



IDFI

Informed and Empower
Society for Democratic
Governance

ANNUAL REPORT

INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

2019

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INTRODUCTION

Despite the general progress of the last few years concerning the direction of building of democratic state and the increase of transparency, justice and effectiveness in governance, today these processes are slowed down and face a significant threat.

As in the last years, also in 2019, Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI) successfully handled the challenges concerning democracy and good governance through evidence-based research, monitoring and advocacy. More particularly IDFI encouraged transparency of the public institutions, engagement of citizens in the decision-making processes, the achievement of high standards with regard to the rule of law, development of the inclusive economic policy, expansion of democratic decentralization and protection of media and human rights.

In 2019, IDFI implemented several important activities that aimed to improve the anti-corruption policy as well as to increase the transparency, accountability and trustworthiness of government at the national and local levels. The organization was actively engaged in the adjustment of the national Anti-corruption Strategy and the development of the 2019-2020 Action Plan.

IN 2019 IDFI IMPLEMENTED THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

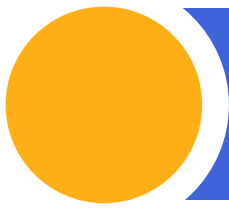
- PREPARED 12 POLICY PAPERS
- PREPARED 25 RESEARCH DOCUMENTS
- CONDUCTED 4 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES
- CARRIED OUT 37 TRAINING AND LECTURES
- PUBLISHED 20 PUBLICATIONS
- PREPARED 30 VISUALIZATIONS
- CARRIED OUT 24 CONSULTATIONS



IN 2019,
IDFI STARTED
13 NEW PROJECTS








IN 2019, THE STAFF
MEMBERS OF IDFI
INCREASED TO 19



GOOD GOVERNANCE

GOOD GOVERNANCE FORUM 2019 - #GGFORUM2019

In 2019 IDFI laid foundation for the first international conference on good governance and anti-corruption issues entitled Good Governance Forum (GGForum) in Georgia. The GG Forum 2019 [was held](#) on November 29-30, 2019 and aimed to explore innovative mechanisms and the most cost-effective approaches of combating corruption, especially high-level corruption. The conference achieved this by engaging local and international experts and stakeholders around several key related topics:

-  Institutional Models and Campaigns of Combating Corruption
-  The Role of Open Government Partnership (OGP) in Combating Corruption
-  Beneficial Ownership Transparency
-  The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)
-  Transparency in Public Procurement and Open Contracting

The representatives of prominent international organizations working on these topics as well as public institutions of different countries delivered speeches during the conference, including Transparency International; Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD); Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI); World Bank; Asian Development Bank; National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine; Special Investigation Service of the Republic of Lithuania; Open Ownership; Open Government Partnership; Office of the Prime Minister of Georgia; Open Contracting Partnership; Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP); Tax Justice Network – Norway, Publish What You Pay, etc.

For more details about conference panels and speakers, please find the Forum [agenda](#).



GG FORUM RESULTS BY NUMBERS



+120 PARTICIPANTS



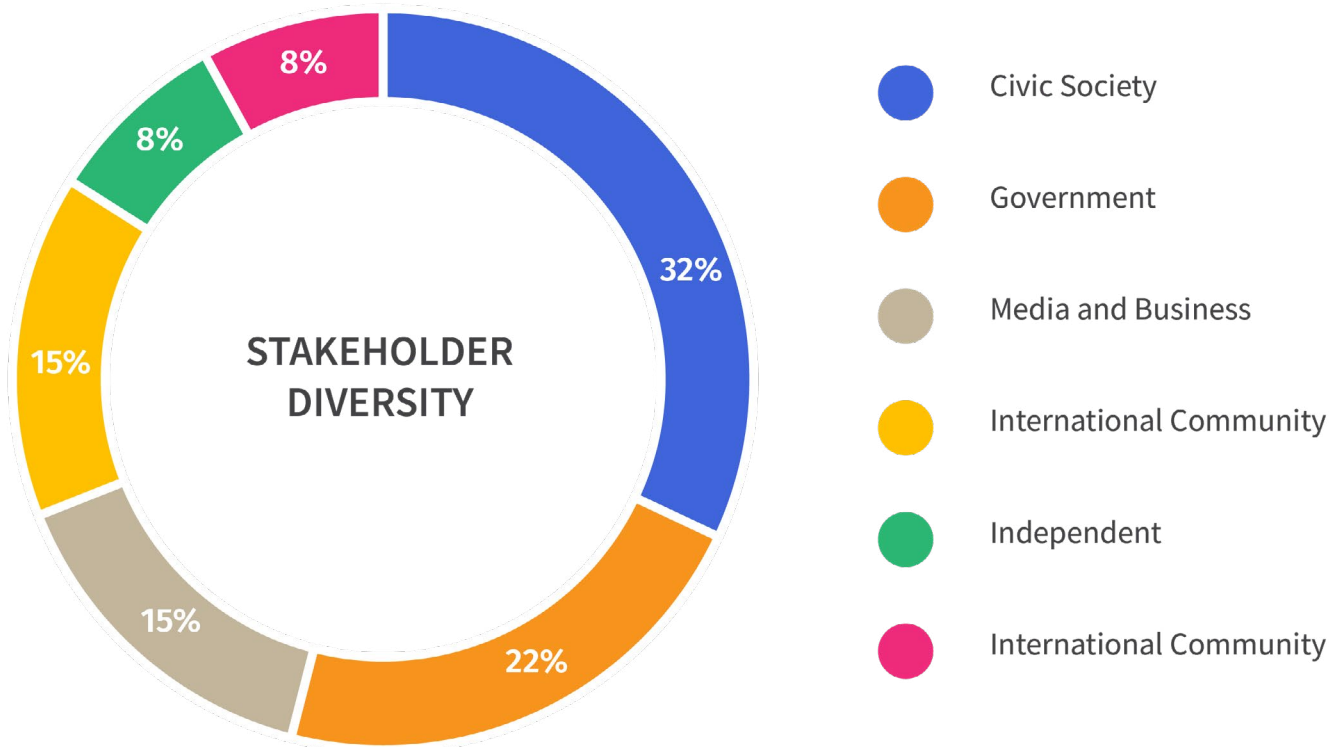
38 SPEAKERS



17 COUNTRIES



15 SESSIONS



IDFI organized the Forum with the support of the global philanthropic organization, Luminate and co-funding from Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and USAID Good Governance Initiative in Georgia, Tetra Tech ARD.

For more information about the discussed topics during the conference, please find videos summarizing forum panels and major take-aways:

[Panel Summaries of the GG Forum 2019](#)

[Major Take-aways of the GG Forum 2019](#)

Also, major panel recordings are available on IDFI's Youtube Channel:

[Good Governance Forum 2019 - Opening Remarks](#)

[Anti-Corruption Institution and Mechanism for Fighting Corruption](#)

[The Role of Open Government Partnership \(OGP\) in Combating Corruption](#)

[Beneficial Ownership added Value and How It Works](#)

[Global Standard for Transparency in the Extractive Industries](#)

[New Technologies and New Instruments to Detect and Combat Corruption in Public Procurement](#)






[TPPR: Achievements, Challenges and Prospects](#)

[Good Governance Forum 2019 - Final Remarks](#)

ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION IN GEORGIA

In 2019 IDFI presented the results of monitoring access to public information in Georgia, covering the year of 2018. The monitoring results were based on the responses received as a result of sending freedom of information (FOI) requests to **282** public institutions.

IN TOTAL IDFI SENT **6 413** FOI REQUESTS.

-  COMPLETE RESPONSES - **71%**
-  INCOMPLETE RESPONSES - **9%**
-  NO RESPONSE - **19%**
-  REFUSAL - **1%**
-  10-DAY TIMEFRAME COMPLIANCE - **63%**

According to the monitoring results, in 2018 access to public information in Georgia has worsened slightly compared to the previous year. However, the number of public institutions awarded with certificates for observing high standards of access to public information has increased.

The practice of awarding public institutions, implemented by IDFI, increased the motivation of the public institutions to provide complete responses on the requests of IDFI and disclose full information within the timeframes set by the law.



THE TOTAL OF **43** PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS WAS AWARDED SPECIAL CERTIFICATES.

Among them:

-  CIVIL SERVICE BUREAU
-  NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE
-  MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND AGRICULTURE
-  LAND TRANSPORT AGENCY
-  NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY



Based on the evaluation results, the most closed public institution was named to be: **The System of the Ministry of Justice**



In 2019 IDFI also monitored compliance with the standards of proactive disclosure of public information - one of the crucial commitments undertaken by Georgia within the auspices of Open Government Partnership (OGP) initiative.

- IDFI monitored a total of **100** public institutions

- The average level of compliance with the standards of proactive disclosure of public information equaled to **53%**

- **None of the public institutions** showed full compliance (100%) with the standards of proactive disclosure of public information

- **15** public institutions either failed to have an official website or did not have the section of public information on the website

THE TOP FIVE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE RATING OF PROACTIVE DISCLOSURE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION WERE:

1. MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CULTURE AND SPORT - **98%**
2. FINANCIAL ANALYTICAL SERVICE - **98%**
3. MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS - **96%**
4. STATE TREASURY - **95%**
5. L. SAKVARELIDZE NATIONAL CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PUBLIC HEALTH - **94%**






To improve the standard of proactive disclosure of public information, IDFI provided public institutions with recommendations based on good practice examples.

IDFI'S OPEN DATA PORTAL - **DATALAB.GE** – ITS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASE ACCESS TO OPEN DATA

In order to increase access to open data in the country, IDFI continued publication of public data obtained from various public institutions in open formats on its open data portal (DataLab.Ge), developed last year.

By the end of 2019, more than 1,000 were available on the platform regarding the following public policy issues: public administration and administrative, expenses, local government, economy, finance, healthcare, crime statistics, social issues, education, environment, transport and society.

Datasets on the platform are available in open and machine-readable formats (Excel and CSV). Besides exploring data, users are able to:

-  ANALYZE AND PROCESS DATA OF INTEREST TO THEM
-  MAKE SIMPLE VISUALIZATIONS
-  DOWNLOAD DATASETS IN OPEN FORMATS
-  SHARE DATA ON SOCIAL NETWORKS AND WEBSITES
-  CREATE NEW APPS



In addition to publication of new data, a new module – [Toolkits](#) – was integrated into the platform, where IDFI published a practical toolkit on obtaining, processing and analyzing data for journalists.

The platform is intended to be transformed into an educational portal on open data by further development of the mentioned module and preparation of informational materials on working with data in the future.



