

## Quarterly Issue about Evaluation

Autumn 2011

### The Significance of Result Based Management and Evaluation

#### International Conference “Result Based Management and Evaluation”

#### Ongoing Projects and Activities of GEA

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE “RESULT BASED MANAGEMENT AND EVALUATION”



In September Georgian Evaluation Association in partnership with International Programs Evaluation Network IPEN organized the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference “Result Based Management and Evaluation”. The conference was held in Batumi, on 26-30 September. The conference was attended by about 120 people. Participants came from almost all parts of the world: Australia, Europe, Asia, and North America. Former Soviet

Union was represented by experts from Moldova, Belarus, Ukraine, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Armenia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Russia.

The goal of the conference was to enhance awareness of public, non-profit and private sectors of evaluation by introducing M&E as a tool for result-based management, better decision making and improving transparency and public accountability.

The objectives of the project were: To maintain the growth of qualified evaluator cadres and further their professional development; and To strengthen the practitioners knowledge and skills of evaluation techniques.

The development of Evaluation Field would not happen without the experience sharing between the evaluation practitioners, academics, students, without networking among them, without learning how the different sectors: government, NGOs, business and academia are using evaluation for the measurement of the success of their organizations, programs, projects, policies, strategies etc.



As a part of its efforts for all above mentioned, Georgian Evaluation Association in partnership with International Program Evaluation Network (IPEN) have organized the international conference: “Result-Based Management and Evaluation”. For more than a decade, the IPEN conference has been a leading forum for evaluator practitioners and researchers from around the NIS countries to share information, gain new experience and knowledge, train skill, etc. The 2011 IPEN-GEA Conference once again brought together evaluation practitioners and researchers, representatives of the public, non-governmental, private sectors, academia, international donor organizations and media from Georgia, other countries of Former Soviet Union, Europe, US and other parts of the world. The conference provided a forum for discussing the latest findings in evaluation field with the emphasis on the Result-based management and Evaluation.



On 26-27 September three parallel workshops were held with different subjects such as: Evaluation Contribution to a Strategic Approach to Performance Improvement; Result Based Management and Evaluation; Difference between the Performance Audit and Evaluation; Evaluation Function in Modern Public Administration; How the Result Based Management and Evaluation

Tools Work for Business Companies. The two-day workshops were led by the facilitators from Australia, Germany, and France.

The conference was held on 29-30<sup>th</sup> of September. Participants were from about 30 countries, including Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Albania, Poland, Bulgaria, Germany, Montenegro, Switzerland, Turkey, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Russia, Armenia, etc.



The representatives of NGO, governmental, business and private sectors were present at the conference. Different international organizations like USAID, UNICEF, UN WOMEN, OSGF, Mercy Corps, Deloitte, EU, etc. supported their delegates to attend the conference. Governmental ministries, NGOs, international organizations and various business companies were represented by their top managers, presidents and directors and experts in M&E field. The conference covered the most important topics in the field of monitoring and evaluation, including Management and Evaluation under Infrastructure Development Programs, Evaluation of Strategic Research Programs, Equity Focused Evaluation, Evaluation in Education and Research Institutions, International Perspective of Development Programs, Introduction of results-oriented management systems and its role for Civil Register Agency of Georgia, Creation of Evaluation System within the Public Sector of Ukraine, Result Based Management and Evaluation Tools, Country Led Evaluation Systems, Monitoring and Evaluation – Practice and experience at the EU Delegation of Georgia, Result based Management and Evaluation Approach in the US Agency of International Development (USAID), Main preconditions for Creating Monitoring System, Using Evaluation information for better Management and



Organizational Development, Strategic Performance Management Tools and Quality Evaluation, Results based management and gender responsive evaluation: reflections and experiences from UN Women, Presentation of evaluation methodology, based on transformational paradigm and its introduction in the CIS Counties, Healthcare Monitoring and Evaluation results in special risk populations, Complex toolkit for project idea evaluation, etc.

**Georgian Evaluation Association (GEA)** thanks the following parties for contributing funds and services as sponsors of this year's conference. The contributions of people and groups such as these allowed the Association to keep registration fees as low as possible.

**United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) – Geneva, Switzerland**

For providing support to Jan Davies (France) to facilitate the workshop on September 28, 2011;

**United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) - New York, USA Evaluation Office**

For providing books to distribute among the conference participants;

**Eurasia Partnership Foundation (EPF) - Georgia**

For providing support to Burt Perrin (France) and John Owen (Australia) to facilitate the workshops on September 27 and 28, 2011;

**United Nations Development Fund for Women (UN Women-UNIFEM) – New York, USA**

For giving grant to GEA to support the participation of 25 women NGOs and evaluators of women programs at the conference;

**Open Society Georgia Foundation (OSGF) - Georgia**

For providing support to Hartmut Sannecke and Robert Butz to jointly facilitate the workshop on September 28, 2011;

**Management Systems International (MSI) - USAID Contractor Good Governance in Georgia Program (G3) - Georgia**

For providing support to the Members of Adjara Government Representatives from the Ministry of Finance and Economy, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport and for the Ministry of Healthcare and Social Welfare of Adjara Autonomous Republic to attend GEA-IPEN conference.

Georgian Evaluation Association (GEA) would also like to thank its Staff, Interns and Volunteers and many other people who contributed their time and talents in making “Result based Management and Evaluation” Conference of 2011 an event to remember.

## **GEA ONGOING PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES**

Ongoing project of Georgian Evaluation Association is evaluation of Local and Regional Economic Development (LRED) Project implemented in Gori/Shida Kartli.

The evaluation is being conducted by Georgian Evaluation Association (GEA) and Evaluation and Management Consulting (EMC) from the period of November 7, 2011. The main objective of the evaluation of Local & Economic Development (LRED) intervention in Shida Kartli that is a 3rd component of GIZ-PSDP Georgia Private Sector Development implemented by company GOPA is to assess the results of the project implementation in relation to the achievement of its overall objective as defined in the 5 indicators of the project; to evaluate overall relevance of the project’s goals and results to the existing needs; to assess the effectiveness of undertaken activities and the impact funded by GIZ and the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). In addition to the main objectives of the evaluation specified above, GEA is looking at the findings and lessons learnt. Based on the Evaluation exercise, GEA will make the recommendations important for designing the continuation of the evaluated project and also for implementing the similar projects in future in other parts of Georgia or other countries of Caucasian region.

At the same time GEA team is working on institutionalization of the M&E system in Georgia. Professionals working at GEA pay special attention to the democratic development of the country, expert monitoring and evaluation of political, economic, social processes, reforms, programs and projects underway in the country; the development of evaluation criteria, establishing the frameworks and indicators that will enable all these sectors to measure not only performance results, but also those oriented on successful activities.



Currently GEA experts are actively supporting the introduction and development of the evaluation field in Georgia, training and professional development of expert evaluators, the development and introduction of evaluation standards, the evaluator’s code of ethics; the establishment of the institutional system of evaluation and raising public awareness about this field.