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| ANNEX C1: Twinning Fiche**Project title:** Strengthening Georgian Accreditation System with the Focus on EU Technical Regulations **Beneficiary administration:** Georgian Accreditation Center, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development**Twinning Reference:** GE 16 ENI EC 07 18 **Publication notice reference: EuropeAid/164285/ACT/GE** |

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| **EU funded project*****TWINNING TOOL*** |

**List of Abbreviation:**

AA- Association Agreement

BA – Beneficiary Administration

BLA – Bilateral Agreement

CIB – Comprehensive Institutional Building Programme

CSB –Civil Service Bureau

DCFTA – Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area

EA - European co-operation for Accreditation

GAC –Georgian Accreditation Center

ILAC - International Laboratory Accreditation Committee

MIS - Management Information System

MoESD – Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development

MoJ – Ministry of Justice

MoIDPOTLHSA - Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia

MS – Member State

PA – Public Administration

PAR – Public Administration Reform

PAO – Programme Administration Office

PL – Project Leader

PSC – Project Steering Committee

PT – Proficiency Testing

RTA – Resident Twinning Adviser

STE – Short term Expert

TCSA - Technical and Construction Supervision Agency

**1. Basic Information**

**1.1 Programme**: Technical Cooperation Facility II ENI/2016/039-337 / direct management

For applicants from the United Kingdom: Please be aware that eligibility criteria must be complied with for the entire duration of the grant. If the United Kingdom withdraws from the EU during the grant period without concluding an agreement with the EU ensuring in particular that applicants from the United Kingdom continue to be eligible, the beneficiaries from the United Kingdom will cease to receive EU funding (while continuing, where possible, to participate) or be required to leave the project on the basis of Article 12.2 of the General Conditions[[1]](#footnote-1) to the grant agreement.

1**.2 Twinning Sector:** Standardisation and certification, Trade & Industry (EC)

**1.3 EU funded budget:** 1.400.000 EURO

**2. Objectives**

**2.1 Overall Objective(s):**

The overall objective of the project is to support fulfillment of the commitments of Georgia in the context of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement (AA) and further enhance the accreditation and conformity assessment systems according to the European and International requirements.

**2.2 Specific objective:**

The specific objective of the project is to support Georgian Accreditation Centre to meet the EU best practice to perform accreditation in the field of EU technical regulations approximated by Georgia.

**2.3** **The elements targeted in strategic documents i.e. National Development Plan/Cooperation**

 **Agreement/Association Agreement/Sector reform strategy and related Action Plans**

The Twinning project is fully in line with the requirements of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement (AA) including DCFTA and aims to support further effective implementation and fulfillment of the objectives set out in the Agreement.

The AA, Title IV, Chapter 3, Article 47 stipulates that Georgia shall take the measures necessary in order to gradually achieve approximation with the Union's technical regulations, standards, metrology, accreditation, conformity assessment, corresponding systems and market surveillance system, and undertakes to follow the principles and the practice laid down in the relevant Union *acquis*.

**The issues targeted by the project also reflect priority directions described in strategic documents at national level:**

**The EU-Georgia Association Agenda 2017-2020 (p.2.4: Trade and Trade-Related Matters Trade in Goods)** also highlights that cooperation with the EU in the field of standards, technical regulations, metrology, market surveillance, accreditation and conformity assessment for achieving gradual approximation of these systems with EU relevant systems as provided for in the Association Agreement. Developing infrastructure related to administration of standards, technical regulations, metrology, market surveillance, accreditation, conformity assessment procedures.

**DCFTA Implementation National Action Plan for 2018-2020,** targets elements to implement the new schemes under the ISO/IEC 17021:2013 standard:

* ISO/IEC 27001 - Information security management;
* OHSAS 18001 - Occupational Health & Safety;
* ISO 17034:2016 -General requirements for the competence of reference material producers;
* EURO GAP and FOREST.

**The Social-Economic Development Strategy of Georgia 2020** envisages reforms in the fields of reducing technical barriers to trade in order to consistently meet the obligations assumed under the EU-Georgia Association Agreement including the obligations concerning harmonization of metrology, standardization, accreditation, compliance evaluation, technical regulation and market supervision national systems with European ones.

Under Strategic Direction 4: Export promotion and SME Internationalization within the Government Platform 2016-2020, development of national quality infrastructure (standardization, metrology, accreditation, and conformance evaluation) is very important in terms of eliminating technical barriers to trade.

**The Government Programme for 2018-2020 ”Freedom, Rapid Development and Welfare”** once again underlines the importance and commitment to continue the effective implementation of the EU AA with the DCFTA. The programme envisions modernization and transformation of different priority areas in line with European standards; Make specific steps towards sectoral integration with the EU, thus positioning the country closer to the sectoral norms and policies of the EU.

**3. Description**

**3.1 Background and justification:**

**Background**

The Georgian Accreditation Center (GAC) is the legal entity of public law of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia. GAC was founded in 2006. It acts under the law “Code on safety and free movement of products” from 2012. GAC is the nationally and internationally recognized accreditation body of Georgia. Its mission is to deliver best accreditation services to the Georgian economy. So GAC is providing a common system for conformity assessment of laboratories, certification and inspection bodies. This system ensures to meet the requirements of the Georgian national economy, and provides confirmation of the conformity of the products produced by the Georgian entrepreneurs to the requirements of the international and European standards. The main activities of GAC are: granting accreditation, surveillance of accredited bodies, reaccreditation, extension or reduction of scope, suspension or withdrawal of accreditation, surveillance of accredited customers, expanding its own scope and the pool of assessors and experts, training of assessors and experts, development of rules and procedures, international representation.

A lot effort have been done in order to meet the obligations under the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area Agreement (DCFTA) between Georgia and the European Union and it’s still necessary to implement reforms in this direction. One of the important issues is to establish a market surveillance system, relevant to the EU best experience and ensure approximation of the national regulations with the EU directives. To achieve this goal the drawbacks and needs of the general market surveillance system were identified and long term action plan on the “Market surveillance of industrial and consumer products " developed (Government Ordinance of December 30, 2016 №641). According to this plan, under the sectorial principle of the institutional arrangement of product market supervision, the Technical and Construction Supervision Agency covers the implementation and market surveillance of the following EU directives Directive 93/15/EEC, a system for the identification and traceability of explosives for civil uses, Directive 94/9/EC concerning equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres, Directive 1999/5/EC radio equipment and telecommunications terminal equipment and the mutual recognition of their conformity, Directive 2004/108/EC electromagnetic compatibility, Directive 2006/95/EC electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits, Directive 90/396/EEC appliances burning gaseous fuels, Council Directive 89/686/EEC personal protective equipment, Directive 98/37/EC machinery, Directive 88/378/EEC on Toy Safety, Directive 89/106/EEC construction products, Directive 90/384/EEC non-automatic weighing instruments, Directive 2004/22/EC measuring instruments.

