



“Support to the anti-corruption strategy of Georgia”

(GEPAC)

CoE project No. 2007/DGI/VC/779

Inception report

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The GEPAC Project is implemented by the Council of Europe and supported by the Kingdom of the Netherlands

For any additional information please contact:

Corruption and Fraud Unit/Economic Crime Division

Directorate of Co-operation – DG-HL

Council of Europe

F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex FRANCE

Tel +33 3 8841 2354 Fax +33 3 8841 3955 Email: ardita.abdiu@coe.int and/or tanya.peshovska@coe.int

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1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

GEPAC - “Support to the anti-corruption strategy of Georgia” – started on 1 September 2007. The present report summarizes the activities carried out during the inception phase of the project, from 1 September 2007 to 30 October 2007.

1.1 *Beneficiary Country and Institution(s)*

The beneficiary country is Georgia.

The main project partner from the Georgian side is:

- the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination

Project beneficiaries also include:

- the General Prosecutor’s Office (Output 4 and 5)
- the Ministry of Interior (Output 4 and 5)

1.2 *Contracting Authority*

Ministry for Development Co-operation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

1.3 *Implementing Organization*

The Council of Europe is responsible for the implementation of the project and the use of the project funds under the contract with the Ministry for Development Co-operation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Within the General Secretariat of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, the Economic Crime Division (Technical Co-operation Department, Directorate General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs) is responsible for overall management and supervision of the project. A Team Leader and two National Advisers, and a Local Project Officer, based in the Ministry on Reforms Coordination in Tbilisi, are supporting the implementation of the project.

1.4 *Project Objective*

The overall objective of GEPAC is to contribute to democracy and the rule of law through the prevention and control of corruption in Georgia in accordance with European and other international standards, as well as GRECO recommendations.

2. PROJECT ANALYSIS

2.1 *Country Situation*

According to recent surveys and studies, corruption is considered to be one of the key problems of Georgian society. The majority of people believe that corruption – in different forms as bribes, corrupt lobbying, trading in influence, nepotism, abuse of office, and other – is a common practice in everyday life. Corruption and conflicts of interest are reported to be widespread and integrity to be weak in most State and public bodies, including the executive, the judiciary as well as in Parliament and among elected officials at central, regional and local levels. In 2007, Georgia ranked 79 in Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index; an improvement compared to previous years but still among the lowest of the 47 Council of Europe Member States.

The "National Anti-corruption Strategy of Georgia" was prepared by a working group led by the National Security Council between May and July 2005, and adopted by Decree N°550 of the President of Georgia of 24 June 2005.

The "Action Plan for the Anti-corruption Strategy (2005-2006)" was drafted by a working group led by Kakha Bendokidze, State Minister for Reforms Coordination, and adopted by Decree N°377 of the Government of Georgia of 12 September 2005. This was approved by Decree N°155 of the President of Georgia of 28 March 2006.

The State Minister for Reforms Coordination is supervising the implementation of the Action Plan. In addition, according to the above mentioned Decrees, each institution appoints Contact Points tasked with and accountable for the implementation of the relevant anti-corruption measures (Working Party on Implementation of the Anti-corruption Strategy and Action Plan); the Contact Points are obliged to report, every two months, to the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination.

Given the importance the Georgian Government continues to attribute to anti-corruption issues, and in order to maintain the momentum created by the Anti-corruption Strategy and Action Plan, GEPAC was launched to provide necessary expertise and to contribute to the actual implementation of relevant reforms during 2007, 2008, and 2009.

In early October 2007, the President of Georgia, Mikheil Saakashvili, publicly announced the establishment of "a special anti-corruption commission", which would report to him and to the Speaker of the Parliament. The creation of such a structure was confirmed by the State Minister on Reforms Coordination Mr Kakha Bendokidze during the Start-up event of GEPAC, which took place in Tbilisi on 26 October 2007. In response to this decision, the project will therefore also assist the Georgian authorities in defining the nature, legal and institutional framework of the future specialised anti-corruption structure in line with the European and international standards.

In November 2007, Georgia faced its most serious political crisis since the 2003 "Rose Revolution". A week of anti-government protests in the capital Tbilisi prompted President Saakashvili to impose a state of emergency on 7 November for a period of 15 days. The Council of Europe and the wider international community strongly urged the President Saakashvili to lift the state of emergency, which was lifted on 16 November 2007. Early presidential elections have been set for 5 January 2008. Against the background of this political crisis, and pending the outcome and aftermath of the presidential elections, the project team has decided to postpone certain activities, which require political stability for their successful implementation. While the Workplan have been agreed during the Start-up Event and have not been altered, the timelines have since been adjusted to take into account the political situation in the country and to allow realistic timelines. This concerns activities foreseen only under Output 1: "Round table on tools of reporting, co-operation and monitoring the implementation of anti-corruption measures" initially foreseen for November 2007 and which will take place in January 2008; "Preparation of a feasibility study on the specialised anti-corruption structure" foreseen for December 2007 which will start in January 2008.

