



## Open Government Georgia Action Plan for 2024 - 2025

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# Introduction

The Government of Georgia considers openness, transparency, public accountability in governance, and citizen involvement in the decision-making process as fundamental values of a democratic society. Therefore, it persistently and faithfully continues to implement Open Government Partnership (OGP) principles into Georgia’s public governance system.

Georgia was among the first countries to join the OGP in 2011 and has already implemented several essential reforms within the framework of the preceding four Action Plans. In 2014, Georgia became a member of the Steering Committee for the OGP, and later in 2016, the country assumed the role of co-chair for the Partnership for the period of the 2017-2018 term. As the chair country, Georgia hosted the Fifth Global Summit of the OGP on July 17-19, 2018. The event was attended by representatives of over 70 countries, hundreds of CSOs, international organizations, academic circles, and the mass media.

In April 2019, Georgia offered its candidacy in the election for the Steering Committee and secured victory alongside Germany and Indonesia, thereby retaining its membership on the Steering Committee for a three-year term.

This document is the fifth Action Plan of Georgia, effective for the years 2024-2025 and encompasses 10 commitments undertaken by the Georgian Government. The Action Plan aims to improve access to information and transparency, enhance mechanisms to ensure government accountability to the public and increase engagement capabilities.

## Open Government Georgia Coordination

In 2014, the Open Government Georgia Forum was established by the government for inclusive leadership in the open governance process. This Forum serves as the first permanent coordination mechanism, bringing together government institutions (agencies responsible for implementing the OGP Georgia Action Plan), local NGOs, and donor organizations. The primary goal assigned to the Forum is to develop the Open Government Georgia Action Plan and monitor its implementation.

By Decree No. 197<sup>1</sup> of the Government of Georgia, dated April 22, 2019, the function of the Administration of the Government of Georgia is defined as coordinating Georgia's membership in the Open Government Partnership at the national and international levels, developing the Open Government Georgia Action Plan, monitoring its implementation, reporting, and facilitating the fulfillment of obligations determined by the Action Plan. As a result, a new structural unit, **the Public Administration Unit, was established under the Policy Planning and Governmental Coordination Department of the Administration of the Government of Georgia. One of the key functions of the Public Administration Unit is to provide analytical and organizational support for open governance reform.**

By Decree No. 110<sup>2</sup> of the Government of Georgia, dated February 13, 2020, and in accordance with the recommendations of local and international organizations participating in the Open Government Georgia process, the Public Administration Unit initiated the establishment of the first high-level government advisory body on open government issues – the Open Government Georgia Inter-Agency Coordination Council (see Table 1). The OGP Georgia Forum was retained as a permanent working group of the Council.

1. Government Decree 197 <https://shorturl.at/hptCD>  
2. Government Decree 110 <https://rb.gy/09ujt5>

### According to the regulations and statute of the newly established Council:

- ◇ The responsibilities of the Council's leadership are divided between two co-reporters/speakers, one nominated by government agencies and the other by the non-governmental sector.
- ◇ Heads/chairpersons of NGOs join as full members of the Council.
- ◇ The process for deciding on matters related to open governance is well-defined, guaranteeing equal rights for representatives from both government agencies and the non-governmental sector
- ◇ Government agencies are required to offer well-founded responses to recommendations from the civil sector during the development of an open government agenda.
- ◇ The Council is accountable to the Government of Georgia.

In conjunction with the amendments, incorporating suggestions from NGOs, revisions have been made to the regulations overseeing NGO membership in the Forum/Council. Under the modified framework, the decision to incorporate new NGOs into the Forum is autonomously made by the existing non-governmental organizations that are members of the Forum. Additionally, aligning with the guidance of the OGP International Secretariat, specific criteria have been defined to promote transparency and clarity in the process of admitting new members to the Forum/Council. NGOs will utilize these criteria for the selection of new members.

## Members of Council



### Council Chair

Head of the Administration of the Government of Georgia

- ✧ Deputy Head of the Administration of the Government of Georgia
- ✧ Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Georgia
- ✧ Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia
- ✧ Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia
- ✧ Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia
- ✧ Deputy Minister of Finance of Georgia
- ✧ Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Georgia
- ✧ Deputy Minister of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
- ✧ Deputy Minister of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia



### Council Co-Chair

Head of the N(N)LE - Transparency International Georgia

- ✧ Head of the N(N)LE – Transparency International Georgia
- ✧ Head of the N(N)LE – Georgian Young Lawyers’ Association
- ✧ Head of the N(N)LE – Economic Policy Research Center
- ✧ Head of the N(N)LE – Institute for Development of Freedom of Information

### Permanent Members of Council

- ✧ Deputy Minister of Defense of Georgia
- ✧ Deputy Minister of Justice of Georgia
- ✧ Deputy State Minister for Reconciliation and Civic Equality of Georgia
- ✧ Deputy Minister of Culture and Sports of Georgia
- ✧ Head of the Legal Entity under Public Law – Civil Service Bureau
- ✧ Head of the Legal Entity under Public Law – State Procurement Agency
- ✧ Executive Director of the Legal Entity under Public Law – Public Service Hall
- ✧ Head of the Policy Planning and Coordination Department of the Administration of the Government of Georgia (Secretariat of the Open Government Georgia)

### Members with the right to cast deliberative votes

- ✧ Head of the N(N)LE – Civil Society Institute
- ✧ Head of the N(N)LE – Open Society Georgia Foundation
- ✧ Head of the N(N)LE – Foundation “Partnership for Road Safety”

### Individuals participating in the work of the Council without the right to an advisory vote

- ✧ Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Court of Georgia
- ✧ Secretary of the High Council of Justice of Georgia
- ✧ Auditor General of the State Audit Office
- ✧ Representative of the EU Delegation to Georgia
- ✧ N(N)LE – Social Justice Center
- ✧ Representatives of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and projects funded by it
- ✧ Chair of the Open Governance Working Group of the Tbilisi Municipality City Hall
- ✧ Representative of the UNDP
- ✧ Representative of the American Chamber of Commerce
- ✧ Representative of the German Society for International Cooperation
- ✧ Representative of the N(N)LE – National Democratic Institute
- ✧ N(N)LE – Green Alternative
- ✧ Representatives of other responsible agencies included in the Open Government Georgia Action Plan
- ✧ Chair of the Open Governance Permanent Parliamentary Council



## Open Government Georgia Reforms

Since joining the OGP, Georgia has actively undertaken reforms aimed at fostering greater transparency and accountability, enhancing public sector integrity, implementing innovative approaches, and ensuring universal access to public services for its citizens. The reforms, implemented as a result of fruitful collaboration with civil society within the scope of the OGP Action Plans, include:



**Citizens' Portal – My.gov.ge** – To streamline and secure government services within a single platform, the unified electronic services portal MY.GOV.GE was launched in Georgia in 2012. Currently serving over 200,000 users, the portal enables individuals to access more than 700 services offered by the public and private sector remotely, from the comfort of their homes. The portal was created within the framework of the Open Government Georgia's first Action Plan.