Another important player is the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia which covers the implementation of the following EU Directives: Directive 93/42 / EEC on medical devices; Directive 90/385 /EEC on actively implantable medical devices; Directive 98/79/EC on in-vitro diagnostic medical devices.

**Justification**

According to the EU-Georgia Association Agreement signed in June 2014 some scopes of accreditation are recognized by the European Accreditation (EA). In order to implement the agreement in accordance with the Article 46-47, GAC should take the necessary measures for the EU's technical regulations, standardization, metrology, accreditation, conformity assessment systems and market supervision system and follow the principles and methods set out in the relevant legislation of the European Union. GAC has to perform accreditation of bodies for conformity assessment in the approximated areas. At this stage, these are 6 EU directives that have been approximated in Georgia: the EP and Council Directive 95/16/EC on lifts, Directive 2000/9/EC on cableways, Directive 97/23/EC on Pressure Equipment, 2009/105/EC on simple pressure vessels, Directive 92/42/EEC on hot-water boilers, and Directive 2013/53/EU on recreational craft and personal watercraft. There are 15 directives subject to approximation (see below 3.4).

In terms of planned activities, GAC commits to implement all relevant directives in Georgia. Therefore, to achieve above mentioned mission GAC needs support in different directions. The requirements under directives are innovative for Georgian Accreditation System. To perform Accreditation in the field of EU technical regulations approximated (and to be approximated) by Georgia and other aspects of Accreditation subject to the EA membership GAC has to meet the EU best practice. The most important challenge of GAC is to be suitable and competent for providing the required expert assessment. Also, to gradually achieve approximation with the Union's technical regulations, standards, accreditation, conformity assessment, corresponding systems. For these reasons Georgian Accreditation System shall undertake to follow the principles and the practice laid down in the relevant EU requirements (including but not limited by the lists in Annexes III-A and III-B to Association Agreement), as well as to establish relevant Accreditation and conformity assessment schemes to achieve and keep Bilateral Agreement (BLA) signatory status in EA.

Furthermore, building on the lessons learnt, this Twinning project will strengthen Georgian Accreditation system, including conformity assessment and market surveillance, designed to assess and ensure conformity with the applicable requirements.

Special attention will be paid to ensure that legal approximation process supported under this Twinning project will be according to the national framework on policy development, national unified methodologies for regulatory impact assessment and for legal approximation, and to the better regulation approach supported also at the EU level[[2]](#footnote-2). A better regulation approach requires that policies and legislation are prepared on the basis of the best available evidence (impact assessments) and according to an inclusive approach involving both internal and external stakeholders.

Furthermore, building on the lessons learnt and the Better Regulation agenda promoted at the EU level[[3]](#footnote-3), this Twinning project will contribute to the overall public administration reform in Georgia by ensuring the introduction of an inclusive and evidence-based approach to policy-making and legal drafting in the respective sector. It will also pay specific attention to accountability and reporting lines between concerned institutions.

GAC will ensure involvement of the representatives of other responsible authorities and stakeholders in the activities that will be undertaken within the project (MoESD, TCSA, MoIDPOTLHSA, public agencies, business representatives etc.) and smooth and coordinated work of the established inter-agency working group, which should ensure consistency of actions performed.

**3.2 Ongoing reforms:**

During recent years GAC made progress in regards to approximation of Georgian legislation with Union *acquis.* Six EU new approach directives are already reflected by Georgian technical regulations and work on approximation with other directives is ongoing.

For those, which are, already approximated GAC is engaged to set proper accreditation procedures and facilitate the conformity assessment according to the EU best practice. GAC is participating in EA meetings which are the platform to discuss and update the policies, rules and procedures based on established practice and update of EU regulations. Amendments in Union *acquis* like Regulation (EU) 2016/424, Directive 2014/33/EU, Directive 2014/68/EU, Council Directive 92/42/EEC, Directive 2014/29/EU become a matter for reforms.

**3.3 Linked activities:**

**EU TACIS project “Support to Implementation art. 51 (Quality Management System) of PCA”,** Duration 2008 -2011; The project covered three main elements of quality infrastructure - standardization, metrology, accreditation. The project supported preparation and implementation of quality management system; provided trainings of Georgian accredited bodies and/or bodies interested in accreditation in the field of the relevant standard requirements and criteria; provided consultations and support to the accredited conformity assessment bodies concerning implementation and proper operation of their management systems and etc.

**Bilateral** **Georgian-German PTB (Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt) co-operation project** 2007-2013 “Support of Quality Infrastructure in Georgia with particular consideration of Metrology”, Period of implementation 2007-20013; Project mainly was focused on metrology field but also provided support to GAC in terms of conducting trainings for the GAC assessors and invited technical experts according to international standards ISO/IEC, onsite visits in German conformity assessment bodies to observe their activities.

**Twinning project “Strengthening accreditation infrastructure according to the best practice in the EU member states”;** funded by EU; Period of implementation 2011-2013; the project purpose was to strengthen Accreditation system to be ready to apply for full membership in the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA) and International Laboratory Accreditation Committee (ILAC). The project focused on three main components like: Legal Framework, rules and procedures of Georgian Accreditation Centre to be in line with appropriate (EU, EA, ILAC, and IAF) requirements; application of harmonized standards (ISO 17025, 17020, 17021, 17024, 17065 and ISO 15189, and ISO Guide 65) in accreditation process in the way recognised by the regional and international accreditation organisations and raising awareness among stakeholder.

**“Support to GAC in Management Information System (MIS)”**, funded by EU under CIB programme; Year of implementation 2015; The purpose of this contract was to enhance the Management Information System (MIS) in the Georgian Accreditation Centre: *improve IT system (database, website), draft an operational MIS manual,**Train GAC relevant staff.*

**“Support to Further Strengthening Accreditation in Georgia to Meet EU Best Practices”** funded by EU under CIB programme; Period of implementation 2015-2017; The objective of the project was to strengthen legal, technical and administrative capacities of GAC along the implementation of the AA and DCFTA especially in: Capacity building of GAC and development of proficiency testing in the field of accreditation.

**Twinning project: “Strengthening the Capacities of the Technical and Construction Supervision Agency (TCSA) in Development of the Market Surveillance System in Georgia”,** funded by EU; Period of implementation 2018- 2020 (ongoing); The purpose of the project is to strengthen the TCSA in terms of implementation and enforcement of legislation, human resources and market surveillance and consumer protection's awareness, to meet DCFTA requirements and challenges

 **“Support of the Technical and Construction Supervision Agency for the improvement of the National Market Surveillance System, Consistent with the EU Best Practices",** funded by EU; Period of implementation 2015-2016; The purpose of the project was promote and enhance the EU approach in market surveillance in relation to selected New Approach directives and to contribute to further strengthening legal, technical and administrative capacities of TCSA.