2.2 Project Objective

GEPAC aims at strengthening national capacities in support of the implementation of Georgia's Anti-corruption Strategy and Action Plan, in compliance with European and international standards. In order to achieve this objective, the project works in five complementary directions:

- strengthening the capacities of the anti-corruption policy institutions in order to manage, co-ordinate and monitor the implementation of the Anti-corruption Action Plan;
- co-ordinating and monitoring the implementation of the Anti-corruption Action Plan through reviewing the Anti-corruption Strategy and up-dating the Action Plan;
- elaborating and improving primary and secondary legislation concerning criminalization and prevention of corruption;
- strengthening the capacities of the prosecution to investigate and prosecute high-level corruption; and
- introducing pilot activities to enhance integrity and institutional capacities as tools for the prevention of corruption.

2.3 Expected Results and Methodology

The expected results are to update the existing Anti-corruption Strategy and Action Plan so that they reflect and include policy actions to implement all GRECO recommendations made in the report of the Second Round of Evaluation and in the OECD/ACN Monitoring Reports; to elaborate anti-corruption and economic crime related draft amendments which comply with international and European standards and/or best practices; to increase the capacity of the Prosecution to investigate high-level cases of corruption; to establish corruption-prevention plans and other.

Moreover, the project will support the conduction of a feasibility study and identification of possible models of creation of a specialized body/structure (see above under 2.1) responsible for the coordination of national efforts in combating and prevention of corruption.

These objectives will be achieved through close co-operation with all relevant stakeholders, the identification of international and national experts, through organizing round-tables, workshops and study visits for practitioners, preparation and finalization of feasibility studies and conducting surveys, and drafting of legal texts in accordance with the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC).

2.4 Summary of Project Outputs

Overall objective	To contribute to democracy and the rule of law through the prevention and control of corruption in Georgia in accordance with European and other international standards as well as GRECO recommendations
Project objective	To support the implementation of Georgia's Anti-corruption Strategy and Action Plan
Output 1	Capacity of the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination (and Contact Points in cooperating institutions (Working Party) to manage, co-ordinate and monitor the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Plan reinforced
Activity 1.1	Inception Phase (2 months): Finalize Work Plan of activities with all counterparts; conduct the recruitment of staff and long-term advisers; (commissioning, interviews, and contracting).
Activity 1.2	Organize a start-up conference with participation of all relevant stakeholders (Tbilisi)
Activity 1.3	Provide equipment required for efficient running of the Office of the State Minister

Activity 1.4	Advise and train the Staff at the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination and Contact Points (Working Party members) on operational issues
Activity 1.5	Organize at least 2 study visits for the Staff at the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination and relevant Contact Points (Working Party members)
Output 2	Anti-corruption Strategy Reviewed and Action Plan Updated
Activity 2.1	Assist and advise the Staff of the Office of State Minister on Reforms Coordination to further elaborate and update the Anti-corruption Strategy and Action Plan in line with GRECO recommendations and other international commitments and obligations
Activity 2.2	Organize two corruption perception and attitude surveys on corruption levels
Activity 2.3	Organize a National Conference to review and overall monitor the implementation of the updated Anti-corruption Strategy and the Action Plan
Output 3	At least 6 draft amendments and regulations elaborated in co-operation with the Staff of the Office of State Minister on Reforms Coordination and relevant partner institutions (Working Party)
Activity 3.1	Draft amendments related to the accession to international legal instruments against corruption, including those pertaining to criminalization of corruption
Activity 3.2	Contribute to elaborate amendments/implementing tools pertaining to the reform of the system of financing of political parties and electoral campaigns
Activity 3.3	Provide training on issues related to the newly enacted anti-corruption legislation
Output 4	Capacities of the Prosecution to investigate and prosecute high level corruption strengthened
Activity 4.1	2 in-country training sessions for the staff of units specialized in investigation and prosecution of high level corruption (case studies, pro-active and multidisciplinary approach)
Activity 4.2	1 in-country training session for the staff of units specialized in investigation and prosecution of high level corruption related
Activity 4.3	Up to 2 study visits for 6 prosecutors and 6 police officers from the specialized services
Activity 4.4	International conference on investigation and prosecution of high level corruption (Tbilisi)
Output 5	Integrity and institutional capacity for preventing corruption strengthened (pilot project with the General Prosecutor's Office and the Ministry of Interior)
Activity 5.1	Assist in elaboration and publication of internal corruption prevention plans for Prosecution: control, recruitment, promotion, rotation, conflict of interests

2.5 Inputs

The following types of activities are proposed within the project:

Expert advise – provided by the LT-Adviser within his/her competence/experience or, as necessary, by ST-Advisers selected according to their specific field of competence, through direct conversation with individual officials or groups of officials on the issues specified in the Work Plan and wherever necessary.

