on the decision made at the TSPC meeting (February 10, 2017), the Tripartite Social Partnership Commission of the Autonomous Republic of Adjara was established. A number of activities were carried out with the support of the International Labour Organization, such as trainings for commission members, which were held in Batumi on 22-23 September.</p> <p>On April 19, 2018, an extraordinary/ad hoc meeting of TSPC was held in order to discuss initiatives/suggestions concerning social benefits for miners and occupational safety in the mines. Decisions made by TSPC were as follows: the special working group will be set up in order to work on social benefits for miners and make relevant decisions. The group will consist of representatives of various institutions and experts of the sphere. Experts from the International Labour Organization (ILO) will be conducting independent audit on occupational safety in Coal Mine (named after Mindeli).</p> <p>Following the meeting of the Tripartite Social Partnership Commission (TSPC) held on April 19, 2018, the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia on behalf of TSPC addressed the International Labour Organization for conducting independent audit</p>

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						<p>in Coal Mine (named after Mindeli) in terms of occupational safety. International Labour Organization recommended four international organizations/companies with good reputation and relevant experience. Simultaneously, "DMT Group" expressed its willingness and readiness to conduct an audit.</p> <p>As the issue was of utmost importance, the meeting of the Tripartite Social Partnership Commission was called. The meeting was held on September 7, 2018 and "DMT Group" was jointly selected as the company that will conduct an independent audit in Coal Mine (named after Mindeli).</p>
<b>Transparency</b>						
<b>Association Agenda; 2.5 Trade and Trade-related Matters –</b> Preparing for the implementation of commitments on transparency in trade related policy-making and consideration of necessary mechanisms to be put in place in this regard.	Further development of web-portal on DCFTA	Increased public awareness on DCFTA	Constantly updated and functional web-page	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Authorities involved in DCFTA implementation process	<p>The webpage <a href="http://www.dcfta.gov.ge">www.dcfta.gov.ge</a> is being consistently updated, in particular: trade statistics were updated, draft legislative acts related to SPS and TBT were made public, enquires received from the interested persons through the contact email were answered, the information on the DCFTA-related meetings/seminars was posted on the integrated calendar of the website.</p> <p>In 2018, <a href="http://www.dcfta.gov.ge">www.dcfta.gov.ge</a> had more than 20 thousand visitors, which is 3 times higher than the previous year. Furthermore, the website was accessed from various countries, including: USA, Germany, France, Russia, China, India, Turkey and others.</p>
	Organizing DCFTA Advisory Group meetings	Promoting participation and raising awareness of NGOs, business community and	Number of meetings conducted	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		On October 4th, 2018, the 6th official meeting of the DCFTA Advisory Group was held. As mandated by the charter of the DCFTA Advisory Group, the members appointed a new Chairperson and a Deputy Chairperson, who

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		civil society in DCFTA implementation process				will lead the group for the duration of 1 year. During the meeting, adoption of the technical regulation on construction materials, in accordance with the obligations under the DCFTA, and a timeline of its entry into force were discussed and the work of DCFTA Info-Centers under the Georgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry was presented. Furthermore, members of the Advisory Group were informed about the activities conducted throughout 2018 and recent achievements within the framework of the DCFTA implementation.
	Thematic meetings with representatives of business, NGOs, local government, academics and other stakeholders on DCFTA related issues	Increased public awareness on DCFTA	Number of meetings conducted	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		<p>2 regional roundtable meetings dedicated to the DCFTA implementation (on 22 February in Racha, Ambrolauri Municipality and on 23 February in Kutaisi) were held within the framework of the Private Public Dialogue on the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA). The roundtable was organized by the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development and supported by the EU-funded project Facility for the Implementation of Association Agreement. Representatives of the Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia and 270 local entrepreneurs from various sectors including wine production, tourism bee keeping, warmhouse industry, lumber industry, fruit industry, wine production, tea industry industry, etc. participated in the roundtable.</p> <p>Representatives of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia are actively involved in meetings organized by the Office of</p>

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						<p>State Minister for Reconciliation and Civic Equality. In 2018, 4 meetings were held with the representatives of national minorities and the population living along the occupation line in order to share information on the DCFTA benefits, obligations and its implementation process. Meetings were also held in Marneuli, Akhalkalaki, Zugdidi, Kvemo Kartli region - Dmanisi and Gardabani; in Kakheti region - in village Kabbali of Lagodekhi municipality and in village Chantliskure of Kvareli municipality.</p> <p>On October 19 In Zugdidi, representative of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development participated in the regional meeting, supported by EU and Czech government and dedicated to DCFTA and its opportunities for sustainable regional development of Samegrelo Zemo-Svaneti Region. Representatives of local civil organizations, farmers and cooperatives attended the meeting.</p>
<b>DCFTA Coordination</b>						
Coordination of the DCFTA implementation	Organize meetings of the DCFTA implementation interagency working group	Improved coordination between DCFTA implementing government authorities and ensure effective and timely implementation of DCFTA obligations	Number of meetings conducted	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	Authorities involved in DCFTA implementation process	<p>On May 8, 2018, during its 57 meetings, the European Integration Commission of the Government of Georgia approved the final draft of the DCFTA AP for 2018-2020. Accordingly, a three-year action plan allows efficient planning and implementation of the DCFTA activities. Additionally, it allows for long-term planning of activities to be carried out by relevant agencies according to DCFTA obligations.</p> <p>On September 7, 2018, the 9th meeting of the DCFTA implementation interagency working group was held at the Ministry of Economy and</p>



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						<p>Sustainable Development. Within the framework of the meeting, members of the group discussed the implementation of the 2018 Action Plan of DCFTA and issues related to the DCFTA Ministerial scheduled for September 20, 2018 in Brussels. Representatives of all governmental agencies involved in the implementation of DCFTA attended the meeting.</p> <p>The 10th meeting of the DCFTA implementation interagency working group was held on December 4, 2018. Parties discussed the process of implementing 2018 DCFTA Action Plan, matters related to the preparation process of a meeting of the Association Committee in Trade Configuration in Brussels on 17-18 December 2018, and the state of formulating 2019 DCFTA Action Plan.</p>