**Data Portal – Data.gov.ge** – As part of the commitments outlined in the Open Government Georgia Action Plan 2014-2015, the first open data portal, [www.data.gov.ge](http://www.data.gov.ge), was created. This platform is dedicated to the publication of open data and related metadata. The portal also provides information about the use of this data. It enables businesses, NGOs, and government agencies to seamlessly access the required data, utilize them for developing applications and electronic services, and derive economic benefits from them as a result.



**The innovative analytical web platform – Budget Monitor** - The State Audit Office established an analytical platform, [www.budgetmonitor.ge](http://www.budgetmonitor.ge), as part of the Open Government Georgia Action Plan for 2016-2017. This platform is designed to foster transparency and citizen participation, ultimately aiming to empower taxpayers and promote government accountability in financial monitoring. Budget Monitor has achieved notable acclaim globally and has swiftly garnered multiple prestigious awards.<sup>3</sup>



**Transparency of Asset Declarations of Public Officials and Its Monitoring System** – A monitoring system for overseeing asset declarations submitted by public officials was established within the framework of the Open Government Georgia Action Plan in 2017. This system verifies the completeness and accuracy of the information provided in the declarations. It is a crucial component of the state's anti-corruption and integrity policies, effectively identifying potential cases of corruption, including conflicts of interest. The monitoring of asset declarations contributes to effective and efficient public administration, responsible expenditure of public finances, and decision-making aligned with the public interest. The success of the declaration monitoring system is attributed to the transparency and openness of the processes.

3. Detailed information on Budget Monitor <https://rb.gy/si78o2>



**Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA)** – Introduced as a component of the National Open Government Georgia Action Plan for 2018-2019, the Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) serves the purpose of developing evidence-based policies. An amendment to the Organic Law of Georgia “On Normative Acts” was introduced on May 29, 2019<sup>4</sup>, adding Article 17<sup>5</sup> to this law. This amendment mandates the attachment of a regulatory impact assessment report to a draft normative act aimed at specific areas. The change came into effect on January 1, 2020. Furthermore, under Decree No. 35<sup>5</sup> of the Government of Georgia dated January 17, 2020, the RIA Methodology was approved, initiating the gradual capacity building of civil servants in this area.



**The Information Portal on the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** – [Sdg.gov.ge](http://Sdg.gov.ge) - is a system designed for monitoring and evaluating progress toward the SDGs. It was developed and launched as part of the National Action Plan of Open Government Georgia for 2018-2019. The portal's purpose is to provide the public with information on the progress of implementing the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as other issues related to these goals.



**Participation of Citizens in Budgetary Processes** – To ensure citizen involvement in policymaking, the participatory budgeting tool was first introduced in Georgia in 2015, starting in Marneuli Municipality. Subsequently, this innovation was replicated by various municipalities. In 2019, the City Hall of Batumi Municipality, in collaboration with the Batumi Municipal Services Agency, established the electronic platform [idea.batumi.ge](http://idea.batumi.ge). This platform stands out as one of the successful models of participatory budgeting in the country, enabling citizens to propose and select city development projects themselves.



**Open Government Georgia's First Official Website** – In 2020, supported by the USAID Good Governance Initiative in Georgia (USAID/GGI), the first user-centered Open Government Georgia website – [www.ogp.gov.ge](http://www.ogp.gov.ge) – was launched. This platform consolidates information on ongoing reforms since Georgia joined the Open Government Partnership. The website includes a monitoring platform that allows stakeholders to track the implementation process of Georgia's Open Government action plans online.

4. The Law of Georgia on Normative Acts <https://rb.gy/l9c1s8>

5. Decree On the Approval of Regulatory Impact Assessment Methodology <https://rb.gy/mln06q>



## Participation of Municipalities in the OGP Local Program

Significant work has been done towards involving local self-governing units in the OGP processes. Since 2016, OGP has dedicated special attention and resources to implementing open governance principles in municipalities. Consequently, the OGP Georgia Secretariat consistently collaborates with municipal authorities to help them effectively utilize the OGP platform.

Local self-governments have two options for participating in the OGP processes:

1. **Taking on individual commitments within the framework of the Open Government Georgia Action Plan** (13 municipal bodies of 11 municipalities participated in the Open Government Georgia Action Plan for 2018-2019, fulfilling several important commitments towards open government)
2. Participating in a competition to become members of the OGP Local program and developing their action plan at the municipal level.

It should be noted that in 2020, **three municipalities in Georgia (Ozurgeti, Khonim and Akhaltsikhe) were selected as members of the local OGP Program**. A total of 112 cities worldwide participated in the selection process, and the selection committee elected 56 of them as program members based on predetermined criteria. Throughout the selection process, municipalities received analytical and organizational support from the OGP Georgia Secretariat, USAID/GGI, and the UNDP project ‘Fostering Decentralization and Good Governance at the Local Level in Georgia.’

In 2022, the municipalities of Rustavi and Kutaisi joined the OGP Local program from Georgia. During the preparatory stage for participation in the OGP Local program, municipalities received support from experts affiliated with the USAID/GGI and UNDP project ‘Fostering Decentralization and Good Governance at the Local Level in Georgia’ as part of this selection cycle. The OGP Georgia Secretariat played an active role in the process and, with the support of the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia, organized an information-sharing meeting for all municipalities in the country.

Municipalities that are part of the program have the opportunity to collaborate with representatives from different countries who are members of OGP Local, share their knowledge, experience, and implement innovative approaches at the local level.

## Elaboration of the Open Government Georgia Action Plan for 2024-2025

Up until 2024, Georgia has implemented **four action plans** as part of its membership in OGP.<sup>6</sup> In 2020, the process of developing a new action plan for OGP Georgia was significantly hampered by the difficulties and restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, prompting a shift to a fully online format.

In 2021, efforts to develop the new **fifth Action Plan continued**; specifically, various government departments, local, and international organizations involved in the process presented initiatives covering various areas to the Open Government Georgia Secretariat. The Secretariat actively collaborated with relevant government agencies and OGP Georgia Council member NGOs to thoroughly assess the presented initiatives.

To jointly formulate the Action Plan, the Secretariat organized<sup>7</sup> **two meetings of the Open Government Georgia Forum**<sup>8</sup> on January 21 and February 24, 2022. During these sessions, Forum members discussed each initiative presented for the new Action Plan and evaluated their relevance. Following the Forum meetings, **approximately 20 thematic working sessions** were conducted to discuss individual initiatives, with participation from representatives of both government bodies and NGOs.

As a result, government agencies formed their positions regarding the consideration and the degree of incorporation of each new initiative in the new action plan. These positions, along with justifying arguments, were presented in writing to the full Council.

On December 20, 2023, the Council of Open Government Georgia discussed, approved, and instructed the OGP Georgia Secretariat to submit the draft 5th Action Plan for 2024-2025 for government approval.”