Expert opinions – will be provided in writing, as necessary, to comment on the pieces of legislation or their drafts or other documents, by independent experts from the Council of Europe Member States, via the CoE Secretariat.

Study visits to other CoE Member States - provide first-hand experience to complement the theory and help individuals to examine possible changes to their own procedures and approaches, and also initiate the basis for launching co-operation and networking with other CoE Member States.

Roundtables and seminars - allowing stakeholders/professional groups and individuals to look at ways in which their own policies can be reformed. They will also be used to contribute specialist knowledge to a broader debate on a given issue.

Workshops - allow a particular task to be undertaken involving multiple co-operating parties. Experts put their knowledge at the disposal of practitioners and officials. Workshops can also be used to provide specific advanced training.

Training courses – allow participants to acquire new knowledge and/or professional skills through interaction with a qualified trainer. Elements of self-education can be included.

Research/Surveys – a way to get a comprehensive overview of a given issue to serve a basis for further analysis, and/or provide situation/status data which would assist in identifying issues of concern and be used as recommendation/benchmarking basis and justification. Follow up of these kind of activities serves also to assess progress and measure change through previously set up indicators.

Translations - make important texts and information accessible in local languages and can be used as a tool in training activities and seminars.

Publication and dissemination of texts and/or audiovisual CD-ROMs - ensure that certain expertise or knowledge is made available to the widest possible audience.

3. INCEPTION PHASE

3.1 *Project activities during the inception period*

The following activities were carried out during the inception phase of the project:

Output	Description of activity	Status	Date
Output 1 Activity 1.1	Appointment of a National Long-term Advisor and two short-term advisors	Completed	October-November 2007
	Recruitment of a Local Project Officer	Completed	November 2007
	Finalisation and adoption by stakeholders of the final Workplan and logical framework	Completed	16-19 October 2007 Strasbourg
	Preparation and submission of the Inception Report	Completed	December 2007
Output 1 Activity 1.2	Organisation of Start-up event	Completed	26 October 2007

3.2 *Finalisation and adoption by stakeholders of the final Workplan and logical framework*

A working meeting with representatives of the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination and one international expert was organised on 16-18 October 2007 in Strasbourg in order to prepare the project's Work Plan and discuss key organisational and logistics issues related to the implementation of the project. The Work Plan (Annex 1) was then presented and approved at the project's Start-up Event on 26 October in Tbilisi. As a result, a calendar of activities (Annex 2) was determined, taking into consideration the Work Plan, as well as the ongoing political crisis in Georgia.

3.3 *Set-up of Project Team*

The project team both based in Strasbourg and Tbilisi will be composed of 6 members.

In Strasbourg, a Project Officer was nominated within the Anti-corruption and Fraud unit in order to start the implementation and delivery of the project's objectives. The Project Officer, Ms Tanya Peshovska, will be dealing with day-to-day management of project activities under the authority of the Head of Unit, Ms Ardita Abdiu.

In Tbilisi, a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) was set-up. Mr Levan Khetsuriani was selected for the position of GEPAC National Long-term Advisor. For the start-up period two more national advisors were selected - Mr Givi Kutidze and Ms Natia Khantadze¹. The PIU members are responsible for the day-to-day implementation of the major part of the activities of the project. The PIU will be supported by one Local Project Officer (LPO) for administration and secretarial/translations assistance. The position of LPO was offered to Ms Tamara Katsitadze.

The PIU will be located in the premises of the Ministry on Reforms Coordination in Tbilisi. The Ministry is currently trying to find appropriate premises; however, at the time of writing, no office space had been identified for the project team, yet.

¹ CVs available upon request.

3.4 *Start-up Event and adoption of Workplan (Tbilisi, 26 October 2007)*

The project's Start-up Event was organised, in consultation with the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Georgia, on 26 October 2007 at Marriott Hotel in Tbilisi. The aim of the Start-up Event was to publicize the commencement of the project, to introduce the project's concept and objectives, and to present and adopt the project's Work Plan.

The meeting was opened by the State Minister on Reforms Coordination of Georgia, Mr Kakha Bendookidze. In his opening remarks, the Minister confirmed the commitment to the fight against corruption and to the project in particular. He stressed the importance of the elaboration of a concept on the nature, legal and institutional framework of a future specialized anti-corruption structure of Georgia. The participants were also addressed by Mr Onno Eledrenbosch, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Netherlands to Georgia, and Mr Giovanni Palmieri, Head of the Technical Co-operation Department of the Council of Europe (Agenda in Annex 3).

Representatives of all beneficiary institutions and international organizations, about 30 participants, were invited. The discussions on the project objectives and Work Plan confirmed that there was considerable need to identify practical solutions to combat corruption in Georgia.

3.5 *Visibility/Media Coverage*

The launching of the project was announced on the webpage of the Economic Crime Division (www.coe.int/economiccrime) as well as through the Council of Europe press release (Annex 4), which was translated into Georgian. The State Ministry on Reforms Coordination issued a second press release on the day of the conference. The meeting was attended by the most important Georgian TV channels and newspapers which contributed to the publicity of the project.

