

2024 Q3 Implementation of the EU-Georgia Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area Agreement (DCFTA)

Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
<b>Goal 1.</b>	Further improvement in the field of trade statistics				
<b>Objective 1.1</b>	Calculation of Foreign Trade Indices (Export-Import Unit Value Indices)				
1.1.1. Recalculation of the value of imported goods from CIF - free-frontier prices of the importing country to FOB - free-frontier prices of the exporting country.	Development of calculation methodology from CIF - free-frontier prices of the importing country to FOB - free-frontier prices of the exporting country	Statistical data about FOB-type value of imported goods are presented on the website: www.geostat.ge	National Statistics Office of Georgia	National Bank of Georgia	Research is currently underway to explore the international methodology and practices of assessing the value of imported goods based on FOB (Free on Board) prices.
<b>Goal 2.</b>	Promoting exports to the EU				
<b>Objective 2.1.</b>	Diversification of export products within the EU				
2.1.1 Promoting the participation of Georgian companies in international events, exhibitions and trade missions in EU countries	Number of exporting companies participating in international events, exhibitions and trade missions in EU countries  Number of international events, exhibitions and trade missions in EU countries	Annual Report of LEPL Enterprise Georgia Enterprisegeorgia.gov.ge	LEPL-Enterprise Georgia		In the nine months of 2024, with the support of agency, Georgian small and medium businesses participated in 8 international exhibitions and 1 showroom during the fashion week, in Germany, Italy, Spain and France. In total, during the nine months of 2024 the agency co-financed 65 cases of Georgian companies' participation in the above-mentioned events.
<b>Objective 2.2.</b>	Improving access to finance for small and medium-sized businesses				
2.2.1. Support of small and medium enterprises within the framework of loan/leasing interest co-financing program	Number of co-financed enterprises	Annual Report of LEPL Enterprise Georgia enterprisegeorgia.gov.ge	LEPL- Enterprise Georgia		As of three quarters of 2024, 473 loans/leases were approved for 429 enterprises within the universal program, with the total amount of GEL 370 mln. The projects entail investments of GEL 780 mln and plan to create more than 4,000 jobs.
<b>Objective 2.3.</b>	Development of small and medium business export opportunities				
2.3.1. Training of export managers of small and medium businesses	Number of certified export managers	Annual Report of LEPL Enterprise Georgia enterprisegeorgia.gov.ge	LEPL- Enterprise Georgia	Selected higher educational institution	As of the three quarters of 2024, two export manager certification courses were conducted in Tbilisi and Batumi. In total, 46 managers were trained.
2.3.2. Promoting the platform "Trade with Georgia" and increasing its usage	Number of companies registered on the platform	Annual Report of LEPL- Enterprise Georgia enterprisegeorgia.gov.ge	LEPL- Enterprise Georgia		As of the three quarters of 2024, up to 50 companies registered on Tradewithgeorgia platform
2.3.3. Implementation of technical assistance program for export promotion.	Number of supported export-oriented companies	Annual Report of LEPL Enterprise Georgia Enterprisegeorgia.gov.ge	LEPL- Enterprise Georgia		As of the three quarters of 2024, 19 companies were financed within the technical assistance program.
<b>Goal 3.</b>	Legislative and institutional approximation with relevant EU legislation and best practice in the field of technical barriers to trade				

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<b>Objective 3.1.</b>	Elaboration of legislation that Georgia has undertaken to approximate in accordance with Annex III-A to the Association Agreement				
3.1.1. Adoption of international and European standards, including harmonized standards of sectoral directives specified in Annex III-A of DCFTA, as Georgian standards	The number of European and/or International Standards adopted as Georgian standard	Decrees of the General Director of the Agency regarding adoption of standards;  Georgian standards electronic platform: <a href="http://www.sst.geostm.gov.ge">www.sst.geostm.gov.ge</a>	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)		As of three quarters of 2024 year, the Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM) has adopted 5,978 standards as Georgian standards (GES), among them: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GES ISO (International Standard) 225;</li> <li>GES EN (European Standard) 5,753.</li> </ul> <p>The work for further harmonization with European standards is underway.</p>
3.1.2. Elaboration of a technical regulations for approximation of legislation with the MID (Measuring Instruments Directive) and NAWI (Non-automatic weighing instruments) Directives.  Implementation of changes to the Code of Product Safety and Free Circulation to ensure compliance with Regulation 2012/1025 of the European Parliament and of the Council	Adopted technical regulations;  Amendment to the law	Legislative Herald of Georgia <a href="http://matsne.gov.ge">matsne.gov.ge</a>	Ministry of Economics and Sustainable Development of Georgia	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)	Draft legislative amendments necessary for the approximation with the Directives on non-automatic weighing instruments (NAWI) and on measuring instruments (MID) are prepared, an amendment was made to the Product Safety and Free Movement Code, according to which mentioned directives must be adopted until January 1, 2025.  In order to further approximate with the European Regulation (2012/1025) in the field of standardization, amendments were made to the Law of Georgia "On Amendments to the Product Safety and Free Movement Code" ( <a href="https://matsne.gov.ge">https://matsne.gov.ge</a> ) (document number: 4373-XV66-X03; publication date: 31/07/2024).
3.1.3 Amendment of Decree N476 of the Government of Georgia of October 1st, 2018 "Adopting the Technical Regulation on Construction Products"	Amendment of the Decree of the Government of Georgia	Legislative Herald of Georgia <a href="http://Matsne.gov.ge">Matsne.gov.ge</a>	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	LEPL-Market Surveillance Agency	According to the Resolution N106 of the Government of Georgia of March 28, 2024, an amendment was made to the "Technical Regulations on Construction Products" and 101 new construction products were covered.
3.1.4 Implementation of the amendments regarding product's safety and free circulation code to ensure compliance with European Parliament and EC regulations 2019/1020 and 2023/988	Amendment of Product's safety and free circulation code	Legislative Herald of Georgia <a href="http://Matsne.gov.ge">Matsne.gov.ge</a>	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	LEPL-Market Surveillance Agency	Within the Twinning Project 'Advancing the Capacities of the Market Surveillance Agency of Georgia', the draft amendment to the Law of Georgia on Product Safety and Free Movement Code was prepared. The first stage of amendments, addressing the liabilities of economic operators and updating existing penalties to ensure they are effective, proportionate, and dissuasive, was adopted by the Parliament of Georgia on July 28, 2024. This amendment complies with the provisions of the European Parliament and Council Regulations 2019/1020 and 2023/988.
3.1.5 Implementation of the amendments regarding product's safety and free circulation code to ensure compliance with European Parliament and EC regulations 765/2008	Amendment of Product's safety and free circulation code	Legislative Herald of Georgia <a href="http://Matsne.gov.ge">Matsne.gov.ge</a>	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	LEPL- Unified National Accreditation Body- accreditation center	In July, this year the amendments to the Georgian law on code on safety and free movement of products were conducted by the parliament of Georgia. In parallel to other amended parts, chapter 9 – accreditation, was also renewed. All principles derived from the EU regulation 765/2008 were reflected into the chapter. At the same time, terms used in accreditation were also revised according to the international standard iso/iec 17011.

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3.1.6 Preparation of technical regulations according to the Directive 2014/30/EU of the European Parliament and Council of 26 February 2014 on the harmonization of the laws of the Member States on electromagnetic compatibility	Adopted technical regulations	Legislative Herald of Georgia Matsne.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	LEPL-Market Surveillance Agency	Draft resolution of the Government of Georgia "On Approval of Technical Regulations on Electromagnetic Compatibility" has been prepared. After the consultations with relevant agencies, the draft regulation will be submitted to the Government of Georgia for approval.
3.1.7 Approximation of European Parliament and European Council of 5 April of 2017 Regulation 2017/745/EU regarding medical devices and European Parliament and Council Regulation 2017/746/EU of 5 April 2017 on in vitro diagnostic medical devices.	Implemented legislative acts after compliance	Legislative Herald of Georgia Matsne.gov.ge	Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Protection of IDPs from the occupied territories of Georgia		In order to approximate the aforementioned regulations 2017/745/EU and 2017/746/EU, the draft law of Georgia "On medical devices" has been prepared by the Ministry of IDPs from the occupied territories of Georgia, Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Protection.
<b>Objective 3.2.</b>	Institutional and infrastructural development necessary for technical regulation, standardization, metrology, accreditation, conformity assessment and market surveillance administration				
3.2.1. Continuation of the process of modernising the equipment of reference laboratories in order to provide improved services in priority areas	Increased number and range of services offered (Procurement of additional new equipment for reference divisions/labs in one direction)	Calibration certificates issued by the Agency Annual Report of the agency	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)		During the reporting period the following measuring instruments were purchased/delivered: a breathalyzer for the physic-chemical reference laboratory and a digital temperature calibrator for the temperature and humidity reference laboratory, sensors for the laboratory of geometric measurements.
3.2.2. Taking necessary measures to maintain and / or expand the international recognition of priority reference laboratories in metrology field	The number of agency recognised CMC entries calibration and measuring capabilities	BIPM database www.bipm.org	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)		<p>The number of internationally recognized calibration and measurement capability (CMC) records of the Agency is maintained at 65 records.</p> <p>In order to maintain international recognition, as well as to ensure the traceability of measurements, the metrology institute of the Agency has prepared calibration programs for references and measuring instruments for 2024. References/measuring instruments have been sent for calibration to the relevant organizations in Turkey, Germany, Czech Republic and Poland.</p> <p>Participation in EURAMET regional key comparisons in the field of temperature measurements began.</p> <p>During March 11-16, the representatives of the reference laboratory of temperature and humidity participated in the key comparison (Subsequent comparison) CCT-K9.3X-comparison (the instrument participating in the measurements SPRT). They also attended the process</p>

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3.2.3. Implementation of Quality Management System (QMS) in Standards Department of GEOSTM according to ISO 9001:2015.	GEOSTM's standards department implemented QMS in accordance to ISO 9001:2015	<p>Pre-audit in report for ISO 9001:2015 quality management system certification in Standards Department by European experts and/or certification body</p> <p>A certificate of conformity has been issued by an authorized accredited person</p>	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)		<p>of the first measurements of the thermometer at the Spanish Metrology Center and reviewed the details of the comparison.</p> <p>Preliminary assessment audit ("Pre-audit") was conducted certification body selected in framework "Twinning Project", during which auditors assessed on-site documents, procedures, and existing practices developed by the Standards Department, considering the requirements of the ISO 9001:2015. In framework of pre-audit results, the progress achieved by the department was emphasized, and recommendations were made for further system improvement.</p> <p>On May 21, 28 and 29 of this year, the standards department National Agency of Standards and Metrology of Georgia was visited by international experts with the support of the EU "Twinning" project, within the framework of which the standards department successfully passed the audit and completed the certification procedure of the standards department of the European standard GES EN ISO, which has been adopted as a standard of Georgia. 9001:2015 "Quality Management Systems - Requirements" accordingly. On July 5 of this year, it received the (EN ISO 9001:2015) certificate of conformity.</p>
3.2.4. Continuation of preparatory works for introducing the new services in the field of metrology in accordance with ISO 17034: 2016 reference materials	Documents and procedures required for the implementation of the Quality Management System in accordance with the international standard ISO 17034: 2016 are prepared	Annual report of LEPL GEOSTM	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)		<p>On January 21st-26th and March 4th-7th of this year, within the framework of the TWINNING project, trainings were held for the representatives of the physicochemical laboratory of the Institute of Metrology in accordance with the requirements of the ISO 17034:2016 standard "Preparation and stabilization of standard samples on homogeneity".</p> <p>On May 3-15, a training was held for the representatives of the Physical Chemistry Reference Division within the framework of the twinning project - discussion of the procedures for the production of standard samples of the specific electrolytic conductivity of electrolyte solutions in accordance with the ISO 17034 standard.</p> <p>On April 15-19, an external audit was conducted in accordance with the ISO 17034 standard, and on June 11-13, within the framework of the twinning project, trainings were held for the representatives of the metrology institute "Organization and management of comparisons between metrology institutes and laboratories according to the requirements of the ISO 17043 standard".</p> <p>On July 16 – 18, an external audit was conducted in physic-chemical reference laboratory by a twinning expert on the production of standard samples of specific electrolytic conductivity of electrolyte solutions according to ISO 17034, which was successfully completed.</p>

