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Issue #53

May, 2016

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MINISTER OF JUSTICE THEA TSULUKIANI HELD AN OFFICIAL PRESENTATION OF TRADE FACILITATION SYSTEM (TFS) AT POTI REGISTRATION ECONOMIC ZONE



on May 18, The Minister of Justice opened the presentation of the electronic network of the Trade Facilitation System (TFS) and named the introduction of innovative technologies as the main factor for Georgia's success in the field of e-government. The event was held in Poti and was attended by Minister of Justice,

Thea Tsulukiani, the government authorities, senior officials of the US Agency for International Development (USAID), representatives of the business sector and others.

The Trade Facilitation System (TFS) represents electronic information exchange network, in which the transport and logistics organizations are involved. The major stakeholders involved in the system will be conducting their business transactions related to cargo transportation throughout Georgia using a common web portal from anywhere in the world. The participating companies will be automatically exchanging respective shipping documents online, which will greatly simplify the procedure and reduce financial and time-related costs. The TFS will be substituting about one million paper documents each year, allowing businessmen to annually save approximately US\$ 4.5 million. In addition, it will facilitate the inflow of new investments and further improve the Georgia's reputation as an attractive country for doing business, which, in its turn, will stimulate the economy. (Continued on P.2).



(Continued from P.1) Up till now, the TFS has been operating in a pilot mode in order to reveal and eliminate operational deficiencies. Currently, the system combines the ports of Poti and Batumi, several maritime lines, customs terminal and shipping companies. After its full activation, the number of stakeholders will significantly increase.

The Trade Facilitation System (TFS) is an example of a successful public-private partnership. The TFS project has been developed by the Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice and is implemented with the support of the US Agency for International Development (USAID). Working on the project started in 2012 and involved the Revenue Service of the Ministry of Finance, Batumi and Poti ports, shipping companies, terminals, the Georgian railway, freight forwarders and others.



TFS Presentation



TFS Presentation

TWINNING PROJECT: SEMINAR FOR JOURNALISTS ON COVERING E-GOVERNANCE ISSUES



On June 9-11, Estonian e-Governance Academy organized a media seminar on the topic – “covering E-governance through mass media – sharing EU best practices”, which was held at “Royal Batoni” hotel located in Kvareli.

The first day of the seminar was filled with presentations from Georgian public institutions involved in E-government development. Current projects, achieved results and upcoming plans were presented by the representatives of Data Exchange Agency, State Services Development Agency, National Agency of Public Registry, Public Service Hall, Ministry of Finance and Competition and State Procurement Agency.

Throughout the second day, the audience invited to the seminar – representatives of Georgian mass media were introduced to the best practices used in EU countries for covering e-Governance related issues; they met experts from Estonia invited for this event, and were informed about the means Estonia and other EU countries use in reporting E-governance topics. Diverse thematic information was introduced. Seminar participants were also actively involved in different group discussions.

The final goal of the seminar is to share EU best practices, and supply the representatives of Georgian mass media with complete information about E-government/E-governance issues in Georgia, taking into account Georgian reality, in order to let them cover these issues in an understandable manner for Georgian society.

TALLINN: E-GOVERNANCE CONFERENCE 2016



On May 30-31, Estonian's capital city Tallinn hosted e-Governance annual conference organized by Estonian Academy of e-Governance. The conference was opened by the Estonian President **Toomas Hendrik Iives**.

The conference was attended by more than 250 participants from 70 countries.

During a two-day conference, participants from various countries discussed the means of further strengthening the cooperation in e-Governance field, innovative e-service projects and their role in increasing Government's effectiveness and efficiency, fighting against corruption and ensuring common welfare.

Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia was represented at the conference by the heads of agency's legal and data exchange infrastructure divisions – **Nata Goderdzishvili** and **Nikoloz Gagnidze**. During the conference Nata Goderdzishvili made a presentation about implemented projects and achieved results in the process of e-Governance development in Georgia. The audience expressed special interest in the conceptions of Citizen's Portal, Public Service Hall and Community Centers.

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www.dea.gov.ge; www.my.gov.ge

DATA EXCHANGE AGENCY

2 St. Nicholas/N. Chkheidze Str.,
 Tbilisi, 0102 Georgia
 Phone: (+ 995 32) 291 51 40
 Email: info@dea.gov.ge

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF GEORGIA

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