3.6 *Planning of Project Activities under the Project's Work Plan*

In spite of the political situation in the country, the project has initiated the first activities under the Work Plan.

First, discussions have been undertaken between the Project Team and the Ministry on Reforms Coordination about the preparation of the feasibility study and possible models for the future specialized anti-corruption structure. The first draft paper containing the President's and government's proposals will be prepared by the end of December 2007.

Second, initial steps have been undertaken to design a special webpage on anti-corruption activities on the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination's website which concept has to be finalised by the end of January 2008. It will then be regularly up-dated. The Economic Crime Division is also building a specialised anti-corruption webpage and one dedicated to the project itself.

The Project team plans also to start organising the first activities in January 2008.

In addition, the PIU, together with the project management unit in Strasbourg and the Ministry on Reforms Coordination in Tbilisi, is establishing a pool of national and international experts for the implementation of GEPAC's activities. Necessary administrative arrangements are being discussed to ensure the smooth procurement of expertise and activities.

4. CONCLUSION

The main partners/beneficiaries (the Ministry on Reforms Coordination, the Ministry of Interior, and the General Prosecutor's Office) reaffirmed their will to further engage in the implementation of the project with the aim to empower national authorities to better fight against corruption. During the Start-up Event organized in Tbilisi in October, the Ministry on Reforms Coordination stressed that the creation of a specialized structure against corruption was one of the main objectives of the Government. Therefore, the project will provide international assistance in the establishment of such a mechanism. The preparation of a feasibility study for the specialized anti-corruption structure is to start in December 2007.

5. ANNEXES

Annex 1: GEPAC Workplan of Activities

Annex 2: GEPAC Calendar of Activities

Annex 3: Start-up Event Agenda

Annex 4: Council of Europe press release



COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Support to the anti-corruption strategy of Georgia (GEPAC)

CoE project No. 2007/DG1/VC/779

Workplan of Activities – Inception Phase *(version of 28 November 2007)*

The main project partner from the Georgian side is the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination, which plays the key role in the national anti-corruption effort.

Project beneficiaries also include:

- the General Prosecutor's Office (Output 4 and 5)
- the Ministry of Interior (Output 4 and 5)

The project operates at the national level through co-operation with the national partner institution (Working Party) and beneficiaries, and at the international level through promoting international cooperation, networking, and exchange of information.

Overall objective	To contribute to democracy and the rule of law through the prevention and control of corruption in Georgia in accordance with European and other international standards, as well as GRECO recommendations				
Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Level of implementation of the of the Council of Europe Criminal Law Convention on Corruption and level of ratification of the Additional protocol and other international relevant Conventions (UNCAC); ▪ Level of compliance with the GRECO recommendations. 				
Project objective	To support the implementation of Georgia's Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan				
Indicators	Level of implementation of the measures of Georgia's Anti-Corruption Action Plan addressed through the Project.				
Assumptions	Continuing commitment of the Georgian government to the implementation of the Georgia's Anti-Corruption Action Plan				
Output 1	Capacity of the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination (and Contact Points in cooperating institutions) to manage, coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Action Plan reinforced				
Indicators	<p>By month 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inception Phase report, and Workplan providing generic activities that will be adjusted in the course of the implementation of the project (as per priorities and circumstances of the government) is approved; ▪ Staff and long-term consultants are recruited and ready to operate. <p>By month 8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination provided with computer equipment; ▪ First monitoring report on the implementation of the Action Plan prepared by the Office and submitted to the Prime Minister; ▪ Contact points designated in each cooperating institution become operational. <p>By month 12:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contact points reporting regularly on progress in their respective institution. <p>By month 24:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support and advice on policy design for the establishment of a specialised anti-corruption structure/unit has been provided. 				
Assumptions	The Georgian government provides the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination with the necessary resources and competencies. Co-operating institutions nominate their contact points and give them the appropriate competencies.				
Level	Description	Action	Time/Venue	CoE Inputs	Local Inputs
Activity 1.1	Inception Phase (2 months): finalisation of Workplan of activities with all counterparts; conduct recruitment of staff and long-term advisers; (commissioning, interviews, and contracting)	<p>Workplan preparatory meeting</p> <p>Commissioning of long-terms experts</p> <p>Recruitment/interviews of local project officer</p>	1 September -30 October 2007, Strasbourg and Tbilisi	<p>Expertise</p> <p>Contractual arrangements</p> <p>Administrative arrangements</p>	<p>Expertise</p> <p>Office space</p> <p>Administrative arrangements</p> <p>Support from the Office of Minister on Reforms Coordination</p>
Activity 1.2	Organisation of start-up	Start-up conference	26 October 2007,	Secretariat support	Organisational support

