DATA EXCHANGE AGENCY

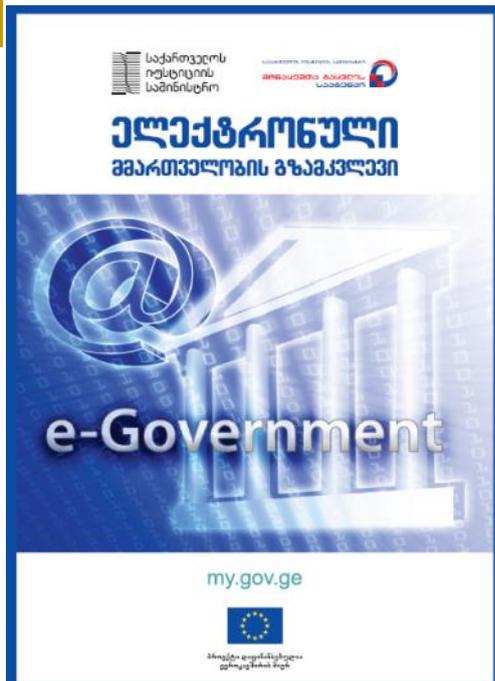MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF GEORGIA

DATA EXCHANGE AGENCY

WWW.MY.GOV.GE NEWSLETTER

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DEA HAS PUBLISHED E-GOVERNMENT GUIDE

Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia, with the help of EU e-Governance Georgia has published e-Government guide (Text book).

The guide is intended for grade 11-12 pupils, students, teachers and other interested audience. The guide provides comprehensive description of e-Government and its main points and features those processes Georgia is currently undergoing on the way to building a solid e-Government platforms. The guide also contains a number of useful web resources and illustrations.

The edition will help readers to obtain some basic knowledge on e-Government, and by reviewing concrete examples, they will clearly see the necessity of it in a daily life.

"This is the first time we have a material of this kind printed in Georgian language. Data Exchange Agency has done a massive work in order to make this guide available for readers, who I am sure are going to enjoy an easily understandable language, which tells the story of e-Government, its mission and highlights the efforts made by Georgia during the last years for strengthening e-Government in this country. Our readers will also be able to understand the nature of e-services, various platforms, which make these services available and specifics of their practical usage.

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While reading, one can also find some interesting and useful tips about cyber and information security. We hope, we won't stop on this and offer some other relevant publications in the future as well." – **Irakli Gvenetadze,** DEA Chairman.

Data Exchange Agency plans to distribute the guide in Public Schools located throughout Georgia. The presentation of the book will be accompanied by specially-designed lectures for pupils and teachers given by DEA representatives.

PRESENTATION OF INNOVATIVE SERVICE LABORATORY

On November 27, at Radisson Blu Iveria Hotel innovative services laboratory was officially presented to the public. The event was opened by the Minister of Justice **Thea Tsulukiani.** The laboratory is intended to support creation of organizational culture within the Public Service Development Agency for raising service quality and effectiveness in public and private sectors.

The event was attended by the representatives of foreign embassies, international organizations and business.

The laboratory was created within the scope of initiative "establishment of innovations' culture at Public Service Development Agency" introduced by the UNDP and Public Service Development Agency and with a financial support from the government of Sweden.

It worth noting that a newly established laboratory will support not only the Ministry of Justice of Georgia and the organizations under its governance, but other governmental agencies as well in the process of inventing, creating and establishing technological novelties and advanced services in public sector.

The laboratory will lead and supervise the entire cycle of product development, including incubation of ideas and planning subsequent steps for turning the ideas into reality, which will be resulted in availability of public services best suitable to citizens' needs.

The UNDP also provided lab employees with qualification-rising opportunities for better understanding of innovation management methodologies.

INFORMATION SECURITY IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS AT NAPR AND SDA

SDA (Public Service Development Agency) and NAPR (National Agency of Public Registry) of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia are currently implementing projects related to the requirements and compliance standards of information security.

The project aims to implement information security management system in above mentioned organizations (Continued on P. 3).

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Within the project, DEA assumes the role of consultant, which means the agency has a responsibility of issuing recommendations based on the assessment of current situation and supporting the fulfilment of requirements defined by the law of information security of Georgia and other best practices.

The project with SDA is in its final stage. At NAPR the project is expected to close in April, 2015.

TRAININGS IN INFORMATION SECURITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND THE BASICS OF CYBER-INCIDENT HANDLING

On November 17-26, at the Training Center of Justice, Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia held training sessions in information security management systems and cyber-incident handling for the representatives of subjects of critical infrastructure and commercial banks.

The first phase of the training featured awareness rising tools for the requirements of information security, as well as stages of planning, implementing and auditing of information security management system. The second phase was dedicated to the basics of cyber-incident handling.