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<p>3.2.5.Continuation of activities to obtain GEOSTM's full membership in European Regional Metrology Organization EURAMET</p>	<p>GEOSTM is a member of the EURAMET;  The selected priority laboratories of the Agency have passed the peer review by EURAMET experts</p>	<p>Information on EURAMET web-page</p>	<p>LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)</p>		<p>In order to maintain/expand international recognition, on March 12th-14th, 2024, in the framework of the TWINING project EURAMET experts conducted a so-called peer review in accordance with the requirements of the ISO/IEC 17025:2017 standard in the following areas of measurements: length, pressure, dosimetry. The assessment was successful. Accordingly, the number of recognized records of the Institute of Metrology of the Agency is 65 CMC records.</p> <p>On June 4-6, 2024, the general assembly of EURAMET was held, with the full support of the members of the mentioned organization, the agency was granted the status of a full member. At the General Assembly, the representative of the Agency made a report on the activities of the Institute of Metrology of the Agency.</p> <p>The representatives of the reference departments of the Metrology Institute of the Agency are actively involved and participate in the activities of the technical committees of EURAMET.</p> <p>On March 14, the representative of the electrical reference department participated in online training organized by EURAMET "Uncertainty of Measurements: Best Practices in Training and New Tools - Digital, Software, Mathematical, Ideas and News for Future Development".</p> <p>On March 19-22, the Quality Manager of the Metrology Institute of the Agency attended in the working meeting of the EURAMET Quality Committee (Delft, the Netherlands).</p> <p>On April 16-18, the representatives of the Temperature and Humidity Reference Division participated in the working meeting of the technical committee (TC-T) of EURAMET, in Poland. in Wroclaw.</p> <p>On 22.04 – 25.04, representatives of the Mass and Mass-Related Quantities reference division participated in the EURAMET Technical Committee Meeting (TC-Flow - Technical Committee Flow), which was held in Finland.</p> <p>On 13-15, 2024 The representative of the reference division of electricity participated in the meeting of the subcommittee of EURAMET TCEM SC Power and energy - "Electricity and magnetism" technical committee, which was held in Delft.</p> <p>The representative of the radiophysics, optics and acoustics reference division participated online in the working meeting of the acoustics technical committee held within EURAMET.</p> <p>On May 28, representatives of the Institute of Metrology participated in the online seminar held within the framework of EURAMET - NORDTEST Approach for the Evaluation of the Measurement Uncertainty -Using of Mukit Software.</p>

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					<p>On June 6, 2024, representatives of the radiation metrology reference division participated in the EURAMET and EMN seminar for clean energy - the seminar "Metrology for Energy Regulation".</p>
<p>3.2.6. Update/improve the existing status of Georgian National Agency For Standards And Metrology (GEOSTM) in European Standardization Organizations CEN/CENELEC and implementation of respective activities</p>	<p>Further increase the rate of harmonization with European standards to at least 80%</p>	<p>CEN/CENELEC report</p>	<p>LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)</p>		<p>According to the three quarters of 2024, the harmonization rate of Georgian standards with European standards (EN) is 79, 36%. This indicator, based on European standards organizations, is presented in the following form: CEN -73%, CENELEC – 92, 94%.</p>
<p>3.2.7 Implementation of the system of notification of accredited conformity assessment bodies</p>	<p>Prepared/approved action plan for accredited conformity assessment bodies</p>	<p>annual report of the accreditation center; <a href="http://www.gac.gov.ge">www.gac.gov.ge</a></p>	<p>LEPL - Georgian National accreditation body – Accreditation Centre</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p>	<p>An informative workshop related to the notification process of the accredited conformity assessment bodies and the existing system within the European Union was conducted at the accreditation center. The discussion, led by invited experts, highlighted the significant role of accreditation in the notification process. The gathering was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, the Ministry of Labor, Health and Social affair, the National Center for Disease Control and Public Health, and the Market Surveillance Agency.</p>
<p>3.2.8 Placing the combined symbol confirming international and European recognition on documents issued by accredited conformity assessment bodies in Georgia</p>	<p>Placed combined symbols on documents or certificates issued by accredited conformity assessment</p>	<p>annual report of the accreditation center; <a href="http://www.gac.gov.ge">www.gac.gov.ge</a></p>	<p>LEPL - Georgian National accreditation body – Accreditation Centre</p>		<p>Based on the granted full membership status of the international accreditation organizations (ILAC and IAF ), Georgian Accreditation Center has developed a Policy Document on the Use of the Accreditation Center’s Logo, Combined Logo, Accreditation Symbol, Combined Symbol and Text Reference to Accreditation Status (PL-09). The Centre has also amended and updated the rules and procedures of the accreditation center (1.1.2020 and 1.9.2020). Accredited organizations have been notified about the changes through meetings. They are currently in the process of updating their quality documentation to comply with the new requirements. Once the updates are complete, they will be authorized to use the new combined symbol on their documents. According to the data of the 3quarters of 2024, approval was obtained more than 90% of the accredited bodies. The process is expected to be finished by the end of this year.</p>
<p><b>Objective 3.3.</b></p>	<p>Facilitate the training and adaptation of stakeholders, including economic operators for the implementation of related legislation</p>				

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3.3.1. Organize meetings / seminars for interested parties, including small and medium entrepreneurs	Meetings held / Number of seminars;	DCFTA Implementation Report  www.DCFTA.gov.ge	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM); LEPL - Georgian National accreditation body – Accreditation Centre; LEPL-Market Surveillance Agency	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On February 2nd, 2024, within the framework of the project "Quality standards for increased trade in Eastern Partnership countries" funded by PTB, a seminar was held in the agency: determination of the demand of interested parties in the field of metrology in Georgia and ways to meet this demand. The mentioned meeting was conducted by an expert of PTB, representatives of reference laboratories of the Metrology Institute of the Agency and also representatives from various accredited laboratories took part.</li> <li>from 19th – to 23th of February - within the framework of the Twinning project, a training was held for the representatives of the Institute of Metrology of the Agency and interested parties on "European Directive 2014/32/EU measuring instruments" and discussed the issues on emission analyzers and OIML recommendation R99:2008 recommendations for measuring vehicle emissions.</li> <li>On 28th of February, 2024, the Georgian National Agency of Standards and Metrology, together with the "Twinning Project" expert, held a working meeting "Quality infrastructure as the best tool in public procurement in accordance with the best practices of the European Union" in the State Procurement Agency, the meeting was attended by up to 30 participants from various organizations involved in state procurement.</li> <li>The representative of the Standards Department of the Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology participated in the "Strengthening of Quality Infrastructure Services for Added Value, Productivity and Innovation" conference held by the German Institute of Metrology (PTB) at the Ginger Hotel on March 7th.</li> <li>On January 25, 30 and June 6, the Standards Department of the Georgian National Agency of Standards and Metrology, in coordination with the Construction Department of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, held a meeting of the members of the "Eurocodes" working group of the Standardization Technical Committee (TC 5) with the experts invited by the Joint Research Center (JRC) of the European Commission. During the meeting with the experts, the procedures for developing seismic and climatic maps were discussed. In order to further promote the mentioned process, it was planned to organize a conference and/or workshops involving JRC experts in Tbilisi.</li> <li>On 29th of March, the awareness raising meeting with stakeholders on the European Directive (NAWI) on Non-Automatic Weighing Instruments was organized in the Agency.</li> <li>On April 26-28, 2024, representatives of the Georgian National Agency of Standards and Metrology participated in the panel discussion "Quality Infrastructure of Construction Materials" held within the Real Estate Week. In the framework of the said exhibition, individual instruments of the agency's metrology institute and informational material about the activities of the standards department were also presented, interested persons had the opportunity to receive information about the agency's activities directly from the agency's representatives.</li> </ul>

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On June 20, 2024, the closing conference of the twinning project funded by the European Union, " Strengthening of institutional as well as human capacities of Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM) according to the international EU/best practices" was held, at which was attended the representatives of public and private structures together with project experts. During the event, the attendees were provided with information about the planned and achieved results within the project, also about the future plans.</li> <li>On August 16, an awareness-raising meeting with stakeholders on the European Directive (MID) on measuring instruments was held in the GEOSTM.</li> <li>During the real estate week at Expo Georgia, Giorgi Chitadze, Deputy General Director of the Accreditation Center, took part in a panel discussion on "Quality Infrastructure for Construction Materials." This provided attendees with valuable information about quality infrastructure and its regulatory mechanisms.</li> <li>On June 27, 2024, in Tbilisi, in the "Ginger" hotel, an informative seminar for laboratories was organized by the German Institute of Metrology (PTB) and was held with the participation of the supervision agency, which was attended by the German Institute of Metrology (PTB), the Association of Georgian Laboratories (GeLab), and representatives of the Georgian Construction Materials Cluster (GCMC) and laboratories operating in Georgia.</li> <li>The next meeting of the National Accreditation Council was held at the Accreditation Center. During the meeting, the members of the Council were informed about the changes implemented in the organization and future plans. The meeting was attended by representatives of various state agencies, business associations and associations of conformity assessment organizations.</li> </ul>
<p>3.3.2. Organize trainings for accredited conformity assessment bodies in the fields of standards related to their activities.</p>	<p>Meetings held / Number of seminars;</p>	<p>Annual Report of Accreditation Centre <a href="http://www.gac.gov.ge">www.gac.gov.ge</a></p>	<p>LEPL - Georgian National accreditation body – Accreditation Centre</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p>	<p>The following trainings were held in the first quarter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ISO/IEC 17025:2017/2018 - General requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories</li> <li>ISO 15189:2012/2015 - Medical laboratories -Requirements for quality and competence.</li> <li>ISO17020: 2012/2013 - conformity assessment - requirements for the different types of inspection bodies</li> </ul> <p>A total of 135 participants attended the mentioned trainings</p>
<p>3.3.3. Raising awareness about accreditation rules, procedures and accreditation system among representatives of</p>	<p>Number of organized trainings and number of attended representatives of the executive, legislative and judicial bodies on trainings.</p>	<p>Annual Report of Accreditation Centre <a href="http://www.gac.gov.ge">www.gac.gov.ge</a></p>	<p>LEPL - Georgian National accreditation body – Accreditation Centre</p>	<p>Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia</p>	<p>The implementation of the action is planned until the end of the fourth quarter, at this stage working process is ongoing with donors to organize events.</p>



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the executive, legislative and judicial bodies					
3.3.4 Informative meetings to familiarize economic operators with the requirements of the RED directive	Number of organized trainings and number of representatives of executive, legislative and judicial bodies	DCFTA Implementation Report www.DCFTA.gov.ge	LEPL Market Surveillance agency		One information meeting was held with the relevant economic operators in order to familiarize them with the requirements of the technical regulation on radio equipment, which was attended by representatives of 26 economic operators.
3.3.5 Informative meetings to familiarize economic operators with the requirements of the technical regulations on Energy labelling	Meetings held / Number of seminars	DCFTA Implementation Report www.DCFTA.gov.ge	LEPL Market Surveillance agency		The mentioned activity is planned to be implemented after the approval of the relevant technical regulations by the Government of Georgia
3.3.6 informative meetings to familiarize economic operators with the requirements of the technical regulation on construction products	Meetings held / Number of seminars	DCFTA Implementation Report www.DCFTA.gov.ge	LEPL Market Surveillance agency		3 meetings were held with manufacturers, distributors and manufacturers of construction products regarding the new regulations, which were attended by representatives of 70 economic operators.
<b>Objective 3.4.</b>	<b>Capacity building of the relevant state institutions</b>				
3.4.1. Raising qualifications of the staff in the field of standardization and metrology and raising awareness for the representatives of public sector in the field of standardisation and metrology.	Number of seminars/ trainings conducted	Annual report of the agency; www.geostm.ge	LEPL – Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology (GEOSTM)		<p>On July 16-18, 2024, a representative of the GEOSTM Standards Department participated in the workshop held by WTO-JVI "ADVANCED REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE AGREEMENT FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE, CENTRAL ASIA AND CAUCASUS (CEECAC) COUNTRIES" held in Vienna.</p> <p>25.08 – 05.09 The representative of the Institute of Metrology participated in the IMEKO conference held on 25.08 – 05.09 and in the working meeting of the CABUREK project in PTB,</p> <p>During the third quarter of 2024 within the framework of the "twinning project", the following trainings/seminars were held for the employees of the Standards Department and the Metrology Institute.</p> <p>Standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• February 17, March 5-6, development and implementation of quality management documents (EN ISO 9001:2015);</li> <li>• February 27-28, general principles and methods of database related to terminology;</li> <li>• March 25-27, internal audit of the quality management system (EN ISO 9001:2015).</li> <li>• On June 4 and 13, representatives of the Standards Department participated in the workshop "Eastern Partnership Standardization Forum on Translation of Standards in the adoption process" organized by PTB; Workshop Professional development opportunity: Writing</li> </ul>