	conference with participation of all relevant stakeholders		Tbilisi	Administrative arrangements	Workplan discussions with respective institutions
Activity 1.3	Provision of equipment for PIU use (see item 3.2 in the budget); and/or the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination (item 3.1 of the budget) to be carried out during the Inception Phase and in the course of the implementation of the project subject to needs and priorities	Assessment of needs Procurement (incl. tendering, contracts and delivery of equipment) Transfer of property to the PIU	Starting by the end of November 2007	Administrative arrangements Inventory of transferred equipment (countersigned by recipients)	Logistical support for tender procedures Assessment and IT specification
Activity 1.4	Advice to and training of respective institutional Contact Points (Working Party members) on operational issues, including interaction with cooperating institutions, reporting and feedback templates and procedures in line with the new Anti-Corruption Action Plan	4 RTD on tools of reporting, co-operation and monitoring the implementation of anti-corruption measures	1 st RTD January 2007, Tbilisi 2 nd RTD June 2008, Tbilisi 3 rd RTD November 2008, Tbilisi 4 th RTD April 2009, Tbilisi	Administrative Arrangements 1 International expert	Logistical support 4 National short-term experts Logistical support 4 National short-term experts Logistical support 4 National short-term experts Logistical support 4 National short-term experts
		Design, creation and continuous update of a special webpage on anti-corruption activities on the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination's website	November 2008 and onwards	Documentation and information gathering	Domain permission Documentation and information gathering Up-loading of documentation and information Short term IT expert
Activity 1.5	Organisation of 2 study visits for the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination and relevant staff from cooperating institutions	2 Study visits for up to 8 staff members each to countries that are yet to be determined	May 2008 May 2009	Administrative arrangements Coordination with relevant institutions for visiting Administrative arrangements Coordination with relevant institutions for visiting	Logistical support Coordination with relevant institutions delegating staff to participate in study visits Logistical support Coordination with relevant institutions delegating staff to participate in study visits

Activity 1.6	Conduction of feasibility study and possible models for a specialised anti-corruption structure	Preparation and finalisation of the feasibility study	December 2007, desk-study and Tbilisi	Administrative arrangements 1 International expert	Logistical support 3 National experts
		Experts' RTD on the final draft of the study	February 2008, Tbilisi	Administrative arrangements 1 International experts	Logistical support 5 National experts + counterparts from relevant institutions
Activity 1.7	Elaboration of a concept on the nature, legal and institutional framework of future specialised anti-corruption structure of Georgia	Elaboration of outlines of 2 possible options on future specialised anti-corruption structure	February 2008, desk-study and Tbilisi	Administrative arrangements 1 International expert	Logistical support Coordination with stakeholder institutions 3 National experts
		Discussion on possible options during stakeholder /experts' RTD	March 2008, Tbilisi	Administrative arrangements 1 International expert	Logistical support Coordination with stakeholder institutions 3 National experts
		Finalisation of the concept and submission to the government for endorsement	End March/early April 2008, Tbilisi	Administrative arrangements 1 International expert	Logistical support Coordination with stakeholder institutions 3 National experts
Activity 1.8	Provision of needs assessment (human and financial resources) of the future specialised anti-corruption structure of Georgia	Elaboration of budget and human resources breakdown according to the final concept for future specialised anti-corruption structure	Mid-April 2008, desk review and Tbilisi	Administrative arrangements 1 International expert	Coordination and information exchange between Ministry of State on Reforms Coordination, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior and Presidential Cabinet and Parliamentary Commissions
		Workshop	End-April 2008	Administrative arrangements 1 International expert	Logistical support 3 National experts
Output 2	Anti-corruption Strategy reviewed and Action Plan updated				
Indicators	<p>By month 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anti-corruption Strategy and Action Plan are further elaborated/updated and reflect all GRECO recommendations issued during the Second Round Evaluation Report and OECD/ACN Monitoring Reports; <p>By month 24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the results of corruption perception and attitude survey available; and 				

		Presentation of survey findings to relevant stakeholders			
Activity 2.3	Organise a National Conference to review and overall monitor the implementation of the updated Anti-corruption Strategy and the Action Plan	<p>Involvement of relevant representatives from institutions and municipalities;</p> <p>Results from assessment and Inventory of Implementation of the Anti-corruption Strategy (2005) be discussed in addition introducing the New Strategy and Action Plan;</p>	December 2008, Tbilisi	Administrative Arrangements 1 International expert	Administrative Arrangements 2 National experts
Output 3	At least 6 draft amendments and regulations elaborated in cooperation with the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination and relevant partner institutions				
Indicators	By month 23 at least 6 draft amendments elaborated which comply with International and European standards and / or best practices and submitted to the government of Georgia				
Assumptions	Draft laws are submitted to the relevant Ministries				
Level	Description	Action	Time/Venue	CoE Inputs	Local Inputs
Activity 3.1	Draft amendments to bring Georgian legislation in line with international standards and best practices	Drafting of legal texts in accordance with UN Convention against Corruption	<p>Tbilisi, throughout the project duration</p> <p>March, June, September, December 2008, March, May 2009</p>	2 International Experts	<p>Identification of areas in need for improvements</p> <p>6 Local Experts</p>
Activity 3.2	Contribute to the implementation and training on monitoring of financing of political parties and electoral campaigns	2 Trainings for relevant stakeholders on existing legal provisions with regard to the financing of political parties and electoral campaigns	<p>Tbilisi</p> <p>October 2008</p> <p>May 2009</p>	<p>Administrative arrangements</p> <p>1 International expert</p> <p>1 International expert</p>	<p>Logistical support</p> <p>Coordination with Parliamentary Committee, Ministry of Justice and Election Commission</p> <p>2 National experts</p> <p>Logistical support</p> <p>Coordination with</p>