**Twinning project: ”Support to Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology for further implementation of the EU-Georgia DCFTA requirements“,** funded by EU; Period of implementation June 2017 – March 2019; The purpose of the project is to support the strengthening of administrative, human and technical capacities of Georgian National Agency for Standards and Metrology to further implement the requirements of the DCFTA through the gradual approximation of the Georgian legislation in line with new approach directives and best practices in the field of metrology and standardization.

**Related Programmer and Projects**

As already mentioned above, the Reform of Public Administration (PAR) is of utmost importance for the country and the process is supported through donor community. The EU total contribution to the “Support to the Public Administration Reform in Georgia” 2016-2019, is EUR 30 000 000 euro. Out of which EUR 20 000 000 is budget support share and EUR 10 000 000 for complementary support. The objective of the programme is to improve the efficiency, accountability and transparency of the public administration of Georgia, in line with the key Principles of Public Administration that have been developed by OECD/SIGMA in close cooperation with the European Commission. It will have a particular focus on the improvement of the policy planning and coordination capacities and processes in the central public administration. The professionalization of the civil service (including the reform of the civil service training system) will also be supported through the programme.

**Project Title:** Facility for the implementation of the Association Agreement in Georgia; EU funded; Period of implementation: 2015-2018; Description: the project provides policy advice and capacity building support to the Georgian Government in coordinating the implementation of the Association, strengthening the institutional capacities of the line ministries and other public institutions to carry out the required reforms, including on policy development and legal approximation processes.

**Project Title:** Legislative Impact Assessment, Drafting and Representation; EU funded;

Period of implementation: 2015-2018; Description: the project aims to improve the legal drafting process at the central level of government (through promoting better coordination among relevant entities, and introduction of the regulatory impact assessment of draft legislation) as well as the Government's international representation and reporting functions with special emphasis on the Ministry of Justice.

These two projects (AA Facility and Legal Drafting) supported the elaboration of unified methodologies, and provided capacity building to key institutions (Government and Parliament) in the legal approximation and Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) processes. These methodologies are to be formally approved by the Government.

Two other projects, EU funded – implemented by GIZ, and USAID-funded ("G4G") also support LA and RIA but with focus on the economic sphere.

**Policy and legislative process**

The National Policy Planning System Reform Strategy, adopted by the Government of Georgia in August 2015 recognises the current weak link between the policy planning process and legislation drafting, the absence of practice of legislative impact assessment and the weak institutional capacity of ministries in legal drafting. The OECD/SIGMA 2018 assessment in the policy development and coordination area highlights a number of weaknesses in the current (policy-making) and legislative process[[4]](#footnote-4). The assessment specifically notes the reoccurring problem with implementation of laws, which can be attributed to the low quality of laws due to weaknesses in the law-making process. There is a pressure to complete numerous legal reforms in the shortest possible time: "This situation inevitably places enormous pressure on the combined law-making resources of the Government and the Parliament and leaves little time for essential elements of a well-ordered law-making process, such as regulatory impact assessments or proper consultation with civil society."[[5]](#footnote-5) Improvement of the legislative drafting process and quality of legislation is now a priority area of action for the Administration of Government under the Prime Minister (steering the policy-making process) and all line ministries. This primarily involves the Administration of Government, Ministry of Justice, and Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development. In order to meet the targets and obligations in law making process the Government introduced changes in Law on Normative acts (amended on June 13, 2018) and Regulation of the Government (amended on August 24, 2018).

It should be underlined that the Government, with international support, developed a uniform methodology for regulatory impact assessments, to be used by all legal drafters. Similar efforts were made with regards to developing a uniform approach to legal approximation.

To sustain the legal approximation process the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) with the support of the EU assistance (under above mentioned projects Association Agreement Facility and Legal Drafting projects) elaborated Legal Approximation Guidelines and Manual. These documents provide key principles and techniques of approximation that will guide and orient legal drafters throughout the approximation process.

The documents are under finalization and after official adoption by the Government should be used consistently, not only by MoJ, but also by all line ministries, and institutions tasked with the approximation exercise. Such proceedings will help to ensure the achievement of a steady and sustainable approximation path.

Along the legislative process the government is proceeding with the rational organisation of state administration and clear accountability lines between institutions, including supervision and reporting between line ministries and agencies. The Civil Service Bureau (CSB) is tasked with the development of uniform civil service state policy. Functional reviews of the line Ministries has been already done and currently the CSB is performing an analysis of state agencies with the intention of identifying and putting forward reforms to improve the organisation of PA, to streamline their mandates, enforcement mechanism as well as policy making process.

**3.4 List of applicable *Union acquis*/standards/norms:**

In Annexes III-A and III-B of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement there are following directives

and Regulations subject to approximation:

* Regulation (EC) 765/2008 - setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products;
* ISO/IEC 17011 - Conformity assessment - Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies;
* Decision 768/2008/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 on a common framework for the marketing of products;
* Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products;
* Directive 2001/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 December 2001 on general product safety;
* Council Directive 80/181/EEC of 20 December 1979 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to units of measurement, as amended by Directive 2009/3/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council;
* Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European standardisation of 25 October 2012;
* Council Directive 85/374/EEC of 25 July 1985 on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States concerning liability for defective products;
* Commission Directive 2008/43/EC of 4 April 2008 setting up, pursuant to Council Directive 93/15/EEC, a system for the identification and traceability of explosives for civil uses; Directive 94/9/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 23 March 1994 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres;
* Directive 1999/5/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 1999 on radio equipment and telecommunications terminal equipment and the mutual recognition of their conformity;
* Directive 2004/108/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2004 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to electromagnetic compatibility;
* Directive 2006/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on the harmonisation of the laws of Member States relating to electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits;
* Council Directive 93/42/EEC of 14 June 1993 concerning medical devices;
* Directive 98/79/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 October 1998 on in vitro diagnostic medical devices;
* Council Directive 90/385/EEC of 20 June 1990 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to active implantable medical devices;
* Directive 2009/142/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 relating to appliances burning gaseous fuels;
* Council Directive 89/686/EEC of 21 December 1989 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to personal protective equipment;
* Directive 98/37/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 June 1998 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to machinery;
* Directive 2009/48/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2009 on the safety of toys;
* Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2011 laying down harmonized conditions for the marketing of construction products;
* Directive 2009/23/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on non-automatic weighing instruments;
* Directive 2004/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 on measuring instruments.

The Twinning project will work on approximation of the relevant Georgian legal framework with the requirements of the following Directives/recommendations:

* Commission Directive 2008/43/EC of 4 April 2008 setting up, pursuant to Council Directive 93/15/EEC, a system for the identification and traceability of explosives for civil uses;
* Directive 94/9/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 23 March 1994 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres;
* Council Directive 93/42/EEC of 14 June 1993 concerning medical devices;
* Directive 98/79/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 October 1998 on in vitro diagnostic medical devices;
* Council Directive 90/385/EEC of 20 June 1990 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to active implantable medical devices;
* Directive 2009/142/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 relating to appliances burning gaseous fuels;
* Council Directive 89/686/EEC of 21 December 1989 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to personal protective equipment;
* Directive 2009/48/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2009 on the safety of toys;
* Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2011 laying down harmonized conditions for the marketing of construction products;
* Directive 2009/23/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on non-automatic weighing instruments;
* Directive 2004/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 on measuring instruments Directive.

