

Programmatic Cooperation Framework for
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus



STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS FOR LOCAL GOVERNANCE

***Reporting on piloting of the Local Finance Benchmarking (LFB)
and introducing the LFB database in Georgia***

PROGRAMME

6 APRIL 2017

Venue: Radisson Blu Iberia Hotel
Rose Revolution Square 1, 0108 Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia

Objectives of the workshop

1. to report on LFB pilot project activities in Georgia;
2. to obtain feed-back from pilot municipalities;
3. to discuss prospects of LFB and database in Georgia
4. to present LFD&I web-application

10:00 **Registration of the participants**

Welcome coffee

10:20-10:45 **Opening and welcome**

Kaxaber GULEDANI, Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Infrastructure, Georgia

Dorota DLOUCHY-SULIGA, Head of Political, Press and Information Section, European Union Delegation to Georgia

Cristian URSE, Head of the Council of Europe office in Tbilisi

Gennadiy KOSYAK, Deputy Head, Good Governance Division, DGII – Democracy, Council of Europe

Vache TERTERYAN, First Deputy Minister of Territorial Administration and Development, Armenia

David MELUA, Executive Director the NALAG

10:45-11:10 **Local Finance Benchmarking: project activities, general findings and conclusions**

Gabor Peteri, Council of Europe expert, Hungary

11:10-12:30 **SESSION 1. LFB adaptation and piloting: lessons and recommendations**

Moderator: Dimitri Chkareuli (*from the MRDI*)

- 11.10-12.00 *1. Toolkit adaptation: changes in the standard toolkit, cooperation with the communities*
by Natalia Kakabadze, Council of Europe expert, Georgia
- 2. Results of the LFB benchmarking surveys:*
- I. Financial resources: local taxation, fees, capital budgets, property management, local capacity development
- II. Financial management: fiscal policy design, budgeting, budget implementation, supervision and audit
by Natalia Kakabadze, Council of Europe expert, Georgia
- 3. Recommendations and policy lessons, by Otar Conjaria, Council of Europe expert, Georgia*

Feedback and discussion

pilot municipalities
project partners

12.00-12.30 ***Coffee break***

12:30-12:50
12:50-13:30

SESSION 2. LFB and fiscal database: prospects in Armenia and Georgia

Moderator: Gennadiy KOSYAK/Gabor PETERI

Local finance benchmarking in Armenia: pilots' results in 2016 and second phase in 2017, by Vahan Movsisyan and Liana Aghabekyan, Council of Europe experts, Armenia

Web-application for presenting LFB results and LFD&I, by Gabor Peteri, Council of Europe expert, Hungary

13:30-14:00

Future of benchmarking and database in Georgia

1. How the LFB project can be continued: proposed changes in the content; future of hosting and management
2. How the LFD&I could help the comparison of local government financial performance?

Discussion with

Local representatives, mayors, Council of Europe experts
Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure,
CEGSTAR, Ministry of Finance, NALAG representatives,
Development partners

14:00-15:00

Lunch