6. Action plans are available here <https://t.ly/Fpocg>

7. Information about the Forum session of January 21, 2022 is available here, and details about the Forum session of February 24, 2022 can be found here <https://t.ly/DhNnh>

8. The minutes of the forum meeting are available here <https://t.ly/VsGFp>

# Commitments of the Open Government Georgia Action Plan for 2024-2025

**Commitment 1** Improving current standards for the requesting and proactive publication of public information – the second wave of reforms

**Commitment Lead** Administration of the Government of Georgia



**Supporting Stakeholders**

- ◇ **Ministry of Culture and Sports of Georgia**
- ◇ **Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia**  
SSA – Department of Environmental Supervision
- ◇ **Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia**  
LEPL – Labour Inspection Office
- ◇ **Ministry of Justice of Georgia**  
LEPL – Digital Governance Agency
- ◇ **Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia**  
LEPL – Technical and Construction Supervision Agency  
LEPL – State Agency of Oil and Gas  
LEPL – National Agency of Mineral Resources
- ◇ **High Council of Justice of Georgia**

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) aligned with the commitment



**Description of the current situation and the challenge**

Access to public information is regulated by the General Administrative Code of Georgia, which establishes relevant standards and procedures for government agencies. Additionally, the issue is governed by Decree No. 219 of the Government of Georgia, dated August 26, 2013, “On Requesting Public Information in Electronic Form and Publishing It Proactively” (Government Decree No. 219).

The Government Decree, developed in 2013 as part of the Open Government Georgia Action Plan commitment, has established a list of public information that must be proactively published on the websites of public agencies at defined time intervals.

Over the past decade, the Decree has played an important role in enhancing access to public information in Georgia. However, after 10 years of enacting the document, it is crucial to reassess current needs and challenges and to expand the list of public information that should be proactively published accordingly.

Furthermore, to ensure a high standard of access to public information, it is essential to continuously develop the capabilities of those responsible for providing information and to improve their qualifications. Therefore, in line with the update of the Decree, it is crucial to implement measures aimed at strengthening the capacity of relevant civil servants.



**Brief description of the commitment**

This commitment entails enhancing the current standard for the proactive publication of public information, thereby implementing the second wave of the reform. During the commitment’s formulation process, government agencies and the civil sector identified areas that, when included in the scope of Government Decree No. 219, would increase access to public information. Consequently, after the amendments to the Decree, the following public information will be added to the updated list:

### Cultural and creative activities financed under the programs of the Ministry of Culture and Sports

The Ministry of Culture and Sports of Georgia allocates substantial funds from its budget to support diverse cultural and creative activities. However, information regarding these activities is currently not provided proactively and systematically, elevating the risks of potential misuse of funds in this domain. As part of this commitment, essential details such as the names of the competition winners, the organizations/individuals responsible for implementing the winning project, the total number of projects submitted for the competition, and the overall budget allocated for the competition will be published.

### Inspections conducted by the Department of Environmental Supervision

In accordance with Georgia's legislation, the Department of Environmental Supervision, a state subordinate body under the Ministry of Environment and Agriculture – Department of Environmental Supervision, is tasked with overseeing compliance with the conditions specified in issued licenses, permits, and environmental decisions. The department conducts inspections to verify adherence to the issued license/permit conditions, assessing the extent and impact of any harm caused to the environment because of activities. Additionally, the agency is responsible for implementing appropriate responses. The right to live in a healthy and safe environment, along with access to information about its protection, is constitutionally guaranteed in Georgia. To uphold and safeguard this right, the Department of Environmental Supervision will use its online platform to proactively disseminate information regarding conducted inspections. This practice will offer valuable information to the public and contribute to preventing environmental violations.

### Inspections conducted by the LEPL – Labor Inspection Office

Since September 1, 2019, the LEPL – Labour Inspection Office has been granted the authority to monitor compliance with labor safety standards across all workplaces in the country. Subsequently, starting from January 1, 2021, the inspector's powers have been expanded, now allowing comprehensive monitoring of labor rights. Despite legislative reforms, the country still grapples with the challenge of fully implementing mechanisms for the protection of labor rights in workplaces. This issue persists, even with the increased mandate, as evident in the results of labor legislation supervision. In response, one of the priorities of the Labour Inspection Office is to develop mechanisms for publishing information and fostering public awareness to enhance the effectiveness of its activity and overall accountability.

### Court decisions

To enhance the accountability of the judicial system, maintaining a high standard of access to court decisions is paramount. One effective mechanism to achieve this goal is to ensure the public availability of complete court decision documents across all instances (while safeguarding personal data). As part of this commitment, in alignment with the requirements outlined in the Organic Law of Georgia "On General Courts," the full text of judicial acts arising from open court hearings in general courts will be proactively published in a depersonalized form once the final court decision enters into legal force. It should be noted that any decision made by the General Court of Georgia is considered a judicial act, including those decisions not resolving a case on its own merits.

### Decisions made during government meetings

Currently, the minutes of government meetings are not publicly available, diminishing public awareness regarding decisions made during these sessions. To enhance the transparency of government activities, increase public accountability, and keep citizens well-informed, the agenda of each meeting will be published before its commencement, and the minutes of the session will be proactively made available on the official government website following its conclusion.

### Decisions of the Commission of the State Referral Service Program

Under the framework of the State Referral Service Program, a specially designated commission is entrusted with the responsibility of deciding on the issuance of funding and determining amounts allocated to beneficiaries. Currently, Decisions of the Commission of the State Referral Service Program application is not readily accessible to interested parties, except for program beneficiaries (presented in depersonalized data). To fulfill the commitment, reports detailing the decisions made by the commission within the State Referral Service Program will be prepared, and statistical data will be proactively published.

### Procurements financed from the reserve funds of the Government of Georgia

Currently, information about state procurements financed from the reserve funds of the Government of Georgia is not readily accessible, in accordance with existing legal regulations. There is no mandatory requirement to ensure competition in procurements made with funds allocated from the reserve funds. Additionally, there is no obligation to adhere to other transparency procedures. As a result, information on financing from the government's reserve funds is currently not included on the electronic portal [procurement.gov.ge](http://procurement.gov.ge). The present commitment's goal is to ensure the proactive provision of access to information on funding disbursed from reserve funds.



### Listing of databases registered with the Unified State Registry

The Law “On the Unified State Registry of Information” has been effective in Georgia since June 1, 2011. This law mandates the recording of significant changes, distribution, consolidation, cancellation, destruction, archiving, and transfer of registers, databases, services, or information systems. According to the law, the Unified State Registry is responsible for gathering comprehensive information about information assets owned by the public sector in the form of databases, registers, services, or information systems. This information may serve as a valuable resource for various stakeholders, including businesses, media, public organizations, and academia, seeking data produced in the public sector. For the effective implementation of the law, it is crucial to raise awareness among representatives of government agencies about this law and to make a general description of the databases registered in the Unified State Registry proactively available.

### Ensuring proactive access to information on the issuance of construction permits for objects of special importance and state supervision of the existing construction permits

Current regulations do not allow for direct public participation in the issuance of permits for constructing buildings of special importance. As a result, ensuring the proactive availability of information regarding monitoring and state supervision over these permits acquires particular significance. Facilitating access to information for interested parties about ongoing construction activities, including inspection results through a single online platform will amplify public awareness. This, in turn, will bring to light the nature and extent of violations at various construction sites, potentially contributing to the prevention and elimination of such violations in the future.