**3.5 Results per component**

The Twinning project will provide advisory support to the GAC in following directions:

**Mandatory Result 1 (Component 1): Approximation of Georgian legal Framework on Accreditation with relevant EU regulations enhanced**

The legal framework on Accreditation is in compliance with the Union *acquis* and relevant directives, but still there is a need to assess the compliance of existing primary and secondary legislation with the relevant EU Directives. The assessment report should include the list of legislation to be revised and/or developed. If needed, based on the recommendations and findings, regulatory impact assessment could be applied as well. In addition, the project is expected to contribute to sharing the best EU practices in the accreditation field. Some activities could also be addressed to comply with all the amendments and new legislative initiatives introduced by the EU.

**Sub-Result 1.1: Contribution to the revision of the Georgian Legal Framework on Accreditation in accordance with the applicable regulations and directives and in accordance with an inclusive and evidence-based approach**

Indicators of Achievement:

* Amendments to the Georgian primary and secondary legislation on accreditation in an inclusive and evidence based process prepared using unified LA methodology together with the table of concordance preferably within the first half of the project implementation.

**Mandatory Result 2 (Component 2): GAC Capacity in fulfilling its tasks in accordance to the EU standards and best practices enhanced**

GAC assessors have been trained in accordance with ISO/IEC 17021-1/2/3 standards. Though these standards are related to auditing and certification of environmental and quality management systems, it should be noted that GAC assessors don’t have sufficient knowledge in the abovementioned fields. Also, certification bodies covering auditing and certification of environmental and quality management systems haven’t been developed, which makes it difficult to find competent experts who could be involved in accreditation process as assessors. Therefore, GAC assessors need in-depth trainings in different directions. The trained assessors should share their knowledge with stakeholders by creating certification bodies that facilitate the development of certification bodies in different areas.

It should be highlighted that GAC has already introduced ISO/IEC 17043 standard in GAC rules and procedures. But still there isn’t an accredited body against this standard. Conformity assessment bodies interested in to get accreditation in this field have no experience and appropriate knowledge to organize PTs and process the statistical methods. Also, GAC assessors haven’t enough experience to train and share experience with interested parties. Therefore, GAC assessors again need more in-depth trainings against the standard ISO/IEC 17043 Conformity assessment - General requirements for proficiency testing.

It is important that accredited food testing laboratories participate in PTs and interlaboratory comparisons regularly which will increase reliability of the test results conducted by them. Currently there is no accredited provider in the mentioned field in Georgia. Laboratories accredited by GAC take part in comparisons conducted by foreign providers, though mostly foreign providers cannot meet the requirements of Georgian laboratories for specific areas. Therefore it is important to develop this field to ensure that there are competent GAC assessors and food testing laboratories that can provide transparent and reliable PTs and inter-laboratory comparisons.

**Sub-Result 2.1: GAC capacity in the field of certification of various types of audit and management systems (17021) strengthened**

Indicators of Achievement:

* Share of GAC relevant staff trained within the project in basic and advanced trainings and capable to perform certification in relation to:
	+ ISO/IEC 17021 - Conformity assessment - Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems (separately for all parts);
	+ ISO/IEC 27001 - Information security management;
	+ OHSAS 18001 - Occupational Health & Safety;
	+ ISO 17034:2016 -General requirements for the competence of reference material producers;
	+ EURO GAP and FOREST.
* Rate of satisfaction of trained staff by quality of information recieved and by performance of the EU MS experts.

**Sub-Result 2.2: GAC capacity in the field of Proficiency Testing (PT) as a tool to prove the competence in Conformity Assessment strengthened**

Indicators of Achievement:

* Share of GAC relevant staff trained within the project in relation to:
* ISO/IEC 17043 - Conformity assessment - General requirements for proficiency testing;
* ISO 13528:2015 - Statistical methods for use in proficiency testing by interlaboratory comparison;
* Enhancing quality of evaluation/calculation/estimation of uncertainties in various specific technical activity areas of laboratories;
* Conducting number of validation and verification of the testing methods.
* Number of Proficiency Testing conducted within the following fields:
* In the water - molybdenum - Mo; Selenium - Se, Chromium-Cr, Barium - Ba; Oil hydrocarbons; Microbiological;
* In any product - radioactivity; Cesium Cs. Strontium - Sn;
* Meat - Physico-chemical and microbiological and veterinary residues;
* Honey - Physico-chemical analysis, waste of veterinary residues;
* Fish - Physico-chemical and Microbiological Indicators;
* Cement –Mechanical, strength; compression; Physical, Density; terms of pack - start-end;
* Nuts - Physico-chemical indicators;
* Milk - Physico-chemical and microbiological indicators;
* Electric Measurements;
* Environmental Protection - Air and soil indicators;
* Medical parameters – any sample.
* Ratio of female participation in activities organized by the project under component 2.

**Sub-Result 2.3: Tool for improvement the competence and transparency of Conformity assessment by means of electronic system developed and introduced**

Indicators of Achievement:

* Availability of relevant tools developed to perform transparent conformity assessment exercise;
* Status of development of the user friendly electronic system for conformity assessment.

**Mandatory Result 3 (Component 3): GAC outreach and cooperation with the EU relevant community strengthened**

As a signatory of the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) with EA, GAC is committed to participate in committee work organized by EA. Supporting GAC representative’s participation in committee meetings and important events will give GAC the opportunity to enhance knowledge and raise awareness regarding ongoing developments in the field, be aware of new conformity assessment issues as well as introduce and implement them within GAC activities. In parallel with the work with international community the GAC will need to strengthen cooperation with relevant stakeholders. There is great necessity to organize targeted information sharing meetings and awareness raising events for interested parties.

Set off promotional materials will also be required for GAC to strengthen its outreach and knowledge among stakeholders.

**Sub-Result 3.1: Cooperation of GAC with European co-operation for Accreditation (EA) through participation in EA work enhanced**

Indicators of Achievement:

* Participation of GAC relevant staff in the following EA events**:**
* EA Laboratory Committees;
* EA Inspection Committees;
* EA Certification Committees;
* EA Horizontal Harmonization Committees;
* EA Multilateral Agreement Councils;
* EA General Assemblies.

**Sub-Result 3.2: GAC public outreach and cooperation with relevant stakeholders strengthened**

Indicators of Achievement:

* Number of awareness raising campaigns/events conducted within the project for relevant stakeholders;
* Number of Trainings conducted within the project on GAC activities and on latest developments in the field for the interested parties and stakeholders;
* Number of new promotional materials developed within the project and disseminated to interested parties and stakeholders;
* Ratio of female participation in relevant project activities;
* Number of visitors of GAC’s updated webpage by the end of the project.