THE CONTEST OF ANALYTICAL ARTICLES - JOURNALISTS AND ACTIVISTS FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE



To encourage government oversight activities among journalists, civic activists and active citizens, IDFI [held](#) a contest of analytical and investigative articles: **Journalists for Good Governance**. The contestants had the opportunity to study possible wrongdoings and suspicious circumstances in Georgia’s public sector. In total, about 20 individuals participated in the contest. Three winners, awarded with financial prizes, [were announced](#) by the end of the year. Their articles were published on IDFI’s website (www.IDFI.ge) as well as disseminated via social media (Facebook; Twitter).

CONTRIBUTING TO THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION REFORM



IDFI is supporting actively to the implementation of the Public Administration Reform (PAR). In this framework on 11 July 2019, the organization [published](#) its opinions on the challenges, which are not met by the 2019-2020 PAR national Action Plan.

In October 2019, with the purpose to contribute to the Public Administration Reform, with the support from European Union and in cooperation with GYLA, IDFI launched the new [project](#). The action aims at promoting the implementation of the Public Administration Reform through innovations, capacity building, multi-stakeholder dialogue and civil society engagement in monitoring and revision of the PAR Action Plan. On 17 December 2019, the new initiative was [presented](#) to the public, who were informed about the challenges of on-going reform and about the measures planned by the project in order to deal with the challenges.

The project foresees preparation of alternative monitoring reports of implementation of the PAR Action Plan. The project team has already developed the monitoring methodology on which the alternative monitoring reports will be based. Regional organisations



will be involved in the preparation of the monitoring reports, while the online platform “(PAR tracker) will allow any interested party to be informed about main findings of PAR implementation as well as to submit their opinions thereof. Awareness raising activities will be carried out within the project framework and the public opinion surveys carried out in order to improve the future process of reform implementation.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



IDFI prepared a detailed [analysis](#) of the extent to which SDGs are reflected in national policy documents of Georgia. The analysis aimed at ascertaining to what extent existing national policy documents contained obligations in line with SDG indicators. In the process of identifying linkages, IDFI studied over 70 strategic documents and ascertained to what extent they included goals and indicators of nationalized SDGs. As compared to the evaluation conducted within the auspices of the MAPS (Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support) mission the main advantage of the analysis conducted by IDFI was going further than SDG targets and evaluating linkages at the level of the SDG target indicators. Moreover, during the research process, IDFI analyzed dozens of policy documents, which were not used by the MAPS mission.

In November 2019, the Government of Georgia approved the nationalization document of SDGs – so-called Matrix. Experts hired by IDFI were actively involved in the process of developing the document.

The website for [SDGs monitoring](#) was launched by the end of 2019. The initial concept of the website was prepared by the active involvement of IDFI and in cooperation with the Public Service Development Agency.

OPEN GOVERNANCE PARTNERSHIP (OGP)

In 2019, IDFI continued activities on all levels of Open Government Partnership (OGP): local, national and international.



NATIONAL LEVEL

On National Level, IDFI was involved in implementation and monitoring of 2018-2019 Open Government Georgia Action Plan. It is worth noting, that IDFI with the financial assistance of USAID Good Governance Initiative in Georgia, Tetra Tech ARD, supported the Akhaltsikhe Municipality in developing the transparency, accountability and integrity building strategy and action plan, and assisted Akhaltsikhe and Kutaisi Municipalities in development of open data strategies and action plans.

Furthermore, IDFI was actively involved in meetings and discussions of Open Government Georgia's Forum. It should be underlined that [IDFI presented 8 draft commitments](#) for the next Open Government Georgia Action Plan, including on:

- ▶ Joining Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative – EITI Global Standard/accession and implementation/application of standards (Joint Star Commitment);
- ▶ Establishment of Beneficial Ownership Register of Overseas Entities (Joint Star Commitment);
- ▶ Improvement of Existing Standards of Proactive Disclosure of Public Information – Second Wave of Reform;
- ▶ Increasing the Transparency of the Public Procurement System;
- ▶ Access to Archival Records.



OPEN PARLIAMENT

In 2019, IDFI actively continued the enhancement of the Parliamentary Openness. IDFI, with the financial assistance of EU and UNDP, coordinated - the operation and the organization of the meetings of Open Governance Permanent Parliamentary Council and its Consultative Group, the discussion of the commitments of the Open Parliament Georgia Action Plan, and their implementation. In 2018, Open Governance Permanent Parliamentary Council, adopted Open Parliament Georgia Action Plan which envisaged the implementation of commitments in 2018 and 2019. Apart from involvement and management of the elaboration of the Open Parliament Action Plan, several commitments in the action plan were initiated by IDFI including – proactive disclosure of



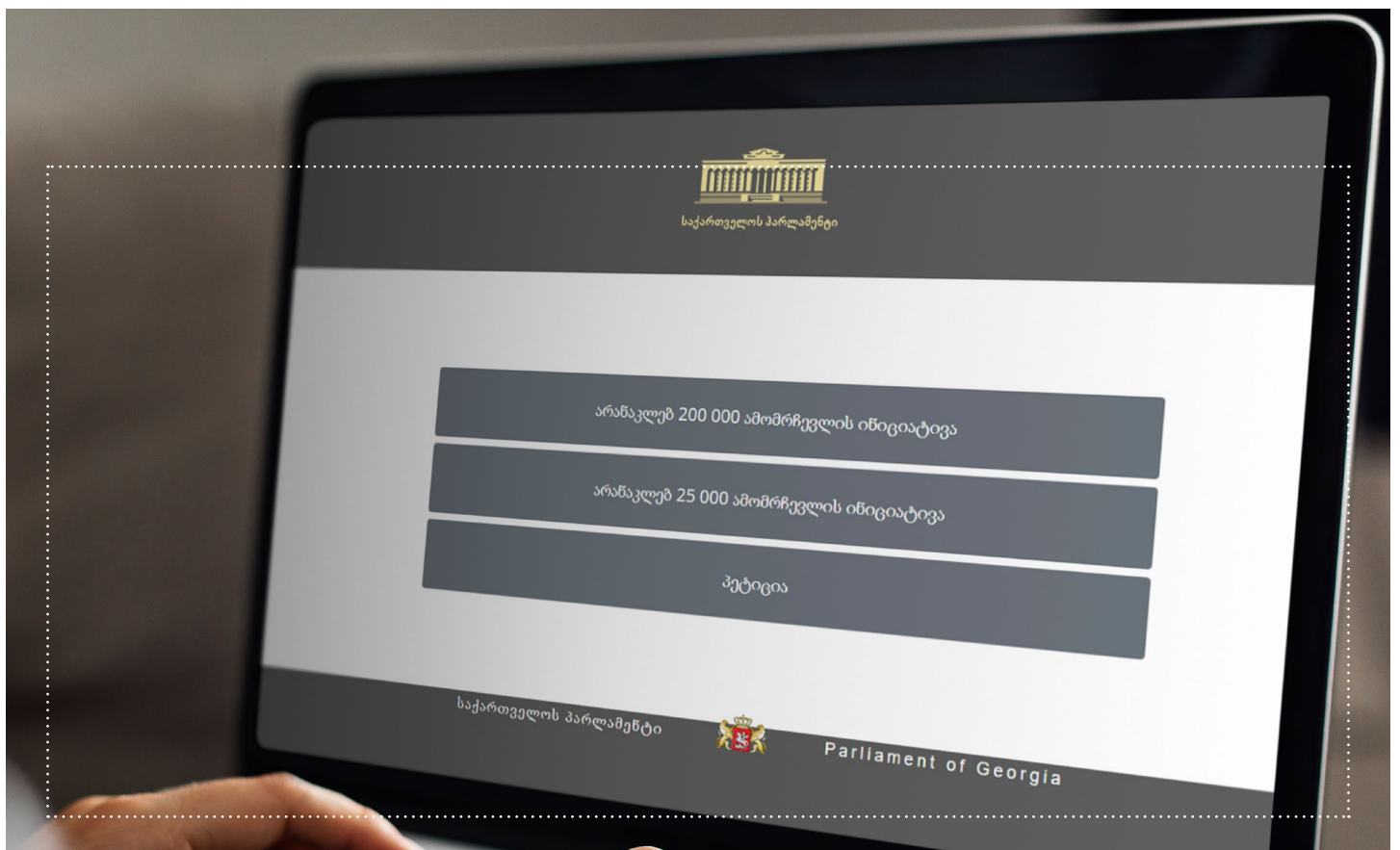


stenographic records of plenary sessions in open format on the website of the Parliament, and development of a concept for social network communication of the Parliament of Georgia. IDFI actively supports the implementation OGP principles in the activities of the Parliament of Georgia.

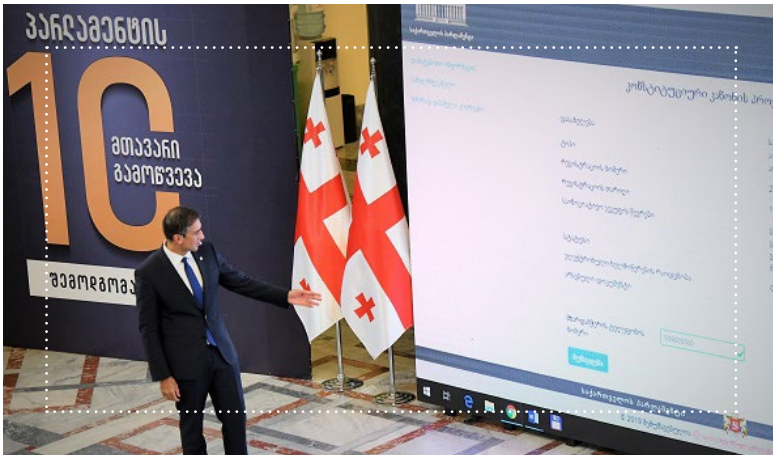
At the same time, apart from the abovementioned, IDFI implemented different activities which aimed raising the awareness on Open Government Partnership and parliamentary openness. With the active support of IDFI and financial assistance from EU/UNDP, communication strategy of the Open Governance Permanent Parliamentary Council was elaborated and approved, the thematic inquiry group of the Open Governance Permanent Parliamentary Council was created, the concept of social network communication of the Parliament of Georgia was developed and the statistical analysis of the citizens' involvement in 2016-2018 Parliamentary activities was carried out.

Prior to developing of the communication strategy of the Open Governance Permanent Parliamentary Council the analysis of the challenges regarding to communication with the society was made, and the recommendations for their solution were prepared. The mentioned document will raise the awareness on OGP, the mission, activities and the achievements of the Parliamentary Council, will increase the knowledge of society regarding the legislative openness activities and accomplishments of the Parliament of Georgia within OGP and will support the engagement of the citizens in Parliamentary activities.

