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The government of Georgia has started the long-term and large-scale cybersecurity projects in cooperation with respective agencies of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Within the scope of these projects, by active engagement of British experts, a series of study visits, workshops and seminars will be held to share knowledge and experience and to sup-

port the strengthening of Georgia's cyberspace through organizing learning exercises, training sessions and research activities.

on November 20-22, an opening phase of this cooperation marked the arrival of the representatives of Oxford University Global Cyber Security Center (GCSCC) to Georgia. The cooperation itself is a clear result of active preparatory works done by Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia in the last several months. GCSCC is one of the leading international research centers with a concentration in cybersecurity and has performed the assessment of cybersecurity development in many countries.

This time GCSCC's visit aimed at revising the level of Georgia's cybersecurity development, identifying strong and weak points, researching opportunities, threats and providing Government of Georgia with corresponding recommendations and initiatives. With this aim, GCSCC has held meetings with the representatives of both public and private sectors, as well as academic groups and all other interested parties and through the face-to-face communication received documented information, which will later be analyzed by them in order to prepare Georgia's cybersecurity environment assessing document (Continued on P. 2).



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(Continued from P.1) "We are on the verge of starting a very important project with the British side. This is the result of the work done by our agency on the international level where we have taken part in many conferences or workshops during which Georgia's cybersecurity initiatives and achievements were presented. The first meeting held in Tbilisi attracted a comprehensive level of interest among all participants. We have had a very productive communication and I hope this cooperation will help Georgia represent itself as a valuable member of international cybersecurity community." – **Nikoloz Gagnidze**, DEA Chairmen commented.

Based on the information received during the meetings held in Tbilisi, the British experts will prepare the preliminary document assessing Georgia's current cybersecurity position, after which other planned activities will take place.

6TH ANNUAL MEETING OF GEORGIAN CYBERSECURITY FORUM HAS BEEN HELD IN KVARELI



By the initiative of Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia and with the support of ISSP, the 6th annual meeting of Georgian Cybersecurity Forum has been held at Kvareli Training Center of Justice.

At present, various states and public institutions are facing a growing number of cybersecurity related challenges. In order to effectively meet those challenges, Cybersecurity Forum, which is a good example of public-private partnership, is

called to gather annually to discuss issues such as IT protection, ways to increase cybersecurity level and form rapid response mechanism on cyber incidents, means of cybercrime prevention, cybersecurity-related new projects, services etc.

"Cyberspace like any other domains requires respective protection. In order to better protect information environment and provide an adequate response to crisis situations, it is necessary to have an appropriate mechanisms in addition to the ability of acting coherently. The major goal of Cyber Forum is to deepen public-private partnership in the field of cybersecurity, jointly identify cyber risks and threats found in Georgia's cyberspace and discuss the mechanisms of prevention. It is also important that the forum is the exact platform that provides us with the great prospect to consolidate our achievements, share success and learn from each other's experience." – mentioned **Nikoloz Gagnidze**, DEA Chairman.

Up to 50 participants coming from both public and private sectors with cybersecurity background took part in the sessions held within the forum format. Cybersecurity Forum of Georgia was established in 2012 by LEPL Data Exchange Agency and incorporates critical infrastructure representatives (telecommunication, finance, transportation sectors) as well as IT professionals from the Ministries of Internal Affairs and Defence.



CYBERLAB – PORTAL OF ONLINE CYBER EXERCISES WWW.CYBER-LAB.TECH

Presentation of CyberLab – Portal of Online Cyber exercises (www.cyberlab.tech) held at Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University. CyberLab – a new online resource was created by Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT.GOV.GE) and Georgian Research and Educational Networking Association (GRENA) with the support of EU funded EaPConnect project.



The portal aims at helping IT students from Georgian educational institutions interested in cybersecurity to deepen their practical skills, so they can better discover and then respond to cyber incidents. The portal will also help IT personnel from both the public and private sectors, whose readiness is critically important for defending the organization's cyber sustainability, improve their abilities.