 **3.6 Means/input from the EU Member State Partner Administration(s)\*:**

Member State(s) is/are kindly requested to develop activities in the submitted proposal which are needed in order to achieve the results stipulated in the fiche.

The MS PL will be expected to devote a minimum of 3 days per month to the project in his/her home administration. In addition, he will coordinate from the Member state side the work of the Project steering Committee (PSC). MS Project Leader may participate in the project also as short-term expert (STE). In this case the MS Project Leader should satisfy requirements stipulated in the fiche for both the Project Leader and the relevant STE profile.

The RTA will be located in the premises of the GAC in the beneficiary country on a full time basis and will be responsible for the direct implementation of the project under the overall supervision of the MS Project Leader.

The RTA will maintain day-to-day cooperation with the beneficiary administration and coordinate the work performed by the STEs. The RTA will have a key role in the coordination of the inputs required for the successful implementation of all the project activities.

Minimum two visibility events will be organized in the course of the implementation of the project; Kick-off meeting at the start of the implementation and the Final meeting at the end of the implementation of the project activities.

The required MS experts must either be civil/public servants of the relevant MS administration or be permanent staff of authorised mandated bodies. All experts must comply with the requirements set in the Twinning Manual 2017.

The RTA should be supported by a permanent RTA Assistant. The RTA assistant should be in close collaboration with the beneficiary administration BA. The RTA assistant will perform general project duties and providing translation and interpretation services as necessary, practical arrangements for the project, such as organizational issues of expert missions, conferences, training, seminars, maintaining project records and etc. Until the RTA can select and hire an assistant, the Beneficiary administration makes a member of its staff available to support the RTA in his/her daily tasks.

A full-time language assistant should also be recruited. She/he should perform most of the required interpretation/translation services. She/he will provide day-to-day interpretation/translation to the RTA and project experts during missions.

Whenever required and needed for simultaneous interpretation during seminars and workshops, translation of large volume of documents additional interpretation may be procured and funded by the project.

Proposals shall include only the CVs of the proposed PL, of the RTA and of the Component Leaders.

**3.6.1 Profile and tasks of the PL:**

**Profile:**

* Be a national of a Member State of the European Union;
* Proven contractual relation to a public administration or mandated body;
* University level education in a relevant discipline or equivalent professional experience in a related field of minimum 5 years;
* At least 3 years’ experience in the field of accreditation;
* Experience of EU legislation and practice in the field of accreditation;
* Previous experience in project management with similar nature will be considered an asset;
* Fluency in both written and spoken English;
* Computer literacy;
* Good communications and inter-personal skills;
* Good leadership skills.

**Tasks**:

* Overall direction, supervision, guidance and monitoring of the project; ability to mobilize the necessary expertise in support of the efficient implementation of the project;
* Ability to mobilise the necessary expertise in support of the efficient implementation of the project;
* In cooperation with the Beneficiary PL submits and signs the interim quarterly and project final reports prepared with the support of RTA to the concerned authorities;
* Formally signs project work plan(s) and/or any updates;
* Ensuring timely achievement of the project results;
* Co-Chairing of project steering committees;
* Provision of legal and technical advice and analysis whenever needed.

**3.6.2 Profile and tasks of the RTA:**

**Profile:**

* Be a national of a Member State of the European Union;
* Proven contractual relation to a public administration or mandated body;
* University level education in a relevant discipline or equivalent professional experience in a related field of minimum 5 years;
* At least 3 years’ experience in accreditation and conformity assessment fields;
* Good knowledge of relevant EU legislative and institutional requirements related to the various components of this project;
* Good knowledge of accreditation and conformity assessment legislation, work methods and procedures;
* Good managerial skills; Good Communication Skills;
* Excellent computer literacy (Word, Excel, Power Point);
* Excellent command of spoken and written English;
* Experience with similar projects will be considered an asset.

**Tasks**:

* Overall coordination project implementation and of all activities;
* Coordination of the activities of the team members in line with the agreed work plan to enable timely completion of project outputs;
* Provide technical input to the project whenever needed and provision of advice in his field of expertise;
* Liaise with MS and BC PLs and daily contacts with BC RTA counterpart;
* Preparation of the initial and subsequent work plan(s) and project progress reports, together with PL, to be submitted to the Steering Committees;
* Liaison with EUD Project Manager and Programme Administration Office (PAO);
* Liaison with other relevant projects and relevant Georgian institutions.
* Strengthening and further development of Accreditation field in the country, by promoting cooperation within main counterparts and target groups.

**3.6.3 Profile and tasks of Component Leaders*:***

**Component 1: Approximation of Georgian legal Framework on Accreditation with relevant EU regulations enhanced**

**Profile:**

* University level education in a relevant discipline or equivalent professional experience in a related field of minimum 5 years;
* At least 3 years of experience in accreditation field;
* Good experience in legal drafting coordination process relevant to the project scope;
* Good experience in capacity building activities;
* Excellent time management, organization, and prioritization skills;
* Fluency in written and spoken English.

**Tasks:**

* Component coordination, guidance and monitoring;
* Conducting analysis of the area relevant to the component;
* Preparing and conducting training programs;
* Timely proposals for any corrective measures;
* Liaise with MS and BC PLs and daily contacts with RTA and BC counterpart.

**Component 2: GAC Capacity in fulfilling its tasks in accordance to the EU standards and best practices enhanced**

**Profile:**

* University level education in a relevant discipline or equivalent professional experience in a related field of minimum 5 years;
* At least 3years of experience in accreditation field;
* Solid experience in conformity assessment;
* Good experience in capacity building activities;
* Excellent time management, organization, and prioritization skills;
* Fluency in written and spoken English.

**Tasks:**

* Component coordination, guidance and monitoring;
* Conducting analysis of the area relevant to the component;
* Preparing and conducting training programs;
* Timely proposals for any corrective measures;
* Liaise with MS and BC PLs and daily contacts with RTA and BC counterpart.

**Component 3: GAC outreach and cooperation with the EU relevant community strengthened**

**Profile:**

* University level education in a relevant discipline or equivalent professional experience in a related field of minimum 5 years;
* At least 3 years of experience in the field of communication and visibility;
* Good experience in capacity building activities;
* Excellent time management, organization, and prioritization skills;
* Fluency in written and spoken English;
* Experience in accreditation field will be considered an asset.

**Tasks:**

* Component coordination, guidance and monitoring;
* Conducting analysis of the area relevant to the component;
* Organizing campaigns, stakeholder meetings and events;
* Preparing promotional materials;
* Preparing and conducting training programs;
* Timely proposals for any corrective measures;
* Liaise with MS and BC PLs and daily contacts with RTA and BC counterpart.

**3.6.4 Profile and tasks of other short-term experts*:***

Specialist civil servants/staff of approved mandated bodies will be made available by the Twinning Partner (MS) to support the implementation of the activities and agreed with the beneficiary administration. Specific and technical matters relevant to this Twinning project will be taken over by a pool of STEs. The detailed expert input shall be established when drawing up the Twinning work plan.

