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DATA EXCHANGE AGENCY CONTINUES CYCLE OF TRAINING SESSIONS ON UNIFIED PORTAL OF ELECTRONIC SERVICES (MY.GOV.GE), E-SIGNATURE/STAMP AND CYBER HYGIENE



LEPL Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia held informative meeting with Employees of the Union of Libraries at the Main Library of Rustavi. The meeting was dedicated to the awareness raising about the use of Unified Portal of e-Services (My.gov.ge), electronic signature/stamp and also provided the audience with the information on basic principles of cyber hygiene.

The purpose of the meeting was to raise awareness among library staff members on the practical benefits of the Unified Portal of Electronic Services (My.gov.ge) and to highlight the advantages of using different services through electronic signatures/stamps along with discussing issues relating to cyber hygiene.

"Our agency signed a Memorandum of cooperation with the National Parliamentary Library of Georgia in August and under terms and conditions of this memorandum we are continuing the cycle of meetings with the staff members of libraries located in various regions of the country (Continued on P.2).



(Continued from P.1) We started the process last year with the first meeting held at the National Library of Georgia, and this year we are starting to cover regional libraries from Rustavi. We have shared detailed information with the staff members of the Union of Libraries on the Unified Portal of Electronic Services (My.gov.ge) and demonstrated specific benefits that can be received by both individuals and legal entities through the use of such services. These advantages include flexibility, security, the ability to access any type of electronic service from home or office, and more. We pay particular attention to qualified electronic signatures/stamps, the use of which greatly simplifies the process of dealing with various state structures. It also has to be noted that the audience was provided with basic principles of cyber hygiene and its importance, which is an issue of special attention today." - **Eka Gordadze**, Manager of Legal Researches and Analysis in E-government and Cybersecurity of LEPL Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia.

All participants of the meeting, along with other branded products created with the assistance of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), were gifted a special ID card reader, which enables them to receive various services from the Unified Portal of e-Services and carry out electronic signature.

In February similar meetings were also held in Akhmeta, Telavi and Borjomi - this time with the support of the German International Cooperation Organization (GIZ) and the audience along with library staff members, also included public school teachers, various representatives of local governments and Akhmeta Innovation Center.

OPEN DATA PORTAL (WWW.DATA.GOV.GE) DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND PROSPECTS



On January 21, the Radisson Blu Iveria hosted a workshop organized by the Institute for Development of Freedom of Information (IDFI) on the development plans and prospects of the Open Data Portal (www.data.gov.ge). Representatives of LEPL Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia participated in the meeting. According to them, the Open Data Portal, developed by the Data Exchange Agency, is intended for publishing open data and relevant metadata. Information on the use of this data is available at the same portal.

It should be noted that all types of publicly available information cannot be considered as open data, since open data implies so-called raw, primary or first-time data, which is published in an appropriate electronic spreadsheet format (e.g., CSV, Open XML), or is available through the Electronic Services (API). It is also critically important that the published data be updated at a predetermined period and always reflect the current situation.

It was noted at the meeting that the low percentage rate of disclosure of information owned and then published by various public institutions remains problematic, which requires a formation of common approach. Active involvement of the non-governmental sector is also important in order to further refine the process of open data processing and publishing, as well as subsequent use of such data (Continued on P. 3).

(Continued from P. 2) "The availability of open government data provides many benefits for the businesses and general public as well: It enables the generation of new innovative ideas that can be realized in modern projects by the industrial sector - For example, in the form of mobile applications; new research-educational material is being created for academic circles, and ultimately, the public makes informed decisions and enjoys more targeted public good." – **Natalia Goderdzishvili**, Head of Legal Division of LEPL Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia.

DEA'S ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFICATE HAS BEEN EXTENDED



LEPL Data Exchange Agency has successfully undergone the auditing process of renewing ISO 9001:2015 and extended the validity of the certificate till September 23, 2021.

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:

- Operation and change management of Unified Portal of e-Services (My.gov.ge);
- 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.

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