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					<p>and using Policy Briefs".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On July 8-12, the study visit of the agency's representatives was conducted to the Italian Standards Body (UNI).</li> <li>On July 18, a representative of the Department of Standards participated in the conference "Development of skills in heavy industry", which was implemented within the framework of the "Employers for Professional Development" program of the USID, a joint grant project of the European Business Association and LTD "Basalt Fibers", at the "Courtyard Marriott" hotel.</li> <li>On September 23-25 representatives of the National Agency for Standards and Metrology participated in the events organized by PTB: "Customer-oriented services - in the field of quality infrastructure" (September 23, 2024); "Standardization Forum" (September 24), metrology forum (September 25), apart from Georgia, representatives of the relevant fields from Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries was participated.</li> </ul> <p>Metrology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On 29th of January, a training session was held at the Georgian National Accreditation body – Accreditation Centre on ISO/IEC 17025:2017 general requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories, the representative of the electrical reference laboratory of the Institute of Metrology participated.</li> <li>from 22th to 26th January, within the framework of the project funded by PTB of the German side, the representatives of the Institute of Metrology of the Agency, the reference laboratory of temperature and humidity were given theoretical and practical training on the calibration of SPRT (in the mercury-gallium reference point sub-range).</li> <li>05-09 February training in small volume. The mentioned training was supported by the German side- PTB. Representatives of metrology institutes of Azerbaijan, Moldova, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan took part in the training together with the representatives of the agency.</li> <li>February 27-29 representatives of Metrology Institute participated in the workshop on the adoption and further development of digital calibration certificates (DCC).</li> <li>March 19-21 for the representatives of the reference laboratory of radiophysics, optics and acoustics of the Metrology Institute, within the framework of the Twinning project, training was carried out on issues related to the calibration of noise meters in accordance with the requirements of the ISO 61672-3 and ISO 61672-1 standards. Opportunities to participate in international comparisons were discussed.</li> <li>March 25-28 for representatives of the pressure laboratory of the Agency within the framework of the Twinning project a training was held on the development of the updated calibration procedure for the pressure balance.</li> </ul>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On May 5-11, 2024, within the framework of the twinning project, representatives of the Institute of Metrology of the Agency had a study visit to the electrical measurement laboratories of the Institute of Metrology of Italy.</li> <li>• On May 20-23, 2024, within the twinning project, an expert from the Italian Institute of Metrology (INRIM) visited the laboratory of vibration measurements of the Mechanics Reference Division in order to evaluate the possibilities of international recognition of the laboratory, and also conducted a training seminar for the employees of the division on the main issues of vibration laboratory work.</li> <li>• June 3-7 and 24, 2024 In the framework of the PTB project "Quality standards for increased trade in the Eastern Partnership countries", conducted online meetings on the development of the state national references for power and energy, automation of measurements and conducting international comparisons in the BIPM KCDB database of the reference division of electrical measurements in the CMC- In order to add new lines - the representatives of the Institute of Metrology of the Agency were participated.</li> <li>• On July 7, 2024, the representative of the reference division of radiation division participated in the online webinar - BIPM-CCRI WEBINAR "Metrology in support of the comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty."</li> <li>• On July 23, a PTB expert conducted a training for representatives of the Institute of Metrology "Uncertainty, Application for Compliance".</li> <li>• On August 14, 2024, a representative of the Radiation Reference division participated in the NCSLI -Instruments and Advances in Surface Measurement -Building a Quality Culture in Your Calibration Lab/Lab Manager Statistics- online webinar.</li> <li>• On August 28, 2024, the representative of the radiation reference division participated in the online webinar of the National Conference of Standards Laboratories.</li> <li>• On September 9, PTB experts conducted a training for the representatives of the Institute of Metrology on decision-making rules and compliance statements.</li> <li>• On September 26, PTB-experts conducted a training on "Implementation of internal audit" for the representatives of the Institute of Metrology.</li> <li>• On September 23-27, a representative of the Institute of Metrology was on a study visit at the Institute of Metrology of Greece - topic SPRT calibration at fixed points for the range from the triple point of water to the fixed point of zinc.</li> </ul>
<p>3.4.2 Raising qualifications of the staff in the field of euro regulations and directives, also in terms of best practice of EU countries</p>	<p>Number of seminars/trainings conducted; The number of trained inspectors; The number of conducted study visits and pilot studies</p>	<p>DCFTA Implementation Report <a href="http://www.DCFTA.gov.ge">www.DCFTA.gov.ge</a></p>	<p>LEPL Market Surveillance agency</p>		<p>Agency employees took part in trainings organized with the support of the European Union-funded twinning project (strengthening the capacities of the market surveillance agency in Georgia) (8 trainings in total):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To share the best European practices regarding the planning of supervisory measures and risk analysis;</li> <li>• About technical regulations about radio devices;</li> </ul>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regarding Regulation 2019/1020 of the European Parliament and Council;</li> <li>• On Regulation 2023/988 of the European Parliament and Council;</li> <li>• Regarding technical regulations on electromagnetic compatibility;</li> <li>• To share best European practices on non-laboratory technical testing</li> <li>• On the IT supervision of market surveillance.</li> </ul>
3.4.3. Improving the qualification of accreditation center employees	The number of trainings conducted with the participation of accreditation center employees, the number of retrained employees	Annual Report of the agency;  www.gac.gov.ge	LEPL - Georgian National accreditation body – Accreditation Center		<p>In the first quarter of this year, the employees of the accreditation center participated in the following trainings and workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training for trainers on the updated standard ISO/IEC 17043:2023 Conformity assessment - general requirements for the competence of proficiency testing providers, organized by European Accreditation Cooperation (EA)</li> <li>• Training organized by the European Laboratory Association (Eurachem) on determination of uncertainty and metrological traceability in the testing and medical field.</li> <li>• ISO 15189:2022 Medical Laboratories - Requirements for Quality and Competence organized by the German national Metrology Agency (PTB); Training organized by the German national Metrology Agency (PTB) on the rules and regulatory framework for the production of organic products.</li> <li>• Within the framework of the PTB project, training was conducted on the topic: accreditation and regulatory framework of organic product certification bodies;</li> <li>• The representative of the French Accreditation Authority(COFRAC) conducted a training on the changes made in the ISO15189:2022 standard.</li> <li>• An informative meeting on use of flexible scope by accredited organisations, organized by the German Metrology Agency (PTB).</li> <li>• Workshop on the role of the accredited conformity assessment bodies in Geographical Indications and rules of origins process. The goal of the conducted workshop/seminar was to rise awareness of the accreditation center`s staff related to the participation of accredited conformity assessment bodies` in the certification of protected products under these statuses, in particular Swiss system was learned.</li> <li>• European Accreditation Cooperation (EA) Committees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Horizontal Harmonization Committee (HHC)</li> <li>- Laboratory Committee (LC)</li> <li>- Certification Committee (CC)</li> <li>- Inspection Committee (IC)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Objective 3.5.</b>	<b>Enforcement of the market surveillance in accordance with DCFTA obligations</b>				
3.5.1. Conducting the market surveillance in the supervisory areas of agency based on risk analysis by	The number of conducted checks (documentary and Technical ones)	DCFTA Implementation Report www.DCFTA.gov.ge	LEPL Market Surveillance agency		<p>In the first quarter 2024, the following market surveillance procedures has been carried out by the MSA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 208 construction products placed on the market were inspected;</li> <li>• Recommendation was made for 99 construction products placed on the market.</li> </ul>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
theLEPL Market Surveillance Agency					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17 paints products placed on the market were inspected;</li> <li>• 1 pressure equipment product placed on the market were inspected;</li> <li>• Recommendation was made for 5142 electric appliances placed on the market.</li> <li>• Recommendation was made for 3028 radio equipment placed on the market.</li> <li>• 131 toys placed on the market were inspected;</li> <li>• 47 appliances burning gaseous fuel placed on the market were inspected;</li> <li>• 19 personal protective equipment placed on the market were inspected;</li> <li>• 65 Ordinances issued on the restrictive measures were verified.</li> <li>• Samples of 50 construction products were sent to the appropriate accredited laboratory.</li> <li>• Samples of 122 toys and 6 sample of PPE were sent to the appropriate accredited laboratory.</li> </ul> <p>In the first quarter 2024, the following prior notices of import has been checked by the MSA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prior notices of import of 11360 construction products;</li> <li>• Prior notices of import of 3290 Machinery;</li> <li>• Prior notices of import of 2535 toys;</li> <li>• Prior notices of import of 985 personal protective equipment;</li> <li>• Prior notices of import of 1782 appliances burning gaseous fuel.</li> </ul>
<b>Goal 4.</b>	Promoting trade in products subject to sanitary and phytosanitary measures and protecting the life or health of humans, animals and plants				
<b>Objective 4.1.</b>	Improvement of sanitary and phytosanitary, animal welfare and other legislative measures				

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
4.1.1. Approximation of Georgia's legislation to the relevant EU legal acts in accordance with Annex XI-B of the Association Agreement	Georgia's legislation is approximated to 15 EU legal acts, referred to in Annex XI-B;	Annual report on the implementation of the action plan for the implementation of the DCFTA; dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	LEPL National Food Agency	<p>Following Government Decrees were approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decree of Government of Georgia N196 of 16th of June 2024 "on Approval of Business operators producing sprouts"</li> <li>Decree of Government of Georgia N216 of 3th of July, 2024 "on derogation of some rules regarding transport of liquid oils and fats by sea"</li> <li>Decree of Government of Georgia N227 of 11th of July 2024 on "establishing a list of permitted health claims made on foods, other than those referring to the reduction of disease risk and to children's development and health"</li> <li>Decree of Government of Georgia N223 of 10th of July, 2024 "on maximum levels for the presence of coccidiostats or histomonostats in food resulting from the unavoidable carry-over of these substances in non-target feed".</li> <li>Decree of Government of Georgia N124 of 3th of April 2024 "on Technical regulation - relating to materials and articles made of regenerated cellulose film intended to come into contact with foodstuffs".</li> <li>Decree of Government of Georgia N191 of 13th of June, 2024 "On amending Decree N587 of December 23, 2022 of Government of Georgia on Approval of the rules for conducting tests on the Distinctness, Uniformity, and stability of new breeds of Animals and/or Plants"</li> <li>Decree of the Government of Georgia N190 of 13th of June, 2024 on traceability requirements for sprouts and seeds intended for the production of sprouts.</li> </ul> <p>Following Government Decrees were elaborated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"On the approval of the rules of Veterinary medicine"</li> </ul> <p>"Rules for the state control and other official activities in the fields of food and feed safety, veterinary and phytosanitary."</p>
<b>Objective 4.2.</b>	Raising awareness of consumers and rights holders in business circles and civil society				
4.2.1. Increasing the awareness of the interested parties about the Georgian legislation approximated to the EU legislation, and supporting entrepreneurs in adapting to the new requirements.	Number of conducted trainings, informational meetings and other events	Annual report on the implementation of the action plan for the implementation of the DCFTA; dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	LEPL National Food Agency	<p>In 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On January 23-25, at the head office of the National Food Agency, a working meeting was held, at which the resolution #584 of the Government of Georgia, "on the approval of the technical regulation - impact of animal health on the trade in cattle and pigs in the country", was discussed. With the help of the international organization Land O'Lakes Venture37 (USDA Food for Progress SQIL), a multi-year strategy for the control and eradication of bovine tuberculosis was developed. The meeting was attended by 8 specialists of the Animal Infectious Diseases Supervision Division.</li> <li>27.02.2024 - Kutaisi - an informational meeting was held with business operators, the resolution of the Government of Georgia No. 581 of November 10, 2015 "On the approval of the technical regulation on microbiological indicators of food" (9 business operators attended).</li> </ul>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 29.02.2024 - Tbilisi - an informational meeting was held with business operators, the resolution No. 581 of the Government of Georgia of November 10, 2015 "On the approval of the technical regulation on microbiological indicators of food" (11 business operators attended).</li> <li>• In February, information meetings were held with business operators (representatives of the Poultry Association) regarding the development of the state salmonellosis control program defined by the technical regulations regarding the "rules for the control of salmonella and other zoonotic agents" approved by the Resolution No. 172 of the Government of Georgia of March 13, 2020, the meeting was attended by 5 business operators.</li> <li>• 01.03.2024 - Tbilisi - informational meeting with business operators, Resolution No. 581 of the Government of Georgia of November 10, 2015 "On the approval of the technical regulation on microbiological indicators of food" (7 business operators attended).</li> <li>• 29.03.2024 - Meetings were held with 25 business operators producing nuts in connection with the implementation of the recommendations issued by the EU audit.</li> <li>• Three meetings were held: with 27 business operators of poultry slaughterhouses and veterinarians of poultry slaughterhouses in all regions of the country, about the need to carry out research on the microbiological indicator - Campylobacter;</li> <li>• May-June, an information meeting was held for business operators involved in the Horeca sector, to raise awareness of the newly approved regulations in the field of food safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Borjomi - 70 business operators and 12 authorized persons of the agency attended</li> <li>- Stepantsminda - 48 business operators and 13 authorized persons of the agency attended</li> <li>- Telavi - 82 business operators and 20 authorized persons of the agency attended</li> </ul> </li> <li>• May-June, working meetings, Resolution No. 59 of the Government of Georgia - "Technical Regulation - on the approval of the content of undesirable substances in animal feed" Compliance with the conditions of storage and transportation of animal feed, in order to avoid contamination of feed with aflatoxin. Meetings were held: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 17-18 - Kakheti - 30 stakeholders attended</li> <li>- May 24 - Shida Kartli - 27 stakeholders attended</li> <li>- May 25 - Tbilisi - 14 stakeholders attended</li> <li>- June 10 - Adjara - 7 stakeholders attended</li> <li>- June 23 - Imereti - 31 stakeholders attended</li> </ul> </li> <li>• On June 4-6, in Kvareli, within the framework of ENPARD IV, a working meeting was held regarding "Rules for state control and other official activities in the fields of food/animal feed safety, veterinary and plant protection". During the workshop, changes were made in the second working version of the draft resolution. The meeting was attended by 20 authorized persons of NFA and Revenue Service.</li> <li>• On July 9-11, four trainings were held in the LEPL National Food</li> </ul>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
					<p>Agency. In particular, on the following topics: 1. "The requirements for materials and objects intended for contact with foodstuff" Resolution N317 of the Government of Georgia of June 5, 2018. 2. Regarding the approval of the technical regulation - on the restriction of the use of some derivatives of epoxy resins in materials and products intended for contact with food (Resolution N525 of the Government of Georgia dated November 3, 2021). 34 business operators attended the training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On July 30-31 and August 1-2 in Adjara, within the framework of ENPARD IV, a working meeting was held with business operators involved in the Horeca sector to raise awareness about the newly approved regulations in the field of food safety. The meeting was attended by 136 business operators (Organized by the CzDA).</li> <li>• On August 26-27, 2024, in Samegrelo, the NFA organized working meetings with the farmers involved in the nuts industry on the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Control of aflatoxin contamination in nuts intended for export from Georgia;</li> <li>- Amendments to the "Technical Regulation on Hazelnuts" approved by the Decree №185 of the Government of Georgia on April 18, 2016;</li> <li>- Requirements for the prevention and reduction of aflatoxins in tree nuts</li> <li>- Interpretation of the results of the laboratory tests on aflatoxins of tree nuts and actions taken. 44 business operators attended the meeting.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• On September 2-6 in Mtskheta and Gori within the framework of ENPARD IV, working meetings were held with the business operators involved in the Horeca sector and meat producers to raise awareness. The meeting was attended by 80 business operators (organized by the FAO).</li> <li>• On September 11-12 in Anaklia, within the framework of ENPARD IV, working meetings were held with the business operators involved in the Horeca sector to raise awareness. The meetings were attended by approximately 50 business operators (Organized by the FAO).</li> <li>• Individual consultations and information meetings on Pesticides and Agrochemical products were held with more than 30 business operators in July and August regarding the new rules for placing pesticides and agrochemicals on the market.</li> </ul>
<b>Objective 4.3.</b>	<b>Strengthen the capacity and skills of the competent bodies</b>				
4.3.1. Training of sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary border control specialists;	Number of conducted trainings and Participating specialists;	Annual Report of the Revenue Service www.rs.ge	Revenue Service	LEPL National Food Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 26 March - online meeting with representative from FDA (Food and Drug Administration, USA), regarding Predictive Risk-based Evaluation for Dynamic Import Compliance Targeting. 40 participants</li> <li>• Planning of trainings in frame of ENPARD IV program "support to</li> </ul>