Below some indicative qualifications and tasks (STEs CV should not be included in the MS proposal):

**Profile of short-term experts:**

* A university degree in economics, engineering or similar discipline relevant to the project or equivalent experience of minimum 5 years;
* At least of 3 years of experience in an accreditation field;
* Experience in EU legislation and practice in the field of accreditation;
* Specific knowledge and experience in quality management systems;
* Specific knowledge and experience in conformity assessment;
* Proven experience working on legal approximation issues;
* Good understanding of training and professional development;
* Relevant experience in capacity building activities preferred;
* Experience in preparing regulatory framework, including fiscal and regulatory impact assessments, public consultations;
* Experience in communication and visibility, Computer literacy.

**Tasks of short- term experts:**

* Contributing to the sustainability of the project by ensuring that aspects of the project related to their field of expertise are implemented timely;
* Supervision and on-site coordination of all activities related to their field of expertise and performed under this project;
* Timely proposals for any corrective measures;
* Assistance with drafting project related documents in accordance with the national rules for legislativedevelopment and preparation of trainings, study tours, workshops, seminars, etc.
* Liaise with RTA and BC counterparts.
* Communication with stakeholders and media;

**4. Budget**

Maximum Budget available for the Twinning Grant 1, 400,000 Euro.

 **5. Implementation Arrangements**

**5.1** The European Union Delegation in Tbilisi, Georgia, will be responsible for the tendering, contracting, payments and financial reporting, and will work in close co-operation with the Beneficiary. The person in charge of this project at the Delegation of the European Union to Georgia is:

Ms. Sirje Põder

Attachée, Programme Officer, Private Sector Development, Trade Facilitation

Delegation of the European Union to Georgia

38 Nino Chkheidze St, 0102 Tbilisi, Georgia

Tel: +995 32 2943 763

E-mail: Sirje.PODER@eeas.europa.eu

**5.2 Institutional framework**

The beneficiary institution of the project is Georgian Accreditation Center under the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia. The organizational chart is provided in Annex 1.

Main objective of GAC is participation in elaboration and implementation of the state policy on accreditation and conformity assessment. GAC has permanent staff of 14 persons. Assessments at the CABs are done jointly with the permanent staff and the most skilled invited experts..

Furthermore, the other stakeholders as the Technical and Construction Supervision Agency, the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia, public agencies and private or semi-private organizations such as testing and calibration laboratories will be involved in the implementation of the project activities.

Any other stakeholder will be involved in the project implementation due to their mandate and responsibilities.

**5.3 Counterparts in the Beneficiary administration:**

The PL and RTA counterparts will be staff of the Beneficiary administration and will be actively involved in the management and coordination of the project.

**5.3.1 Contact person:**

Mr. Malkhaz Kharebava

Acting General Director

Georgian Accreditation Center

42a, Al. Kazbegi Ave., 0186 Tbilisi, Georgia

**5.3.2 PL counterpart**

Mr. Genadi Arveladze

Deputy Minister

The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development

2 Sanapiro St, Tbilisi

**5.3.3 RTA counterpart**

Has to be identified

Quality Manager

Georgian Accreditation Center

42a, Al. Kazbegi Ave., 0186 Tbilisi, Georgia

6. **Duration of the project**

**Duration of the execution period**: 27 months. [The execution period will end 3 months after the implementation period of the Action (work plan) which will take 24 months].

**7. Management and reporting**

**7.1 Language**

The official language of the project is the one used as contract language under the instrument (English). All formal communications regarding the project, including interim and final reports, shall be produced in the language of the contract.

**7.2. Project Steering Committee**

A project steering committee (PSC) shall oversee the implementation of the project. The main duties of the PSC include verification of the progress and achievements via-à-vis the mandatory results/outputs chain (from mandatory results/outputs per component to impact), ensuring good coordination among the actors, finalising the interim reports and discuss the updated work plan. Other details concerning the establishment and functioning of the PSC are described in the Twinning Manual.

**7.3 Reporting**

All reports shall have a narrative section and a financial section. They shall include as a minimum the information detailed in section 5.5.2 (interim reports) and 5.5.3 (final report) of the Twinning Manual. Reports need to go beyond activities and inputs. Two types of reports are foreseen in the framework of Twining: interim quarterly reports and final report. An interim quarterly report shall be presented for discussion at each meeting of the PSC. The narrative part shall primarily take stock of the progress and achievements via-à-vis the mandatory results and provide precise recommendations and corrective measures to be decided by in order to ensure the further progress.

**8. Sustainability**

The achievements of the Twinning project (mandatory results) will be maintained as a permanent asset to the Beneficiary Institution even after the end of the Twinning implementation. The Beneficiary Institution is fully committed to ensure the long term impact of the Twinning project. Staff benefiting from trainings/study visits shall transfer knowledge through subsequent trainings to their colleagues. Where relevant, the training programmes could be included in the training curriculum of the national training institution. Smooth and effective functioning of the achieved results will be guaranteed by the relevant human and financial resources contribution.

The sustainability of the project results will be ensured by policy and legislative changes introduced through evidence based approach and consulted with external and internal stakeholders.

It’s worth mentioning that all actions will be planned to maximise the capacity building effect and ensure sustainability of results. In particular: Any guiding documents will be developed together with the beneficiary institutions. Any guidelines or procedures developed under this action will not contradict any legal provision of the country.

The Beneficiary Institution is fully committed to ensure the long term impact of the Twinning project. Staff benefiting from trainings/study visits shall transfer knowledge through subsequent trainings to their colleagues. Staff should have lifelong learning opportunities to acquire the knowledge and skills they need to fulfil their tasks.

**9. Crosscutting issues**

The principle of equal opportunity will be integrated into all stages of the project implementation, including equal opportunities in training, site visits and participation in all of the Projects' missions and events; contributing thus to the promotion of gender equality. The principle of equal opportunity shall apply both to the GAC staff involved in the project and other parties participating in the project activities. Every effort will be made to ensure broad gender representation at all stages of the project implementation.

The activities envisaged under the project will not negatively affect the environment. During the implementation of the project, the production of printed material will be minimized to have positive influence on the environment.

**10. Conditionality and sequencing**

There is no precondition set for this twinning project.

It is foreseen that a series of activities / measures would have been undertaken by the GAC in order for the project to start in satisfactory conditions. The project will ensure well-coordinated legal approximation process involving all responsible parties in compliance with the recognized standards and stabled practices.

GAC commits itself to provide the contributions stated in the Fiche. They include such as:

* Strong commitment and support of GAC management throughout the Project implementation period;
* Strong involvement and commitment of GAC staff at all levels;
* Assigning dedicated staff according to the project components;
* Ensuring coordination between departments and institutions connected with the Project;
* Ensuring access to necessary information and documents especially in regards with the national regulatory framework;
* In time and strong coordination and acknowledgement with the beneficiary country’s commitments.