ELECTRONIC PLATFORM OF CITIZEN PARTICIPATION



According to the recommendation of IDFI, [Parliament of Georgia created the electronic platform](#) for citizens engagement in legislative work.



Citizens of Georgia have the opportunity to use the [web-page of the Parliament of Georgia](#) to submit electronically a petition (electronic or written document signed by at least 300 persons concerning a state or general problem), not less than 200000 voters initiative regarding the submission of the draft constitutional law and not less than 25000 voters initiative regarding the submission of a draft law, and ensure collecting signatures both with using electronic and written forms.

MOBILE APPLICATION OF THE WEB-PAGE OF THE PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA

With the collaboration of IDFI and the Parliament of Georgia, the mobile application of the web-page of the Parliament of Georgia was created which aims to increase the citizens' engagement in the parliamentary activities and raising their awareness on the following issues, such as: initiated draft laws, balloting/discussing issues and the results of the discussion, Rules of the Procedure of the Parliament, Members of the Parliament, and the Constitution of Georgia.

Application gives the customer the opportunity to follow draft bills, like, leave the comment, enable the communication line and receive the updated information regarding the draft laws of their interest.



YOUTH ENGAGEMENT



To raise the awareness on [Open Parliament](#), the intellectual game “What? Where? When? About Parliament” was held, where more than 100 students from 18 universities took place.

30 questions of the game comprised of basic and historic questions regarding the Georgian and foreign Parliaments and on famous Parliamentarians.



TBILISI IN OGP

The representatives of IDFI are members of the Open Government Working Group which is created to support the implementation and monitor the execution of the Open Government Tbilisi Action Plan 2018-2020. Within the scopes of the Working Group, IDFI shared the views with Tbilisi City Hall regarding fulfillment of the commitments. It is noteworthy, that [Tbilisi City Hall took into account several suggestions of IDFI and determined in the action plan](#) such commitments as: upgrading the web-page, modifying the page on public information and creating the page on Open Data.

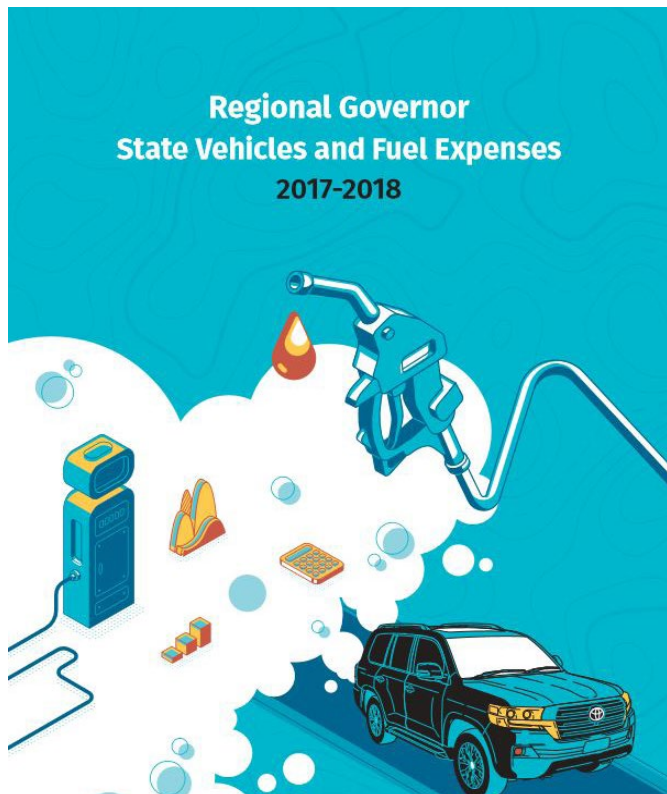
ANTICORRUPTION DIRECTION

IDFI continues supporting fight against corruption. With this purpose, the organization was actively engaged in updating the national Anticorruption Strategy and elaboration of the Anticorruption Action Plan 2019-2020. On 13 May 2019, IDFI submitted to the Anticorruption Council the [recommendations](#) regarding the new Anticorruption Strategy and the Action Plan of 2019-2020. The Council took into consideration the part of the IDFI recommendations, however, the process of elaboration of the strategic documents remained faulty and the most important recommendations for effective fight against corruption were ingored. IDFI published its [opinion](#) in this matter on 22 August, 2019 and continues monitoring the implementation of the Anticorruption Action Plan.

IDFI observes the performance of international obligations undertaken by the country regarding fight against corruption. On 12 July 2019, IDFI [published](#) information on implementation of the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) recommendations issued for Georgia within the fourth evaluation round. IDFI prepared and submitted to the OECD-ACN the alternative [report](#) on the implementation of the recommendations received by Georgia within the fourth evaluation round by the OECD-ACN.

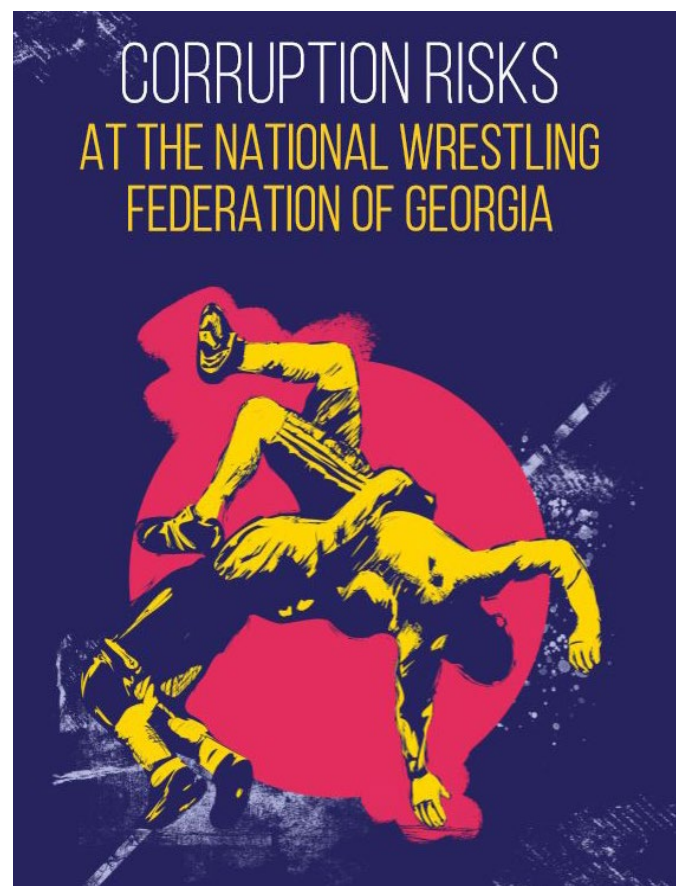
IDFI'S ANALYTICAL AND GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT ACTIVITIES

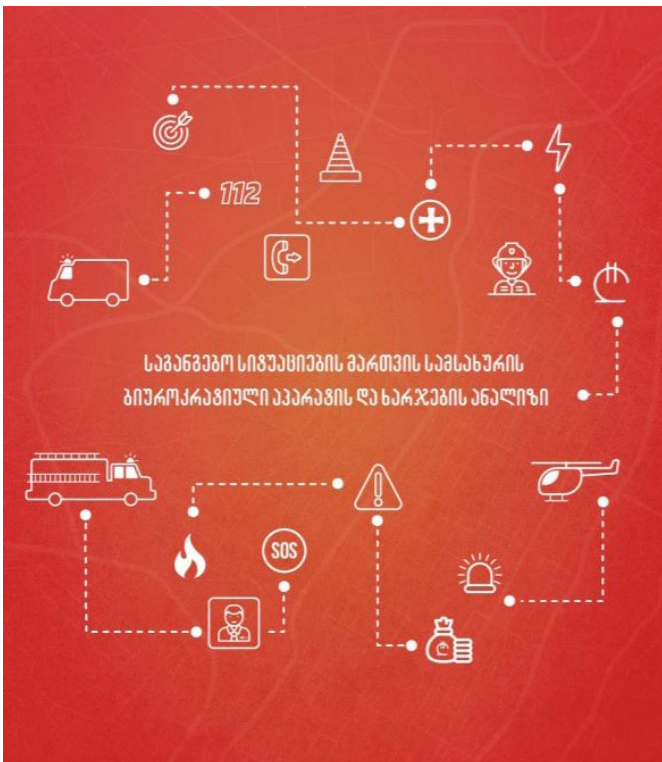
The institute continued government oversight activities in 2019, in frames of which IDFI comprehensively studied regional governors state vehicles and fuel expenses (2017-2018), management of public funds by the National Wrestling Federation of Georgia (2015-2018), bureaucracy and expenses of the Emergency Management Service and antique refurbishment costs of the Atoneli Presidential Residence. Each analytical article revealed significant risks of corruption and inappropriate disposal of finances.



▶ For instance, The high overall number of vehicles owned by governor administrations, prevalence of expensive luxury models, and high fuel expenses, revealed as a result of IDFI's study, demonstrate a [necessity for optimization and stricter oversight](#) mechanisms.

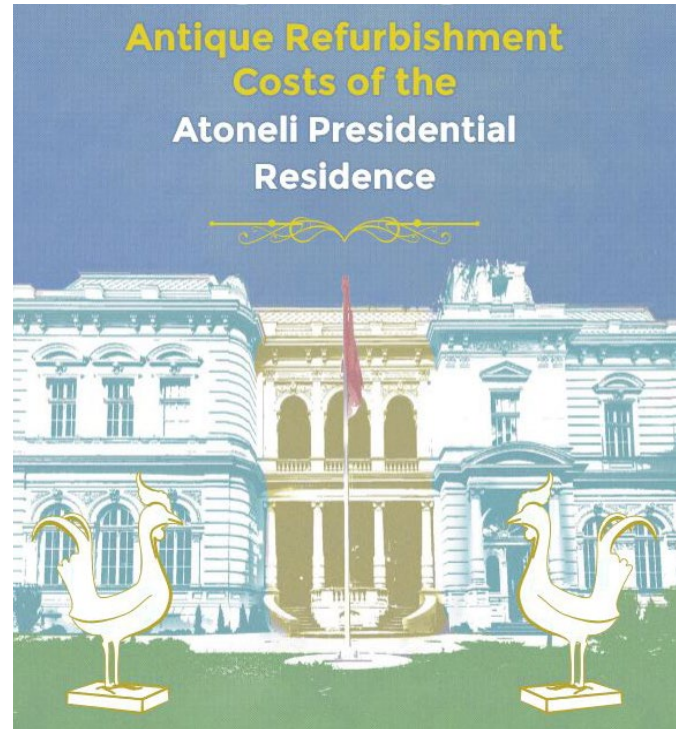
▶ The [analysis](#) of the financial information about the National Wrestling Federation of Georgia revealed that there is significant inconsistency between the amount of funds transferred by the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia, the amount spent by the Federation and the amount returned to the Ministry. Moreover, the financial reports of the state wrestling program are not aligned with the budget execution reports issued by the Ministry.