During the training, participants have acquired appropriate knowledge on the ways of practical implementation of information security, thus enabling their representative organizations to be in compliance with the requirements of law of information security of Georgia.

As for the second section of the training, participants received a closer outlooks on those present-day methods used to effectively respond to cyber-incidents.

Nine-day long training sessions completed with testing for the candidates of information security managers, on the results of which relevant certificates were issued. Certificates of attendance were also issued for the participants of the training in the basics of cyber-incident handling.

CERT.GOV.GE REPRESENTATIVES' VISIT TO AZERBAIJAN

By the invitation of the host country, representatives of Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia went on a three-day visit to Azerbaijan, during which the experience accumulated by CERT.GOV.GE over the past few years was shared with our Azeri colleagues.

"We are happy that representatives of different countries are becoming interested in sharing our Agency's experience. During the visit we introduced to our colleagues from Azerbaijan

the methods and means we use for handling various cyber incidents. We also gave detailed description of our approaches on how to register, analyze and prevent possible cyber threats and how we create and implement information security policy standards."- said **Irakli Lomidze,** Head of DEA's Information Security and Policy Division.

This is not the first time CERT.GOV.GE is asked to conduct trainings for the representatives of various countries. This confirms the group's high professionalism and effective work ability.

12TH WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION/ICT INDICATORS SYMPOSIUM (WTIS) IN TBILISI

The 12th World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS - 2014) was held by the initiative of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Georgian National Communications Commission at Radisson Blu Iveria Hotel, Tbilisi. **Irakli Garibashvili,** Prime Minister of Georgia officially opened the forum. The opening ceremony of symposium was also attended by **Giorgi Kvirikashvili,** Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, **Houlin Zhao,** ITU Deputy Secretary-General, **Mr. Brahima Sanou,** Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau and **Vakhtang Abashidze,** Chairman of the Georgian National Communication Commission (GNCC).

The World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS) is the main global forum to discuss international ICT statistics and information society measurement. The representatives of the relevant international organizations, regulatory agencies, national statistical offices of ITU member states, telecommunication operating companies, as well as experts are participating in the working process of the forum.

During the symposium it was officially unveiled that Georgia experienced progress in ICT development index and moved from 83 to 78 position.

COMMUNITY CENTERS ARE SET TO OPEN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

The goal of the Community Centers Development Project initiated by the Public Service Development Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia and funded by the European Union is to provide services of central government and local government to the local population through Community Centers.

Community Centers serve as multipurpose organizations, well-equipped with a wide range of facilities including computers, video conferencing equipment, free internet access, spaces for meetings and social events available for public use. They are used as a platform for introducing e-Governance at the local level by means of offering key central government, municipal and private sector services to the local population through e-Governance tools.

Through the Centers the local population is granted an access to the selected services of Public Service Development Agency, National Agency of Public Registry, Social Service Agency and National Archive in a comfortable and user-friendly environment.

Community centers assume a role of a new intermediary between the population and the Government, by offering a space to both central and local authorities and non-governmental sector for engaging in dialogue with local population, disseminating information about new services, legislative amendments, and organization of trainings and other relevant events. This in turn is likely lead to better informed citizens at the local level, coupled with increased transparency and accountability of local Government.

At this stage there are 17 operational Community Centers throughout Georgia and a number of new locations are scheduled to open in the coming months.

CONFERENCE ON EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES

The conference was organized by the National Center for Teacher Professional Development and became available with the support of Intel, Microsoft, UGT and Acer. The aim of the conference was to inform interested parties - teachers, experts, representatives of various universities and organizations focusing on educational technologies about the current trends and tendencies seen in education industries and share experience on how to involve these technologies in real-life environment.

The conference featured intensive discussions on such topics such are educational technologies and the ways of their exploitation in the learning process, ongoing tendencies in educational industry and their consequent changes, resolving technical problems found in class rooms and others.

Representatives of Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia were invited at the conference and made presentations about DEA's role in building e-government in Georgia and the ways e-services can be used for the benefit of educational system. Participants enjoyed the opportunity to register on the Citizen's Portal MY.GOV.GE at the premises of the conference. They were also provided with in-depth information on the portals functionality and usage.

DATA EXCHANGE AGENCY PUBLISHED ITS ACTIVITY REPORT

Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia has published a brochure, which depicts in details agency's activities, as well as accomplished, current and planned projects.

Information on accomplished work and major events that took place from the establishment of the agency in the direction e-government, as well as data exchange infrastructure development and cyber and information security can also be found in the brochure.