The project specific activities will be defined and prioritized in close coordination between the MS and BC partners based to the Logical Framework. The most important tasks will be to timely conduct gap analysis of the relevant legal framework, make ordered schedule for alignment of legislation and prepare respective amendments. The ccapacity building activities will be gradually introduced to comply with all the requirements and changes introduces.

**11. Indicators for performance measurement**

The Indicators for performance are described in chapter 3.5 together with the project results as well as in the Logical Framework Matrix (annex2). Staff from subject matter departments of GAC will be responsible for the implementation of methodology. The project MS and BC partners will ensure the smooth implementation of the project activates and assess the performance measurement in accordance with the logical framework.

The relevant staff from GAC will be involved in the project implementation and nominated for the overall coordination and project management; providing the information/documents in regards with the national regulatory basis and arranging the relevant information/consultation meetings. The Work Plan will further detail and give final shape to indicators.

The Quarterly Project Steering Committee meetings will also facilitate the coordination and monitoring of project development to assess project implementation against performance measurement and address any occurred issue.

The project should meet the targets specifically related to the scope of the project:

* GAC service package includes accreditation schemes for the most relevant management system (ISO/IEC 27001 - Information security management; OHSAS 18001 - Occupational Health & Safety; ISO 17034:2016 -General requirements for the competence of reference material producers; EURO GAP and FOREST) certification bodies and other newly released schemes under the EA MLA;
* ISO 17043:2010 - Conformity assessment - General requirements for proficiency testing;
* Improved competence and transparency of conformity assessment results in regulated fields;
* GAC deepened cooperation with EA through participation in relevant events.

**12. Facilities available**

The Beneficiary commits itself to deliver the following facilities:

* Adequately equipped office space for the RTA and the RTA assistant(s) for the entire duration of their secondment;
* Supply of office room including access to computer, telephone, internet, printer, photocopier;
* Adequate conditions for the STEs to perform their work while on mission;
* Provide suitable venues for the training sessions and meetings that will be held under the Project;
* Security related issues will be assured according to the standards and practices applicable for all Georgian public institutions.

**ANNEXES TO PROJECT FICHE**

**Annex 1 -** GAC Organizational Structure;

**Annex 2 -** Simplified Logical framework.

**Annex 1**

**GAC organizational Structure**

****

**Annex 2:**

**Simplified Logical Framework**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Project Title: **Strengthening Georgian Accreditation System with the Focus on EU Technical** **Regulations** | Programme name and number: **Technical Cooperation Facility II ENI/2016/039-337 / direct management** |  |
| Beneficiary Institution: **Georgian Accreditation Center, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development** | Total budget:**1, 400,000 €**  | **EU ENI financing (100%)** |
|  | **Description** | **Indicators** | **Sources of verification** | **Risks** | **Assumptions**  |
| **Overall Objective** | The overall objective of the project is to support fulfillment of the commitments of Georgia in the context of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement (AA) and further enhance the accreditation and conformity assessment systems according to the European and International requirements. | * Number of quality certifications in relation to ISO/IEC 17021, ISO/IEC 27001, OHSAS 18001, ISO 17034:2016

Baseline: 0 Target: 15 (\*) | * GAC/MoESD Reports;
* Monitoring / assessment reports by international organizations;
* Statistics reports;
* AA implementation report.
 |  |  |
| **Specific** **Objective** | The specific objective of the project is to support Georgian Accreditation Centre to meet the EU best practice to perform accreditation in the field of EU technical regulations approximated by Georgia. | * Degree of compliance of Georgian relevant legal framework with EU requirements

Baseline: 30% Target: 90% | * Legislate Herald of Georgia “Matsne”
* Legislative; amendments;
* AA Implementation report;
* GAC/MoESD reports;
* Analysis reports and recommendations;
* Assessment reports;
* Project interim and final reports;
* Promotional materials.
 | * Change of political situation in Georgia;
* Lack of commitment from different authorities at governmental level;
* Delays in adopting new and /or amended regulations.
 | * Strong support and commitment from the senior management of MoESD / GAC / MoIDPOTLHSA;
* Strong support and commitment from twinning partner(s);
* Relevant staff of GAC available and involved in the process.
 |
| **Mandatory results / outputs by** **Components** | 1. Approximation of Georgian legal Framework on Accreditation with relevant EU regulations enhanced
 | * Ratio of the relevant GAC staff and other responsible bodies well aware of new requirements and amendments introduced in line with the following EU legal acts:
* Commission Directive 2008/43/EC of 4 April 2008 setting up, pursuant to Council Directive 93/15/EEC, a system for the identification and traceability of explosives for civil uses;
* Directive 94/9/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 23 March 1994 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres;
* Council Directive 93/42/EEC of 14 June 1993 concerning medical devices;
* Directive 98/79/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 October 1998 on in vitro diagnostic medical devices;
* Council Directive 90/385/EEC of 20 June 1990 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to active implantable medical devices;
* Directive 2009/142/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 relating to appliances burning gaseous fuels;
* Council Directive 89/686/EEC of 21 December 1989 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to personal protective equipment;
* Directive 2009/48/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2009 on the safety of toys;
* Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2011 laying down harmonized conditions for the marketing of construction products;
* Directive 2009/23/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on non-automatic weighing instruments;
* Directive 2004/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 on measuring instruments Directive.

Baseline: n/a Target: 80% | * Legislative amendments and explanatory notes;
* Project documentation, interim and final reports;
* Project activity reports (consultations, discussion, and stakeholder feedback).
 | * Lack of commitment from different authorities at governmental level;
* Lack of sufficient support and/or means of relevant institutions
* Delays in project implementation process.
 | * Government commitment on fulfilment of AA requirements continued;
* Strong support and commitment from the senior management of MoESD / GAC/ MoIDPOTLHSA;
* Twinning MS partner commitment;
* Availability of local staff;
* All relevant documentation / information available.
 |
|  | 1. Enhancing GAC Capacity in fulfilling its tasks in accordance to the EU standards and best practices
 | * Number of GAC staff capable to be involved as assessors in accreditation process in the certification of various types of audit and management systems

Baseline: 4 Target: 15* Number of Conformity assessment bodies having appropriate knowledge to organize PTs and process the statistical methods

Baseline: 1 Target: 2 (\*)* Level of competence and transparency of conformity assessment results improved in regulated fields

Baseline: 40% Target:80% | * Project documentation (working procedures, activity reports and etc.);
* Reports of certification findings;
* Project activity reports: (list of training participants, training materials, training evaluations);
* Proficiency testing reports;
* Assessment reports on conducted PTs, certifications, conformity assessment;
* Manuals, guidelines for conformity assessment.
 |
|  | 1. GAC outreach and cooperation with the EU relevant community strengthened
 | * Cooperation of GAC with the EA community stakeholders