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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
Development of the manual on a specific procedural issue	Adopted procedural manual				<p>the Food Safety and Sanitary and Phytosanitary System (SPS) in Georgia”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On 5-7 of June with the support of DG SANTE and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) training on “TRACES” system EU - online system for veterinary, phytosanitary and food safety control, was conducted in the academy of ministry of finance of Georgia. 22 participants from RS. In July and September - 01.07 - 05.07 / 09.09 - 14.09, 3 employees of the NFA attended the training course: "Calibration, inspection and certification of pesticide spraying units used in agriculture in accordance with 2019/128 /EC Directive" in the Kingdom of Netherlands and France. This was organized by the European Union within the framework of Better Training for Safer Food (BTSF).</li> <li>On September 17 - 23, In Brno, Prague and Olomouc, Czech Republic, 9 specialists of the LEPL National Food Agency were trained as part of ENPARD IV "Food Safety and SPS Sector Support in Georgia" (GCP/GEO/022/EC) within the framework of the project, regarding introduction of sampling methods for control/monitoring/testing of contaminants in food/animal feed and PPPs (pesticides) residues in food/animal feed. The training was sponsored by the Embassy of Sweden, the Czech Development Agency (CzDA) and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UN FAO).</li> <li>On July 21 - 26 in Czech Republic, 7 specialists of the NFA attended training on the topic of "Certification of professional users of plant protection products, calibration, inspection, certification of pesticide spraying units used in agriculture; Control of business operators regarding the use of pesticides and the spread of plant quarantine pests.”</li> </ul>
4.3.2. Training of employees of the relevant competent authority in legal drafting and implementation	Number of conducted trainings and other events	Annual report on the implementation of the DCFTA National Action Plan <a href="http://dcfta.gov.ge">dcfta.gov.ge</a>	The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture	LEPL National Food Agency; LEPL – State Laboratory of Agriculture;  LEPL- Revenue Service	<p>Specialists of LEPL – State Laboratory of Agriculture attended the following trainings: “Interpretation and familiarization of ISO 17025:2017/2018 standard, review of general principles.“</p> <p>Specialists of LEPL – State Laboratory of Agriculture attended the following training: “Internal Audit for Testing Laboratories.”</p> <p>Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) conducted a training on the following diseases: Mycoplasma agalactiae and Mycoplasma capricolum.</p> <p>Training on Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) was conducted - to use a new non-commercial ELISA diagnostic kit to detect the antibodies against the disease.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In January 2024, a training organized by BTSF took place in Italy: “Animal Health Law - Aquatic animals”, 1 employee of the National</li> </ul>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
					<p>Food Agency was participated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In January 2024, in Spain, a practical training organized by BTSF was held on the topic “Sheep and Goat Pox”, 1 employee of the National Food Agency participated.</li> <li>• In January 2024, in Italy, a practical training organized by BTSF was held on the topic “Inspection and Calibration of Plant Protection Product”, 2 employees of the National Food Agency participated.</li> <li>• In June 2024, 4 employees of the NFA attended the training organized by the BTSF in Turkey on the topic: Prevention and control of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in the context of an overall 'One Health' approach.</li> <li>• In September 2024, a training was held in Czech Republic on the topic of: “Quality management system in the direction of veterinary control on the example of the Czech State Veterinary Administration.”4 employees of the National Food Agency attended the training, organized by the ENPARD IV program of the European Neighborhood Program for Agriculture and Rural Development.</li> </ul> <p>In the LEPL National Food Agency in the first quarter of 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 internal trainings were held on the topic - "State control mechanism - risk analysis and audit of critical control points (history, standard operating procedure, review of the audit act (attended by 47 authorized persons).</li> <li>• 2 external training sessions were held on the topic - "Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points Audit Implementation Techniques for Raw Milk Thermal Processing Enterprises" (25 authorized persons attended).</li> <li>• 3 internal information meetings were held, the resolution No. 581 of the Government of Georgia dated November 10, 2015 "On the approval of the technical regulation on microbiological indicators of food" (attended by 33 veterinarians and 69 authorized persons hired at the slaughterhouse).</li> <li>• Three meetings were held: with 33 veterinarians of poultry slaughterhouses, about the need to carry out research on the microbiological indicator - Campylobacter; 69 with the inspector of the region on the control of the fulfillment of the obligation of campylobacter research by the business operator of the poultry slaughterhouse.</li> <li>• On March 29, 2024, taking into account the recommendations issued by the EU audit, inspectors of the regions were trained regarding the inspection of the hazelnut factory, the filling of the new form of the conformity assessment act during the inspection, and the filling of the sampling act.</li> <li>• A meeting was held at the National Accreditation Center with the laboratories where export hazelnut research is conducted and information was provided on the obligation to observe the mandatory research methods and sampling rules for the control of mycotoxins defined by the EU Regulation 401/2006 (Decree of the Government of Georgia N567).</li> </ul>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In April-May, for the employees of the Veterinary Department, with the support of ENPARD IV, a workshop on aquaculture was held. In particular:</li> <li>• In accordance with the Resolution N594 of the Government of Georgia "On approval of the requirements related to the health of aquatic animals and their products and the rules for the prevention and control of some aquatic animal diseases", experts have developed a supporting document "Official Control and Animal Health Surveillance Program for Aquatic Farms", which includes the following issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) Sanitary authorization and registration</li> <li>B) Objectives of official control</li> <li>C) Implementation roadmap</li> <li>D) Competent authority and control bodies</li> <li>E) Coordination mechanisms</li> <li>F) Determining the level of risk</li> <li>G) Animal health surveillance system</li> <li>H) Official control</li> <li>I) Non-compliance with the control program</li> <li>J) Overview of the control program</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>5 employees of the Department attended the workshop.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On May 16, in Akhaltsikhe, within the EU-funded technical assistance project "Support to Environmental Protection and Fight against Climate Change in Georgia" a meeting was held on the following topic: Good Agriculture Practices for reducing Nitrate leaching and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the meeting was attended by 2 authorized persons of NFA.</li> <li>• On May 22-25, in Kachreti, a review of the draft of resolution of the Government of Georgia "On approval of the rules for state control and other official activities in the fields of food/animal feed safety, veterinary and plant protection" was held. 12 authorized persons of the agency attended the review.</li> <li>• June 10 - 12, at the head office of the National Food Agency, within the framework of ENPARD IV, a working meeting was held between the donor and NFA representatives. During the meeting, the cost analysis of the legislation on phytosanitary GCP/GEO/02/EC was discussed. The meeting was attended by 6 representatives of the NFA.</li> <li>• In June 2024, a practical training organized by the Better Training for Safer Food (BTSF) program was held in the Netherlands on the topic "Inspection and Calibration of Plant Protection Product Application Equipment." Two employees of the National Food Agency participated.</li> <li>• In June 2024, a practical training on "Antimicrobial Resistance" was held in Turkey, organized by the Better Training for Safer Food (BTSF) program. Four employees of the National Food Agency</li> </ul>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
					<p>participated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In June 2024, 8 employees of the LEPL National Food Agency attended the training related to work in the TRACES system.</li> <li>• The training organized by the BTSF was held in Portugal in August 2024, attended by 2 employees of the NFA.</li> <li>• In June 2024, a training on the recommendations of the EU Hazelnut Audit Report was held, attended by 15 employees of the NFA.</li> <li>• In July 2024, meetings regarding "requirements of materials and objects intended for contact with foodstuff" (Resolution N317 of the Government of Georgia, 2018) were held in Tbilisi, which was attended by 81 employees of NFA.</li> <li>• In September 2024, a training session on organic food labeling was held in Latvia, attended by 1 employee of the NFA.</li> <li>• In July 2024, a training session on "Risk Communication" was held in Tbilisi, attended by 6 employees (Organized by FAO and CzDA).</li> <li>• In September 2024, training on "Food Enhancers" was held in Poland, attended by 3 employees of the NFA (organized by the BTSF).</li> <li>• In September 2024, a training session was held on the topic of sampling methods for control/monitoring/testing of contaminants in food/animal feed and PPPs (pesticides), which was attended by 3 employees of the NFA (Organized by the FAO and CzDA)</li> <li>• In August 2024, an information meeting was held to raise awareness of the newly approved regulations in the field of food safety for business operators involved in the Horeca sector, which was attended by -14 employees (Organized by the CzDA).</li> <li>• In September 2024, a workshop was held to raise awareness with the Horeca sector and meat producers. The meeting was attended by 17 employees of the NFA (Organized by the FAO).</li> </ul>
4.3.3 Establishment and/or expanding the field of accreditation of new laboratory diagnostics methods in sanitary and phytosanitary direction	Number of established and/or accredited testing methods which will be added to the list of laboratory services	Annual report on the implementation of the DCFTA National Action Plan dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	LEPL – State Laboratory of Agriculture	<p>13 new testing methods were established at SLA (6 methods at the plant disease diagnostic department; 4 at the animal disease diagnostic department and 3 methods at the food safety department) during the six months (January-June) of 2024. The established methods are in the process of accreditation, which will be completed by the end of September, 2024.</p> <p>During the nine months (January-September) of 2024, 16 new testing methods were established at SLA (9 methods at plant disease diagnostic department; 4 at animal disease diagnostic department and 3 methods at the food safety department). The methods are not accredited yet.</p>
<b>Objective 4.4.</b>	Implementation of sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary border control				

