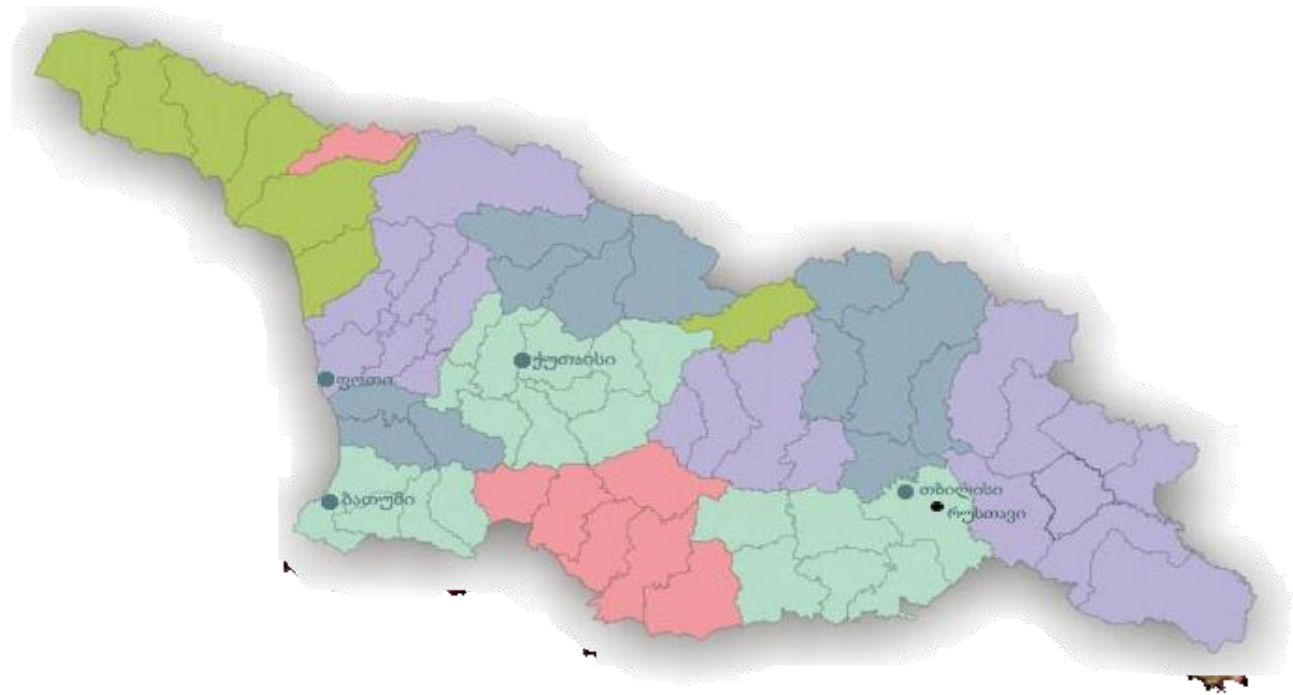


# International cooperation as a driver of sustainable development in statistics: the experience of Geostat



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# Legal and Institutional Frameworks and Coordination Mechanisms

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- ❑ Legal Coordination Mechanisms: Law on Statistics and other legal documents, Annual program of statistical activities,
  
- ❑ Fundamental impact produced by international cooperation
  - International assessments of statistical system (notably, WB 2010, ROSC 2011, AGA 2012)
  - International cooperation projects
  - Global agreements: EU Association with a specific chapter devoted to statistics

# Integration of Recommendations into Legal Framework

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- ❑ International assessments emphasized the necessity of certain legal and institutional changes
- ❑ A number of international government agreements for the first time included a number of provisions specifically related to statistics.
- ❑ Such government agreements included the Association Agenda and Association Agreement (EU), Structural Reform Program (IMF), Development Policy Objectives (WB).

# Integration of Recommendations into Legal Framework (cont.)

- The agreements with international partners thus covered virtually all significant areas of statistics ensuring that strong international commitments are in place, resulting in:
  - Amendments to the Law on Statistics related to mandatory reporting, Geostat's management mechanisms, census
  - Further allocation of resources for expanding the list of labor market, poverty, economic indicators

# Role of EU Association Agreement in Development of Statistics

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- ❑ International agreements usually reflect very specific commitments (conditionalities) with respect to statistics
  
- ❑ The Association Agenda of the EU was designed in a similar way stipulating a number of commitments that the Georgia was willing to undertake, including specific issues related to census, management mechanisms, dissemination of statistics

# Role of EU Association Agreement in Development of Statistics (cont.)

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- ❑ Association Agreement takes a more general approach to institutional development
- ❑ A separate Chapter in the AA is devoted to statistics
- ❑ The Chapter stipulates that Georgia should “tak[e] into account the EU acquis in statistics”
- ❑ The expectations reflected in the AA are that Georgia should aim at “progressive alignment of the national statistical system ... with the European Statistical System”

# Sustainable Development: Future Actions

- ❑ Thus, international agreements and, in particular, the Association Agreement create a solid legal basis for statistical development
  
- ❑ In this regard, the main issues are related to practical implementation of the provisions:
  - To which extent can we cooperate with Eurostat and other international organizations with the view of aligning the Georgian statistical system with the EU standards?
  - Will any special programs be created for AA countries in statistics apart from the already existing mechanisms (e.g. TAIEX)?
  - Are there any commitments expected on the part of AA countries and will certain evaluation of progress made be foreseen?

*Thank you for your attention!*

*B*