					Parliamentary Committee, Ministry of Justice and Election Commission 2 National experts
Activity 3.3	Provide training on issues related to the newly enacted anti-corruption legislation	2x3 Training sessions with relevant target groups on legislation issues (February, June, September, December 2008/ March, June 2009) Preparation of manuals and/or formalised comments on new legislation	Tbilisi, throughout the project duration and upon needs assessment and responding to requests from the respective institutions (February, June and October 2008; January, April and July 2009)	6 international experts	Identification of areas of concern Coordination of the different potential participating institutions and participants 6 National experts
Activity 3.4	Assistance in drafting of the legal framework of the future specialised anti-corruption structure of Georgia	4 Drafting RTDs 1 Inter-institutional workshop		2 international Expert	3 National Experts
Output 4	Capacities of the Prosecution to investigate and prosecute high level corruption strengthened				
Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> By month 22 at least 4 training events held Number of investigations/prosecutions of high-level corruption increased 				
Assumptions	The Prosecution and the Ministry of Interior allocate the necessary human resources				
Level	Description	Action	Time/Venue	CoE Inputs	Local Inputs
Activity 4.1	2 in-country training sessions for the staff of units specialised in investigation and prosecution of high-level corruption (case studies, pro-active and multidisciplinary approach)	Assessment of needs for each specialised unit at the prosecutorial services and the Ministry of Interior, assessment of needs of the specialised future anti-corruption structure (depending on its competencies)	June 2008, Tbilisi	Administrative arrangements Questionnaire for training needs assessment in the field of criminalisation of corruption proceedings	Logistical support Consulting of relevant information/documentation of previous or ongoing technical assistance projects 1 National expert
Activity 4.2	Workshop on criminal justice and proceedings against corruption-related offences	2-day workshop for representatives of the judiciary on criminal justice and proceedings against corruption-related	April 2009, Tbilisi (tbc)	Administrative arrangements 1 International expert (with judicial background)	Logistical support 2 National experts (with prosecutorial and judicial background, respectively)

		offences: on legislation and practice/proceedings			
Activity 4.3	Up to 2 study visits for representatives of specialised units (prosecution and law enforcement) to European counterpart institutions	Organisation and coordination of study visit for 8 prosecutors to counterpart prosecutorial services	October 2008 (destination tbc)	Administrative arrangements Coordination with relevant institutions for visiting	Logistical support Coordination with relevant institutions delegating staff to participate in study visits
Output 5	Integrity and institutional capacity for preventing corruption strengthened General Prosecutor's Office				
Indicators	By month 24 corruption prevention plans established				
Assumptions	Plans and codes elaborated are formalised, published and implemented in practice				
Level	Description	Action	Time/Venue	CoE Inputs	Local Inputs
Activity 5.1	Assist in the elaboration and publication of internal corruption prevention plans for the Prosecution and the Ministry of Interior: control, recruitment, promotion, rotation, conflict of interests	1 st Pilot activity at selected prosecutorial office: Elaboration of integrity tests for prosecution services aimed at preventing corruption and conflict of interests internally, and at increasing interior control.	March 2008-August 2008 (district to be determined)	Administrative arrangements 2 International experts	Logistical support Institutional Coordination and Support 2 National experts
Activity 5.2	Training on Codes of Conduct for prosecutors and police officers	1 Training for prosecutors on the Code of Conduct	February 2008, Tbilisi	Administrative arrangements 1 International expert	Logistical support Institutional Coordination and Support 2 National experts

5.2 Annex 2: Project's calendar of activities

CALENDAR AND DURATION OF ACTION

The duration of the project is 24 months (implementation). It will be preceded by an inception phase of 2 months during which a detailed workplan will be prepared, staff recruited and start-up event organised, and followed by a wrap up/reporting phase.