▶ The [analysis](#) of bureaucracy and expenses of the Emergency Management Service revealed that contrary to declared goals of cost optimization, its expenditures kept increasing at every stage of the reform implementation. Also, even though it was planned to allocate the extra funds towards the improvement of social security for firefighters and rescue personnel, starting from the 1st of August 2018, the salaries for firefighters and rescue personnel were increased only by 120 GEL. While, salary of high management of the public institution increased up to 3,000 GEL.

▶ The [study](#) of antique refurbishment costs of the Atoneli Presidential Residence showed that the procurement of expensive antiques, modern furniture and lighting systems for furnishing the Presidential Residence was made with resources allocated from the Contingency Fund, in a hasty manner, in the absence of proper examination and competition. The procurement of modern furniture, lighting systems and curtains worth 720,225 GEL without a tender, carries a notably high risk, in terms of mismanagement of budget funds.



DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM IN FIGHTING CORRUPTION

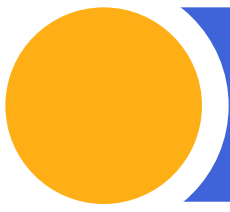
IDFI is actively involved in creation of the society, which is involved in prevention of the corruption, management of the corruption risks and identifying the cases of systemic corruption.

In 2019, IDFI developed the multidisciplinary curriculum, which consists of different topics, for instance: corruption as phenomenon, its historical and basic roots; development of levels of risk management; integrity aspects of public and private organizations; newest developments on corruption; legal regulations in fighting corruption; e-governance in fighting corruption; and identification of cases on corruption with using methods of investigation and whistleblowing.



IDFI, in collaboration with Ilia State University and based on the [memorandum of cooperation signed](#) between the parties, created prestigious educational certification course and offered participation to professionals and students from various background and experience.

To select the participants for the Educational Certification Program, IDFI held the competition. On September 15, 2019, the competition for selecting the program candidates was announced, and more than 500 candidates from public, private and non-governmental spheres took part in it. Based on the competition, 32 participants of the Program were selected among them university students, and employees of public, private and non-governmental sectors.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND DECENTRALIZATION

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT INDEX – THE 2019 ASSESSMENT RESULTS

In 2019, IDFI together with the Center for Training and Consultancy (CTC) and the Management Systems Development Center (MSDC) published the results of the second national evaluation of transparency and accountability of municipalities – **Local Self-Government Index**. According to the results, transparency of city halls and municipal councils **increased by 7%**.

Despite the improvements achieved since the 2017 evaluation, the overall picture of transparency and accountability in the municipalities remains unsatisfactory. On a scale of 100, the municipalities' average result was 28 percent (city halls – 25% and municipal councils – 31%). A more substantial change and political will is needed to achieve meaningful openness levels.



Batumi Municipality was named as the municipality with the highest results. According to 0-100% measurement scale, the result of Batumi Municipality was 61%. **Rustavi Municipality** was also awarded (57%) together with **Lagodekhi** (56%), **Zugdidi** (55%) and **Tetritsqaro** (52%) Municipalities. The high score of Lagodekhi Municipality was mostly based on the prominent result of **municipal**

council of Lagodekhi, for receiving 87%, as one of the best results among representative and executive branches. For this reason, municipal council of Lagodekhi was also awarded with a special certificate.

The lowest assessments among municipalities were received by **Akhalkalaki (6%), Ninotsminda (7%), Aspindza (7%), Adigeni (8%) and Samtredia (9%)** municipalities, lagging behind the 10% threshold of the ratings.

ABOUT THE LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT INDEX: The index assesses transparency and accountability of Georgian municipalities. The index also evaluates the quality of citizens' participation in decision-making process. The results of 2017 and 2019 National Evaluation, as well as municipalities' rating are available on the following website: www.LDGIndex.org

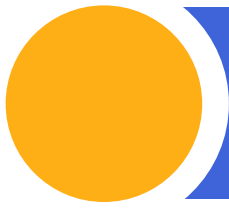


OPEN DATA STRATEGY FOR AKHALTSIKHE AND KUTAISI CITY HALLS

IDFI, with the financial support of USAID Good Governance Initiative in Georgia (GGI), Tetra Tech ARD, supported Akhaltsikhe and Kutaisi City Halls to **develop** Open Data Strategies and Action Plans. In particular, to elaborate a realistic and evidence-based strategy, IDFI prepared an in-depth and comprehensive situational analysis about open data collecting and publishing practices at the mentioned City Halls. When preparing the analysis, focus groups meetings and interviews were conducted with both City Hall representatives and local stakeholders (civil society, business, media and academia). To consider their opinions, public discussions of the first draft versions of Strategies and Action Plans were organized.

The ultimate objective of the Strategies of both City Halls is to establish the principles of good governance, increase access to municipal open data, and encourage use of open data through the improvement of existing legal framework and practice in terms of collection, processing and publication of public data.

The mentioned City Halls are one of the first local self-government bodies to elaborate and adopt an individual strategy with the aim to improve open data collection and publication standards. In case of their successful implementation, Akhaltsikhe and Kutaisi City Halls will significantly improve internal processes of data processing and publication, which will increase their transparency and accountability in the future.





MEDIA, INTERNET AND INNOVATIONS

INTERNET FREEDOM IN GEORGIA

Over the past 6 years, IDFI's representative has been a contributive author for Freedom House and participated in the preparation of an annual report on Georgia.





In November 2019, Freedom House published its annual report on Internet Freedom. In 2019, Georgia obtained a score of 75 out of 100 and was assessed as "Free" in terms of Internet freedom. The following facts were highlighted in terms of challenges of human rights and freedom of expression online:

-  Around the 2018 presidential election campaign and at other points during reporting period, anonymous actors on social media distorted the information landscape by spreading misinformation.
-  Technical attacks and intimidation of internet users remain relatively rare, though a number of high-profile online smear campaigns were observed during the coverage period.









The fact that Georgia's new constitution came into force in December 2018, declaring internet access as a fundamental right, was considered a positive development.

RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE USE OF ALGORITHMS BY PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS (alGOVrithms)

IDFI representative participated in the preparation of an [extensive report and recommendations](#) about the use of algorithms in decision-making (automated decision making) processes by public institutions. The study was prepared regarding Czechia, Georgia, Hungary, Poland, Serbia and Slovakia. Key findings of the study include:

-  There is no existing overall state's policy on the implementation of alGOVrithms in any of the countries participating in the research.
-  There have not been found any examples of ethical frameworks being introduced in any of the countries.
-  Also, there are not any examples of the existence of the legal framework comprehensively describing the rights and obligations of the states and citizens in this regard
-  No external and independent audits are set in place in order to monitor the accuracy and fairness of algorithmic operations.

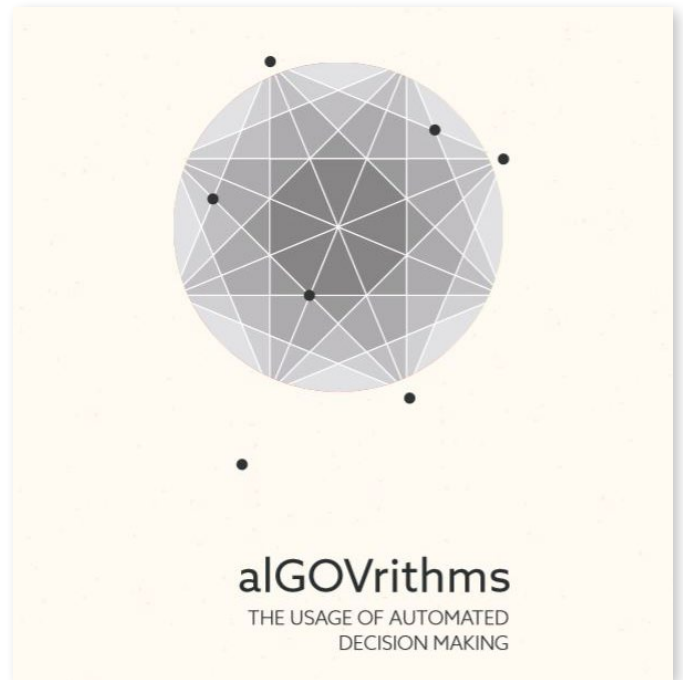
BASED ON THE REVEALED CHALLENGES, THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEEDS HAVE BEEN ELABORATED AND IDENTIFIED:

-  Introducing policies on algovrithm implementation
-  Setting up a coordination body within the government
-  Implementing a clear and possibly complex legal framework and ethical guidelines on automated decisions making
-  Engaging civil society representatives and external experts during the whole process of creating alGOVrithms
-  Introducing Algorithmic Impact Assessments
-  Introducing transparency clauses in contracts with companies delivering the software and open access to the source code
-  Issuing guidelines explaining the operation of algorithms
-  Elaborating the review and remedy system.

Together with IDFI, researchers of ePaństwo Foundation (Poland), KohoVolit.eu (Czech Republic and Slovakia), K-Monitor (Hungary) and CRTA (Serbia) were engaged in the study.

IDFI'S OPINION ON THE DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE LAW OF GEORGIA ON INFORMATION SECURITY

IDFI [responded](#) to the Draft Amendments to the Law of Georgia on Information Security initiated to the Parliament of Georgia on October 2, 2019. According to the institute, the proposed amendments fundamentally change the existing cybersecurity system. The LEPL Operational-Technical Agency (OTA) of the State Security Service will basically be entitled to act as the main regulator, coordinator and supervisor of cybersecurity. The agency's authority will cover an extended list of critical infrastructures, including public institutions and telecommunication companies.



ECONOMY AND SOCIAL POLICY






In 2019, an annual international investment forum – Emerging Markets Economics: Prospects and Challenges was held in Tbilisi. The forum was financially supported by and held in cooperation with IDFI.

Participants of the Forum:

OVER 500 DELEGATES, FROM MORE THAN 15 COUNTRIES.

During the Forum IDFI organized a panel discussion on **the Role of Good Governance Reform in Economic Development & Investment Attraction.**

In 2019, based on the concept developed by IDFI the Ministry of Finance of Georgia developed an online platform for budgetary transparency and accountability. The platform will enable anyone interested to access:

-  **INFORMATION ON THE STATE BUDGET**
-  **MAIN PRIORITIES OF THE COUNTRY**
-  **STATE BUDGET PROGRAMS**

The platform enables citizens to participate in budget planning based on their preferences and priorities.