With funding from the EBRD, the LEPL – Technical and Construction Supervision Agency is currently implementing an interactive mapping system linked to a digitalized and unified electronic system for construction permits and administrative processes for objects of special importance. This initiative is scheduled to be concluded in 2024. Upon the project’s completion, it will be possible to publish permits issued by the Agency simultaneously along with information about state supervision provided quarterly.




### Energy projects

Electricity production stands as a critically important sector for the country. Consequently, the proactive publishing of agreements (such as memorandums and contracts) concluded between the Government of Georgia and companies in this sector will significantly increase the government’s accountability to the public and elevate transparency in its activities. As part of this commitment, on the one hand, an individual administrative legal act will be developed defining the rules for the proactive publication of agreements (and other types of documents) concluded in the energy sector, on the other hand, easy access to agreements in the energy sector will be ensured, in accordance to established rules.

### Mineral extraction

In 2017, the government took significant steps by establishing the LEPL - National Minerals Agency and formulating a strategy for the mineral sector, as the Georgian Government is committed to strengthening institutional mechanisms, refining the legislative framework, enhancing investment attractiveness, and promoting transparent and accountable transactions. While the creation and operation of the National Minerals Agency have notably improved communication within the sector, stakeholder consultation, and information publicity, formal requirements or mechanisms for facilitating information exchange and public consultation on mineral-related topics are still lacking. As part of this commitment, a crucial aspect involves the proactive publication and continuous updating of the register of mining licenses. Additionally, making information available regarding state supervision of licenses (regarding compliance with license conditions) will significantly elevate public awareness about the development and current state of the industry. As part of the commitment, the following will also be ensured:

- Proactive publication of information on cases of illegal mineral extraction quarterly
- Proactive publication of information detailing measures taken to enforce adherence to the law in the oil and gas extraction sector.

Period Covered	I, 2024 – continuous			
Impact of commitment on transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement	Transparency 	Accountability 	Citizen Engagement 	
	✓	✓		
Milestones	Expected Output	Start Date	Completion Date	Responsible/partner agency
<b>1.1. Improvement of the existing standard for proactive publication of information</b>				
1.1.1 Examine international practice on proactive publication of public information	International practices are examined to expand the list of public information eligible for proactive publication.	II, 2024	II, 2024	Administration of the Government of Georgia
1.1.2 Draft amendment to government decree and approval	Amendment to Government Decree No. 219 is approved	III, 2024	IV, 2024	
1.1.3 Training of personnel responsible for providing public information	Relevant employees from the ministries are trained on the accessibility of public information	IV, 2024	IV, 2024	
<b>1.2. Ensuring proactive access to information on cultural and creative activities financed under the programs of the Ministry of Culture and Sports</b>				
1.2.1 Publication of Information about financed cultural and creative activities	Information on cultural and creative activities financed under the programs of the Ministry of Culture and Sports is published quarterly on the Ministry's website	II, 2024	Continuous	Ministry of Culture and Sports of Georgia
<b>1.3. Ensuring proactive access to information on inspections conducted by the Department of Environmental Supervision</b>				
1.3.1 Following a court decision, information (protocols, court decisions, environmental damage under consideration, and administrative orders) about the inspections (findings) concerning regulated objects proactively published	Following a court decision, information about the inspections (findings) carried out on regulated objects (protocols, court decisions, environmental damage under consideration, and administrative orders) is proactively published while adhering to the protection of personal data	II, 2024	Continuous	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

<b>1.4. Ensuring proactive access to information on inspections conducted by the LEPL – Labour Inspection Office</b>				
1.4.1 Establishing an online platform and disseminating statistical data regarding conducted inspections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Online platform is created.</li> <li>Up-to-date statistical information on inspections carried out is proactively published, and classified (at a minimum) by the severity of violations, economic activity, types of inspections and regions</li> </ul>	I, 2023	Continuous	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labor, Health, and Social Affairs of Georgia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LEPL – Labour Inspection Office</li> </ul>
<b>1.5. Ensuring proactive access to court decisions</b>				
1.5.1 Publication of court decisions of all instances in compliance with personal data protection	Decisions of all court instances are proactively published, ensuring compliance with personal data protection, and available in an open format	I, 2024	Continuous	High Council of Justice of Georgia
<b>1.6. Ensuring proactive access to information on government sessions</b>				
1.6.1 Publication of agendas and minutes of government meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agendas of government meetings are published on the official website of the Government of Georgia</li> <li>After a government meeting, minutes of the session are published on the official website of the Government of Georgia.</li> </ul>	IV, 2024	Continuous	Administration of the Government of Georgia
<b>1.7. Ensuring proactive access to Commission decisions within the State Referral Service Program</b>				
1.7.1 Development of an analytical tool for the publication of information on decisions made by the general commission within the framework of the State Referral Service Program	Analytical tool is prepared	IV, 2023	Continuous	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia

1.7.2 Publishing statistics on decisions made by the general commission within the State Referral Service Program framework	Statistics are published quarterly	IV, 2023	Continuous	
<b>1.8. Ensuring proactive access to information on procurements financed from the reserve funds of the Government of Georgia</b>				
1.8.1 Publication of information on procurements from the reserve funds of the Government of Georgia	Information on procurements financed from the reserve funds of the Government of Georgia is proactively published	IV, 2024	Continuous	Administration of the Government of Georgia
<b>1.9. Ensuring proactive access to the listing of databases registered with the Unified State Registry</b>				
1.9.1. Preparation and initiation of a draft amendment to update the Law of Georgia "On the Unified State Registry of Information" considering current needs	The Law of Georgia "On the Unified State Registry of Information" is reviewed and, if necessary, updated	II, 2024	IV, 2025	Ministry of Justice of Georgia • LEPL – Digital Governance Agency
1.9.2. Updating the portal of the Unified State Registry of Information	Portal of the Unified State Registry of Information is updated	IV, 2024	IV, 2025	
1.9.3. Creation of a module for the proactive publication of databases registered in the Unified State Registry	Proactive publication module is created on the portal of the Unified State Registry (integrated into the websites of government agencies)	IV, 2024	IV, 2025	
1.9.4. Periodic update and proactive publication of the list of databases registered in the Unified State Registry	A list of databases registered in the Unified State Registry (along with a description of the database metadata) is proactively published	IV, 2024	IV, 2025	

1.9.5. Raising awareness of civil servants about the Unified State Registry	At least 20 representatives from 10 government agencies are trained on the subject of the Unified State Registry	IV, 2024	IV, 2025	
<b>1.10. Ensuring proactive access to information on the issuance of construction permits for objects of special importance and state supervision of the existing construction permits</b>				
1.10.1 Development of a unified electronic system	A unified electronic system is created including the following modules: • Document flow module • Administrative control panel • User registration module • Search engine • Report generating module • Spatial data module • Actions archive	II, 2023	I, 2024	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia • LEPL – Technical and Construction Supervision Agency
1.10.2 Training in the application and management of a unified electronic system	A minimum 40 civil servants are trained in the application and management of the unified electronic system	II, 2024	II, 2024	
1.10.3 Publication of information on the issuance of construction permits for sites of special significance and state supervision of the existing construction permits	• Up-to-date information on the entire permission issuance process is accessible to interested parties • Information about state supervision is proactively published once a quarter	III, 2024	Continuous	
<b>1.11. Ensuring proactive access to information on energy projects</b>				
1.11.1 Publication of signed memorandums/contracts on energy projects	Procedure for the publication of signed memoranda/agreements on energy projects is developed and approved	I, 2024	IV, 2024	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia

Signed memoranda/agreements on energy projects are published on the official website of the Ministry in accordance with established procedures	I, 2025	Continuous
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**1.12. Ensuring proactive access to information on mineral extraction**

1.12.1 Publication and continuous update of the register of mining licenses	The register of mining licenses is published and updated quarterly	I, 2024	Continuous	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia • LEPL – National Agency of Mineral Resources
1.12.2 Publication of information about the state supervision of mining licenses (regarding the status of compliance with license conditions)	Information on state supervision of mining licenses (on the status of compliance with license conditions) is proactively published every quarter on the website of the LEPL – National Agency of Mineral Resources	I, 2024	Continuous	

**1.13. Ensuring proactive access to information on instances of illegal mineral extraction**

1.13.1 Proactive quarterly publication of information on instances of illegal mineral extraction	Information on instances of illegal mineral extraction is proactively published every quarter	II, 2024	Continuous	Ministry of Environment Protection and Agriculture of Georgia • SSA – Department of Environmental Supervision
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**1.14. Proactive publication of information on the measures taken for the enforcement of the Oil and Gas Extraction Law**

1.14.1 Proactive publication of information on the outcomes of measures taken to enforce adherence to law in the oil and gas extraction sector	Information on the outcomes of measures implemented to enforce adherence to laws is published by the LEPL – State Agency of Oil and Gas every six months on its official website (once the website development is complete)	III, 2024	Continuous	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia • LEPL – State Agency of Oil and Gas
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**Indicators**

- ◇ Comprehensive review of international practices regarding the proactive publication of public information is conducted.
- ◇ The Decree No. 219 of the Government of Georgia is amended and includes the information specified in paragraphs 1.2 1.14 of this commitment
- ◇ Relevant government agencies are publishing public information in accordance with the updated Government Decree on the proactive disclosure of public information.
- ◇ Relevant officials from the ministries are trained to enhance the accessibility of public information

**Commitment 2** Adoption of the “Open Data Act”

**Commitment Lead** Administration of the Government of Georgia

**Supporting Stakeholders** LEPL – Digital Governance Agency, Ministry of Justice of Georgia.  
Ministries of Georgia



**Description of the current situation and the challenge**




According to the Council of Europe’s definition, open data is the publication of data and information in a format that may be freely used, modified and shared.<sup>9</sup> The accessibility to open data enables businesses, NGOs, and government agencies to seamlessly access the required data, utilize it for developing applications and electronic services, and derive economic benefits. While government agencies in Georgia process open data, only a few of them make it available in a machine-readable format. In response to this challenge, an open data portal (data.gov.ge) was established as part of the Open Government Action Plan of Georgia for 2014-2015. This portal provides information from various government agencies, including data on procurement and government expenses, in an open format. The portal is administered by the LEPL – Digital Governance Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia.

9. Council of Europe’s Handbook on Open Local Government and Public Ethics, p. 39. Available here <https://t.ly/kodFc>

While the open data portal exists, it should be noted that publication of data on the platform is voluntary, therefore it does not cover all government agencies. Moreover, there is a low level of awareness regarding both data publishing within government agencies and the use of the platform among the general public. Additionally, the growth in the volume of data published on the portal is impeded by the outdated technical and systemic infrastructure currently in place on data.gov.ge that needs to be addressed.<sup>10</sup>

**Brief description of the commitment**

As part of this commitment, the Administration of the Government of Georgia, in close collaboration with the LEPL – Digital Governance Agency, will develop a legal framework for open data. This framework will mandate government agencies to publish the open data they own on the portal Data.gov.ge. The commitment aims to enhance standards for the proactive publication of public information and open data.

Period Covered	IV, 2024 - IV, 2025			
Impact of commitment on transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement	<b>Transparency</b> 	<b>Accountability</b> 	<b>Citizen Engagement</b> 	
	✓	✓		
Milestones	Expected Output	Start Date	Completion Date	Responsible/partner agency
2.1 Preparation and approval of the Open Data Act (Government decree)	A decree to regulate open data is adopted by the Government of Georgia	IV, 2024	IV, 2024	Administration of the Government of Georgia  Partner: LEPL – Digital Governance Agency, Ministry of Justice of Georgia

10. Public Administration Reform, Roadmap 2020, Implementation Review, p 44.

2.2 Training of government agency employees to work with open data	At least 10 employees from 5 government agencies are trained on open data	IV, 2024	IV, 2025
2.3 Development of open data production and processing systems	Open data production and processing systems are implemented in 5 government agencies	IV, 2024	IV, 2025
2.4 Updating of the Open Data Portal (data.gov.ge)	Open Data Portal updated	IV, 2024	IV, 2025
2.5 Regular publication/updating of open data by agencies on data.gov.ge	Open data is regularly published and updated by agencies on the portal data.gov.ge	Continuous	Continuous

LEPL – Digital Governance Agency,  
Ministry of Justice of Georgia

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**Indicators**

- ◇ Government decree on open data is adopted
- ◇ At least 10 employees from 5 government agencies are trained in open data
- ◇ Open data systems are implemented in 5 government agencies
- ◇ Data.gov.ge portal is updated
- ◇ Open data is regularly published and updated by agencies on the data.gov.ge portal

**Commitment 3**

**Increasing the transparency of the state grant funding system**

**Commitment Lead**

**Administration of the Government of Georgia**

**Supporting Stakeholders**

**Parliament of Georgia, Ministry of Finance of Georgia**

**Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) aligned with the commitment**



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**Description of the current situation and the challenge**

Based on the recommendations from non-governmental organizations, OGP Georgia Forum members, the Administration of the Government of Georgia, in collaboration with partner agencies, initiated reforms to the existing system of allocating grant funding by state/public institutions in 2018.

As evidenced by practice, Georgian legislation lacks provisions encompassing general principles and procedures for the allocation of grants by ministries and legal entities of public law. Additionally, there is no uniform legal standard governing the provision of grants by government agencies. Moreover, certain government agencies are not integrated into the existing government grant system.




According to the final report on the implementation of the OGP Georgia Action Plan 2018-2019, collaborative efforts were initiated in 2018 by the Administration of the Government of Georgia and the OGP Georgia Forum member N(N) LE Civil Society Institute to reform the system of allocating grant funding by state/public institutions. A working group was formed, consisting of representatives from the Administration of the Government of Georgia, the Civil Society Institute, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure, and the Public Procurement Agency. Numerous meetings were conducted, resulting in the preparation of multiple versions of draft amendments to

the Law of Georgia “On Grants.” Several issues were agreed upon, while the need for additional work on certain topics was acknowledged.

Depending on the significance of each issue, it is necessary to continue the ongoing process, conduct further consultations, and reach a consensus on the final version of the proposed draft law.

**Brief description of the commitment**

The commitment entails the completion of consultations on amendments to the Law of Georgia “On Grants,” the preparation of the final version of the draft law, and its submission to the Parliament of Georgia for approval.