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
4.4.1 Implementation of sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary border control procedures	Number of implemented sanitary, phytosanitary and veterinary border procedures	The results of the implemented procedures are reflected in the control acts - in the corresponding software module	Revenue Service	LEPL- National Food Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veterinary border control –13 146 consignment</li> <li>• Phytosanitary border control – 15 568consignment</li> <li>• Border control of food/feed of non-animal origin – 3 730 consignment</li> </ul>
<b>Goal 5.</b>	Approximation with the EU legislation and the EU best practice in the field of customs				
<b>Objective 5.1.</b>	Further approximation of the Georgia’s Authorized Economic Operators (AEO) program with that of the EU				
5.1.1. Capacity development of the AEO program	Technical assistance meetings organized for the purposes of the AEO program capacity development	Annual Report of the Revenue Service rs.ge	Revenue Service		Work is underway to identify potential development partner for this activity.
5.1.2. Implementation of additional activities for the purpose of consultations on the part of Georgia in order to sign the memorandum of mutual recognition of AEO	Conducted consultaations	Minutes of the meeting of the Customs Subcommittee  <a href="https://trade.ec.europa.eu/">https://trade.ec.europa.eu/</a>	MOF;  Revenue Service	MFA	Draft roadmap for the AEO MRA elaborated by DG TAXUD. Draft currently under review. Potential candidate BCPs identified and proposed for the purposes of the AEO MRA scheme. During the EU Georgia Customs Sub-Committee meeting (6 June) Georgian side presented latest developments concerning the national level AEO program. The parties agreed to continue their work on the AEO related topics in the future.
<b>Objective 5.2.</b>	Legal and procedural support for accession to the Common Transit Procedures (CTC) and the Single Administration Document (SAD) and the implementation of the New Computerized Transit System (NCTS)				
5.2.1 Accession to Common Transit Procedures (CTC) and Single Administrative Document (SAD) Conventions	The procedure for joining the Convention has been completed on Georgia’s side	annual report/press release; Rs.ge	Ministry of finance of Georgia; LEPL - Revenue Service.		<p>Comments on text sent for internal procedure received from all agencies involved in the process. Meeting was held with representatives of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Justice. Accession procedures provided by the convention was discussed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Order of the Head of the Revenue Service on the creation of a commission and a working group for accession to the Conventions of May 20, 1987 "On simplification of formalities in trade in goods" and "On common transit procedures" updated.</li> <li>2. An amendment was made to the Order No. 257 of August 29, 2019 of the Minister of Finance of Georgia "On approving instructions on the movement and clearance of goods in the customs territory of Georgia": <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Owner of the transit procedure" was defined;</li> <li>• The cases of filling out the transit customs declaration in the transit system (NCTS) by the customs authority and the owner of the transit procedure were clarified and uniquely specified;</li> <li>• Provisions related to guarantee presentation and calculation were specified.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>On June 24-28 of 2024, the monitoring mission of the Directorate General of Taxation and Customs (DG TAXUD) which should make a decision on the readiness of GRS to join the conventions and the functioning of the NCTS system and give the appropriate recommendation to the European Commission so that Georgia can be invited to become a member of the</p>

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					<p>mentioned conventions and start International transit operations using the NCTS. The mission includes representatives of the customs administrations of Austria, the Netherlands, Latvia, the Czech Republic and Turkey. During the visit, on June 25, meetings with representatives of Revenue Service, was held and on June 26 and 27, his members of the monitoring team visited the Batumi Customs Clearance Zone and the Sarpi customs checkpoint.</p> <p>On July 11 of this year, a meeting of the Working Group of the European Union and the Member States of the Convention was held, where the Commission presented the report of the monitoring visit and gave a positive recommendation to the Member States to invite Georgia to become a member of the Convention.</p> <p>On September 25 of this year, another meeting of the Working Group of the European Union and the Member States of the Convention was held, where Georgia reported on its readiness to join the Convention.</p> <p>The date of accession to the Convention and the implementation of international transit operations through the NCTS system is scheduled for December 1 of this year.</p>
5.2.2. Testing of the NCTS Computer Software	Testing of the program implemented in the Revenue Service has been completed	the automated customs data system(ASYCUD)	Ministry of finance of Georgia; LEPL - Revenue Service.		<p>Conformance test Mode 2 of the system is ongoing. Mode 1 completed on February 21, 2024 (started in December 2019). Mode 2 will be completed by the end of April. (In total about 590 different scenarios will be tested).</p> <p>The final stage of the second phase of conformance testing is ongoing. The system was configured for third phase of testing, the connection between Georgia and Finland, Georgia and Ukraine was established. Successfully exchanged the information with the mentioned countries.</p> <p>The second phase of compliance testing has been completed, with 522 different scenarios successfully tested.</p> <p>On August 29 of this year, the third phase of compliance testing began, which involves international testing with the customs administrations of the Republic of Turkey, Bulgaria, Austria, Croatia and Spain. Currently, 24 out of 35 scenarios have been successfully tested.</p>
5.2.3. Training of employees of the Customs Department and private sector representatives to use NCTS software program	Number of participants in trainings.	Annual report / press release; Rs.ge	Ministry of finance of Georgia; LEPL - Revenue Service.		Training of employees involved in the testing process is carried out on a regular basis.
<b>Objective 5.3.</b>	Facilitating the implementation of the new customs code				

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
5.3.1. Organize meetings/seminars for the purposes of elaboration of implementing provisions for certain articles of the new Customs Code	Number of organized meetings	www.rs.ge	Ministry of finance of Georgia; LEPL - Revenue Service.		Work is underway to identify potential development partner organizations with the view of implementing this activity.
5.3.2. Drafting of implementing provisions for certain articles of the new Customs Code	Draft implementing provisions of certain articles of the Customs Code are elaborated, including of data in declarant records, simplified declaration	www.matse.gov.ge www.rs.ge	Ministry of finance of Georgia; LEPL - Revenue Service.		Work is underway to identify potential development partner organizations with a view of assisting the lawmaking process.
5.3.3 Development of implementation norms of Book X of the Customs Code of Georgia	Adopted implementation norm	matsne.gov.ge	Ministry of finance of Georgia; LEPL - Revenue Service	Revenue Service	Work is underway to identify potential development partner organizations with a view of assisting the lawmaking process.
<b>Goal 6.</b>	Legislative and institutional approximation in the field of establishment, trade in services and e-commerce with relevant EU legislation				
<b>Objective 6.1.</b>	Develop a legal framework in line with European best practices in telecommunications, e-commerce and postal services and promote the development of the postal market				
6.1.1. Update Annex XV-B and Annex XV-C of the Association Agreement	Updated Annex XV-B and Annex XV-C	matsne.gov.ge dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia	National Communication s Commission of Georgia	Work is underway with the European Commission to amend XV-B Rules applicable to telecommunication services) and XV-C (rules applicable to postal and courier services) of the Association Agreement. The European Commission has been provided with comments from the Georgian side on revised Annex XV-B. A decision has been made regarding the amendments. Further legal procedures for reflection of the amendments are planned.
6.1.2. Approximation of Georgian legislation with the relevant EU legislation as foreseen in the Annex XV-B of the Association Agreement	Legislative amendments adopted in order to approximate the legal acts of the European Union provided for in Annex XV-B	matsne.gov.ge dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		<p>A draft of amendments to the Law of Georgia "On Electronic Communications" has been prepared in order to bring it closer to the European Parliament and of the Council following directives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2002/58/EC of 12 July 2002 concerning the processing of personal data and the protection of privacy in the electronic communications sector (Directive on privacy and electronic communications);</li> <li>• 2002/20/EC of 7 March 2002 on the authorisation of electronic communications networks and services (Authorisation Directive);</li> <li>• 2002/19/EC of 7 March 2002 on access to, and interconnection of, electronic communications networks and associated facilities (Access Directive);</li> <li>• 2002/21/EC of 7 March 2002 on a common regulatory framework for electronic communications networks and services (Framework Directive).</li> </ul> <p>However, following to the negotiations with the European Union it is planned to update Annex XV-B, under which the issues defined by the above Directives will be implemented in accordance with the European Electronic Communications Code (EECC). A decision has been taken to</p>

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					<p>be updated Annex XV-B. Further legal procedures for reflection of the amendments are planned</p> <p>In order to introduce universal telecommunication services in accordance with the European Electronic Communications Code (EECC) a draft of amendments to the Law of Georgia "On Electronic Communications" has already been prepared.</p> <p>As for Directives: On Authorization (2002/20/EC); On access and interconnection with electronic communication networks and related facilities (2002/19/EC); On the Common Regulatory Framework for Electronic Communications Networks and Services (2002/21/EC) draft amendments will be prepared according to the EECC.</p> <p>In order to approve the drafts of the mentioned changes, it is planned to carry out further procedures.</p>
6.1.3. Development of an updated version of the draft Postal Law	Adopted law on postal services	matsne.gov.ge dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		<p>In addition to the Directives 97/67/EC amended by Directives 2002/39/EC, 2008/6/EC, is planned updating the Annex XV-C (on which a decision has been made and is planned to be implemented further legal procedures for reflection of the amendments), under which Georgia will take harmonization commitment on cross-border parcel delivery services Regulations ((EU) 2018/644, (EU) 2018/1263). Within the framework of the TA of the Facility for the Implementation of the EU – Georgia Association Agreement, the latter has already been reflected in the draft Postal Law.</p> <p>Following the completion of discussion procedures the draft Postal Law and its accompanying laws are planned to be submitted to the Parliament of Georgia in the current year.</p>
<b>Goal 7.</b>	Legislative and institutional approximation in the field of public procurement with relevant EU legislation and institutional capacitybuilding				
<b>Objective 7.1.</b>	Adopt a new law on public procurement and by-laws and develop guidelines, methodological guidelines and instructions on this topic				
7.1.1. Implementation of legislative changes in the field of governmental procurement in accordance with Annexes, XVI-D, XVI-E, XVI-F, XVI-I, XVI-J, XVI-K to the Association Agreement	<p>Preparation of amendments to the adopted Law "On Public Procurement" in accordance with Annexes XVI-E XVI-F of the Association Agreement.</p> <p>Preparation of legislative amendments to ensure compliance with the Concessions Directive</p>	matsne.gov.ge; procurement.gov.ge; www.spa.ge	LEPL SPA, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development	<p>Government of Georgia, Ministries, Parliament of Georgia</p> <p>Public and Private cooperation Agency</p>	<p>According to the obligations under the Association Agreement, the State Procurement Agency has started approximation process with EU Utilities Directive. For this purpose, within the framework of the EU funded, AA Facility Implementation project, international expert prepared a draft law aimed at legal approximation with the EU utility Directive. The first version of the draft law submitted to OECD/SIGMA experts and after reflecting their comments, the draft law sent to the EC relevant DG's for their review.</p> <p>As a result of the consultations, the comments of OECD/SIGMA experts have been reflected in the draft Law. Currently, the State Procurement Agency is actively working towards the Draft Law on the EU Utilities Directive in order to reflect the recommendations made by the European Commission.</p>



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					In May 2024, the Delegation from the State Procurement Agency held a meeting at the DG GROW Directorate of the European Commission, where the parties discussed the recommendations and remarks made by the European Commission on Public Procurement Law. To harmonize the Draft Law with the EU Directives, the parties agreed on the further steps.
7.1.2. Development and adoption of "secondary legislation" - subordinate normative acts based on the Law on Public Procurement	Adopted secondary legislation	matsne.gov.ge; procurement.gov.ge; spa.ge	LEPL SPA		The State Procurement Agency is actively working to develop secondary legislation based on the new Law on "Public Procurement". With regard to this, European expert, which was hired under the USAID Economic Governance Program, has drafted 33 sub-legal acts, which have to be adopted by January 1, 2025.
7.1.3. Based on the laws on information on public procurement, developing manuals, methodological guidelines and instructions and publishing them electronically on websites	Published methodological guidelines, manuals and instructions	Annual Report of the State Procurement Agency; E-Newsletter of the State Procurement Agency; procurement.gov.ge; spa.ge	LEPL SPA		Accordance to the new Public Procurement Law, in order to raise awareness on ongoing reforms in the field of public procurement, State Procurement Agency, with support of the international organizations has prepared and published manuals - "Sustainable Public Procurement", "Public Procurement in the European Union - Guide for Georgian Businesses" English and Georgian editions, and "Energy-Efficient Public Procurement" English edition.
<b>Objective 7.2.</b>	Modernization of the unified electronic system of public procurement				
7.2.1. Development of new e-services, procedures and tools of the Unified System of Public Procurement (e-Procurement)	Additional services and opportunities introduced in the Unified System of Public Procurement;	Modernized Unified System of Public Procurement (e-Procurement; Electronic Government procurement system); Annual Report of the State Procurement Agency; E-Newsletter of the State Procurement Agency; procurement.gov.ge; spa.ge	LEPL SPA	LEPL National Agency of Public Registry of the Ministry of Justice; LEPL Financial-Analytical Service of the Ministry of Finance	Consolidated tender management system (CTD) - ctd.spa.ge system has been added option to export procurement plans, filled by the procuring organisations, as well as the possibility of rejecting the current plan, which the organization no longer intends to purchase. These organizations are reflected in a separate list that can be exported to a separate Excel table. In addition, statistics of issued permits and filtering by desired dates have been added. Rewriting of the statistics websites stats.spa.ge and charts.procurement.gov.ge and forming a new single website has started.  Training.spa.ge - Some changes were made in the driving panel of the training center in accordance with the requirements of Training Center.
<b>Objective 7.3.</b>	Human resource development in the field of public procurement				
7.3.1. Conduct trainings for the relevant employees of the State Procurement Agency according to the requirements of the new Law on Public Procurement	Number of trained employees of the State Procurement Agency, 20 employees in total.	Annual Report of the State Procurement Agency; E-Newsletter of the State Procurement Agency; procurement.gov.ge; spa.ge	LEPL SPA		On February 28 of 2024, an international seminar on "Quality infrastructure as the best means in public procurement in accordance with the best practices of the European Union" were held at the State Procurement Agency. Seminar was organised within the framework of the EU Twinning project "Strengthening of the National Agency of Standards and Metrology of Georgia in accordance with the best practices of the European Union".  On March 21-22 of 2024, the World Bank has organised international seminar on "Development of Centralized Procurement Systems in the EU countries". Seminar was held in Bucharest, Romania and attended by the