RESEARCH ACTIVITIES



▶ In 2019, IDFI conducted economic and social policy research aimed at analyzing Georgia's socio-economic development and elaborating recommendations to improve existing policies in the country.

▶ In 2019, IDFI presented a policy paper on the transparency of extractive industries in Georgia. The paper evaluated Georgia's capabilities and prospects in terms of adhering to the global standards of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). The document also described the EITI standards, its rules of procedure, and the benefits of joining the initiative.

▶ The analytical materials developed by IDFI within the socio-economic direction in 2019 also covered the following important topics: Results of Technical Inspection of Vehicles etc.

▶ For years, IDFI has been providing the government with recommendations on improving the state support policy for multi-child families.

▶ On January 1st, 2019, the Decree of the Government of Georgia on the Rules and Provisions for Ensuring Social Protection of Multi-Child Families went into force. The decree includes rules on the social benefits allocated for multi-child families.

SOVIET STUDIES

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

In December 2019, within the frame of the project “**Enhancing Openness of State Archives in Former Soviet and Eastern Bloc Countries**”, IDFI held the [Second International Conference](#) on the Openness of State Archives and Memory Studies. Researchers,



historians, archivists, representatives of the non-governmental sector and experts from more than 20 countries, who talked about their experience in enhancing the openness of state archives and memory politics in different countries, were invited at the conference. The participants discussed the different models of the evaluation of the openness of archives and memory politics, existing challenges in this direction and the best international practices. They sent the theses of their presentations to IDFI that will be published as a compilation in 2020.



INTERNATIONAL RATING OF THE OPENNESS OF ARCHIVES

In 2019, in the direction of Archives, Soviet and Memory Studies, IDFI aimed at enhancing the openness of state archives, research of the Soviet past based on archival documents, memory studies in Georgia and post-Communist space.



Since May 2019, with the financial support of the Open Society Institute – Budapest Foundation, IDFI continued the [project](#), which includes the creation of the rating of the state archives of different countries. The pilot project carried out in 2017-2018 encompassed 10 post-Soviet countries while in 2019, the number of the countries involved in the project increased to 18 and covered not only the post-Soviet but former Eastern Bloc countries as well.

Based on the elaborated methodology at the first stage, IDFI created an electronic database for the evaluation of the openness of archives, in which the partners from different countries enter the relevant data. As a result of processing this data, finally, the [international rating](#) of the openness of archives will be updated.

THE ADVOCACY OF THE OPENNESS OF ARCHIVES

In 2019, IDFI continued the advocacy of the openness of archives at the legislative organ and the court of Georgia. In July, the Tbilisi City Court fully granted IDFI's appeal against the National Archives of Georgia. IDFI filed a lawsuit at the Tbilisi City Court in order

to receive the information from the National Archives of Georgia on how many people were refused to access the archival fonds and for what reasons. In the beginning, the National Archives declared that it was not able to disclose such information as long as it did not keep the relevant records. Based on the decision of the Tbilisi City Court, IDFI's appeal was fully granted and the National Archives was ordered to keep the relevant statistics and provide the information requested by the organization. Moreover, in 2019, IDFI submitted a legislative proposal on the amendments in the laws "On the National Archival Fonds and National Archives" and "On the Protection of Personal Data" to the Parliament of Georgia. The legislative proposal included the following changes:

- Granting access to archival documents containing state secrets and personal data for research or scientific purposes;
- Introducing a regulation of review deadlines for the applications for admission to the national archival fonds and the obligation to keep a record of these applications;
- Allowing the photocopying of archival documents inside reading halls;
- Disclosing the list of lost or damaged documents.

In August, at the session of the Legal Issues Committee, the Parliament of Georgia discussed the above-mentioned proposal. Although the initiated amendments by IDFI were not supported by the committee, the members of the Parliaments expressed their willingness to continue working on this issue. Therefore, IDFI is working on the renewed version of the legislative proposal, which will be presented to the Parliament of Georgia shortly.


MEMORY STUDIES

IDFI's team has already published a number of research [articles](#) based on archival documents. IDFI works on the elaboration of the universal evaluation model of the memory politics based on which, similarly to the openness of archives, IDFI's partners will evaluate the memory politics in different countries and a joint report will be created, in which the best international practices and challenges will be presented.

THE MASS GRAVES OF THE REPRESSED INDIVIDUALS

Another important event of 2019 was the discovery of the mass graves of the victims of Soviet repressions in Khelvachauri by the Diocese of Batumi and Lazeti. 150 bodies were found at the site. For the identification of the discovered bodies, IDFI became involved in searching for the relevant archival documents from the beginning. Through the archival research carried out by the organization, it has been established that between 1937-1938, through the various means of punishments totally 1050 were executed, which was

Between 20 August 1937 and 26 November 1938, during the Great Terror, **1050** were declared as the „enemies of the people“ and sentenced to be shot in Batumi




ADJARA


1039 Men

11 Women

10 clergymen, including the hierarchs of the highest rank: Archimandrite Zurab Darchia and Hodja Akhmed Nakaidze



27 WEW SHOT ON 1 JANUARY 1938



several times more than the numbers known before. IDFI gave this list to the representatives of the Diocese of Batumi and Lazeti. Since then, IDFI has been advocating the continuation of the research on this issue to the local government as well as at the international conferences. Until today, IDFI has issued a number of recommendations for the government in order to facilitate the work in this direction and make the carried-out activities more effective.




According to the minutes of the NKVD Troika, preserved at the MIA Archives of Georgia, the detainees were accused of:

- counter-revolutionary activities**
- Espionage* membership of the terrorist organization
- Trotskyism** undermining activities

In April 2019, the Eparchy of Batumi and Lazeti spread the information that they had discovered the **mass grave of the repressed individuals, in which up to 150 bodies had been identified, near Khelvachauri.**



Together with the bodies, the coins minted in 1935-1936, **bullets and the other objects were found which simplifies the dating of the graves.**



MEMORIALS

In 2019, IDFI actively worked on the creation of the new memorials and memory sites. On the initiative of the organization, the memorial plaques of the members of the National Council and the Constituent Assembly of the First Democratic Republic of Georgia – Grigol and Leo Natadze, Nikoloz Katsiashvili and Revaz Gabashvili were opened in Kaspi. Also, the memorial plaques of Nikoloz (Karlo) Chkheidze, a distinguished politician of the period of transition in the Russian Empire and the First Democratic Republic of Georgia, and Konstantine Gvarjaladze, a member of the Central Committee of the Social-Democratic Party, were opened in Tbilisi.



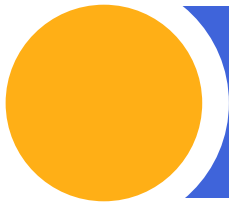
PUBLICATIONS

IDFI published a memorial album about Karlo Chkheidze's life and work. The album includes the archival and photo materials, that have not been published before, lengthy annotations and the details about Karlo Chkheidze's biography and public service.



ANALYTICAL WORK




Numerous articles were published on IDFI's website www.damoukidebloba.ge. This website is mainly focused on the fight against Russian disinformation through the publication of the different types of analytical and popular articles. Currently, more than 500 articles are published on the website.



RULE OF LAW

SELECTION OF THE SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

In January 2019, IDFI together with a partner organization GYLA prepared [recommendations](#) regarding criteria and procedures for the selection of the Supreme Court Justices. On behalf of the [Coalition](#) of non-governmental organizations, this document was submitted to the working group created by the Chairperson of the Parliament. The recommendations were based on three major principles:

-  *Merit-based approach;*
-  *Transparency and openness of the process;*
-  *Objectivity and impartiality of the process.*

IDFI was actively involved in the process of advocating these recommendations, in particular, in the hearings of the parliamentary committee, also in preparing Coalition's [letter](#) to the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR. Significant part of the recommendations of the non-governmental organizations were reflected in the opinions of the [Venice Commission](#) and [OSCE/ODIHR](#). As a result of the critical opinions of international organizations, several positive amendments were made to the draft law prepared by the parliamentary majority, however, certain shortcomings still exist in this regard in current legislation.

In addition, IDFI actively observed the selection process of the Supreme Court Justices, and in August 2019, published an [assessment](#) of the facts of conflict of interest revealed in the process of the competition held by the High Council of Justice.

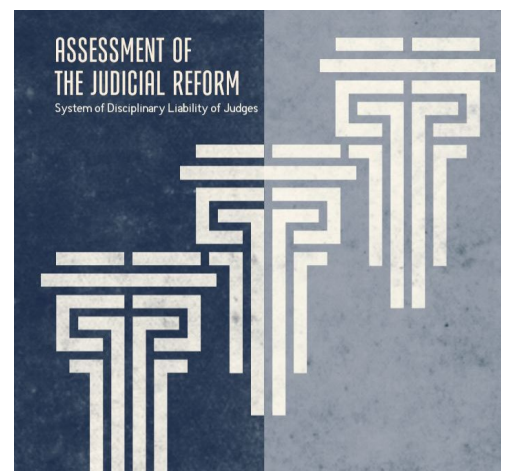
REFORM OF THE HIGH SCHOOL OF JUSTICE



In April 2019, IDFI together with a partner organization ISFED presented a study on judges' professional training system in Georgia, which was the first comprehensive research regarding institutional arrangement and work of the High School of Justice (HSOJ). The study provides an overview of the institutional framework of the HSOJ and main challenges related to its work. The research summarizes distribution of powers between the HSoJ and the High Council of Justice (HCoJ) and identifies a number of problems that exist in HSOJ performance, including initial training, in-service training and training programs. The study includes concrete recommendations for addressing existing shortcomings and problematic issues.

REFORM OF THE SYSTEM OF DISCIPLINARY LIABILITY OF JUDGES

In [March](#) and [November](#) 2019, IDFI published monitoring reports on disciplinary liability of judges, which assesses legal framework and practice established after the "Third Wave" of judicial reform as well as includes recommendations regarding further improvement of disciplinary proceedings. The second report, which was presented to the public on November 8, 2019, also included assessment of the draft law prepared within the scope of the "Fourth Wave" of judicial reform.



STUDY ON DELAYS OF COURT PROCEEDINGS

In May 2019, IDFI published a [study](#) on compliance with procedural time limits for considering cases and preparing judgments in Tbilisi City Court (practice of 2015-2018) and revealed the shortcomings with regard to the rule for evaluation of judges as well as existing challenges in terms of delays in case processing.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

In 2019, IDFI actively continued its work on the issues related to freedom of expression. In May, IDFI [assessed](#) the initiatives of recent years aimed at restricting freedom of expression and revealed existing threats in this regard.

