

Annual Report of the 2015-2017 of the Georgian Institute of Public Affairs

Is prepared in accordance with the long-term and one-year action plan of strategic development of 2011-2017

- ✓ A special attention has been paid to Internalization of the University in 2015-2017 years. Every School and almost every program has a partner university from Europe and the USA which gave the students the possibility to take part in exchange programs within the Tempus project in the universities of Wroclaw, Salzburg and Bratislava; Double Master's and Bachelor's programs as well as summer school programs continue successful operation.
- ✓ The given reporting period is distinguished with the high figure of the attracted grants. GIPA is the main executor of the projects financed by the donor among the partners of the consortium and takes on the responsibility of carrying out big-scale projects.
- ✓ MCC/ MCA financed the project "Developing, implementing and institutionalizing the level –V technical vocational education training (TVET) and internationally recognized certified programs in occupational safety and environmental protection technologies at Georgian Institute of Public Affairs
- ✓ Partner universities of GIPA are: University of Columbia, George Mason University, Troy University, Wroclaw University, State University of Colorado, Business School of Geneva (Switzerland), Turiba University (Latvia), Masaryk University, Law School of Czech Republic, University of Bratislava.
- ✓ Grant projects were successfully carried out; the main donors and partners are: State Department of the USA, USAID, USDA, EU/EC, IREX, OSI, CJS; US CDC, EC/ENPARD 2, MCA Georgia, AAH, Mercy Corps, West Corck Development – Ireland, RRC International, FAO, CNFA.
- ✓ The reporting period is distinguished with the improvement of the budget and the efficiency of financial management: implementing new budgeting standards, improving the consolidated budget and accounting service. Implementing long-term budget planning with the purpose of mobilizing finances for the future infrastructural projects.
- ✓ The government of Georgia handed over the land plot of 10877 sq.m. in Krtsanisi in exchange for a concessionary price (in comparison with the market value) based on the Decision # 2441 which implies obligation of investing GEL 4 million during 3 years.

- ✓ Assets of the University – GEL 108808; Grant income – GEL 3143757, total commercial income – GEL 1401532; commercial income – GEL 711802.

Maintaining/ Developing the Quality of the Existing Educational Programs

With the purpose of maintaining the quality, the process of evaluation/ monitoring of the existing and new educational programs, implementation of modern teaching methods constantly goes on. The University introduced new Master's and Bachelor's programs. The following educational programs are carried out in the Schools during the reporting period:

School of Government:

- Master's Program of Public Administration
- Master's Program of Local Government
- Master's Program of Public Policy
- Bachelor's Program of Business Administration
- Master's Program of Business Administration
- Management of Environmental Protection and the Master's Program in Politics (new program)

School of Journalism and Media Management:

- Master's Program in Multimedia Journalism and Media Management
- Master's Program in Public Relations
- Master's Program in Media Engineering
- Bachelor's Program in Audio-Visual and Media Art

School of Law and Politics:

- Master's Program in International Relations
- Master's Program in International Law
- Bachelor's Program in Law

- Master's Program in Migration – joint program with the Iv. Javakishvili Tbilisi State University within the framework of the project Tempus Georgia

School of Social Sciences

- Bachelor's Program in Social Sciences
- Master's Program in Applied Psychology (new program)

Implementing New Educational Programs

- A new Master's Program was opened in the School of Governance – “Environmental Protection and Politics” in partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Center of Information and Education of Environmental Protection and GIZ. The program was accredited in 2016.
- Dual Master's Program in International Development with the active use of distant teaching component are under work.
- New Master's and Bachelor's programs are devised and prepared for accreditation.
- Electronic and personalized teaching for the journalists – English language Master's program for the neighboring countries – Pilot Program;
- In cooperation with the University of Salzburg the dual Master's degree was implemented in Public Governance/ Political Sciences;
- The Trainings and Consultations Center successfully carried out the summer school program which is hosting American students in Georgia. The following programs are carried out in the center: General Management, Public Relations and Events Management, Financial Management, Business Management, Human Resources Management, Architectural Visualization, Psychology of Management, Psychology of Communication, Psychology of Law, Stress Management, Interpersonal Relationships, Photography, Communication and Graphical Design, Interior Design, Strategic and Creative Advertisement, Creative Campaign, Adobe MC, 3Ds MAX, Certified Marketing Manager, Politics of Environmental Protection, Culture Politics, Health Politics and Administration, Cyber-Security and Internet Law, Management of Heavy Drinks, Everything about Tbilisi; three new programs – Sales Management, Digital Design and Business Coaching.

Perfecting the Existing Bachelor's Program

Perfecting of the Bachelor's Program and implementation of modern standards of teaching with the purpose of maintaining and improving the quality is constantly in process in the University.

Implementing the Vocational Educational Programs

- Developing the vocational education is one of the priorities of the country. Hence, the University is ready to support popularization and strengthening of the vocational education by elaborating, defining/designing and implementing the professional programs based on the demands of the labor market. With the financial support of the Millennium Challenge Account-Georgia, in partnership with the RRC International, the University defined/designed a new standard, created a new modular program of the 5th level in the Occupational Safety and Environmental Technologies.