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					<p>representatives of the State Procurement Agency. During 23-25 April, within the framework of the USAID Economic Governance Program, the training was organized for the trainers of the State Procurement Agency, which focused on the new Law on Public Procurement, as well as on the new procurement rules and procedures.</p> <p>On May 29-30 of 2024, the World Bank has organised 17th PRIMO forum on “Sustainable and Green Procurement for Circular Economy” The forum was attended by the representatives of the International Financial and Donor Organizations, as well as more than 100 invited guests from Europe and Asia region. The invited experts at the forum discussed their experiences and shared the best practices in Public Procurement matters. The forum aimed to support regional and global cooperation to improve the quality results of public procurement.</p> <p>On June 10-11 of 2024, in the Issyk-Kul Region of Kyrgyzstan, the international forum took place regarding “State procurement – a tool of economic development of a country and international relations development”, where the representatives of the State Procurement Agency took part in the meeting. The participants of the forum got acquainted with the ongoing reforms of public procurement in Georgia.</p> <p>On June 17, a meeting co-organized by OECD-SIGMA was held for the employees of the State Procurement Agency concerning the main principles of the EU Directives. Qualified experts from Slovenia, Austria and Croatia discussed their experience in Public Procurement matters, the compliance of the new Law on Public Procurement with EU directives and the importance of protecting the confidentiality of tender documents.</p>
<p>7.3.2. Conduct trainings for the procuring organizations, economic operators and other interested parties according to the new Law on Public Procurement</p>	<p>Number of trained staff of procuring authorities, economic operators and interested parties: 15 classes during 2024 academic year, total of 320 participants,</p>	<p>Annual Report of the State Procurement Agency; E-Newsletter of the State Procurement Agency; procurement.gov.ge; spa.ge</p>	<p>LEPL SPA</p>		<p>Since January to June 2024, 8 training courses on the "State Procurement Course" were held at the training center of the State Procurement Agency.</p> <p>Within the scope of above courses, total of 190 specialists were trained, who operate as procurement specialists at various public authorities and its' subordinate LEPL's and LTD's, at local self-government bodies and its' Non-Entrepreneurial Non-Commercial Legal Entities. After completion of the courses based on the written test results, participants were awarded with Certificates of attendance.</p> <p>On June 15-16 of 2024, two days long International seminar took place in Kakheti, The meeting was organized by the State Procurement Agency, within the framework of OECD-SIGMA and USAID Economic Governance program. The seminar referred to the current EU Law in Public Procurement, the best practices, administrative proceedings, the role of judges in the judicial process and other topical issues.</p>

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					The federal judge of Austria, The Head of the Croatian Dispute Resolution Administrative Body and OECD-SIGMA experts were invited to the abovementioned seminar. The Judges of the Supreme Court of Georgia, the Court of Appeal of Kutaisi and Tbilisi as well as the Judges of the Tbilisi City Court (20 Judges) also participated in the seminar. The participants got acquainted with Europe's best practices on Public Procurement and discussions were held at the end of the workshop.
<b>Goal 8.</b>	Approximation to the EU standards and best practices in the field of intellectual property				
<b>Objective 8.1</b>	Ensuring access to justice in the field of intellectual property				
8.1.1 Conduct trainings on intellectual property rights for representatives of relevant government or executive agencies, private sector, as well as, for judges and lawyers	Number of organized trainings (At least five trainings/seminars/working meetings.)	www.sakpatenti.gov.ge	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – "Sakpatenti"	LEPL High School of Justice	<p>On January 24-25, a two-day training was held for the members of the Tushetian Guda Association at Sakpatenti's premises. The participants got acquainted with the basic principles of the association management, internal control structure and external communication strategy. At the training the purpose of target commissions, their composition and powers were also discussed. To promote Georgian farmers, entrepreneurs and associations, trainings were held within the framework of the joint project of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia - "Sakpatenti" and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), which envisages strengthening the capacity of producers</p> <p>In June and September 2024, within the framework of the Georgia-Switzerland Intellectual Property Project (GESIP), with the direct participation of the Swiss side and through the mediation of Sakpatenti, foreign experts and project coordinators were in different regions of Georgia to meet with producers of geographical indication products. The purpose of the workshop was to draw up and clarify the specifications of Tenilo cheese and Racha ham, as well as to discuss the control system of geographical indications with their producers.</p>
<b>Objective 8.2.</b>	Intellectual property legislation harmonization with EU's standards				
8.2.1 Implementation of amendments to the Law of Georgia "On Trademarks" (adopting the law) in order to bring it into compliance with the EU trademark regulation.	Amendments made on the law of Georgia "On Trademarks"	www.matsne.gov.ge	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – "Sakpatenti"  Parliament of Georgia		<p>The law was adopted by the Parliament.</p> <p>Amendments to the "Trademark Law" of Georgia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The legislation came into compliance with the Trademark Directive 2015/2436 of the European Parliament and of the Council of December 16, 2015, and the EU Trademark Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council 2017/1001 of June 14, 2017.</li> <li>• The powers of the Chamber of Appeals of Sakpatenti have been increased.</li> <li>• The absolute and relative grounds for refusal of a trademark registration have been changed and written more clearly.</li> </ul> <p>The term of trademark examination has been shortened. Also, the examination procedure was simplified, both for patent experts and applicants;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It became possible to divide a trademark.</li> </ul>

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The concept of trademark was changed and formed in a new way. It became possible to register a separate color as a trademark;</li> <li>•The amendment addressed the issue of recognition of trademark as well-known;</li> <li>• the way was paved for registration of new types of marks, in particular, registration of three-dimensional trademarks, holograms, and certification marks.</li> <li>•The classification of goods and services at the examination stage has been regulated in such a way that it is possible to accurately and clearly define the scope of the required protection</li> <li>• A new chapter was added to the law, which regulates the provisions related to the certification mark.</li> <li>• Norms regulating the relationship between registered conflicting trademarks were added to the Law.</li> <li>• the right of the holder of an exclusive license to bring an action without the consent of the trademark owner, if the trademark owner fails to bring an action within a reasonable time after receiving the official notification, was added.</li> <li>• the obligation of the trademark owner, along with cancellation of the registration, to submit evidence that he/she informed the licensee of the intention to cancel the trademark, If a license agreement is registered for the trademark.</li> </ul>
<b>Objective 8.3.</b>	<b>Institutional strengthening of the LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – Sakpatenti</b>				
<p>8.3.1. Holding trainings and workshops for Sakpatenti employees; Organizing bilateral meetings and seminars with third country governments and industrial associations to share best practices and experience of developed countries</p>	<p>Number of meetings and trainings organized for employees (at least five trainings/working meetings/seminars)</p>	<p>sakpatenti.gov.ge</p>	<p>LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – “Sakpatenti”</p>		<p>On April 15-17, taking into account the candidate status granted to Georgia, Sakpatenti employees attended the 22nd Liaison Meeting on Cooperation, 31st Liaison Meeting on Trade Marks and 23rd Liaison Meeting on Designs, which were held at the EUIPO in Alicante. At the event, representatives of intellectual property organizations from different countries gather to discuss the latest developments in the IP community.</p> <p>On May 13 and 15, examiners of the European Patent Office (EPO) delivered coaching sessions in the fields of biotechnology and pharmacy for the staff members of the Chemistry-Medicine and Biology Division of the Department of Inventions and New Varieties and Breeds of Sakpatenti. The purpose of the coaching activity was to facilitate the professional development of Sakpatenti staff and to introduce to them the standards and tools used by the European Patent Office at the examination stage.</p> <p>From May 26 to June 1, a SAKPATENTI representative participated in the 2024 Belt and Road Intellectual Property Training Workshop, which was held by the China National Intellectual Property Administration (CNIPA) in Beijing. Lectures on China's national intellectual property strategy, intellectual property legal framework, and intellectual property rights</p>

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					<p>protection system were held at the training seminar. There were also intellectual property sessions, where representatives of participating countries presented country reports on the latest developments in their countries in the field of intellectual property.</p> <p>On May 27,28 and 29 , within the joint project (GESIP) of Sakpatenti and the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IPI), in order to promote the professional development of the staff members of the Department of Inventions and New Varieties and Breeds of Sakpatenti (9 staff members took part in this joint project.) , training sessions “Freedom to Operate (FTO) Searches in the Field of Chemistry” were held. During the training, Freedom to Operate (FTO) search strategies, tools and databases were discussed.</p> <p>On June 18,19 and 20, to enhance the professional development of the examiners at Sakpatenti Department of Inventions and New Varieties and Breeds (10 staff members took part in this joint project), a three-day training session on “Biotechnology Inventions Patentability and Freedom to Operate (FTO) Search” was conducted within the joint project (GESIP) of Sakpatenti and the Swiss Federal Institute of Intellectual Property (IPI).</p> <p>On April 29-30, the 5<sup>th</sup> IP Case Law Conference on Intellectual Property, organized by the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), was held in Alicante, Spain. The event was attended by Sakpatenti representatives. The conference, organized by the Board of Appeal of the European Union Intellectual Property Office, aimed to gather leading experts having a wide range of professional interests in the intellectual property field from different countries, in order to discuss by their involvement, sharing of experience and opinions the global challenges in the judicial practice and legislation related to intellectual property and prospects of development.</p> <p>On May 21, The 9th Anti-Scam Network Meeting was held in Alicante, Spain, organized by the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO). Georgia (Sakpatenti representative) as EU Candidate Country participated in the meeting held in Alicante for the first time. The main purpose of the above-mentioned Network is to combat fraudulent activities on the basis of exchange of best practices.</p> <p>On June 3-14, 2024 World Intellectual Property organization (WIPO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO), St. Executive Program on Intellectual Property Policy Issues (WIPO-WTO Executive Program on Intellectual Property Policy Issues) was held in Geneva, in which Sakpatenti's representative participated.</p> <p>On September 19, the joint EUIPO and CPVO Seminar: 30 Years of Incentivising Innovation was held at the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), which was attended by Sakpatenti representatives. At the Seminar, the use of artificial intelligence in the</p>