In addition, in August 2019, IDFI prepared an [assessment](#) of the Draft Law on Personal Data Protection and submitted recommendations regarding those issues which would have a negative impact upon freedom of expression and access to information. Initiators of the draft law took into consideration certain recommendations which, to certain extent, reduced the threats posed by the draft law to freedom of expression/information. IDFI also held a [public discussion](#) on this issue together with the State Inspector Service. At this stage, the draft law has not been adopted yet.

IDFI also published an [overview](#) of the Constitutional Court decision of August 2, 2019 regarding regulation of inadmissible content, and highlighted its importance in terms of improving the standard of freedom of expression.

SUPPORTING INDEPENDENCE OF PROSECUTION SERVICE OF GEORGIA

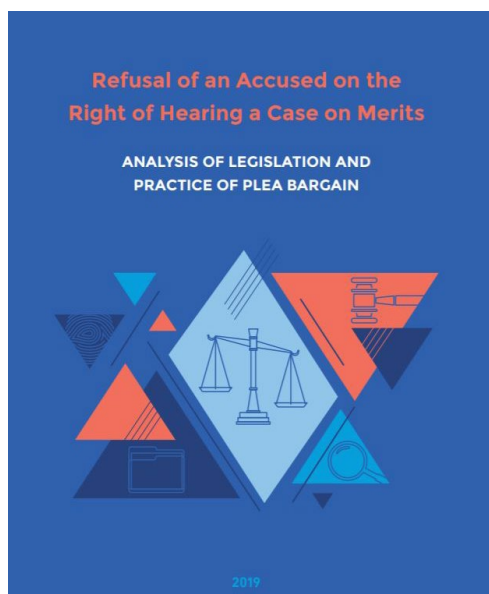
Supporting independence of Prosecution Service of Georgia (PSG) remains as a priority for IDFI. On 4 February 2019, the organization [published](#) analysis of the PSG reform with the recommendations to deal with the challenges remaining after the implementation of the reform.



IDFI participated in the discussions on the reform separating prosecutorial and investigative powers and based on the report of the Venice Commission prepared its [recommendations](#) to support the successful implementation of the reform.

During 2019, in order to strengthen individual prosecutors and improve their capacity, IDFI carried out [two training](#) for prosecutors from all over the country on the crimes committed based on gender, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and hate crimes.

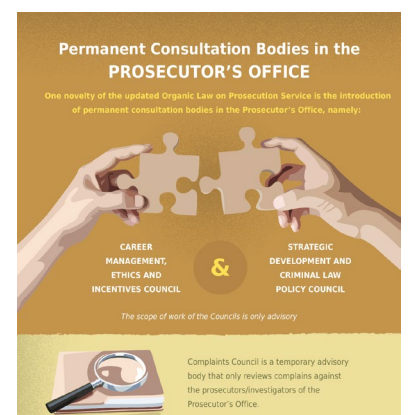
IDFI carried out one year [monitoring](#) of implementation of the PSG Action Plan. IDFI team assessed performance of the obligations undertaken by the POG for 2017-2018 by its Action Plan. Monitoring [results](#), major findings and recommendations were [presented](#) to public and discussed on 29 October 2019 together with the POG representatives and other interested parties.



For supporting the activities of PSG, IDFI [analysed](#) the legislation and practice regarding plea bargain. The document overviews challenges regarding the plea bargain institute and means to solve them. It was [presented](#) to the public on 4 December 2019.

For raising public awareness on the prosecution reform as well as on the PSG as a whole, on 22 July 2019, IDFI published [information](#) on the importance of parliamentary control over the prosecutorial system. On 29 July 2019, IDFI published the [information](#) on the permanent consultative bodies of the PSG.

For studying the public opinion regarding the Prosecution Service of Georgia, IDFI prepared and published the results of public opinion surveys during 2019. The surveys



aimed at identifying public opinion towards the PSG and their perceptions of PSG work on well-known cases:

PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY [RESULT 1](#). Georgians are split over the PSG;

PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY [RESULT 2](#). Perceptions of prosecutors' and judges' wheelings and dealings;

PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY [RESULT 3](#). People are divided over the independence of the PSG;

PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY [RESULT 4](#). Survey experiment – in what cases Georgian population distrust prosecution.

IDFI PROMOTES ACCESS TO COURT DECISIONS IN GEORGIA

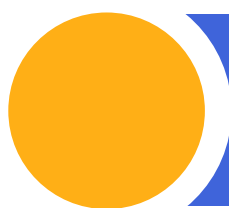
Access to court decisions in Georgia significantly deteriorated from October 2015. Before this date, the common courts of Georgia provided unhindered access to the copies of their decisions, however, in the aftermath they started to refuse disclosing court decisions based on the argument of personal data protection. Courts employed a broad interpretation of the concept of personal data. They did not take into account any possible public interest in relation to specific court cases. The balance between personal data protection and access to public information was disrupted as unconditional priority was given to personal data protection.

IDFI considered that existing regulation on access to court decisions violated the Constitution of Georgia. Thus, IDFI filed an [appeal](#) at the Constitutional Court of Georgia. On June 7, 2019 the Constitutional Court of Georgia [granted the appeal](#) of IDFI on this issue.

According to the Constitutional Court of Georgia, court decisions constitute the type of information kept at a public institution which is **subject to high public interest by default**. The court further noted that access to court decisions is crucial for ensuring public control of and trust towards the judicial system, and protecting the right to a fair trial.

In addition, the court stressed that under exceptional circumstances, taking into consideration sensitivity of information included in court decisions, redacting personal data might be necessary, however, this should not have a universal character. **In each individual case when discussing the topic of access to a court decision, the effect of personal data disclosure on the privacy of an individual concerned must be considered and evaluated whether it outweighs the high public interest of accessing court decisions.**

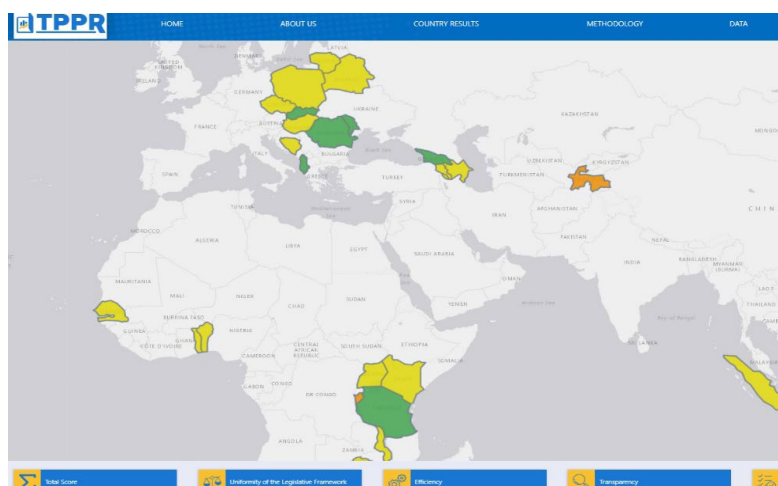
The court held that the disputed norms would be void from May 2020 and thus gave the Parliament time to harmonize existing legislation with the requirement of the Constitution.

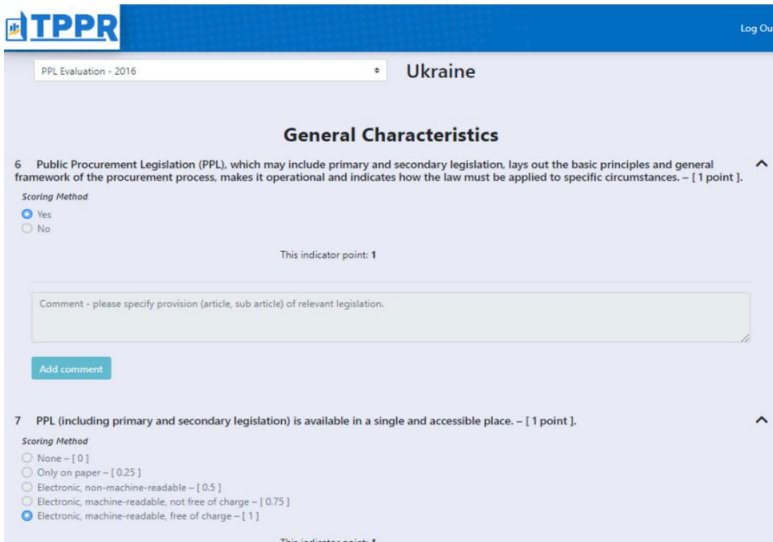


PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

In 2019 IDFI expanded the scope of Transparent Public Procurement Rating ([TPPR](#)) and in addition to the region of Eurasia, covered the region of Africa, Southeast Asia, Oceania and South America. To-date the rating covers 36 countries from Central and Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa and South America.

In addition to the global ranking, www.tpp-rating.org constitutes a platform for the CSO organizations representing member states to share and disseminate information on the ongoing developments and existing challenges of public procurement in their respective countries. This, in turn, assists local organizations to





advocate for positive changes.

Along with expanding the geographical scope of the rating, the need for technical simplification of the evaluation process has emerged. Thus, IDFI developed an online evaluation platform. Each member organization of TPPR is given the possibility to evaluate public procurement systems within their respective states online, using their unique username and password. The System automatically analysis data entered through the online questionnaire and generates the overall rating.

With the aim of advocating for transparent public procurement systems, IDFI visited partner organizations at Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Armenia, Lithuania, Albania, Romania etc.

As a result of joint advocacy measures taken in cooperation with international partners, IDFI supported the process of implementing crucial public procurement reforms in [Kazakhstan](#), [Cota-Rica](#), Ukraine and [Armenia](#). As for Georgia, the practice of [publishing](#) public procurement information in Open Contracting Data Standard (OCDS) was implemented and a special website of visualizations was launched.

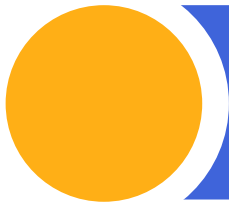


STUDY PROGRAM

Within the auspices of the Study Program – Experience Sharing on Public Procurement, IDFI [hosted](#) the chairmen of Indian Public Service Departments and high-ranking officials from state-owned enterprises. The event was organized in cooperation with the Indian branch of the Washington-based organization Partnership for Transparency Fund (PTF). During the study program Georgian public procurement system, its strengths and weaknesses, as well as the anti-corruption system of Georgia and public procurement related commitments were discussed.



IDFI also hosted a delegation from Sri Lanka. During the meeting, parties discussed the standards of public procurement transparency and the challenges faced by the countries. IDFI conducted numerous training sessions on the topic of public procurement, for journalists, students and other interested parties in Georgia and beyond.



PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

EVALUATING EXTENT AND QUALITY OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE DIALOGUE AND SUPPORTING THE PROCESS OF DIALOGUE



On July 10th, 2019 IDFI [published](#) the report on the Evaluation on the Extent and Quality of Public-Private Dialogue (PPD) in Georgia, covering the period of 2014-2019. IDFI evaluated the extent and quality of PPD in the process of elaborating 37 draft laws in total. Approximately 200 interviews were conducted with public officials and representatives of the private sector for the purposes of the evaluation. IDFI awarded the top three draft laws which were elaborated with the highest level of dialogue - Spatial Planning and Construction Code, amendments to the Tax Code of Georgia (Estonian Model) and the Law on Vocational Education.

SUPPORTING PUBLIC-PRIVATE DIALOGUE IN THE REGIONS OF GEORGIA

With the aim of raising awareness on PPD in the regions of Georgia IDFI organized meetings at Telavi, Rustavi and Ozurgeti municipalities. IDFI studied the practice of citizen participation in the process of policy development in the regions and provided municipalities with relevant recommendations for strengthening the level of dialogue. Representatives of local municipalities expressed their commitment to strengthen citizen participation and planned relevant activities. The local population, on the other hand, received information on available leverages enabling them to effectively participate in the process of dialogue and policy development.

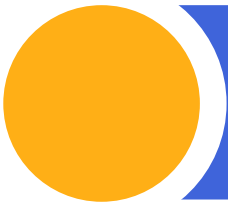


SUPPORTING DIALOGUE AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT LEVEL

In 2019 IDFI supported dialogue regarding the amendments to Product Safety and Free Movement Code. The amendments envisaged regulations against buildings defacing city appearance and posing risk to public safety. Representatives from the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure, private sector and MPs participated in the [discussion](#).

PARLIAMENTARY THEMATIC INQUIRY ON THE SUBJECT OF CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESS OF PUBLIC POLICY DEVELOPMENT

In 2019 IDFI provided the Open Governance Permanent Parliamentary Council with expert [assistance](#) in the process of conducting a thematic inquiry on the subject of Citizen Participation in the Process of Public Policy Development. The final report of the thematic inquiry, prepared by IDFI and approved by the working group of the thematic inquiry included the analysis of the legislation and practice of citizen participation in the process of decision making at central public institutions within the executive branch of governance. Along with the main findings the report included recommendations based on the best international practice. The Parliament of Georgia will monitor to what extent state entities will respond to the recommendations.



TRAININGS AND LECTURES

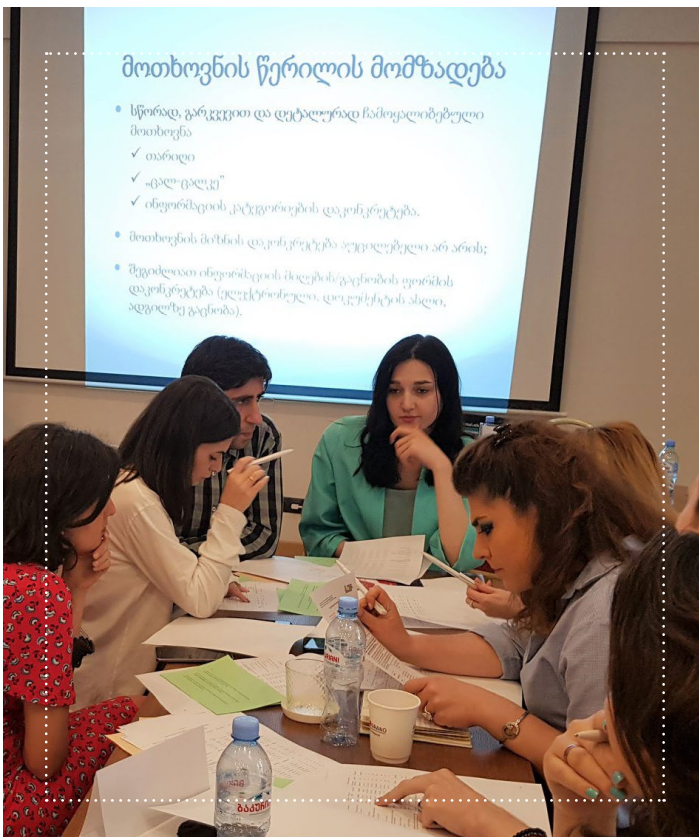
IDFI'S TRAININGS ON GOVERNMENT MONITORING MECHANISMS



In 2019, IDFI representatives conducted practical trainings for journalists, local civil society activists, students and active citizens in Tbilisi, Kvareli, Kutaisi, Borjomi and Batumi. The trainings covered the issues like government monitoring mechanisms and tools, including working with open data. In total, about 200 participants attended the trainings. IDFI trainers provided the participants with the information on the following topics:

- How to Reveal and Check Suspicious Circumstances in Public Tenders
- How to Monitor Reasonable Spending of State Budget
- How to Obtain Public Data on Government Programs, and
- How to Request Public Information.

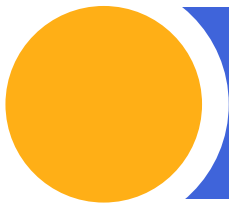
The training participants also received practical tips on data visualization, which will guide them in effective communication of data with public.



მოთხოვნის წერილის მომზადება

- სწორად, გარკვევით და დეტალურად ჩამოყალიბებული მოთხოვნა
 - ✓ თარიღი
 - ✓ "ვალ-ვალეუ"
 - ✓ ინფორმაციის კატეგორიების დაკონკრეტება.
- მოთხოვნის მისვლის დაკონკრეტება აუცილებელი არ არის;
- შეგიძლიათ ინფორმაციის მიღების გაცემის უფროსის დაკონკრეტება (ელსტრუქციული, დოკუმენტის ასლი, ადგილზე გაცემა).





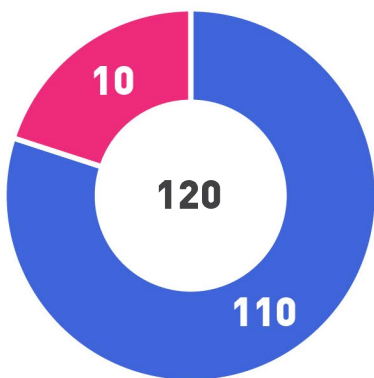
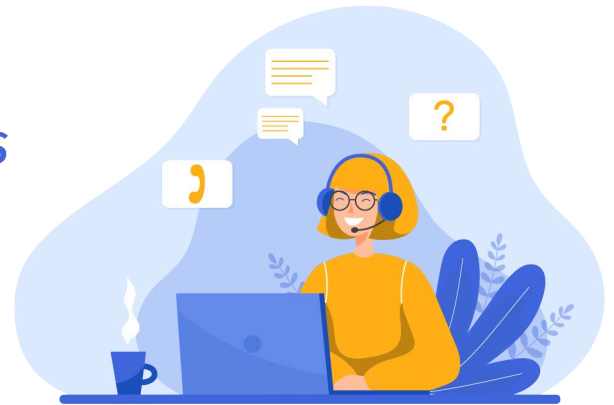
CONSULTATIONS

CIVIC AUDIT HOTLINE

In order to get people engaged in IDFI’s government oversight activities, a [civic audit hotline](#) was created in 2019. Any citizen (including activist, journalist, business representative, etc.) can notify IDFI (including, anonymously) team about *possible wrongdoings in the public sector, incorrect and illegal disposal of public finances, cases of possible corruption, abuse of power by public officials and activities incompatible with their position, cases of restriction of access to public information, nepotism and conflict of interest in the public sector, as well as actions against public interests.*

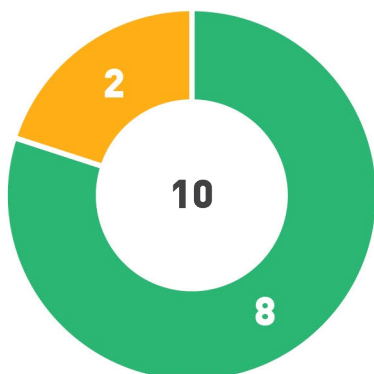
Based on received notifications, IDFI checks and examines the case, if necessary, requests public information from the relevant public institution, analyzes public information received in accordance with the request. If the violations are confirmed, IDFI disseminates information or calls on particular public institutions to react on the revealed cases.

DURING 2019 IDFI RECEIVED AND ANALYZED DOZENS OF NOTIFICATIONS SUBMITTED VIA THE HOTLINE



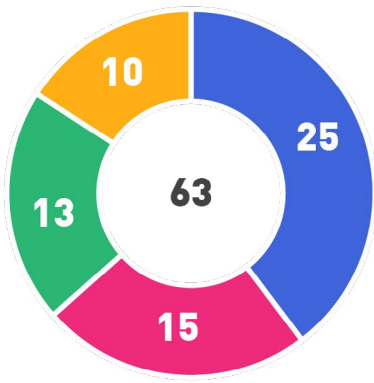
TELEPHONE CONSULTATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

- Regarding the results of the accessibility of public information
- Regarding trainings, etc.



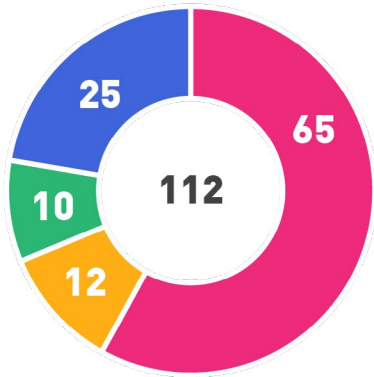
WRITTEN CONSULTATION WITH PUBLIC OFFICIALS

- Regarding the results of the accessibility of public information
- Other



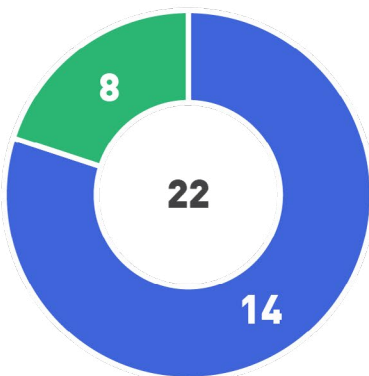
TELEPHONE CONSULTATION WITH CITIZENS

- Regarding documents kept in Georgian archives, and regarding the information about a repressed ancestor
- Regarding the social issues
- Regarding the request of public information
- Other