Baseline: limited cooperationTarget: cooperation with SNAS (Slovakia); SA (Slovenia); ENAC (Spain); UKAS (United Kingdom) established | * Project documentation;
* Committee decisions.
 |
| **Sub-results per component**  | **1.1** Contribution to the revision of the Georgian Legal Framework on Accreditation in accordance with the applicable regulations and directives and in accordance with an inclusive and evidence-based approach | * Amendments to the Georgian primary and secondary legislation on accreditation in an inclusive and evidence based process prepared using unified LA methodology together with the table of concordance preferably within first half of the project implementation

Baseline: amendments not elaboratedTarget: amendments for approximation with following EU legal acts elaborated:* Commission Directive 2008/43/EC of 4 April 2008 setting up, pursuant to Council Directive 93/15/EEC, a system for the identification and traceability of explosives for civil uses;
* Directive 94/9/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 23 March 1994 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres;
* Council Directive 93/42/EEC of 14 June 1993 concerning medical devices;
* Directive 98/79/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 October 1998 on in vitro diagnostic medical devices;
* Council Directive 90/385/EEC of 20 June 1990 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to active implantable medical devices;
* Directive 2009/142/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 relating to appliances burning gaseous fuels;
* Council Directive 89/686/EEC of 21 December 1989 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to personal protective equipment;
* Directive 2009/48/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2009 on the safety of toys;
* Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2011 laying down harmonized conditions for the marketing of construction products;
* Directive 2009/23/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on non-automatic weighing instruments;
* Directive 2004/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 on measuring instruments Directive.
 | * Legislative amendments, table of concordance, explanatory notes, etc;
* Project documentation, interim and final reports;
* Project activity reports (list of participants, consultations, discussion, stakeholder feedback);
* STE mission reports;
* Assessment reports.
 | * Lack of commitment from different authorities at governmental level;
* Delays in project implementation process;
* Insufficient human resources.
 | * Strong support and commitment from the senior management of GAC/MoESD;
* Availability of local staff;
* Involvement of all relevant stakeholders;
* Good communication between the Beneficiary and other stakeholders;
* All relevant documentation/information avalable.
 |
|  | **2.1** GAC capacity in the field of certification of various types of audit and management systems (17021) strengthened | * Share of GAC relevant staff trained within the project in basic and advanced trainings and capable to perform certification in relation to:
	+ ISO/IEC 17021 - Conformity assessment - Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems (separately for all parts);
	+ ISO/IEC 27001 - Information security management;
	+ OHSAS 18001 - Occupational Health & Safety;
	+ ISO 17034:2016 -General requirements for the competence of reference material producers;
	+ EURO GAP and FOREST.

Baseline: n/a Target: 70%* Rate of satisfaction of trained staff by quality of information recieved and by performance of the EU MS experts

Baseline: n/a Target: 90% | * Project documentation (working procedures, activity reports and etc.);
* Reports of certification findings;
* Project activity reports: (list of training participants, training materials, training evaluations);
* STE mission reports;
* Proficiency testing reports;
* Study visit reports;
* Assessment reports on conducted PTs, certifications, conformity assessment;
* Manuals, guidelines for conformity assessment.
 |
|  | **2.2** GAC capacity in the field of Proficiency Testing (PT) as a tool to prove the competence in Conformity Assessment strengthened | * Share of GAC relevant staff trained within the project in relation to :
* ISO/IEC 17043 - Conformity assessment - General requirements for proficiency testing;
* ISO 13528:2015 - Statistical methods for use in proficiency testing by inter laboratory comparison;
* Enhancing quality of evaluation/calculation/estimation of uncertainties in various specific technical activity areas of laboratories;
* Conducting number of validation and verification of the testing methods.

Baseline: n/a Target:70%* Number of Proficiency Testing conducted within the following fields:
* In the water - molybdenum - Mo; Selenium - Se, Chromium-Cr, Barium - Ba; Oil hydrocarbons; Microbiological;
* In any product - radioactivity; Cesium Cs. Strontium - Sn;
* Meat - Physico-chemical and microbiological and veterinary residues;
* Honey - Physico-chemical analysis, waste of veterinary residues;
* Fish - Physico-chemical and Microbiological Indicators
* Cement –Mechanical, strength; compression; Physical, Density; terms of pack - start-end;
* Nuts - Physico-chemical indicators;
* Milk - Physico-chemical and microbiological indicators;
* Electric Measurements;
* Environmental Protection - Air and soil indicators;
* Medical parameters – any sample.

Baseline: 0 Target:7 (\*)* Ratio of female participation in activities organized by the project under component 2

Baseline: n/a Target: 50% |  |
|  | **2.3** Tool for improvement the competence and transparency of Conformity assessment by means of electronic system introduced | * Availability of relevant tools developed to perform transparent conformity assessment exercise

Baseline: relevant tools not available Target: Manuals, guidelines, applications, customer related rules and procedures developed* Status of development of the user-friendly electronic system for conformity assessment

Baseline: no system Target:system developed | * Project documentation (working procedures, activity reports and etc.);
* Project activity reports: (list of training participants, training materials, training evaluations);
* STE mission reports.
 |  |  |
|  | 3.1 Cooperation of GAC with European co-operation for Accreditation EA through participation in EA work enhanced | * participation of GAC relevant staff in the following EA events:
* EA Laboratory Committees;
* EA Inspection Committees;
* EA Certification Committees;
* EA Horizontal Harmonization Committees;
* EA Multilateral Agreement Councils;
* EA General Assemblies.

Baseline: modest participationTarget: regular participation of GAC relevant staff in EA relevant events as above | * Committee decisions;
* Project activity reports;
* List of training / meetings participants, training materials, training evaluations);
* STE mission reports;
* Thematic events;
* Promotional materials.
 |  |  |
|  | 3.2 GAC public outreach and cooperation with relevant stakeholders strengthened | * Number of awareness raising campaigns/events conducted within the project for relevant stakeholders

Baseline: n/a Target:10 (\*)* Number of Trainings conducted within the project on GAC activities and on latest developments in the field for the interested parties and stakeholders

Baseline: n/a Target: 6 (\*)* Number of new promotional materials developed within the project and disseminated to interested parties and stakeholders

Baseline: n/a Target: Information Brochures (500)Leaflets (500), Flyers (1000)* Ratio of female participation in relevant project activities

Baseline: n/a Target: 70%* Number of visitors of GAC updated webpage by the end of the project

Baseline: 15-25 visitors (daily)Target: 150-200 visitors (daily)  |

(\*) Precise number will be adjusted when the needs assessment is carried out.

1. Twinning Manual Annex A2 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. http://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/better-regulation-why-and-how\_en [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. http://ec.europa.eu/info/files/better-regulation-better-results-eu-agenda-0\_en [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <http://www.sigmaweb.org/publications/Baseline-Measurement-Report-2018-Georgia.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <https://www.legislationline.org/documents/id/19599-Assessment> of the legislative Process in Georgia Jan. 2015 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)