	Description	Months / 1 st Year (2007-2008)												Months / 2nd Year (2008-2009)												
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	x
		Sept 2007	Oct 2007	Nov 2007	Dec 2007	Jan 2008	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Apr 2008	May 2008	Jun 2008	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Sept 2008	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Dec 2008	Jan 2009	Feb 2009	Mar 2009	Apr 2009	May 2009	Jun 2009	Jul 2009	Aug 2009	Sep 2009
Output 1:	Capacity of the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination (and Contact Points) to manage, coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Action Plan reinforced																									
Activity 1.1	Inception Phase (2 months): Finalisation of Workplan of activities with all counterparts (16-19.10, SXB); conduct recruitment of staff and long-term advisers (26.10, Tbilisi); (commissioning, interviews, and contracting)	Inception Phase Work plan meeting 16-19.10.207 Staff recruited 26.10.07																								
Activity 1.2	Organisation of start-up conference with participation of all relevant stakeholders (26.10, Tbilisi, Georgia)		Start-up event																							
Activity 1.3	Assessment of needs and procurement of equipment for PIU use and/or the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination to be carried out during the				Assessment of needs	Purchasing/ Contracts	Delivery																			

	Description	Months / 1 st Year (2007-2008)												Months / 2nd Year (2008-2009)												
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	x
		Sept 2007	Oct 2007	Nov 2007	Dec 2007	Jan 2008	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Apr 2008	May 2008	Jun 2008	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Sept 2008	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Dec 2008	Jan 2009	Feb 2009	Mar 2009	Apr 2009	May 2009	Jun 2009	Jul 2009	Aug 2009	Sep 2009
	Inception Phase and in the course of the implementation of the project (subject to needs and priorities)				Preparation of tender																					
Activity 1.4	4 RT for Contact Points (WP members) on operational issues, including interaction with cooperating institutions, tools of reporting, co-operation and monitoring the implementation of anti-corruption measures in line with the new AC Action Plan					RT 1					RT 2					RT 3					RT 4					
Activity 1.4	Design, creation and continuous update of a special webpage on anti-corruption activities on the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination's website (starting as of November)				Start					Update				Update				Update				Update			Update	
Activity 1.5	2 study visits for up to 8 staff members of the Office of the Minister on Reforms Coordination + relevant staff from cooperating institutions										SV 1											SV2				
Activity 1.6	Conduction of feasibility study and possible models for a specialised anti-corruption structure					Prep of feasibility study	RT on the final draft							??												
Activity 1.7	Elaboration of a concept of 2 possible options on the nature, legal and institutional framework of future specialised anti-corruption structure of				Concept note on president's and		Desk-study	RT final concept	Final concept and submission of																	

	Description	Months / 1 st Year (2007-2008)												Months / 2nd Year (2008-2009)												
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	x
		Sept 2007	Oct 2007	Nov 2007	Dec 2007	Jan 2008	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Apr 2008	May 2008	Jun 2008	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Sept 2008	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Dec 2008	Jan 2009	Feb 2009	Mar 2009	Apr 2009	May 2009	Jun 2009	Jul 2009	Aug 2009	Sep 2009
	Georgia				governmen t's propo sals				conce pt																	
Activity 1.8	Elaboration of financial and human resources of the future specialised anti-corruption structure								Desk review + WS																	
Output 2:	Anti-corruption Strategy reviewed and Action Plan updated																									
Activity 2.1	Assist and advice the Office of the Minister on Reforms Coordination how to further elaborate and update the AC Strategy and AP in line with GRECO recommendations and other international commitments and obligations with respect to specific AC measures						Assessment and inventory of AC Strategy + AP				1 st analysis and recommendations			Drafting of AC Strat. (NEW)								2 nd analysis and recommendations				
Activity 2.2	2 corruption perception and attitude surveys to be organised in 4 WS (2 WS per survey). 1. 1st survey- Spring 2008 2. 2nd survey- Spring 2009							1 survey 1 WS 1 survey 2 WS	survey methodology Designing ToR + contracts	Conducting of the survey	1 survey Results									2 survey 1 WS 2 survey 2 WS	survey methodology Designing ToR + contracts	Conducting of the survey	2 survey Results			
Activity 2.3	National Conference to review and overall monitor the implementation of the updated ACS and AP																National conf on ACS+ AP									
Output 3:	At least 6 draft amendments and																									

	Description	Months / 1 st Year (2007-2008)												Months / 2 nd Year (2008-2009)												
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	x
		Sept 2007	Oct 2007	Nov 2007	Dec 2007	Jan 2008	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Apr 2008	May 2008	Jun 2008	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Sept 2008	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Dec 2008	Jan 2009	Feb 2009	Mar 2009	Apr 2009	May 2009	Jun 2009	Jul 2009	Aug 2009	Sep 2009
	regulations elaborated in co-operation with the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination and relevant partner institutions																									
Activity 3.1	6 WS to present and discuss new draft legislation (throughout the project duration)							1 WS			2 WS			3 WS			4 WS			5 WS			6 WS			
Activity 3.2	2 trainings with relevant stakeholders on existing provisions with regard to the financing of political parties and electoral campaigns													T1								T 2				
Activity 3.3	6 trainings with relevant target groups on issues related to the newly enacted anti-corruption legislation						T 1 2 days				T 2 2 days			T 3 2 days			T 4 2 days			T 5 2 days			T 6 2 days			
Activity 3.4	1 inter-institutional WS + 4 RT on drafting of the legal framework of the future specialised AC structure							1 RT				2 RT				3 RT				4 RT		Inter-institutional WS				
Output 4:	Capacities of the Prosecution to investigate and prosecute high level corruption strengthened																									
Activity 4.1	2 in-country multi-disciplinary trainings for the staff of units specialised in investigation and prosecution of high-level corruption (prosecutors / law enforcement officers) (case studies, pro-active and multidisciplinary										Assessment of needs Mol + Prosecution + AC structure			1 T									2 T			