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					<p>intellectual property field, and topics related to plant varieties, trademarks, trade secrets and geographical indications were discussed. On September 20, a meeting was held with the representatives of a Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO), The meeting was aimed to outline plans for future cooperation in the direction of plant varieties. On September 11-14, 2024, Sakpatenti representatives participated in the the Third Belt and Road High-Level Conference on Intellectual Property in Beijing (People’s Republic of China), where an official agreement in the Field of Protection of Geographical Indications was Reached between the National Intellectual Property Administration of China and Sakpatenti. During the bilateral meeting an agreement was signed, in which the parties confirmed their intention to cooperate in the field of protection of geographical indications.</p> <p>On September 19-21, 2024, the 8th Silk Road International Exposition (SRIE) opened and the Investment and Trade Forum for Cooperation Between East and West China was held in Xi'an, China. The event was organized by the China National Intellectual Property Administration and the Shaanxi Intellectual Property Office. In order to present fully the latest achievements of development of Georgia and to deepen international cooperation in the field of intellectual property protection, on behalf of the National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia, a representative of Sakpatenti attended the event. The representative of Sakpatenti participated in the opening event of the Forum and delivered a presentation on the topic: “Intellectual Property Contributing to High-quality Development”.</p> <p>On September 19-20, 2024, the PATLIB2024 conference was held in Ankara(Turkey), co-organized by the European Patent Office (EPO) and the Turkish Patent and Trademark Office TÜRKPATENT. Sakpatenti representative participated in the event, during which significant latest achievements and strategies in the field of industrial property were discussed.</p>
<p>8.3.2. Scientific-technical processing of material documents formed in the process of Sakpatenti’s activity, digitalization of processed documents;</p> <p>Creating an electronic catalogue</p>	<p>Scientific-technical processing of 100% of the documents created in the Invention and Trademark Departments in 1992-1994 (3 years), including digitization/digitization of at least 80,000 pages;</p> <p>Electronic Catalogue is created and available for internal use (employees of Sakpatenti).</p>	<p>sakpatenti.gov.ge</p>	<p>LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – “Sakpatenti”</p>		<p>On April 18, 2024, an agreement was signed between Sakpatenti and the National Archives of Georgia (Agreement on State Procurement (N G-31/23), on the basis of which, from July 1, representatives of the National Archives started at Mtskheta Office the process of scientific and technical processing of the material documents of 1992-1994. See the link: <a href="https://www.sakpatenti.gov.ge/ka/news_and_events/596/">https://www.sakpatenti.gov.ge/ka/news_and_events/596/</a></p> <p>From July 1 to September 30, the stage of scientific-technical processing is fulfilled by 83%, in particular, archival material of 5 years is processed.</p> <p>The initial version of the electronic catalogue necessary for digitization and the relevant software were developed by the inner resource and as of 01.07.24 is in the testing mode. In addition, 10 scanners were purchased. According to the agreement signed with the National Archives, launching of the process of digitization is planned from October 1.</p>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
<b>Objective 8.4.</b>	Raising awareness in the field of intellectual property				
8.4.1. Conduct trainings, information meetings and workshops to raise public awareness	Number of conducted trainings and workshops (at least five trainings/information meetings)	sakpatenti.gov.ge	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – “Sakpatenti”		<p>On April 26, on occasion of the World Intellectual Property Day, Sakpatenti hosted students from 13 different universities. The role of the youth in the development of the intellectual property field was highlighted. The meeting held on occasion of the World Intellectual Property Day was planned within the student project – “Career Development Camp”, implemented by the European Business Association (EBA), in cooperation with the Economic Governance Program of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) and the Solidarity Center.</p> <p>On April 29, Kutaisi International University (KIU) hosted the first large-scale employment forum. In the area allocated for the forum, an exhibition stand of Sakpatenti was shown. Sakpatenti representatives informed the students on the activity of the organization and the opportunities of employment and internship.</p> <p>On July 8-12, the annual joint International Summer Law School of Sakpatenti and the European Law Students’ Association (ELSA) was held, in which 19 students from various European universities from the Czech Republic, Germany, Belgium, Estonia, Finland, Italy, Norway, Ukraine, Hungary, Austria, and Ireland. Within the 5-day program, the participants get acquainted with the theoretical and practical issues of intellectual property law. The Summer School is held since 2016 and its purpose is to arouse interest among students in the intellectual property law and to deepen their knowledge. Training is conducted by Sakpatenti staff members as well as invited trainers.</p> <p>On September 9-13, a joint International Training Course on Geographical Indications of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and Sakpatenti was delivered, in which representatives of 14 countries from Argentina, Philippines, Latvia, India, Uganda, Bhutan, Zambia, Rwanda, Romania, Burkina Faso, Bangladesh, São Tomé and Príncipe, Hungary and Mauritania participated. The course is held annually since 2017 and is intended for the staff members of the intellectual property offices of any country of the world and high-ranking officials of relevant ministries whose activity is related to promotion of products the quality of which is linked to the place of origin. The course is led by international and local experts. Ultimately, the implementation of the course serves popularization of country and position Georgia in international professional circles. See the link: <a href="https://www.wipo.int/academy/en/news/2024/news_0061.html">https://www.wipo.int/academy/en/news/2024/news_0061.html</a></p> <p>On June 18, 2024, Sakpatenti participated in a panel discussion on the relevance of intellectual property management, held at the Georgian</p>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
					<p>Technical University (GTU). The agenda of the panel discussion included analyzing the importance of intellectual property protection in the period of university research and its commercialization and revealing best practices.</p> <p>The National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – “Sakpatenti” participated in the panel discussion held within the “Young Scientists’ Week”. In the format of a panel discussion, attention was focused on the environment, achievements, challenges and prospects of translation of research into economy. At the event, the main goal about the role of scientific innovative research in the development of economy and introduction of research with the potential of commercial transfer was determined, which will be focused on solving economic challenges. Thus, proceeding from the importance of the issue, state funding schemes, grants, programs, and achievement indicators were discussed.</p> <p>On September 26, 2024, children from the Dzegvi Rehabilitation Center functioning at St. Giorgi Mtatsmindeli Monastery and their parents visited Sakpatenti. The beneficiaries visited the exhibition area of Sakpatenti and received children’s fairy tales about intellectual property subject-matters printed in Sakpatenti polygraphy, comics and cognitive educational materials prepared within the project “Creativity and Intellectual Property in Georgian Schools”.</p> <p>Registration for the Spring Session of the Intellectual Property General Course (DL101GE24S1) was open from May 2 to May 9, 2024. Out of 160 registered participants, 51 (32%) participants wrote the final test. Out of them, 41 participants successfully passed the exam.</p>
8.4.2 . Publication of information booklets and flyers	Number of published information materials	Published booklets and flyers	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – “Sakpatenti”		During the reporting period, 2939 informative booklets were prepared and published.
<b>Objective 8.5.</b>	<b>Implement effective measures against counterfeit and piracy</b>				
8.5.1. Conducting workshops and seminars for owners of intellectual property rights and stakeholders to raise awareness	Number of workshops and trainings for owners and stakeholders (at least 3 trainings/seminars and/or work meetings);	sakpatenti.gov.ge	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – “Sakpatenti”		On September 12-13, 2024, a workshop of the European Intellectual Property Prosecutors Network (EIPPN) was held at the headquarters of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva, organized by the Observatory of the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO). Sakpatenti is a beneficiary of the new regional project "European Union for Intellectual Property" (EU4IP) from 2024. Within the framework of this project The Prosecutor from the Prosecutor’s office of Georgia took part in the aforementioned meeting, solicited by Sakpatenti. The aim of the European Intellectual Property Prosecutors Network (EIPPN) workshop was to share knowledge and expertise to improve collective investigation and prosecution capacity to tackle cross-border IPR infringements.



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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
8.5.2 Detection of counterfeit and pirated products, including at the border and prevention of infringing activities	Number of detected and investigated cases	Annual Report	MOF;  LEPL- Revenue Service	LEPL National Intellectual Property Center of Georgia – Sakpatenti	First quarter of 2024 saw 61 new trademarks being registered.  33 Orders on seizure of possible counterfeit goods have been issued by the Customs department during the accounting period in 2024.
<b>Goal 9.</b>	Develop competition and trade remedy fields in line with EU best practices				
<b>Objective 9.1.</b>	Raising awareness on competition policy and trade remedies among public and private sector representatives				
9.1.1. Organizing seminars and information meetings on current issues of competition	Number of seminars and information meetings held	Annual report of the agency, <a href="http://www.gcca.gov.ge">www.gcca.gov.ge</a>	LEPL Georgian Competition and Consumer Agency		<p>With the support of the EU-funded TWINNING project, the agency approved the communication and advocacy plan for 2024-2025. According to this plan, seminars and informational meetings with various target groups will be organized in 2024 to address current issues in competition policy. Consequently, in the nine months of 2024, three informational meetings on current issues in competition policy were held.</p> <p>At the initiative of the Agency and with the support of the TWINNING project, a roundtable was held with the participation of national regulatory authorities. During this event, Georgian and international experiences in the enforcement of competition policy in regulated sectors were discussed. The event was attended by various stakeholders, including representatives of regulatory authorities.</p> <p>Additionally, at the initiative of the Agency and with the support of the TWINNING project, a roundtable was organized for representatives of the judiciary. The main topic of discussion was the practice of detecting and preventing anti-competitive agreements (cartels)—local and European trends.</p> <p>An Agency representative participated in the 14th Local Economic Development Forum organized by Tbilisi City Hall. During the session on "Empowering Local Business for Economic Resilience," the representative presented the reforms, results, and current issues related to competition and consumer protection.</p>
9.1.2. Organizing seminars and meetings for representatives of the private sector on the use of anti-dumping measures	Number of seminars and meetings held, number of participants	Annual report of the agency, <a href="http://www.gcca.gov.ge">www.gcca.gov.ge</a>	LEPL Georgian Competition and Consumer Agency		With the support of the EU-funded TWINNING project, the agency approved the 2024-2025 communication and advocacy plan. According to this plan, seminars and informational meetings with various target groups will be organized in 2024 to address the application of anti-dumping measures.
<b>Objective 9.2.</b>	Improving the qualification of employees				
9.2.1. Organizing trainings / seminars / study visits on current issues of competition policy	Number of trainings / seminars / study visits conducted	Annual report of the agency, <a href="http://www.gcca.gov.ge">www.gcca.gov.ge</a>	LEPL Georgian Competition and Consumer Agency		<p>In the nine months of 2024, the agency's employees participated in 15 events related to competition policy and its enforcement.</p> <p>Specifically, they attended a seminar organized by the Budapest Regional Center of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and</p>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
					<p>Development (OECD-GVH RCC), Deusto University of Bilbao, and the Spanish National Commission for Markets and Competition in Bilbao, Spain. The seminar focused on the three main pillars of competition policy: cartel agreements, abuse of dominant position, and concentration control mechanisms, illustrated with practical examples.</p> <p>A representative of the agency also took part in an international conference organized by the German Federal Competition Authority (Bundeskartellamt) in Berlin, Germany. This conference addressed the mechanisms and challenges of enforcing competition law across various sectors.</p> <p>Furthermore, the agency's representative participated in a workshop organized by the Budapest Regional Center of the OECD-GVH RCC in Budapest, Hungary. The workshop, aimed at heads of competition agencies, tackled current enforcement issues in competition policy and cooperation among agencies.</p> <p>As part of the ongoing TWINNING project funded by the European Union, four training sessions were conducted for agency representatives on enforcing competition policy. These sessions covered the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Commitments in antitrust enforcement and concentration control.</li> <li>✓ Ensuring fair competition by public administrative bodies.</li> <li>✓ Enforcement of competition policy in digital markets.</li> <li>✓ Excessive pricing.</li> </ul> <p>Agency employees also participated in a seminar on "Competition and Regulation" held in Chişinău, organized by the OECD-GVH RCC and the Competition Council of the Republic of Moldova.</p> <p>Additionally, an Agency representative attended a webinar organized by the Administrative Council for Economic Defense (CADE) of Brazil on "Lessons learnt in regulated sectors."</p> <p>An RBB Economics representative conducted seminars for Agency employees on current issues in competition policy enforcement, specifically on market definition and the calculation of excessive pricing. Agency representatives participated in a seminar on "Bid-Rigging in Public Procurement" organized by the OECD-GVH RCC in Budapest.</p> <p>An Agency representative attended a conference on competition policy enforcement and state aid control organized by the European Union, the World Bank, and the Competition Protection Commission of the Republic of Armenia.</p> <p>An Agency representative took part in a seminar organized by the OECD-GVH RCC in Podgorica, the capital of Montenegro, on the topic</p>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
					"Tools to Increase the Effectiveness of Antitrust Enforcement." The seminar aimed to facilitate the exchange of experiences among participants and share outstanding practical examples through expert practitioners, focusing on the effective enforcement of competition policy.
9.2.2. Raising the qualification of the Agency staff in relation to the use of anti-dumping measures	Number of trainings / seminars / study visits conducted	Annual report of the agency, <a href="http://www.gcca.gov.ge">www.gcca.gov.ge</a>	LEPL Georgian Competition and Consumer Agency		With the support of various donor organizations, the agency plans to hold seminars and training sessions for its employees in 2024 on the use of anti-dumping measures.
<b>Goal 10.</b>	<b>Promoting sustainable development</b>				
<b>Objective 10.1.</b>	<b>Sustainable management of natural resources and contribution to the conservation</b>				
10.1.1 Within the framework of close and continuous cooperation between the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture and FAO / GFCM, conducting priority species research in the Black Sea area - Kambala species, Rapana species, as well as regional trainings.	The number of studies carried out within the framework of the BlackSea4Fish project on relevant fish species	Annual implementation of DCFTA action plan report <a href="http://dcfta.gov.ge">dcfta.gov.ge</a>	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia	LEPL National Environmental Agency; LEPL Department of Environmental Supervision	<p>The activities envisaged by the Letter of Agreement, between the National Environmental Agency and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) signed on September 29, 2023 for the "Standardized Scientific Beam Trawl Survey for Rapa Whelk in Georgian Waters," were accomplished on August 15, 2024. Under this agreement, the first stage of the survey was carried out from November to December 2023, and the second stage - in May 2024. Rapana was collected for scientific research purposes at 23 pre-selected stations in the Gonio-Anaklia water area along the Black Sea coast of Georgia using a specialized beam trawl. A laboratory study of the extracted material was conducted, growth-age indicators of rapana were determined, and a database was prepared in accordance with the templates provided by the GFCM Secretariat (in TA, TB, TC, TE, TL format), and standardized indices of rapana abundance and biomass in the Georgian coastal waters of the Black Sea (BioIndex R) were determined. Besides, rapana survey reports, including two cruise reports, one interim report, and one final technical and financial report, were also prepared and submitted.</p> <p>Letter of Agreement was signed between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the National Environmental Agency of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia on July 29, 2024 for the project "Fisheries and Ecosystem Management in the Black Sea," funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), for provision of "Awareness-raising and Data Collection in Select Georgian Marine Fisheries." The agreement's validity period is from the date its signature to October 15, 2024. The main activities under the agreement have been completed, and preparations for the stakeholders' meeting are currently underway.</p> <p>A Grant Agreement on "Experimental Demersal Trawl Survey in Georgian Waters (GSA 29)" between FAO and the National Environmental Agency of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia was signed on September 11, 2024. The agreement's validity period was defined from October 1, 2024, to July 31,</p>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
					<p>2025. Under this agreement, the status of priority bottom fish species populations in the Black Sea (Red Mullet, Whiting, Dogfish, Turbot) will be studied. Currently, the preparatory stage for implementing the activities outlined in the agreement is underway.</p> <p>In addition, within the framework of cooperation between the Ministry of Environment and Agriculture and FAO/GFCM, courses on shellfish sanitation were held in e-learning format this year.</p>
<p>10.1.2. Promotion of trade in timber products produced as a result of sustainable forest management</p>	<p>15 business yards arranged in country</p>	<p>Annual implementation of DCFTA action plan report dcfta.gov.ge</p>	<p>LEPL National Forest Agency</p>	<p>The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</p>	<p>In 2024, in the framework of setting up the business service yards, 15 business yards were fully staffed in three regions of Georgia: Guria, Kakheti and Tianeti. 105 employees are employed in the mentioned business yards in the following positions: manager, operator, assistant specialist (driver), assistant specialist (worker), guard.</p> <p>In 2024, construction of business yards is also underway in the following regions: Imereti Kakheti, Racha, Kvemo Kartli, Shida Kartli, Samegrelo - Zemo Svaneti, Samtskhe. 1) Imereti: Van; 2) Sachkhere: Corbowli, Khreiti, Grigalati, Khevi. 3) Kakheti: Manavi. 4) Racha: Nikortsinda, Tsiferchi. 5) Kvemo Kartli: Mamkhuti, Tsalka, Alekseevka. 6) Shida - Kartli: Osiauri. 6) Samegrelo - Zemo Svaneti: Senaki, Khabume, Khamiskur. 7) Samtskhe: Zarzma, Atzkuri.</p>
<p>10.1.3. Provision of a necessary equipment for forest operations</p>	<p>50 equipment for forestry activities have been purchased</p>	<p>Annual implementation of DCFTA action plan report dcfta.gov.ge</p>	<p>LEPL National Forest Agency</p>	<p>The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</p>	<p>The number of equipment purchased in 2024: 9 self-loading trucks (6*6) for transporting firewood (from the forest), 2 trucks with hydraulic manipulators (6*6) for transporting logs (from the forest), 4 self-loading trucks (4*2) for transporting firewood in budget organizations - 4.5 km transportation, 3 self-loading trucks (8*4) carrying firewood in budgetary organizations - 15 km transportation, 1 evacuator - rail carriage</p>
<p><b>Objective 10.2.</b></p>	<p>Fulfillment of the International Obligations/Agreements related to Climate Change</p>				
<p>10.2.1. Preparation of the final report on the implementation of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Implementation Action Plan (2021-2023)</p>	<p>Final report of the Climate Action Plan (2021- 2023)</p>	<p>Website of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia  www.mepa.gov.ge</p>	<p>The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia</p>		<p>The final report on the implementation of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Implementation Action Plan (2021-2023) has been prepared and posted on the website of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia.</p>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
10.2.2. Start the updating of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).	technical assignment of the developed project;  At least 3 experts selected. At least 2 working groups has been formed.	Annual report on the implementation of the DCFTA National Action Plan dcfta.gov.ge	The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia		On September 5 the preparation of the updated Nationally Determined Contribution Document has been launched. 8 sectoral experts are selected. The preparation of the document is supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and NDC Partnership.  11 working groups has been formed – the state agencies, private sector, NGOs and sectoral experts are all represented in these working groups.
10.2.3. Preparation of drafts of Georgia's 5th National Communication (FNC) and First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Updated National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Prepared Final Versions of Georgia's 5th National Notification (FNC) and First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR)	Annual report on the implementation of the DCFTA National Action Plan dcfta.gov.ge	The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia		The drafts of Georgia's 5th National Communication (FNC) and First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) have been sent to state agencies to get their feedback that will lately be incorporated in the document.  Besides, the National GHG Inventory (that is the part of both documents) is undergoing quality control.
<b>Objective 10.3.</b>	Ensuring protection of labour rights in line with international standards				
10.3.1 Awareness raising of employers and employees about Labour Norms	Number of information/working meetings and consultations provided;  Number of prepared thematic materials;	Annual report of the Labour Inspection office - www.lio.moh.gov.ge	LEPL - Labour Inspection Office	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia	In order to raise awareness of public on labour norms, 14 information/working meetings were held, including with the business sector. Meetings were attended by 250 people.  With the support of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), 17 normative acts related to labor legislation were translated in English and placed on the website of the Labor Inspection Office (see link: <a href="https://lio.moh.gov.ge/low.php?lang=2">https://lio.moh.gov.ge/low.php?lang=2</a> ) In addition, it is planned to translate the materials into Armenian and Azerbaijani languages.  In addition, 3 videos related to labor norms were prepared and distributed on social networks, LIO's webpage, and television.  Also, 2 publications were prepared and published on the website of the LIO: 1. Gender-responsive labor inspection developed with the support of the EU4Gender Equality Reform Helpdesk project funded by the European Union; Guidelines for the Labor Inspection Office of Georgia. 2. Guidelines of the identification of racial, ethnic and religious discrimination in the workplace, which was developed with the support of the United Nations Development Program (in English and Georgian; see link: <a href="https://lio.moh.gov.ge/publication.php?lang=2&amp;id=1&amp;uid=202301080022207242784372">https://lio.moh.gov.ge/publication.php?lang=2&amp;id=1&amp;uid=202301080022207242784372</a> )