Exercises available on the portal are diverse and cover the following directions: cryptography, malware code analyses of real incidents, log file analyses of cyber incidents occurred on real servers, reverse engineering, network flaw analyses, cyber analytics etc.



"We are delighted to have been able to present the first online CyberLab in the Caucasus region, which is a unique opportunity for all interested in cybersecurity. As you are already aware of, it is practically impossible to find such technical material in the Georgian language. We, along with our partners have done a tremendous job to create an originally made material in Georgian that has no analogue. I would like to admit, that we are planning to make our exercises available in other languages, which we believe will help us in bringing the portal to the international audience." – **David Kvatadze**, CERT.GOV.GE Manager.

Those interested can easily be registered in the portal and gain access to exercises from anywhere they may be. Registered users will be able to enter into the contest with other users and become members of various groups (i.e. according to universities). The system conveniently divides correct and wrong answers and makes it easy to monitor the progress.

Future plans include further improvement of the platform's functional part, integration of virtual machines into the portal's ecosystem, adding new exercises and bringing Georgian CyberLab to Eastern European countries.

CERT-GOV-GE REPRESENTATIVES TOOK PART IN THE INTERNATIONAL CYBER EXERCISES HELD IN MOLDOVA



From October 29 to November 2, 2018, Chisinau – capital city of Moldova hosted the event - Regional Cyber Week & Expo 2018 in Moldova - organized by the Ministry of Information Technologies and Cybersecurity Services Development of the same country.

Within the frames of the event, international cyber exercises called Cyber Drill took place, in which DEA's CERT-GOV-GE team has shown a notable success and finished first in 4 categories out of 8 (Continued on P.4).

(Continued from P. 3) The 2nd Regional Cyber Drill, organized in cooperation with FIRST during the Cyber Week, is an outstanding opportunity for the project to increase the skills of cooperation between law enforcement officers working on cybercrime and CSIRT/CERT members working on cybersecurity on a number of issues, such as incident handling, malware analysis and protection of critical infrastructure.

DEA'S ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFICATE HAS BEEN EXTENDED FOR 3 YEARS



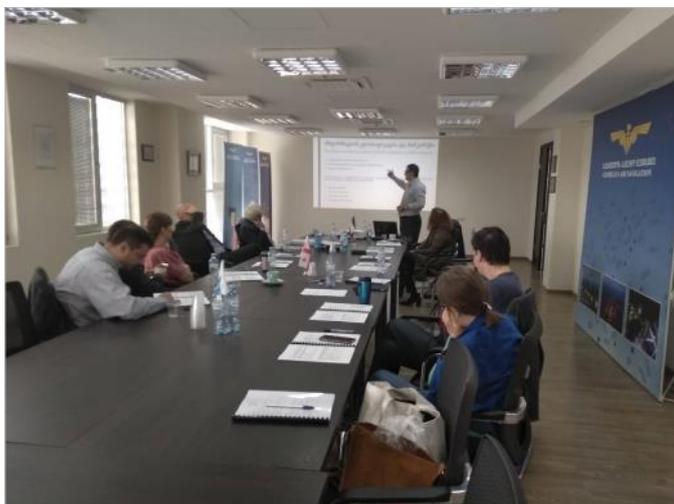
LEPL Data Exchange Agency has successfully undergone the auditing process of renewing ISO 9001:2015 and extended the validity of the certificate for 3 years.

Within the frames of audit, quality management system implemented in DEA has been checked and recognized as being in compliance with ISO 9001:2015 standards in the following areas:

- Implementation of unified state policy for supporting and coordinating respective standards in the process of IT development;
- Creation of e-Governance based unified system in the process of executing state power;
- Elaboration of IT and information security policies;
- Implementation of new services by utilizing information technologies;
- Ascertain the standards of storing and providing data;
- Creation of document exchange unified system;
- Increasing management effectiveness through information technologies.