	Description	Months / 1 st Year (2007-2008)												Months / 2 nd Year (2008-2009)												
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	x
		Sept 2007	Oct 2007	Nov 2007	Dec 2007	Jan 2008	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Apr 2008	May 2008	Jun 2008	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Sept 2008	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Dec 2008	Jan 2009	Feb 2009	Mar 2009	Apr 2009	May 2009	Jun 2009	Jul 2009	Aug 2009	Sep 2009
	approach)																									
Activity 4.2	Workshop on criminal justice and proceedings against corruption-related offences																				WS 2 days					
Activity 4.3	2 study visits for representatives of specialised units (prosecution / law enforcement) to European counterpart institutions														1 SV for prosecutors					2 SV for police officers						
Activity 4.4	International conference with regional participation on investigation and prosecution of high-level corruption, best practices and experiences															International conf.										
Output 5:	Integrity and institutional capacity for preventing corruption strengthened at the General Prosecutor's Office																									
Activity 5.1	2 pilot activities on elaboration of integrity tests for prosecution / law enforcement/structure services aimed at preventing corruption and conflict of interests internally, and at increasing interior control, recruitment, promotion, rotation.							1 Pilot activity for PG Office					Deadline			2nd Pilot activity at Mol							Deadline			
Activity 5.2	1 training for prosecutors and 1 for police officers on the Code of Conduct						1 T for prosecutors								2 T for police officers											



“Support to the anti-corruption strategy of Georgia” (GEPAC)

Start-up event: Workplan - review and adoption

Programme

26 October 2007

**Marriott Hotel
Tbilisi, Georgia**

10:00-10:20**Opening remarks:**

- Mr Kakha Bendookidze, State Minister on Reforms Coordination of Georgia
- Mr Onno Eledrenbosch, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Netherlands in Georgia
- Mr Giovanni Palmieri, Head of Technical Co-operation Department, Council of Europe
- Chairman: Mr Vakhtang Lejava, First Deputy State Minister on Reforms Coordination of Georgia

10:20-10:40**Project Introduction**

- Concept and objectives - Mr Vakhtang Lejava, First Deputy State Minister on Reforms Coordination Georgia
- Outputs and methodology of implementation - Ms Ardita Abdiu, Economic Crime Division, Directorate of Co-operation DG-HL, Council of Europe

10:40-11:40**Project Output Review**

Review and Discussion of activities under Output 1, Output 2 and Output 3 of the Project Document

11:40-12:20**Project Output Review**

Review and Discussion of activities under Output 4, and Output 5 of the Project Document

12:20-13:00**Final remarks / Conclusions:**

- Mr Vakhtang Lejava, First Deputy State Minister on Reforms Coordination Georgia
- Mr Igor Gaon, Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe in Tbilisi

13:00-14:00**Reception event in Marriott Hotel**



Council of Europe

**Note
to Editors**

tel : +33 (3)88 41 25 60 / fax : +33 (3)88 41 39 11 / e-mail : pressunit@coe.int

The Council of Europe launches project to enhance anti-corruption capacities in Georgia

Strasbourg, 18.10.2007 – The Council of Europe is launching a new technical co-operation project in Georgia, entitled “Support to the Anti-corruption Strategy of Georgia” (GEPAC), as part of its co-operation programme in the South Caucasus. The two-year project will also help to implement the recommendations made to Georgia by the Council’s group of states against corruption (GRECO). It is funded by a voluntary contribution from the Ministry for Development Co-operation of the Netherlands.

The project will focus on five main areas: strengthening the capacities of anti-corruption institutions; co-ordinating and monitoring the implementation of the anti-corruption plan; elaborating and improving primary and secondary legislation concerning the criminalisation and prevention of corruption; strengthening capacities to investigate and prosecute high-level corruption; and introducing pilot activities to enhance integrity and institutional capacities as tools for the prevention of corruption.

The launch event for GEPAC will take place from 10:00am to 13:15pm on 26 October 2007 at the Marriott Hotel in Tbilisi. Press is invited to attend the opening from 10:00 to 10:40.

More information is available at www.coe.int/economiccrime.

For any press queries, please contact the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe in Georgia: tel. +995 32 91 38 70 / 71 / 72 / 73.

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