<b>Period Covered</b>	I, 2024 – III, 2024			
<b>Impact of commitment on transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement</b>	<b>Transparency</b> 	<b>Accountability</b> 		<b>Citizen Engagement</b> 
	✓	✓		
<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Expected Output</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Responsible/partner agency</b>
3.1 Conducting consultations with stakeholders to prepare legal amendments	Consultations with various government agencies, public organizations and experts on the preparation of amendments to legislation are completed	I, 2024	II, 2024	Administration of the Government of Georgia
3.2 Preparation and discussion of draft amendments to the Law of Georgia “On Grants”	Draft amendments to the Law of Georgia “On Grants” are prepared and discussed within the framework of the OGP Georgia Forum	II, 2024	II, 2024	

3.3 Submission of the draft amendments to the Parliament of Georgia

Draft amendments to the law are submitted to the Parliament of Georgia

III, 2024

III, 2024

**Indicator**

◇ Submission of draft amendments to the law of Georgia “On Grants” to the Parliament of Georgia.

**Commitment 4**

**Ensuring transparency and inclusiveness in the extractive industries sector**

**Commitment Lead**

Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia

**Supporting Stakeholders**

LEPL – National Agency of Mineral Resources

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) aligned with the commitment



**Description of the current situation and the challenge**

Georgia is rich in various types of minerals. The mineral sector plays an important role in the country’s economic development. To enhance the development and effective management of the mineral sector, a series of structural changes were implemented in December 2017, resulting in the transfer of powers for managing minerals and monitoring compliance with license conditions to the LEPL – National Minerals Agency under the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, now operating under the name LEPL – National Agency of Mineral Resources.

In December 2019, the Government of Georgia approved the “Georgian Subsoil Sector Strategy”, focusing on priority areas such as: strengthening transparency and accountability in the subsoil sector, updating databases to ensure access to public information, and implementing revenue management principles aligned with the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI) to optimize revenues. In 2019, Georgia also joined the Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF). By joining the IGF, the country demonstrated its readiness to improve governance in the mining sector.




The National Agency of Mineral Resources initiated efforts to update the regulatory framework of the industry, including the development of a working version of the Subsoil Code. Upon the implementation of the Code, a new legal system for mining will be adopted, reflecting the best global practices aligned with international environmental principles and standards, and ensuring the rational and sustainable use of mineral resources.

**Brief description of the commitment**

The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) serves as a global standard for promoting good governance in the extraction of natural resources, including gas, oil, metals, and other minerals. The EITI supports the development of transparency and accountability mechanisms within the extractive sector and examines the economic impact of natural resource extraction at both central and local levels.

The implementation of the EITI standard in Georgia starts with a comprehensive study of the current situation. This includes an assessment of the capabilities of government agencies and an evaluation of the existing conditions. Subsequently, the second stage entails the development of an action plan, defining strategies to address identified issues and outlining the necessary activities and measures for aligning with the EITI standard.

Moreover, the commitment extends to ensuring transparency in the ongoing reform at the National Agency of Mineral Resources, specifically in the process of updating the regulatory framework of the sector. This involves, among other things, establishing a well-defined mechanism for consulting with stakeholders during the review of draft normative acts and their subsequent implementation.

<b>Period Covered</b>	I, 2024 – IV, 2024			
<b>Impact of commitment on transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement</b>	<b>Transparency</b> 	<b>Accountability</b> 		<b>Citizen Engagement</b> 
	✓	✓		✓
<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Expected Output</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Responsible/partner agency</b>
4.1 Assessing institutional and legal readiness and developing an action plan for joining the EITI, to implement the EITI standard in Georgia	A study for the implementation of the EITI standard in Georgia is completed.  An action plan to join the EITI is developed	I, 2024	IV, 2025	Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia • LEPL – National Agency of Mineral Resources
4.2 Discussion of the Mining Code with Stakeholders	Meetings are held with stakeholders to discuss the Mining Code	II, 2024	IV, 2024	

**Indicator**

- ◇ A study of Georgia’s institutional and legal readiness to implement EITI standards is conducted and made available to stakeholders.
- ◇ An action plan to join the EITI is developed.
- ◇ Meetings are held with stakeholders to discuss the draft Mining Code.



**Commitment 5** **Ensuring the inclusion of persons with disabilities in public life**

**Commitment Lead** Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia

Supporting Stakeholders

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) aligned with the commitment



Description of the current situation and the challenge

The Open Government Georgia Action Plan for 2018-2019 included various initiatives aimed at enhancing the involvement of individuals with disabilities in public life, specifically focusing on improving the quality of services they receive. It is important that the new Action Plan sets even more ambitious objectives, expanding its scope to include groups that currently lack opportunities for engagement in public life. This should encompass individuals with disabilities residing in large institutions, such as psychiatric institutions and boarding homes for the disabled.

Despite the country’s commitment to deinstitutionalization as a vital element of public policy, significant challenges persist in this area. Notably, the issue of people with disabilities living in isolation from society has not been fully addressed. Key concerns affecting beneficiaries of large institutions include access to housing, support for independent living, and other community services. Consequently, many individuals are compelled to remain in specialized institutions,<sup>11</sup> missing out on the advantages accessible to the broader society, such as active and unrestricted participation in public life.

11. For example, according to the Public Defender’s reports, 30-40% of people placed in psychiatric institutions stay in institutions only because they do not have a place to live.

Brief description of the commitment

In light of the foregoing, it is important that the new Action Plan **promotes the inclusion of people with disabilities in public life through deinstitutionalization and the development of community services.**

It is important to note that, in 2022, the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia conducted a study on the individual needs of residents of the institutions. The study led to the approval of the 2023-2030 Strategy for Independent Living and Deinstitutionalization of Persons with Disabilities, along with the Action Plan for its implementation in the years 2023-2025. Thus, consistent efforts in this direction have already begun.

For the next stage, the state should consider issues such as:

- The development of community services throughout the country.
- The establishment and application of a mechanism that actively and effectively engages individuals with disabilities, including those with psychosocial needs, as well as the organizations representing them, in the implementation and monitoring of the policy.
- Raising public awareness.

Period Covered	I, 2024 – IV, 2026			
Impact of commitment on transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement	Transparency	Accountability		Citizen Engagement
		✓		✓
Milestones	Expected Output	Start Date	Completion Date	Responsible/partner agency
5.1 Development of community services throughout the country	Services are developed throughout the country based on the individual needs of the relevant individuals and groups	I, 2024	IV, 2026	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia

5.2 Plan and implement a continuous information campaign to raise public awareness

Information campaign is planned and implemented to enhance awareness of social services among disabled individuals, their family members, representatives of state agencies, and the public

I, 2024

IV, 2026

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

Indicator

- ◇ Programs are developed throughout the country based on the individual needs of the relevant individuals and groups.
- ◇ Large-scale information campaign on social services planned and implemented.