“The mentioned certificate bears a significant importance for us. According to the results of a detailed audit carried out at Data Exchange Agency, we meet all ISO 9001:2015 criteria, which means another recognition of our organization as an entity acting in compliance with the required international standards.” – **Nikoloz Gagnidze**, DEA Chairman.

TRAINING ON INFOSEC MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS HELD AT SAKAERONAVIGATSIDA



Representatives of Information Security and Policy Division of LEPL Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia carried out Information Security Management Systems training and Sakaeronavigatsia.

During the training, special attention was paid to the issues such as management system and information security, risk management and the organization's benefits gained by using mentioned approaches. Training participants also got acquainted with ISO 27001:2013 requirements, fulfillment of which is essential for ensuring organization's information security. Mentioned standards play crucial role for not only concrete

organizations, but for reaching and maintaining high level of information security throughout the entire country (Continued on P. 5).

(Continued from P. 4) Training held at Sakaeronavigatsia also covered practical cases, which provided more clarity in illustrating the importance of requirements set by the standard.

Upon completion of training, sides involved in the process, expressed their readiness for future cooperation in order to better comply with the requirements of Georgia's law on Information Security.

LEPL Data Exchange Agency conducts training sessions on a regular basis for the organizations not only representing critical subjects of information security, uninterrupted operation of which bears critical significance for the country, but for companies as well, that are free from fulfilling the requirements of Georgia's law on Information Security. The goal of including such companies is to improve the level of information security within those particular organizations and, in general, make standards more conforming to the norms, recognized internationally.

Training course in information security is worked out by the Division of Information Security and Policy of the LEPL Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia.

TRAINING SESSIONS HAVE BEEN HELD IN TBILISI AND KUTAISI FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF PUBLIC SERVICE HALLS



LEPL Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia with the support of German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ) held training sessions at Tbilisi and Kutaisi, which were attended by the PSH employees from across the country.

Training agenda covered topics related to the practical purpose of unified portal of e-Services (My.gov.ge), the ways of registering new customers in the system and the usage of qualified electronic signature/stamp.

"It is essential that population residing in the various regions of the country, has an accurate and comprehensive information about s-Services public sector has to offer on municipal level. To ensure that they are aware of this opportunity is a part of our efforts to raise awareness about e-Governance. The best mediators between us, as a service provider and potential customers are Public Service Hall employees, who have direct interaction with them. That is why it is crucial to ensure that these servants have the best knowledge about the portal and are capable of registering new customers without complications. It is worth noting that in order to make procedures even easier, we have created designated branded corners inside Public Service Halls, where citizens can get firsthand information on any issue they might have regarding the portal and e-services in general. Besides this, the usage of qualified electronic signature/stamp and the importance of trust electronic services were also discussed during the sessions." – **Nikoloz Gagnidze**, DEA Chairman.

There are two options available to log the portal in. 1. Registration through eID (or residence) cards and 2. Registration with a username and password. Once logged into the system, the user does not have to repeat the log-in to access any of the other available services. In order to fully make the use of functionality of the portal, it is recommended to make registration through eID (or residence) cards, because for customers logged in with a username and password, services that require qualified electronic signature are not available.

CUSTOMERS CAN CORRECT SUBSCRIBER NAMES SHOWN ON THEIR UTILITY BILLS IN PUBLIC SERVICE HALLS THROUGH THE PROGRAM DEVELOPED BY DATA EXCHANGE AGENCY



Presentation of a new service was held on November 21. Through the newly launched service, customers can correct subscriber names shown on their utility bills in Public Service Halls

A new service has become available through the special working program created by Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia, which makes it possible to receive electronic forms from citizens and provides platform to exchange data electronically between Public Service Hall and utility service providers.

Thanks to the cooperation established between GNERS (Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission) and Public Service Hall, the next step will be to provide other services related to electrical energy, natural gas and water supply right in the PSH branches. Along with PSH and GNERS, other stakeholders of the project are Data Exchange Agency, National Agency of Public Registry and State Services Development Agency.

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