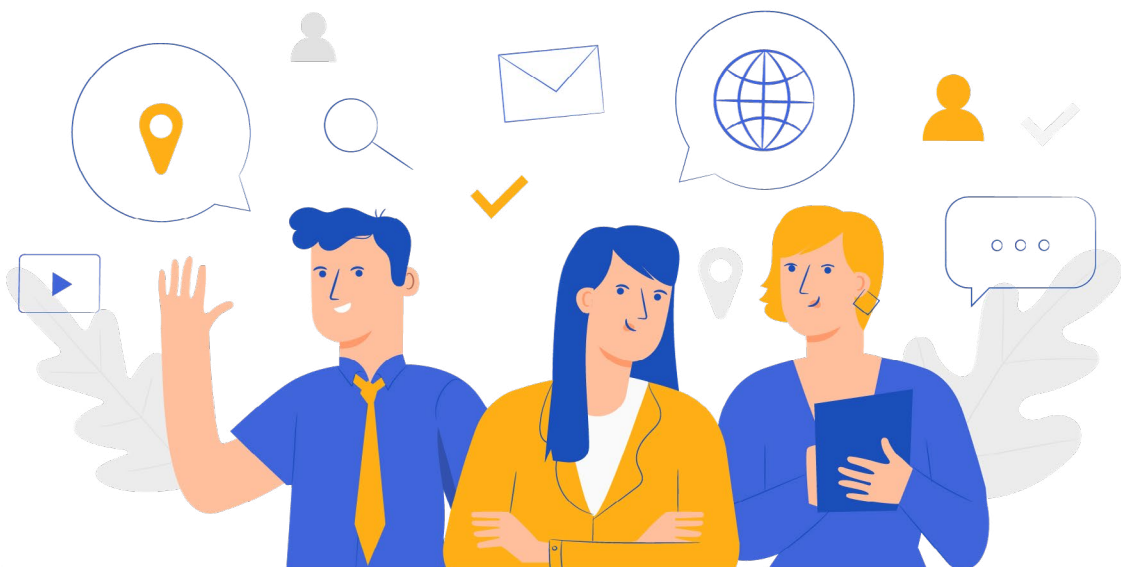
TELEPHONE CONSULTATION WITH CITIZENS (INCLUDING A SOCIAL MEDIA)

- Regarding documents kept in Georgian archives and their authorization procedures, and regarding the information about a repressed ancestor
- In-depth legal consultation/preparation of documents/requesting public information in accordance with the interests of citizens
- Regarding the social issues
- Regarding the research documents published by IDFI, etc.

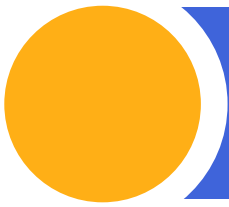


VISIT TO THE OFFICE

- Regarding documents kept in Georgian archives, and regarding the information about a repressed ancestor
- Other

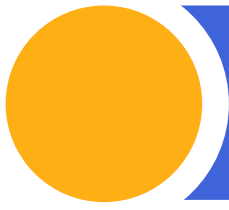


IN 2019, IDFI CONDUCTED 327 DIFFERENT CONSULTANCY ACTIVITIES



OUR DONOR ORGANIZATIONS





PROJECTS LAUNCHED IN 2019

PROMOTING OPEN GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES AT THE PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA AND SUPREME COUNCIL OF AJARA (SCA).

FUNDED BY: *The European Union with a co-share from the Parliament of Georgia and SCA*

In the framework of the project, UNDP is collaborating with the IDFI to promote open governance principles in the work of the Parliament of Georgia and SCA in order to enhance openness, transparency and accountability of the institutions, including through greater citizen engagement.

CONTRIBUTING TO PAR THROUGH CIVIC MONITORING AND ENGAGEMENT

FUNDED BY: [European Union](#)

The action aims to promote the implementation of the Public Administration Reform through innovations, capacity building, multi-stakeholder dialogue and civil society engagement in monitoring and revision of the PAR Action Plan.

RESEARCH PROJECT ON POTENTIAL GENDER-DETERMINED DIFFERENCES IN CIVIL SERVICE CAREER PATHS IN GEORGIA

FUNDED BY: *United Nations Development Program (UNDP) through Public Administration Reform (PAR) project*

The project aims to identify the key ways in which gender determines differences in career paths and the extent to which these differences are perceived as detrimental to the individual civil servants and the civil service as a whole.

ENHANCING OPENNESS OF STATE ARCHIVES IN FORMER SOVIET REPUBLICS AND EASTERN BLOC COUNTRIES

DONOR ORGANIZATION: *Open Society Institute Budapest Foundation (OSI)*

Encourage the rethinking of Soviet and totalitarian past by

fostering research and promoting the openness of state archives in post-Soviet and post-socialist countries.

STUDYING HOW MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION PLATFORMS PROMOTE TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT IN GEORGIA AND THE EURASIA REGION

DONOR ORGANIZATION: *Open Society Institute Budapest Foundation (OSI)*

The goal of the project is to secure Georgia's democratic state-building achievements by tackling the growing problem of corruption, with a particular focus on corruption-proofing the public procurement system.

DEVELOPMENT OF EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM IN FIGHTING CORRUPTION

DONOR INSTITUTIONS: [Open Society Institute Budapest Foundation \(OSI\)](#) with co-funding from [Open Society Georgia Foundation \(OSGF\)](#)

The impact of the project will be to develop and sustain a community of professionals and activists, who will engage with corruption prevention, corruption risk management and with shedding light on facts of individual and systemic corruption.

GOOD GOVERNANCE FOR GEORGIA (3G)

SUPPORTED BY: [Luminate](#), *Global Philanthropic Organization*

Project aims at increasing public oversight of state institutions, and increasing transparency and accountability of the government of Georgia.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION IN GEORGIA - 2018

FUNDED BY: *East-West Management Institute's (EWMI) Advancing CSO Capacities and Engaging Society for Sustainability (ACCESS) project, funded by United States Agency for International Development (USAID)*

IDFI will submit FOIA requests to all ministries and local government agencies (i.e. executive and legislative offices) and analyze received responses in terms of their compliance with the FOIA regulations in Georgia.

EMPOWERING WATCHDOG COMMUNITY FOR GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

SUPPORTED BY: [International Visegrad Fund](#)

The project aims to empower Georgian public to effectively monitor and control the government, and enhance availability of public data.

PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO THE OPEN GOVERNANCE PERMANENT PARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL TO CONDUCT THEMATIC INQUIRY ON THE SUBJECT OF LEGISLATION AND PRACTICE OF CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESS OF PUBLIC POLICY DEVELOPMENT AT THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT

DONOR ORGANIZATION: *United Nations Development Program (UNDP)*

The main objective of the project is to enable the conduct of the thematic enquiry.

DEVELOP OPEN DATA STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS FOR KUTAISI AND AKHALTSIKHE CITY HALLS (2019-2020)

DONOR ORGANIZATION: *USAID Good Governance Initiative in Georgia, Tetra Tech ARD*

The specific objective of this project is to provide technical assistance to Akhaltsikhe and Kutaisi City Halls in developing Open Data Strategies and Action Plans (2019-2020) and monitoring frameworks that will ensure improved data management, including better practices of data disclosure, which is an important element of a wide variety of key policy documents and action plans.

SUPPORTING THE PREPARATION OF A SOUTH CAUCASUS STUDY IN EVIDENCE-BASED STRATEGIES ON COMBATING CORRUPTION

FUNDED BY: *Bertelsmann Stiftung*

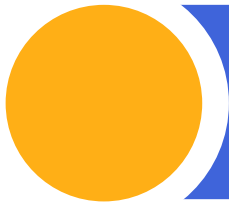
In the framework of the project, the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI) will provide support in preparing a South Caucasus study in Evidence-Based strategies on Combating Corruption based on three countries (Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan) research report.

EXPERIENCE SHARING IN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

FUNDED BY: *Partners for Transparency Foundation*

Project Goal is to share good practices and drawbacks in the Georgian public procurement system and Georgia's anti-corruption system and policies to the heads of Anti-Corruption Study Program Departments of public entities of the Federal Republic of India and high officials of state-owned enterprises.

Get more information about IDFI's projects on our website: www.idfi.ge/en/projects



FINANCIAL REPORT

	US DOLLAR	GEORGIAN LARI
TOTAL CASH INFLOW	\$ 956,779.04	2,743,755.24 ₾
TOTAL CASH OUTFLOW	\$ (799,671.67)	-2,293,218.45 ₾
FOREIGN EXCHANGE EFFECT ON CASH	\$ 4,447.22	12,753.28 ₾
NET INCREASE/DECREASE IN CASH	\$ 157,107.36	450,536.79 ₾

BEGINNING PERIOD BALANCE	\$218,866.72	627,644.10 ₾
ENDING PERIOD BALANCE	\$380,421.30	1,090,934.17 ₾

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

INFLOWS

GRANTS RECEIVED (NET OF RETURNED AMOUNTS)  2,675,559,21 GEL
\$ 932,998.29

OTHER CASH INCOME | 46,980,73 GEL
\$ 16,382.72

DONATIONS RECEIVED | 21,215,3 GEL
\$ 7,398.02

TOTAL INFLOWS
2,743,755,24 GEL
\$ 956,779.04

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

OUTFLOWS

SALARIES		690,137.60 GEL \$ 240,658.93
INCOME TAXES	221,373.10 GEL \$ 77,195.35	
PENSION CONTRIBUTION	22,177.01 GEL \$ 7,733.38	
TRANSLATION, CONSULTANCY SERVICES, EXPERTS AND OTHER HONORARIUM, LECTURERS ETC.	211,716.45 GEL \$ 73,827.96	
OFFICE COSTS (communication, utilities, stationary etc.)	27,197.86 GEL \$ 9,484.21	
RENT	45,521.65 GEL \$ 15,873.92	
TRANSPORTATION AND POSTAGE (local business trip, fuel cost, in town travel)	64,558.40 GEL \$ 22,512.26	
TRAVEL (international business trip, per diem, accommodation, international travel)	72,557.43 GEL \$ 25,301.61	
PR, VIDEOS, PRINTING, PUBLISHING, AWARDS, MARKETING ETC.	92,944.69 GEL \$ 32,410.88	
WEB-PAGE DEVELOPMENT COSTS	16,577.57 GEL \$ 5,780.79	
EQUIPMENT AND OTHER LONG TERM ASSETS (COMPUTERS & FURNITURE)	9,548.64 GEL \$ 3,329.72	
COMPUTER PARTS AND MAINTENANCE	2,818.00 GEL \$ 982.67	
EVENTS (conferences, presentations, round table, workshops, trainings etc.)	184,594.71 GEL \$ 64,370.30	
SUBGRANTS		596,751.58 GEL \$ 208,094.15
BANK CHARGES	3,780.95 GEL \$ 1,318.46	
UNFORSEEN	12,740.46 GEL \$ 4,442.75	
OTHER COSTS (audit, project evaluation etc.)	18,222.36 GEL \$ 6,354.35	

TOTAL OUTFLOWS

2,293,218.46 GEL
\$ 799,671.67



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