Commitment 6

Improving statistical methodology and publishing data on evictions

Commitment Lead

Ministry of Justice of Georgia  
 ▪ LEPL – National Bureau of Enforcement

Supporting Stakeholders

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) aligned with the commitment



12. The Strategy for Independent Living and Deinstitutionalization of Persons with Disabilities for 2023-2030, along with the Action Plan for its implementation for 2023-2025

Description of the current situation and the challenge




Presently, the nation lacks consistent statistics on homelessness and housing policy. The absence of such data impedes the ability to formulate and implement social policies designed to safeguard the rights of citizens. Moreover, challenges associated with eviction from real estate present significant issues within the context of Georgia’s circumstances.

Data on evictions are not collected with a comprehensive methodology adhering to international standards.

Another challenge is the inadequate practice of disseminating public information in this field. The scarcity of data causes delays in furnishing requested information to concerned parties, posing a challenge for the public to stay updated on the current situation regarding evictions in the country.

Brief description of the commitment

To address the above-mentioned challenges, it is important to create a detailed methodology based on international standards for the production of statistics on eviction cases and to improve the availability of information on eviction cases. It is also advisable to focus on identifying groups that are particularly vulnerable to eviction.

Period Covered	II, 2024 – IV, 2025			
Impact of commitment on transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement	Transparency 	Accountability 	Citizen Engagement 	
	✓	✓		
Milestones	Expected Output	Start Date	Completion Date	Responsible/partner agency
6.1 Development of a detailed methodology based on international standards for the production of statistics on eviction cases by the LEPL – National Bureau of Enforcement.	A detailed methodology based on international standards for producing statistics on eviction cases by the LEPL – National Bureau of Enforcement is developed, which includes the following information on the pending/completed cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purpose of the immovable property and type of enforcement</li> </ul>	II, 2024	IV, 2024	Ministry of Justice of Georgia ▪ LEPL – National Bureau of Enforcement

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Type of immovable property ownership.</li> <li>Information about the persons and households who are designated in the decision as debtors (the household members' number, gender, age category, number of children, single parent status, disabled status, pensioner or veteran status, status of a socially vulnerable person, and status of belonging to a national minority).</li> </ul>			
6.2 Processing of statistical data using a newly developed methodology	Statistical data is permanently processed in accordance with the methodology newly developed by the National Bureau of Enforcement	IV, 2024	IV, 2025	Ministry of Justice of Georgia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LEPL – National Bureau of Enforcement</li> </ul>
6.3 Establish the practice of proactively publishing statistical data on eviction cases	Statistical data on eviction cases is published proactively.	II, 2025	IV, 2025	Ministry of Justice of Georgia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LEPL – National Bureau of Enforcement</li> </ul>

**Indicator**

- ◇ A methodology for gathering statistics on eviction cases is developed by the LEPL – National Bureau of Enforcement
- ◇ Data is processed in accordance with the methodology established by the LEPL – National Bureau of Enforcement
- ◇ Statistics on eviction cases are processed according to the methodology established by the LEPL – National Bureau of Enforcement and are proactively published.


**Commitment 7** **Defining key housing policy issues within the legal framework of social welfare reform**

**Commitment Lead** **Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia**

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**Supporting Stakeholders**

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**Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) aligned with the commitment** 

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**Description of the current situation and the challenge** **Currently, the country lacks uniform statistics on homelessness and housing policy. The availability of such data is crucial for two main reasons: firstly, for planning effective housing policies and establishing the right priorities, and secondly, for monitoring the effectiveness of existing policies and specific measures. In line with international standards, housing policies must be formulated based on sector-specific statistics.**




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**Brief description of the commitment** **The absence of information regarding the extent of homelessness, its root causes, and the challenges faced by homeless and at-risk individuals, leads to a fragmented and inconsistent approach to addressing homelessness relying on short-term management principles. Thus, the country's legal and regulatory framework must include an obligation to collect and process data in the area of homelessness and housing policy, encompassing:**

- Legal definition of the “homeless person”
- Preparation and implementation of a unified methodology for creating, collecting, and processing data.

- Processing of statistics on various aspects, including gender, age, social status, causes, forms, and individual needs of homelessness.

To achieve these objectives, it is crucial to determine the entity responsible for producing statistics and the methods for systematizing them. Moreover, the development of this methodology must be preceded by the creation and approval of the appropriate legislative framework.

Period Covered	I, 2024 - IV, 2024			
Impact of commitment on transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement	Transparency 	Accountability 	Citizen Engagement 	
	✓		✓	
Milestones	Expected Output	Start Date	Completion Date	Responsible/partner agency
7.1 Preparation of the legislative framework for housing as part of social welfare reform	Legislative framework related to housing policy is developed as part of social welfare reform with the participation of diverse stakeholders	I, 2024	IV, 2024	Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia
7.2. Collection and processing of data in the field of homelessness and housing policy	A unified methodology for collecting and processing data in the field of housing is developed	I, 2024	IV, 2024	

**Indicator**

- ◇ Legislative framework for housing prepared.
- ◇ A unified methodology for collecting and processing data on housing developed.

**Commitment 8**

**Accessibility of websites and mobile applications**

**Commitment Lead**

Administration of the Government of Georgia

**Supporting Stakeholders**

Governmental Commission on E-Governance

**Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) aligned with the commitment**







**Description of the current situation and the challenge**

The accessibility of government websites poses a significant challenge. On one hand, there is no established standard to which websites and applications must adhere. On the other hand, the absence of such standards leads to the adoption of divergent approaches in practice, contributing to the development of a less customer-oriented approach. Moreover, the same information and/or service may be duplicated across multiple websites and/or applications, indicating a misuse of resources.

**Brief description of the commitment**

The initiative seeks to standardize government agencies' websites and applications by establishing a uniform standard to streamline user access. It's worth noting that there exists a European Union standard in the form of European Directive (EU) 2016/2102. While this Directive is not explicitly incorporated into the Association Agreement, Georgia's progressive alignment with EU standards in any capacity signifies a positive advancement.

Period Covered	III, 2024 - II, 2025			
Impact of commitment on transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement	Transparency 	Accountability 	Citizen Engagement 	
	✓	✓	✓	
Milestones	Expected Output	Start Date	Completion Date	Responsible/partner agency
8.1 Research best practices for achieving uniform website accessibility	Best practices in achieving uniform website accessibility are researched	III, 2024	IV, 2024	Administration of the Government of Georgia
8.2. Present the website and mobile application accessibility issue to the Governmental Commission on E-Governance for consideration	Results and recommendations from the best practice review on achieving uniform website accessibility are presented to the Governmental Commission on E-Governance	IV, 2024	IV, 2024	
8.3 Prepare legal amendments regarding the accessibility of websites and mobile applications	Legal amendments to the website and mobile application accessibility are adopted, reflecting the European Directive (EU) 2016/2102	I, 2025	II, 2025	



**Indicator**  Relevant legal amendments on the accessibility of websites and mobile applications adopted, reflecting the European Directive (EU) 2016/2102.