Strengthening the Relationship with the Foreign Partners/ Attracting the New Partners

- The University continues cooperation with the following foreign partner universities: Columbia, Wroclaw, Troy and George Mason, Colorado, Czech Universities.
- The University is cooperating with the following International Institutions, programs and partners: Tempus, IREX, USAID, USDA, EC/ENPARD, Mercy Corps, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the USA (US CDC), European Journalism Center, Journalism Training Association (EJTA), State Department of the USA, CJS, OSI, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, MCC/MCA, West Cork Development, Ireland; RRC International, FAO.
- Memorandums were concluded between the Law and Policy Schools and the Law Schools of the Masaryk University, Law Schools of Czech Republic and Michigan.

Infrastructure of the University/ Increasing the Study Space

- The government of Georgia handed over the land plot of 10877 sq.m. in Krtsanisi in exchange for a concessionary price (in comparison with the market value) based on the Decision # 2441 which implies obligation of investing GEL 4 million during 3 years (paid amount is GEL 750000).

Supporting the Statistics of Graduates Employment

- Project GIPA Graduates for the Existing Students of GIPA – “Networking” is successfully carried out. Meetings of the graduates with the students is actively going on.

Perfecting the Electronic Database of Administering the Educational Process

- Development, perfecting and using of the special multifunctional program of intranet lmb.gipa.ge is actively going on.

Supporting Research, Conferences, Participation in Different Grant Projects

- A joint research project was carried out in cooperation with the George Mason University in summer of 2016;
- Within the framework of the Center of Trainings and Consultations consultation was carried out in the topics of developing HR strategies for GPB Georgia;
- An internal research was carried out in the School of Governance – “Measuring Organizational Efficiency and its Indicators in GIPA”. The research was carried out with the financial support of the RD;
- Georgian Rural Development Department implements a large-scale project within the program EU/ENPARD II – ‘Promoting a new rural development approach in Akhalkalaki’; with the financial support of MCC/MCA, GIPA is implementing innovative level V vocational education program in Occupational Safety and environmental technologies. Within the project a new standard and a new program was elaborated and developed in accordance with the international standard (NEBOSH); in cooperation with Action Against Hunger (AAH) the department carries out significant projects ‘Improving confidence and trust between conflict affected societies using shared approached towards local animal bio-security issues across the Administration Boundary line’ (3rd phase).
- With the support of the State Department of the USA, Embassies of the USA, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia, the School of Journalism and Media Management develops electronic/ distant/ personified teaching for training the media specialists in the neighboring countries of the English language program in Journalism; the School became a member of the exchange program of the European Union member countries. The European Union financed the project – project of monitoring the violence against women.
- With financing of the government of Netherlands the School of Governance carries out the project of developing GIPA as the entrepreneurial university; the project “State Formation” and “The Discussion Club” financed by the Administration of the President of Georgia is successfully carried out.

- The Research Center financed the following events: purchasing subscription for the archive of the School of Journalism and Media Management (provider the IPM company); International working meeting/ round table “Social Sciences: New Challenges in Transition Societies” co-organization; online magazine – first two parts of the online journal of GIPA *Politics and Democratization* were issued in 2015-2016;
- Trainings and Consultation Center developed the HR Strategy of the Public Broadcaster of Georgia.

Ensuring Involvement/ Internalization of the Foreign or Local Professionals in the Educational Process

- The second grade students of the Master’s Program in Public Governance took part in the exchange program in the universities of Wroclaw, Salzburg and University of Economy of Bratislava financed by the TEMPUS;
- Management School of Maastricht University organized and hosted the International working meeting/ round table: “Social Sciences: New Challenges in Transition Societies”.
- The Center of European Journalism and Journalism Training Association (EJTA) carried out annual international conference: “Challenges of Media Trustworthiness – who and what shall we believe?”

Perfecting the Systems of Marketing and Public Relations

- GIPA participated in in different activities and events: Education Fair in Expo Georgia; organizing the Student Festival and Documentary Movie Festival GIPA DOCU; organizing charity events; organizing skiing tournament in Gudauri; organizing the annual competition of Joshua Freedman, etc.
- Different debates are carried out in Frontline Club the purpose of which is increasing awareness of the public about the significant topics in the country and inclusion of the civil society. All these is conducted within the program “Open Platform”.
- Website of the radio GIPA was created for listening the online stream and mobile application. Starting from 2016 there are bilingual headlines of news in the stream of radio GIPA. Radio GIPA became the partner of the project “Synesthesia” and a co-organizer of the events in Batumi.

Two anchors of the radio GIPA were invited to work in the international radios: VOICE OF AMERICA (Washington) and Radio Liberty (Prague, Czech Republic).

Challenges:

- ✓ Supporting development of the student self-government
- ✓ Creating respective conditions for the students with disabilities
- ✓ Updating/ improving the infrastructure of the university and technical base/ library fund

Planned Activities:

- ✓ Adding new educational programs
- ✓ Mobilizing resources for the accreditation of 2018
- ✓ Updating the material-technical base and library fund of the university
- ✓ Selecting the building fit for the new, modern standards and the project of the respective infrastructure based on the competition
- ✓ Strengthening the relationship with the foreign partner universities
- ✓ Attracting grant projects