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
10.3.2 Raising the awareness of employers and employees about child labour	Number of information meetings held to raise awareness about child labour, number of printed and distributed booklets	www.moh.gov.ge  www.lio.moh.gov.ge	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia	LEPL - Labour Inspection Office	<p>In order to raise public awareness of labor norms, including child labour, 14 information/working meetings were held.</p> <p>Information on child labor is being constantly shared with employers and employees at workplaces.</p> <p>During the reporting period, 2263 activities (primary and subsequent inspectors, prior to the elimination of violations, monitoring) were carried out at 1273 facilities.</p>
10.3.3 Institutional strengthening of the LEPL-Labour Inspection Office	Number of measures taken to increase the capacity of labour inspectors	Annual report of the Labour Inspection Office- www.lio.moh.gov.ge	LEPL - Labour Inspection Office	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia	<p>For the reporting period, following the internal training plan, the training of labor inspectors, was carried out. 13 meetings/trainings on 27 regulations were held (30 training hours in total).</p> <p>In addition, by the support of the United Nations Development Program, with the direct involvement of LIO, work on the guidelines for labor inspectors "Recognition and prevention of racial, ethnic and religious discrimination in the workplace" was completed, according to which a series of training were carried out, including the training of trainers and accompanying trainings with the involvement of employees; In addition, work on a guideline related to the observance of the principles of reasonable accommodation is underway. Based on which a series of training of inspectors is also designed.</p> <p>Also, within the framework of the EU Gender Equality Project, work on guidelines for labor inspectors "Gender Responsive Labor Inspection" has been completed, according to which a series of training is planned. (The manual is available in Georgian, on the official website of LIO, in the publications section)</p> <p>With the support of the UN Women, guidelines for labor inspectors on "Evaluation of harmful and/or special risk working environment for employed pregnant, newborn and lactating women" were developed. Also, an electronic training course was developed based on the guidelines. In addition, with the support of the organization, guidelines for the supervision of principles of equal pay at workplaces and instructions were developed and labor inspectors were trained in this regard.</p> <p>The training of labor inspectors on the issues of fair and ethical employment was carried out in the direction of the topic of migration, which was provided by GIZ.</p> <p>Also, with the support of the OSCE, a simulation training was carried out in the direction of trafficking.</p> <p>With the support of the Council of Europe project "Strengthening Social and Economic Rights in Georgia", employees were trained in persuasive communication techniques.</p>
10.3.4 Functioning of the LEPL-Labour Inspection	Number of inspections and facilities/workplaces	Annual report of the Labour Inspection -	LEPL - Labour Inspection Office	Ministry of Internally Displaced	<p>During the reporting period, 2263 activities (initial and subsequent inspectors, prior to the elimination of violations, monitoring) were carried</p>

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
Office in accordance with the extended mandate defined by the legislation	<p>inspected and instructions issued per year;</p> <p>Number of facilities that fully implemented instructions;</p> <p>Number of employees covered by the inspections</p>	<a href="http://www.lio.moh.gov.ge">www.lio.moh.gov.ge</a>		Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia	<p>out at 1273 facilities within the framework of the Law of Georgia "On Labor Inspection". LIO issued 8944 instructions.</p> <p>As for the specific directions:</p> <p>1. In accordance with the Organic Law of Georgia "On Occupational Safety", 1346 (initial and follow up inspections, before the elimination of violations) inspections were carried out, as a result of primary inspections 772 facilities were inspected.</p> <p>LIO issued 7304 references to all facilities. 220 facilities have fully taken into account the given instructions. The conducted inspections affected 47 279 employees.</p> <p>in terms of supervision of labour rights, 917 inspections (initial and follow up inspections, before the elimination of violations) were carried out, as a result of which 501 objects were inspected initially. According to the violations revealed as a result of the inspections, the service issued 1640 references to all facilities 298 facilities have fully taken into account the given instructions. The inspections affected up to 17,885 employed persons.</p> <p>Within the framework of Resolution N112 of the Government of Georgia of March 7, 2016 "on the approval of the rules for the implementation of state supervision in order to prevent forced labor and labor exploitation and to respond to them", the inspection was carried out at 1 workplace based on a complaint. As a result of the inspection, signs of forced labor were revealed in one facility.</p> <p>79 activities were carried out in order to supervise the implementation of the norms stipulated by the Law of Georgia "On Labor Migration", as a result of which violations of the terms of employment contracts concluded with registered foreign nationals were detected at 37 facilities/local employers. 36 administrative offense minutes (warnings) were issued. At 3 sites/local employers, both the fact of employment of unregistered foreign nationals (immigrants) and the violation of the terms of the employment contract concluded with registered foreign nationals were detected, as a result of which 2 administrative offense minutes (fines) were issued. Also, in order to determine the compliance of the applications received with the certificate criteria, 10 monitorings were carried out, as a result of the initial monitoring, 4 full compliance acts and 6 partial compliance acts were drawn up, within the framework of further monitoring, full compliance acts were issued to all 6 of them..</p>
10.3.5 Ensuring regular meetings of the tripartite social partnership commission and discussion of the issues provided for in the action plan	The number of meetings of the tripartite commission and the working group created within the commission	Minutes of the meeting of the Tripartite Social Partnership Commission	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and	Member Agencies / Organizations of the Tripartite Social Partnership Commission on	In the reporting period, meetings of the TSPC and its working group have not been held.

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Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
			Social Affairs of Georgia		
<b>Goal 11.</b>	Ensure effective coordination and communication about the DCFTA implementation				
<b>Objective 11.1.</b>	Disseminate information about the benefits, opportunities and benefits of the DCFTA				
11.1.1. Effective functioning of the DCFTA.gov.ge	Number of website visitors;  Number of draft legislative acts published	Dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		According to data from January-September 2024, the website was visited by 5,900 users, including visitors from the USA, Germany, China, Turkey, and others.  The information on the website has been updated for comments.
11.1.2. Organization of meetings of the DCFTA Advisory Group for the purpose of involvement and awareness of civil society, business representatives and non-governmental organizations in the process of implementation of the DCFTA	The number of conducted meetings	Annual report on the implementation of the DCFTA Action Plan  Dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		Implementation is planned until the end of until the end of the year.
11.1.3 Thematic meetings with representatives of business, non-governmental organizations, local authorities, academia and other interested parties to raise awareness about DCFTA	Number of conducted meetings	Annual report on the implementation of the DCFTA Action Plan  Dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		Implementation is planned until the end of the year.
<b>Objective 11.2.</b>	Improving the functioning of a coordination mechanism for timely and successful implementation of the undertaken obligations				
11.2.1. Organizing DCFTA implementation interagency Sub-Commission meetings	Number of conducted meetings	Annual report on Annual report on the implementation of the DCFTA Action Plan  Dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		Implementation is planned until the end of the year.
11.2.2. Development of the 2024-2027 medium-term plan for DCFTA implementation	A medium-term plan for the implementation of the DCFTA has been adopted	Dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		According to the order of the Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia No. 1-1/127 of 2024, the medium-term (2024-2026) action plan for the implementation of the DCFTA was approved.



2024 Q3 Implementation of the EU-Georgia Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area Agreement (DCFTA)

Activity	Output Indicator	Source of Verification	Responsible Institution	Partner Institution	Implementation Report
11.2. Development and publication of quarterly and annual reports on the implementation of the DCFTA	Prepared implementation reports	Dcfta.gov.ge	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia		A report on the implementation of the DCFTA implementation plan for 2023 was prepared and published on the dcfta.gov.ge website. Reports on the first and second quarters of the 2024 DCFTA implementation plan have been prepared and published.