**Commitment 9** **Strengthening inclusive approaches in regions densely populated by ethnic minorities**

**Commitment Lead** Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Reconciliation and Civic Equality



**Supporting Stakeholders**

-  Ministry of Justice of Georgia  
LEPL – Legislative Herald
-  Municipalities



**Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) aligned with the commitment**



**Description of the current situation and the challenge**

Due to challenges arising from limited proficiency in the official state language within municipalities with a dense population of ethnic minorities, there persists a need to facilitate access to information in a language comprehensible to these communities. This requires the translation of various resources. Providing information in minority languages will enable citizens who are not proficient in the state language to participate more actively in various facets of public life. As of the present date, a significant number of legislative acts (32 normative acts) and numerous informational materials (covering healthcare and social assistance, educational and employment opportunities, as well as economic and agricultural programs) have already been translated into languages spoken by national minorities. The translation of an additional 11 legislative acts is currently underway. However, this process must continue. This approach will contribute to increasing citizens' awareness of existing opportunities and legal regulations.




At the political level, the matter of access to government programs and services, along with general information, for the population living in regions densely populated by ethnic minorities, is comprehensively addressed in the state strategy for civil equality and integration for 2021-2030. The Office of the State Minister of Georgia is responsible for coordinating the implementation of this strategy. Moreover, campaigns are underway to raise awareness about opportunities, mechanisms, and government programs available for ethnic minorities. Further efforts are crucial to enhance awareness among ethnic minorities, including through information campaigns.

To address the needs and interests of ethnic minorities, at this moment advisory councils are operating with the state representatives. Within the framework of the Government Commission on Civil Equality and Integration, there is a consultation mechanism in six thematic areas: strengthening youth and women; socio-economic integration; access to media and information; support for small ethnic minorities; education and state language; and promoting intercultural dialogue. These mechanisms involve intensive activities engaging civil society actors, representatives of ethnic minorities, experts, academics, and international partners. The commitment's purpose is to increase the activity of the mentioned consultation formats and further strengthen existing mechanisms.

The commitment involves supporting increased access to information and services, as well as improved inclusion and participation in local public life of ethnical minority populations in municipalities with densely populated ethnic minorities.

As part of this Action Plan, the relevant government authorities will ensure the translation and accessibility of key legislative acts. In addition, appropriate steps will be taken for improving the quality of participation of ethnic minorities, using sharing information and strengthening consultation mechanisms.

**Brief description of the commitment**

<b>Period Covered</b>	I, 2024 – IV, 2025			
<b>Impact of commitment on transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement</b>	<b>Transparency</b> 	<b>Accountability</b> 	<b>Citizen Engagement</b> 	
		✓	✓	
<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Expected Output</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Responsible/partner agency</b>
9.1 Translation of key legislative acts and ensuring accessibility	Key legal documents are translated into minority languages and published on the websites of local self-government bodies	I, 2024	IV, 2025	Ministry of Justice of Georgia • LEPL – Legislative Herald  Partner: Municipalities
9.2 Organizing an information campaign about opportunities, mechanisms, and government programs available in a language understandable to national minorities	Information campaigns are organized in languages understandable to ethnic minorities, providing insights into engagement opportunities and mechanisms at the local self-government level	I, 2024	IV, 2025	Office of the State Minister of Georgia for Reconciliation and Civic Equality
9.3. Strengthening the established advisory mechanism on ethnic minority issues	The frequency of working meetings of the Government Commission on Civil Equality and Integration and its thematic advisory working groups is increased	I, 2024	IV, 2025	

**Indicator**

- ◇ Key legal documents are translated into minority languages and published on matsne.gov.ge and the websites of local self-government bodies
- ◇ Information campaigns about government programs, services, existing opportunities, and engagement mechanisms are organized in languages understandable to ethnic minorities.
- ◇ The frequency of working meetings and the engagement of stakeholders within the thematic groups of the consultative mechanism under the state strategy for civic equality and inclusion increased.

**Commitment 10** **Strengthening transparency and good governance in municipalities**

- Commitment Lead**
- Zestaponi Municipal Assembly
  - Samtredia Municipal Assembly
  - Mtskheta Municipal Assembly
  - Vani Municipal Assembly
  - Baghdati Municipal Assembly

**Supporting Stakeholders**

**Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) aligned with the commitment**



**Description of the current situation and the challenge**

Most municipalities lack a strategic document outlining standards of transparent and good governance. Eight municipalities have committed to creating such a document as part of the Open Government Georgia Action Plan for 2018-2019. Regardless of the efforts already made, it is necessary to continue this practice and establish an appropriate strategic framework to further implement the principles of democratic governance. This framework will significantly contribute to strengthening transparency and good governance in municipalities.

**Brief description of the commitment**

Based on research and analysis findings, it has been concluded that it is advisable to formulate a suitable strategy and action plan for transparency and good governance at the municipal level. Therefore, the commitment is directed towards enhancing transparent and good governance in the municipalities of Mtskheta, Zestaponi, Samtredia, Vani, and Baghdati through the creation and endorsement of a strategy and action plan for transparency and integrity.

<b>Period Covered</b>	I, 2024 – II, 2024			
<b>Impact of commitment on transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement</b>	<b>Transparency</b>	<b>Accountability</b>		<b>Citizen Engagement</b>
	✓	✓		✓
<b>Milestones</b>	<b>Expected Output</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>	<b>Responsible/partner agency</b>
10.1 Conducting a situational analysis on transparency and good governance	Situational analysis the transparency and good governance is conducted	January, 2024	February, 2024	- Zestaponi Municipal Assembly - Samtredia Municipal Assembly - Mtskheta Municipal Assembly - Vani Municipal Assembly - Baghdati Municipal Assembly
10.2 Preparation of an initial draft version of the transparency and integrity-building strategy and action plan	A draft version of transparency and integrity-building strategy and action plan is prepared	February, 2024	March, 2024	- Zestaponi Municipal Assembly - Samtredia Municipal Assembly - Mtskheta Municipal Assembly - Vani Municipal Assembly - Baghdati Municipal Assembly
10.3 Conducting a public discussion of the initial draft versions of the transparency and integrity-building strategy and action plan	Public discussion of the initial draft versions of the transparency and integrity-building strategy and action plan is conducted	March, 2024	April, 2024	- Zestaponi Municipal Assembly - Samtredia Municipal Assembly - Mtskheta Municipal Assembly - Vani Municipal Assembly - Baghdati Municipal Assembly

10.4 Approval of the transparency and integrity-building strategy, action plan, and monitoring framework

The transparency and integrity-building Strategy, action plan, and monitoring framework are approved

April, 2024

May, 2024

- Zestaponi Municipal Assembly
- Samtredia Municipal Assembly
- Mtskheta Municipal Assembly
- Vani Municipal Assembly
- Baghdati Municipal Assembly

Indicators

- ◇ The Transparency and Integrity-building Strategy, action plan, and monitoring framework developed and approved by Zestaponi Municipal Assembly
- ◇ The Transparency and Integrity-building Strategy, action plan, and monitoring framework developed and approved by Samtredia Municipal Assembly
- ◇ The Transparency and Integrity-building Strategy, action plan, and monitoring framework developed and approved by Mtskheta Municipal Assembly
- ◇ The Transparency and Integrity-building Strategy, action plan, and monitoring framework developed and approved by Vani Municipal Assembly
- ◇ The Transparency and Integrity-building Strategy, action plan, and monitoring framework developed and approved by Baghdati Municipal Assembly