"The brochure strives to provide as much information as possible for the representatives of various public and private organizations, our partners, as well as general public. This information is mainly related to the specifics of our agency and its nature. This brochure can also be specified as a report containing detailed information on our services, their benefits and area of usage, as well as on our efforts for strengthening e-government and maintaining high level of cyber and information security in the country." – commented **Irakli Gvenetadze,** DEA Chairman.

The brochure became available with the help of USAID.

OPEN DATA DAYS IN BISHKEK

On November 18-19, capital city of Kirgizstan, Bishkek hosted Open Data Days. **Nata Goderdzishvili,** Head of DEA's Legal Division participated in the event. The main goal of Kirgizstan Open Data Days was to stimulate discussions on Open Government Data among international and local experts, who in their turn made various presentations on that matter.

A two-day long roundtable meetings provided an excellent opportunity to familiarize with the initiatives related to the creation of Open Data Portals in Kirgizstan, Moldova, Great Britain and Russia. In this regard Georgian experience has been named as one of the successful examples. This assessment came align with a speech, given by the representative of DEA, who highlighted current developments undergoing in Georgia in relations with Open Government

Roundtable meetings were attended by the representatives of public authorities and civil society, World Bank and UNDP experts and other participants from about 10 countries.

CONFERENCE ON NSDI (NATIONAL SPATIAL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE) HELD BY NAPR

Two-day conference/seminar was held by the National Agency of Public Registry of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia on National Spatial Data Infrastructure issues. The event aimed at exchanging information between the governmental bodies involved in the project as well as analyzing those processes and projects currently carried out by various Ministries in the direction of NSDI development. Related problems discovered during the process of NSDI evolution were also discussed during the conference.

With the help of NSDI, it will become even easier to effectively manage and maintain the projects, which involve fields such as environmental protection, agriculture, natural disasters, defence and other infrastructural developments.

The conference was opened by the remarks from the Deputy Minister of Justice **Mikheil Sarjveladze.**

During a two-day sessions, presentations on various components including legal regulations, geographical data, information technologies, business models and public relations were made by the organizations involved in NSDI development.

Having started the works on creation of National Spatial Data Infrastructure, Georgia has become the first country in the Caucasian region to deploy a model fully compliant with EU Standards, which will be a step ahead toward European integration.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE – "INFORMATION SECURITY IN CYBERSPACE"

On December 3-6, Bishkek, capital city of Kirgizstan hosted international conference "Information Security in Cyberspace", in which representatives of Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia - **Irakli Lomidze,** Head of Agency's Information Security and Policy Division and **David Kvatadze,** CERT Manager of the same division took part.

Along with local participants, the conference was attended by the representatives from the USA, Canada, the Great Britain, Germany, Estonia, Russia, Belorussia, the Ukraine, Moldova, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan. The main issues the conference covered were: a) Information security and cyberspace as main challenges for country's national security; b) Cyber security strategies and their comparative analyses, Strategy goals and challenges; c) Social network, terrorism and cybercrime – regulations and monitoring; d) Cyber security and National Telecommunication Companies – regulations, security and data protection; e) Personal data protection – regulations and existing practice – European examples based on Beeline; f) Critical infrastructure protection and internet governance (Continued on P. 7).

During the conference, **Irakli Lomidze** made a presentation on the process of implementation of information security in Georgia, mainly in critical infrastructures. On the other part CERT activities, relevant services and some examples of identified cyber incidents were discussed by **David Kvatadze**. **Nata Goderdzishvili,** Head of DEA's Legal Division also took part in a panel discussions and spoke about Georgia's Cyber Strategy and the law on Information Security.

The event was organized by Kirgizstan's social organization – "Civil Initiative of Internet Policy."

DATA EXCHANGE AGENCY SHARED ITS EXPERIENCE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF KIRGIZ DELEGATION

Representatives of governmental Office of Registration and Civil Registry of the Kyrgyz Republic visited Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia. Employees of the agency made presentations and shared information about ongoing projects in e-Governance development, data exchange infrastructure formation, e-services and open government, as well as experience, which the agency accumulated over the past few years.

During the visit, guests from the the Kyrgyz Republic also held meetings at the State Service Development Agency and went to Public Service Hall.

"We are happy that representatives of different countries are becoming interested in sharing our Agency's experience. Today our colleagues from the the Kyrgyz Republic took a close look on our Agency's responsibilities and filed of operation, which is tied with e-Governance and e-services development. It worth noting that this visit is a continuation of those previous visits paid by the representatives of DEA to the Kyrgyz Republic in November, where we took part in international conferences on open data and information security in cyberspace." – Nata Goderdzishvili, Head of DEA's Legal Department commented.

Colleagues from the Kyrgyz Republic also received the first-hand information about the tendencies of cyber and information security development in Georgia and specifics of delivering e-services through the one-stop-shopping platform– Citizen's Portal MY.GOV.GE.

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